

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

JOHN L. ZIMMERMAN, SECRETARY

The Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society was held Thursday, 4 May through Sunday, 7 May, 1995 at the Fort Magruder Inn and Conference Center, Williamsburg, Virginia in joint session with the Virginia Society of Ornithology. The local committee, chaired by Ruth Beck, was composed of Bill Akers, Joy Archer, Jean Armour, Tom Armour, Sherwin Beck, Jean Holcombe, Marilyn Lewis, Carolyn Lowe, Mack Lundy, John McDowell, Charles Rend, Jean Rend, David Schuster, Lee Schuster, Mary Smith, Alice Springe, Brian Taber, Jerry Via, Dorothy Whitfield, Bill Williams, and Marilyn Zeigler. The meeting was sponsored by the Dept. of Biology of the College of William and Mary, the Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries, the Virginia Society of Ornithology, and the Williamsburg Bird Club.

The Council met from 13:08 to 18:30 on Thursday, 4 May in the Longstreet Redoubt and again from 17:00 to 17:15 on Friday, 5 May in Newmarket Hall. On Thursday registration for the approximately 175 guests and members was followed by an informal reception at the General Hill and General McClellan Redoubts.

The opening session on Friday convened in Newmarket Hall at 08:20 with welcoming remarks from Bill Akers, president of the Virginia Society of Ornithology, Ruth Beck, president of the Williamsburg Bird Club, and Stan Sadler, vice-president of the College of William and Mary. Professor Mitchell Byrd of the Center for Conservation Biology and the Dept. of Biology at William and Mary College provided an enlightening review of colonial ornithology in the Williamsburg area. Richard Conner, president of the Wilson Ornithological Society, offered a response to this most warm and well-received welcome.

The scientific papers session included contributed papers and posters as well as a symposium on Ornithology in Northern Central America. The evening program on Friday offered a delightful audio-visual presentation, "Nature's Jewels," by Dr. Hal Horwitz. After the business meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology, all members and guests enjoyed an informal reception. Field trips to local areas were conducted on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, while additional extended field trips on Sunday took members and guests to a variety of habitats in coastal Virginia.

A social hour preceded the annual banquet held in General Hill and General McClellan Redoubts. Following dinner, President Conner reinstituted the brief president's address to the Society. The following awards were also presented:

### **EDWARDS PRIZE** (for the best major article in volume 106 of *The Wilson Bulletin*)

Bret M. Whitney, "A new *Scytalopus* Tapaculo (Rhinocryptidae) from Bolivia, with notes on other Bolivian members of the genus and the *Magellanicus* complex." Wilson Bull., 106 (4):585-614.

### **LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES AWARD**

Dan Albrecht, "Sex ratio variation in nests of first- and second-paired female House Wrens."

**MARGARET MORSE NICE AWARD**

David J. Ziolkowski, Jr., "The role of male song in territorial defense: an experimental test using House Wrens."

**PAUL A. STEWART AWARDS**

Daniel R. Ardia, "Habitat selection and sexual segregation in American Kestrels."

Jeanette Bider, "Avian diversity and distribution among remnant forests of North-central Belize."

Jeffrey P. Duguay, "Effects of two timber management practices on arthropod abundance and towhee nestling growth rates."

Megan E. Laut, "Demographic responses of Carolina Chickadee to forest fragmentation."

Winli Li, "Parental behavior and possible brood-splitting in Whimbrels (*N. phaeopus*)."

Todd J. Underwood, "The validity of constant effort mist-netting in generating a reliable index to productivity."

**ROGER TORY PETERSON INSTITUTE TRAVEL AWARD**

John N. Mager, "Parental effort in the seasonally monogamous Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)."

Jameson F. Chace, "Cowbird parasitism and nest predation on Solitary Vireo nests: does nest choice make a difference?" and "Nest-site selection by Solitary Vireos."

**ALEXANDER WILSON PRIZE** (for best student paper)

Amanda Allen, "Tidepool value as foraging patches for breeding and migrating birds in tidal salt marshes in the Lower Chesapeake Bay."

Selection committee for the Edwards Prize—Charles Blem, chair, Al Conway, Danny J. Ingold, Steven L. Lima, Lisa J. Petit, and Stephen Pruett-Jones; for the Fuertes, Nice, and Stewart Awards—Judy McIntyre, chair, Gary Nuechterlein and Richard Stiehl; for the Wilson Prize—Jon Barlow, chair, John Kricher and Clait Braun; for the Peterson Institute Travel Award—Keith Bildstein, chair, John Smallwood and Dan Petit.

Banquet festivities concluded with a film presentation, "Watching Warblers," by Mike Male and Judy Fieth.

