

# W·I·N·G·S·P·A·N

VOLUME 6 NO. 1

MARCH 1997

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

The bylaws of RRF (Article 1) state that the purpose of the organization is "... to stimulate the dissemination of information concerning raptorial birds among interested persons worldwide and to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the value of birds of prey." With that in mind, it is obvious that RRF is not just about raptors; it is also about people. RRF would not exist without people. And RRF would not exist without people who give freely of their time. Until I had a year under my belt as your President, I never fully realized how much of a team effort RRF really is. Moreover, I've always believed that the members of that team are not thanked enough. Yes, it is true that none of the volunteers who make RRF such a successful organization expect to be patted on the back for their efforts; however, it is important that they be recognized by the membership for their hard work. While this is partially achieved at our annual business meeting and banquet ceremonies, generally only a small portion of the membership is in attendance. As President of RRF, no one has a better handle on who is doing what for the organization, so please take time to read the following. It is an impressive list of people who are working for you. (If I have forgotten someone, and I likely have, please forgive me.)

In no special order, I would like to thank the following people for their hard work and dedication given to RRF in 1996 and even earlier: **Jim Fitzpatrick**, our prickly but soft-hearted treasurer for many years, who is one of the most honest men I know and who literally spends hours every day to ensure that our finances and memberships are looked after; fun-loving **Marc Bechard**, editor of *The Journal of Raptor Research*, and his associate editors **Gary Bortolotti**, **Charles Henny**, **Fabian Jaksic** and **Erkki Korpimaki**, for not only producing a quality product but getting it out on time; **Lenny Young**, editor of *Wingspan*, for beating the bushes to ensure that our newsletter is filled with interesting material from around the world, free of errors and yes, on time; **Jeffrey Marks** for doing a great job in his role as our book review editor; **Mike Kochert**, our current president-elect and chair of the Conferences Committee, for stimulating members to hold our annual meetings in a variety of venues around the world, for ensuring that they are run well and for never saying no when asked to do something on behalf of RRF; **Betsy Hancock** for her years of serving as RRF secretary and getting out the minutes of our annual board meetings; **Jim Bednarz**, chair of the Conservation Committee, and its members **Keith Bildstein**, **Michael Collopy**, **Susie Ellis**, **Allen Fish**, **Jim Fraser**, **Brian Millsap**, **Steve Sheffield**, **Karen Steenhof**, **Petra Bohall Wood** and **Reuven Yosef**, for reacting quickly and soundly to a number of conservation issues requiring immediate attention; **Pat Hall** and **Massimo Pandolfi**, co-chairs of the Nominations Committee, for putting together a worthy slate of nominees for directorships and officers, and ensuring that our elections are run smoothly and fairly; **Petra Bohall Wood** for her professionalism in overseeing a very busy Awards Committee; **Jeff Lincer** and his committee members **Dean Amadon**, **Gary Duke**, **Rich Howard** and **Alan Kemp** for their excellent efforts in giving the Leslie Brown Award to those who are truly deserving; **David Andersen** and his committee of **Rick Knight** and **Karen Steenhof** for handling the



Hamerstrom Award in admirable fashion; **Laurie Goodrich** and those who volunteer to help her each year to see that the Andersen Award truly goes to the student(s) presenting the best papers at our conferences (Boise conference excepted); **Clayton White** for skillfully managing the Dean Amadon Grant; **Brian Walton** and his committee of **Steve Sherrod**, **Jack Barclay** and **Christian Saar** for ensuring that the Tom Cade Award goes to deserving recipients each year; past-chair **Alan Jenkins** and new chair **Kim Titus** and committee members **Bob Murphy** and **Robert Rosenfield** for their efforts in selecting the best candidates for the Tully Award; past-chair **Michael Collopy** and new chair **Pat Hall** and committee members **Bob Lehman** and **Robert Rosenfield** for doing justice to Jim Koplin's memory by seeing that the travel award in his name helps out deserving students; **Dave Garcelon** for single-handedly running the RRF Resolutions Committee; **Walter Crawford** for organizing RRF press conferences, publishing our brochure and agreeing to be our point man for the 1998 St. Louis conference; **Nancy Read** and **Betsy Hancock** for ensuring that public education and rehabilitation are very much a part of RRF's goals; **Fred Lohrer** for ensuring a smooth transition to OSNA; **Pete Bloom** and **Buzz Hull** for representing RRF on the fledgling North American Banding Council; **Susie Ellis** and **Paul Napier** for looking out for RRF's interests on the very busy Ornithological Council; **Jim Fraser** for ably representing RRF at meetings of the American Bird Conservancy and the Endangered Species Coalition; **Robert Hole, Jr.** for creating the RRF web page, **Karen Steenhof** for helping to polish it, and **Felix Guerrero** for agreeing to be our webmaster; **Dan Varland** (AKA Grapes) for agreeing to be our Special Publications Editor as well as continuing in his role as our Scientific Program chair; **Bob Lehman** and the good folks working for APLIC in helping RRF to benefit from the new power lines document (as well as **Dan Varland**, **Jim Bednarz** and **Karen Steenhof** for taking the time to review and edit it for us and **Michael Kochert** for carefully writing the Memorandum Of Understanding for it); **Massimo Pandolfi**, **Thomas Krueger**, **Keith Bildstein** and the various session chairs for ensuring that

(continued on page 20)

**THE RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.**  
(FOUNDED 1966)

**OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT: David M. Bird

SECRETARY: Patricia A. Hall

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Michael N. Kochert

TREASURER: Jim Fitzpatrick

VICE-PRESIDENT: David E. Andersen

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR #1: Massimo Pandolfi

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #1: Patricia L. Kennedy

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR #2: Michael McGrady

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #2: John A. Smallwood

CANADIAN DIRECTOR: Gordon S. Court

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #3: James Bednarz

MOUNTAIN & PACIFIC DIRECTOR: Karen Steenhof

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #4: Cesar Marquez Reyes

CENTRAL DIRECTOR: Robert N. Rosenfield

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #5: Petra Bohall Wood

EASTERN DIRECTOR: Brian A. Millsap

DIRECTOR AT LARGE #6: Lloyd F. Kiff

*Wingspan* is distributed twice a year to all RRF members. It is also available to non-members for a subscription rate of \$10 per year. *The Journal of Raptor Research* (ISSN 0892-1016) is published quarterly and available to individuals for \$30 per year and to libraries and institutions for \$50 per year from: The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc., 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, MN 55033 USA. Add \$3 for destinations outside of the continental United States.

