



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings!

As many times before, and as many times in the future, a President goes out and a new one comes in. Time flies, doesn't it? At the end of our annual conference in November, I will be passing the torch to Elizabeth (Libby) Mojica, our new President. If you have been following RRF activities over the past years, attending the annual meetings, or/and making frequent visits to our Facebook page or website (just a few examples of areas in which Libby has served our organization), you can be assured that she will perform exceptionally in this new position. For the past 8 years Libby has been fully committed to RRF, and has played a key role in keeping our organization running smoothly. Under her leadership, RRF will continue to attain success and achieve new goals. Please, join me in welcoming Libby as the next President of the Raptor Research Foundation.

The winds of change are certainly blowing in our direction. Having just launched the 2017 elections new Directors and Officers will soon be joining the Board; a very exciting time for our organization. With these changes will come the opportunity to blend the experiences of our most seasoned Board members with those of our newcomers – a combination that potentiates enthusiasm and energy that will in the end be reflected in the development of new proposals, ideas, actions and guaranteed growth of the RRF. So, as I leave my post, here is a plea to you all. It is essential that each and every member becomes involved in the process of selecting those who we believe will represent our membership well, and who will have the responsibility to lead us to realize the mission and goals of the RRF. The new Nominations Committee, chaired by Lloyd Kiff, has worked endless hours and now present us with an amazing slate of candidates. Regardless of the outcome of the election be assured that our organization will continue to be led by the best of the best. My thanks to the Nominating committee and all the candidates for fulfilling this important service.



As you probably know, this year we had a drop in membership, apparently for multiple reasons that still are undergoing analysis.

It is therefore our hope that we will, at the end of the day, fully understand the reasons and thereby prevent a repeat occurrence. The Directors and Officers, together with RRF OSNA representatives took several measures to recapture our lapsed members and encourage new ones to join us. Furthermore, a Membership Recruitment and Retention Plan that requires a combination of mid to long-term strategies, is currently being developed by the membership committee, and is a top priority for all of us.

Once of our *fortes* for sure, is our annual conference, and event we all look forward to attending to meet with friends and colleagues to once again share and learn scientific knowledge, discuss conservation challenges and the possibilities for raptor research. Thanks to the hard work of the Conference Planning committee, amazing programs are scheduled for the years to come. So be ready! In a few months, we will be gathering in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah. Our friends and local conference organizers from Hawkwatch International have prepared a remarkable program that will undoubtedly satisfy everyone! Utah is such a beautiful state, with multiple opportunities for you and your family to enjoy its vibrant natural landscapes and wildlife (raptors too, indeed). Utah is also the home of a long list of species of raptors, you can watch them in its five National Parks and more than 40 state parks. You really do not want to miss this meeting!

Increasing the presence of Raptor Researchers from all around the world is of utmost importance and a priority for RRF. Next year the conference will be held outside of North America in the Kruger National Park, South Africa. The local committee there has introduced that important event in this issue of *Wingspan*. I believe this meeting will be another important step forward to make our organization truly international.

The Conference Committee is already working on assuring the location back in the United States, in which our 2019 meeting will be held. Stay tuned, as once confirmed we will announce it in upcoming issues of *Wingspan* and OSNA newsletters. And if this is not enough good news, in 2020 we will once again be joined by the Neotropical Raptor Network and The Peregrine Fund at a meeting which will not only bring people from Latin America but also from around the world, as The Peregrine Fund will use this opportunity to celebrate its 50th anniversary. I look forward to seeing you at all these upcoming conferences.

When I started writing this, my final message as RRF President it was my intent to be short and concise. I always try, believe me. However, I would be remiss if I were to leave without expressing heartfelt thanks to everyone in this organization who very often work silently and hard to make things happen. I will not list specific names, because I will unintentionally miss someone. But I know and you know who you are and I thank you all. Present and past Officers, Directors, Treasurers, Editors, Committee members, RRF representatives, website and Facebook managers thank you very much for your selfless service to our foundation. I also appreciate the support, inspiration and the constructive criticisms you have all provided me over these 11 years as a Board member, and especially these two last years as President; and to you, dear RRF members, my deepest gratitude for allowing me to serve and more importantly, thank you for supporting this organization as you do.

