



Field Ornithologists to Gather at Archbold Biological Station 2013 Annual Meeting Set for March 27–31 in Venus, FL

By Reed Bowman, AFO Vice President

We invite you to attend the annual meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists at Archbold Biological Station, located on the geologically and biologically significant Lake Wales Ridge of south-central Florida. Established in 1941, **Archbold Biological Station** (www.archbold-station.org) is a not-for-profit independent research institution dedicated to long-term ecological research, part of the global effort to understand, interpret and preserve the world's natural heritage. Staff, visiting investigators, and students conduct research primarily focused on the organisms and environments of Lake Wales Ridge and adjacent central Florida. Areas of research strength are population ecology and conservation biology, emphasizing ecological changes over local and regional scales, and demographic shifts in ecologically sensitive species.

The meeting will be held in Archbold's new Frances Archbold Hufty Learning Center and the Adrian Archbold Lodge. Each of these new buildings is LEED® Platinum certified, the highest green building certification possible. The buildings are a world-class showcase of sustainability in action and serve as a gateway for the public to the Florida scrub, blending the outdoors and indoors, reflecting the surrounding natural beauty. Many elements of the green design are inspired by the Florida scrub ecosystem: a place where plants and animals survive by conserving energy and water.

Schedule and Lodging

We have arranged the schedule to accommodate attendees who might like to depart on Saturday March 30, to be home in time for Easter. Because town is over eight miles from the station, registration includes on-site meal service for a choice of three or four days. Registering without a meal plan will not be an option. Lodging is available at the station, but is entirely shared accommodations and shared baths. Lodging is inexpensive, but limited and housing at Archbold will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals who prefer to stay in a hotel must make their own arrangements. We have secured a block of rooms at the nearby Ramada Inn at the very reasonable rate of \$59/night plus tax. When you make reservations, tell them this is for a meeting at Archbold to receive the reduced rate—Ramada Inn,

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Sunset on Rosemary Hill at the Archbold Biological Station.

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Message from the President

I am honored to follow in the footsteps of Scott Johnson as the new President of AFO. When he was recruiting me as Vice President, Scott promised he'd have AFO running smoothly by the time he handed the reins to me. In large part, Scott has fulfilled that promise. Scott's efforts over the past two plus years have left AFO stronger than ever. We also have a full council of engaged, active officers and councilors. We are fortunate to have Gary Ritchison continuing as Editor of the *Journal of Field Ornithology*. We thank him for his hard work and competent leadership of our journal.

While my focus is on continuing the good work of previous AFO presidents and making AFO the best it can be, we need to keep an eye on the long-term future of AFO. We can't afford to put our heads in the sand and ignore the rapidly changing dynamics within all professional societies and in the publishing world. While AFO is in good shape financially and our journal is strong, long-term membership trends show a steady decline and we need to think about the future. If membership continues to decline, at some point we won't be able to publish our journal and sustain the grants and awards that are part of our mission. Importantly, we need to stay relevant. We need to keep pace with changing technologies and the changing needs of our members. AFO will continue to be involved in the discussions around the future of ornithology and ornithological societies. Currently, we have appointed observers to serve on the American Ornithologists' Union/Cooper Ornithological Society task forces working on improving efficiency and avoiding duplication of efforts.

Along with the committees that work hard to review proposals for AFO awards and grants, I will ensure that AFO continues its focus on Neotropical Ornithology. We're proud of the 87 memberships you donated to deserving Latin American ornithologists last year. Please allow us to continue this important effort by donating one or several memberships when you renew your membership this fall. At the price of only \$15 each, this is a great bargain.

Another of my highest priorities is the AFO Banding Supplies Business (www.afonet.org/banding). In case you are not already aware of it, AFO sells high-quality mist nets and other banding supplies, proceeds of which go to support grants for students and Latin American ornithologists. Even better, AFO members receive a 10% discount! We owe a huge thank you to Brian Harrington who has been overseeing the management of the business since 1972. The ordering of mist nets and handling customs is complicated and he has been quietly working away at this for 40 years! With input from Brian, our other new Assistant Treasurer Jeff Buler, and several AFO councilors, we are working hard on increasing the visibility of the business and improving the inventory and the web site.

