

Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

CONFERENCE PLANS ANNOUNCED

THE 1989 INLAND BIRD BANDING CONFERENCE will be held 8 to 10 September at the Gobbert Raptor Rehabilitation Center on the St. Paul Campus at the University of Minnesota. The University will not be in session. This will free up considerable parking and some dormitory space on the campus. In spite of increased urbanization, the St. Paul campus retains its rural atmosphere. The empty campus and the promise of good weather with an early meeting date, should provide an exceptional conference for all who attend.

The campus is easy to reach from highway 280, off I-94 at the dividing line between Minneapolis and St. Paul. Go north to Larpenter, only a mile or so, take the exit to the right (east), and watch for the campus on your right. The Raptor Center is in the south center of the campus.

THE FRIDAY EVENING PROGRAM will include a tour of the Center, a wine and cheese get-together, and a talk by Pat Redig, the Director of the Center. There will be an opportunity to view many raptors, including some Peregrin Falcons being held for research, education, or rehabilitation.

FIELD TRIP PLANS include a trip to Hawk Ridge near Duluth, Minnesota following the meeting. Those coming from out of state may wish to plan an extra day, or two, to take advantage of the hawk flights and the beauty of the north shore of Lake Superior in the fall. Most people in Duluth can give directions to Hawk Ridge. On an exceptional day, hawk flights over the ridge are spectacular, with tens of thousands of individual hawks seen. Even mediocre days can be fascinating, since the hawks often follow the ridge and may be seen at eye level and at fairly close range. Accommodations at one of the many motels in Duluth will be easy to arrange and should be reasonably priced. Contact the Duluth Visitors Bureau at 1-800-438-5754, or write the Bureau at Endion Station, 100 Lake Place, Duluth, Minnesota 55802.

SATURDAY MORNING TRIP plans include a birding trip to a park near the conference center, and a banding demonstration, also nearby.

EXHIBIT SPACE will be available. Anyone interested in arranging to exhibit materials related to banding, or birding, should contact Arden Aanestad, 5501 Hunter Street, Edina, MN 55436. There will be no charge, but a donation of a door prize is welcome.

POSTER SPACE on the walls of the meeting room will be provided. Please bring any post-

ers, or bulletin board material related to banding, along to the meeting. The committee will be happy to arrange space for you.

THE CHAIR OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE is Jane Olyphant. The local banding group includes about 15 banders who attended the first planning meeting at Carpenter Nature Center on 14 January 1989.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE for dormitory rooms will be 1 August 1989. Registration deadline for others will be 10 August 1989. Inquiries regarding registration may be directed to Molly Henke, Dodge Nature Center. A separate mailing of registration materials will be made to all members and other interested parties. This mailing is scheduled to go in the mail in mid-June.

THE TWIN CITIES of Minnesota have sites of interest to all. The Minnesota Visitors Bureau can provide details. Call 1-800-652-9747 if in the state, or 1-800-328-1461 if out of state. The address of the state visitors bureau is 315 Jackson, 250 Skyway level, St. Paul, MN 55101. We recommend the Minnesota Zoo, old Fort Snelling, the Bell Museum on the Minneapolis campus of the University of Minnesota, the Science Museum of Minnesota (in St. Paul), or if your tastes are less intellectual, the first indoor shopping mall in the southwest part of the metro area. Rose-dale is another mall, located north of the St. Paul University Campus.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS should reach each member with the registration packet. The Minnesota Visitor Bureau may be able to help with any special requests for accommodations. Several motels of varying prices are close to the campus. One is located at Energy Park, a theme shopping area, a short distance from the campus. Information will be mailed to each member in mid-summer. Maddy Papermaster is the committee person responsible for information about lodging. If you wish additional information, write her at 14990 Norell Ave. N., Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047.

QUESTIONS? Contact any committee member. Don Beimborn (612-920-3851) will be happy to answer questions, or offer any help that is needed.