**FIRST BUSINESS MEETING**

The first business meeting was called to order by President Conner at 08:35 on Friday, 5 May in Newmarket Hall. Secretary Zimmerman reviewed the highlights of Thursday's Council meeting, noting that the current membership stands at 2410. He reported that the council acted in response to a recommendation of the publications committee, chaired by Clait Braun, that the Society reinstate an honorarium for the editor. The council also reelected the editor for another term. Efforts of the Ornithological Council were reviewed, and Zimmerman reported that the Society has designated that rental income on the membership list collected by OSNA would be used to support the Ornithological Council as well as again providing a \$500 contribution from our general funds for the coming fiscal year. The Committee on Undergraduate Outreach, chaired by Ernest Willoughby, has the information exchange available on Internet and is preparing a guide to graduate programs in ornithology for undergraduates. The Council voted in favor of our OSNA representative to accept the membership of the Colonial Waterbird Society and the Raptor Research Foundation in

OSNA. The proposed budget for the coming year is around \$105,000. Next year's meeting will be hosted by the Cape May Bird Observatory from 11–14 April 1996 at Cape May with Peter Dunne as local chair. In 1997 the Society will meet in Manhattan, Kansas from 17–20 April in conjunction with the Kansas Ornithological Society, hosted by the Division of Biology at Kansas State University. John Zimmerman is local chair. The secretary then asked those assembled to stand in recognition of the following members who have died since we last met: Helen G. Cruickshank (Rockledge, FL), Harvey I. Fisher (Hale, MO), Ernest E. Good (Columbus, OH), E. Hoving (Winnipeg, MB), Marion A. Jenkinson (Lawrence, KS), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (Louisville, KY), Wilbur B. Quay (New Bloomfield, MO), Gus Swanson (Ft. Collins, CO), Tom Tacha (Kingsville, TX), Frederick R. Wells, II (Reynoldsburg, OH). The secretary was informed later of the following members who had died since this list was compiled: John Aldrich (Tucson, AZ) and Katherine A. Goodpasture (Nashville, TN).

The treasurer's report was then presented by Doris Watt.

The editor's report was offered by Charles Blem.

William (Ted) Davis, chair, presented the report of the nominating committee (Mary Clench and Jerome A. Jackson members): President, Keith L. Bildstein; First Vice-president, Edward H. Burtt, Jr.; Second Vice-president, John C. Kricher; Secretary, John A. Smallwood; Treasurer, Doris J. Watt; Members of the Council, 1996–1998, Margaret C. Brittingham and Herbert T. Hendrickson.

Mary Clench moved for adjournment and George Hall seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 08:58.

#### SECOND BUSINESS MEETING

The second business meeting was called to order by President Conner at 11:03 on Saturday, 6 May, in the Jefferson Davis Amphitheater.

The Auditing Committee's report was presented by Judy McIntyre (with Fred Lohrer) and indicated the spread sheet and treasurer's report totals were found to balance and that the books were quite in order.

The President recalled the report of the nominating committee to the floor, asking for any additional nominations. Since none were immediately forthcoming, Jerry Jackson moved and Phillips Street seconded that the nominations be closed and further, that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees for all offices. The motion passed and the secretary did as directed.

Sandra Gaunt gave a report for the Ornithological Council, our representatives, Dan Petit and Larry Jahn, not being present at this session. She reviewed the increasing presence of the Council on the Washington scene and noted that Bette Ann Schreiber has been hired as a part-time Director.

#### REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Erica Noll presented the report of the committee:

#### RESOLUTION ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

WHEREAS the global rate of species loss is probably greater today than at any other time in the earth's history; and

WHEREAS the most important causes of extinction today are habitat loss and overexploitation; and

WHEREAS over its 22-year history the Endangered Species Act of 1973 has proven to

be one of the most important environmental laws in the United States in that it provides a flexible framework for protecting endangered species and their habitat; and

WHEREAS in the Endangered Species Act Congress has declared that "various species of fish, wildlife, and plants in the United States have been rendered extinct as a consequence of economic growth and development untempered by adequate concern and conservation;" and

WHEREAS the Endangered Species Act is currently up for reauthorization; and

WHEREAS strong attacks have been made against the Endangered Species Act arguing that economic interests should come before the needs of endangered species; and

WHEREAS these attacks often include exaggerated claims of economic loss, losses to personal property, and present negative and erroneous characterizations of endangered species;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society encourages the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Endangered Species Act with species welfare as the central focus and sound biology as the dominant criterion for decision making so that it can continue to serve as a model to the rest of the world for legislation that recognizes the significance of ecosystems and protects endangered and threatened species and their ecosystems from adverse impacts of human actions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society urges ornithologists, and local, regional and national bird clubs and ornithological organizations to actively support reauthorization and strengthening of the Endangered Species Act by providing informed opinions and relevant data to those influencing and making our laws; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society exhorts the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretaries mandated by the Endangered Species Act to implement its provisions, to implement stronger public education programs relative to the Endangered Species Act, its implementation, and species protected under it, and to swiftly, strongly, and consistently provide public rebuttal to disinformation made public concerning the Endangered Species Act and the species it protects.

The motion to accept this resolution was made by Herb Hendrickson, seconded by Jed Burr, and passed.

