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# Birding

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**In this issue:** For more than a century, one of the major emphases of scientific ornithology has been the monitoring of bird populations. Through it all, birders—and before them, “birdwatchers”—have played a key role in monitoring studies, from the pre-Peterson era right up to the modern post-telemetry age of stable isotope analysis. *Our cover image of shorebird biologists at Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, was photographed in June 1991 by © Kevin T. Karlson.*

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Bill Evans (left) and Michael O'Brien (right) listening for migrating landbirds. Cape May, New Jersey; August 1998. © Volker Dierschke.