I am very proud of having served this organization for 11 years. I think together we have accomplished many achievements in this time. I wish I could have done more and accomplish everything I wanted, particularly during my Presidency. I regret not always being successful. But after this year meeting I will not stop completely from being involved. As past President I will do my best to continue supporting the Board and working to accomplish RRF's mission and goals. The Strategic Plan will probably reach momentum as more time will be in my hands to work on it. I will also continue participating in two committees, Membership and Conference planning, and of course, will be attending each annual conference. I have made so many friends along this journey, and I sincerely hope seeing you all again year after year. So, this is why I as I want to finish this letter just saying *hasta la vista amigos!*



All the best,

Miguel D. Saggese
RRF President

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC
(Founded in 1966)

OFFICERS

President: Miguel Saggese	Secretary: Joan Morrison
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North America #2: James (JD) Dwyer	At Large #5: Torgeir Nygård
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EDITORS

Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Raptor Research*: Cheryl Dykstra
Editor, *Wingspan*: Brian Washburn
Website Coordinator: Libby Mojica

For more information about the Raptor Research Foundation, Inc. (founded in 1966), please visit the RRF website at: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/>.

Persons interested in birds of prey are invited to join the Raptor Research Foundation (RRF). *Wingspan* is emailed twice each year to all members of RRF and is available on the RRF website. Members also receive *The Journal of Raptor Research* (ISSN 0892-1016), which is published quarterly. For membership and subscription information, please contact: **Ornithological Societies of North America**, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60546, USA; 1-312-883-4670 (phone); OSNAMembers@gmail.com (email); <http://www.osnabirds.org> (web).

Editor's Note – Thanks to the following contributors for this issue of the *Wingspan*: Karla Bloem, André Botha, J.D. Dwyer, Cheryl Dykstra, Erin Katzner, Lloyd Kiff, David Oleyar, Jemima Parry-Jones, Jeep Pagel, and Miguel Saggese.

Wingspan welcomes contributions from RRF members and others interested in raptor biology and management. Please submit contributions via email to Brian Washburn, *Wingspan* Editor, at rrfwingspan@gmail.com. For long contributions, please send as a MS Word attachment. If you are submitting photos, please include them within the MS Word document with a caption and photo credit.

All issues of *Wingspan* and content guidelines are available at: <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/publications/wingspan-newsletter/online-newsletters-pdfs>

“Hatchlings and Fledglings”

**RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION
2017 ANNUAL ELECTIONS**
Submitted by Lloyd Kiff (Nomination Committee Chair)

RRF Board of Directors

RRF Directors are elected by the RRF membership, each for a 3-year term. Director responsibilities include attendance at and participation in face-to-face and electronic meetings. Directors represent

the Foundation in all matters of decision-making and assisting RRF in pursuing its mission. Directors propose new initiatives and provide guidance to officers and committee chairs on Foundation activities. Directors of each geographic region are primarily available and responsive to RRF members throughout those regions, bringing any related issues to Board meetings.

Final Slate of 2017 RRF Board Candidates

✦ *North American Director #3 (1 position):*

Marcel Gahbauer (Canada)
Sofi Hindmarch (Canada)
Todd Katzner (USA)
Brian Washburn (incumbent) (USA)

✦ *Director-at-Large #3 and #6 (2 positions):*

Arjun Amar (South Africa)
Rob Bierregaard (incumbent) (USA)
Jennifer Coulson (incumbent) (USA)
Paula Enríquez (Mexico)
Bronwyn Isaac (Australia)
Tricia Miller (USA)
José Hernán Sarasola (Argentina)

