PICOIDES

Bulletin of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists **Picoides, March 2010**
Bulletin de la Société des Ornithologistes du Canada **Volume 23, Number 1**

Northern Pygmy Owl with White-footed Mouse. Photo by Larry Halverson.

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Editor's Message

Welcome to the first issue of *Picoides* of 2010! I hope everyone had a great Christmas and is having a good start to 2010.

I congratulate Ross Lein on his Marion Jenkinson award from the American Ornithologists Union, Keith Hobson on his Loye and Alden Miller Research Award from the Cooper Ornithological Society, and Bob Montgomerie on his Elliott Coues Award from the American Ornithologists' Union. Marie-Hélène Burle, SFU and Angelique Grava, UNBC are both congratulated for their award-winning student presentations in San Diego.

Congratulations and welcome to the new SCO-SOC Councillors: Ken Abraham, Erin Bayne, Brenda Dale and Ian Warkentin, re-elected Councillors Russ Dawson, Debbie Badzinski and Paul Martin and to our new, President Erica Nol and Vice-President/President Elect Joe Nocera. I would like to acknowledge former President David Bird and the former councillors John Chardine, Nicola Koper, Joe Nocera, and Ryan Norris, and former recording secretary Andrea Pomeroy for their significant service to the Society.

Inside this issue are several new Canadian theses in ornithology and other ornithological notices and features.

In the last few years, there has been an ever increasing trend for the senior governments in Canada to further weaken environmental protection and assessment legislation, regulations and policies through industry self regulation, project exemptions, promotion of development on ecologically sensitive lands, privatization of government services and Crown assets, trade agreements and significant government funding reductions. These trends contributed significantly to the degradation and loss of habitats for birds, other wildlife and people in Canada and around the world. The Society of Canadian Ornithologists should work with other wildlife and environmental organizations through objective science to assess the impacts of these trends and advocate for greater environmental protection and habitat conservation at home and around the world.

Before I close, I would like to remind everyone that i) *Picoides* is not a peer-reviewed journal, (ii) publication of an article in *Picoides* does not imply endorsement by the Society of Canadian Ornithologists and iii) the editor relies on authors to submit accurate, honest and error-free (as much as possible) submissions.

Please take note of photo submission guidelines and the disclaimer on page 4. On a final note, I need all members to continue to submit material and I welcome your feedback to improve *Picoides*. After all, it is your publication. I look forward to hearing from you. Have a safe, wonderful spring!

Cheers,

Rob Warnock
Picoides
Editor

Yellow-headed Blackbird. Photo by Jeff Gleason.

Attention Photographers- Submission Guidelines!

Blue Jay. Photo by Rob Wilson.

To assist the Picoides editor with managing photo submissions, please do the following:

- Use tiff or jpeg file format
- Minimize file size while maintaining photo quality. This helps keep overall file size down and speed up downloads
- Use descriptive file names. Generic file names from photo software are not very helpful.
- Supply captions for all photos. Good captions include common names of species, names of people, locations, activities, behaviours and dates and very importantly photo credit.

Your submissions are greatly appreciated and always welcome.

Rob Warnock, Editor of Picoides

Disclaimer

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Rob Warnock, Picoides Editor

PLEASE NOTE THE PICOIDES DEADLINES! Deadlines are now February 15, May 15 and October 15.

Erratum

The Short-eared Owl wing feathers photo on page 22 in the November 2009 issue (Volume 22, Issue 3) of *Picoides* should be credited to Geoff Holroyd not Kristen Keyes.

The editor apologizes for this unintentional error.

President's Report
Erica Nol, SCO-SOC President for 2010-12

Just off from the highly successful 2010 meeting in San Diego, I have taken over the position of President of SCO-SOC, from the able hands of Dr. David Bird, who held the position since August 2008. I am pleased to present this short report of our recent activities. The meeting, a joint hosting of the SCO-SOC, the Cooper Ornithological Society and the American Ornithologists' Union, again highlighted the strength of our community of Canadian ornithologists. Dr. Keith Hobson (University of Saskatchewan/Environment Canada) won the Loye and Alden Miller Research Award from the Cooper Ornithological Society, for lifetime achievements in ornithology, while Dr. Bob Montgomerie won the Elliott Coues Award of the American Ornithologists' Union, which recognizes extraordinary contributions to ornithology. On behalf of SCO-SOC, I offer congratulations to Drs. Hobson and Montgomerie on these tremendous accomplishments.

Students participated in this meeting both in the poster and oral presentation categories. Ms. Marie-Hélène Burle (supervised by Dr. Dov Lank, SFU) won the best student paper presentation of the SCO-SOC for her talk entitled "Mating system and breeding ecology of an endangered tropical sedentary shorebird in a saturated habitat", while Ms. Angelique Grava (supervised by Dr. Ken Otter, UNBC) won with honorable mention for her talk entitled "Interspecific dominance relationships between Mountain Chickadee and Black-capped Chickadee and their implication on life history". I would also like to congratulate these fine students. The future is bright!

New developments include an opportunity to expand the audience and readership of our journal, ACE-ECO. The AOU has expressed interest in collaborating with us (along with Bird Studies Canada) on our online conservation journal as they see it as a perfect way to host a rapid-publication journal with important conservation messages. We will keep you informed as to how that progresses. Council and the journal committee endorsed this move unanimously, and we are all very excited about the prospects for garnering new submissions and exposure for our journal.

Discussion at the meeting about merging ornithological societies, died with little disappointment, as participants in the smaller societies realize the benefits of small organizations (such as ours) for fostering real communication and diversity. A 'federation' of North American ornithology has been proposed and SCO-SOC has agreed to participate in the conversations about exploring whether a federation is an achievable or desirable goal.

Finally, we are on the brink of starting a student chapter of the Society. Students at the San Diego meeting from the American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society hosted several workshops and events. For example, a student-professional luncheon (supported in part by SCO-SOC) provided students an opportunity to share the table with professionals of similar research interests. These events have become increasingly well attended and appreciated at our larger joint meetings. Students of SCO-SOC attending this meeting saw many advantages to having our own student affairs committee. Andrea Norris (UBC) has agreed to spearhead this effort and you will no doubt hear more about this in the future.

In short, the SCO-SOC is on the brink of new and exciting developments. I am happy to serve as your president through these next several years. We hope to see you all in Moncton, New Brunswick in August 2011 where Marc-André Villard has kindly agreed to act as Local Coordinator. Please plan to attend and catch up with Canadian ornithologists from across the country. You will not be disappointed.

Past-President's Report
David M. Bird, President, SCO-SOC for 2008-2010

David. M. Bird with his spotting scope in the Galapagos. Photo courtesy of David M. Bird.

It seems like only months ago that I was writing my first report as President and indeed...it was! As some of you may be aware, my term was shortened by half a year due to the February joint meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), Cooper Ornithological Society (COS) and our society in San Diego.

In general, nothing disastrous befell the organization on my watch and it pleases me greatly to inform you that the Society of Canadian Ornithologists (SCO-SOC) still remains in a healthy state in terms of membership, finances, publications, website, and awards.

As of December 2009, our membership stood at 381, just about 30 members down from 2007, but up from 2008. This number will likely continue to ebb and flow depending on interested students, retirement of academic and government personnel, etc. And I am ecstatic to report that we have virtually doubled the number of Life Memberships during my term. Thérèse Beaudet, our Membership Secretary, did a fantastic job for me as President and she has kindly agreed to serve one more term for Erica Nol, our incoming President. It has been extremely useful to have instant email contact with 97% of our membership and thus, we are currently looking into ways to make joining our society and renewing memberships as easy as possible, i.e. electronically.

According to Pierre Lamothe, our esteemed Treasurer, our finances also remain in good shape. We have made good decisions in terms of both investing our money and spending it on worthwhile endeavours. We are indeed fortunate that he is essentially married to our Membership Secretary and possibly by default, has also agreed to stay on for one more term.

As you can readily see by this issue, our electronic newsletter, Picoides, is doing well, with no small thanks to our hard-working, conscientious editor, Rob Warnock. I can tell you from experience that putting out a regular newsletter is no easy chore. We are now looking into ways to ensure that our members actually take the time and make the effort to read our electronic newsletter.

Our journal, ACE-ECO, is doing extremely well and while it is still a young publication, it commands great respect. The rejection rate is healthy and the timeliness is excellent; both editors, Tom Nudds and Marc-Andre Villard, deserve our deepest gratitude. Recently there have been new developments for our journal, namely an opportunity to expand its audience and readership. The AOU has expressed interest in collaborating with us (along with Bird Studies Canada) because they see our online conservation journal as a perfect way to host a rapid-publication journal with important conservation messages. While discussion is still ongoing, both Council and the journal committee endorsed the overall concept unanimously.

Our website continues to run effectively; Joe Nocera, our Vice-President and President-Elect, has done a masterful job as Webmaster and continues to stay right on top of things. We are currently looking for an SCO member with a good knowledge of the French language so that we can avoid making small mistakes here and there with our other official language. Following up on a brilliant idea by Russ Dawson, the SCO-SOC set up a web page for students, which is highly popular.

Speaking of those students, we are on the brink of creating a student chapter of the Society. Students from the AOU and COS at the San Diego meeting hosted several workshops and events, including a student-professional luncheon (supported in part by us), which provided students an opportunity to share the table with professionals of similar research interests. These events have become increasingly well attended and appreciated at our larger joint meetings. Students from the SCO-SOC attending this meeting saw the many advantages to having our own student affairs committee. You will no doubt hear more about this in the future.

While the Conservation Committee has not been that active in the last several months, Joe, the committee chair, attended a meeting on aerial insectivore issues. On a broader note, the committee helped the SCO sign on to the WWF Canada letter for the Copenhagen climate meeting.

Because of holding our meeting in San Diego only six months after Edmonton, we did our best to continue our role in passing out awards to deserving individuals. The Speirs Award Committee chaired by Marty Leonard had no difficulty selecting unanimously Susan Hannon for 2010. Aside from all of her tireless work for our society, not the least of which was serving as President, Sue has made outstanding contributions to Canadian ornithology, especially in the areas of avian population dynamics and effects of habitat loss and fragmentation on our boreal birds. The Jamie Smith Mentoring Award was not given out at the 2010 meeting because there simply was not enough turnaround time for the committee to solicit nominations and letters, etc. However, thanks to Ken Otter and his panel of judges, the SCO-SOC did manage to hand out a student paper award along with a runner-up at the San Diego meeting and this is detailed in my conference report elsewhere in this edition of Picoides. To avoid confusion among our student members, the Student Award Committee, now chaired by Ian Warkentin, elected to hand out our Taverner, Baillie, Cooke and Junco Awards under the same deadlines used in previous years. Stay tuned for the winners, which will be announced soon.