PUBLICATIONS PERUSALS

Ospreys / A Natural and Unnatural History. By Alan F. Poole. 1989. Cambridge University Press, 32 East 57 Street, New York, NY 10022. 7 1/8 x 9 3/4"; 250pp. \$30.

A master fisherman, the Osprey, found nearly worldwide, was once threatened by extinction. Natural history, status, distribution, and management are subjects covered by Poole. Data from research by the author and others, help give the reader a better understanding of this raptor. Art is by Margaret LaFarge. Forward is by Roger Tory Peterson. There are numerous photographs, tables, and line drawings. A description of where and how to provide nest sites for Osprey will help the reader to cooperate in the restoration of this species. The lay person and the professional will enjoy this book.

Life of the Tanager. By Alexander F. Skutch. 1989. Cornell University Press, 124 Roberts Place, Ithaca, NY 14850. 12 1/2 x 9 1/4"; 128pp.; #36.50.

Alexander F. Skutch, a resident of Costa Rica, has studied tanagers for 40 years. He has recorded his observations of their habits, giving in detail their usual and unusual behavior. Feeding, courtship, nesting, grooming, and sleeping are just a few of the activities described. Status of this brilliantly colored subfamily of 230 species, and the destruction of their physical environment are subjects discussed in the final chapter of this attractive book. It is enhanced by Dan Gardner's 24 water color illustrations of brilliant tanagers in their tropical habitat.

Stokes Nature Guide / A Guide to Bird Behavior, Volume III. By Donald W. and Lillian Q. Stokes. 1989. Little Brown and Co., 34 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02106. 398pp. \$18.95; \$26.95 in Canada.

In this book the authors have explored the lives of 25 species of birds. For each there is a behavior calendar which gives the approximate time for certain behavior such as migration or nesting. The display guide for each lists the major displays, when they are used, and the result. These displays may be auditory or visual. The main body of the chapter covers behavior descriptions of prominent facets of the bird's life such as courtship, nest building, or seasonal movements. Drawings of visual displays are by Don Stokes.

Birds to Watch / The ICBP World Checklist of Threatened Birds. ICBP Technical Publication No. 8. By N. J. Collar and P. Andrew. 1988. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 20560. 304pp.; \$18.95 soft.

This book is the result of a four-year collaboration between International Council for Bird Preservation and the specialist environmental and conservation publisher, ProNatur in Germany. It is about conservation of birds and their habitat. This includes a discussion of range, habitat, population numbers, relevant ecology, and threats to its existence for each of the 1,000 endangered species which are listed in taxonomic order. There is also a listing of threatened bird species arranged by country. In U.S.A. 13 species are listed as threatened.

Bird Conservation, NO. 3. Edited by Jerome Jackson. 1989. The University of Wisconsin Press, 114 N. Murray St., Madison, WI 53715. 177pp.; \$17.50 cloth; \$12.95 paper.

This publication presents seven articles dealing with forest habitats of North America

and the birds living there, what these forests were like before White Man arrived, what is now happening to them, and what can be expected in the future. The book includes recommendations for preserving of mature forests. It is concluded with news and update on the status and conservation of woodpeckers.

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER FOUND IN WISCONSIN

Kirtland's Warbler biologists and managers have long debated the significance of occasional birds found outside the "traditional" nesting areas in the northern part of Michigan's lower peninsula during the breeding season. Perhaps these birds are rare strays who have missed their natal areas on their spring migration from the Bahama Islands. Or perhaps they represent individuals genetically programmed to disperse in search of distant habitats. The latter explanation might call for a change in recovery efforts for the species.

In an effort to learn more about these "stray" individuals, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service contracted with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to carry out a search for Kirtland's Warblers in the jack pine areas of Wisconsin. This search proved to be very successful - eight male Kirtland's Warblers were located by State biologists and volunteers assisting in the spring 1988 survey. None of these males gave any hint of having a mate, but observations were very limited. Two of the birds were subsequently mist-netted and color-banded to aid in their future identification. Because of this success, a larger survey will be run in Wisconsin in 1989, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is planning a similar search in suitable jack pine areas of that State.