✦ *Eurasian Director (1 position):*

Oliver Krone (Germany)
Allan Mee (Ireland)
Mátyás Prommer (Hungary)

Voting will occur from September 10 to October 16, 2017 by accessing this link:

<https://customer265664c9b.portal.membersuite.com/competitions/ViewCompetition.aspx?contextID=dd4aa278-00aa-c141-4d78-0b3cee8637d0>

Candidate biographies can be found by accessing this link:

<http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/about/elections/>

Upcoming Conferences



**RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION
2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**7-12 November 2017
Salt Lake City, Utah USA**

The Birds of all feathers, including an abundance of raptor species, converge for the fall and winter in the Salt Lake Valley of northern Utah where desert, mountains, urban, and inland sea systems offer a unique blend of habitats. The 2017 Raptor Research Foundation conference in Salt Lake City will add raptor scientists from around the world to this spectacular convergence, we hope you'll join in!

Plenary speakers include Dr. Jim Bednarz, (University of North Texas) and André Botha (Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa). The meeting will host symposia: Understudied, Open-land Raptor Species; Raptors and the Energy Sector; Raptors and Contaminants; and Using Raptor Science in Education.

Workshops on banding, road-trapping, harnessing, necropsy, climbing to access nests, and more are planned. For the first time these workshops are open to all RRF members.

An evening of music, killer Mexican food, and fun will take place at a beautiful location nestled just down the hill from Utah's Capitol building. Field trips to Farmington Bay, Snowville, UT and the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, Antelope Island State Park, and Alta Ski resort offer the chance to see the diverse landscapes in the area, and western North American raptor species such as Ferruginous Hawks and Prairie Falcons.



HawkWatch International, headquartered in Salt Lake, is the local host for the conference. Salt Lake City is a wonderful jumping off spot for pre- or post- conference adventures to southern Utah's many National Parks, multiple locations along the Wasatch Range, and more.

Conference Information may be found at:

<http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/current-conference>

To offer ideas, learn about sponsorship opportunities, be a vendor, or for other information please contact local chair Dave Oleyar (doleyar@hawkwatch.org).

10th ASIAN RAPTOR RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION NETWORK SYMPOSIUM

**18-22 October 2017
Davao City, Philippines**

The 10th Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network Symposium will be held on 18-22 October 2017 at Ateneo de Davao University, Roxas Avenue, Davao City, Philippines. Hosted by the Philippine Eagle Foundation in partnership with the Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network and co-organized by Ateneo de Davao University, City Government of Davao City, Department of Tourism Region 11, and the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines – Raptor Group.

Please check www.philippineaglefoundation.org for more information about the symposium. For inquiries and for those requiring official invitation, please send contact details like name of participant, designation, address and email to:
arrcn2017@philippineaglefoundation.org



RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**12-16 November 2018
Skukuza, Kruger National Park, South Africa**

The 2018 Raptor Research Foundation conference will for the first time be hosted in Africa at the *Nombulo Mdluli Conference Centre* which is located in the Skukuza rest camp of the world-famous Kruger National Park in South Africa. Apart from being home to the Big Five and a host of other iconic African mammal species, the park is also renowned for its diversity of bird species with more than 550 species having been recorded here. This includes 43 diurnal raptor, 8 vulture and 10 owl species, many of which occur here in substantial populations.



The Kruger National Park is one of the most accessible protected areas in Africa and boasts an extensive, well-developed network of tarmac and gravel roads which covers most of the vegetation types and facilitates self-drive trips. It also has an extensive range of accommodation options in more than 20 camps scattered throughout the 20,000km² of the park. In addition to accommodation and restaurants in most of the large camps, the park also offers a range of guided drives, including night-drivers as well as bush walks accompanied by an armed guide.

Several local and international operators are planning to arrange pre- and post-conference tours of the Kruger and other parts of southern Africa. Details of these will be made available on the conference website as they are finalized and bookings can be made.

