

1984 Conference National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association

The third annual conference of the newly-formed National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association will be hosted by the Kalamazoo Nature Center in Kalamazoo, Michigan from 22 through 26 February 1984.

The goal of the conference is to bring together wildlife rehabilitators from all over the U.S. and Canada to share information, skills, and techniques on how to successfully raise and release many species of wildlife. Wildlife enthusiasts from all walks of life are invited to attend.

Papers may be submitted in the following general categories:

Mammal rehabilitation (any species); bird species, including rehabilitation of altricial, precocial, non-an-seriform, raptor, and miscellaneous species; reptiles and amphibians (handling and rehabilitation);

Aspects of veterinary medicine as related to wildlife;

Fund-raising, or public education, as related to wildlife rehabilitation;

Optimum caging related to holding and release of wildlife;

Natural history and life cycles of wildlife species as related to wildlife rehabilitation.

Papers should be 5-20 minutes in length, and length should be indicated. A 1- to 3-page handout per species should be sent when the paper is submitted. Handouts should include: brief stages of development, feeding, housing, inoculations/medical, special programs, zoonoses, release, follow-up for each species.

A short biographical sketch of the author should accompany the paper submission (include current profession, experience and interest in wildlife rehabilitation).

Papers presented will be published in the Symposium Proceedings, which will be for sale. An abstract of the proposed paper should be submitted with the initial paper title, handout, and biographical sketch. Abstracts should be typed double-spaced. Graphs, charts, and illustrations (where appropriate) are helpful and welcomed.

Name, address, and telephone number of the speaker are required. Please also submit a request for any audio-visual equipment which is needed.

Please send complete information to: Patricia Adams, Program Chair, National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference, c/o Kalamazoo Nature Center, 7000 North Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007 U.S.A.

Submission deadline: October 15, 1983

Suggestions for unusual or unique work being done in the field of wildlife rehabilitation are welcome. Please include name and address of individual or group suggested.

Proceedings available

Proceedings of the 1980-81 Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference at Cornell University, sponsored by Hawk Hide-A-Way, will be available in July 1983. Those interested in obtaining a copy should contact Mary Forness, Editor, 3086 Haskell Rd., RD 2, Cuba, NY 14727 as soon as possible.

The 1983 Conference will be held at DeBruce, NY on 24-25 September.

Hawk Mountain Research Award

The Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association is accepting applications for its fifth annual award for raptor research. To apply for the \$500.00 award, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vita, and two letters of recommendation by 30 September 1983, to James J. Brett, Curator, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Route 2, Kempton, PA 19529. The Association's Board of Directors will make a final decision late in 1983.

Only students enrolled in a degree-granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. The award will be granted on the basis of a project's potential to improve understanding of raptor biology and its ultimate relevance to conservation of North American raptor populations.

News, Notes, Comments

Request for weight data

I am compiling the best available weight data for all North American species of birds. This compilation is intended as a basic reference source and will be published soon as a special publication of the Western Bird Banding Association. I am now trying to obtain better samples of weight data for the species listed below.

Anyone with a larger sample of weights than that indicated in parentheses following each species in this list is asked to contact: John Dunning, Department of Ecology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

Pied-billed Grebe (11)	Townsend's Solitaire (11)
Eared Grebe (7)	Sage Thrasher (6)
Glossy Ibis (1)	Black-throated Gray Warbler (9)
Hudsonian Godwit (2)	Townsend's Warbler (16)
Marbled Godwit (2)	Hermit Warbler (9)
Bonaparte's Gull (6)	Yellow-throated Warbler (6)
Forster's Tern (8)	Cerulean Warbler (14)
Greater Roadrunner (8)	Blue Grosbeak (9)
Lewis' Woodpecker (5)	Black-chinned Sparrow (7)
Red-headed Woodpecker (7)	Lark Sparrow (7)
"Red-shafted" Flicker (8)	Tricolored Blackbird (9)
Say's Phoebe (8)	Yellow-headed Blackbird (11)
Gray Jay (5)	Brewer's Blackbird (10)
Common Crow (12)	Orchard Oriole (10)
Cañon Wren (5)	Hooded Oriole (6)
Dipper (5)	Scott's Oriole (10)
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (7)	Pine Grosbeak (9)
Mountain Bluebird (10)	Lawrence's Goldfinch (8)

Research grants

The Eastern Bird Banding Association and the Western Bird Banding Association are each offering a research grant of \$250 in aid of research using bird banding techniques or bird banding data. Applicants should submit a resumé of their banding or ornithological background, the project plan, and a budget to the joint selection committee chairman: Robert C. Leberman, Powdermill Nature Reserve, Star Route South, Rector, PA 15677.

No formal application forms are available, and the amount requested should not exceed \$250. The deadline for receipt of applications is 15 March 1984.