Persons interested in predatory birds are invited to join The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. Send requests for information concerning membership, subscriptions, special publications, or change of address to: Jim Fitzpatrick, Treasurer, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, MN 55033 USA.

# 1997 RRF ELECTIONS !!!

by Pat Hall, Secretary

It's that time of the year again; spring is just around the corner and so are the Raptor Research Foundation elections. This year we are seeking nominations for the following positions:

## Positions

Board of Directors:      North America At-Large                      At-Large (2)  
                                  Outside North America At-Large

Please note that in accordance with their designations, the "North America At-Large" directorship must be filled by someone residing on the North American continent, while the "Outside North America At-Large" directorship must be filled by someone not residing on the North American continent. The two general "At-Large" directorships may be filled by anyone regardless of residency.

## Duties & Responsibilities

Board members:      Board members control and supervise Foundation affairs, make rules and regulations, control and manage all Foundation funds and property, instigate preparation of the yearly financial statement and professional audit, and meet yearly for discussion of Foundation business. Directors are expected to attend annual Board meetings as well as respond to issues that emerge during the interim (access to e-mail is a definite asset).

For more details, please consult the front section of the *Kettle*.

## Nominating Procedure

Each nomination should include the title of the position and the name, address, phone number, and e-mail address or fax number of the nominee. You may nominate yourself. Nominees for a regional directorship must reside in that geographic region. Each nominee will be contacted to verify her/his willingness to run and to accept the position upon winning. A biographical sketch must be submitted by **June 30, 1997** to one of the following persons:

Patricia A. Hall  
 436 David Drive E  
 Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
 520-774-0041 (phone)  
 pah@alpine.for.nau.edu

Massimo Pandolfi  
 University of Urbino  
 Istituto di Scienze Morfologiche  
 Via M. Oddi, 21  
 61029 Urbino, Italy  
 39-722-328033 or -327893 (phone)  
 39-722-329655 (fax)

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE ACTIONS AND DIRECTION OF YOUR SOCIETY--PARTICIPATE!**



## RRF RESTRUCTURES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear RRF Members:

Because I was unable to complete the bylaws change prior to our last election, it was necessary to postpone implementation of the new board structure by one year (the structure that almost 95% of you casting ballots voted in favour of last summer). Thus, a minor adjustment to our bylaws was needed. A total of 171 ballots was received with not a single dissenting vote. Accordingly, the changes to our bylaws with regard to board restructuring are as follows:

### ARTICLE III. Section 2.

c. Terms. Directors shall serve three-year terms as follows:

- (1) North American #1, Southern Hemisphere, and At-Large #1 and #4 Directors shall serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 1999.
- (2) North American #2, At-Large (outside North America), and At-Large #2 and #5 Directors shall serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 1998.
- (3) North American #3, Eurasian, and At-Large #3 and #6 Directors shall serve three-year terms beginning January 1, 2000.

I would like to thank former President Michael Collopy, Brian Millsap and his ad-hoc committee, several other individuals who contributed to the actual wording of the changes, and all the members who took time to vote for helping RRF to make what is undoubtedly a giant step onto the world stage in raptor conservation.

David M. Bird, President

## FIFTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON BIRDS OF PREY AND OWLS TO BE HELD IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 1998

The Fifth World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls will be held in Midrand (Johannesburg), South Africa on August 4-11, 1998. The conference will be hosted by the Raptor Conservation Group and the Vulture Study Group of the Endangered Wildlife Trust on behalf of the World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls. The opening ceremony is scheduled for the evening of August 4, and the scientific programme will start on the morning of August 5. Scientific symposia will run on August 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11, with a workshop day on August 9. A special excursion is planned for Saturday, August 8, and the Endangered Wildlife Trust's 25th Anniversary will be celebrated on Saturday evening. About 15 different symposia are anticipated. There will be formal paper sessions as well as formal poster sessions for each of the symposia. Delegates will be allowed to present posters in five international languages. Flyers will be sent out soon. Interested people may contact: **Dr. Gerhard H. Verdoorn; EWT Raptor Conservation Fund; Vulture Study Group, Raptor Conservation Group, Poison Working Group; P.O. Box 72155; Parkview 2122; South Africa; phone: 27-11-646-4629, 27-11-646-8617, or 27-82-446-8946 (mobile); fax: 27-11-646-4631; e-mail: neshar@global.co.za; or Robin Chancellor, e-mail: WWGBP@aol.com.**

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## THE RICHARD R. OLENDORFF MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center (RRTAC) is pleased to announce that the Richard R. Olendorff Memorial Library has been established at RRTAC's new facility at Boise State University to honor the memory of RRTAC's first Director, Dr. Richard R. (Butch) Olendorff. A memorial library is a fitting tribute to Butch because of his lifelong enthusiasm for compiling literature about birds of prey.

Over the years, Butch acquired thousands of published and unpublished documents on falconry, the biology and ecology of raptors, and their management. An early product of these efforts was a book, *An Extensive Bibliography on Falconry and Diurnal Birds of Prey*, published by Butch and his wife, Sharon, in 1968. In the early 1980's, Butch created the Raptor Management Information System (RMIS), a computerized retrieval system containing the citations of his collected papers, and a keyword index for listing references by species, subject category, and geographic area. The RMIS was developed at the California State Office of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, with the assistance of the Edison Electric Institute.

In 1993, Butch's collection was merged with the collected papers of the Snake River Birds of Prey Research Project in Boise to create the Raptor Information System (RIS). Today, the RIS contains over 25,000 citations. The Richard R. Olendorff Memorial Library was established in part to house the RIS and the collection of original papers, likely the largest such collection in the world. In addition, RRTAC hopes to continue acquisition of new literature as it becomes available, and to provide access to the RIS through the Worldwide Web. To maximize the library's resources, RRTAC is coordinating its efforts with the Boise State University library system and the library at The Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey.

A Richard R. Olendorff Memorial Fund was established soon after Butch's death, in February 1994, to provide funds for furnishing and operating the library. At this time, the library's greatest needs are for additional cabinets, shelves, and furniture; book acquisition; and framing of donated artwork for the walls. Those interested in seeing Butch's work continue are invited to make a contribution to the Richard R. Olendorff Memorial Fund, U.S. Bank, Skyway Vista Office, 2730 Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705. For more information, contact RRTAC at 970 Lusk Street, Boise, ID 83705, or call 208-331-5200. Contributors wishing a tax deduction may instead make contributions in Butch's name to the Raptor Research Foundation, by contacting Jim Fitzpatrick, Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center, 12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings, MN 55033, 612-437-4359.

