

## DEDUCT WFO

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, held during the hiatus between the Brambling and the Little Curlew, Western Field Ornithologists established the “\_\_\_\_\_” Endowment Fund. Proceeds from investment of this fund will be used primarily to publish *Western Birds*. Currently the fund is empty, but our Treasurer assures me that, nevertheless, it is there—waiting . . . .If anyone out there feels the urge to be the first (or even the second) to fill this void, here’s how.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS. All monies from life memberships will be placed in the “\_\_\_\_\_” Endowment Fund, where they may be put to good use indefinitely. Were we to spend them now, they would pay for less than 17 years’ worth of subscriptions, and both you and WFO plan to last much longer than that. Doubtless you are wondering what you get. *Western Birds*, of course; who could want more? But you do get more, something very important—peace of mind. No longer will you wonder if that issue lost in the mails was never sent because you failed to pay your dues. Also, if your pocketbook thins in future years, you can still read *Western Birds* while standing in the bread line. And, of course, you will have the smug luxury of chucking all dues notices into the circular file. Believe me, that feels good!

MEMORIAL FUNDS. Some of you may wish to establish a subfund in honor of a lost birding companion with whom you misspent your youth, or in honor of a relative who suffered many lonely days at home (reading *Western Birds*) while you went birding. Such a subfund could be named in that person’s honor and receive donations so designated from anyone. Besides, names would look much nicer in our financial reports, and our Treasurer tends to get confused when he labels them by number.

BEQUESTS. All of you, of course, plan to live forever. I certainly do (although on Mondays I feel like I already have). This rarely happens. If it does, please let us know and we will compose a dandy lead article for *Western Birds*. But if it doesn’t, what are you going to do with all those millions? After all, in the Hereafter, birding will be free. Allow me to suggest a bequest, preferably immodest, to be placed in the “\_\_\_\_\_” Endowment Fund and used in perpetuity to publish articles on your favorite subject—birds. What better way to live forever?

DONATIONS. Each of you, I feel certain, donates to one or several charities each year. Who hasn’t had the Boss “suggest” a small paycheck deduction for the United Fund? Unfortunately, that organization, and so far all others, have not seen fit to recognize WFO as an important charity. But we do. This year, instead of merely *telling* the IRS you made the proper percentage of charitable gifts; why not really *do* it? I can safely say we are as non-profit as any 501 (c) (3) organization. Keep in mind, too, that the overall fund, the “\_\_\_\_\_” Endowment Fund, needs a name, if only so we will not have to keep referring to it as the “‘\_\_\_\_\_’ Endowment Fund.” I suspect the Board would find a five-digit donation very persuasive in this regard. And don’t feel embarrassed to suggest that your name be used—after all, why do you think all those civic buildings are named after people?

Even if you are not in a position to name the "\_\_\_\_\_ " Endowment Fund, please make a donation, however small, for the birds, thumb your nose at the IRS, and deduct WFO.

LAURENCE C. BINFORD, President WFO, 985 Emily Avenue, Rohnert Park, California 94928

## **BULLETIN BOARD**

### **AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION MEETING**

The AOU 103rd Stated Meeting will be held at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona, from 7-10 October 1985. All persons interested in the conservation and management of birds are encouraged to attend.

Call for papers to the membership will appear in April, with deadlines for program space being 15 June 1985 for the general scientific program. Non-AOU registration costs are the same as members' (\$30 pre-1 August for nonstudents and \$20 for students with copies of validated ID's; \$40 post-1 August for non-students and \$25 for students with copies of validated ID's).

A symposium on the biology and management of Bald Eagles is scheduled Monday, 7 October from 1300 to 1700, but if participation interest in the symposium continues the starting time will be 1000, with notification. Deadline for manuscripts is 15 June, 1985.

A symposium on avian olfaction will be held on Monday, 7 October from 1300 to 1700. There will be seven to eight half-hour presentations of original research.

A symposium on the importance of competition in structuring avian communities will be held Tuesday, 8 October, from 0900 to 1200. The program will consist of two overview papers (Drs. Thomas Schoener and John A. Wiens) and field studies.

General scientific paper sessions will begin at 1300 Tuesday, 8 October, and continue through Thursday, 10 October.

Workshops on use of visual aids in presenting scientific data, experimental methodologies and their use in scientific studies, and Bald Eagle color marking protocol will be held Monday, 7 October. Anyone desiring to present a workshop at these meetings, to register as a nonmember, or to obtain more information please contact: Dr. Robert D. Ohmart, Center for Environmental Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona 85287.

### **NATURE SOUND SOCIETY FORMED**

Under the sponsorship of the Oakland Museum Natural Sciences Department, the Nature Sound Society was formed in the fall of 1984 to bring together people interested in field recording and use of nature sounds. Members' diverse activities include field recording of birds, crickets, toads and pigs; research in animal communication; and the use of nature sounds in education and in the visual and performing arts. Amateur and professional recordists, educators and others will find NSS a focal point for exchange of information, workshops, a compilation of a registry of nature sounds, and a newsletter covering members' projects and pertinent articles. At present, there is a San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area Chapter and a newly formed Northwest Chapter. Dues are \$4.00 annually. For information, write Paul Matzner, Chairman of NSS, at The Oakland Museum, One Thousand Oak St., Oakland, CA 94607, or Marie Mans, Northwest Chapter, P.O. Box 831, Trinidad, CA 95570.