Field trip destinations during the conference include a range of areas inside the Kruger as well as to interesting raptor sites elsewhere in the Lowveld and along the eastern escarpment where an additional range of raptor species that are not found in the Kruger can be observed.



The conference will be graciously co-hosted by the Endangered Wildlife Trust and BirdLife South Africa and all conference arrangements will be facilitated and managed by a professional conference organizing company, The Inside Edge.

Come and experience the magic that is Africa and its fantastic range of raptors in November 2018!

We look forward to hosting you.

André Botha
Manager – Special Projects,
Endangered Wildlife Trust
Co-chair – IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group



Information about the 2018 Conference can be found at:

<http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/conferences/kruger/>

**2020 Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation
and the Neotropical Raptor Network**

**4-8 October 2020
Boise, Idaho, USA**

Conference Hosts:

The Peregrine Fund, Boise State University, Intermountain Bird Observatory, Golden Eagle Audubon, USGS Idaho

Co-Chairs:

Sarah Schulwitz, Director of the American Kestrel Partnership, The Peregrine Fund Schulwitz.Sarah@peregrinefund.org and Rick Watson, President, The Peregrine Fund rwatson@peregrinefund.org

News from the RRF

**NEW: CONSERVATION LETTERS IN THE
*JOURNAL OF RAPTOR RESEARCH***

Submitted by James F. Dwyer
(Incoming Conservation Committee Chair)

The Raptor Research Foundation's (RRF) Conservation Committee is planning to begin producing summaries of the best available science on selected issues impacting raptor conservation. This will occur through publication of Conservation Letters in the Journal of Raptor Research (provided letters survive the normal peer review process). Each Conservation Letter will summarize a topic

of conservation concern, and conclude with how the best available science suggests that concern is likely to impact raptor populations if it continues as-is.

To write Conservation Letters, I need Committee Members to serve as co-authors with me on manuscripts. If you work on or know of an issue impacting raptor conservation, please email your concern to me (jdwyer@edmlink.com). If you are interested in co-authoring a Conservation Letter, or can suggest a candidate co-author, please also include that information. My vision is that Conservation Committee Members will include RRF members, RRF Early Career Raptor Researcher (ECRRs), non-U.S. researchers, RRF Board Members, and students, all rotating through the Conservation Committee as their expertise is needed on specific topics. Topics will be prioritized based on feedback from the RRF Board, and could include any aspect of raptor conservation.

So, all are welcome and topics are wide open! This is a great opportunity to expand your writing skills, work with a variety of international coauthors, and most importantly, contribute to raptor conservation.

Thank you!

New *In Memoriam* Editor for JRR

Submitted by Cheryl Dykstra and Jeep Pagel

The *Journal of Raptor Research* is pleased to announce that Joel (Jeep) Pagel has graciously agreed to serve as the *In Memoriam* Editor for JRR. Jeep will coordinate and edit the contributions honoring former members of JRR and other raptor researchers.

In Memoriam articles will be published *gratis*, with no page charges or fees if the final piece is kept to two published pages, including a single black-and-white photograph.

Basic guidelines for *In Memoriam* articles include:

- A) No more than two *In Memoriam* per quarterly edition of the *Journal of Raptor Research*.
- B) Be concise; we prefer *In Memoriam* articles to be no more than two printed pages with one high-quality black-and-white photograph (if applicable). Color photographs and longer articles are allowed, but authors must pay page charges and justify the additional length.
- C) Please keep articles professional, but also try to memorialize the lives of our colleagues in a way they might have appreciated.

- D) Articles may be written by more than one author (if desired).
- E) All *In Memoriam* articles must have written approval of the submitted draft by next of kin/family.

As a style guide, please see previously published *Journal of Raptor Research In Memoriam* for Brian Walton, Janet Linthicum, Sergej Postupalsky, Tom Machle, and Jim Enderson.