### 1998 RRF ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN OGDEN, UTAH

RRF's 1998 annual meeting will be held from September 30 to October 4 in Ogden, Utah. Anyone who wishes to propose a symposium or other special event for the 1998 annual meeting should contact: Carl Marti, Department of Zoology, Weber State University, Ogden, UT 84408-2505, phone: 801-626-6172, fax: 801-626-7445, e-mail: cmarti@weber.edu.

## **RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION SECOND INTERNATIONAL (EURASIAN) CONFERENCE**

**Urbino, Italy, October 2-5, 1996**

by Michael N. Kochert, President-Elect and Chair, Conferences Committee

The Raptor Research Foundation (RRF) held its second Eurasian meeting in Urbino, Italy, on October 2-5, 1996. The conference was held on the University of Urbino campus, which is nestled in the picturesque hillside above the historic town. The local committee, chaired by Massimo Pandolfi, capably organized an impressive conference. The conference hosted more than 260 registrants from 30 nations on five continents.

Keith Bildstein, David Bird, and Massimo Pandolfi organized a stimulating scientific program. The comprehensive program consisted of two symposia, 10 general paper sessions, three special sessions, two workshops, and two round-table discussions. Two hundred and twenty oral papers and 87 posters were presented. Symposia on Raptors and Energy Developments, convened by Thomas Krueger, Patricia Kennedy, and Mike Kochert, and on European and Mediterranean Ospreys, convened by Mark Westall, ran concurrently with the other sessions. General papers included sessions on population ecology, behavioral ecology, environmental contaminants, trophic ecology, conservation and management techniques, impacts of human activity and rehabilitation, migration and dispersal, status and conservation of raptors, genetic and biochemical studies, and general topics. The special sessions addressed trade and captive breeding; Middle East and Asian raptors; and management, status, and distribution of vultures. Workshops covered shrike biology and research, and sustainable use of Saker Falcons. The round-table discussions included sustainable use or smuggling of raptors, and joint international efforts to study and protect raptors in eastern Europe. There was also an evening video and film session, and a short RRF business meeting at which future international meetings were discussed.

The conference's superb social events offered an excellent opportunity for participants from various countries and divergent backgrounds to interact in a relaxed, social, as well as academic, environment. Participants were welcomed by government officials in Urbino's Great Hall on the first morning of the conference and were treated to a welcome cocktail and buffet that afternoon. Participants appreciated local biological and cultural attributes on conference excursions. Attendees enjoyed the Renaissance art and architecture of old town Urbino. Excursions went to Sasso Simone e Simonello Regional Park, the Furlo Gorge, the Regional Park of Conero, and the historic towns of Montefeltro. The highlight of the conference was a trip to the Republic of San Marino, including a visit to the historic Republic and an interesting raptor flight demonstration. Also, a few RRF board members and officers visited Parliament and were received by the Regent Captains of the Republic. The San Marino trip culminated with a social dinner hosted by the San Marino government, which included speeches from government officials and RRF President David Bird.



## RAPTORS AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

by Thomas E. Krueger, Jr.

The Raptors and Energy Development Symposium was held during RRF's Second International (Eurasian) Conference in Urbino, Italy. The symposium was organized and chaired by Mike Kochert, Pat Kennedy, and myself. Participants came from Australia, Canada, Italy, Russia, South Africa, Spain, and the United States to present current research and results on problems and solutions related to wind energy production and electrical energy distribution.

Peter Nelson opened the symposium and explained why a developing country's national energy company, ESKOM, is interested in protecting raptors. He stated that it makes economic sense: power outages cost money, and ESKOM must produce the least expensive energy possible to permit South Africa's development. Mel Kreithen presented a major overview on the research that Kenetech and a team of top scientists have carried out to understand and potentially mitigate the impact of wind energy on raptors, and made the case that only through experimental research will we understand and potentially mitigate impacts. Mike Kochert and Monte Garrett followed, presenting the new text by RRF and Edison Electric Institute on raptor electrocutions and experience in resolving issues in the United States. Joe Hess made an excellent presentation showing advanced work in Tasmania using GIS to identify problem structures and their connection to outages. Presentations by John Ledger, G. Verdoorn, and C. van Rooyen illustrated the long-term commitment to resolving conflicts in South Africa and new management solutions to employ.

On the second day, issues related to wind energy were discussed by workers from the United States. Richard Anderson, Judd Howell, and Mel Kreithen reviewed their work and that of their colleagues to help symposium participants better understand impacts and the birds and infrastructure involved.

At the end of the symposium, participants attended a dinner celebrating the close of the symposium and the coming together of new and old friends. On behalf of the other organizers, I would like to thank the Edison Electric Institute, the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Biological Service; the Colorado State University; the Tasmanian HydroElectric Comm.; ESKOM; the California Energy Comm.; PacifiCorp; the Italian Raptor Association; and others, as well as the local organizers, for making the symposium a success.

### ITALIAN RAPTOR ASSOCIATION OFFERS TRAINING

The Italian Raptor Association (AIR), together with the City of Bassano del Grappa, the Province of Vincenza, and the Veneto Region, is offering a seven-day, basic course on raptors and their management. The course, to be held in Bassano del Grappa during May 1997, will be taught in English and Italian with translations as needed. Space is limited, and there is a small fee. Two grants are available for students from southeastern European countries who wish to participate. Those interested in participating are asked to submit a letter of application and a short CV. For more information or to submit an application, contact: Thomas Krueger, AIR, Via Eulambio 14/A, 34072 Gradisca d'Isonzo, Gorizia, Italy, phone: 39-481-960918, fax: 39-481-99876, e-mail: [tekruieger@quark.it](mailto:tekruieger@quark.it).

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO RRF MEMBERS

by David M. Bird, President &  
Michael N. Kochert, President-Elect and Chair, Conferences Committee

With the success of the Urbino conference leading to the desire of others to host similar meetings in the future, as well as the impending "year of the mega-conference" looming for 1998, we feel it necessary to bring you up to date on upcoming conferences that may be of interest to RRF members.

**1997:** The stage is set for a return to a more family, homespun atmosphere as RRF prepares to meet in the beautiful city of Savannah, Georgia on the last weekend of October. Steve Hein, Brian Millsap, and others are working hard to ensure that this conference is a huge success.