#### RESOLUTION ON THE LOCATION OF CASINOS IN AQUATIC AND ESTUARINE ENVIRONMENTS

WHEREAS aquatic and estuarine ecosystems are ecologically highly productive and essential as nursery areas for commercial fisheries and shell fisheries as well as a high diversity of non-commercial species; and

WHEREAS these interfaces between land and water along the northern Gulf of Mexico are of paramount importance as landfall and departure areas for Neotropical migrant landbirds, essential wintering areas for thousands of shorebirds, including the endangered Piping Plover, and include significant nesting and feeding areas for already troubled Least Terns and Snowy Plovers, Seaside Sparrows, and other birds; and

WHEREAS such ecosystems are already globally stressed as a result of human development and recreational activities in and near them and as a result of chemical runoff from roads and agricultural and industrial areas; and

WHEREAS many states now have or are considering legalized gambling in the form of casino operations; and

WHEREAS many states have limited casino development to sites that are on water; and

WHEREAS construction and operation of casinos in shallow water areas further limits the area available for the natural functioning of the ecosystems and further contaminates

these ecosystems as a result of runoff from roads and parking areas, and decreases primary productivity as a result of increased turbulence, deposition of sediments, and shading;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Wilson Ornithological Society urges states to reconsider the requirement that casinos be constructed and operated in these sensitive environments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Wilson Ornithological Society urges that states with casinos in such sites institute close ecological monitoring to quantify the effects of such human developments on the functioning of the natural ecosystems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Wilson Ornithological Society urges states to take decisive action to limit negative environmental impacts of casino development and to correct continuing degradation of these aquatic and estuarine ecosystems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Wilson Ornithological Society urges that operators of existing casinos recognize the sensitivity of the environment in which they are operating and take steps to protect that environment and to educate their patrons as to the ecological and economic importance of that environment.

The motion to accept this resolution was made by Dick Stiehl and seconded by Jed Burt and passed.

#### RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER IN KENTUCKY

WHEREAS the Red-cockaded Woodpecker is an endangered species endemic to the mature pine forests of the southeastern United States; and

WHEREAS the northernmost population of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker is now found only on the Daniel Boone National Forest on the Cumberland Plateau of south-central Kentucky; and

WHEREAS the Red-cockaded Woodpecker population of the Cumberland Plateau has been isolated from other populations for many decades and has adapted to this specific habitat at least to the extent that individuals from this population are significantly larger than individuals from other populations and they make a greater use of hardwood vegetation as foraging sites; and

WHEREAS this population has been reduced to approximately six known individuals, a precipitous decline following intensive management activity; and

WHEREAS the natural pine habitats of the Cumberland Plateau occur as linear strips along ridges; and

WHEREAS these habitats include pine species not found in most of the coastal plain of the southeastern United States; and

WHEREAS these pine habitats are the products of fire regimes, climate, and topography that differ substantially from those pine habitats of the remainder of the southeastern United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society strongly urges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service: (1) to conduct thorough surveys of all habitat to ascertain the presence or absence of additional birds; (2) to use ecologically appropriate management for the Cumberland Plateau to restore natural old growth systems; (3) to minimize or preclude disturbance and handling of birds, particularly to preclude climbing of nest trees and banding of nestlings until the population has recovered to a less critical level and then only when needed information can be obtained in no other way; (4) to minimize or preclude the translocation of birds from other populations onto the Daniel Boone National Forest because of a) the unique nature of the native population and its habitat; b) the fact that much of the Daniel Boone National Forest has not been system-

atically searched for Red-cockaded Woodpeckers; and c) because of the potential for introduction of parasites and/or disease to this critically small population.

The motion to accept this resolution was made by Richard Banks, seconded by Herb Hendrickson and passed.

RESOLUTION TO PROTECT HABITAT AROUND DYKE MARSH,  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

WHEREAS Dyke Marsh is a significant wetland area near the nation's capital and as such is an important symbol of the nation's commitment to natural areas; and

WHEREAS Dyke Marsh has been used for the education and enjoyment of local residents; and

WHEREAS one of the options being considered by the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Improvement Study's Coordinating Committee for an expanded crossing of the Potomac River is a high bridge along a "southern alignment"; and

WHEREAS such an alignment would do severe environmental damage to the sensitive Hunting Creek-Hunting Bay-Dyke Marsh ecosystem, including destruction of extensive wetlands that play a crucial role in preserving air and water quality and habitats of flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS construction of a river crossing through this ecosystem, which has been rendered particularly fragile by previous filling, dumping and other degradations, would do irreparable harm to this valuable natural resource; and

WHEREAS recreational opportunities along this stretch of river would be precluded or hampered by a bridge that would also block vistas of the river and parklands from the George Washington Memorial Parkway;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Wilson Ornithological Society urges the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Improvement Study Coordinating Committee to drop the "southern alignment" as an option to be considered, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in any plan to construct an expanded river crossing along the current alignment care be taken to ensure that remaining wetlands along Cameron Run, Virginia not be destroyed or degraded.