RRF has always been composed of colorful, diverse people who have amazing lives, careers, and accomplishments. We stand on the shoulders of many, many wonderful people who are not with us today, but who are remembered fondly. JRR hopes that *In Memoriam* articles will provide a venue to remember our colleagues, so future raptorophiles may read about those who have advanced and supported our vocation, and avocation.

Please contact Jeep (joel_pagel@fws.gov) with news of recent losses or to volunteer to write an *In Memoriam* piece for a colleague and/or friend who was a RRF member or contributor.

Raptor News

The Peregrine Fund Submitted by Erin Katzner

New book, *Applied Raptor Ecology: Essentials from Gyrfalcon Research* is now available for purchase



Faced with the urgent need to understand global conservation challenges, like climate change impacts on Arctic wildlife, biologists from around the world teamed up to create a manual of global standards in data collection and analysis for raptor ecology in a revolutionary new book, *Applied Raptor Ecology: Essentials from gyrfalcon research*. In the book, Gyrfalcons are the species chosen as a case study to illustrate raptor biology techniques, but the methods and questions can be applied to almost any raptor species around the world.

The book is essential reading and reference material for anyone studying raptors and other birds. *Applied Raptor Ecology* is a valuable addition to every biologist's bookshelf whether in the field for many years or just starting out as an entry-level graduate. Students will

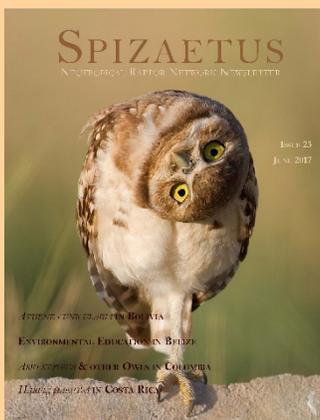
particularly benefit by learning which questions they should ask and how to design a study as well as other advantageous tools required in the development of thesis topics.

Additionally, included within the book are: a companion webpage that allows users to download all of the R code needed to perform analyses adaptable to individual research needs and questions, a photographic and morphometric guide to aging Gyrfalcon nestlings, and guidelines for conducting a camera study of nesting raptors.

This cooperative project was made possible by the generous support of the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund and is the product of editors Dr. David Anderson and Dr. Christopher McClure of The Peregrine Fund and Dr. Alastair Franke of the Arctic Raptors Project along with thirteen raptor ecology experts from around the globe who contributed chapters to the project.

To purchase a copy or download data and R code, go to peregrinefund.org/applied-raptor-ecology

Newest edition of *Spizaetus* the newsletter of the Neotropical Raptor Network (NRN) available now



The NRN is a project of The Peregrine Fund that works to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of people working with raptors in the Neotropics. Its goal is to aid the research and conservation of Neotropical raptors by promoting communication and collaboration among biologists, ornithologists, raptor enthusiasts, and other conservationists working in the Neotropics. In this latest issue, articles discuss recent scientific studies of Harpy Eagles and several species of owls as well as educational programming in Belize that is working to change the stigma of Barn Owls as the “Bird of Death, Evil and Misery.” You can read the entire newsletter at:

https://assets.peregrinefund.org/docs/newsletters/spizaetus-nrn-newsletter-23-2017-06-23_151118.pdf

Highlights from the 2017 Ridgway’s Hawk field season in the Dominican Republic

We saw an increase in the number of territorial pairs in Puntacana from 12 in 2016 to 16 in 2017 this season. Additionally nestlings fledged in Puntacana increased from 8 to 10 in the same time period. In Los Haitises National Park, nestlings fledged increased from 81 in 2016 to 102 in 2017. A total of 123 territorial pairs were found within the park. Of the young hatched in Los Haitises National Park, 25 were relocated to and released in Puntacana.