Finally, another high priority is to maintain and increase membership. Each of you, as members of AFO, probably has differing reasons for joining AFO. Your collective contributions determine the extent to which we can carry out our mission and serve you, our members. Please renew your membership so AFO can remain strong as we look to the future. We need all of you and your contributions to allow AFO to continue to serve its members.

Kathryn Purcell, AFO President

Association of Field Ornithologists Annual Meeting

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(863) 465-3133. The Ramada is about five miles from Archbold. There is no camping allowed at the station, but nearby options include:

- Highlands Hammock State Park—22 miles north of the Station in Sebring, (863) 386-6094
- Fisheating Creek WMA—15 miles south of the Station in Palmdale, (863) 675-5999

The meeting schedule (in brief) will be:

Tuesday, March 26	Council arrives
Wednesday, March 27	Council meeting Attendees arrive Welcome mixer and dinner
Thursday, March 28	Morning bird and scrub walks Plenary and paper sessions Poster session Evening social (craft beer tasting)
Friday, March 29	Morning bird and scrub walks Plenary and paper sessions Symposium Closing social and banquet
Saturday, March 30	Check-out for three-day meeting attendees Field Trips
Sunday, March 31	Check-out for four-day meeting attendees

Fly to Orlando and Rideshare to Archbold

Orlando is the easiest and most convenient airport for access to central Florida, offering the best times and fares. Other airports, such as Tampa and Fort Myers, do service central Florida, but we suggest you use Orlando in order to facilitate carpooling to and from Archbold, which is about two hours from Orlando by car. If you are renting a car and willing to share your ride, please post your arrival and

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*Florida
Scrub-Jay*



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departure times on our [rideshare board](https://www.tiny.cc/7k7pnw) (tiny.cc/7k7pnw). If you are seeking a ride, please do the same. We will use the rideshare for field trips as well. If you receive a ride, please be prepared to chip in for fuel and rental costs so that the economic load does not fall entirely on those who rent cars.

Birds and Ecosystems of Central Florida

Central Florida is known for many birding specialties, several with western affinities such as Florida Scrub-Jays, Crested Caracaras, Sandhill Cranes, and Burrowing Owls. By the end of March, many species with Caribbean affinities, such as White-crowned Pigeons, Gray Kingbirds, and Black-whiskered Vireos, can be found two to three hours away in southern Florida. Fall-outs along the Gulf Coast can be spectacular during spring migration at places like Fort DeSoto Park in Pinellas County. In addition, the breeding season of the Florida Scrub-Jay, as well as many other local species, will be in full swing. We might offer the opportunity for a working holiday by asking volunteers to help find nests! The research on scrub-jays at Archbold is one of the longest, continuous studies of a marked population of birds in the world.

A vast diversity of ecosystems occur within two to three hours of Archbold, including Florida Dry Prairie, the Everglades, the Florida Keys and their hammocks and reefs, Ocala National Forest and its amazing springs...not to mention world-famous attractions for the entire family, such as Disney World, Sea World, Busch Gardens and Universal Studios—all within two hours. Many attendees may wish to plan their own pre- or post-meeting excursions. However, we have several field trips designed to introduce you to the wonders of wild Florida.

1. **Eco-tour of Buck Island Ranch:** This is a ride in a swamp buggy through a 10,500-acre working cattle ranch where Archbold's MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center is located. Visitors will explore habitats including pastures, prairies, hammocks, and wetlands and learn about the role of cattle ranches in Florida's environment. Species such as Crested Caracaras, Sandhill Cranes, Burrowing and Barred Owls, alligators, otters, deer, wading birds, frogs and many others are commonly seen. Lunch will include a discussion of research projects being conducted at this site.
2. **Lake Wales Ridge Birding Tour:** Visit Highlands Hammock State Park where the boardwalk through a cypress forest often yields

abundant migrants and resident birds alike. Then tour Avon Park Air Force Range, the military's largest aerial bombardment range east of the Mississippi. We will see the unique community of birds that occur in the longleaf pine forest, including Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Brown-headed Nuthatch. Hear about Archbold's research at this site and the contributions of the Department of Defense to preserving this amazing landscape.