Our next meeting will not be until August 2011 when we will convene in Moncton, New Brunswick under the helm of Marc-André Villard. This will be followed by our participation in the 5th North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) to be held in August 14-18, 2012 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia. Kathy Martin, an SCO past-president, is the head of the organizing committee for that meeting. And we are even lined up for 2013 when we meet in Winnipeg with Nicky Koper as our conference organizer.

In the short time I did have as President, besides following up on initiatives started by past-presidents and responding as timely as possible to a number of issues arising during my tenure, I did manage to spearhead one important initiative of my own. I created an *ad hoc* committee headed by Pierre Lamothe to investigate the possibility of stimulating bequests from our members to the society. It has long been my experience in other organizations that sometimes members accumulating wealth in their lifetime are not sure what to do with it. I know of one such case in my city where a deceased member left a million dollars to a local bird-watching organization to the surprise of everyone! With our membership rapidly greying and thinking about retirement, we need to make it easy as possible for folks to think about the SCO-SOC in their wills.

Speaking of deceased members, I also set up an *ad hoc* committee headed by Paul Martin to look into the issue of how to handle obituaries for members. We need to find the most effective way to remember folks contributing to Canadian ornithology.

If you are still undecided as to whether the SCO-SOC is healthy or not, just consider the fact that Erica Nol, as chair of the Nominating Committee was able to put together an amazing slate of

candidates for both President-Elect and Councillors. We actually had a very exciting election and not just an acclamation! I congratulate all those who were elected and urge those who did not get the nod at this time to run again.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to Sue Hannon, our Past-President, for making my term a relatively easy one by handing over an organization in good health and for looking out for my back on numerous occasions, even recently. I also thank all of the following people who helped me during my term in no particular order: Erica as Vice-President, Andrea Pomeroy as Recording Secretary, Thérèse and Pierre, Tom, Marc-André and Rob as editors, Joe Nocera as Webmaster and for his sage advice when needed, all of our representatives to other organizations such as the Ornithological Council, and last but certainly not least, all of the Councillors for all of their wise counsel and enthusiasm throughout the past year.

In short, it is very clear to me that the SCO-SOC is not just very healthy but on the brink of new and exciting developments. If you have not already done so, peruse my report on the San Diego conference to read about an interesting potential collaboration with our good neighbours to the south. I have really enjoyed serving as your President, albeit for a shortened term, and I truly wish Erica all of the success in the world in her presidency.

Corrigendum

Re-identification of the Fort Albany Mute Swan bone. Kevin L. Seymour and Mark K. Peck. Picoides 22(3): 16-20. November 2009.

C. Stuart Houston identified a typographical error in this paper. It should read Johann Rheinhold Forster and not Johann Rheinhold Foster. Dr. Houston graciously supplied the information below about Johann Rheinhold Forster and his son, George. The Editor.

Johann Rheinhold Forster and his son George were the subjects of a great biography by Australian Michael Hoare, /The Tactless Philosopher, Johann Reinhold Forster, 1729-1798, /published by Hawthorn Press in Melbourne in 1976. Forster "was widely regarded as one of the most knowledgeable and competent scholars of his day. ... among the first ever to publicly teach natural history in England" and recipient of a "Doctor of Civil Laws" (not given lightly) by Oxford. He laid ... the foundations for ornithology in the Antarctic and New Zealand."

And Johann's son George "wrote the most discerning essay ever on Cook's 'genius' and accomplishments ... his place as an essayist, social commentator, revolutionary and scientist is undisputed."

For a summary of J.R. Forster's place in Canadian Ornithology, please refer to pp. 21-24 in Houston, Ball and Houston, /Eighteenth-Century Naturalists of Hudson Bay" /(McGill-Queen's U. Press, 2003).

Ruffed Grouse.
Photo by Rob Wilson.

Report from the Nominating Committee: 2010
Erica Nol, Chair, SCO-SOC Nominating Committee

This year, despite the short timeline, there were substantial requirements to fulfill vacancies on Council (and the Vice-president). With the assistance of Russ Dawson, Paul Martin, Debbie Badzinski and Erica Nol (Chair) sitting as the nominating committee, we were able to find 8 outstanding candidates for 5 positions on council and two exceptional candidates for Vice-President. In addition three council members whose first term will finish at the end of the San Diego meeting were willing to stand for election for a second two –year term. An election was held in January, with ballots distributed by email. A total of 78 ballots were received, 75 by email and 3 by fax. Three councillors, Debbie Badzinski, Russ Dawson and Paul Martin, were re-elected for a second two-year term. Dr. Joe Nocera was elected to the office of Vice-President, and the following people were elected as Councillors: Ken Abraham, Erin Bayne, Brenda Dale, Marcel Gahbauer and Ian Warkentin. I congratulate them all and wish them a most enriching experience as a member of the council. I also hope that they will be able to attend as many meetings as possible of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists-Societe Ornithologists' Canadien. These new officers will serve from the end of the 2010 meeting in San Diego until to the end of the 2012 meeting (NOAC) in Vancouver. The Councillors will also be given the opportunity of running for a second term.

Although the Treasurer and Membership Secretary are now in the first year of their fourth (!) term, they are both willing to continue in these important and time-consuming positions for one more year. There was no need to run elections for the officer positions of Recording Secretary or Newsletter Editor. The co-editors of ACE-ECO were willing to continue in this capacity. Ken Abraham and Brenda Dale both graciously agreed to share the duties of recording secretary for the next two years.

The following summary list details the positions held *as of the end of the 2010 meeting* in San Diego, California:

Councillors' Status

1) Ken Abraham- first term (off after 2012 meeting, unless willing to serve a second term)
2) Marc Avey – first term (off after 2011 meeting unless agrees to a second term)
3) Debbie Badzinski - second term (off after 2012 meeting)
4) Erin Bayne - first term (off after 2012 meeting, unless willing to serve a second term)
5) Brenda Dale – first term (off after 2012 meeting, unless willing to serve a second term)
6) Russ Dawson – second term (off after 2012 meeting)
7) Marcel Gahbauer- first term (off after 2012 meeting, unless willing to serve a second term)
8) Sarah Jamieson – first term (off after 2011 meeting unless agrees to a second term)
9) Paul Martin - second term (off after 2012 meeting)
10) Ian Warkentin – first term (off after 2012 meeting, unless willing to serve a second term)

Officers' Status

President: **Erica Nol**
Vice-President and President-Elect: **Joe Nocera**
Past-President: **David Bird**
Membership secretary: **Thèrése Beaudet**
Treasurer: **Pierre Lamothe**
Recording Secretary: **Brenda Dale and Ken Abraham**
Picoides Editor: **Robert Warnock**
Avian Conservation and Ecology Editors-in-Chief : **Thomas Nudds and Marc-André Villard**

As chair of the Nominating Committee, I would like to thank all of those who expressed willingness to serve on the SCO-SOC council in future years but who were unable to do so at this time. I would also like to thank all of those elected for their willingness and enthusiasm in serving for the next two

(and possibly four) years. On behalf of the SCO, and the nominating committee I wish to express thanks to **John Chardine, Nicola Koper, Joe Nocera, Ryan Norris and Andrea Pomeroy** for faithfully serving the society these last four years. I want to especially thank **Andrea** for serving in the position of recording secretary, a thankless but extremely important task and for agreeing to stand for the position of Vice-President. All other outgoing members of council also served the society in a number of important ways. We hope that you will all consider serving again in the future. Finally I would like to point out to all members that in 2011 there will be two vacancies on the SCO-SOC council and it will be helpful for those of you with a willingness to serve the Society, to indicate this to either myself, Joe Nocera (the incoming chair of the Nominating Committee) or any other current councillor. Finally, those of you who ran but were not elected deserve special thanks. The election was very close and I sincerely hope that you will be willing to be involved as a candidate with this society again in the future.

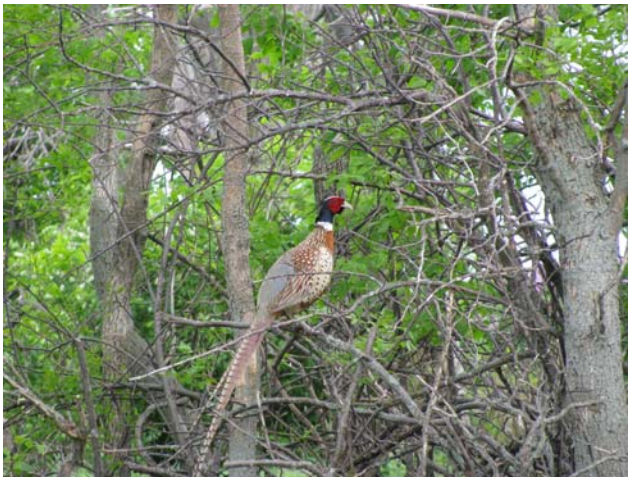
I am grateful to Thèrése Beaudet and her efficient emailing of ballots to all members. I also acknowledge all those members who took the time to submit ballots.

Things that Go 'Hoot' in the Night: Canadian Nocturnal Owl Survey
Reprinted from Bird Studies Canada E-newsletter, March 5, 2010

All across Canada, adventurous volunteers are getting ready to conduct owl surveys. The Canadian Nocturnal Owl Survey (http://www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/natowls/) is a roadside survey conducted by volunteer citizen scientists, primarily targeting nocturnal, forest-breeding owls (e.g., Barred Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl). The target owl species differ by region, and in some cases special protocols have been developed to sample poorly monitored species (e.g., Flammulated Owls in British Columbia).

The national Nocturnal Owl Survey operates through a network of regional surveys that contribute data to a central database. Regional partners include government and non-government organizations. The main objectives of the survey are: to determine the relative abundance and distribution of owls in Canada; to monitor changes in owl populations over time; to determine habitat associations; and to investigate the impacts of forest management practices and other types of habitat change on owls.

Because spring arrives to the BC coast sooner than to the rest of Canada, some west coast surveyors have already completed their owl surveys. Timing varies across the country, but most surveys take place on a single evening in April or early May – a time when owls are most vocal. The owl survey is one of Bird Studies Canada's most popular programs, because it provides a unique glimpse into the lives of these mysterious nocturnal species.



