

abundance, ecological occurrence, summary of specimens, designations of pertinent localities where the species occurs, and natural history and behavior observations. In total a commendable job.—S.R.D.

The Molt of Scrub Jays and Blue Jays in Florida—G. T. Bancroft and G. E. Woolfenden. The American Ornithologists' Union. 1982. vii + 51 pp., 15 text figures. \$8.00 (\$6.50 to A.O.U. members) paperbound. This is Number 29 in the A.O.U.'s Ornithological Monographs series. This is a landmark study that investigates true molt-breeding overlap for individual birds whose exact breeding status is known. The authors

convincingly suggest that the timing and duration of molt is adapted to favor maximum flying ability during peak periods of territorial defense, breeding, feeding and dispersal. They provide a consistent and fascinating hypothesis that females of these closely related corvids inhibit or delay the onset of molt until termination of active nesting, in order to minimize the effects of heat and water stress. That is, to better balance water levels and more efficiently decrease heat load (thermoregulate), during breeding. Excellently written and incredibly interesting.—S.R.D.

Bird Songs in the Dominican Republic (Cantos de Aves en la Republica Dominicana).—Sound recordings by George B. Reynard. Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY. 1981. 4 sides, 100 species, with jacket commentary by Reynard. Just received and not yet heard, but this collection of sounds from a lesser-known island ranges through the Dominican avifaunal list from Least Grebe to Rufous-collared Sparrow and promises fascinating listening. Especially interesting, taxonomically, are recordings of Palm Chat, Ashy-faced Barn Owl and Potoo. The text is in English and Spanish. Dates and locations of recordings would have added interest to the jacket text, but if, as we are confident, this release is up to Reynard and Cornell standards, it is a recommended addition to your sound library.—R.A.

Songs of the Vireos and their allies: Family Vireonidae, Vireos, Peppershrikes, Shrike-Vireos, and Greenlets. Jon. C. Barlow. Royal Ontario Museum. Ara-7. Ara Records, 1615 N.W. 14th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32605.

\$12 00 Another superior production in the series published by the Hardys, this one represents a feat of no mean proportions, in that it has gathered the songs of 39 of the 43 members of this New World family, in 68 separate examples, recorded mostly by Dr. Barlow, but also by R. D. James and others. The recordings themselves are remarkably clear and free of background noise. You will not play this recording for the beauty of the songs, for, as Barlow writes, "there is a certain off-key flatness or even harshness to the songs of most of them. The repetitiveness . . . loudness and persistence of their songs is a hallmark." Nonetheless, the record can be a marvelous identification guide, and a revealing survey of one bird family's vocalizations. The jacket text by Barlow is informative. Recommended — R.A.

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Announcements

MEETINGS

The sixth annual meeting of the Colonial Waterbird Group will be held November 4-7, 1982, in Washington, D C. A symposium on the feeding biology of waterbirds is planned. Anyone wishing to contribute papers to either the symposium or general sessions or obtain information concerning registration



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should contact Dr Michael Erwin, U S Fish & Wildlife Service, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20708.

The International Symposium on the Tamaulipan Biotic Province will be held at La Quinta Royale Motor Inn, Corpus Christi, Texas, October 28-30, 1982. The symposium will include all ecological aspects of the biome: vegetation, invertebrates, vertebrates, ecological structure and function, biological resources and management. Anyone interested in contributing papers should contact Gene W. Blacklock, Curator, Welder Wildlife Foundation, P.O. Drawer 1400, Sinton, Texas 78387. For information on registration contact Jimmie R. Picquet, Director, John E. Conner Museum, Texas A & I University, P O Box 2172, Kingsville, Texas 78363.

The American Ornithologists' Union will hold its annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois, October 10-14, 1982. For further information on the scientific program or registration contact: James R. Karr, Program Chairman, Department of Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution, University of Illinois, 606 East Healey, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A comprehensive study of the Lesotho, South Africa, birdlife entitled "An Annotated Checklist to the Birds of Lesotho" is being prepared and its author seeks any field notes or photographs from birders who have visited Lesotho. Please send all information to: Kurt Bonde, Lyngens Kvarter 108, DK-7400 Herning, Denmark.

In an effort to study the growth, development, behavior and dispersion

rates and migration routes between broods of different sizes of Red-shouldered Hawks, nestlings have been color banded. Please report any sightings of immature, color-banded (red, yellow, white, blue) Red-shouldered Hawks, with notations on site location and color band sequence to the Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland 20811, with a copy to Brenda L. Penak, Department of Renewable Resources, MacDonald College of McGill University, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, Canada.

A long term study whose aim is to determine the chief autumn migration routes for many bird species that winter south of the United States is in progress at Tall Timbers Research Station. Volunteers are needed to contribute field observations in the areas around Dallas, Texas and from northern Alabama south to the Gulf of Mexico. Field data should be taken as is done on a Christmas Bird Count. Exact counts or close estimates should be made for all species seen or heard. The observer should keep an accurate record of time afield. Trips should be made to a variety of areas with differing habitats in order to obtain more nearly complete representation of migrants' occurrence. Anyone wishing to assist with this project should contact: Henry M. Stevenson, Tall Timbers Research Station, Route 1, Box 160, Tallahassee, Florida 32312.

