



Latest News on the Fund's Grantees

The Audubon Naturalist Society's Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund was able to offer a record number of grants this year, with these grantees joining those from more than 55 countries that have received awards since 1976. Twelve proposals were selected of the 223 submitted. Included in that number were 2 that honor our late Committee member Yoli Del Buono, partially funded by those who contributed to the C-M Fund in memory of Yoli, and with input from her daughters Catherine and Yoli. One grant to preserve the threatened Black-Crowned Cranes in Ethiopia narrowly missed funding but was generously supported anonymously by a Committee member with a fondness for these cranes.

2019 Grantees:

The Committee evaluated 223 proposals and awarded grants to: **Green Youth Uganda** seeks to establish beehive fences to limit interaction between human settlements and bee-fearing African Elephants, a solution that has been found elsewhere to be a win-win technique for farmers and elephants; promoting conservation awareness with students and communities of the threatened wild orchids in the **Mau Forest Complex, Kenya**; action plans developed by local communities to protect the habitat of the vulnerable Olive Ridley sea turtle by the **SPANDAN Organization of Puri, India**; ; in coastal **Kenya**, the **Marine and Fisheries Research Institute** will work with groups of intergenerational local citizen scientists to improve conservation effort aimed at protecting vulnerable seahorses and to complement an ongoing research project.

The **Pangolins and Rare Species Africa** in **Ghana** is expanding the Community Resources Management Areas that allow the local community to develop their own procedures for habitat protection and conservation awareness to protect illegally trafficked Pangolins and the Dwarf Crocodiles; **Young Pioneers for Development NGO** in **Benin** aims to promote conservation of endangered vulture species through programs and events in the local community that raise awareness of their importance; in **Nepal**, the **Small Mammals Conservation and Research Foundation** aims to protect the habitat of the endangered Red Panda in the Gaurishankar Conservation Area through community outreach to all ages on Red Panda ecology and conservation; in the Kers District in **Ethiopia** the project goal is to build local support for the preservation of wetlands and inspire the local community to actively participate in the preservation of the threatened Black-Crowned Cranes; in **Bosnia-Herzegovina** the **Association of Women of Banju Luka** are building on their work of co-existence with nature by conducting a survey of frog and toad populations as important indicator species of environmental quality; in **Chile's** Parinacota region the critically endangered Chilean Woodstar Hummingbird is the focus of conservation education workshops with stakeholders in combating habitat loss; the **Women in Agroecology Leadership for Conservation in Guatemala** addresses the needs of the Q'eqchi' Mayan communities through agroecology and reforestation to protect and restore habitat of wintering North American birds; and in Vieques, **Puerto Rico**, the restoration of the island's aquarium and exhibits, destroyed by Hurricane Maria, that has successfully educated schoolchildren, their parents and visitors through the **Vieques Conservation and Historical Trust**.



2018 Grantees Updates:

In Manipur, **India**, the Institute of Social Research and Development completed activities that involved the local communities in the protection and conservation of the critically endangered Brown-Antlered Deer through building connections and networks between different stakeholders and organizing village committees and a youth task force. On Utila Island, **Honduras**, the critically endangered Spiny-tailed Iguana was the

focus education programs and outreach events, connecting young people with the local habitats of their island home and the importance maintaining biodiversity. Through our funding the People, Lions and Environment Campaign (WASIMA)



On Utila Island, Honduras

was able to expand their successful program of stopping lion killings in and around protected areas of Katavi National Park in Western **Tanzania**.

WASIMA now reaches over 20 villages where they work with village councils, assemblies and local policing to educate the communities on the protection of their environment and the importance of protecting lions.



Msuva Village in Western Tanzania

The Fund continues to support the work on Santiago Island, **Cape Verde** where a group of Cape Verdeans have successfully rehabilitated, protected and developed eco-tourism at the beaches and lagoons of the island. The project began for the protection of the critically endangered leatherback turtle and has expanded to promote conservation from the entire community. This latest grant was given by a generous donor in memory of her mother.

Where Are Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund Grantees Located?



The map illustrates countries (in green) which have received grants.