The motion to accept this resolution was made by Richard Banks and seconded by Ted Davis. It passed.

COMMENDATION

WHEREAS the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Virginia Society of Ornithology held a joint meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia at the invitation of the the Virginia Society of Ornithology, Williamsburg Bird Club, and the College of William and Mary; and

RECOGNIZING that the Committee on Local Arrangements, under the sound direction of Ruth A. Beck, provided us with a diverse and entertaining array of exhibits, special events, field trips and evening social events; and

RECOGNIZING that the Committee on the Scientific Program under the equally capable direction of Edward H. Burt, Jr. arranged outstanding scientific lecture sessions and poster sessions, including a special symposium on "Ornithology in northern Central America;" and

WHEREAS all who have attended this meeting have enjoyed and been educated by it,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society commend the Committee on Local Arrangements, the Committee on the Scientific Program, and local sponsors for their efforts toward this enlightening meeting in historic Williamsburg.

The acceptance of this resolution followed a motion by Paul Hamel that was seconded by Mary Clench and the vote of members present with great acclaim.

President Conner introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS John L. Zimmerman has served the Wilson Ornithological Society long, well, and faithfully as its Secretary; and

WHEREAS the Society has greatly benefitted from his careful attention to its affairs for eleven years; and

WHEREAS he has often discharged his duties with lightening speed (what other ornithological society has the minutes of its annual Council meeting written before the Secretary arrives back home?); and

WHEREAS John's regard for, and his continued willingness to contribute toward the welfare, of the Society has led to an extraordinarily generous invitation to host the 78th meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Officers, Council, and Membership of the Wilson Ornithological Society extend their heartfelt gratitude to John Zimmerman for his many years of service as Secretary, and look forward to enjoying the 1997 meeting in Manhattan under his able leadership.

This motion to accept this resolution was made by Clait Braun and seconded by Mary Clench and passed with applause by the membership.

Mary Clench then moved the meeting be adjourned. And after a second by Ted Davis, it was.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER

1 JULY 1994 TO 31 JUNE 1995

##### GENERAL FUNDS

|   |                 |              |
|---|-----------------|--------------|
| <i>Balance Forward</i> .....                              |                 | \$ 82,520.43 |
| <i>Receipts</i>   |                 |              |
| Regular and Sustaining Memberships .....                  | \$ 31,190.00    |              |
| Student Memberships .....                                 | 4,433.00        |              |
| Family Memberships .....                                  | <u>150.00</u>   |              |
| Total Dues .....  |                 | \$ 35,773.00 |
| Subscriptions .....                                       | \$ 24,782.00    |              |
| Back Issues .....   | 446.50          |              |
| Newsletter Subscriptions .....                            | 254.70          |              |
| Contributions from Authors for Page Charges .....         | <u>9,280.00</u> |              |
| Total Income from the Publications .....                  |                 | \$ 34,763.20 |
| Contributions to The Van Tyne Library .....               | \$ 255.00       |              |
| Contributions to the Student Membership Endowment .....   |                 |              |
| Contributions to the Wilson Award Endowment .....         |                 |              |
| Contributions to the General Endowment (Life, Patrons) .. | 2,125.00        |              |
| Contributions to the Research Fund .....                  |                 |              |
| Contributions to the General Endowment .....              | 563.00          |              |
| Unrestricted Contributions .....                          | <u>413.00</u>   |              |
| Total Contributions .....                                 |                 | \$ 3,356.00  |
| Royalties .....   |                 | 832.83       |
| Interest from Endowments .....                            |                 | 20,923.14    |
| Interest from Checking Account .....                      |                 | 900.94       |

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Dividends from Dreyfus Account (reinvested) ..... | 931.64              |
| List Rental .....                                 | 550.00              |
| Refund from Joint Meeting .....                   | 4,050.20            |
| Miscellaneous .....                               | <u>257.50</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS .....</b>                       | <b>\$102,338.45</b> |

*Disbursements*

## Bulletin Publication

|  |                 |                     |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|
| June 1994 .....                                    | \$ 19,311.57    |                     |
| September 1994 .....                               | 14,938.68       |                     |
| Reprint of March 1994 .....                        | 3,472.25        |                     |
| December 1994 .....                                | 19,762.67       |                     |
| March 1995 .....                                   | 18,989.12       |                     |
| Editor's expenses .....                            | <u>5,339.31</u> |                     |
| Total Publication Costs .....                      |                 | \$ 81,813.60        |
| OSNA Expenses .....                                | \$ 11,389.00    |                     |
| President's expenses .....                         | 0.00            |                     |
| Secretary's expenses .....                         | 62.16           |                     |
| Treasurer's expenses .....                         | 411.91          |                     |
| Treasurer's bond .....                             | 106.00          |                     |
| Meeting advance .....                              | 249.21          |                     |
| Editor's travel expenses .....                     | 0.00            |                     |
| Incorporation fee .....                            | 5.00            |                     |
| Awards Committee .....                             | 138.88          |                     |
| Printing, storage and mailing of back issues ..... | 172.30          |                     |
| Advertisement (Allen Press) .....                  | 0.00            |                     |
| Program Committee .....                            | 246.16          |                     |
| Van Tyne Library .....                             | 0.00            |                     |
| AAZN Dues .....                                    | <u>100.00</u>   |                     |
| Total Operating Expenses .....                     |                 | \$ 12,880.62        |
| Organizational Awards .....                        | \$ 3,250.00     |                     |
| ICBP Contribution .....                            |                 |                     |
| Total Philanthropies .....                         |                 | \$ 3,250.00         |
| <b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....</b>                   |                 | <b>\$ 97,944.22</b> |
| <i>Ending Balance .....</i>                        |                 | <i>\$ 86,914.66</i> |