**1998:** This will undoubtedly be a special year for RRF as far as conferences go. There are three venues in which RRF members can participate. First and foremost, Carl Marti is organizing our annual meeting to be held in Ogden, Utah from September 30 to October 4, to coincide with the great hawk migrations through that region. Second, RRF is now a full-fledged member of the Ornithological Societies of North America (OSNA) and as such, is fully participating in the organization of a "mega-meeting" called the North American Ornithological Conference to be hosted by all six OSNA societies in St. Louis, Missouri on April 6-11. Besides sharing fully in the profits and expenses of this meeting, a special RRF symposium on raptor dispersal is being organized by Petra Bohall Wood. *Please note that this will not be our annual meeting and that there will be no RRF board meeting there.* Depending on interest, we may hold an informal gathering of RRF members. Third, the World Working Group on Birds of Prey (WWGBP), presided over by Dr. Bernd-Ulrich Meyburg, is organizing the Fifth World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls on August 4-11 in Midrand (Johannesburg), South Africa. As part of that meeting, Greg Septon and David Bird are organizing a special RRF symposium on raptors living in urban environments (for details on both the conference and the symposium, see announcements elsewhere in this issue). This conference promises to be a very special one, and we urge you to attend. As an added incentive, the XII International Ornithological Congress is being held from August 19-22 in Durban, South Africa. The idea is that you attend both conferences and take time out between them to take in some of Africa's breathtaking countryside and wildlife.

**1999:** Ricardo Rodriguez Estrella has formally accepted to organize our annual meeting in La Paz, Baja California. Although no specific date has yet been established, it will be held in October or early November. The Cooper Ornithological Society held a meeting there a few years ago, and everyone agreed that it was a most impressive meeting venue and a well-organized conference. Second, while nothing has been formally decided, it is worth noting that a group in the Czech Republic has shown much interest in holding RRF's third European meeting in their country during 1999. This would be a most interesting venue for a conference, and we wish them the best of success in their ongoing negotiations.

**2000:** At the Urbino RRF meeting, it was agreed that RRF and WWGBP will hold a joint meeting in Eilat, Israel in this very special year. There are no further details at this point. Having attended a WWGBP meeting previously in Eilat and knowing the energy levels of our Israeli friends, we are certain that this will be a wonderful venue for a conference.



## CALLS FOR PAPERS

### HAWK MIGRATION ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA CONFERENCE VIII: RAPTORS AND THE WEST

June 12-15, 1997, Snowbird, Utah

HawkWatch International will host HMANA's Conference VIII: Raptors and the West on June 12-15, 1997 in Snowbird, Utah. Symposia are planned for the following topics: "The Swainson's Hawk: Migration, Study, and Conservation Concerns;" "Migration Through Veracruz, Mexico;" and "Western Research Sites: Synthesis of Trends and Current Reviews." Other conference themes are: migration site reports; sensitive species reports/trends, habitat, and conservation issues; cutting edge research techniques: satellite and radar monitoring; educational outreach at migration sites; raptors and pesticides in the 90's; evaluating bias in migration counts; and overview of raptor trapping and banding results. The Program Committee welcomes any additional topic ideas and invites you to submit an abstract for a paper or poster. Topics should fall somewhere within the realm of the conference or HMANA theme. Please send an abstract or summary of your presentation to: **HawkWatch International, Program Committee, P.O. Box 660, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.** Deadline for proposals is **April 10, 1997.**

### RAPTOR DISPERSAL SYMPOSIUM NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

April 6-12, 1998, St. Louis, Missouri

The Raptor Research Foundation is organizing a symposium on raptor dispersal patterns and mechanisms for the North American Ornithological Conference that will be held in St. Louis, Missouri on April 6-12, 1998. We are seeking potential speakers for this symposium. If you are interested in participating or would like further information, please contact: **Petra Wood, West Virginia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, USGS/BRD, P.O. Box 6125, West Virginia University, Morgantown WV 26506-6125, phone: 304-293-3794 x2433, e-mail: pbwood@wvnmvnet.edu.**

### URBAN RAPTORS SYMPOSIUM FIFTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON BIRDS OF PREY AND OWLS

August 4-11, 1998, Midrand (Johannesburg), South Africa

We are seeking participants for a symposium focusing on the theme of raptors living in urban environments at the Fifth World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls. Presenters will be expected to hand in a manuscript prior to the conference. If you are interested, please contact either: **David M. Bird, Avian Science and Conservation Centre, McGill University, 21,111 Lakeshore Road, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3V9, Canada, phone: 514-398-7760, fax: 514-398-7990, e-mail: bird@nrs.mcgill.ca** or **Greg Septon, Wisconsin Peregrine Society, P.O. Box 1148, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1148, phone: 414-278-6132, fax: 414-278-6100, e-mail: septon@mpm.edu.**

## **RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION AWARDS 1997 GUIDELINES**

by Petra Bohall Wood, Chair, Awards Committee

### **DEAN AMADON GRANT**

This grant of \$200-\$400 is given for work on distribution and systematics (taxonomy) of raptors. If you are working on ecology, it is probably not appropriate. To apply, send a letter indicating how your project fits into the area of distribution and/or systematics, and also an abstract of the specific work you are doing. Frequently, students involved in thesis work are interested in the grant; an outline of the thesis is appropriate to submit.

To apply, or obtain more information, contact: Dr. Clayton White, Department of Zoology, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602, phone: 801-378-3860, e-mail: WHITEM@ACD1.BYU.EDU. *Application deadline: 15 August 1997.*

### **STEPHEN R. TULLY MEMORIAL GRANT**

This grant of \$500 is given to support research, management, and conservation of raptors, especially to students and amateurs with limited access to alternative funding. Agency proposals are discouraged. The award is given in memory of Steve Tully, a young raptor biologist, who lost his life in an automobile accident in 1978. To apply, send a proposal (no more than 5 pages) outlining your background, the study goals and methods, your anticipated budget, and a list of other funding sources, both requested and received.

To apply, or obtain more information, contact: Dr. Kim Titus, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation, P.O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, e-mail: kimt@fishgame.state.ak.us. *Application deadline: 15 August 1997.*

### **LESLIE BROWN MEMORIAL GRANT**

The Leslie Brown Memorial Grant is given in memory of one of the most inspired and productive biologists of recent decades. RRF provides a grant of up to \$1000 to support research and/or dissemination of information on raptors. Proposals concerning African raptors will receive highest priority among proposals of otherwise equal merit. Applicants must send a resume, specific study objectives, an account of how funds will be spent, and a statement indicating how the proposed work would relate to other work by the applicant and to other sources of funds.

