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NEWS AND NOTES

NORTHERN CHAPTER OF THE C.O.S.

The next seminar sponsored by the Chapter will be:

19 May Seabirds in the Alaskan Gulf: how many, where, and their future in oil.
 Scott Hatch, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology

Meetings of the Chapter are held in 2503 Life Science Building, University of California, Berkeley. The seminar begins at 8 pm and is preceded by a business meeting at 7:30. All Cooper Society members visiting the San Francisco Bay area are invited to attend. We also encourage visitors to contact us about presenting seminars.

CARL B. KOFORD, 1915-1979

Carl B. Koford, a member of the C.O.S. since 1939 and a life member since 1944, died December 3, 1979 at the age of 64. He had been a Research Associate of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology for many years, and at various times had held appointments in the Museum and in the Department of Forestry and Conservation on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California.

Dr. Koford was most widely known for his monographic study of the California Condor, based on direct observation over a period of several years, and published in 1953. In subsequent years he made major contributions to our knowledge of several species of mammals.

Carl was born in Oakland on September 3, 1915. He attended Piedmont High School and the University of Washington. In 1950 he received a Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley. During the Second World War he was in the United States Navy, and achieved the rank of Commander. He served for a year as Director of the Canal Zone Biological Area for the Smithsonian Institution, and was supervisor of the Cayo Santiago Field Research Unit of the National Institute of Health in Puerto Rico for an eight-year period. He lived in Berkeley since 1967.

The Carl B. Koford Memorial Fund has been established. Proceeds from the fund will be used to sponsor field research on vertebrates, in accordance with the wishes of Dr. Koford. Donations may be sent to the fund, in care of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley.

CONFERENCE ON BREEDING ENDANGERED SPECIES IN CAPTIVITY

The director of the Bronx Zoo and two prominent wildlife researchers were presented with gold Conservation Medals on 15 November 1979 by George L. Gildred, first vice president of the Zoological Society of San Diego. The awards were given at the concluding banquet of World Conference III on Breeding Endangered Species in Captivity, a week-long gathering of more than 300 zoo directors, curators, biologists, conservationists and interested parties from around the world.

Honored were: William G. Conway, general director of the New York Zoological Park (also known as the Bronx Zoo); Ray C. Erickson, assistant director for endangered wildlife research at the U.S. government's

Wildlife Research Center at Patuxent, Maryland; and Craig C. McFarland, for his efforts as director of the Charles Darwin Research Station in the Galapagos Islands. "Encouragement and participation in conservation of endangered wildlife by zoos is not entirely new," Gildred said. "Since 1966, the Zoological Society of San Diego has given its highest conservation award to those men and women who have, through lifelong dedication to the cause, made a significant contribution to preserving the world's wildlife."

"More than any other person, William Conway has been a leader in the conservation movement through the countless articles and lectures proclaiming the necessity of captive breeding as a means of preserving endangered species," Gildred said. "To demonstrate his convictions, this man has altered the famed Bronx Zoo's collection to emphasize captive breeding groups."

Erickson, influenced by the plight of the Whooping Crane in the 1950's, spent 10 years urging his U.S. Department of the Interior superiors and legislative representatives to initiate a government program devoted to saving endangered wildlife. Through his persistence, the Endangered Wildlife Research Program at Patuxent, Maryland, was established and Erickson served as the program's head scientist for 15 years before becoming assistant director.

As director of the Charles Darwin Research Station in the Galapagos Islands, McFarland set up breeding and rearing programs to save the giant tortoises and a unique species of land iguanas. McFarland is currently head of the Wildlands Management Unit for the government of Costa Rica.

A financial and scientific commitment on the scale of the U.S. government's space exploration program is desperately needed to save thousands of the world's wild animal species from becoming extinct by the year 2000, Conway told the conferees. Citing a two-year study commissioned by President Carter which predicts approximately 600,000 species of plants and animals will be extinct by the dawn of the 21st century, he called for "a new federal commitment to our vanishing biota so that the next few generations of human beings will be inheritors and not just survivors."

While acknowledging "the magnitude of our aspirations compared to the paucity of our resources," Conway explained that "the preservation of a small number of species even if only for a generation or two is the preservation of options." As examples, he noted recent benefits for human medicine discovered from endangered species research. "There are strong grounds for the fear that the loss of species ultimately may have very serious consequences for man, but most of these seem to be unconvincing alternatives against short-term exploitation. There is little current market for the goods and services represented by some vanishing species outside of zoos."