NORTH AMERICA/CARIBBEAN	Falkland Islands 2	AFRICA	ASIA & THE PACIFIC
Bahamas 2	Guatemala 3	Benin 2	India 9
Curacao 1	Honduras 3	Cameroon 2	Indonesia 1
Dominican Republic 1	Paraguay 1	Cape Verde 1	Nepal 10
Jamaica 1	Peru 6	Ethiopia 2	Papua New Guinea 4
Mexico 9	Venezuela 1	Ghana 2	South Korea 1
Puerto Rico 3		Kenya 8	Sri Lanka 4
Trinidad & Tobago 2	EUROPE & MID EAST	Madagascar 2	Thailand 1
West Indies 1	Armenia 1	Mali 1	Vietnam 1
	Bosnia-Herzegovina 1	Nigeria 1	
SOUTH AMERICA	Bulgaria 1	Rwanda 1	
Argentina 4	Croatia 1	eSwatini 1	
Belize 3	Czech Republic 1	Tanzania 1	
Bolivia 4	Hungary 1	Uganda 4	
Brazil 4	Israel 4	Zimbabwe 2	
Chile 1	Moldova 3		
Colombia 3	Romania 1		
Costa Rica 4	United Kingdom 4		
Ecuador 7	Ukraine 5		

The table shows the total number of grants to that country.

To Receive Our Annual Newsletter

Please send your email to carol.hayes@ANShome.org if you would like to receive future newsletters and announcements of C-M events. Your email will be used solely for C-M activities.

Thank you to our Donors!

A special thank you to contributions made to the C-M Fund by Mr. L. Peter Boice and Ms. Mary Belknap, Maury Lutin, Janet Dale and Bill Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Jones, Ms. Barbara Nash, Mr. and Mrs. Alan E. Hedin, Dr. Lynn Rust, Mr. Mark B. England, Ms. Susanne M. Lee, Ms. Anne Cross and Mr. Alan Johnston.

Thank You C-M Committee Members

The Crowder-Messersmith Fund would like to thank its committee members, who volunteer their time and expertise: Daphne Gemmill (chair), Betsy Connole, Marcie Francis, Vance Hyndman, Chris Herman, Karen Wilhelm and Alan Johnston. The Committee is pleased to welcome a new member in 2019, Linette Landers.

Birdathon 2019

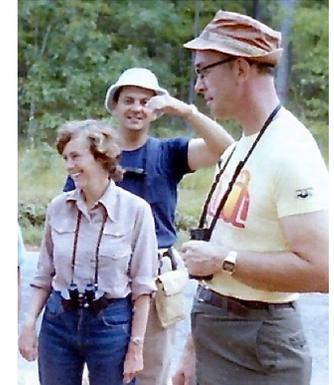
The Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund thanks the following people for sponsoring C-M Committee Chair Daphne Gemmill's Birdathon in Japan.

A. Thomas Andrews	W. Edward Harper
Ana Arguelles & Jeff Wneck	Christopher Herman
Sandra and Ebbe Banstorp	George Jett
Romney Bathurst	Joan Keenan
Susanna Buschmann	Charles Lahood
Larry & Ann Cartwright	Sam Little
Joy Chapper	Donald Messersmith
Julia W. Christian	William Mueller
Anne Cross & Alan Johnston	Diana Munn
Carla Dove	Ellen Opper-Weiner
Brenda Frank	Caroline Isber Reuter
Helen Gemmill	Lee and Kirk Robinson
Elizabeth Gemmill	Heather Santos
	John & Karen Shrader
	Lisa Sinnigan
	Nancy Twist

The Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund Annual Talk: The Evolution of Birding Internationally - the 1960's to the 2010's

Thursday, October 17 (7-9 pm) Woodend Sanctuary

Don Messersmith and his wife Sherry were founders along with Orville Crowder of world birding tourism in the 60's and 70's, with Don leading trips to many remote locales on the seven continents. His student, Daphne Gemmill, followed his footsteps forty years later. Don will talk about what he did to prepare and what the birding experience was like in the early days before the internet with Daphne comparing her experiences, such as in her recent travels to Papua New Guinea, to Don's forty to fifty years ago. And while there have been dramatic changes in some respects, one thing remained the same—no internet in birding hotspots! Light refreshments served. Please RSVP to Carol Hayes at carol.hayes@anshome.org or 301-652-9188 x10 by October 14. Contributions to the Crowder-Messersmith Fund will be gratefully accepted.



Contributions to the Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund

This small, innovative grants program, together with the international foray program, allows ANS members to experience other cultures and environments and to promote conservation awareness and protection beyond our borders. Your contributions to the Fund allow us to support more projects in developing countries – please be sure to designate your donation to the Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund. You can contribute by going <https://anshome.org/2017/04/donate/> or by sending a check to: Crowder-Messersmith Fund, Audubon Naturalist Society, 8940 Jones Mill Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815