3. **Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge:** Corkscrew Swamp is National Audubon's iconic Florida preserve. A 2.25-mile boardwalk meanders through pine flatwoods, wet prairie, around a marsh and finally into the largest old growth bald cypress forest in North America. The forest is also home to hundreds of alligators, otters, white-tailed deer and red-bellied turtles. A wide variety of wading birds, songbirds, raptors and the fabulous Painted Bunting can be seen throughout the year. Ding Darling is located on the subtropical barrier island of Sanibel in the Gulf of Mexico. The refuge is part of the largest undeveloped mangrove ecosystem in the United States. It is world-famous for its spectacular migratory bird populations and wading birds.
4. **Self-guided birding tours:** We will provide maps and GPS waypoints to good birding routes all within a 15-mile radius of Archbold. These can be done at your leisure.



Red-cockaded Woodpecker

Scientific Sessions

We will have both oral and poster sessions, as well as several plenary talks highlighting research in Florida. Scientific Program Chair **Alex Jahn** will soon issue a Call for Submissions. See the [meeting website](https://www.archbold-station.org/station/html/events/meetings.html) for details and registration forms (www.archbold-station.org/station/html/events/meetings.html).

The Adrian Archbold Lodge (left) and the Frances Archbold Hufty Learning Center (right), located on the campus of the Archbold Biological Field Station.

© Archbold Biological Station



The AFO Shines in Vancouver

NAOC-V Invigorates a Record Number of Ornithologists

Participants in the **Fifth North American Ornithological Conference** might have expected a damp meeting. After all, it rains in Vancouver more than 160 days each year; plus, concerns about the future of bird study have been hanging over the ornithological community like a coastal fog. However, the nearly 1,500 attendees enjoyed a week of warm, sunny weather and a scientific program that foretells a bright future for the discipline. Members of the Association of Field Ornithologists played key roles in invigorating ornithology at this historic conference.

The NAOC-V Steering Committee, including outgoing AFO Secretary **Lee Robinson**, delivered a program that featured cutting-edge science, lively social functions, and productive business meetings. Among the highlights were plenary addresses by longtime AFO members **Irby Lovette** and **Pete Marra**. Each set the conference abuzz with talks that were both entertaining and bursting with ideas. Other AFO members who contributed to the proceedings as members of the Steering Committee or Scientific Program Committee included: **Robert Curry**, **Keith Hobson**, **Rebecca Holberton**, **Sara Morris**, **Erica Nol**, **Katherine Renton**,

and **Kimberly Smith**. Their efforts resulted in the largest ornithological meeting ever to be held in Canada or the United States, and the second largest such meeting held in the Americas (NAOC-IV in Veracruz, Mexico involved 1,741 attendees in 2006).

The AFO Council meeting, chaired for the last time by Past President **Scott Johnson**, also drew a large number of participants, with 19 councilors attending the meeting. The agenda included many encouraging reports, including news from **Gary Ritchison** that the **Journal of Field Ornithology** is expanding its reach and impact (see page 9). A report from **John Cavitt** described how new and renewing members have helped strengthen the AFO by sponsoring 87 Latin American memberships. And Scott Johnson reported a slight uptick in

overall AFO memberships in 2012, following five years of decline. Stabilizing the number of members is one of many goals achieved by the Council under Dr. Johnson's leadership.

Over the years, the AFO has enjoyed consistently strong participation by students and early professionals. Contributions from this group were evident at the NAOC-V, especially in oral and poster presentations. **Katherine Batdorf**, a student at Ohio State University, received the AFO Student Poster Presentation Award for "Are all birds moving poleward?". The AFO Student Oral Presentation Award went to **Leonardo Calle** (Florida Atlantic University) for "Predicted changes in foraging habitat of the Little Blue Heron." Abstracts for both presentations appear on pages 4 and 5.