*CASH ACCOUNTS*

|   |                 |              |
|---|-----------------|--------------|
| First Source Bank Checking Account 1 May 1995 ..... | \$ 58,558.02    |              |
| Dryfus Liquid Assets 31 March 1995 .....            | \$ 28,205.33    |              |
| Editor's Account .....                              | <u>168.29</u>   |              |
| Total Cash on Hand .....                            |                 | \$ 86,931.64 |
| Van Tyne Library Accounts Starting Balance .....    | \$ 2,256.17     |              |
| Receipts .....                                      | \$ 1,754.18     |              |
| Expenses .....                                      | <u>1,484.56</u> |              |
| Ending Balance .....                                |                 | \$ 2,525.79  |

*DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS*

Stewart Award (Endowment Principal \$22,879.69)



|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1994 Balance .....  | \$ 63.41    |
| 1994 Earnings <sup>1</sup> .....                          | \$ 894.78   |
| Funds Disbursed for Awards .....                          | 1,200.00    |
| Balance .....   | -241.81     |
| Sutton Color Plate Fund (Endowment Principal \$55,227.79) |             |
| 1994 Balance .....  | \$ 525.81   |
| 1994 Earnings <sup>1</sup> .....                          | \$ 2,174.39 |
| Funds Disbursed for Color Plates 1994-95 .....            | 2,200.00    |
| 1995 Balance .....  | 500.20      |

*TOTAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS*

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1989 Market Value .....            | \$386,992.00 |
| 1990 Market Value .....            | \$372,063.00 |
| 1991 Market Value .....            | \$423,698.00 |
| 1992 Market Value .....            | \$430,258.00 |
| 1993 Market Value .....            | \$487,786.00 |
| 1994 Market Value .....            | \$425,155.00 |
| 1995 Market Value (March 95) ..... | \$463,530.00 |

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<sup>1</sup> Based on 3.9% interest on Mellon account.

### EDITOR'S REPORT—1994

In 1994, 180 manuscripts (99 major papers, 81 short communications) were received by *The Wilson Bulletin* editorial office. This is 5 less than in 1993. Of these, 39% were accepted and 61% were rejected. The time between receipt of manuscript from the author(s) and our return of the manuscript with referee comments nearly always has been less than three months. No manuscript required more than four months for a decision. There is a small backlog of manuscripts, but accepted revisions almost always have been published in the next scheduled issue. Frontispiece articles take a bit longer. The average time between receipt of a manuscript and its appearance in *The Wilson Bulletin* in 1994 was almost always less than a year. A few papers required longer because authors were slow to return revisions.

I am grateful to the editorial board—Kathy G. Beal, R. N. Conner, and J. A. Smallwood—for their timely, skilled evaluations of many of the manuscripts submitted to the journal. I also thank George A. Hall for his editorship of the book reviews section. George resigned this position effective with the September, 1995 issue, and the new review editor is William E. Davis, Jr. Assistant Editors Leann Blem and Albert E. Conway are responsible for the consistency of style and format, and for making arcane prose more readable. I thank them for their efforts. Kathy G. Beal deserves special praise for continuing to assemble the index for *The Wilson Bulletin*. This a tedious task and the entire society benefits from her careful work. For seven years Leann Blem has provided much of the manual labor that keeps the editorial office running and she catches many of the small errors that can plague a publication. As always, I remain open to suggestions as to how to improve the service we provide the readers and authors, and invite you to make your opinions known to me.

C. R. Blem, *Editor*

The reports of the standing committees are as follows:

REPORT OF THE JOSSELYN VAN TYNE MEMORIAL  
LIBRARY COMMITTEE—1994

The end of another year's activity seems to have taken us a bit by surprise. The undersigned chairman, not helped by a brief hospital stay last summer followed by some months of slow recuperation, has hardly performed as was to be expected. As usual, however, Janet Hinshaw and her helpers have managed all the business of the WOS Library along with that of the the Bird Division Library in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, where our large collections are well housed and available for use. Thanks especially to Pat Ahrens, Bird Division secretary, for her help. Things have continued to move forward normally, as the facts and figures show.

