

NEWS AND NOTES

SYDNEY B. PEYTON

Sydney B. Peyton, of Fillmore, California, died on March 17, 1978. One of the oldest members of the COS, he joined the Society in 1913, became a Life Member in 1922, and was elected an Honorary Member in 1963. An obituary will appear later.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

The following Opinion has been published recently by the I.C.Z.N. (see Bull. Zoological Nomenclature 34 (4), 28 Feb., 1978).

1101 (p. 205) Conservation of *Geositta peruviana* Lafresnaye 1847 and *Geositta paytae* Ménégaux & Hellmayr 1906 (Aves).

The Commission cannot supply separates of Opinions.

HAWK MOUNTAIN RESEARCH AWARD

The winner of the first annual Hawk Mountain Research Award was James C. Bednarz of Iowa State University for his studies of the "Status and habitat utilization of the Red-shouldered Hawk in Iowa."

The Board of Directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association announces its second annual award of \$250 for support of raptor research. The Hawk Mountain Research Award is granted annually to a student engaged in research on raptors (Falconiformes).

To apply, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation by October 31, 1978 to: Mr. Alex Nagy, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Route 2, Kempton, Pennsylvania 19529.

A final decision will be made by the Board of Directors in February 1979.

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

COLLABORATION BETWEEN AMATEUR AND
PROFESSIONAL ORNITHOLOGISTS

Last winter a conference was held at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology to consider how amateurs can participate more effectively in ornithological research. Conference participants outlined current efforts, discussed new areas with potential for study by amateurs, and considered whether a national organization to coordinate efforts of amateur and professional ornithologists is needed.

An ad hoc committee was appointed to explore possibilities for cooperation and coordination between amateurs and professionals. The committee chairman is Harold Mayfield, past president of the A.O.U. Other members are Jane Church, executive director of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory; Stephen Curtis

of the Migratory Birds Branch of the Canadian Wildlife Service; Michael Harwood, president of the North American Hawk Migration Association; Douglas Lancaster, representing the Laboratory of Ornithology; Chandler Robbins, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Breeding Bird Survey, and Arnold Small, president of the American Birding Association.

COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR ANALYZING
BIRD BANDING AND RECOVERY DATA

A computer program has been developed for the computation of great circle distances and compass directions from one point to another on the earth's surface. The input data are the latitudes and longitudes of the points, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian Wildlife Service data format. For any grouping of such distance and direction data, the program also computes the mean distance and direction, the latter by the method appropriate for circular data. Measures of dispersion are also given, as is a statistical test (the Rayleigh test) for a "preferred" mean direction, and other quantities useful for other statistical analyses. Geographic locations between 19 and 59° north latitude and between 52 and 125° west longitude can be printed on a rectangular coordinate system 20.3 × 30.7 cm in size, with an indication of the frequency of data at each plotted point. This coordinate system is such that a transparent overlay of a U.S. Army map of this portion of North America can then be placed atop the computer printout. A detailed description of the program is available at no charge from its developers: Jerrold H. Zar and William E. Southern, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115. Copies of the source program and/or deck (in FORTRAN IV) can be obtained, at cost, from the Department of Computing Services, Northern Illinois University.

SHOREBIRD SURVEYS AND COLOR-MARKING

Participants wanted. A cooperative International Shorebird Survey scheme has been organized by the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Manomet Bird Observatory since 1974 to obtain information on shorebird migration and to identify and document areas of major importance. This scheme has been highly successful, with much valuable information on shorebird distribution and migration coming from contributors throughout eastern Canada and the U.S.A., the Caribbean Islands and Central and South America. Information from the scheme will be valuable in assessing requirements for the future protection and conservation of the birds and their habitat. 1978 is planned to be the fifth and final year of the project. Any observer who may be able to participate in regular counts of shorebirds during the autumn migration periods, as well as during the winter in shorebird wintering areas, is asked to contact one of the undersigned. Occasional counts from observers visiting shorebird areas on an irregular basis would also be most welcome.