California Condor updates for the 2017 field season

We wrapped up the winter trapping and lead-testing season with 91% ($n = 69$) of the population successfully trapped. Eighty-seven percent ($n = 60$) of those trapped had lead levels indicative of lead exposure and 33% ($n = 23$) showed levels of extreme exposure. All but two of the twenty-three showing extreme exposure were successfully treated with chelation therapy and released back into the wild. The two condors we could not successfully treat had been severely lead-poisoned and died while undergoing treatment for advanced lead toxicosis.



During the breeding season, 12 pairs of condors demonstrated breeding behavior with nine eggs laid. Four chicks were confirmed and currently three are still being tended by their parents.

There are 14 condors from the captive breeding program that are slated for release this fall and, thanks to a grant from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, we have thirteen new GPS transmitters to deploy during the upcoming trapping season. The Phoenix Zoo has also provided the funding to refurbish two more transmitters bringing our total number of GPS units to 35.

The last official count of the current world population of California Condors is 446 and growing, with 276 of those in the wilds of California, Arizona, Utah, and Mexico. There are 74 condors in the Arizona/Utah population.

Madagascar designates Peregrine Fund site and four other large sites as Wetlands of International Importance

Madagascar has designated five large sites as Wetlands of International Importance including one of the sites The Peregrine Fund has worked with local communities to protect. The country now has 15 sites, which support the protection of over 1.5 million hectares of habitats critical to the island's unique biodiversity.

The site The Peregrine Fund has focused on is the Bemanevika wetland complex. This site is located in the Sofia Region of north-western Madagascar and is composed of fragments of dense mountainous tropical rainforest, grasslands, marshes and swamps, lakes, rivers and streams. The site hosts a complex of ecosystems and provides refuge habitat for the survival and reproduction of many endemic and endangered species. Bemanevika's lacustrine and swampy ecosystems maintain the water



regimes of the area and ensure the regulation of the microclimate. Species that depends on this site include the Madagascar Harrier, the Madagascar Red Owl, the endangered Madagascar Serpent Eagle, and the critically endangered Madagascar Pochard.

Read the entire announcement from Ramsar's press release:

<http://www.ramsar.org/news/madagascar-designates-five-ramsar-sites-on-world-wetlands-day>

Aplomado Falcon 2017 field season update

This year's surveys of nesting territories resulted in 39 territorial pairs found, which is 1 more pair than last year, and 32 were later confirmed as nesting. Breeding productivity was within normal range with 55 young produced this year. This result is consistent with a "growing population" predicted by the population-model built by our science team and led by Chris McClure. The findings support the conclusion that expanding suitable habitat is now the last remaining key to species recovery.



With this information, we have focused efforts on stewarding relationships with Federal, State, and private partners to build an alliance behind the common goal of expanding habitat for Aplomado Falcon recovery. USFWS acquired an addition 3,500 acres of suitable habitat and additional federal funds have been acquired for habitat restoration. Furthermore, habitat management has begun to restore 500 acres of grassland on National Park Service land at Palo Alto National Monument.

The International Centre for Birds of Prey, Newent, Gloucestershire, UK – 50 Years and Counting! Submitted by Jemima Parry-Jones

With Avian Influenza hitting the UK in December of last year and continued outbreaks right up until the beginning of June (and with about 16 outbreaks confirmed), we could no longer accept the injured wild birds of prey that is a part of our remit during that period. I found it very hard to tell people that we could not accept the birds that they found. But it does point to the risks of accepting injured wild birds when you have a collection of raptors as well. So long-term plans will include a hospital area for wild birds well away from the captive collection.

Now we are back to accepting them and it is interesting to see what species come in. We had a very beautiful juvenile peregrine who fledged too early.

Urban peregrines have a tough time with gulls, who are now completely urban these days. She stayed with us for a few days, had a minor injury dealt with, and was then returned to the church where she (along with three others) have done well.



August is the time for juveniles, either with injuries or emaciation because of not doing well. The weather plays a big part, especially when we have strong winds and birds are more likely to either get injured or be blown away from home territories. All we can do is give them a second chance, which is good for the people finding them and hopefully good for the birds as well.

