

**MINUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS COUNCIL MEETING
Home of Deb Miller, Franklin, Massachusetts, USA
10 Apr. 1993**

Present: Jed Burtt, Greg Butcher, Lisa Wahle, George Mock, Ricky Dunn, Deb Miller, Nat Wheelwright and Brian Harrington.

Absent: Martha Steele, Joe Wunderle, John Smallwood, David Westneat, Lise Hanners, Julie Zickefoose, P. A. Buckley, Alan Poole, Peter Vickery, Peter Cannell, Margaret Brittingham and Ken Yasukawa.

Call to Order: 1015 hours by President Jed Burtt.

Minutes from 2 Oct. 1992: Accepted as mailed with the following changes.

1. Spelling correction: Nathaniel Wheelwright.
2. Nat is not part of the delegation to meet with USFWS concerning regulations.
3. In addition to names and positions recorded, President Jed Burtt and Vice President Greg Butcher were re-elected.

President's Report—Jed Burtt

1. ICBP, US Section minutes of December 1992 meeting were sent to Jed. This is an improvement in communications, but it was felt that ICBP needs to communicate better with member organizations. ICBP is currently undergoing reorganization.

2. Official AFO address: Association of Field Ornithologists, Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 1770, Manomet, Massachusetts 02345 USA.

3. Jed authorized Marion Jenkinson and Mercedes Foster to donate 75 extra sets of JFO to the Latin American Library Program.

4. On 24 Apr. 1993, Jed, Phil Humphrey, and the AOU Committee on Ornithology and the Law will meet with representatives of USFWS at the University of Kansas to discuss problems with obtaining banding and collecting permits. It was felt that USFWS officials need to be better informed about legitimate research justification for granting permits, and that some current regulations are probably the result of political pressure, regardless of biological reasons.

5. The Council discussed possible candidates for AFO representatives to serve on the Ornithological Council. AFO will send two representatives and pay a \$250 (US) membership fee. The need to educate politicians and bureaucrats about the importance and nature of science was recognized. Greg suggested approaching the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for monies to do this. Ricky suggested the formation of a scientific review team, which would guide bureaucrats in their decision making.

Vice President's Report—Greg Butcher

1. The annual AFO meeting will be held 11-12 Sep. 1993 at Isle of Shoals Marine Lab. The Council meeting will be Friday, 10 Sep. 1993. The island will accommodate 60 people; members will be encouraged to sign up early. Cost is estimated at \$150 (US) (student \$80). Nat is the program chair. Sea birds and US-Canada studies will be the foci of the meeting. Events will include banding demonstrations, walks and a boat trip. Travel costs for Canadian speakers will be covered by registration fees.

2. In the future, Greg would like AFO to have a joint meeting with another ornithological group every other year. The 1994 meeting is tentatively scheduled for Cape May. (The Vice President is in charge of planning annual meeting.)

3. Greg will be moving to Colorado in June to assume position of executive director of ABA. Congratulations!

Secretary's Report—Lisa Wahle

Mail is still going to the former secretary. New stationary with updated names is needed.

Treasurer's Report—George Mock

Mist net sales and the Journal both show positive bottom lines, due to increased net sales, memberships, subscriptions and page charges. Mist net sales were very high due to people stocking up. George has invested \$20,000 (US) in a "no load" mutual fund with Fidelity. Another \$20,000 will be invested this year. George will further investigate "green" funds. Jed will inform Ken that AFO will subsidize up to 100 pages per issue using funds from projected profits, and inquire whether all papers currently rejected for publication are done so on merit or due to lack of space in journal.

Assistant Treasurer's Report—Brian Harrington

Manomet is out of many styles of net. Budget costs were up this year due to increased cost of communications with Japan over mist net issues. There is some concern that the remaining manufacturer there may go out of business. AFO should team up with other buyers to make sure one company stays in business. The possibility of buying a net-making machine was discussed. Also, it was suggested that ornithologists with nets not being used might make them available to others through a notice in the OSNA newsletter. Brian is still interested in making color bands available at Manomet, but has had his time completely usurped by mist net issues. He will look into color bands in the future.

Editor's Report—Jed Burttt for Ken Yasukawa**Review Editor's Report—Jed Burttt for John Smallwood**

JFO is on schedule and operating at a profit. Ken will step down as Editor in 1995. As of March 1993, there were 14 regularly contributing reviewers. Suggestions to increase the number of reviews and reviewers included: recognition for the best review, have students submit reviews as a course requirement, hold a workshop on reviewing papers at the annual meeting, provide a list in JFO of pertinent journals and significant books for review.

Research Awards Committee Report—Nat Wheelwright

Seventeen applications were received for Bergstrom Awards in 1993. Nat, Sarah Sloan and Herb Wilson reviewed proposals. Four recipients were chosen.