To apply, or obtain more information, contact: Dr. Jeffrey L. Lincer, Sweetwater Environmental Biologists, Inc., 3838 Camino del Rio N, Suite 271, San Diego, CA 92108. *Application deadline: 15 August 1997.*

### **WILLIAM C. ANDERSEN AWARD**

This award is given to both the best student oral and poster presentation at the annual RRF meeting. The winner in each category will receive a plaque and a 1-year free membership to RRF. If less than 5 posters

are in contention, there will be no separate poster award given. Information on how to prepare and give a scientific presentation and criteria used to judge the presentations are available from the committee chair. Award recipients will be announced at the banquet on Saturday evening. The student must indicate on the meeting abstract form that they are competing for the student paper award. The paper cannot be part of an organized symposium to be considered. Student paper sessions will be scheduled early in the meeting in most cases.

To obtain more information, contact: Laurie Goodrich, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, 1700 Hawk Mountain Road, Kempton, PA 19529, phone: 610-756-6961, e-mail: [goodrich@hawkmountain.org](mailto:goodrich@hawkmountain.org). *Application deadline: due date for abstract form, no special application needed.*

### **JAMES R. KOPLIN TRAVEL AWARD**

The travel award is given to a student who is a member of RRF and who is the senior author of a paper or poster to be presented at the meeting for which travel funds are requested. The award has been increased this year to \$200. Application materials include: 1) copy of conference paper abstract, 2) itemized budget of costs associated with attending the meeting and an explanation of how the expenses not covered by this award will be met; and 3) a letter of recommendation, preferably by the student's major professor, evaluating the applicant's academic abilities, the significance of the research being reported, the student's contribution to this research, and the potential for future contributions by the student to the field of raptor biology.

To apply, or obtain more information, contact: Patricia Hall, 436 David Drive E, Flagstaff, AZ 86001, phone: 520-774-0041. *Application deadline: 15 July 1997.*

### **FRAN AND FREDERICK HAMERSTROM AWARD**

There are no restrictions to eligibility for this award, although active membership in the Raptor Research Foundation, Inc., is encouraged. To be considered for this award, candidates must be nominated by a member of the Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. Nominations should include: 1) name, title, and address of nominee; 2) name, title, and address of nominator; 3) names of 3 persons qualified to evaluate the nominee's scientific contribution to the study of raptor ecology and natural history; 4) a brief summary of the scientific contribution of the nominee; and 5) a complete list of publications authored by the nominee.

To submit a nomination, or obtain more information, contact: Dr. David E. Andersen, Chair, Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom Award Committee, Minnesota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Minnesota, 200 Hodson Hall, 1980 Folwell Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108, phone: 612-626-1222, fax: 612-625-5299, e-mail: [dea@fw.umn.edu](mailto:dea@fw.umn.edu) (preferred). *Application deadline: 15 August 1997.*

### **TOM CADE AWARD**

This award recognizes an individual who has made significant advances in the area of captive propagation and reintroduction of raptors.

For application guidelines, contact: Brian Walton, Predatory Bird Research Group, Long Marine Laboratory, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, phone: 408-459-2466. *Application deadline: 15 August 1997.*



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

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1997

June 12-15

**HAWK MIGRATION ASSOCIATION OF  
NORTH AMERICA: CONFERENCE VIII  
"RAPTORS AND THE WEST"**

**Snowbird, Utah**

*Contact:* HawkWatch International, Program Committee, P.O. Box 660, Salt Lake City, UT 84110, phone: 801-524-8511, fax: 801-524-8520.

October 30 - November 1

**RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

**Savannah, Georgia**

*Contact:* Steve Hein, Center for Wildlife Education, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA 30460, phone: 912-681-0831, fax: 912-871-1779.

1998

April 6-11

**NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL  
CONFERENCE**

**St. Louis, Missouri**

*Contact:* Bette Loiselle or John Blake, Department of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121-4499, phone: 314-516-6224; fax: 314-516-6233, e-mail: loiselle@jinx.umsf.edu.

August 4-11

**FIFTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON BIRDS  
OF PREY AND OWLS**

**Midrand (Johannesburg), South Africa**

*Contact:* Gerhard Verdoorn; EWT Raptor Conservation Fund; Vulture Study Group, Raptor Conservation Group, Poison Working Group; P.O. Box 72155; Parkview 2122; South Africa; phone: 27-11-646-4629, 27-11-646-8617, or 27-82-446-8946 (mobile); fax: 27-11-646-4631; e-mail: neshier@global.co.za; or Robin Chancellor, e-mail: WWGBP@aol.com.

September 30 - October 4

**RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

**Ogden, Utah**

*Contact:* Carl Marti, Department of Zoology, Weber State University, Ogden, UT 84408-2505, phone: 801-626-6172, fax: 801-626-7445, e-mail: cmarti@weber.edu.

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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**FIELD ASSISTANTS** are needed to work on *calidus* peregrines in Siberia, Saker Falcons in Mongolia, and Lugger Falcons in Pakistan. Successful applicants will receive training in the UK prior to fieldwork. For further details, please contact: **Helen Macdonald, The Falcon Facility, Penllyn Farm, College Road, Carmarthen, Dyfed SA33 5EH, Wales, UK, phone/fax: 44-1267-233864, e-mail: narc@celtic.co.uk.**

**WORKING INTERNS** are required, based at our farms in the UK. You will be working alongside our professional staff, breeding, hacking and training large falcons. While we also have some conservation and research elements, these posts are primarily for practical skills. You must be 19 or over, speak English, and be available for a minimum of two months between April and October 1997. Please send a c.v., photo, and the names of two references to: **Helen Macdonald, The Falcon Facility, Penllyn Farm, College Road, Carmarthen, Dyfed SA33 5EH, Wales, UK, phone/fax: 44-1267-233864, e-mail: narc@celtic.co.uk.**

**RAPTOR BIOLOGIST** H.T. Harvey and Associates, an ecological consulting firm based in northern California, is seeking a raptor biologist. Projects include impact assessments, relocations, and surveys. Desirable qualifications include a Ph.D. (applicants with an M.S./M.A. and experience will be considered), Burrowing Owl experience, CEQA and NEPA experience,

demonstrated communications skills, and excellent writing capabilities. H.T. Harvey and Associates maintains a basic research program through granting agencies such as NSF in addition to applied research associated with consulting. To apply, send a full CV to: **H.T. Harvey and Associates, P.O. Box 1180, Alviso, CA 95002, fax: 408-263-3823, e-mail: htharvey@worldnet.att.net.**

## POSITIONS SOUGHT

**RAPTOR/GENERAL AVIAN ECOLOGIST** seeks consulting work to conduct data analyses and write scientific papers or reports. Are your raptor field data gathering dust on the shelves or filed away electronically somewhere? Why not contract out your data analyses and writing to an experienced research ecologist? Co-authorship is graciously accepted, and rates are negotiable. Contact: **Dr. David A. Kirk, Aquila Applied Ecologists, C.P. 47 Wakefield, Quebec, Canada, J0X 3G0, phone: 819-459-2983.**