Yet Conway said the world's zoos are "desperately tiny and mostly dependent on municipal governments with no commitments to international wildlife preservation." He noted a "frightening gap in the national and international concern with the preservation of the works of nature in zoological gardens compared with the more common concern with preservation of the works of man in museums of art and history."

"Suppose we selected" he said, "2,000 species

which we wished to sustain at a population of 500 animals each for the next 20 years at a conservative annual food cost of \$625. How much would it cost? The answer is just about [\$12.5] \$25 billion—or about what it cost to put a man on the moon.”

Conway took part in a soon-to-be released government study which projects current population, food, economy and environmental trends into the year 2000. It predicts a world population increase of 2.5 billion; a decline in useable agricultural lands by 30 percent; a reduction in the world's forest lands by two-thirds; approximately 600,000 species of plants and animals becoming extinct and that “few significant terrestrial eco-systems will survive in their present form.” “Whether we be optimists or pessimists, there is no reason to believe that long-term ecological decisions will soon replace short-term economic ones in human affairs,” Conway concluded.

FRANK M. CHAPMAN FUND

The Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund gives grants in aid for ornithological research and also postdoctoral fellowships. While there is no restriction on who may apply, the Committee particularly welcomes and favors applications from graduate students. Projects in game management and the medical sciences are seldom funded. Applications are due on 15 September and 15 February. Information on form and content of applications may be obtained from the Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund Committee, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024.

RECORDINGS OF RAPTOR VOCALIZATIONS WANTED

A technique for censusing hawks and owls is being developed and tested, based on responses to recorded raptor vocalizations. We seek access to recordings of all North American woodland hawks and owls for which the following information is available: location and behavioral context of the call, and, if possible, age and sex. Information and inquiries invited, especially from anyone who is involved in related work. Write to: Dr. James A. Mosher, Appalachian Environmental Laboratory, University of Maryland, Frostburg State College Campus, Frostburg, Maryland 21532.

RECORDS OF MARKED GULLS WANTED

During the fall and winter of 1979–80, as part of a two-year study on the comparative winter foraging ecology of gulls on southeastern Lake Erie, the wings and tails

of Ring-billed Gulls will be color-marked with green paint. Persons observing these gulls are requested to report the date, time, exact location, plumage or age class, area of wings and tail marked, activity, and their name, address and telephone number to the Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, USFWS, Laurel, Maryland 20811. Please send a copy to Betty-Ann Chapman, Biology Department, State University College, Fredonia, NY 14063.

NEW MONOGRAPH SERIES ON EVOLUTION

Evolutionary Monographs is a new monograph series for all evolutionary biology, sponsored by the Society for the Study of Evolution. The series is designed for monographs and other papers that are too long for unsubsidized publication in ordinary journals. Monographs will appear at irregular intervals. All will be reviewed for scientific quality, clarity, and brevity. The monograph series is open to anyone, with no payment required from authors. Because of this policy, initial costs of monographs will be high. This can be reduced if enough subscribers are obtained. Subscriptions are at a 10% discount from the single-copy price, in U.S. currency, and individuals receive a 15% discount on single copies or subscriptions. Subscription is ordinarily by deduction from a deposit account (minimum deposit \$50). *Please ask your institution to subscribe.* There will be no informational mailing to libraries. Because of its open policies *Evolutionary Monographs* will probably publish more monographs than any other series. For further information concerning any aspect of this series please contact the editor: Leigh Van Valen, *Evolutionary Monographs*, University of Chicago, 915 East 57th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

THE CONDOR

With this issue, we are beginning to put an abstract at the head of each major article. Authors who wish to submit papers to this journal for consideration are requested to write their own abstracts. Advice about the nature of abstracts and summaries is given in the Information for Contributors (p. 114).

The instructions have been revised and expanded so as to include the Commentary, News and Notes, Bulletin Board, and publication notices, as well as articles. Please check them before submitting material for any of these sections. Following *Condor* style and specifications, however minor and idiosyncratic they may seem, will aid the editorial operation, save time and money, and gratify the Editor. The Information for Contributors will henceforth be published in only the first issue of each volume.