

REGIONAL MEETING OF THE RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
at Fort Collins, Colorado, November 29, 1969  
Report by Byron E. Harrell

Saturday afternoon following the NAFA Peregrine Symposium and the NAFA buisness meeting Don Hunter conducted a regional meeting of RRF. Your reporter could not be there so I relied on a tape recording of the session; unfortunately there were technical difficulties and the tape provided only partial information. This account is therefor much more general than the corresponding report from St. Paul. It was not always possible to be sure whose ideas were being expressed so views below belong to someone but not necessarily to everyone.

The meeting opened with a review by Hunter of RRF activities including the start of the new Abstracts, the new schedule for the News, and the consideration of broadening the Board of Directors. There was discussion of some problems: disproportionate emphasis on breeding in the News (this reflects material sent in, the breeders have sent in more); office problems (hopefully can catch up with an office, a part time typist, and a part-time Executive Secretary, Lee Eberly); source of funds (essentially membership contributions which will be raised as activities expand).

Most of the session was devoted to the future of breeding programs. It is essential that effort be put in on anatum Peregrine primarily, Latitude Peregrine second, and other Peregrines and other species third. There was discussion of the Cornell proposals for one or more large central projects each with perhaps 20 pairs. This was recognized as essential, but the importance of backyard projects was also stressed (variety of approaches and species, significant past contributions). There was a review of past successes and of the problem of incompatibility. Problems of ownership of birds (contract loans, gifts trades, confiscation, taking wild anatum, state laws) and of progeny (extend breeding projects, reintroductions, availability for falconry, parallels to game breeding) were discussed in detail. Additional discussion was held on problems of loss if flown and the gentlemen's agreement not to use so-called RRF birds in falconry (RRF served as a clearing house for some permits and has title to no birds). No one yet knows the best way to breed Peregrines in captivity.

Three resolutions were passed: to recommend a constitutional change to expand the Board of Directors of the Raptor Research Foundation; to recommend that the Board of Directors endorse the resolutions passed at the NAFA Peregrine Symposium; to thank Mr. Olendorff and those those who helped him and Colorado State University for making this meeting possible. The session ended with a discussion by Fran Hamerstrom on artificial insemination in hawks; it is with regret that I report that this part of the tape was in very poor condition.