Ring-necked Pheasant.
Photo by Jeff Gleason.

Report on the 28th Annual Meeting of the SCO-SOC
David M. Bird, President, SCO-SOC for 2008-2010

Between February 7 and 11, 2010, our society held its 28th annual meeting in conjunction with the 128th annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union and the 80th annual meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society at the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, California. In general, the four days consisted of over 350 oral papers for both contributed sessions and symposia, close to150 poster presentations, a daily plenary presentation by a chosen speaker from each of the three societies, selected workshops, special activities aimed at students, an evening event at the San Diego Natural History Museum, and a closing banquet.

Aside from some unforeseen weather-based glitches, i.e. a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., resulting in a scheduling re-arrangement for the first two plenary speakers followed by a last-minute substitution on the second morning (see below), the conference was extremely well-run overall and the organizers are to be congratulated for a job well done!

Having attended AOU meetings for three decades, I did make two interesting observations. First, while I did not make any empirical attempt at counting, it was obvious to me that there were unprecedented numbers of students at this meeting. Second, easily more than half of them were of the female gender. I believe that these trends bode well for the future of ornithology. It was indeed ironic that one of the symposia was themed on Women in Ornithology.

One of the most important events held on February 6 just before the official joint conference began was a full one-day meeting of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents representing all of the major ornithological societies, both OSNA-based and otherwise (like the SCO-SOC) to discuss ways of strengthening ornithology in North America in the coming years. Societies represented there included the American Ornithologists' Union, Association of Field Ornithologists, CIPAMEX, Cooper Ornithological Society, Raptor Research Foundation, Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Waterbirds, and Wilson Ornithological Society.

Two major things were accomplished. First, while it had been initially proposed that all of the ornithological organizations consider a merger to avoid duplication of meetings and publications to lessen costs, among other benefits, that concept was summarily discarded in favour of an alternative — the formation of a Federation of North American Ornithological Societies. This would entail for the formation of a steering committee to develop models of how a federation might function, including two other sub-committees, one to explore issues of cooperation in publications and another to do likewise with annual meetings. Reports will be forthcoming from these committees for the 2011 annual meetings of the interested societies with a final report to be put on the table at the 2012 NAOC meeting in Vancouver. Moreover, each society would be asked to contribute toward an annual cost of $5,000 (amount to be based on OSNA contributions or something similar). Whether the SCO-SOC will be involved in these discussions remains to be determined.

Finally, it is an understatement to say that the SCO-SOC is a much smaller organization compared to the AOU and COS, but it was surely apparent to all of the Canadian ornithologists present at the San Diego meeting that those of us calling our home north of the 49th parallel are making our mark. Dr. Keith Hobson (University of Saskatchewan and Environment Canada) was presented with the Loye and Alden Miller Research Award by the Cooper Ornithological Society for lifetime achievements in ornithology, while Dr. Bob Montgomerie of Queen's University was given the Elliott Coues Award of the American Ornithologists' Union to recognize his extraordinary contributions to ornithology. On behalf of SCO-SOC, I offer my sincere congratulations to Drs. Hobson and Montgomerie for their tremendous accomplishments.

Dr. Kathy Martin displayed excellence on behalf of her fellow Canadians by giving an outstanding plenary lecture on cavity-nesting birds for the SCO-SOC. And when faced with an empty podium for the second plenary presentation due to bad weather, the meeting organizers turned to yet another

well-revered Canadian, Dr. Dov Lank of Simon Fraser University, who gave an entertaining yet thought-provoking talk on why Ruffs are the most interesting birds in the world.

Even our students are being recognized as future stars. Ms. Marie-Hélène Burle (supervised by Dr. Dov Lank, Simon Fraser University) won the best student paper presentation of the SCO-SOC for her talk entitled "Mating system and breeding ecology of an endangered tropical sedentary shorebird in a saturated habitat", while Ms. Angelique Grava (supervised by Dr. Ken Otter, University of Northern British Columbia) won an honourable mention for her talk entitled "Interspecific dominance relationships between Mountain Chickadee and Black-capped Chickadee and their implication on life history". Again, I give heartfelt praise to these two excellent Canadian students and wish them every success in their budding careers.

All in all, the conference was not only a huge success for all of the 600-700 attendees, but especially for the Canadian participants and members of the SCO-SOC.

SK FeederWatchers Spot Rare Rustic Bunting
Reprinted from Bird Studies Canada E-newsletter January 8, 2010

Rustic Bunting. Photo by Harvey Schmidt.

Project FeederWatch participants Harvey and Brenda Schmidt of Creighton, SK, welcomed an extremely unusual visitor to their yard in December: the first Rustic Bunting ever confirmed in the province. This Eurasian species breeds from Scandinavia to northern Siberia and typically winters in China and Japan. Vagrants sometimes appear on North America's west coast, but never so far inland! Two other Rustic Buntings were reported by a FeederWatcher in Alaska in the fall. Go to this web page below to learn more:

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw/DataRetrieval/RareBird/2010/RusticBuntingFeature.html.

Black-crowned Night Heron. Photo by Sarah Jamieson.

Marion A. Jenkinson AOU Service Award, 2009 - M. Ross Lein

Reprinted with permission from The Auk 127(1): 250–251, 2010

M. Ross Lein recording songs of Dusky Flycatchers in the Castle River Valley in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Alberta, June 2009. Photo by Valerie Haines.

With this award, we honor the memory of Marion Jenkinson Mengel, former treasurer and, in the words of the Wizard of Oz, "doer of good deeds" for the AOU. M. Ross Lein, the recipient for 2009, epitomizes the dedication, attention to detail, knowledge, and creativity that Marion brought to her many duties. Like Marion, Ross has served the AOU in many capacities, most notably as secretary for many years.

Ross was born in Estevan, Saskatchewan, where he developed an interest in nature, especially birds, at a very early age. As a high school student, he came under the influence of Robert W. Nero and C. Stuart Houston. After finishing high school, Ross entered the University of Saskatchewan, where he completed a B.A. in Biology in 1966 and, subsequently, an M.A. on "The breeding biology of the Savannah Sparrow at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan." He then journeyed to Harvard, where he became Ernst Mayr's last graduate student and completed an outstanding comparative study of vocal communication in wood warblers, one aspect of which was published in *Nature* in 1972. That paper, written and published by a graduate student, was an outstanding example of clear thinking and comparative study applied to the field study of birds. Upon completion of his Ph.D., Ross accepted an academic appointment at the University of Calgary, where he continues to this day as a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Ross has supervised 18 graduate students and published numerous papers, many of which reflect his lifelong fascination with avian vocal and nonvocal display behavior. Many of his papers also reflect his love of the natural history of the Canadian prairies, boreal forest, and Arctic. Ross is a productive and successful scholar who has passed the love of ornithology on to many undergraduate and graduate students, but that is not why we celebrate him with this award.

Among his early contributions to the AOU was his service as book review editor for *The Auk*. Then, in the late 1990s, Ross agreed to stand for election as secretary of the AOU. He was re-elected nine times. As secretary he served five presidents and helped ensure that despite a number of organizational changes the AOU continued to run smoothly. Ross's knowledge of AOU history is the stuff of legend. If a question arose during discussion of a contentious issue, Ross could find the relevant historical information to put the question and issue in context. Many were the times that his information rescued a discussion from chaos and led to a productive resolution. The efficiency with which he organized business meetings, fellows meetings, council meetings, and anything else that needed organizing had to be seen to be believed. More than once, a quiet word or two from Ross rescued a lost president and enabled the meeting to continue without a hint of trouble.

Unable to receive the award in person because of a scheduling conflict, Ross sent the following letter of thanks.

"I am deeply honored to have been selected by the Executive Committee to receive the Marion Jenkinson AOU Service Award for 2009. When I was a teenager, Stuart Houston encouraged me to consider ornithology as a career, as he encouraged a number of small-town boys from Saskatchewan, including past editor of *The Auk,* Spencer Sealy.

"I attended my first AOU meeting in 1964, and the AOU has been my 'professional home' since that time. I met Marion Jenkinson at that meeting, although I did not realize her pivotal role in the functioning of the AOU at that time. At that meeting I also met Glen Woolfenden, Dick Banks, and Ned Johnson, all of whom became good friends, even though we were limited largely to annual interactions at meetings.

"Stuart, Glen, Dick, and Ned have all received the Jenkinson Award in the past. If I have provided valuable service to the AOU over my career, it is the result, in no small part, of the encouragement that they gave and the examples that they set."

Award criteria.—The Marion A. Jenkinson AOU Service Award was created by the Council in 1996 to honor Marion Jenkinson Mengel, who served the AOU as treasurer and in other capacities for many years. It is awarded to an individual who has performed continued extensive service to the AOU, including holding elected offices but emphasizing volunteered contributions and committee participation. Recipients are selected by the AOU Executive Committee. The award consists of a framed certificate.

Cold March Wind

Only the ravens enjoy
the cold March wind
they lift and high in wanton flight
flutter recklessly and fall
then rise up again
black foils deflecting the wind
so that we see its force aloft
just as we mark the torrents
of snow blowing in sheets
across the road…
when two ravens up high
slip, slide in tandem
wings touvhing as they fall
"It's courtship!" I cry,
aroused by their exuberance,
and throw my parka hood back
despite the searing cold
to see the ravens fly

Bob Nero

Common Raven. Photo by Frode Jacobsen.

ACE-ECO New Issue Announcement

Editors-in-Chief Marc-André Villard and Tom Nudds are pleased to announce the publication of Volume 4, Issue 2 of Avian Conservation and Ecology (ACE-ÉCO). With articles reporting research ranging in focus from the Belding's Savannah Sparrow's behaviour in the salt marshes of Southern California to the predicted impact of the Mackenzie Gas Project on Whimbrel habitat in the Northwest Territories, the studies published in the current issue are nevertheless similar in their hypothesis-driven approach. The importance of a hypothesis-driven approach in the context of natural history investigation is an issue reflected upon by Villard and Nudds in their editorial "Whither Natural History in Conservation Research?". We invite you to peruse these and other articles in the current issue by selecting the HTML or PDF links from the online Table of Contents at http://www.ace-eco.org/.

Lastly, the Editors of ACE-ÉCO invite new manuscript submissions to a new special feature: "Population Dynamics of Aerial Insectivores" guest edited by Phil Taylor and Jon McCracken. See the Call for Papers for details.