Gifts were distributed as follows: 1 monograph to Manomet Bird Observatory, 1 monograph to UNAM (Mexico), 12 journal issues to Walter Thiede, 107 journal issues to Hudsonia Institute, 1 book to Universite' d'Antananarivo in Madagascar, 12 journal issues to University of Texas-Pan American, 10 journal issues to Albion College (Michigan), 78 issues to the University of Kansas, 4 issues to P. Meininger, and 196 issues to Station Ornithologique Suisse. There are about 10 of these outgoing collections in all.

Donations to the library were from 20 members and institutions: Absearch, R. Bayer, A. Berger, M. Clench, S. Conant, Edward Grey Institute, George Hall (review copies), J. Hinshaw, J. Huber, P. Meininger, M. McNicholl, K. Parkes, R. Payne, R. Pettit, J. Spindelov, Station Ornithologique Suisse, C. Strahler, Welder Wildlife Foundation, J. Wiley, and M. D. Williams. These included 25 books and monographs, 355 reprints, 6 reports, 633 journal issues, and 1 computer data base.

During the year, 55 separate loans were made to 33 people. In all, there were 169 photocopied articles, 3 reprints, 22 books, and 4 journals lent.

Exchanges from 122 institutions provided 155 journals, books, and reprints. From 27 individuals and institutions we received 32 publications as gifts. From 21 subscriptions we received 29 journals.

Sales of 85 duplicate books netted \$1940 for the New Book Fund; 12 books were purchased from the fund for \$310.35, along with \$860.50 worth of journal subscriptions and back issues.

It is good to see more and more activity of this sort, which demonstrates how surplus items can be turned into substantial funds to augment our current holdings.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to all the members who have made contributions, and we encourage ever more of them to do so, and to make use of the loan opportunities we offer.

William A. Lunk, *Chair*

## REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Conservation committee has incorporated its concerns into the resolutions voted upon during the annual meeting and has no other written report.

Jerome A. Jackson, *Chair*

## REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Four WOS members currently serve on the membership committee: Jim Ingold at Louisiana State University, Mark Woodrey at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Dave Cimprich at the University of Southern Mississippi, and myself at Montclair State University in New Jersey.

This past year I received about 18 letters from people interested in joining WOS. My established protocol is to send to each a membership brochure and a personal letter welcoming them to the Society. About half of these new members include their dues with their letter; for these I complete an application which I forward with their check to the OSNA business office, in addition to sending them a welcome letter and brochure. I also received several inquiries about institutional subscriptions (e.g., new subscribers, changes of address), which I forwarded to OSNA.

The other members of the committee have been active in their respective niches: Mark Woodrey sends membership invitations to authors who publish in *The Wilson Bulletin*, Jim Ingold contacts nonmembers who make presentations at the annual meetings, and Dave Cimprich oversees the itinerary of the membership poster. In addition to the joint WOS/AOU/COS meeting in Missoula, the poster was also displayed at the joint AFO/Federation of New York State Bird Clubs meeting in Rosendale, New York.

The membership committee would welcome the participation of any new committee members who are interested in contributing to the ongoing membership functions, or introducing new membership strategies.

As the supply of membership brochures has dwindled to a few dozen, it is time to print more. Please send any suggested revisions to me at your earliest convenience. I think it is noteworthy that the same dues structure, as outlined in the brochure, has been in effect since I joined the membership committee in 1990. Thus, with respect to a modest national inflation rate and the continually increasing value of *The Wilson Bulletin* and the other WOS products, membership in the WOS has been characterized by a steady increase in the percent return on member investment.

John A. Smallwood, *Chair*

The Committee on Scientific Program, chaired by Edward H. Burt, Jr. with Richard Bradley and Oliver Komar, presented the following program assisted by session moderators Jon C. Barlow, Richard P. Gerhardt, Carola A. Haas, Paul B. Hamel, John C. Kilgo, Chandler S. Robbins, and Richard H. Yahner.

#### PAPERS SESSIONS

Richard H. Yahner and Carolyn G. Mahan, School of Forest Resources, Penn. State Univ., "Depredation of artificial nests in a managed forest"

Charles R. Blem, Leann B. Blem, and Lesa F. Steele, Dept. Biol., Virginia Commonwealth Univ., "Clutch size of Prothonotary Warblers in Virginia"

Robert A. Sargent, John C. Kilgo, Brian R. Chapman, and Karl V. Miller, Warnell School of Forest Resources, Univ. Georgia, "Nest success of Kentucky Warbler and Hooded Warbler in southeastern bottomland forests"

Amy L. Meehan, Dept. Fish. and Wildl. Sci., Virginia Polytech. Inst. and State Univ., "Low reproductive success of a Neotropical migrant songbird in an extensively forested landscape"

Jameson F. Chase, Dept. EPO Biol., Univ. Colorado, "Cowbird parasitism and nest predation on Solitary Vireo nests: does nest choice make a difference?"