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

**"BOOKS ON HAWKS AND OWLS: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY"** With certain exceptions, this new annotated bibliography by Richard R. Olendorff, Dean Amadon, and Saul Frank includes all books on hawks (Falconiformes) and owls published through the early 1990s. Over 600 books and monographs are noted in the 89-page bibliography as well as proceedings of major conferences and symposia. The color frontispiece is a painting of a Harpy Eagle by Louis Agassiz Fierstein. The bibliography may be purchased for \$10 from: **Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, CA 93012, phone: 805-388-9944, fax: 805-388-8663, e-mail: wfvz@aol.com.**

**"OWLS OF OLD FORESTS OF THE WORLD"** To better understand the broader

context of conservation strategies developed for the Northern Spotted Owl in the Pacific Northwest, Dr. Bruce G. Marcot has prepared this review of the status and management of owls associated with old, closed-canopy, or undisturbed temperate and tropical forests throughout the world. Dr. Marcot's review covers 83 species of owls known or suspected to be closely associated with old forests, relating these species to major old forest types (illustrated with black and white photographs). The review is woven around a conservation theme, concluding with a discussion of the importance of forest owls to human cultures. An appendix on *Strix* vocalizations is included. Copies of this report may be obtained at no cost from: **U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, 333 1st Avenue SW, Portland, OR 97208-3890.**

**"A PASSAGE TO SURVIVAL: THE HISTORY OF THE PEREGRINE FALCON IN WISCONSIN"** This new, 30-minute video presentation describes the history of the endangered Peregrine Falcon and shows what steps are being taken by the Wisconsin Peregrine Society and other organizations to restore the peregrine to its rightful place in Wisconsin's skies. This video was produced by Mooney Productions for Wisconsin Energy Corp. in cooperation with the Wisconsin Peregrine Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum. Copies of the video are available for a \$10 donation to the **Wisconsin Peregrine Society, P.O. Box 1148, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1148.**

**"VULTURE NEWS,"** the journal of the Vulture Study Group (VSG), is the only scientific journal devoted entirely to vultures. It aims to bring together the latest on research, conservation, and all other matters concerning vultures on a world-wide basis. Since its inception in 1979, 33 issues have been published. As well as full-length articles, reports, and newsworthy items, the journal provides regular reviews of recent literature and abstracts from conference proceedings. VSG, a working group of the Endangered Wildlife Trust, is an international non-profit organization devoted to vulture research, conservation, and education. Founded

in 1973, VSG is made up of people from all walks of life who have an interest in vultures. It provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, information, and techniques. *Vulture News* is published bi-annually (March & September); the subscription price per annum is \$US 30 (world-wide). The subscription fee includes membership in VSG; the regular newsletter, *Gyps Snips*; and opportunity to participate in VSG's conservation activities. Orders for current subscriptions and back issues should be sent to: **Vulture Study Group, P.O. Box 72334, Parkview 2122, South Africa**. Contributions to *Vulture News* are invited and should be sent to: **The Editor, Mark Anderson, Private Bag X6102, Kimberly 8300, South Africa**.

### NEWS OF MEMBERS

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**Reuven Yosef** has a new e-mail address: ryosef@BGUMAIL.BGU.AC.IL.

### REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

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**'97 MEETING SILENT AUCTION** Many more items are needed for the silent auction that will take place at RRF's 1997 annual meeting in Savannah. David Bird's appeal in the September 1996 *Wingspan* produced a donation response from only two members (thank you Renee and Marilyn). Thanks also to those vendors from the Boise meeting that have already donated. So, dig into your shelves, closets, and drawers for those raptor collectibles, books, prints, or what have you. It is a good time to "download." Some other member will love to bid on the "stuff" you have collected, read, or enjoyed over the years. Artisans, make what you will! Please notify if you will bring it with you or send it: **Ed Henckel, 1752 Robinhood Road, Mount Bethel, PA 18343, phone: 717-897-6863, e-mail: ednjudy@epix.net**.

**BIRDS IN FORESTED LANDSCAPES** Join the Birds in Forested Landscapes project, a new

citizen science project that is a cooperative effort between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Partners in Flight. Birds in Forested Landscapes will link land managers and volunteer birders with professional biologists in a study of the habitat requirements of North American forest birds. The project will focus on the Cooper's and Sharp-shinned hawks, and seven species of forest thrushes. These species are common in some geographic areas, but declining in others. Research results from Birds in Forested Landscapes will be used to develop management recommendations, and descriptions of the kinds and amounts of habitat required to sustain healthy bird populations. The recommendations will become part of the North American Bird Conservation Plan (BCP). By participating in the Birds in Forested Landscapes project, you will be helping to gather information that is vital for developing the BCP. This project is an excellent opportunity for students, and professional and non-professional ornithological organizations to become involved in scientific data collection and on-the-ground conservation efforts.

Your data will be combined with information collected by citizen-scientists all over the continent. Lab of Ornithology scientists will analyze the data, then share the findings with you, the scientific community, and developers of the BCP. Participants receive a packet with complete instructions, reference materials, data forms, tapes or CDs for censusing, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology newsletter, *Birdscope*, covering results from Birds in Forested Landscapes as well as the Lab's other citizen science projects. For more information on the Birds in Forested Landscapes project or to sign up, please call 607-254-2440 or send e-mail to **forest\_birds@cornell.edu**.

### BIRDS OF PREY AND FARM RESERVOIRS

In southern Africa, birds of prey often drown in circular farm reservoirs, resulting in a significant impact on the population. In the arid western areas (Kalahari Desert, in particular), it appears as if drownings may be more "important" than any other "unnatural" mortality factor (such as powerline electrocutions and direct persecution). A few theories have been proposed to explain why



birds of prey drown in reservoirs: (1) When perched on the wall to drink, a bird of prey may accidentally slip into the reservoir. A bird of prey with waterlogged plumage has little chance of getting out, especially if the dam is not full. (2) They may not be able to judge the depth of the water and therefore attempt to stand in the reservoir. This theory is supported by the many observations of birds of prey standing in the shallow water of rivers and dams while drinking and bathing. (3) Birds of prey, and particularly vultures, which have consumed poison, such as strychnine (which apparently induces thirst), may plunge into the nearest water in an attempt to slake their thirst, and a drowning bird may attract others in what may appear to them to be a feeding melee. None of these theories has ever been substantiated, and the reason for the mass drowning of vultures, in particular, remains a mystery. Recent incidents include the mass drowning of 16 Whitebacked Vultures near Vryburg (North West Province, South Africa), 46 Whitebacked Vultures near Vanzylsrus (Northern Cape Province, South Africa), and nine Whitebacked Vultures and one Lappetfaced Vulture in the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park (South Africa).