Les co-rédacteurs en chef Marc-André Villard et Tom Nudds ont le plaisir de vous annoncer la publication du numéro 2 du volume 4 de la revue Écologie et conservation des oiseaux (ACE-ÉCO). Ce numéro présente des articles portant sur des sujets aussi variés que le comportement du Bruant des prés (sous-espèce de Belding) dans les marais salés du sud de la Californie et les effets prévus du projet de gazoduc du Mackenzie sur l'habitat du Courlis corlieu dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest. Les articles publiés ont en commun l'application d'une approche hypothético-déductive. La valeur de cette approche dans le contexte des études sur l'histoire naturelle des espèces fait l'objet de l'éditorial de Villard et Nudds intitulé "Quelle est la place de l'histoire naturelle dans la recherche en conservation?" Nous vous invitons à prendre connaissance du contenu de ce numéro en sélectionnant les liens HTML ou PDF à partir de la Table des matières en ligne (http://www.ace-eco.org/).

Eastern Bluebirds. Photo by Brigette Noel.

Enfin, les co-rédacteurs d'ACE-ÉCO vous invitent à soumettre un manuscrit pour publication dans la section spéciale intitulée: "Population Dynamics of Aerial Insectivores", pour laquelle les rédacteurs invités sont Phil Taylor et Jon McCracken. Voir l'appel de contributions pour plus de détails.

Golden Eagles with Wing Tags

People on the Canadian prairies should watch for Golden Eagles with white alpha-numerics (letters and numbers) on blue vinyl wing tags. These tags were placed on both wings of 107 Golden Eagles in west-central Montana. Please report all sightings, with date, location, number of tag, and whether perched on pole, feeding on a road-killed animal, found dead, etc. Contact: Rob Domench, Raptor View Research Institute at: P.O. Box 4323, Missoula, MT 59806. Phone: 406-258-6813 or. E-mail: rob.domenech@raptorview.org.

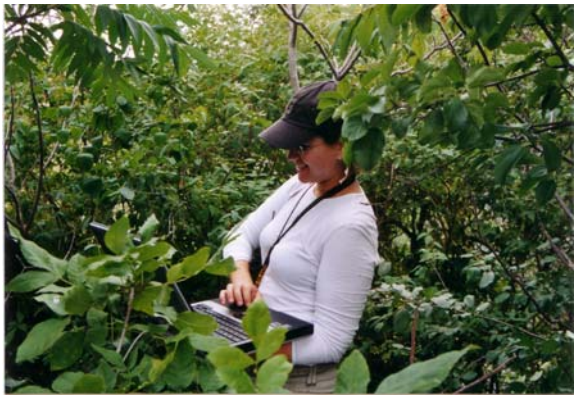
Theses in Canadian Ornithology

Goulet, Raphaël, 2009. Aspects of the Ecology of Urban-nesting Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in South-Coastal British Columbia. M.Sc. Thesis. McGill University, Montreal, QC.

Raphaël. Goulet in the lab. Photo courtesy of David M. Bird

In the past decade, Bald Eagle populations throughout North America have increased considerably and, despite their previous known avoidance of humans, eagles have begun invading cities in large numbers. The overall aim of this study was to document the ecology of urban Bald Eagle populations living in south-coastal British Columbia. We conducted a comparative study of the nest-site characteristics, productivity, and feeding habits of over 150 breeding pairs of rural, suburban and urban eagles. Tall mature trees are especially important for urban eagles and suburban areas have greater concentrations of nests. Nesting success and productivity for this population are some of the highest figures in North America. Human land-use and proximity to habitat edge are strongly linked to productivity and crows, gulls and pigeons are the most popular prey items for urban eagles. This study is expected to have implications for future management strategies of Bald Eagles in human-altered landscapes.

Hudson, Marie-Anne R. 2009. Factors Affecting Avian Communities Breeding on Golf Courses and Green Spaces in Montreal, Quebec. Ph.D. Dissertation. McGill University, Montreal, QC.



Marie-Anne Hudson data gathering in the field. Photo courtesy of David M. Bird.

Recently, factors influencing avian community composition and nest survival in an increasingly urbanized landscape have received much attention. Despite this research, much is still unknown regarding the capacity of privately owned and managed golf courses to support diverse breeding bird communities and provide safe nesting grounds. My overall objective was to compare avian communities and nest success rates of open-cup nesting passerines on golf courses and green spaces to determine whether golf courses support breeding bird communities as effectively as other types of suburban green space. Breeding bird communities were assessed on six golf courses and six green spaces in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. There was no difference in the mean number of bird species between golf courses and green spaces. However, species composition differed and was most correlated with site size, housing density surrounding the site, and the extent of coniferous tree, grass, and vegetated water cover. Nesting density, survival rates, productivity data and nest-site characteristics of several common open-cup nesting passerines were also compared between a subset of these sites (four golf courses and two green spaces) from 2003-2005. Species-specific differences in nest success rates were found between golf courses and green spaces. Nest survival of upland-nesting species was influenced by year, the type of nesting substrate and its arrangement, and the interaction of these two variables. American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) nest success was not influenced by any of the measured variables, whereas Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) nest survival showed variation based on nest age and nest concealment. Non-viable eggs of five species were analysed for organochlorine and polychlorinated biphenyl compounds to

determine if they contained traces of these historically used chemicals. Thirty-two of the 191 compounds measured were detected in all egg samples, though most compounds were found at trace levels or were below detection limits. P,p'-DDE and the sum of all PCB concentrations dominated the samples. Though PCB levels were higher in Red-winged Blackbird eggs collected on golf courses, reproductive parameters did not differ between golf courses and green spaces. Thus, results suggest that suburban green spaces, including golf courses, can play a role in maintaining healthy bird populations by following simple management recommendations outlined in these pages.

Leblanc, J.P. 2010. Nesting Among Slash: The Demographic and Behavioural Response of the Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) to Single-tree Selection in a Mature Continuous Hardwood Forest. M.Sc. Thesis. Trent University, Peterborough, ON.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) demography, nest-site selection, and nesting behaviours were compared among unharvested forest stands and stands at three stages of recovery following single-tree selection in a continuously forested landscape in Algonquin Provincial Park, Ontario. No differences were detected in daily nesting success, finite rates of increase or in nesting behaviour among treatments. Ovenbirds were increasingly selective for nest-sites with deep leaf litter and basal areas associated with larger trees in recently harvested stands (1-15 years since harvest), as these microhabitat parameters were limited. By 20-25 years after harvest, nest-site and random plot total basal area was the only microhabitat parameter that remained below pre-harvest levels. Based on source-sink modeling, the Algonquin Park landscape was estimated to be a sink during this study. This sink status appeared influenced by small mammal populations responding positively to strong mast production, which may have increased nest predation risk. Future source-sink modeling and behavioural study should include the influence of resource-pulse dynamics, as dramatically high nest predation rates appeared to mask behavioural plasticity and degraded the utility of Algonquin Provincial Park as a potential source for Ovenbird populations.

A female Overbird in her nest. Photo by Brad Woodworth.

Sullivan, Katrina M. 2009. The Effects of a Dietary and In Ovo Exposure to the Pentabrominated Diphenyl Ether Mixture, DE-71, on Retinol and Thyroid Hormones in Captive American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*). .M.Sc. Thesis. McGill University, Montreal, QC.

Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) are one type of brominated flame retardant commonly used in industrial and domestic items. Their lipophilic and persistent properties and global occurrence in wildlife are cause for concern, especially for those at the top of the food chain, such as raptorial birds. This study consisted of dietary or *in ovo* exposure of captive American kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) to one of two environmentally relevant levels (high and low exposures) of the pentaBDE mixture, DE-71. Maternal retinol levels were reduced in the low-exposure group after three weeks of exposure and were associated with fewer hatchlings and increasing *in ovo* BDE-17 concentrations. The *in ovo* exposure affected the retinol levels of nestling kestrels and altered their thyroid hormones and the functioning of their thyroid system. These parameters were associated with *in ovo* concentrations of various BDE congeners, body mass, and feather growth. These findings are consistent with the reduced reproductive success of these birds and the altered growth of their young.

RÉSUMÉ (Katrina M Sullivan)

American Kestrel. Photo courtesy of David M. Bird.

Les éthers de diphényle polybromé (EDPB) sont un type d'ignifuge bromé couramment utilisé dans les produits industriels et domestiques. Leurs propriétés lipophiles et persistantes ainsi que leur distribution mondiale dans la faune sont causes de préoccupation, surtout à l'endroit des espèces qui occupent le sommet de la chaîne alimentaire, tels que les oiseaux de proie. Cette étude comporta une exposition par voie alimentaire ou *ovo* de crécerelles d'Amérique captives (*Falco sparverius*) à l'un parmi deux niveaux écologiquement pertinents (expositions haute et faible) du mélange pentaEDB, DE-71. Les niveaux maternels de rétinol ont été réduits dans le groupe à faible exposition après trois semaines d'exposition et ont été associés à une réduction dans le nombre de poussins et à des concentrations *ovo* croissantes de EDB-17. L'exposition *ovo* a affecté les niveaux de rétinol chez les crécerelles juvéniles et a altéré leurs hormones thyroïdiennes et le fonctionnement du système thyroïdien. Ces paramètres ont été associés aux concentrations *ovo* de divers congénères EDB, à la masse corporelle et à la croissance des plumes. Ces résultats sont en accord avec le succès reproducteur réduit de ces oiseaux et l'altération de la croissance chez leur progéniture.

Tremblay, Junior. A. 2009. Ecologie de Nidification du Pic à dos noir (*Picoides arcticus*) en Forêt Boreale Non Brulée. Thèse de doctorat. L'Université du Québec à Chicoutimi et L'Université du Québec à Montréal.