Finally, four ornithologists were elected to the AFO Council in Vancouver, each for the first time. **Alex Jahn** and **Valentina Ferretti** joined the Class of 2014, while **Ethan Clotfelter** and **Scott Stolesen** were added to the Class of 2015 (see profiles in June 2012 volume of *AFO Afield*). This group brings fresh energy and ideas to a Council that was already industrious, but is now inspired by the proceedings in Vancouver.

Thanks to Andrew and Paul

The new Council gratefully acknowledges the service of outgoing councilors **Andrew Farnsworth** and **Paul Hamel**. We will remember your dedication to the AFO and to ornithology as we approach the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

AFO Best Student Presentation Awards, 2012

Best Oral Presentation: Leonardo Calle

Leo is pursuing a Master's degree in Environmental Sciences at Florida Atlantic University. His advisor, **Dale Gawlik**, was a co-author on the winning presentation, along with Zhixiao Xie and Brian Johnson. NAOC-V was Leo's first ornithological meeting.

Predicted changes in foraging habitat of the Little Blue Heron

Abstract: Wading birds are restricted to feeding in shallow water because of their leg-length constraint, making them sensitive to small changes in water depth. In coastal systems, this sensitivity is pronounced because tidal fluctuations control both the spatial and temporal extent of available foraging habitat. Our objective was to determine the risk



Joshua Scholl

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5 *Leonardo Calle*

AFO Best Student Presentation Awards, 2012

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of the Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) to sea level rise within the boundaries of the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge, in the Florida Keys, USA. Our approach to the problem was to develop a tide-driven simulation model to estimate foraging habitat availability (FHA). The FHA model incorporated fine-scale information on water depths used by the Little Blue Heron, predicted changes in habitat availability from the Sea Level Rise and Accretion Model, under 3 sea level rise scenarios. We validated the model's ability to predict available foraging habitat using locations of foraging Little Blue Herons (N=509) observed during 14 surveys (Dec 2010–Jul 2011). Parameters to which the model was most sensitive were foraging water depth window, tide height, and the time of low tide, respectively. The model performed moderately well (78% correct classification using survey-specific FHA estimates) to very well (94% correct classification using mean annual FHA estimates) at predicting available foraging habitat. The majority (57%) of Little Blue Herons foraged at areas with tide-specific FHA values of >7hectare-minutes. Under all three sea level rise scenarios daily foraging habitat declined, with the most severe declines occurring between 2050 and 2075. Our results may be liberal because we excluded mangrove islands as foraging habitat. We suspect that as mangrove habitats become inundated for longer periods of time they will become suitable foraging areas, if they are not already. The fine temporal scale of the FHA model (from a single-tide to days, months) makes it potentially useful for addressing short- and long-term stressors to multiple wading bird species resulting from human disturbance or sea level rise. However, the sensitivity of the model to very small changes in tide height underscore the importance of having improved estimates of sea level rise at the local level.

Best Poster Presentation: Katharine Batdorf

Katharine recently defended her Master's thesis at The Ohio State University, where she studied avian biogeography and environmental change under the supervision of AFO councilor **Paul Rodewald**. Joining Katharine and Paul as authors of the poster were Stephen Matthews and Matthew Shumar.