As of early September, 1988, 57 Kirtland's Warblers had been caught in mist nets and banded on their summer range in Michigan (this number includes some recaptures). In 1988, Patuxent biologists studying the Kirtland's Warbler in Michigan have had a 24 percent return rate of 1987 hatching-year birds that were leg-banded in 1987, and an 8 percent return rate of those that carried radio transmitters in addition to leg bands. Due to concern that the radio transmitters may be causing mortality, biologists do not intend to place any transmitters on birds in 1989 as originally scheduled.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARD APPROVED

Mary Elizabeth Gustafson of Westerville, Ohio is the recipient of the *Willetta Lueshen Student Membership Award*. She is currently a graduate student at The Ohio State University, Department of Zoology. A bander for 14 years, Mary was an Observatory assistant at Long Point Bird Observatory for four seasons, and conducted banding projects for Cape May Bird Observatory for three years.

It is a pleasure to welcome Mary as a new member of Inland Bird Banding Association.

(ADDRESS: Mary Elizabeth Gustafson, 105-K East Ticonderoga Drive, Westerville, Ohio 43081)

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR OFFICERS

Nominations are currently being accepted for the following positions on the Board of Directors of the Inland Bird Banding Association. Elections will take place at the Annual Business Meeting September 9, 1989 at Saint Paul, Minnesota.

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Director (3-year term)

Officers holding the following positions cannot be nominated and elected for the SAME office again in 1989:

Director: Nathaniel Whitney

Members are urged to volunteer for nomination for one of the offices, or nominate a fellow member via mail. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting.

Place nominations with the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Bernard Brouchoud, 508 New York Avenue, Manitowoc, WI 54220.



Deanne T.
Endrizzi



ENDRIZZI TO SERVE AS ARTIST

Deanne Endrizzi of Richfield, Minnesota has volunteered to provide art work for the IBBA Newsletter section of *North American Bird Bander*.

A member of IBBA, Deanne is a bird bander, holding a sub-permit under Arden Aanestad, who is also a IBBA member. She is 22 years old with a degree in Office Information Systems. Deanne says she is the only "bird brain" in her family.

A volunteer for the Hennipen Parks, she has a variety of responsibilities. Deanne is also a volunteer for the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge doing Wood Duck banding and art work.

Welcome aboard, Deanne! We appreciate your willingness to give of your talents.

(Address: Deane Endrizzi, 7244 11th Avenue S., Richfield, Minnesota 55423)

NOTICES

Cavity-nesting birds, such as bluebirds, wrens, and Tree Swallows, are easily captured in the nest box by using the Bauldry trap. A package of three Bauldry traps, along with instructions, is available for \$6.00 ppd. Send order to IBBA, Route 2, Box 26, Wisner, Nebraska 68791. Make check payable to IBBA.

Also available from the above address are patterns for the Bauldry trap, and for the Bauldry artificial nest cavity, designed to keep out raccoons and House Sparrows. State pattern desired. A donation to cover printing and mailing costs will be appreciated.

Anyone wishing to purchase an IBBA multi-colored embroidered arm patch may contact Allen E. Valentine, 17403 Oakington Court, Dallas, Texas 75252. Arm patch, \$2.00 each; decal, \$1.00 each. Make check payable to IBBA.

IBBA has on hand numerous reprints, which may be distributed to banders. There are too few copies of each to list them. A package of 8-10 reprints will be sent to anyone who sends \$2.00 to cover postage and handling to IBBA, Route 2, Box 26, Wisner, NE 68791. Papers include such topics as age and sex determination, trap patterns, collecting data, checklists, etc.

Avoid a rear end collision by placing *Caution Bird Watcher Driving* on your rear bumper. Bumper sticker is available from Jane Dunlap, Route 3, Box 172, Norfolk, NE 68701 for \$1.75 each ppd.

Deter trespassers and vandals by posting your property with a banding station poster. It is 19" x 12", with black weather-proof ink on white texoprint - tough and durable. "U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BIRD BANDING STATION". Illustrated with stylized goose. For photo of poster send self addressed stamped envelope. Five posters will be sent postpaid for \$11.00. Send order to Willetta Lueshen, Route 2, Box 26, Wisner, NE 68791.