1. Javier Lopez de Casenave. University of Buenos Aires. Foraging ecology and guild structure of Monte Desert bird community.
2. N. Ross Carrie. Texas A&M University. Habitat selection of Wood Thrush nesting in east Texas.
3. Anna Kristina Lindholm. Cambridge University. Defenses of Reed Warblers against interspecific brood parasitism in an unparasitized population.
4. Diane Evans. Northern Arizona University. Habitat size and landscape pattern relationships of bird communities to Douglas fir forest in the intermountain west.

It was suggested that AFO coordinate with ICBP to solicit Latin American proposals.

OSNA Report—Jed Burttt for Fred Lohrer

Membership is up by 80, student memberships up by 11, subscriptions down by five from last year. THE FLOCK will be mailed around 1 June. New business manager at Allen Press is Deborah Bracker. Membership problems from a computer error in late 1991 were settled by November 1992, as soon as Allen Press discovered the nature of the problem.

Finance Committee Report—Jed Burttt

An endowment funds policy was proposed to combine all endowed funds for investment. The funds would be separated in bookkeeping only, each fund being assigned a value according to its capital proportion of the combined fund at the time it was added. Annual

interest would be used to carry out the proposed purpose of each fund, with 5% of that interest being re-invested.

Membership Committee Report—Deb Miller for Martha Steele

Martha has sent brochures to eight meetings and conferences this year. Deb color-coded brochures displayed at the 1992 AFO meeting, and has asked Allen Press to inform her of how many of these were used. Only 50 brochures in total remain. It was decided to reorder 1000 immediately and make minor editorial changes concerning sponsorship of the bird count supplement with the next printing. Martha will send letters to non-reviewers in May. Deb will work on revising the AFO display board. It was suggested that AFO have more than one board for circulation, and others to keep on permanent display at several locations.

OLD BUSINESS

Resident Bird Counts (Greg Butcher). USFWS will pay for publishing the counts, and has taken over responsibility for producing the counts. Greg has written a proposal to USFWS to contract an editor for 400 h for data entry, formatting, editing and review mailings. Ideally, this would include an academician to oversee a work-study student, the student being paid by the Editor's university. If editorial work could be completed in the fall semester, the list could be published with the 2nd JFO issue in April. Several people have expressed interest in editorship of the count. Greg will solicit resumes. AFO publishes the bird count under the provision that it must be self-sustaining.

Latin American Members. Seventy-five JFO sets were donated to libraries. Allen Press was asked to study the effect of donations on circulation and subscriptions in Latin America. Brochures and a display board should be developed in Spanish, and reviews in Spanish should be added to the Journal. AFO should consider publishing some literature in Portuguese in order to target Brazil.

NEW BUSINESS

OSNA Council Meeting. Ricky and Greg will represent AFO at the OSNA Council Meeting on 8 Jun. 1993 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Endowment Policy. George suggested that all working reserves should not be considered endowments; some should be set aside in a different account to be used at the Council's discretion. Also, rather than re-investing 5% of interest, change policy so that up to 3% of capital funds be used annually to carry out purpose of funds, and the remainder of interest re-invested. Brian suggested that the Council designate some portion of mist net sales to the Bergstrom Awards Fund. This would also be a nice way to promote net sales. Greg pointed out that past life member rates were too low and there is not enough in that fund to cover costs. Jed and George will meet on how to allot Bergstrom and life member monies.

ABSEARCH. A company is requesting exclusive rights for 3 yr to provide a computerized index, which would include citations and abstracts, of papers from OSNA journals. There was some concern about infringement on other companies such as Biosis, which already provides a similar service though not exclusively for OSNA journals. This will be taken up at OSNA council meeting.

Mist Net Sales. Advertisements for mist nets appear four times per year in North American Bird Bander. Ricky will work on re-writing text for the ad to say that some mist net profits will be used for Bergstrom Awards.

Resolutions Amendment. Jed is willing to write an amendment to the AFO Bylaws, which would provide for the Council to adopt resolutions.

Dovekie Listing. A request to support listing the Dovekie (*Alle alle*) as an endangered species was received by Jed. No Council member felt well enough informed on Dovekie population status to make a statement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. Ricky Dunn's new address for her new job (Congratulations!) is: *Canadian Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Research Centre, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3, Canada.* Phone: 819-994-0182, FAX: 819-953-6612.

Meeting adjourned at 1600 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa C. Wahle, Secretary

Available from the Secretary by request:

Agenda
ICBP-US Section Minutes of December 1992
Endowment Policy Proposal
Editor's Report

Review Editor's Report
OSNA Report
Treasurer's Report
Bergstrom Awards Report