

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Make sure you have your registration submitted for the 58th annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society which will be held on the campus at Mississippi State University from 19-22 May 1977. There will be a full program of scientific papers in addition to a symposium on woodpeckers. Bring the whole family because the local committee has planned a variety of activities in addition to the scientific part of the meeting. Some of these activities include visits to antebellum homes, the Herschede Hall Clock Company, the Cobb Institute of Archaeology, and Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. The field trips will be culminated by an all day canoe trip down the Tombigbee River. For those Yankee birders who would like to add some southern species to their life list, the local committee has given an unconditional guarantee for producing nesting Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Black Vultures and others. For further information please contact Jerome A. Jackson, chairman of the local committee, P. O. Box Z, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY MEETING

During October 1977 the Memorial University of Newfoundland will host the North-eastern Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society. The Society is encouraging attendance of ornithologists and animal behaviorists. For further information concerning the meeting, please contact Dr. William Montevecchi, Department of Psychology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5S7.

GREATER SANDHILL CRANE SYMPOSIUM

The Indiana Chapter of the Wildlife Society in cooperation with Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife and Indiana Conservation Council, Inc. will sponsor a symposium on the status of the Greater Sandhill Crane. The symposium will be held 24-26 October 1977 at the Howard Johnson Motel, Michigan City, Indiana, and Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area. (During late October 1976 over 12,000 cranes were concentrated on this area.) For additional information and/or inclusion on mailing list contact: Duane Shroufe, Division of Fish and Wildlife, 607 State Office Building, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

CONTINENTAL COLOR-MARKING FOR THE PURPLE MARTIN

Although several thousand Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) have been banded, very little is known or understood about their dispersal and migration from the breeding and wintering areas. Even recovery records leave many important questions unanswered.

What is the postbreeding dispersal pattern? Where do breeding and hatching year individuals stage and roost prior to and during migration? Where do martins from each state or province winter and does their migration route differ? How widely do birds from each state or province disperse after the winter?

A concentrated effort to color-mark martins on a continental scale and a coordinated observation effort has been planned by Jerome A. Jackson and M. Kathleen Klimkiewicz and should help answer many of these questions.

Each state, group of states, or province will be assigned a two-color plastic leg band combination. Leg and/or wing markers may be used at a later time (both are presently being used on a small-scale experimental basis in Ontario and Maryland).

All color bands will be ordered from the same source in order to standardize colors. Only nestlings and/or breeding adults will be color-marked at the present time because roosts often consist of individuals from several states.

All banders and subpermittees are encouraged to participate in this project. Detailed directions and the continental color-marking plan will be sent to interested individuals.

The source for the plastic color leg bands and a key to age and sex for adults will be sent to banders who plan to participate. A capture technique for adults is also available upon request.

All inquiries should be sent to: Kathy Klimkiewicz, Biologist, Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland 20811.

COLOR-BANDED SEMIPALMATED AND LEAST SANDPIPERS

Last year the Surinam Forest Service color-banded nearly 3300 Semipalmated and Least sandpipers, resulting in 14 spring and summer sightings and recoveries from the United States and Canada. In 1977 again large numbers of these species will be color-banded along the Surinam coast. As in 1976, birds will be banded above the tarsus ("knee") with a standard aluminum band and 2 ORANGE plastic bands of about the same size as the aluminum band. We again ask birders to look out for these birds and to send reports of observations to Arie L. Spaans, Surinam Forest Service, P.O. Box 436, Paramaribo, Surinam, South America. Please, report species, date and location of observation, the position of the aluminum and color-bands—left or right leg, and, if more than 1 band is on a leg, which band is above, which below, and which in the middle (some birds have all 3 bands on one leg)—and number of color-banded birds involved.

BALD EAGLE LITERATURE WANTED

The National Wildlife Federation's Raptor Information Center is creating a computer-based, working (i.e. keyworded) bibliography on the Bald Eagle. An attempt is being made to include all existing literature, both published and unpublished. Information on extant bibliographies and sources of unpublished literature (reports, theses, dissertations, etc.) is especially being sought. If you have pertinent articles that you wish to be included, please send them to: Dr. Jeff Lincer, Director, Raptor Information Center, National Wildlife Federation, 1412-16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON COLOR PLATE FUND

We acknowledge with thanks the contribution of Dr. George Miksch Sutton which has made possible the publication of the color plate in this issue and color plates in most other issues of *The Wilson Bulletin* in the past three years.