Le Pic à dos noir (Picoides arcticus) se trouve en plus grande densité dans les forêts brûlées que dans les forêts non brûlées et certains auteurs ont associé intimement le Pic à dos noir avec les forêts brûlées. Ces derniers ont émis l'hypothèse que les forêts non brûlées représentent des habitats puits pour le Pic à dos noir. Les objectifs de cette thèse de doctorat consistaient à définir le rôle des forêts non brûlées dans l'écologie de nidification et dans la démographie du Pic à dos noir dans un paysage issu de l'exploitation forestière et de feux de forêts en milieu boréal. La thèse est structurée selon trois chapitres principaux qui représentent des articles scientifiques publiés ou à être soumis (Chapitres II, III et IV), d'une introduction générale (Chapitre I) et d'une conclusion générale (Chapitre V). Le Chapitre II compare l'écologie de nidification du Pic à dos noir dans les forêts brûlées et non brûlées et évalue l'hypothèse selon laquelle les forêts brûlées constituent des habitats puits pour cette espèce. Afin d'évaluer l'hypothèse source-puits, des nids ont été suivis dans les deux types de forêts et le taux d'accroissement intrinsèque a été estimé dans ces habitats sous divers scénarios d'estimés de survie d'adultes et de juvéniles. Le succès pendant les périodes d'incubation et de nidification, ainsi que le développement des jeunes au nid étaient similaires entre les nids des forêts brûlées et non brûlées. Cependant, les nids dans les forêts brûlées ont produit davantage de jeunes par nid achevé que les nids dans les forêts non brûlées (forêts brûlées : 3,0 ± 0,0¨[moyenne ± erreur-type] ; forêts non brûlées : 2,1 ± 0,3). Le taux d'accroissement intrinsèque des populations des forêts brûlées et non brûlées était semblable selon les divers scénarios d'estimés de survie d'adultes et de juvéniles. Les résultats du Chapitre II suggèrent que le Pic à dos noir maintient des populations nicheuses dans les forêts non brûlées à proximité de forêts récemment brûlées et que les deux types de forêts sont comparables dans leur apport à la dynamique des populations. Ainsi, les forêts non brûlées constituent des habitats importants dans la démographie du Pic à dos noir et la dépendance de cette espèce aux forêts brûlées est ambiguë. Le Chapitre III se concentre sur la sélection d'habitat et l'évaluation de la taille du domaine vital du Pic à dos noir en forêt boréale non brûlée. La sélection d'habitat par cette espèce a été spécifiquement étudiée lors de l'établissement de son domaine vital et la quête alimentaire. Les résultats de ce chapitre indiquent que le Pic à dos noir établit son domaine vital dans des secteurs où des habitats ouverts et de vieilles

forêts sont disponibles. Toutefois, lors de sa quête alimentaire, les individus sélectionnent fortement les secteurs dominés par les vieux peuplements de conifères. De plus, les résultats du Chapitre III suggèrent que la distribution spatiale des vieux peuplements de conifères influence l'utilisation de l'espace du Pic à dos noir ; la superficie des domaines vitaux augmente avec la distance médiane entre les peuplements de vieux conifères disponibles dans le paysage. Finalement, les résultats de ce chapitre suggèrent que, pour nicher avec succès dans la forêt boréale non brûlée, le Pic à dos noir nécessite un minimum de 35 m3 • ha-1 de bois mort, lequel était constitué dans l'étude de 40% (14 m3 • ha-1) de bois récemment mort. Dans le Chapitre IV, je décris le comportement alimentaire du Pic à dos noir dans la forêt boréale non brûlée et non affectée par une épidémie d'insectes. Il a été observé que le Pic à dos noir s'alimente sur les arbres vivants, les chicots et les débris ligneux au sol et principalement sur le tronc des chicots récemment morts (67,2 %) ayant un diamètre à hauteur de poitrine moyen de 18.3 ± 0.4 cm. Les résultats de ce chapitre suggèrent que le diamètre et le stade de dégradation sont des prédicteurs importants des substrats d'alimentation du Pic à dos noir dans les forêts boréales non brûlées étudiées. Également, le Pic à dos noir s'alimentait davantage par excavation que dans des études en milieux brûlés ou touchés par des épidémies d'insectes. Cette espèce devrait être considérée comme un spécialiste de l'alimentation par excavation, mais les diverses techniques utilisées lors de sa recherche alimentaire en font un oiseau opportuniste qui peut varier ses sources alimentaires. Les résultats de cette thèse montrent que le Pic à dos noir est davantage un spécialiste des habitats associés aux insectes xylophages accessibles par excavation qu'un spécialiste strict des forêts brûlées, tel que précédemment suggéré dans la littérature. Les résultats de cette thèse supportent également que les efforts de conservation pour le Pic à dos noir, et par conséquent les autres espèces dépendantes du bois mort récent, devraient prioriser le maintien de blocs intacts de forêts de conifères surannées (affichant un recrutement régulier de bois mort récent) dans le paysage, et devraient favoriser les pratiques sylvicoles irrégulières conservant des arbres vivants et morts conifériens ≥18.0 cm, particulièrement dans les pessières noires.

Walters, B.J. 2009. The Influence of Recreational Trails on Breeding Birds in Two Large Southern Ontario Forests. M.Sc. Thesis, Trent University, Peterborough, ON.

I determined the influence of trails and roads used for recreation on forest breeding songbird communities and American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) nest survival in two large (4 228 ha and 2 164 ha) forests. I surveyed songbird communities using point counts on three widths of trails and off trail. I monitored nests to calculate daily nest survival as a function of proximity to trails with logistic-exposure modeling. The relative abundance of forest-interior songbirds declined with increasing trail width, while that of edge species increased. Recreational trails influenced nest survival for all species except American Robin. Nest survival was higher closer to trails for Eastern Wood-Pewee and Red-eyed Vireo, and lower closer to trails for Rose-breasted Grosbeak. The effects of trails on the relative abundance and survival of birds are likely caused by a combination of altered habitat and recreational disturbance. Forest managers need to consider trail density and type when balancing recreational needs and forest bird conservation to ensure maintenance of forest bird communities and productivity.

Whiklo, T. In Progress. Nest Structure and Breeding Habitat Characteristics of Barred Owls (*Strix varia*) in Manitoba. M.Sc. Thesis. University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB.

The Barred Owl is a large forest-dwelling owl that is widespread in North America (Johnsgard 2002). It is considered a generalist predator and a year-round resident -- none of 158 band recoveries have occurred more than 10 km from the original banding location (Johnson 1987). Its conservation status is influenced by forest management as it depends on large tree cavities for successful reproduction. Hence it is recognized as an indicator species of healthy forest ecosystems (McGarigal and Fraser, 1985). While there have been extensive field studies on Barred Owl breeding habitat use in other areas, there has been no research to describe nest sites or known breeding habitat in Manitoba. For example, there are four confirmed Manitoba Barred Owl breeding records, but for only one of these was a nest tree identified (J.R. Duncan, Pers. Comm.). In contrast, the Barred Owl is known to

Barred Owl. Photo by Todd Whiklo.

occur extensively in Manitoba based on the Manitoba nocturnal owl survey (Duncan and Duncan 1997, Duncan and Kearns 1997).

My study is documenting the nest site and breeding habitat of Barred Owl pairs in Manitoba to address this lack of information. This is occurring through the use of audio-playback surveys to locate Barred Owl territories, followed by diurnal nest searching to locate nest sites. After fledging, nest sites are revisited to collect data on nest structure, nest tree, breeding habitat, behaviour, and diet.

Year one of this study dramatically increased available data on Barred Owls, with 41 new territories located. Further investigation of these sites led to a 300% increase in known nest sites, and 200% increase in banded individuals. In addition, extensive behavioural observations have been noted. With the addition of radio telemetry in year two, beginning in the autumn of 2009, the number of documented nest sites and banded birds will grow considerably. Radio marking will allow a glimpse into Barred Owl movements and territory size. This study will be the basis for the development of Barred Owl forest management guidelines. It will also stimulate new research on this species in Manitoba and elsewhere.

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McGarigal, K. and Fraser, J.D. 1985. Barred Owl responses to recorded vocalizations. Condor. 87(4): 552-553.

Baillie Birdathon

Want to have a *lot* of fun and help birds and nature at the same time? Do a Birdathon this May! It's challenging, exhilarating, and - beware - addictive! Birdathoners just can't help coming back for more, year after year!

More than 7,000 people from across Canada (and from several countries around the world) participate in and/or sponsor Birdathon in May of every year. During a 24-hour period in May, they attempt to find as many bird species as they can, sponsored at a flat rate, or on a per-species basis. Birders can designate a favourite conservation organization to receive a portion of the funds they raise. Bird observatories can also be designated as recipients of fund raising.

As a further incentive, Baillie Birdathon sponsors have provided some wonderful prizes for participants to win. for the full list of prizes are at http://www.bsc-eoc.org/support/birdathon/index.jsp?lang=EN&targetpg=prizes.

The 2010 Baillie Birdathon t-shirt design is based on a photo by Robert R. Taylor. Robert is a naturalist, photographer, award-winning writer, and founding Long Point Bird Observatory member. His photographs have appeared in many national and international magazines including BirdWatch Canada, Equinox, Life, Reader's Digest, Photo Life, Birder's World, and Canadian Geographic. Learn more about Robert and his work at www.polarbearphotography.com.

To find out more about Birdathon, download this year's **Birdathon Participant kit** at http://www.bsc-eoc.org/download/birdathonkit_en.pdf or contact Bird Studies Canada at: 1-888-448-BIRD(2473) or birdathon@bsc-eoc.org.

To participate, you can register online at http://www.bsc-eoc.org/support/birdathon/index.jsp?lang=EN&targetpg=register or dowload and print the Registration Form (http://www.bsc-eoc.org/download/BATregisterform_en.pdf)and fax (519-586-3532) or mail to:

Baillie Birdathon, Bird Studies Canada, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON N0E 1M0

All contributions to Birdathon are tax-creditable (Canadian Registered Charity Number 11902 4313 RR0001).

Owl tracks in the snow.
Photo by Randy Lauff.

BOOK REVIEW

THE PRINCETON ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BIRDS. CHRISTOPHER PERRINS (EDITOR). 2009. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ. Paper: $35.00 US. ISBN: 978-0-691-14070-40. 744 pages. 20.7 by 26 cm. 1,186 colour illustrations. 140 line illustrations. 182 colour maps.

This encyclopedia is a collection of chapters on all existing bird families in the world written by over 140 prominent ornithologists across the globe. The volume begins with a very handy detailed table of contents, list of contributors, a preface by book editor Christopher Perrins, notes on bird classification and an introductory chapter titled 'What is a Bird?' The bird families are presented by conventional avian classification.

The content of the book is extremely accessible to students, lay people and professional ornithologists alike. The prose is well written with ornithological jargon minimized through out the volume. The text is strongly supported by over 1200 attractively placed illustrations and photos.

The notes on classification section succinctly describe the current classification of birds and the uncertainty and debate surrounding it. The 'What is a Bird?' chapter is a must read as it briefly reviews avian evolution and key avian adaptations in clear simple language supported by very helpful illustrations.

