

# Editors' Notebook

Change, that inevitable force that keeps us awake and out birding, has come once again to *North American Birds*. Beginning with the Winter 2007-2008 issue, our regional reports will be edited by Bill Pranty, veteran Regional Editor, Associate Editor, and since 2006 Chair of the American Birding Association's Checklist Committee. Bill's editing work is superlative in all respects, and with his help we will catch up to our usual, if somewhat flexible, production schedule. Our arrears are entirely the fault of your Editor, who has been overtaxed with writing projects and with a new private-sector job that leaves him rather frayed at times. I will continue to work on the Changing Seasons, Pictorial Highlights, articles, and other features and will proof regional reports and captions in later stages as well, but Bill will be at bat for the better part of this journal. We're all excited to have him working in this expanded capacity.

In this time of transition, we are sorry to report that the present issue is missing two regional reports, for British Columbia and for the Middle Atlantic region; in the latter region, we are in need of a regional editor, Todd

Day having stepped down gradually over the past year. We will be happy to entertain recommendations for that editorship, and we thank Todd for his six years of hard work and outstanding contributions to the journal! For the fall issue, we will attempt to summarize summer sightings from those regions in expanded reports. Another casualty of our transition was the caption credit for the cover of *North American Birds* 61, issue 3, the Loggerhead Kingbird. In this digital age, we often receive hundreds of images of a single bird (sometimes hundreds from a single photographer!), and keeping track of these is increasingly challenging, particularly when the images arrive second-hand and without data. We credited the cover to the kingbird's finder, Carl Goodrich (who did submit excellent photographs of the bird), but in fact this special image was taken by Larry Manfredi. By way of shame-faced apology, but also to document and celebrate this well-watched North American first documented record, we offer a page of Larry's images of this bird in this issue. We will redouble our vigilance in double-checking our credits in the future and humbly ask our contributors who submit

electronic images to include the photographer's name and date of the image in the filename of the photograph itself (also nice would be an indication of the species depicted and even the location!).

We live in an incredibly rich, even revolutionary time for bird photography—witness even the leaps-and-bounds improvements in photographs of certain species from 2007's *National Wildlife Federation Field Guide to the Birds of North America* to 2008's *Smithsonian Field Guide to the Birds of North America*: when I first saw Ted Floyd's magisterial book, I thought, among many marvelings: "Hey! Where did he get that incredible Least Storm-Petrel photograph?" Of course, Mike Danzenbaker had taken it after production had finished on my earlier field guide, which had itself used a brand-new image of the species taken by Photo Editor Brian Sullivan off Baja California (I had begged him for his help!). But our era's flood of new and wonderful bird images is no excuse for our miscrediting of the cover photograph in the last issue, and we apologize to Larry Manfredi, who is one of our most generous contributors. We won't let this happen again.

## The Friends of North American Birds

### SUPPORT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS, THE ABA'S JOURNAL OF ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORD

Since its inception, the fund has allowed for many improvements to the journal's look and feel. The journal is now mailed in a protective wrapper to insure its delivery in one piece. The content has benefited from an increase in page count which has allowed for additional articles with even more detailed analysis. The amount of color pages has increased which has allowed for expanded Pictorial Highlights and an occasional Photo Salon.

**All of this has been made possible with your generous contributions.**

There are more plans in the works for future issues but the fund does need your continued support. To become a "Friend of NAB", simply donate \$50 or more. Each "Friend of NAB" will be recognized annually in the first issue of each volume of *North American Birds*.

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