A Bird Bander's Guide to Determination of Age and Sex of Selected Species, by Merrill Wood, Second Edition revised by Wood and Donald Beimborn, is available from Afton Press, 3516 21st Street West, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

Who has bird slides that you would like to donate for educational purposes? If so, please notify Willetta Lueshen, Route 2, Box 26, Wisner, Nebraska 68791.

FIRST CRANE EGG DUMPING RECORDED

Five female Whooping Cranes at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland produced 15 eggs in 1988. Two of the eggs were broken by the cranes, seven hatched, and the others were infertile or the embryos died before hatching. Four chicks subsequently died of exposure, enteritis, and other problems. Another 15 eggs were shipped to Patuxent from Wood Buffalo National Park. Six of those eggs were infertile or contained dead embryos, and one was a Sandhill Crane egg, the first record of "dump-nesting" by cranes. The other eight Whooping Crane eggs hatched, with seven chicks surviving.

MANY ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED

The Driftwood Wildlife Association is a volunteer organization dedicated to promoting research and providing community education in the areas of wildlife rehabilitation and avian natural history in central Texas.

Following are portions of Driftwood's 1988 Annual Report:

At Driftwood 3783 individual birds of 110 species were banded. The ten most commonly banded species are:

1988	
1. Chipping Sparrow	493
2. Lincoln's Sparrow	373
3. Field Sparrow	333
4. Black-chinned Hummingbird	213
5. Northern Cardinal	173
6. Clay-colored Sparrow	167
7. American Goldfinch	138
8. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	128
9. Cedar Waxwing	127
10. White-crowned Sparrow	113

1981 through 1988	
1. Field Sparrow	1120
2. Northern Cardinal	885
3. Lincoln's Sparrow	860
4. Nashville Warbler	804
5. American Goldfinch	654
6. Black-chinned Hummingbird	627
7. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	590
8. Chipping Sparrow	552
9. Cedar Waxwing	491
10. Least Flycatcher	439

New species banded in 1988

1. Whip-poor-will
2. Northern Parula
3. Yellow-throated Warbler

The most unusual avian aspect of 1988 was the remarkable influx of small sparrows. They were primarily representatives of the genus *Spizella*. The large numbers were mostly attributable to the winter of 1987-88, but there was a significant spillover into the winter of 1988-89.

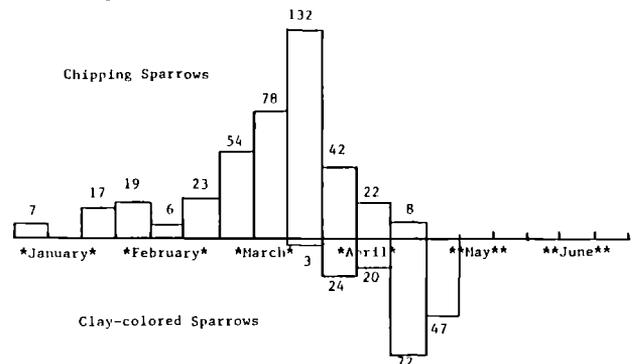
A table would best exemplify the influx:

	1981 through 1987		1988
	Range of		
	# Banded	Annual Totals	# Banded
CHSP	59	1- 25	493
LISP	487	44-119	373
FISP	787	78-141	333
CCSP	37	0- 14	167
WCSP	213	17- 70	113

We had anticipated that, some day, we would have a significant influx of Chipping Sparrows. While they have never been common on our station specifically, they winter irregularly about Central Texas in large numbers. Likewise, we have banded fairly large numbers of Lincoln's and Field Sparrows over the past seven years, and they are present in even larger numbers in nearby locales. What was totally unexpected and fascinating to us, however, was the arrival in early migration of large numbers of Clay-colored Sparrows. We have never received any reports of large concentrations Clay-colored Sparrows in the Austin area, and, as the above table exemplifies, we certainly have never had any ourselves. The more usual *modus operandi* for this sparrow is to move through in small

groups of one to ten. We postulate that their abundance was secondary to a Chipping Sparrow population that was already present in large numbers. These two species of *Spizella* are previously known to migrate together. As each small group of Clay-colored Sparrows would pass our station, they would be attracted to the hordes of Chipping Sparrows that were already present at the two net locations where we caught the majority of the individuals. Thus attracted, they would use these two areas for staging before they continued their migration. This process would be facilitated by the fact that they are, primarily, diurnal migrants.