Our 50th anniversary event went really well. The Centre looked great, as the staff and volunteers had worked really hard to get everything spic and span. The weather gave me minor horrors as it was raining until about 10:00am. However the rain stopped, the guests arrived and were welcomed with bucks fizz or coffee and tea and a tasteful bacon roll. Unfortunately, after HRH The Princess Royal arrived and everyone had moved to the field to watch the event, Agapanthus (male Labrador) ate all the rest of the bacon out of the remaining rolls!

As usual Princess Anne was wonderful and seemed to enjoy her time here. The guests behaved, the dogs mostly behaved, and the birds were amazing as ever.

It is always a pleasure have The Princess here and makes for a very special day. About 200 people shared the day with us, and the weather held up until late afternoon before it rained again.

By lunch time on the following day the marquee had gone, the displays were in the Education building, most of the house guests had left, and we moved forward with lots of plans for the future and the next 50 years!



After the Princess left, we launched The Vulture Alliance with Bill Bailey and our young Condor! This is a group that is already working to assist with the African Vulture Crisis that is starting in South Africa. Success will (hopefully) be achieved through improved veterinary care of injured wild birds so that more vital vultures can be returned to the wild, innovative techniques for making powerlines safer, and conservation breeding using wild disabled birds, (which has proved very successful).

VulPro, who is already working hard in much of this as well as the all-important education side of vulture conservation in South Africa, is joining up with ICBP, Neil Forbes and Rick Harness, and we will all be working together to move forward!



September bring us to our large falconry event – The Falconry Weekend on September 2nd and 3rd which is also the last weekend of the school holidays. So our visitors change from hordes of family groups to my favourite (as I am one of them!) the ‘grey pound’! The ‘grey pound’ is people who are older and prefer to go on visits outside school holiday time for obvious reasons!

One foot note, we sent two male Sakers to the Green Balkans for their conservation breeding programme and one of them has produced four babies who are now released to the wild and probably thinking about their first migration.

World Owl Hall of Fame

Submitted by Karla Bloem

Seeking Dead Owl Specimens

The International Owl Center in Houston, MN is creating a display consisting of mounted specimens of all the owl species that occur in North America. We currently have 12 species, but are still looking for specimens of the following species: Elf Owl, Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, Mountain Pygmy-Owl, Flammulated Owl, Whiskered Screech-Owl, Northern Hawk Owl, and Spotted Owl (any subspecies). Specimens must be salvaged under a permit (salvage, rehabilitation, banding), as we cannot legally receive specimens from an exempt entity that is not required to have a permit. Foreign species are also welcome if they are already in the United States (such as from zoos or education facilities).

Contact Karla Bloem (karla@internationalowlcenter.org) or 507-896-6957.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

For Sale

RRF Publications, Pins, and Decals – Hard copies of *The Journal of Raptor Research* (Vol. 1-30), most Raptor Research Reports, and RRF pins and decals may be purchased directly from RRF (Jessi Brown, RRF Treasurer; email: treasurer@raptorresearchfoundation.org). See <http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/publications/journal-of-raptor-research/back-issues/> http://raptorresearchfoundation.org/back_issues_jrr.htm for details and prices. Orders for 4 or more issues receive a 30% discount. Hard copies of *The Journal of Raptor Research* (Vol. 31+) may be purchased from Ornithological Societies of North America (1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60546, USA; 1-312-883-4670 (phone); osnamembers@gmail.com (email); <http://www.osnabirds.org> (web). Some older issues are not available in hardcopy; but all issues from Vol. 1-39 are available on SORA (<http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/jrr/>) for free download.

Announcements

Raptor Management and Techniques Manual Available On-line!

The 2nd Edition of the *Raptor Management and Techniques Manual* – Edited by David Bird and Keith Bildstein – is now available for download (as a PDF) on the Raptor Research Foundation’s website

<http://www.raptorresearchfoundation.org/publications/techniques-manual>



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