

ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

HAWK MOUNTAIN RESEARCH AWARD

The Board of Directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary takes pleasure in announcing an annual award of \$250 for support of raptor research. The Hawk Mountain Research Award will be granted annually to a student engaged in research on raptors (Falconiformes).

To apply, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and 2 letters of recommendation by 31 October 1977 to: Mr. Alex Nagy, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Route 2, Kempton, PA 19529.

A final decision will be made by the Board of Directors in February 1978.

Only students enrolled in a degree granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. Projects will be judged competitively on the basis of their potential contribution to improved understanding of raptor biology and their ultimate relevance to conservation of North American hawk populations.

COLONIAL WATERBIRD GROUP MEETING

The Colonial Waterbird Group, organized during the Wading Bird Conference at Charleston, South Carolina last October 1976, will hold its first annual meeting on 21–23 October 1977, at Northern Illinois University, in DeKalb. The conference will include paper sessions, subgroup meetings (surveys, conservation, etc.) and an important business session. Any person wishing to present a paper on an aspect of research or management of pelicans, cormorants, herons, ibises, gulls, terns, alcids or other colonial waterbirds should submit a single page abstract no later than 15 August 1977 to the National Audubon Research Department, 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, FL 33070. Additional information on the conference will appear in the mid-summer CWG newsletter, or may be obtained by writing the above address.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Shorebird color-marking.—In 1977, the Canadian Wildlife Service will again be carrying out extensive banding and color-marking of shorebirds in James Bay. Last year, over 12,400 shorebirds were captured during July and August resulting in over 580 reports of color-marked birds in eastern North America and South America. Much valuable information on migration routes is being obtained and observers are again asked to look out for and report any color-dyed or color-banded shorebirds that they may see. Reports should include details of species (with age if possible), place, date, color-marks, and if possible, notes on the numbers of other shorebirds present. For color-dyed birds, please record the color and area of the bird that was dyed. For color bands and standard metal leg bands, please record which leg the bands were on, whether they were above or below the “knee,” the colors involved, and the relative position of the bands if more than one was on a leg (e.g., right leg, blue over metal etc.). All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to Dr. R.I.G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 2721 Highway 31, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0E7.

International Shorebird Surveys, 1977–78.—A cooperative International Shorebird Survey scheme was started in 1975 to obtain information on shorebird migration and to identify and document areas of major importance. This scheme has been highly suc-

cessful, with much very valuable information on shorebird distribution and migration coming from contributors throughout eastern Canada and the U.S.A., the Caribbean Islands, and Central and South America. Information from the scheme will be valuable in assessing requirements for the future protection and conservation of the birds and their habitat. In 1977 we are anxious to continue and extend the scheme in as many areas as possible. Any observer who may be able to participate in regular survey counts of shorebirds during spring and autumn migration periods, as well as during the winter in shorebird wintering areas, are asked to contact one of the undersigned. Occasional counts from observers visiting shorebird areas on an irregular basis would also be most welcome.

For areas in Canada: Dr. R.I.G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 2721 Highway 31, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0E7.

For areas in the U.S.A., Caribbean Islands, Central and South America: Brian A. Harrington, Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, MA 02345, U.S.A.

Wing-tagged Laughing Gulls.—Juvenile Laughing Gulls have been wing-tagged with green or orange and green wing tags (and with metal leg bands) in Barnegat Bay, New Jersey to study behavior, migration, habitat selection, and survival rates. The tags are round (5 cm in diameter) and numbered. Please report all sightings to Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, MD 20811. Please include date, time, location, color of tag, and number of the tag if possible. Information may also be sent to Joanna Burger, Dept. of Biology, Livingston College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

Bird-strip mine and bio-indicator literature wanted.—A bibliography on birds found on strip mines and the use of birds as bio-indicators of the quality 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, theses, etc., to be included in the bibliography should send them to: Pierre N. Allaire, Dept. of Science and Mathematics, Lees Junior College, Jackson, KY 41339.

Needed: Egg date records for Purple Martins (Progne subis).—Please send date on which each martin pair at colony laid its 1st egg. Age of each pair (adult or subadult) if known and yearly total of martin young raised at colony also would be helpful. If dates represent 2nd nesting attempts or 2nd broods, please indicate. Records for as many years as possible are needed. Each contribution will be acknowledged.—Charles R. Brown, 2601 Turtle Creek Drive, Sherman, Texas 75090.

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