GRANT PROGRAMS

The North American Loon Fund (NALF) announces the availability of two grant programs for support of new or current research, management, or education projects that may yield useful information for Common Loon conservation in North America.

The first of these programs, the Ro-

bert J Lurtsema Research Award, consists of a \$1000 stipend available annually for a suitable research project focused on a member of the family Gaviidae. Preference will be given to students and independent researchers with limited availability of other funding.

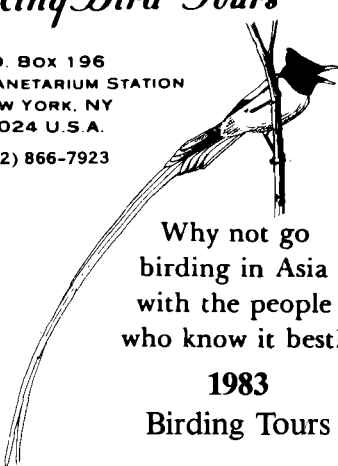
The second program offers modest grants in support of research, management, or educational projects directly related to the conservation of the Common Loon as a breeding species. Proposals in the range of \$500 to \$3000 are most likely to be considered for funding. Further guidelines for prospective applicants are available upon request from: The North American Loon Fund Grants Committee, North American Loon Fund, Meredith, New Hampshire 03253.

PROJECT VIREO

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has initiated an archival library of bird photography for science, art, and education. It is a centralized collection using archivally-sound storage techniques coupled with computer-based access. The program, VIREO or

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Visual Resources for Ornithology, was founded due to the collaborative foresight of Crawford H. Greenewalt and Frank B. Gill. It now functions under the direction of Peter Myers, Assistant Curator of Ornithology at the Academy.

Many of the photographs *American Birds* publishes in our regional seasonal reports to document rarities or other distributional records are desirable for the VIREO collection. VIREO requests that we submit these photographs to them for safe-keeping. They will copy and then return either the original or the duplicate to the photographer, depending upon the photographers' needs.

American Birds encourages photographers to participate in this program. We ask that all photographers who wish their photographs to be forwarded to VIREO label their slides or prints with the acronym VIREO. *American Birds* will only forward photographs so marked. VIREO staff will review all photographs received, and communicate directly with the photographer about whether and how the material will be accessioned into the collection.

VIREO also invites photographers to contribute slides directly. Various contractual arrangements with photographers are possible. For more information, contact:

Director, VIREO
Academy of Natural Sciences,
19th and The Parkway,
Philadelphia, PA 19103.

A fuller description of the VIREO program, including the problems and methods of archiving color slides, will appear in a forthcoming issue of *American Birds*.

The Last Word

ALTHOUGH WE OURSELVES have been known to be subject to undiscovered typographical errors in the one million words we publish each year, we can truthfully say that we do *know* the correct spelling and punctuation of the bird names we print. We are, however, constantly astonished at the lack of familiarity with those names shown by some—many, actually—of the authors of the studies we publish in January, the Christmas Bird Counts, and even some major papers. Many of these are prepared by graduate students or their mentors, and presumably reviewed by the latter before we get them. We can understand obvious typing errors such as Sprauge's Pipit, Overbird, Lesser Goldfinch, and Tuded Titmouse, but countless others are received that indicate unfamiliarity with long-established nomenclature.

Probably the commonest class of error is the capitalization of hyphenated names (but correct in Storm-Petrel, etc.) such as Long-Billed Dowitcher, Ring-Billed Gull, Double-Crested Cormorant, and Red-Breasted Merganser. Others frequently appear as unmodified generic names: Pheasant, Cowbird, Meadowlark, Crow, Coot, Redwing, Shoveler. Some are hyphenated where none is needed: Great-horned Owl, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Tri-colored Blackbird. Others omit required hyphens: Blackbellied Plover, Redwinged Blackbird. Others misspell patronymics: Allan's Hummingbird, Heerman's Gull, Stellar's Jay. Perhaps the commonest mistake is Eastern (or Western) Peewee, notwithstanding the kiddie baseball leagues. Vermillion as a Fly-

catcher is wrong, as it is for places in five states and one province, but correct in South Dakota and Indiana. Phoebe is not spelled Pheobe, Chickadee is not Chicadee. It's no longer American Crow, Common Bushtit (or Bush Tit), Bob White, Sora Rail or Night Hawk. Widgeon has been spelled Wigeon for a number of years.

Authors can expect us to catch and correct their mistakes, but if a paper has thirty of them the chances are greater that we miss one, than if there aren't any to start with. With the correct names available in any infinite variety of sources, there is little excuse for any more Shovellers.

All this is prefatory to a new complication, which is the imminent publication of our "Bible" on nomenclature, the A.O.U. Check-List, of which the 6th Edition is due in 1983. Already a list of species names for Canada and the United States has been circulated, with a number of largely-anticipated changes. We will adopt these changed names, and more importantly the new taxonomic sequence, with the September 1982 issue. Manuscripts intended

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