Are all birds moving poleward? Understanding distributional shifts in Ohio's breeding birds

Abstract: Research on the effects of environmental changes on avian distributions is essential in predicting, managing, and conserving bird populations. Several recent studies have reported poleward shifts in bird distributions which are likely associated with a warming climate. However, only a few such studies have used fine-scaled regional data such as that generated by Breeding Bird Atlas projects, only one of which is from North America (New York State). The American Midwest presents different species assemblages and landscapes relative to these previous studies. Our study provides an opportunity to test whether poleward trends in avian distributions observed in other regions transcend these ecological differences. We used detailed grid-based data collected during two Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas projects (1982–1987, 2006–2011) to quantify changes in latitudinal extent, center of occurrence, and occupancy in 94 species within Ohio over ~25 years. Individual species demonstrated dramatic latitudinal changes in their distributions, with the centers of occurrence of 53% of species examined shifting north or south by more than 10km. Despite these results, our analyses did not show a significant poleward shift in

distributions across species, although, on average, northern extent and center of occurrence of southerly species did shift north by 4.6km and 8.6km, respectively ($p>0.10$). Additionally, we found evidence of southward shifts in northerly species, with southern extents and center of occurrence shifting on average 19.6km and 6.5km south, respectively ($p<0.05$). Although northerly and southerly species did not differ significantly in occupancy changes, we found that for southerly species, the change in occupancy was positively associated with the proximity of a species' distributional range boundary to our study area ($p<0.05$). This suggests that species along the northern periphery of their range gained more blocks than species for which Ohio is more central in their distribution. Poleward shifts in avian distributions may be more difficult to detect in our study because additional factors such as land cover change may affect distributions more strongly on this finer scale or within Ohio's largely human-utilized landscape. Our future analyses will attempt to partition variance in both climate and land cover change to elucidate environmental determinants of the changes we observed in Ohio's breeding bird distributions.