Bulk of the book consists of articles on each bird family interspersed with special feature articles. The length of bird family articles range from a half a page to 15 pages. This variation in chapter size is due to the size and relative importance of the bird family and our state of knowledge. Each bird family article includes a fact file text box. Most fact files contain a range map and very quick summary of global distribution, habitat types, size range, plumage, voice (calls/song), nest (types), eggs and conservation status (number of species at risk according to IUCN). Representative genera and species are sometimes included in the fact file and or in a separate text box for very large bird families. The fact files are very handy features in this volume.

The bird family articles emphasize the unique features and behaviours typically found in the members of the bird family. Typical article sections include an introductory paragraph, form and function, distribution patterns, diet and feeding, breeding biology and conservation and environment. In smaller articles, these sections are often combined into fewer sections. The conservation and environment section is most interesting in describing past and current pressures on species, extinct and at risk species, and any current conservation actions. I found these articles to be an excellent introduction to the birds found elsewhere in the world.

The 24 special feature articles do enhance the regular bird family articles by highlighting special adaptations or phenomena such as pesticides and thin eggshells, owl vision, teaching cranes to fly and the industrious weaver.

I found the information to be factually accurate backed up by solid sources, as I did not find many errors. Although I was very pleased to see my MSc study species, Burrowing Owls mentioned, I did detect misleading information about them. Burrowing Owls generally do not dig their own burrows and do rely on burrowing mammals such as badgers; ground squirrels and prairie dogs for burrow creation and Burrowing Owls have much a larger range than prairie dogs.

The book concludes with a very detailed and useful glossary of avian terms, a bibliography, a useful detailed index and photo credits. The bibliography is divided into two sections: general and regional bird books and books on bird families and groups. The bibliography is a very useful gateway to the ornithological literature.

I have only one major concern about the book. It is the relative fragile binding. Although I understand the desire to minimize the cost of the book, it should have had stronger binding because it is a very useful reference book that will receive considerable use by the reader.

I recommend this volume to anyone who has a keen interest in the world's birds. Dr. Perrins and his large team of writers, photographers and artists should be congratulated for creating such a beautiful and useful bird encyclopedia.

Reviewed by Rob Warnock, E-mail: warnockr@accesscomm.ca

Video Clips of Birds of Prey Needed

I am producing an educational video for Italian 14 year olds to learn English as a second language. One of the short videos we are making involves a young boy who wants to photograph an interesting raptor for his school paper. Trying to be accurate, I want a bird that's found in our region (New York) and still be considered "rare" or exotic. We thought the Peregrine Falcon would be a good choice (or an Eagle or Red-tailed Hawk) and to make the story work, we need around 10 to 12 seconds of clear video footage of it flying in the sky. Do you have any suggestions where we could obtain such footage? We have a very small budget, but would be happy to give photo credit and a copy of the finished product.

I would appreciate any suggestions you might have.

Sincerely,

Bill Cote, BC Video
(212) 242-4065 or bcote@nyc.rr.com

Vocalizations of Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) wanted!

Recordings of the Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*), especially calls (not drumming) are badly needed for a study of vocal variation in a comparative context. Any recording between May and August from any part of Canada and the US is very valuable. Thanks in advance for those who want to cooperate and for communicate this with any potential colleague or friend that may have recordings. Acknowledgments will be given in any further publication.

Please contact: Paulo Pulgarín by e-mail: pulgarinrestrepo@uleth.ca or by phone:(403) 332-5213.

Downy Woodpecker. Photo by Frode Jacobsen.

En marche pour le second Atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec!

Vingt-cinq ans après le début des travaux de terrain ayant mené à la publication du premier Atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec (Gauthier et Aubry, 1995), le Québec revisite ce projet d'envergure. En effet, la campagne de terrain du nouvel Atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec débutera au printemps de 2010 et s'étendra sur plusieurs années (5 ans au moins). Le nouvel atlas permettra de mettre à jour les connaissances sur la répartition des oiseaux du Québec et de documenter les changements advenus depuis un quart de siècle.

L'objectif premier de l'atlas est de cartographier la répartition et l'abondance relative de toutes les espèces d'oiseaux qui nichent dans le Québec méridional, c'est-à-dire le territoire situé au sud de 50°30' N, qui compte plus de 5 000 parcelles de 10 km par 10 km. Par ailleurs, ce nouvel atlas devrait aussi permettre de recueillir de précieuses informations sur les oiseaux du Nord-du-Québec, plutôt méconnus, puisqu'il est prévu étendre le projet au Québec entier. L'impact que risque d'exercer les changements climatiques sur les oiseaux, en particulier ceux du Nord, justifie l'intention de couvrir l'ensemble du Québec. Toutefois, la tâche pour y parvenir sera titanesque, puisqu'il s'agit d'ajouter 11 000 parcelles d'inventaire aux 5 000 du Québec méridional!

La direction de l'Atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec est assurée par le Regroupement QuébecOiseaux, le Service canadien de la faune d'Environnement Canada et Études d'Oiseaux Canada. Deux personnes travaillent à temps plein à la réalisation de l'atlas : Michel Robert (coordonnateur) et Benoit Laliberté (adjoint à la coordination). Ces derniers sont épaulés par plusieurs personnes, qui contribuent grandement au projet.

Les instigateurs du projet espèrent que les observateurs d'oiseaux du Québec et d'ailleurs collaboreront en grand nombre à cette entreprise monumentale. Alors, si ce projet suscite votre intérêt, n'hésitez pas à visiter le www.atlas-oiseaux.qc.ca

Le premier atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec sur DVD

Les oiseaux nicheurs du Québec : atlas des oiseaux nicheurs du Québec méridional est l'ouvrage de référence par excellence sur les oiseaux du Québec. L'édition française (Gauthier et Aubry, 1995) de ce livre étant épuisée, une version DVD (bilingue) a récemment été publiée afin de satisfaire la demande. Vous pouvez commander l'édition DVD, au coût de 19,95 $ (taxes et frais postaux en sus), en visitant le www.quebecoiseaux.org ou en communiquant avec le Regroupement QuébecOiseaux au 1 888 OISEAUX.

The second Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Quebec is all fired up and ready to go!

Twenty-five years after the start of fieldwork that led to the publication of the first Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Quebec (Gauthier and Aubr, 1996), the final preparations are being made for the launch of a new atlas. Fieldwork for the second Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Quebec will start this coming spring, and will be conducted over at least the next five years. This ambitious new project will provide an up-to-date picture of the status of the bird species nesting in Quebec, and will document the changes that have occurred over the last quarter of a century.

The main aim of the forthcoming project, is to map the current distribution and relative abundance of all the bird species breeding south of 50º 30' N. This area, which corresponds to that covered by the first atlas, comprises 5,000 10-km (100 km^2) survey squares. In addition, the new atlas also intends to collect important information concerning the distribution of birds nesting in northern Quebec, about which relatively little is known. However, this will be a monumental task, as it involves adding a further 11,000 survey squares to the 5,000 located in southern Quebec. Nevertheless, the impact that climate change is likely to have on the distribution of bird species, particularly those nesting in the north, more than justifies the target of surveying the whole of the province.

The Regroupement QuébecOiseaux, the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, and Bird Studies Canada are ensuring the coordination of the atlas. Michel Robert is the atlas coordinator, and is assisted by Benoit Laliberté. In addition, several other people, working behind the scenes, provide the necessary support to guarantee the smooth running of the project.

The abovementioned partners hope that a large number of bird watchers from across Quebec, and elsewhere, will collaborate in this huge undertaking. If you would like to learn more about the atlas project, or to participate, we invite you to visit the website on www.atlas-oiseaux.qc.ca.

The first Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Quebec is now available on DVD

The Breeding Birds of Quebec: Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Southern Quebec is the principal reference work on the birds nesting in Quebec. A bilingual DVD version was recently published to meet the continued demand for the French edition (Gauthier and Aubry 1995) that has been out of print for a number of years. If you would like to obtain a copy of the DVD ($19.95 plus taxes, postage and packaging), you can do so via www.quebecoiseaux.org, or by telephoning the Regroupement QuébecOiseaux directly on 1-888-647-3289.

Aircraft-Bird Collisions, Expert Bird Advice Wanted

There could possibly be 10,000 aircraft-bird collisions in the US alone this year. These collisions result in deaths and injuries to people as well as major damage to aircraft. Airports use different methods from the ground to scare aware birds and make takeoffs and landings safer. However, if there was a system that could be mounted on an aircraft to divert birds from crossing its path it might be effective in preventing collisions. Methods to deter birds from an aircraft could be evaluated and tested in a research project if they are practical. If you have knowledge about this topic please contact Lorenzo Auriti at: Lorenzo.Auriti@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca. Thank you!!

PIF: 20 Years of Bird Conservation

Reprinted from Bird Studies Canada E-newsletter January 8, 2010.

This year, Partners in Flight (PIF) (http://www.partnersinflight.org/) is celebrating 20 years of bird conservation activity. Launched in 1990, PIF arose in response to concerns over declines among neotropical migrant landbirds (which breed in North America and winter in Latin America and the Caribbean). PIF's main message has been that the resources of public and private organizations in this hemisphere have to be combined, coordinated, and increased to conserve our shared bird populations. It released the State of the Birds in the United States of America 2009 last March at http://www.thestateofthebirds.org.

Events throughout the year will highlight the PIF anniversary. For example, PIF will share the spotlight in the International Migratory Bird Day theme, "The Power of Partnerships." There will also be a Special Session at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Milwaukee on March 22-27, 2010.

Bird Studies Canada is a member of the National Working Group for PIF-Canada. As a member of the PIF Science Committee, Andrew Couturier (BSC's Senior Analyst, Landscape Ecology and Conservation) is participating in the development of "Saving our Shared Birds: The Partners in Flight Tri-National Vision." Stay tuned for details!

Research Photos Sought for Upcoming Book

I am looking for photos for an upcoming book called, "Being a Bird in North America". Specifically, I want photos of birds in situations in which it was your research that allowed you to get the photos. As long as the bird is reasonably identifiable in the photo, I'm interested. Some examples:

- young bird,
- super close-up,
- bird in net, trap, hand,
- nest with young and/or eggs,
- dead or sick bird,
- taking blood for DNA sampling.

If in doubt, send it.

Any species that breeds with some regularity (or used to, e.g. Northern Jacana, American Flamingo) in Canada or the U.S. (not including Hawaii) are of interest. No exotics please.

In addition, I'm looking for a good photo of a breeding male for the species listed below. If you have any of those, please send them along. If I publish at least one of your photos, you get your name next to the photo in the book, plus a 70-word bio.

