protection for the Foundation and the investigators. In the future we hope to have sufficient money to make small grants to support research.

Other aspects of the Foundation are being developed as time permits. We look forward to your comments, criticism, and suggestions.

The First General Meeting, September 2, 1965, Madison, Wisconsin

The time and place of this meeting were chosen because of the international gathering of raptor researchers attending the Peregrine Conference of the preceding four days. Thanks are here offered to Dr. J. Hickey and the University of Wisconsin for the facilities provided to our group.

Persons attending the Raptor Research Foundation Meeting were:

Chairman: Don Hunter, South Dakota

David Hancock, B.C., Canada	Lucille F. Stickel, Patuxent, Md.
Frank Beebe, B.C., Canada	W. H. Stickel, Patuxent, Md.
Richard Fyfe, N.B., Canada	Morlan Nelson, Idaho
Joe Simonyi, Ontario, Canada	Steve Herman, California
Fran Hammerstrom, Wisconsin	Granger Hunt, Texas
Fred Hammerstrom, Wisconsin	Hans Herren, Switzerland

Discussion topics. Since time was limited and since considerable time of the Peregrine Conference had been devoted to the general lines of Raptor Research needed, the meeting was primarily concerned with breeding raptors in captivity.

Bibliography and previous related research. A list of person and literature references was volunteered by the members. By necessity these are incomplete in detail and by no means exhaust the topic. The most notable point here is that there is undoubtedly a great wealth of references and particularly of persons with unpublished pertinent information which must be gathered up, correlated, evaluated and made available to all concerned.

Prestwick's book, "A Record of Raptors Bred in Captivity" is a fine introduction--a reference to many successful breeding attempts. However, this compilation refers only to published accounts of successful attempts--it omits references to failures which may well contribute as much as successes in our early stages of investigation. Furthermore, considerable work has been done since the book was published.

The discussants were agreed that the Foundation should undertake the initial responsibilities of bringing together and correlating as much of this published and unpublished data as possible so it is

available. Initially it would probably be feasible to try to issue lists of references as a supplement to Prestwick's list. Hopefully, the information from these literature references and persons with experience can be summarized on record cards. For example, each worthy breeding attempt would have a separate card listing, for instance, species, age and where the birds were acquired, dimensions of pen, birds' behavior, management, etc. Technical photos might also be helpful. A few of the discussants related more citable personal experience of which a couple are briefly related here; though they will be presented in greater detail later.

(1) Peregrine Falcon laying eggs - unmated. Morlan Nelson, Boise, Idaho (report being prepared by Morlan).

(2) Reestablishment of Peregrine Falcons nesting at deserted eyrie site - Joe Simonyi, Hornby, Ontario.

A wild caught immature male was brought from a hawk dealer; later it was fed daily (in morning) on same log by an old deserted eyrie site for three weeks, then released. This male, distinguished by its tail plumage, got a mate who laid 4 eggs, hatched 4 eggs, and reared 4 young to about 3 weeks old and then they were thought to be taken from the nest by persons unknown. This is indeed a remarkable feat and Joe is to be highly congratulated. Prior to the release of the male a desirable nesting ledge had been sprinkled with lime to simulate the characteristic whitewash. After release he had repeatedly served the male live prey.

Joe also tells us how this technique had been carried out three times previously in Italy and how his grandfather in Hungary had bred peregrines many years ago. Hopefully, Joe will separately write up his reintroduction experiment for us and secondly put down on paper what he recalls of his grandfather's experiments.

(3) Kestrels Breeding in Captivity - Mr. and Mrs. Stickel, Patuxent Research Center, Laurel, Md.

In connection with pesticide research to study the effects of various poisons on the reproduction of the Kestrel, 41 pairs were acquired (mostly eyasses) were housed separately, provided with two nesting boxes per pen and fed on ground meat and turkey starter mix. Forty of the 41 pairs laid eggs, many laid 2-3 clutches. The number of fledglings produced was very low, due to eating of eggs and young by adults. It is hoped we will have more detail from the Stickels on this extremely promising project shortly.