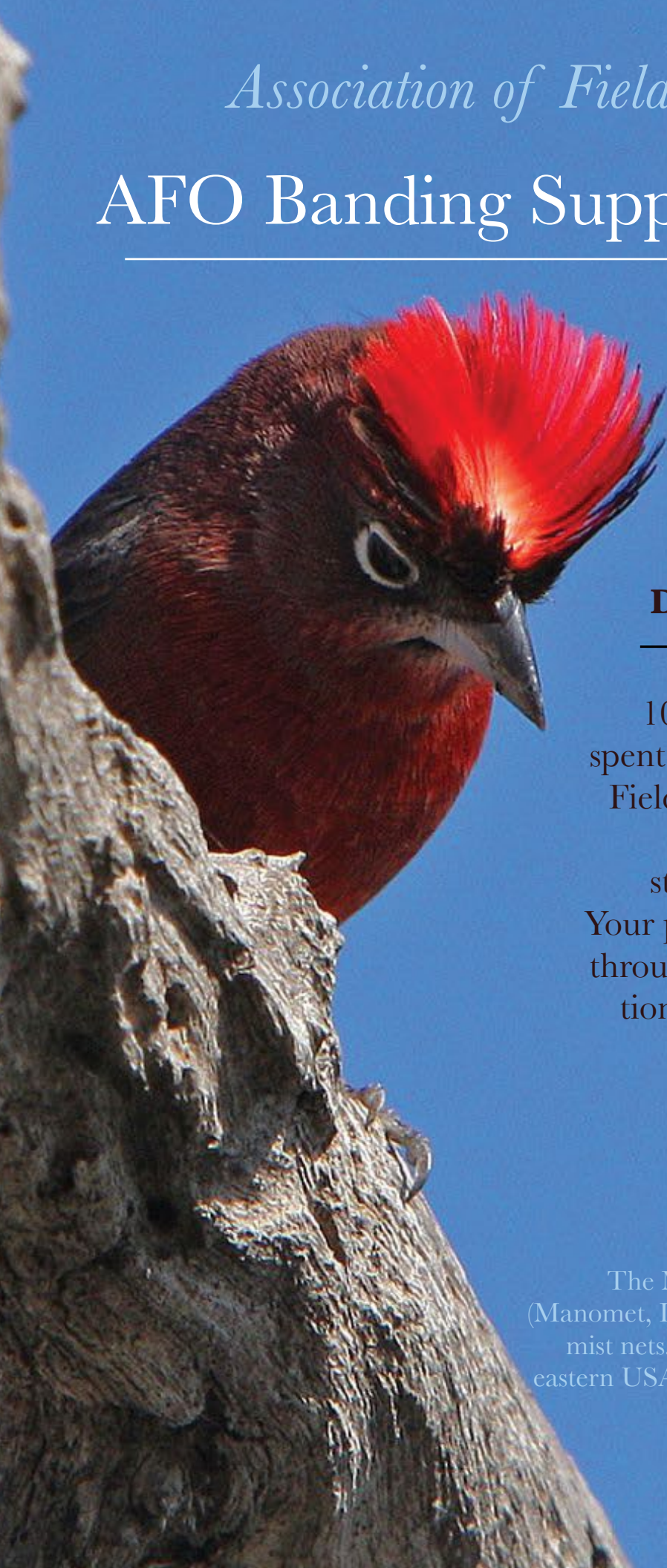


Bryan Batdorf

Katharine Batdorf

Association of Field Ornithologists

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The 2012 Pamela and Alexander F. Skutch Research Award

Roni Martinez Wins Grant to Study Critically Endangered Eagle in Belize

The Pamela and Alexander F. Skutch Research Award is intended to support the study of life histories, especially social relations and reproduction, of little known birds of the continental Neotropics. The award was established to encourage researchers who follow Dr. Skutch's tradition of careful, detailed field observation of avian behavior and natural histories. Funding for this type of study is difficult to obtain, especially in Latin America. The grantee may be an amateur or professional ornithologist of any nationality. One award of up to \$10,000 is given each year. For the 2012 competition, the Skutch Award Committee received 15 proposals for research in ten different countries.

The AFO is pleased to announce that **Roni Martinez** has received the 2012 Skutch Award for his project: "A one year study on the breeding biology of the rare Solitary Eagle including the first observations on nesting behavior, diet, incubation, nestling, and dependency periods." Roni is President of the **Belize Raptor Research Institute (BRRI)** and a Conservation Officer at Blancaneaux Lodge, a resort located in the Maya Mountains in Belize. In 2011, he located the world's only known, active nest of the enigmatic Solitary Eagle (*Buteogallus solitarius*). The \$8,372 grant will enable Roni,

© Ryan Phillips



The Solitary Eagle is a thickset and broad-winged raptor with a wingspan that measures five to six feet. This juvenile is perched at the only known, active nest of the species, where two cameras were installed in March.

BRRI Executive Director **Ryan Phillips**, and their colleagues to observe and record critical life history information that can be used to conserve this very rare, patchily distributed, and virtually unknown species.

Some of the fundamental questions that may be answered by this study include:

- How long is the breeding cycle?
- What are the diet requirements?
- Do the eagles prefer a specific habitat for foraging?
- How long is the incubation period?
- Do both the male and female incubate?
- Do both the male and female feed the chick after hatching?
- How long is the juvenile dependent on the adults?
- When do juveniles fledge?
- When does the juvenile disperse?
- How often do adults nest?

Supporting ground-breaking discovery is one of the essential functions of our professional society. **Elissa Landre** has been involved in this work for many years as a former AFO President and as the current Skutch Award chair.

Sincere thanks to Elissa and the members of the 2012 Skutch Award Committee: **Enrique Bucher, Eduardo Iñigo-Elias, Manuel Marin, Jason Mobley, Luis Naranjo, Paul Rodewald, Ken Rosenberg, and F. Gary Stiles.**



Andrew Bradshaw

Roni Martinez discusses raptor conservation with farmers in Belize.

E. Alexander Bergstrom Memorial Research Awards

Bergstrom Grants Fund Research from Boise to Bogotá

E. Alexander Bergstrom (1919–1973) was Vice President of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association (now the AFO) and the Editor of *Bird-Banding* (now the *Journal of Field Ornithology*) for 21 years. **The Bergstrom Awards** honor his memory and dedication to bird research. Their purpose is to promote field studies of birds by helping to support a specific research or analysis project. In judging among proposals of equal quality, special consideration is given to those that: 1) focus on avian life history; 2) use data collected all or in part by non-professionals; and/or 3) employ banding or other marking techniques. Approximately five awards (maximum \$1000 US each) are made to applicants working in the US or Canada annually. Approximately three awards (maximum \$1500 US each) are made to applicants based in Latin America.

