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ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS JOINS THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF NORTH AMERICA

WILLIAM E. DAVIS, JR.

President, Association of Field Ornithologists

I am pleased to announce that on September 1, 1987 the Association of Field Ornithologists became a member of the Ornithological Societies of North America (OSNA), joining the American Ornithologists' Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society. All Association members will receive the bimonthly OSNA Newsletter which provides a broad spectrum of information on current activities in the member societies, a calendar of meeting announcements, and information from non-member organizations. In addition, the Newsletter publishes ornithological news, requests for information, job opportunities, announcements of new publications, and miscellaneous items. Association members who are members of other OSNA societies will pay dues for all societies to OSNA using a single form.

The Journal of Field Ornithology has long been a respected journal with an international distribution and reputation. The recent policy changes instituted by our editor, including the use of Spanish titles and abstracts, have further enhanced our international image. It seemed appropriate, therefore, that the Association of Field Ornithologists should join as a full participating member with the three other OSNA organizations, which all produce broadly based ornithological journals of international significance.

Despite the enhancement of the Association of Field Ornithologists' professional image provided by membership in OSNA, the Association remains committed to serving the needs of serious amateur ornithologists. In parallel with the growth of American ornithology, the present Association grew from a regional bird-banding organization, formed and joined by talented amateurs. The journal of the society has for decades published papers that were not dependent on bird-banding alone, and in 1980 the name of the journal was changed to reflect the changed emphasis. In 1986, the organization changed its name from the Northeast Bird Banding Association to the Association of Field Ornithologists to reflect the broad-

ened interests of its members and the increased breadth of its journal. Nonetheless, the Association reaffirms its commitment to amateur field ornithologists who have made and continue to make substantial and significant contributions to American ornithology.

Although our roots are in the northeastern United States, we expect to extend our membership base throughout the ornithological community, attracting and serving professionals and serious amateurs throughout the Americas and the world. We ask for continued support from our members, and we encourage all nonmembers, interested in field ornithology, to consider membership in the Association of Field Ornithologists.