If you are interested, please contact me at robalvo1@gmail.com or by phone at (613) 236-0660 and I'll call you right back. Sending up to 10 megabytes by e-mail is fine.

Thank you.

Robert Alvo, M.Sc. Conservation Biologist, Author.

The following list is in updated AOU order down to Lawrence's Goldfinch, and then starts over with Mountain Quail.

Canvasback
Leach's Storm-Petrel
Brandt's Cormorant
Hook-billed Kite
Snail Kite
Mississippi Kite
White-tailed Eagle
Broad-winged Hawk
Gray Hawk
Short-tailed Hawk
King Rail
Common Ringed Plover
Eurasian Dotterel
Red-necked Stint
Little Gull
Bridled Tern
Aleutian Tern
Elegant Tern
Pomarine Jaeger
Marbled Murrelet
Xantus's Murrelet
White-crowned Pigeon
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Vaux's Swift
Lewis's Woodpecker
Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Alder Flycatcher
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Dusky Flycatcher
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
Thick-billed Kingbird
Gray Kingbird
Rose-throated Becard
Northern Shrike
Black-capped Vireo
Plumbeous Vireo
Cassin's Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Hutton's Vireo
Tree Swallow
Violet-green Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cave Swallow
Carolina Wren
Sedge Wren
Arctic Warbler
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher
Wood Thrush
Bendire's Thrasher
California Thrasher
Le Conte's Thrasher
Red-throated Pipit
Sprague's Pipit
Olive Warbler
Virginia's Warbler
Lucy's Warbler
Tropical Parula
Hermit Warbler
Grace's Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Louisiana Waterthrush
MacGillivray's Warbler
Gray-crowned Yellowthroat
White-collared Seedeater
California Towhee
Five-striped Sparrow
Black-chinned Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Henslow's Sparrow
Le Conte's Sparrow
McCown's Longspur
Lapland Longspur
Chestnut-collared Longspur
Varied Bunting

Dickcissel	Cassin's Auklet	Gray-headed Chickadee
Tricolored Blackbird	Whiskered Auklet	Juniper Titmouse
White-winged Crossbill	Red-billed Pigeon	California Gnatcatcher
Lesser Goldfinch	Antillean Nighthawk	Black-capped Gnatcatcher
Lawrence's Goldfinch	Berylline Hummingbird	Crissal Thrasher
Mountain Quail	Lucifer Hummingbird	Eastern Yellow Wagtail
Gunnison Sage-Grouse	Nuttall's Woodpecker	Colima Warbler
Manx Shearwater	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Red-faced Warbler
Ashy Storm-Petrel	Greater Pewee	Bachman's Sparrow
Black Storm-Petrel	Buff-breasted Flycatcher	Saltmarsh Sparrow
Northern Jacana	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	McKay's Bunting
Kittlitz's Murrelet	Gray Vireo	Audubon's Oriole
Ancient Murrelet	Tamaulipas Crow	Baltimore Oriole

GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES IN AVIAN MONITORING (M.S. or Ph.D.)

We are seeking 1-2 graduate students to develop thesis (dissertation) projects related to the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas. Projects must include a fieldwork component using point counts and/or general atlassing techniques. Projects in the remote northern Manitoba boreal forest are of particular interest, as are projects that relate to landscape ecology or studying the influence of anthropogenic features such as transmission lines on birds. Applicants must apply for and be accepted into a relevant program at The University of Manitoba. We will assist the successful candidate in obtaining funding from several sources related to the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas (funding currently provisional). Successful applicants will begin September 2010 (or sooner). Interested persons should send GRE scores, transcripts, a CV, names and phone numbers of three personal references, and a letter of interest to: Dr. Christian Artuso, Bird Studies Canada - Manitoba Programs Manager, Box 24-200 Saulteaux Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3 (Tel: 204-945-6816, EM: cartuso@bsc-eoc.org)

ANNOUNCEMENT

BIRDS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA – SPECIES UPDATE: An updated account for Forster's Tern, a peripheral species in British Columbia, has recently been published as a "Feature Species" in Wildlife Afield, the bi-annual journal of the Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies.

The 63-page article includes summary information on distribution (including monthly maps), annual occurrence (including arrival and departure dates), breeding, feeding and diet, and conservation and management concerns since the original account was published in The Birds of British Columbia two decades ago. It is available on-line as a PDF file at www.wildlifebc.org.

Ten other articles on birds are also available on-line from the same issue (Vol. 5, No. 2) including a major work on Birds of the Trail Area of Southeastern British Columbia, 1933 to 1983, a little known area of the province.

Male and female Pine Grosbeaks at a feeder. Photo by Rob Wilson.

Call for Short-eared Owl Feathers

Short-eared Owl wing feathers. Photo by Geoff Holroyd.

Kristen Keyes, under the supervision of Dr. Marcel Gahbauer (Migration Research Foundation) and Dr. David Bird (McGill University), is investigating Short-eared Owl movement patterns in North America. She is asking for feather samples for stable isotope analysis from anyone who finds road-kills or who may experience incidental encounters through banding or other research. From living owls, a small sample of vane tissue (i.e. 1-2 cm^2) from the lagging, proximal edge of a primary or secondary feather (see image below) would be ideal, so as to limit impacts on flight. If only a single generation of feathers is apparent, a sample from P1 would be ideal for standardization. If a molt limit is obvious, samples from all apparent generations of feathers are needed, as is photo documentation, as this will allow for the determination of up to three previous summer locations. Take one sample from each age of feathers, balancing the samples from the left and right wing. Samples from juveniles will be used to verify the Short-eared Owl isotopic signature against existing isotope maps, and while P1 is preferable, the age of the owl may dictate that a body contour feather be collected instead. However, in the case that an owl is found dead, a complete wing would be preferable to help with further investigation of the Short-eared Owl molt pattern. If you are interested in providing samples for this study, please contact Kristen (kristen@migrationresearch.org) who will arrange for permits and shipping.

Additional information can be found at
http://www.migrationresearch.org/research/shortear/project.html

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Watch for Turkey Vultures

With increasing carrion along highways and the newly learned habit (in Saskatchewan since 1983) of laying eggs in deserted farm buildings, Turkey Vultures are spreading more widely, especially throughout the parkland and mixed forest areas of the province. Please do NOT phone in sightings of untagged vultures seen away from a farm building.

Scrutinize every Turkey Vulture carefully as 479 vultures have wing-tags applied in the first seven years of the Saskatchewan wing-tagging study. There have been 62 successful readings or photographs of 50 wing-tags.

If vultures are present on a deserted farm building, phone in the exact location. Do not check the building until July, for fear your visit will increase the risk of parents deserting their eggs, or attracting raccoons to eat the vulture eggs and thus destroy potential for the current year. In July, with half-grown young, there is no risk of nest desertion. Deserted buildings are dangerous, so do not visit them alone; be very careful. Presence of nestlings is confirmed by looking for excess excreta known as "whitewash" and by listening for the fire-engine hiss of the young.

If a vulture carries a wing-tag, record the colour of the tag. Saskatchewan's are dark green with large white numbers, preceded by an alphabetic letter. Please try to read the letter and number on the wing-tag -- often easy when the vulture is sitting on a carcass near a road, but more difficult if the bird is flying overhead. Photographs taken with a digital camera can be magnified many times. The tag number or the photograph should be phoned in to:

Stuart or Mary Houston, 306-244-0742 -- but not after 9 p.m. please.
A tagging team will visit active nests with young in early August. Thank you.

1st WORLD SEABIRD CONFERENCE
Seabirds: Linking the Global Oceans

1ST WORLD SEABIRD CONFERENCE, 7 – 11 SEPTEMBER 2010, VICTORIA, CANADA

Abstract Deadline: 5 March 2010
Early Registration: 15 February – 31 May 2010
Regular Registration: 1 June – 15 August 2010
Late Registration: 16 August – 11 September 2010

Registration is now open for the 1st World Seabird Conference, to be held in beautiful Victoria, Canada, 7 – 11 September 2010. Through a strong conference program, the goal of this conference is to provide a global blueprint for seabird science and conservation over the next decade. The conference will feature four Primary Symposia, nine Special Paper Sessions, 10 Workshops, and Open Paper and Poster Sessions. Meeting details are at http://www.worldseabirdconference.com/

You can help us make this possible in many different ways. Please consider supporting the conference as follows with links on the conference website (link above):

- Sign up to be on the World Seabird community distribution list
- Register to attend the conference,
- Submit an abstract (deadline is March 5th)
- Donate to the WSC community to support student participation in the conference
- Exhibit at the conference
- Sponsor the conference

A Black Guillemot from Easy Bay Island, Nunavut. Photo by Lisha L. Berzins

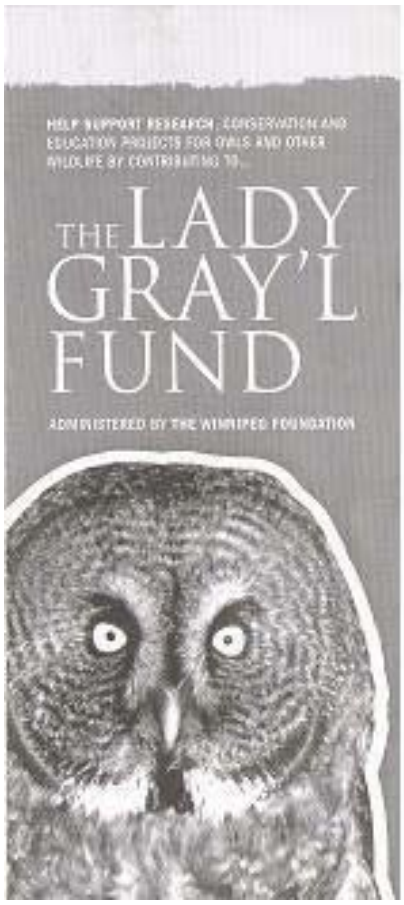
Professional seabird groups and societies are active around the world, but there has yet to be a single international meeting to host seabird scientists, conservationists and policy-makers. The 1st World Seabird Conference is led by the Pacific Seabird Group and 25 other seabird and research organisations from around the globe. It will bring together 500 - 600 participants from over 30 countries.

Registration and accommodation information is available on the conference website. As you make your hotel arrangements, please consider that by staying at our conference hotel, you are helping us to keep meeting costs low by allowing us to meet our room block obligations. These savings allow us to offer conference travel bursaries. Assistance in finding someone to share your hotel room is available via ticking a check box during the registration process.