The reservoir drowning problem can be solved, to some extent, by installing a structure in the reservoir onto which the drowning bird can grasp and lift itself out of the water. This is presently being advocated during farmer extension programmes in the Northern Cape Province. However, until the problem is adequately understood, definite recommendations cannot be made. In order to determine the extent of the problem, the species usually involved, and possible reasons for drownings, I would be grateful to receive details about incidents of mortality in your area. The information I require for each drowning is: (1) location, (2) date, (3) species involved, (4) number of individuals, (5) age and sex of bird(s), (6) type of reservoir, (7) amount of water in the reservoir, (8) suggested reasons for drowning, and (9) any other information you can supply. I would also appreciate receiving copies of published accounts on this subject: **Mr. Mark D. Anderson, Ornithologist, Northern Cape Nature**

**Conservation Service, Private Bag X6102, Kimberly, 8300, Northern Cape Province, South Africa.**

**ENTERTAINING SLIDES SOUGHT FOR SAVANNAH MEETING** Based on feedback I've received, everyone seemed to enjoy my brief narrated slide shows at the Duluth and Flagstaff RRF meetings. Because of the joint meeting with AOU, I did not do a show in Boise. However, I intend to get back on track in Savannah! While I do have plenty of my own, I am seeking slides of humorous situations involving birds of prey and the people who study them. I will return all slides to donors. Please send them to me at the address below before October 1, 1997. Depending on the response, I may have to be selective. Many thanks to those of you who sent me slides in anticipation of a show in Boise; I will save your contributions for Savannah. **David M. Bird, McGill University, 21,111 Lakeshore Road, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec H9X 3V9, Canada.**

### ASSISTANCE OFFERED

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES** Dr. J. Shergalin and colleagues provide a variety of bibliographic services related to raptors and other birds in the countries that comprised the former Soviet Union: translations from Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, and Russian to English; species bibliographies (references from 1886-1996); literature reviews; and copies of articles from regional journals. Fees are charged, but proceeds are dedicated to the study and conservation of rare birds. For more information, contact: **Dr. J. Shergalin, Soprupe pst. 175-58, Talinn, EE0034 Estonia, phone: 3725-230107, fax: 3722-453956.**

### FOR SALE

**FIELD EQUIPMENT** including biotelemetry gear (ATS scanning receivers, etc.), optics, Klepper kayaks, more. Contact through e-mail: **wgmattox@aol.com.**

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## RECENT THESES ON RAPTORS

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(Editor's note: Starting with this issue, *Wingspan* will publish abstracts of recent theses on raptors. This function has been transferred to *Wingspan* from *The Journal of Raptor Research*.)

**McLeod, M. A. 1996. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK HABITAT USE AND RESPONSE TO CALL-PLAYBACK SURVEYS IN NORTH-CENTRAL MINNESOTA. M.S. Thesis, Univ. Minnesota, St. Paul. 78pp.**

Call-playback surveys were conducted on repeated road transects and transects at active red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) nests in north-central Minnesota to determine the effects of type of call (conspecific or great-horned owl [*Bubo virginianus*]), time of day, and stage of the breeding cycle on red-shoulder response behavior and to evaluate the usefulness of call-playbacks as a population monitoring tool using area occupied/probability of detection techniques. During the breeding seasons of 1994 and 1995, four 10-station road transects were surveyed a total of 59 times and 79 surveys were conducted at 23 active nests. Red-shouldered hawks responded more often and more quickly to conspecific calls than to owl calls, and response rates to conspecific calls were higher pre-hatch than post-hatch. Response rates to both calls were lowest in the middle of the day. Probability of detection using conspecific calls average approximately 0.35 and area occupied was around 75%, suggesting call-playbacks may serve as a monitoring tool for red-shoulders in northern Minnesota. Computer simulations are needed to determine the power of this technique in detecting population trends and to evaluate the effects of differing levels of survey effort.

Habitat characteristics were measured at 20 red-shouldered hawk nest sites and paired random points in northern hardwood stands in the Chippewa National Forest in north-central Minnesota during 1994 and 1995. The nest site was defined as the 0.04 ha circle centered on the nest tree, and random sites were located 75 - 200 m from the nest and centered on a tree  $\geq 23$  cm dbh. Compared to random sites, nest sites had larger plot center trees, taller plot center trees, and taller canopy (paired *t*-tests,  $p < 0.05$ ). Nest sites where incubation took place had higher basal area, taller canopy, and a higher percentage of trees  $> 37.9$  cm dbh (Student's *t*-test,  $p < 0.05$ ) than nests where the breeding attempt did not reach incubation. Habitat characteristics that were important in distinguishing nest sites from random points in logistic regression models indicate that within a hardwood stand, red-shoulder nest site selection was strongly influenced by the presence of a large tree in which to place the nest.

**Smith, G. A. 1996. MORPHOLOGY AND HABITAT USE OF WINTERING AMERICAN KESTRELS (*FALCO SPARVERIUS*) IN EAST MISSISSIPPI. M.S. Thesis, Mississippi State Univ., Mississippi State. 50pp.**

The relationship between body size and habitat use was tested for male and female American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) wintering in east Mississippi. Females were significantly larger than males, averaging 5% longer in wing and tail length and 11% heavier. The sexes differed significantly with respect to habitat use. Females were more likely to be found in areas dominated by open pastures and short grasses, whereas males were commonly found in areas of taller grasses, often with trees and scrub.

Using discriminant function analysis, four habitat occupancy categories were created based on a "typical" male and a "typical" female habitat. Individuals were assigned to one of the four categories and body size measurements were compared among groups. There were no significant differences in body size between individuals occurring on typical male and typical female habitats. Data suggest that body size is not associated with habitat segregation of wintering kestrels.

**Urbanovitch, V. F. 1995. ECOLOGY OF WESTERN MARSH HARRIER (*CIRCUS AERUGINOSUS*, L.) IN FIRSHFARM VOLMA, MINSK REGION. M.S. Thesis, Grodno State Univ., Grodno, Belarus. 60pp. (abstract not available)**

Vintchevski, D. E. 1995. DIET OF MONTAGU'S HARRIER (*CIRCUS PYGARGUS*, L.) IN GRODNO DISTRICT. M.S. Thesis, Grodno State Univ., Grodno, Belarus. 70pp. (abstract not available)

Warnock, R. G. 1996. SPATIAL, TEMPORAL AND TURNOVER DYNAMICS OF BURROWING OWL (*SPEOTYTO CUNICULARIA*) DISTRIBUTION IN THE EXTENSIVELY FRAGMENTED GRASSLANDS OF SASKATCHEWAN. M.S. Thesis, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan. 122pp. (This thesis was supported, in part, by the 1994 Stephen R. Tully Memorial Grant.)

