

NEWS—NOTICIAS—NOTÍCIAS

THE GOELET STUDENT FUND

At the VIth Neotropical Ornithological Congress in Monterrey, México, in October 1999, Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Goelet of New York City donated \$5000 to the Neotropical Ornithological Society (NOS), to be used as seed money for a fund to be called the “Goelet Student Fund.” This fund is earmarked to make financial grants to enable students from the Neotropical Region to attend and present a paper or poster at the VIIth Neotropical Ornithological Congress in Chile in 2003.

The NOS needs to raise additional money to at least double the amount in this fund by early 2003 when grants will be made to students. In order to reach this goal, donations from members are solicited. The status of the

NOS as a non-profit organization under the United States Internal Revenue Service code insures that donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by US law. Gifts should be made to the Neotropical Ornithological Society as a contribution to the “Goelet Student Fund” and sent to J. Michael Meyers, Treasurer of the Neotropical Ornithological Society, Warnell School of Forest Resources, D. W. Brooks Drive, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2152, USA. Payments may be made by check (drawn on a US bank), by international money order, or by credit card (VISA or MasterCard). For more information please contact NOS Treasurer J. Michael Meyers (jmeyers@smokey.forestry.uga.edu).

VIIth NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The VIIth Neotropical Ornithological Congress (VIIth NOC) of the Neotropical Ornithological Society will take place in October 2003 in Puerto Varas, Xth Region, Chile. The VIIth NOC will be hosted by the Unión de Ornitológos de Chile (UNORCH), which will jointly convene the VIIth Chilean Congress of Ornithology (VII Congreso Chileno de Ornitología). The President of the VIIth NOC is François Vuilleumier (vuill@amnh.org). The Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee of the VIIth NOC is Luis Espinosa (legpvar@entelchile.net or legpvar@hotmail.com). The co-Chairmen of the Scientific Program Committee are Karl-L. Schuchmann (kl.schuchmann.zfmk@uni-bonn.de) and Jaime Jiménez (jjimenez@ulagos.cl). UNORCH has formed an Organizing

Committee, comprising Cristián Estades and Charif Tala, in addition to Luis Espinosa and Jaime Jiménez. The scientific program will include plenary lectures, symposia, oral presentations, posters, and round-table discussions. Because of the Congress location in southern South America, special emphasis will be on ornithological research in the Southern Cone, although the scientific program will include all aspects of Neotropical ornithology. A Proceedings volume is planned, which will be edited by an Editorial Committee chaired by Raymond McNeil (Raymond.McNeil@umontreal.ca). Excursions to points of ornithological interest will be organized during the mid-Congress day break, as well as pre- and post-Congress. As more details concerning the VIIth NOC

become available, they will be announced in *Ornitología Neotropical*, in the Society's webpage, and elsewhere.

UNORCH, the official host of the VIIth NOC, is the national ornithological society of Chile. Created in 1987, it was incorporated as a non-profit organization under Chilean law in 1989. The principal objectives of UNORCH are to promote the conservation and protection of birds and their habitats, to further ornithological research in Chile, and to advance the diffusion of ornithological knowledge and education throughout Chile. UNORCH is the Chilean representative of BirdLife International, a worldwide alliance of organizations dedicated to the conservation of birds. Among the activities of UNORCH are the publication of a journal, the *Boletín Chileno de Ornitología*, which includes scien-

tific articles on Chilean birds (Editor: Juan Carlos Torres-Mura), and of a newsletter (*Boletín Informativo*), which publishes information and commentaries about Chilean and international ornithological matters, and the organization of the Chilean Congresses of Ornithology. The VIth Chilean Congress, which took place in Antofagasta 11–13 November 1999, was attended by two representatives of the NOS, François Vuilleumier and Vickie McDonald. The President of UNORCH is Juan Carlos Torres-Mura (jtorres@mnhn.cl) and its Secretary Charif Tala G. (unorch@entelchile.net). UNORCH's office is located at Avenida Providencia 1108, Local 32, Providencia, Santiago, Chile; its mailing address is: UNORCH, Casilla 13.183, Santiago-21, Chile, and *E-mail*: unorch@entelchile.net.