As mentioned above, the Clay-colored and Chipping Sparrows tend to occupy the same niche on our station--hence they were present near the same two areas of nets. These are our nets which are located in areas of minimal topsoil/mostly limestone. The dominant arbor flora of the areas is juniper and live oak. The smaller trees are mostly Texas persimmon and agarita. Our other common species of *Spizella*, the Field Sparrow, in contrast, occupies the open field and riparian woodland portion of our station. The following graph illustrates the results of the Clay-colored Sparrows gradually replacing the Chipping Sparrow at these two locations.



In the above graph, the months are divided into thirds. The numbers represent the total number of new individuals banded during that period. It will be curious to see if this pattern, which is novel to us, will repeat itself in future years.

1988 was an exceedingly dry year for Central Texas. For our county, it was the fifth driest year of the century. Since we began in 1981, our station's annual rainfall has been about 36" per year. We received 20" in 1988. During September, when Hurricane Gilbert was threatening the Texas Coast, the entire State of Texas became schizophrenic. If one lived within 100 miles of the coast, he was holding out both hands like a policeman trying to stop traffic and saying, "No, no, no! Stop!". Everyone else in the state was waving Gilbert in--hoping for rain.

Despite the aridity, spring migration was slightly above average in relation to variety. We captured 28 species of vireos and warblers. The numbers of *Empidonax* were exceptional for our station. By mid-year, we had banded 11 Yellow-bellied, 42 Traill's, and 65 Least Flycatchers. The rest of the flycatchers were banded in their usual token numbers.

The first documented nesting of an Ash-

throated Flycatcher was recorded during the Spring. Three eggs were laid and one had hatched before a nocturnal predator (presumably raccoon) destroyed the nest and killed the adult sitting on the nest.

We also recorded the first Osprey for our station during the Spring. It was gliding at about 50' over the larger creek that flows along one side of our station.

Don Connell, The Driftwood Wildlife Association, P. O. Box 39, Driftwood, Texas 78619.

* * *

I have banded Ruby-throated Hummingbirds exclusively since late 1984. In 1988 we experienced a record-breaking mild winter, and a record-breaking cold spring (90 degrees in March, freezing in May), followed by severe drought. Although the first hummer appeared only a few days behind schedule, April 19, and their numbers increased gradually, by early May the birds had all but disappeared. We always experience a decline late May or early June, but this was a startling absence.

Then suddenly they returned and I ended with a better than average season. The 1988 total of 403 birds banded consisted of 120 AHY-M, 107 AHY-F, 112 HY-M, and 64 HY-F. The disappointment I felt when only 11 birds returned from previous years was offset somewhat when one was a HY-F banded in 1984, and two were banded as adults (one M, one F) in 1985 - making each at least four years old. These don't come close to being age records, but they are records for me, and I will never cease to thrill at holding one of these tiny miracles in my hand.

Instead of mist nets, I use traps made of hardware cloth, with hand-operated doors. During August of 1988 I recorded an unusual number of repeat captures, with some birds being caught day after day, and others several times on the same day.

Probably one of the most significant observations in hummingbird circles is that the species are moving out of their normal ranges. Anna's, Black-chinned, Allen's and Rufous Hummingbirds have more than once been confirmed far from where they "belong", and partial albinos are reported with growing frequency. I would very much like to hear from anyone who confirms an unusual hummingbird sighting.

Ellie Womack, Route 7, Box 372, Claremore, Oklahoma 74017.