Approximate Food Mix Formula

1. 20 quarts 2/5 edible offal from a slaughter house, ground up.
   3/5 lean beef ground.
2. 5 pounds turkey breeder food mash.
3. 2 tbls. sp. bone meal - vitamin supplement.

The above is ground and mixed together while still partially frozen and fed in small "meat patties" of a size that birds could carry.

The turkey mash formed pellets. (Who said that hawks wouldn't eat ground meat?)

At this time in the discussion two cautions regarding food were presented.

1. Turkey Starter. Most commercial turkey starter contains additives: antibiotics and sex depressants (Amptil). This sex depressant might jeopardize breeding experiments. However, Turkey Breeding Food is good and does not contain the depressants.
2. Chicken Heads as Food. Many persons successfully feed chicken heads but Frank Beebe warned that many chicken "production plants" now insert or inject growth hormones into the neck of young birds to promote growth. He cautioned that perhaps such hormones might have deleterious effects.

BETTER CHECK!

Management and housing. Considerable attention was given to how potential breeders should be housed. The merits and personal preferences of wire versus barred pens were discussed. Should birds be outdoor or indoor? What features of pen construction are desirable when considering protection from sun, wind, cold and disturbance.

The many diverse ideas all had some merit and had been used by various persons in housing raptors at one time or another. This diversity of ideas suggests the necessity of a complete review of published and unpublished material on this matter.

A technique often desirable to reduce injury to birds when they fly into the wire or wooden slats is to hang rope net (herring sein net or camouflage net) on the inside of the wire or wood to "soften" the blow.

Species recommended for initial breeding programs. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that most effort should be devoted to the Kestrel, Peregrine and Bald Eagle. The latter two species have many populations already exterminated or threatened with extinction, yet other populations remain in such abundance as to afford experimental breeding material.

On the other hand, many individuals unable to assist directly in major concentrated projects would be able to make as great, if not greater contribution, by working with one or two pairs of whatever species are available to them. In essence, it would be desirable to gather data on as many species as possible under a wider range of conditions and at the same time have more extensive studies which utilize and test out the data provided by the small-scale projects in the few major concern species.

Sources of financial support. Since the Raptor Research Foundation is being set up as a non-profit corporation it will be able to accept monies (tax deductible) from granting agencies, business and private donors.

This aspect and the policy of the Foundation will be dealt with at a later date.

The discussants at this meeting were unanimously in support of a foundation to guide and stimulate scientific interest in the raptorial birds. The world plight of the Peregrine Falcon and other raptors which was reviewed at the Peregrine Conference certainly pointed out the great need for further investigation.

(Prepared by David Hancock, Zoology Department, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.)

The Second General Meeting, November 26, 1966, Centerville, S. Dak.

This meeting was held because of the presence of a number of interested persons at a national falconry meet. Twenty-six persons were present from various places in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. Don Hunter presided. Those present introduced themselves, and for background information Hunter read the material printed in the Foundation brochure.

Breeding project. Brief informal reports were made by those present who were involved with the breeding project. Progress was reported by Frank Beebe and for Ron Austing (by Hunter). Longer reports on these are reported elsewhere in the News. Henry Kendall reported on his plans for a breeding project with Peregrines and Prairie Falcons. He also reported on experiences with two hand-raised male Red-tailed Hawks which might be useful in artificial insemination experiments since they would undergo copulatory behavior with a little stimulation while held in the hand.

Dr. Heinz Meng reported that he obtained a first year wild caught Red-tailed Hawk in 1946 and that since the fourth spring it has laid 2 or 3 eggs each spring. Since these were infertile he replaced the eggs with wild-obtained eggs of Red-tailed Hawks, Goshawks, Prairie Falcons, and even chickens which she incubated. Last year when the eggs were removed she laid 2 eggs three weeks later. This definitely indicates recycling in a captive bird. He described a new breeding house 30 x 15 x 10 feet at the eaves. Two passage birds that were taken in 1964 were put in the breeding chamber in May 1965; last spring the birds were seen to bow to each other and the male was seen to take food to the female who took it.

Bob Berry described his experiences with Goshawks kept in a 25 foot high 30 foot long building which had inside and outside chambers. The female did not accept the male; however, she built