2012 Award Recipients

In 2012, the AFO received 27 Bergstrom Award applications, including 18 from the United States and Canada and nine from countries in Latin America. Five applicants from the US and Canada received \$1000 each. Three applicants from Latin America received \$1500 each. Awardees were:

Alexandra M. Anderson, Boise State University, Population response to climate change: does assortative mating facilitate earlier nesting?

Ghislaine Cárdenas Posada, Universidad de los Andes (Bogotá, Colombia) Selección de pareja en *Chiroxiphia pareola*: Un acercamiento morfológico, comportamental y genómico

Lauren Deaner, Georgia Southern University, Sex role differences of resource use and parental care in Wilson's Plovers

Kirstin G. Dillon, University of Arizona, Why is clutch size negatively correlated with elevation?

Sara J. Miller, Arkansas State University, Use of video monitoring and long-term banding data to study nesting ecology of Red-shouldered Hawks in suburban Cincinnati, Ohio

Tina M. Morris, Appalachian State University, An experimental test of female mate choice based on personality

Heideger Lima do Nascimento, State University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Using nest box cameras to elucidate the breeding biology of Grey-breasted Parakeets (*Pyrhura griseipectus*)

Emily Jean Toriani Moura, Universidade do Vale Do Rio Dos Sinos—Unisinos (Brazil), Nest site selection and parental care of Saffron-cowled Blackbirds (*Xanthopsar flavus*) in the high altitude grasslands of southern Brazil



Pascal Alexandre

Wilson's Plover

Bergstrom Award Reviewers

AFO thanks Andrew Farnsworth for chairing the Bergstrom Awards Committee, as well as the team of reviewers who took on the difficult task of selecting recipients from the many outstanding applications.

English: **Dan Ardia, Tom Gardali, Dan Lambert, Eugene Morton, Kathryn Purcell, Lee Robinson, Andrea Townsend**

Spanish: **Nacho Areta, John Arvin, Dan Brooks, Felipe Chavez, Dan Lebbin, Paulo Llambias, Viviana Massoni**

Portuguese: **Luiz dos Anjos, Paul Hamel, Jason Mobley, Renata Ribeiro, James J. Roper**

2013 Application Guidelines

Applications from the US and Canada are due 7 January, 2013. The deadline for the Latin American awards is 15 July, 2013. To be eligible for a Bergstrom Award, applicants and/or their primary research supervisors must be members of the AFO prior to the application deadline. More information is available at: www.afonet.org/grants/Bergstrom/Bergstrom.html.