Our conference program features an exciting array of workshops, symposia, paper sessions, field trips and social events. We look forward to seeing you in Victoria!

Sincerely,

Patrick O'Hara, Chair, Local Organising Committee, 1st World Seabird Conference



LADY GRAY'L, a Great Gray Owl that served to educate and entertain many people, died of natural causes on October 13, 2005. This famous owl, taken from a nest as an injured chick in May 1984, was *21 1/2* years old when she died. For her full story, see the book *Lady Grail, Owl With A Mission* by R. Nero. Along with her handler, Dr. Bob Nero, Lady Gray'l was a frequent visitor to schools, shopping malls, nursing homes and at various conservation programs. Together they educated thousands about conservation. She was the most travelled owl in Manitoba, the most photographed individual bird in North America, and her name is well known beyond our own provincial borders.

It should be noted that Lady Gray'l and Dr. Nero played a major role in having the Great Gray Owl selected as Manitoba's official bird emblem in 1987. And in her memory, a fund has been established at The Winnipeg Foundation.

PURPOSE OF THE FUND

The LADY GRAY'L FUND will be used to fund research, conservation and education projects directly relating to owls and other wildlife. Priority will be given to owls and Manitoba-based projects. Only projects sponsored by charitable organizations within Canada are eligible for funding.

A decision group, along with The Winnipeg Foundation, will be responsible for selecting recipients.

name _____ _

address _____ _

city _____province _____ _ postal code -_____

telephone _____ _e-mail _____

Enclosed* is my *donation of:

0$50 0 $100 0 $250 0 $500 0 $1,000 other: $ __ I wish to pay with: 0 VISA 0 MasterCard 0 cheque

credit card # _____

expiry date _____signature _____

I will make* a *regular donation* of _____to *be paid 0 annually 0 semi-annually 0 quarterly 0 monthly

I authorize The Winnipeg Foundation to receive this regular donation for a period _of year(s) or until notified by me, by 0 credit card 0 post-dated cheque 0 automatic debit from account *(If debit, please include* a *voided cheque for the account from which you wish* to *make your pre-authorized donation.)*

signature _____ _

Please make cheques payable to **The Winnipeg Foundation,** with a memo on the cheque stating:

"Lady Gray'! Fund". *Thank you!*

Mail to: The Winnipeg Foundation 1350 - One Lombard Place Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B OX3

For more information, contact The Winnipeg Foundation at (204) 944-9474.

The Winnipeg Foundation registered charity no.: 119300960 RR0001

Society of Canadian Ornithologists
Société des ornithologistes du Canada

RENEWAL / APPLICATION FORM

This form is provided for you to use when renewing, and to post or forward to others who might be interested in joining. Please feel free to renew or join for more than one year if desired: this will cut down on administration and the need to send you reminders every year. Donations are also gratefully accepted (the SCO is a registered non–profit society and issues tax receipts). For more on the SCO, please visit our website http://www.sco-soc.ca/.

Renewal. _____ New member. _____

Name _____

Address_____City_____Postal code_____

Tel.:_____Fax:_____E-mail _____

Affiliation_____

Membership Category (in Canadian Dollars)

Student:	_____ years @ $10.00 per year	Total= _____
Regular:	_____ years @ $25.00 per year	Total= _____
Sustaining:	_____ years @ $50.00 per year	Total= _____
Outside Canada:	_____ years @ $35.00 per year	Total= _____
Life member:	once @ $500.00	Total= _____

Donation :	Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award in Ornithology	_____
	Doris Huestis Speirs Award	_____
	Student Research Awards:	
	- Taverner Awards	_____
	- Fred Cooke Award	_____

All donors of $10.00 or more will receive a receipt for tax purposes; sustaining members will receive a $25.00 receipt for tax purposes for each year of sustaining membership, and life members will receive a $250.00 receipt. The SCO is a registered non–profit society and issues tax receipts.

Please make cheques payable to **The Society of Canadian Ornithologists.**

Mail to:

Thérèse Beaudet
SCO Membership Secretary
128, Chemin des Lièges
St-Jean de l'Île d'Orléans (QC)
Canada G0A 3W0
beaudet.lamothe@sympatico.ca

Society of Canadian Ornithologists
Société des ornithologistes du Canada

RENOUVELLEMENT / ADHÉSION

Ce formulaire peut être utilisé lors d'un renouvellement ou pour adhérer à la SOC. N'hésitez pas à le transmettre à d'autres ou à l'afficher pour assurer une plus grande diffusion et de nouvelles adhésions. Les renouvellements et les adhésions pour plus d'une année sont privilégiés; cela réduit les frais d'administration et l'envoi de rappels annuels. Les dons sont acceptés (la SOC a le statut d'organisation à but non lucratif et peut émettre des reçus pour fins d'impôt). Pour en savoir plus sur la SOC, vous pouvez visiter le site http://www.sco-soc.ca/.

Renouvellement. _____ Nouveau membre. _____

Nom_____

Adresse_____Ville_____Code postal_____

Tel.:_____Fax:_____Courriel _____

Affiliation :_____

Catégorie de membres (en dollars canadiens)

Etudiant:	_____ ans @ $10.00 par an	Total= _____
Régulier:	_____ ans @ $25.00 par an	Total= _____
De soutien:	_____ ans @ $50.00 par an	Total= _____
À l'extérieur du Canada:	_____ ans @ $35.00 par an	Total= _____
Membre à vie:	un paiement de $500.00	Total= _____

Dons : Prix commémoratif Jamie Smith de tutorat en ornithologie _____
Prix Doris Huestis Speirs _____
Bourses pour étudiants :
- Bourses Taverner _____
- Bourse Fred Cooke _____

Toutes les personnes qui font un don de $10.00 et plus recevront un reçu pour fins d'impôt; les membres de soutien en recevront un de $25.00 par année de participation, et les membres à vie recevront un seul reçu de $250.00. La SOC a le statut d'organisation à but non lucratif et émet des reçus pour fins d'impôt.

S.V.P. Faire les chèques au nom de la ***Société des Ornithologistes du Canada****.*

Faire parvenir à : **Thérèse Beaudet**
Secrétaire aux membres de la SOC
128, Chemin des Lièges
St-Jean de l'Île d'Orléans (QC)
Canada G0A 3W0
beaudet.lamothe@sympatico.ca

Society of Canadian Ornithologists/
Société des Ornithologistes du Canada

Officers for 2010/2011:

President: Dr. Erica Nol, Voice 705-748-1011; fax 705-748-1640; E-mail: enol@trentu.ca

Vice-President/President-elect: Dr. Joe Nocera, Voice: 705-755-5220, E-mail: joe.nocera@ontario.ca

Past President: Dr. David Bird, Voice: 514-398-7760; Fax: 514-398-7990; E-mail: david.bird@mcgill.ca a

Membership Secretary: Thérèse Beaudet, Voice: 418-829-0379; Fax: 418-829-0584; E-mail: beaudet.lamothe@sympatico.ca

Recording Secretary: Brenda Dale and Ken Abraham (contact information is below)

Treasurer: Pierre Lamothe, Voice: 418-829-0379; Fax: 418-829-0584; E-mail: beaudet.lamothe@sympatico.ca

Editor of Picoides: Rob Warnock, Voice: 306-586-2492; E-mail: warnockr@accesscomm.ca TO ADVERTISE IN PICOIDES PLEASE SEND OR WRITE TO EDITOR.

(Voting) Members of Council: *second term

*Dr. Russ Dawson, Voice: 250-960-6068; Fax: 250-960-5845; E-mail: dawnsonr@unbc.ca

*Dr. Paul Martin, Voice: 613-533-6000 ext. 36598; E-mail: martinp@biology.queensu.ca

*Ms. Debbie Badzinski, Voice: 519 586-3531/3532 ext. 211; E-mail: dbadzinski@bsc-eoc.org

*Dr. Sarah Jamieson, Voice: 011-64-6-356-9099 Ext. 7964; E-mail: s.jamieson1@massey.ac.nz

*Mr. Marc Avey, Voice: 780-492-5844; E-mail: marc.t.avey@gmail.com

Dr. Ken Abraham, Voice: 705-755-1547; E-mail: ken.abraham@ontario.ca

Dr. Erin Bayne, Voice: 780-492-4165; E-mail: bayne@ualberta.ca

Ms. Brenda Dale, Voice: 780-951-8686 (ext. 495); E-mail: brenda.dale@ec.gc.ca

Dr. Marcel Gahbauer: Voice: 403-475-8093; E-mail: marcel@migrationresearch.org

Dr. Ian Warkentin. Voice: 709 637-6200 (ext. 6246); E-mail: iwarkent@swgc.mun.ca

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Ross Lein (1983-1986), Spencer Sealy (1986-1988), Erica Dunn (1988-1990), Jon Barlow (1990-1992)
Bruce Falls (1992-1994), Henri Ouellet (1994-1996), David Nettleship (1996-1998), Tony Diamond (1998-2000)
Kathy Martin (2000-2002), Jean-Pierre Savard (2002-2004), Charles Francis (2004-2006), Susan Hannon (2006-08), David Bird (2008-10)

Society of Canadian Ornithologists/
Société des Ornithologistes du Canada

Standing Committees and Work Groups
See Page 32 for contact information for those with # beside name.

Doris Huestis Speirs Award Committee (annual award for excellence in Canadian Ornithology): Marty Leonard, chair, E-mail: mleonard@dal.ca, Bob Clark , E-mail: bob.clark@ec.gc.ca, Mark Brigham E-mail: mark.brigham@uregina.ca, Greg Robertson, E-mail: greg.roberson@ec.gc.ca

Jamie Smith Mentoring Award Committee: Ken Otter (chair), E-mail: otterk@unbc.ca, Kathy Martin, E-mail: kmartin@interchange.ubc.ca, Dick Cannings, E-mail: dcannings@shaw.ca.

Research Awards Committee (mandate: annual selection of research candidates, fall call for applications, selection and announcement by April of following year, members appointed and rotated) Five awards: James L. Baillie ($1,000), Taverner (2 awards $1,000 each) Fred Cooke Travel Award. Junco Technologies Award ($1,000), Ian Warkentin (chair), E-mail: iwarkent@swgc.mun.ca, Joel Béty, E-mail: joel_bety@uqar.qc.ca, Colleen Barber, E-mail: colleen.barber@stmarys.ca, Liana Zanette E-mail: lzanette@uwo.ca.

Meetings Committee: Charles Francis (chair), E-mail: charles.francis@ec.gc.ca, Sue Hannon #

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