J. Edward Gates and Daniel R. Evans, Appalachian Environ. Lab., Center Environ. and Estuarine Studies, Univ. Maryland, "Cowbird spatial ecology on anthropogenic forest landscapes"

Richard P. Gerhardt and Dawn M. Gerhardt, Peregrine Fund, and Miguel Angel Vasquez, El Parque Nacional Tikal, Guatemala, "Breeding biology, food habits, and siblicide of Swallow-tailed Kites in northern Guatemala.

- A. Townsend Peterson, Mus. Nat. Hist., Univ. Kansas, and Oliver Komar, Dept. Zool., Ohio Wesleyan Univ., "Non-breeding distribution of the Cave Swallow (*Hirundo fulva*)"
- Oliver Komar, Dept. Zool., Ohio Wesleyan Univ., "Communal roosting behavior of the Cave Swallow (*Hirundo fulva*)"
- Donald H. Messersmith, Dept. Entomol., Univ. Maryland, "Bird survey of Blue Creek Area, southern Belize"
- C. S. Robbins, B. A. Dowell, and J. E. Fallon, National Biol. Serv., Patuxent Wildl. Res. Cent., "Banding and point count studies in Guatemala"
- Dwight Peake, Galveston, TX, Giulietta Fargion, Marine Biol., Texas A&M, Keith Mullin, SE Fish. Sci. Cent., Robert Pittman, SW Fish. Sci. Cent., and Robert Benson, Texas A&M, "Seabirds of the northwestern and central Gulf of Mexico"
- R. Michael Erwin, J. G. Haig, D. B. Stotts, and J. S. Hatfield, Patuxent Environ. Sci. Cent., "Dispersal; in juvenile wading birds from a Virginia colony"
- Bryan D. Watts, Cent. Conserv. Biol., College William & Mary, "Influence of patch size on incidence rates and community organization in marsh birds"
- Crystal Matthews, Biol. Dept., College William & Mary, "Effects of substrate on hatching success in Black Skimmers at the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, Hampton, Virginia"
- Amanda Allen, Cent. Conserv. Biol., College William & Mary, "Tidepool value as foraging patches for breeding and migrating birds in tidal salt marshes in the lower Chesapeake Bay"
- W. Herbert Wilson, Dept. Biol., Colby College, "Foraging behavior of Semipalmated Sandpipers in the Bay of Fundy; stereotyped or prey sensitive?"
- John C. Kilgo, Robert A. Sargent, Karl V. Miller, and Brian R. Chapman, Warnell School of Forest Resources, Univ. Georgia, "Hooded Warbler nest-site selection in southeastern bottomland hardwoods"
- Bradley D. Ross and Richard H. Yahner, School Forest Resources, Penn. State Univ., "Wood Thrush distribution and nesting success in a managed forest in central Pennsylvania"
- Paul B. Hamel, USDAFS, Southern Hardwoods Lab., "Spatial distribution of breeding canopy warblers in the Mississippi alluvial valley"
- Paul Bedell, Richmond, VA, "Evidence of dual breeding ranges for the Sedge Wren in the central Great Plains"
- E. Dale Kennedy and Douglas W. White, Biol. Dept., Albion College, "Nest vandalism by House Wrens affects the breeding success of Bewick's Wrens"
- Clait E. Braun, Colorado Div. Wildl., and Jessica R. Young, Dept. Biol., Hampden-Sydney College, "A new species of Sage Grouse from Colorado"
- Jon C. Barlow and James A. Dick, Dept. Ornithol., Royal Ont. Mus., "Speciation in meadowlarks in Texas"
- Ernest J. Willoughby, Dept. Biol., St. Mary's College of Maryland, "Geographic variation of molt in the Lesser Goldfinch, *Carduelis psaltria*"
- John A. Smallwood, Dept. Biol., Montclair State Univ., Michael P. Moulton, Dept. Wildl. Ecol. and Conserv., Univ. Florida, and Denson K. McLain, Biol. Dept., Georgia Southern Univ., "Dichromatism in the genus *Falco*: sexual selection versus an adaptive peak"
- Daniel R. Ardia, Dept. Environ. and Forest Biol., SUNY-Syracuse, "An experimental investigation of gender related differences in habitat use in American Kestrels"
- Thomas S. Risch, Savannah River Ecol. Lab., "Effects of parental quality and egg size on Herring Gull chick performance"
- John N. Mager, David R. Osborne, Dept. Zool., Miami Univ. (OH), and David C. Evers, Dept. Fish. & Wildl., Univ. Minnesota, "Parental effort in the seasonally monogamous Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)"

