
Society Adopts New Name

The former Society for the Study of Caribbean Ornithology will from now on be known as the Society of Caribbean Ornithology.

1989 Meeting of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology will host its second annual meeting in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in late July or early August 1988 (will not overlap with the American Ornithologists' Union meetings). The meeting will run four days and will include symposia on introduced birds in the West Indies, bird-plant interactions in the Caribbean, and the role of education in Caribbean bird conservation. Field trips will follow the meeting. Discount airfares and hotel rates will be available. For further information, write to:

Jorge A. Moreno
Department of EPO Biology
University of Colorado
Campus Box B-334
Boulder, CO 80309 USA

Report of the Education Committee

An Environmental Education Committee has been formed with the following members: Charles Chase, Barbara Dowell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center; Ann Haynes-Sutton, Jamaica; Charles Luthin, Pan American Officer, ICBP; Frank F. Rivera Milan, Department of Natural Resources, Puerto Rico; Jose Ottenwalder, Parque Zoológico Nacional, Dominican Republic; Ro Wauer (Chairman), National Park Service, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Committee's initial project is the production of a poster that will advertise the Society of Caribbean Ornithology, as well as to create interest in Caribbean birds and their habitats. We want to develop a poster that will appeal to children and adults to encourage their help in protecting birds and bird habitats throughout the Caribbean.

A request for slides that might be utilized for the poster was sent to all the Society's members in mid-August, but only one slide has so far been received. There is still time for submission of an appropriate slide; send to Ro Wauer, P.O. Box 2145, Kingshill, VI 00851.

Report of the Education Committee (Continued)

A funding source for the poster production has not yet been identified, although a few good suggestions were received. The Committee hopes to complete this project prior to the August 1989 meeting of the Society.

Society to Prepare Annotated Bibliography of West Indian Ornithology

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology is preparing an annotated bibliography of the literature on birds in the West Indies. The boundary of the region considered will follow the faunal area outlined in the most recent edition of James Bond's Birds of the West Indies. The Society's annotated bibliography will be published in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Report series, and will be available to individuals, organizations, and governments as a reference source.

If you 1) have published any technical or popular articles on West Indian ornithology, 2) know about unpublished ornithological reports, 3) have compiled a publication list for an island, island group, or a bird species, or 4) know someone who has done any of 1-3 above, please send reprints or copies of the publications, lists or reports to:

Craig A. Faanes
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2604 St. Patrick Avenue
Grand Island, Nebraska 68803
U.S.A.

Craig's telephone number is 308-381-5571 if you need additional information.

Society Compiling List of Researchers and Their Activities in the Caribbean

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology is compiling a list of researchers with interests in the Caribbean Basin. Governments and individuals throughout the Caribbean concerned with conservation of their island resources often have difficulty gaining access to the results of studies that may support their activities. The Society's list of researchers and their areas of expertise will be available to individuals and governments in the Caribbean as a reference guide to support local conservation efforts. If you are currently working or are interested in conducting research in the Caribbean Basin, please send your research activities and areas of expertise to Reed Bowman, National Audubon Society, Research Department, 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, Florida 33070, USA.

Second Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group, Curitiba, Brazil

The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) held its Second Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group at Curitiba, Brazil, from 13-18 October 1988. Several papers on West Indian parrots were presented, including:

- "Status and conservation of Lesser Antillean parrots," Paul Butler and Peter Evans.
- "Status and conservation of Greater Antillean parrots," James W. Wiley.
- "Breeding biology and conservation of the Bahama Parrot, *Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*," Rosemarie Gnam.
- "Recent conservation efforts for the Puerto Rican Parrot, *Amazona vittata*," Marcia H. Wilson
- "Status and conservation of the Yellow-billed Parrot (*Amazona collaria*) and Black-billed Parrot (*A. agilis*) in Jamaica," Yvette Strong

Nigel Collar and Jorgen Thomsen summarized the conservation needs for the region and presented recommendations for conservation of West Indian parrots. These recommendations and papers presented at the meeting will be published by ICBP in their proceedings of the meeting.

Request for Assistance

Help needed for Bahama Parrot - As part of an ongoing conservation project on the endangered Bahama Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*) on Abaco Island, Bahamas, information is needed on feral cat control programs on islands. Bahama Parrots are extremely vulnerable to nest predation by feral cats because of their subterranean nesting habit. In 1988, 53% of the parrot nests in our study area suffered from feral cat predation. The Bahamas National Trust chapter on Abaco is hoping to begin a feral cat control program in 1989 and seeks logistical advice. Please send information to:

Rosemarie Gnam
Department of Ornithology
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West @ 79th St.
New York, NY 10024

Piping Plover Sightings Requested - A Piping Plover winter distribution survey was conducted along the Atlantic (Dec.-Mar. 1986-87) and Gulf (Dec.-Mar. 1987-88) coasts of the United States. We believe that most of the Atlantic coast breeding population is overwintering outside of the

Request for Assistance (Continued)

United States. Any residents or birders visiting the Caribbean this winter (Oct.-Mar.) are requested to report Piping Plover sightings (date, location, numbers seen, bands) to:

Janice Nicholls
Department of Zoology-Wildlife
331 Funchess Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849-5414 U.S.A.,

or

Craig Faanes
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2604 St. Patrick, Suite 7
Grand Island, Nebraska 68803
U.S.A.

This information would be greatly appreciated.

Funding Source

The Pan American Continental Section of ICBP offers small grants for avian conservation projects in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Proposals for research, habitat protection and management, and public education will be considered; all projects must have a clear conservation component. Write for details on applications. Pan American Office, ICBP, P.O. Box 1369, Melrose, FL 32666, U.S.A., or Brian Harrington, Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 958, Manomet, MA 02345-0958. Deadline for application is 1 Feb. 1989.

Meetings of Interest

17-22 March 1989 - 54th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C., USA. (L.L. Williamson, Wildlife Management Institute, Suite 725, 1101 Fourteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, USA).

24-26 May 1989 - Institute of Tropical Forestry Golden Anniversary Symposium, A Century of Research at the Institute of Tropical Forestry: Results from the First Half, Themes for the Second, Condado Beach Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico. A session on wildlife research will be presented by John Terborgh, Princeton University. Registration fee - U.S.\$50.00. (Julio C. Figueroa, Institute of Tropical Forestry, Call Box 25000, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928-2500).