1983 EBBA and WBBA memorial grants

Five grants for research using bird banding techniques or data were made this year. As in 1982, one award was provided by the Western Bird Banding Association, and the council of the Eastern Bird Banding Association again authorized four awards. Each grant was in the amount of \$250. A total of 31 applications were reviewed by the joint EBBA/WBBA selection committee.

The four Eastern recipients (alphabetically) are: (1) Bruce A. Colvin, a graduate student at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, for "Continued examination of Barn Owl nesting, population dynamics, and dispersion in southwestern New Jersey"; (2) Cheri L. Gratto, a graduate student at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, for "Breeding biology of the Semipalmated Sandpiper"; (3) Bette A. Loiselle, graduate student, University of Wisconsin, Madison, for "Seasonal variation in composition of bird communities along an elevational gradient in a Costa Rican rainforest"; (4) Christopher C. Rimmer, graduate student at the University of Minnesota, for "Prebasic molt strategies in a boreal passerine community."

The recipient of the Western Bird Banding Association's grant is Thomas A. Stierhoff, a graduate student at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. His project is titled, "Cooperative breeding in the Western Bluebird," and is now in its second year.

Both associations will be offering research grants again next year. The deadline for receipt of applications will be 15 March 1984. Anyone (amateur, student or professional) using bird banding techniques or bird banding data in his or her research is eligible to apply for a grant. Applicants should submit a resumé of their banding or ornithological background, the project plan, and a budget to the chairman of the joint selection committee: Robert C. Leberman, Powdermill Nature Reserve, Star Route South, Rector, PA 15677.



Earthwatch Expeditions

Earthwatch is a non-profit organization that recruits interested amateurs to join prominent scholars and fund research expeditions all over the world. Since 1971 it has arranged for more than 5,500 people to help out on expeditions in 30 states and 55 countries. More than 80 projects will be sponsored this coming year.

Each of the following ornithological expeditions has spaces for volunteers. No past experience is necessary — just a willingness to learn and to share the tax-deductible costs of the expedition. Volunteers will be working side by side with professionals, seeking solutions, exploring frontiers of knowledge — part of a team cooperating to get the job done.

BIRDS of BLUE CREEK

Dr. John C. Kricher

Dr. William E. Davis

Site: Blue Creek, Belize

2-16 January 1984

Teams will conduct bird counts in a variety of habitats, and will net, band, and record data on captured birds. Volunteers will determine what habitats migrants favor, whether resident species change habitats or flocking patterns when migrants arrive, and whether migrants or residents have the upper hand in their encounters.

BIRDS and BARRIERS

Julian Ford

Site: Western Australia

5-20 October 1983; 5-20 January 1984

Traveling by Land Rover through the southern eucalypt woods, heath, and flowering sandplains of Western Australia, the team will camp out up to four days at a time at three study sites. Volunteers will search for physical variations in the birds, tape bird songs, and conduct play-back experiments to record the response of overlapping populations to variant songs.

WESTERN RAPTOR MIGRATION

Stephen W. Hoffman

Dr. James A. Gessaman

Site: Goshute Mountains, Nevada

3-17 September 1983; 17 Sept-1 Oct 1983

Volunteers will not only conduct comprehensive migration counts, but will also assess how weather variables affect raptor migration, band as many hawks as possible, and gather data on species variation. Teams will tent a

week at a time at the research station, rotating duties as observers, trap and mist-net operators, and bird banders.

For further information on these and other Earthwatch expeditions, write EARTHWATCH, Box 127, Belmont, MA 02178.

Position available

Migration Program Manager (Biologist). \$11,000-\$12,750. Responsible for all field operations — banding, maintenance, boats, surveys; data analysis.

Qualifications: banding eligibility, proven identification and banding competence, mechanical aptitude, supervisory ability, etc. Resume and three references should be sent to the Executive Director, Long Point Bird Observatory, Box 160, Port Rowan, Ontario N0E 1M0, from whom a complete position description is available.

North American Bluebird Society Research Grants

The North American Bluebird Society provides grants in aid for ornithological research directed toward cavity nesting species of North America with emphasis on the genus *Sialia*. Presently, 3 annual grants totaling \$3,000.00 are available, consisting of varying amounts; in general, stipends of \$1,000.00 are awarded and include:

Student Research Grant - Available to full-time college or university students for a suitable research project focused on a North American cavity nesting species.

Bluebird Research Grant - Available to student, professional or individual researchers for a suitable research project focused on any of the three species of bluebird from the genus *Sialia*.

General Research Grant - Available to student, professional and individual researchers for a suitable research project focused on a North American cavity nesting species.

Further guidelines and application forms are available upon request from Theodore W. Gutzke, Research Committee Chairman, P.O. Box 66, Upham, North Dakota 58789. Completed applications must be received by 31 January 1984; decisions will be announced by 15 March 1984.