- Briony Roberts, Dept. Biol., Virginia Polytech. Instit. and State Univ., "Vocal behavior of the Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vitatta*) and its applicability to individual recognition"
- Douglas W. White and E. Dale Kennedy, Biol. Dept., Albion College, "Avian fruit choices in paired-comparison field trials"
- John L. Zimmerman, Div. Biol., Kansas State Univ., "Impact of grazing on the tallgrass prairie breeding bird community"
- Amy R. Lewis and Richard H. Yahner, School Forest Resources, Penn. State Univ., "The effects of forest management on the abundance and distribution of Rufous-sided Towhees"
- John B. Dunning, Jr., Dept. Forestry and Nat. Resources, Purdue Univ., "Managment impacts on a non-target species: Bachman's Sparrow in a Red-cockaded Woodpecker forest"
- Richard N. Conner and D. Craig Rudolph, Southern Forest Res. Sta., USFS, "Southern pine beetle induced mortality of natural and artificial Red-cockaded Woodpecker cavity trees"
- Lisa Billow, Dept. Biol., West Chester Univ. (PA), "An analysis of change in land use and bird populations on breeding-bird survey routes in the Delaware Valley from 1970 to 1990"
- Carola A. Haas, Dept. Fish. & Wildl. Sci., Virginia Polytech. Instit. and State Univ., "Ten-year trend in a breeding population of Loggerhead Shrikes (*Lanius ludovicianus*) in North Dakota"
- Gregory S. Keller, Richard H. Yahner, and Ronald W. Rohrbaugh, Jr., School Forest Resources, Penn. State Univ., Gerald L. Storm, Penn. Coop. Fish and Wild. Res. Unit, and John Karish, National Park Serv., "Monitoring protocols at Gettysburg National Military Park"
- Bradley D. Ross, Richard H. Yahner, and Gary Petersen, School Forest Resources, Penn. State Univ., and Jerry Hassinger, Penn. Game Comm., "Correlating habitat and bird variables using classified land uses and extensive wildlife data sets"
- Maria Jose Gonzalez, Guatemala City, "The Ocellated Turkey, its habitat use and reproductive ecology"
- Oliver Kornar, Dept. Zool., Ohio Wesleyan Univ., "Avian biodiversity in El Salvador"
- Bruce Miller, Wild. Conserv. Soc., "Known birds of Belize, a review of distributions and selected habitat associations"
- Maria de Lourdes Avila Hernandez, Instit. de Hist. Nat. Chiapas, "The Quetzal (*Pharomachrus mocinno mocinno*) and its conservation in the Mexican southeast"
- A. Townsend Peterson, Mus. Nat. Hist., Univ. Kansas, "Documenting avian diversity in Central America: research challenges and conservation implications"

## POSTERS

- Jeffrey J. Buler, St. Mary's College of Maryland and Randall Dettmers, Ohio Coop. Wildl. Res. Unit, "Effect of host nest cover and distance to forest edge on Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) parasitism"
- Michael Carey, Dept. Biol. Univ. Scranton, "Effects of age and settlement date on extra-pair mating in Field Sparrows"
- Jameson F. Chace, Dept. EPO Biol., Univ. Colorado, "Nest-site selection by Solitary Vireos"
- Richard P. Gerhardt, Dawn M. Gerhardt, and Craig J. Flatten, The Peregrine Fund, and Normandy Bonilla, El Parque Nacional Tikal, Guatemala, "Food habits, home range, and breeding of two sympatric *Ciccaba* owls"

- H. T. Hendrickson, Dept. Biol., Univ. North Carolina-Greensboro, "Further negative correlation in wintering population sizes of introduced House Finches and native Purple Finches - the New York City area"
- Michael J. Justice and Teresa C. Justice, Dept. Pysch., Univ. North Carolina-Greensboro, "Evidence that a coverable badge is sexually selected by female mockingbirds"
- C. S. Robbins, B. A. Dowell, J. Fallon, National Biol. Serv., Patuxent Wild. Res. Cent. and J. Hepinstall, Univ. Maine, "Predicting population declines from habitat change in Belize"
- Richard C. Banks and G. "Chuck" Banks, National Biol. Serv., U.S. Natl. Mus. Nat. Hist., "Variation in wintering Old World White-fronted Geese"

### 1995 NABS RESEARCH AWARDS

The North American Bluebird Society is pleased to announce the results of its eleventh annual research grant's program. The following individuals are recipients of the 1995 research awards:

#### BLUEBIRD GRANTS

*Laura R. Lee*, University of Illinois. Environmental Effects of the Reproductive Ecology of the Eastern Bluebird

*Michael H. Kesner*, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Influence of Prior Box Occupancy by White-footed Mice and Subsequent Parasitism of Nesting Eastern Bluebirds on Nesting Success

#### STUDENT GRANTS

*Paul E. Allen*, Cornell University. A Baseline Population Estimate and Feasibility of Nest boxes as a Conservation Tool for the Bahama Swallow

*Susan M. Hitchcox*, University of Montana. A Comparison of Abundance and Nest Success of Cavity-nesting Birds in Salvaged Logged and Uncut Patches Within a Burned Forest

#### GENERAL GRANTS

*Richard L. Bonar*, Foothills Forest, Alberta. Pileated Woodpecker Habitat Ecology in Boreal Forests