

*Monograph* series. Bob Mengel, who had known Marcia Tucker for many years, in his witty tribute to her noted that this was the second time she had bailed him out; the first had been on a birding trip to Jones Beach when they had nearly foundered in a leaky rowboat.

She was a member of the A.O.U. since 1924, and she became a benefactor in 1968. A daughter of Anthony N. Brady, a founder of Consolidated Edison and Union Carbide companies, Mrs. Tucker disposed of adequate means to support those who shared her tastes, working for the preservation of birds and conducting life studies of them. For many years she was helped by Carll Tucker, her late husband, who took much interest in her work. They owned a sea-going yacht and traveled widely, visiting a number of countries. Bird watching was always a principal object.

Although she insisted on being a simple amateur, Mrs. Tucker actually acquired a good knowledge, not only of the North American avifauna, but of the birds of Great Britain and several other countries. She amassed an important library of ornithological books, including most of the great works of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which, some years ago, she donated to the Smithsonian Institution, Cornell and Kansas Universities, and the Audubon Museum of Henderson, Kentucky. She also presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cincinnati Museum of Art a remarkable collection of childrens' portraits by English artists of the eighteenth and nineteenth century. She loved children and was very helpful with a number of charitable institutions and hospitals.

Several generations of ornithologists were graciously entertained at Mrs. Tucker's great residences in New York City, at Mount Kisco, and at Hobe Sound, Florida. Whenever a Congress or some other meeting took place in the vicinity, a reception was held for its members, who would always remember it with delight and gratitude. She met most of them, being a regular attendant at many national and international gatherings.

Times have changed; the New York mansion was razed to make room for yet another dreary apartment house. But those who were privileged to know Marcia Tucker will not forget her; those who were not will nonetheless continue to benefit from her lifelong devotion to our science. Because of a long and close friendship, the senior author is particularly honored to be able to express here the gratitude of all those who knew her and benefitted from her kindness, enthusiasm and generosity.—JEAN DELACOUR and DEAN AMADON

#### NOTES AND NEWS

**Wanted: Data on the seasonal distribution of North American gulls.**—We are developing a procedure whereby the U.S. Air Force can predict the potential seasonal hazard to aircraft presented by gulls in parts of North America. This knowledge will be used to schedule missions around high risk areas thereby reducing the likelihood of bird/aircraft collisions. Supplemental data on local gull populations are needed from all parts of the continent. The assistance of field workers is solicited to aid us in this task. Please submit reports of your gull observations to DR. WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN, *Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115*. Data will be gathered for a 2-year period beginning 1 September 1977.

For each observation, please provide the following information: list of species present, approximate number of each species, precise locality description, dates observed, any information on causes for concentrations (e.g. sanitary landfill operation), and any details about the frequency of such concentrations in the respective areas. Information is sought from inland as well as coastal localities.

**Shorebird color-marking in Alaska.**—The U.S.F.W.S. has begun color-marking and banding shorebirds along the Alaska Peninsula. Dunlin, Short- and Long-billed Dowitcher, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Rock and Western Sandpiper, and Bar-tailed Godwits are being color-banded with a split red-blue band (and with U.S.F.W.S. metal leg band). Each bird is also being color-marked yellow with picric acid. Reports of sightings of such birds should be sent to: BIRD BANDING LABORATORY, *Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, Maryland 20811*. A copy of the report should also be sent to ROBERT GILL, JR., *USFWS, 800 A Street, Suite 110, Anchorage, Alaska 99501*. Reports should include details of species (with age if possible), place, date, color marks, and notes on association with other shorebirds. For color and metal bands please record which leg the band is on, the color scheme, e.g. red over blue or blue over red, and whether the bands are above or below the "knee."

The Eastern Bird Banding Association is offering a \$250 memorial grant in aid of research. The applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student and must be using bird banding as part of his or her research. Applications must be completed before March 1, 1978. For further information write the chairman, DR. BERTRAM G. MURRAY, *clo Biology, Livingston-Kilmer Campus, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08903.*

A comprehensive bibliography of the North and South American martins (*Progne* spp.) is currently in preparation. It will include all papers dealing solely or partly with martins, except local annotated checklists. Authors wishing to have material included should send an abstract or reprint to CHARLES R. BROWN, *Box 1309, Austin College, Sherman, Texas 75090.*

**Bird/strip-mine and bio-indicator literature wanted.**—A bibliography on birds found on strip mines and use of birds as bio-indicators of the equality of the environment is being compiled for the Institute of Mining and Minerals Research in Kentucky. Anyone wishing to submit published or unpublished articles, reports, thesis, etc., to be included in the bibliography should send them to: *Pierre N. Allaire, Department of Science and Mathematics, Lees Junior College, Jackson, Kentucky 41339.*

**The 1st International Birds in Captivity Symposium** will be held in Seattle, Washington, 8 through 12 March 1978. Sessions will deal with husbandry, nutrition, medicine, sexing techniques, behavior, reproduction, and ornithological studies done in the wild. A panel discussion will be held after each topic session and there will be a special panel on conservation. All papers presented will be published after completion of the Symposium. For more information write: JAN R. VAN OOSTEN, CHAIRMAN, *IECF, 1008 James St., Seattle, WA 98104.*

---



---

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

At the 95th Stated Meeting in Berkeley, California, in August 1977, the Council of the American Ornithologists' Union voted two changes involving membership status and dues structure that will affect nearly all members.

1. Student memberships shall be limited to 3 years. This change was necessitated by the increasing financial burden placed on the Union by student memberships, which are heavily subsidized from other sources of income.

2. Dues for student members were increased to \$14.00 and those for regular members to \$18.00, but those members who pay before the December 10, 1977 deadline may subtract \$2.00 from these amounts. This is, in effect, a surcharge of \$2.00 for those members failing to pay their dues on time. Late payment of dues cost the Union nearly \$2,000 for additional administrative processing last year. Dues for student memberships are set at cost for a volume of *THE AUK* and do not include expenses of any other Union activities.

Members should also note that they have until January 1, 1978 to enroll as Life Members under the current rate (\$360 or four yearly installments of \$90 each). At that time Life Memberships will increase to \$480 (four \$120 yearly installments).

Finally the Council voted to discontinue the A.O.U. Book Service, effective immediately, because of financial and administrative difficulties.

Joel Cracraft, Treasurer

---



---