* * *

In 1988 I banded birds at Matlock, five miles south of Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba, during the last two weeks of August. Habitat includes scattered mature elm trees and the odd spruce, with patches of dogwood and cranberry. Total number of birds banded is 569 of 46 species. Birds most frequently captured were Myrtle Warbler, 116; Tennessee Warbler, 97; Northern Waterthrush, 71; Nashville Warbler, 40; American Redstart, 32; Yellow Warbler, 21; Cape May Warbler, 17; Ovenbird, 13; Purple Finch, 13; American Robin, 12; and Swainson's Thrush, 12.

Doug Collister, 3426 Lane Cres., S. W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3E 5X2.

* * *

Following are highlights of my 1988 banding activities, which took place in Nebraska. Total individuals banded is 1,109.

Birds banded at Chet Ager Nature Center, Lincoln, totaled 788. I talked with more than 7,200 people at the banding station.

Birds banded in Otoe County near a lake included a Sedge Wren, Savannah Sparrow, and 23 Common Yellowthroats.

On a farm in Cuming County I banded a Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, and two Blue Grosbeaks. It was here that I captured and banded a Golden-winged Warbler, the first I had ever seen. It was an exciting moment.

Raptors banded for the Raptor Recovery Center in Lincoln totaled 132. Birds banded for the Wildlife Rescue Team of Lincoln included a Common Loon, Mallard, six American Crows, and a Common Nighthawk.

A Great Horned Owl which was hit by a car near Lincoln, was held for 71 days at the Raptor Recovery Center. On March 6, 1987 I banded the bird (AHY-U) and it was released at Schram State Park. On January 15, 1988, it was found dead beside a highway near Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Mabel Ott, 2718 South 33rd, Lincoln, Nebraska 68506.

* * *

I had a good year (1988) banding. However, the drought slowed activity. I had more warblers than usual in my backyard station, but the American Robins did not come this way, and had berries left on my mountain ash trees. The starlings finished them off in early November.

I banded a new species - House Finches. In January, 1989 I have already banded 35 finches. Where they are coming from I don't know. Perhaps the biggest surprise of the year was banding 207 Mourning Doves.

This year marks 54 years of bird banding. Each year seems to have problems. This year it was the drought. We experienced 46 days with temperature reaching 90 degrees, or more. I had ten 2-cell water traps dripping every day. However, the birds were like humans. They were around early in the morning, and showed up late in the afternoon, after the heat of the day.

I banded 1,849 birds of 53 species at my backyard station, and 527 individuals of 18 species at my Palos Park station, which I use during the winter. At my backyard station 137 birds of 12 species returned; and 89 individuals of nine species returned to the Palos Park station.

During the year I received reports of nine recoveries; one American Robin was recovered at Moreauville, Louisiana, and one American Goldfinch was recovered at Plymouth, Wisconsin by another licensed bander.

As you know, the House Finches are spreading west from where they were released in New York. They were showing up at feeders all around the Chicago area, and on August 3, 1988 I banded my first House Finch. In September I banded 17, closing the year with a total of 23.

The top seven species banded in 1988 are European Starling, 613; Common Grackle, 318; American Goldfinch, 235; Mourning Dove, 207; Slate-colored Junco, 137; American Robin, 123; Redwinged Blackbird, 113; and Black-capped Chickadee, 103.

Alfred H. Reuss, 2908 Edison, Blue Island, Illinois 60406.

My banding takes place in my small backyard, 50' x 75', with some trees; pecan, dogwood, cherry, sweetgum, and wateroak. I use one mist net running north and south, and occasionally a 4-cell Potter trap. The area is baited with sunflower seed.

I usually band December through March, unless the finches hang around some in April. So far for 1989 I have had very poor results. The temperature is well above normal, and the finches (which are my main concern) have not seen fit to come in to urban residential areas. We have very few reports of finches from others in this area.

Raymond Bates, 757 80th Place South, Birmingham, Alabama 35206.