New Officers Take First Flight

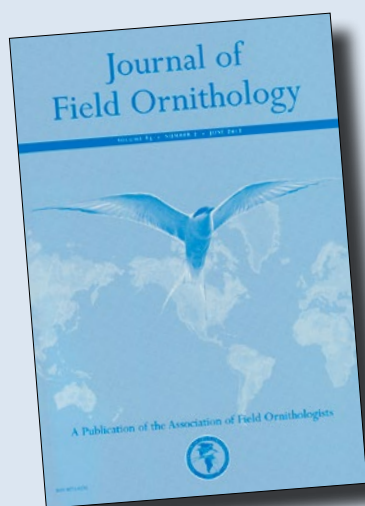
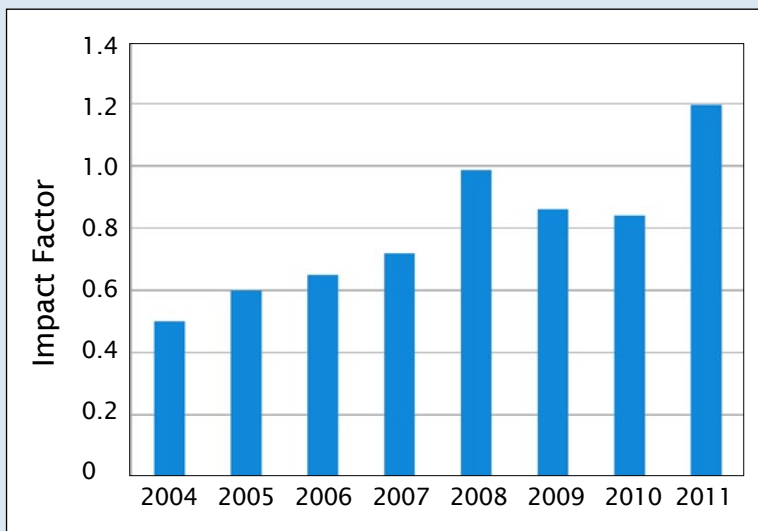
AF.O. members elected a number of new officers in Vancouver on a slate topped by **Kathryn Purcell**, Research Wildlife Biologist at the US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station. Dr. Purcell succeeds Scott Johnson as President after serving two years as Vice President. During that time she revised the Councilor Handbook, helped update our By-laws, and led the process for selecting meeting sites—all while acting as AFO liaison to discussions about the proposed Society for Ornithology. **Reed Bowman** has wasted no time getting to work as Vice President, having agreed to chair and host AFO's 2013 Annual Meeting, which will be held at Archbold Biological Field Station (see page 1 for details). Reed is Director of the Avian Ecology Program at Archbold. **Michael Lombardo**, Professor of Biology at Grand Valley State in Michigan, was elected Secretary, taking over from Lee Robinson who held that post from 2005 to this year.

Gregory Shriver will continue to steward finances of our society as Treasurer, with support from a pair of Assistant Treasurers, **Jeffrey Buler** (University of Delaware) and **Brian Harrington** (Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences). While the Assistant Treasurers oversee the AFO banding supplies business, Dr. Shriver will carry on his study of AFO spreadsheets from his newly tenured post at the University of Delaware.

Journal of Field Ornithology

Journal of Field Ornithology by the Numbers Readership Expands, Impact Factor Rises in 2011

According to figures reported by *JFO* Editor Gary Ritchison, the AFO's peer-reviewed quarterly continued its ascent into the upper tier of international bird journals in 2011. Increases in the number of digital downloads and article citations propelled a boost in impact factor matched by no other major ornithological journal. The recent addition of topical review papers to nearly every volume may help account for this success. The *Journal of Field Ornithology* now ranks seventh among the world's 20 foremost ornithological serials, as measured by the average number of times that published papers are cited up to two years after publication. The 2011 numbers underscore the quality and geographic breadth of science appearing in the *JFO*.



Downloads of <i>JFO</i> papers in 2011	65,000
Percentage of downloads to readers in China	5
Manuscripts submitted to <i>JFO</i> in 2011	266
Countries from which manuscripts were submitted	36
Percentage of submitted manuscripts that were accepted	22
Papers submitted from Brazil	20
Manuscripts from Iraq, Iran, Croatia, and Serbia	1 each
Impact factor	1.196

The AFO owes a great deal to Gary and his team of Associate Editors, who assist in finding reviewers and evaluating manuscripts. Current Associate Editors include: **Daniel Ardia, Juan Ignacio (Nacho) Areta, David Brown, Christopher Hill, Jeffrey Hoover, Miguel Ângelo Marini, Abby Powell, and Tex Sordahl.**

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AFO Afield

December 2012

Volume 17 • Number 2

www.afonet.org

Editor

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Design

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Masthead Illustration

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AFO Afield is a publication of the Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO) and is freely available on the AFO website, www.afonet.org. Please direct comments, questions, suggestions, etc. regarding this newsletter to the editor Dan Lambert at jdaniel.lambert@gmail.com. **Send address changes to OSNA Business Office**, 5400 Bosque Blvd, Suite 680, Waco, Texas 76710 USA, or send email to business@osnabirds.org. For information about membership in AFO, contact OSNA at the address above or call (254) 399-9636.