

NOTES AND NEWS

The American Ornithologists' Union, oldest and largest of the ornithological societies in North America, is celebrating the hundredth anniversary of its founding in 1883. Its quarterly journal, *THE AUK*, now includes about 1000 pages a year of papers on a wide variety of ornithological topics. The long-awaited sixth edition of the AOU Checklist of North American Birds will be published in time for the centennial meeting. If interested in knowing more about the AOU please write to Membership Chairman Dr. Gustav A. Swanson, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523.

Request for assistance: Great Black-backed Gulls.—Great black-backed gulls, breeding in Barnegat Bay, New Jersey were color marked during 1982 to determine post-breeding dispersal, winter range, and pair bonding. Adults carry a yellow patagial tag on the right wing with a single black letter and 2-digit number. Young of the year were marked with a USFWS band and blue plastic numbered leg band on the opposite leg. Observers are asked to report date, location, number of conspecifics present, and if possible the number/letter combination to the Bird Banding Laboratory and Joanna Burger, Biology Department, Rutgers University-Livingston College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, or Betsy Jones, Wild Birds Rehabilitation and Research Center, 325 So. First St., Surf City, NJ 08008.

Request for assistance: Saw-whet Owls.—The Toronto Bird Observatory is coordinating a Saw-whet Owl color-marking project in the fall of 1982. Owls trapped at Toronto and Long Point (on Lake Erie) will be marked with an orange-colored dye marker on the white feathers located on the face between the eyes. The purpose of this project is to enhance the rate of return of previously trapped birds by means of visual reports from casual field observers. Anyone encountering a color-marked bird should report it to: The Canadian Bird Banding Office, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0E7.