EDITOR'S NOTE: According to data compiled for Project FeederWatch, a continent-wide bird feeder survey run by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and Canada's Long Point Bird Observatory, many birds appear to have stayed north this winter in the boreal forests of Canada. However, bird numbers at feeders across the continent's midsection and in the west were on par with last winter. The biggest gap in feeder attendance occurred among the aptly named "winter finches." This group includes such popular feeder visitors as the Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin, and Purple Finch. Both Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins showed decreases of 75 to 100% at feeders in the northeastern and southeastern United States.

NOTE: More annual reports will appear in the next issue.

PAUL A. STEWART AWARDS APPROVED

John Flora, Chairman of the Inland Bird Banding Association Endowment Fund Committee, has announced that two applications for the Paul A. Stewart Award for Bird Movement Relative to the Evolution of Bird Migration have been approved.

The award has been presented to Lynn M. Gordon, who is a student at San Diego State University, Department of Biology. The title of his proposed study is *The Roles of Endogenous and Exogenous Factors in Settlement Patterns of Juvenile Western Sandpipers (Calidris mauri)*.

He earned his M. S. in Wildlife Science from Texas A & M University, College Station in 1985, and his B. S. Degree in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1977.

(ADDRESS: Lynn M. Gordon, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, University of California, Davis, California 95616)

The Paul Stewart Award has also been presented to Elizabeth W. Brooks of Alfred Station, New York. She plans to study the fall movement of Black-capped Chickadees through the analysis of records from the Bird Banding Laboratory. Ms. Brooks will attempt to determine direction, duration, and timing of fall Black-capped Chickadee movement in United States, and the possible correlations with irruptive year flights, age of birds, migration routes, and survival rates.

(ADDRESS: Elizabeth W. Brooks, 1435 Waterwells Road, Alfred Station, NY 14803)

THE NORTH AMERICAN CRANE WORKING GROUP (NACWG), which met for the first time in Qiqihar, China at the International Crane Conference in May 1987 has published its premier issue of *The Unison Call*. This ten-page newsletter, published twice a year, is edited by Gary Lingle, Habitat Manager for the North Platte Whooping Crane Habitat Management Trust located at Grand Island, Nebraska. The newsletter gives regional reports of the status of cranes, a report of the crane research being conducted at the present time, a progress report from National Crane Foundation, notes, announcements, and news about members.

To receive the NACWG Newsletter send name, address, and \$5.00, Active or \$10.00 Sustaining Membership to Gary Lingle, 255 N. Diers Avenue, Suite H, Grand Island, NE 68803.

REDHEAD DUCKS HAVE BEEN BANDED with U. S. Fish and Wildlife bands and color-marked with nasal discs in a cooperative study of the ecology of wintering Redheads in south Texas, between the USFWS National Wetlands Research Center, Corpus Christi Field Station and Texas A & M University. Yellow, white, red, blue, and green nasal discs were used during the two-year study initiated in October 1987. Nasal discs attached during 1987-1988 are blank, while those attached during 1988-1989 are alpha-numerically coded. Reports of marked birds will aid in the study of movements and distribution of Redheads wintering in south Texas. Please report location, date, sex, nasal disc color, alpha-numerical code, and condition of observed birds. Please send reports to Department of the Interior, Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20708, or to Joe Moore, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, 302 Nagle Hall, Texas A & M University, College Station, TX 77843.

BANDERS INVITED TO PUBLISH

All banders are invited to send informal reports of returns, recoveries, and unusual captures to the editor for publication. Sorry, long lists of figures cannot be used. Announcements, news about members, or any tid-bits of interest to banders are welcome. Photographs, in either color, or black-and-white, having good contrast, as well as art in black-and-white are wanted.

Please send to:

WILLETTA LUESHEN, EDITOR
INLAND BIRD BANDING NEWSLETTER
ROUTE 2, BOX 26
WISNER, NEBRASKA 68791

All scientific papers should be sent to:

DAN KRAMER
NORTH AMERICAN BIRD BANDER
3451 Co. ROAD 256
VICKERY, OHIO 43464