For areas in Canada: Dr. R. I. G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 2721 Highway 31, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 3Z7.

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

Information wanted. In 1978, the Canadian Wildlife Service will be continuing a large-scale program of banding and color-marking shorebirds in James Bay. During the past three years, over 30,000 shorebirds have been captured, resulting in more than 1,200 "bird days" of sightings of dyed birds ranging from eastern Canada to South America. Much information on migration routes and strategies is being obtained and observers are again asked to look out for and report any color-dyed or color-banded shorebirds that they may see. Reports should include details of species (with age if possible), place, date, color-marks and, if possible, notes on the number of other shorebirds present. For color-dyed birds, please record the color and area of the bird that was dyed. For color bands and standard metal leg bands, please record which leg the bands were on, whether they were above or below the "knee," the colors involved (yellow or light blue), and the relative position of the bands if more than one was on a leg (e.g. right lower leg, blue over metal, etc.). All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to Dr. R. I. G. Morrison, whose address is given above.

PURPLE MARTIN COLOR-MARKING

A large-scale continent-wide Purple Martin color-marking project was begun in 1977. Observers are asked to look for and report any color-marked (plastic leg bands and/or wing tags) Purple Martins. Please record the color of the bands or wing tags, which leg they are on, age/or sex (if either is known), where and when observed, and whether the bird was in a roost, staging flock, migratory flock or at a nest site (scouting or nesting?). We are especially interested in the movements of young birds and their return to the parent colony or nearby colonies. All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to Ms. Kathleen Klimkiewicz, Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland 20811.

GUIDE TO HAWK WATCHING

A guide to hawk watching in North America is being prepared. Persons who can provide color or monochrome photographs of diurnal raptors perched or in flight, or who can provide site details on raptor migration lookouts, roosts, wintering areas, or other concentration areas are asked to contact Donald S. Heintzelman, 629 Green St., Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102.

TRUMPETER SWAN SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Trumpeter Swan Society will hold its Sixth Conference in Alaska. The papers sessions and panel discussions will be held at the Anchorage Westward Hilton on September 7, 8, and 9, 1978. On September 10, 11, and 12, a field trip is being planned to observe Trumpeter Swan habitat.

The Society, founded in 1968, is composed of conservationists, biologists, and citizens from across Canada, the United States, and England who share a common interest in conserving Trumpeter Swans and in restoring them to their former range.

The objectives of the Conference will be:

1. To focus attention on the 80 percent of the world population of Trumpeter Swans that nest in Alaska;
2. To learn what plans and programs the various groups that will control Trumpeter Swan nesting habitat have for safeguarding this species; and
3. To try to anticipate and discuss the future problems and needs of the Alaska Trumpeter Swan population in the face of an expanding economic and human community.

For information about the Society or its Conference, contact David K. Weaver, The Trumpeter Swan Society, P.O. Box 296, Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359.

ENDANGERED BIRDS OF HAWAII

A unique opportunity exists to study avian populations and distribution within the lush tree fern forests of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Two hundred years ago, when Captain Cook first visited Hawaii, there were 70 species of birds native to the islands. Today 24 of them are believed extinct and 27 others have been placed on the endangered list. Three teams of volunteers—August 19–September 2, October 7–21, December 16–30—directed by Dr. Charles van Riper III, zoologist at the University of Hawaii, will attempt to find out why Hawaiian birds are so threatened and what can be done to save the survivors.

The research is sponsored by EARTHWATCH, a non-profit organization in Belmont, Massachusetts, and is made possible by members of the public who share the work and the costs (tax-deductible contribution \$625, not including transportation to Hilo, Hawaii). It offers a rare chance to contribute to wildlife preservation planning.

For more information about this expedition and others, write EARTHWATCH, 10 Juniper Road, Box 127, Belmont, Massachusetts 02178, or call 617/489-3030.