The relationships between landscape (125,664 ha circular plots) fragmentation patterns and the spatial and temporal distribution and turnover of nest sites were examined to test the hypothesis that the Saskatchewan Burrowing Owls (*Speotyto cunicularia*) were negatively affected by habitat fragmentation. Data were collected from 152 Burrowing Owl sites and 250 random sites located on 1990 LANDSAT-TM satellite images and 1:250,000 scale topographic maps. The habitat continuity, patch dimensions and isolation of sites were characterized by 15 variables. Univariate and multivariate statistics were applied.

A two-component principal components analysis explained 59 percent of the variance in habitat pattern of 152 owl sites. Habitat patterns differed significantly between the core and peripheral Burrowing Owl range. Patch dimensions and the habitat extent and continuity were more important than isolation in describing differences between owl and random sites in the core, unlike the periphery. Owl site availability appeared to be lower in the periphery than in the core. Burrowing Owl spatial distribution appeared to be influenced more by habitat quality and nearness to other owl sites than by habitat continuity.

Landscape fragmentation patterns appeared to influence the distribution of persistent (owls present for  $\geq 4$  years) and non-persistent (owls present for  $< 4$  years) owl sites in the landscape. Core and peripheral owl site persistence increased with habitat continuity. Larger numbers of nearby owl sites and less patch edge also increased peripheral owl site persistence. Patch size indirectly affected owl site persistence.

Patch isolation increased repeated site use by Burrowing Owls. Selected fragmentation indices were correlated with the extirpation, colonization and occupancy of sites. Core owl sites often had greater colonization and occupancy rates and lower extirpation rates than peripheral owl sites. Extirpation rates increased and occupancy rates decreased significantly since 1987. The remaining Burrowing Owl habitat appeared to be inadequate for population persistence in Saskatchewan. Burrowing Owls should benefit from management actions that reduce effects of landscape fragmentation. Additional research needs were identified through the study's limitations.

Yasievitch, A. M. 1995. NESTING OF MONTAGU'S HARRIER (*CIRCUS PYGARGUS*, L.) IN GRODNO DISTRICT. M.S. Thesis, Grodno State Univ., Grodno, Belarus. 66pp. (abstract not available)

### WINGSPAN CONTRIBUTIONS

The Raptor Research Foundation wishes to thank the following people who contributed material to this issue of *Wingspan*: Dean Amadon, Mark Anderson, David Bird, John Cardis, Richard Clark, Noel Cutright, Pat Hall, Ed Henckel, David Kirk, Mike Kochert, Thomas Krueger, Helen Macdonald, Carl Marti, Bill Mattox, Mary Anne McLeod, the Raptor Research and Technical Assistance Center, Ron Rohrbaugh, Greg Smith, Jennifer Speers, Gerhard Verdoorn, Alex Vintchevski, Robert Warnock, Petra Bohall Wood, and Reuven Yosef.

*Wingspan* welcomes contributions from RRF members and others interested in raptor biology and management. Articles and announcements should be sent, faxed, or e-mailed to: Leonard Young, Editor, 5010 Sunset Drive NW, Olympia, WA 98502-1576 USA (phone/fax: 360-866-8039; e-mail: wingspan@msn.com). The deadline for the next issue is August 8, 1997.



## KETTLE UPDATES & CORRECTIONS

by Richard J. Clark, *Kettle* Editor

Following are some updates and corrections to information published in the March 1996 *Kettle*. Each takes the form of a completely new listing and is referenced to the *Kettle* section and page in which the old/incorrect information appears.

### *Publications Editors*

p. 12:

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Farus: Beha/Breed/Cons/Edu/  
Ecol/Migr

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*Listing of Raptor Organizations*

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**SANTA CRUZ PREDATORY  
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**WESTERN FOUNDATION OF  
VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY**

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the Urbino conference was highly successful; **Mike Kochert**, **Karen Steenhof**, **Terry Rich**, **Marc Bechard**, **Pat and Bill Burnham**, **Lloyd Kiff** and many others too numerous to mention for putting on a terrific joint conference with the AOU in Boise; **Steve Hein** for organizing our 1997 conference in Savannah (and **Brian Millsap** for helping him); **Carl Marti** for agreeing to organize our annual meeting for 1998 in Ogden, Utah; **Ed and Judith Henckel** for showing so much interest in RRF over many years and currently creating patches for RRF and organizing a silent auction for Savannah to raise funds; **Jemima Parry-Jones** for her high level of enthusiasm for RRF and just getting the job done, i.e., a brilliant RRF poster (also thanks to **Mike McGrady** here) and a sharp-looking lapel pin; **Pat Kennedy** for helping with the Urbino power symposium and developing job descriptions for RRF directors and officers; **Brian Millsap** for his professional skills in helping to restructure the RRF board and examine RRF's position on the delisting of the peregrine falcon (and those who served with him on those committees); **Dick Clark** for getting the *Kettle* out, organizing Project International Colleague and for plain caring so much about RRF when it would be easy to bow out and say that he has done his share; board members **John Smallwood**, **Robert Rosenfield**, **Mike McGrady**, **Pat Kennedy**, **Gordon Court**, **Karen Steenhof** and **Petra Bohall Wood** for quickly responding to voting issues and for their good advice (and especially Karen for keeping Mike Kochert and me honest by often looking at issues from a different but nevertheless important perspective); outgoing board members **Keith Bildstein**, **Jemima Parry-Jones** and **Katherine McKeever** for their years of service; board members **Cesar Marquez**, **Isabel Bellocq** and **Fabian Jaksic** for ensuring that Latin America is not forgotten by RRF; incoming directors **Lloyd Kiff**, **Jim Bednarz** and **Massimo Pandolfi** for successfully getting on the board; **David Andersen** for successfully running for vice-president; **Robert Kenward** for his efforts on various RRF position statements and caring so much about the welfare of the organization; **Keith Bildstein** for his constant encouragement and sound advice when I need it most; past-president **Michael Collopy** for his clarity of thinking and no-nonsense approach to RRF issues and generally having made life easier for me in my presidential term; other past-presidents **Dick Clark**, **Jeff Lincer** and **Gary Duke** for their mentorship, and by no means least, **Butch Olendorff**, who is up there somewhere looking out for me.

David M. Bird



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