

To the Editor:

William S. Clark's article concerning field identification of North American eagles, published in the September-October 1983 issue of *AMERICAN BIRDS*, contained an inadequate use of available ornithological literature. His reference to my *Guide to Eastern Hawk Watching* (Penn State University Press, 1976) was inappropriate because that out-of-print book was an earlier and considerably less comprehensive and sophisticated version of the current edition, entitled *A Guide to Hawk Watching in North America* (Penn State University Press, 1979). By failing to refer to the current edition, Clark ignored a detailed presentation of eagle age-class field marks and supporting photographs used by the hawk-watching community. I shall not repeat here what is available in the *Guide*, but would caution that at least one age class for both the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle was missing in Clark's article. Clark also ignored major articles by other authors despite their direct and important relationship to his topic. Years ago in *Hawks Aloft*, Maurice Broun discussed the relative sizes of the heads of Golden Eagles and Bald Eagles. Nevertheless, during my 30 years of active hawk watching, I never found the comparative lengths of the heads or tails of the two eagle species to be the best or most important field marks for these eagles. It is much more important to consider a combination of field marks, especially patterns of plumage.

Sincerely,
Donald S. Heintzelman
629 Green Street
Allentown, PA 18102

To the Editor:

Regarding the above remarks by Donald Heintzelman, after many years of field and teaching experience with raptor identification, I will stand by what is published in the article and let the reader go out and verify the statements in it for himself.

Sincerely,
William S. Clark
P. O. Box 1161
Annandale, VA 22003

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLAPP, R.B., R.C. BANKS, and D. MORGAN-JACOBS. 1983. "Marine Birds of the Southeastern United States and Gulf of Mexico. Part III: Charadriiformes" is available from the Information Transfer Specialist, National Coastal Ecosystems Team, 1010 Gause Boulevard, Slidell, LA 70458. A small number of copies of Parts I (Gaviiformes through Pelecaniformes) and II (Anseriformes) have been reprinted and also are available. A list of other NCET publications can be obtained upon request.

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birders, if there is an expression of sufficient interest to warrant the effort. If you are interested please express this by letter or postal card to Charles T. Clark, Star Route #1, Box 442-D, Rockport, TX 78382. Writing to Dr. Clark does not place the writer under any obligation whatsoever.

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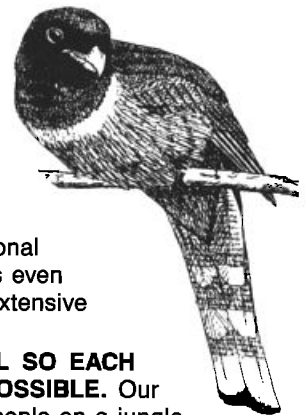
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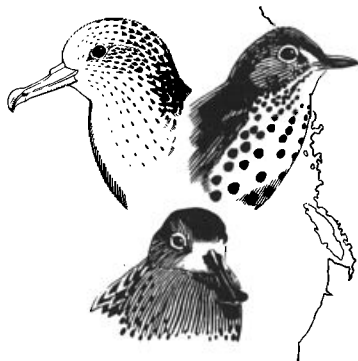
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THE HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY ASSOCIATION is accepting applications for its eighth annual award for raptor research. To apply for the \$500 award, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation by 30 September 1984, to James J. Brett, Curator, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Rt. 2, Kempton, Pennsylvania 19529. The Association's Board of Directors will make a final decision late in 1984. Only students enrolled in a degree-granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. The award will be granted on the basis of a project's potential to improve understanding of raptor biology and its ultimate relevance to conservation of North American raptor populations.

MEETINGS

The Wilson Ornithological Society will hold its annual meeting at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC, May 31-June 3, 1984. Contact James F. Parnell, Biology Department,

University of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC 28401. Mary H. Clench will preside over the scientific papers sessions. Her address is 2239 N.W. 21st Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605.

The Cooper Ornithological Society will hold its annual meeting at Humboldt State University, Arcata, California, June 19-22, 1984. Barry R. Noon, Department of Wildlife Management, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521, is the local committee chairman. C. J. Ralph will preside over the scientific papers sessions. His address is Redwood Sciences Laboratory, U.S. Forest Service, 1700 Bayview Drive, Arcata, CA 95521.

The American Ornithologists' Union will hold its annual meeting at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, August 5-10, 1984. Marion Jenkinson Mengel is the local committee chairperson. Gary D. Schnell and Douglas W. Mock will co-chair the scientific papers sessions. Their address is Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019.

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The South Central Region of the Hawk Migration Association of North America will sponsor a 4-day conference on birds of prey March 29-April 1, 1984, at the Airport Hilton in McAllen, Texas. The conference will include a papers session, panel discussions on problems of hawk identification, a birds-in-art display and hawk watching on the Rio Grande. Those wishing to present papers or get more information on the meeting should contact Mrs. Gladys Donohue, P.O. Drawer 400, Penitas, TX 78576. Mrs. Donohue can be reached by telephone at 512-581-6545.

The Colonial Waterbird Group will hold its 1984 annual meeting October 4-7, 1984, at the Sheraton Inn and Conference Center, Ithaca, NY. Donald A. McCrimmon, Cooperative Research Program, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14850, is the Local Committee Chairperson and William E. Southern, Department of Biological Science, Northern Illinois University, De Kalb, IL 60115 is Chairperson for the scientific papers session.