

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

Our joint meeting with Colorado Field Ornithologists in Estes Park 26-28 June 1981 was a great success thanks to Jeanne Conry and Bruce Webb who organized the event. More than 100 participants from 13 states were there! The papers presented were excellent. They included:

Distribution and Status of the Boreal Owl in Western North America - Ronald Ryder and David Palmer

South Platte Vertebrate Community - Walter Graul

Reintroduction of Peregrine Falcons - Steve Sherrod

Blue Grouse Investigations in Colorado - Richard Hoffman

Patterns of Bird Distribution and Species Richness in Colorado - Douglas Inkley

Flight Identification of North American Accipiters and Common Buteos - William Clark

Identification of Longspurs - Timothy Manolis

An Introduction to the Pawnee National Grassland - Prairie Images and the Function of Song Flight in Lark Buntings - William Ervin — This fantastic evening presentation acquainted us with many moods of the prairie and the beautiful state bird of Colorado.

The field trips were outstanding, with birds and wildflowers seemingly waiting for us. White-tailed Ptarmigan (thanks to Clait Braun and Ken Giesen for locating the birds and providing an on-the-spot short course on ptarmigan biology), Brown-capped Rosy Finch, Northern Three-toed Woodpecker, Pika and other mountain dwellers were seen in Rocky Mountain National Park. On the Pawnee Grassland Ron Ryder, Bill Ervin and Bob Andrews showed us breeding plumaged Chestnut-collared and McCown's longspurs, nesting Ferruginous Hawks, Hognose Snake and many other species to be expected in this beautiful open prairie country. The post convention trip to eastern Colorado produced surprises and special treats such as the third Colorado record of the Neotropic (Olivaceous) Cormorant, two Yellow-crowned Night Herons, nesting Black-billed Cuckoos, young Upland Sandpipers tumbling through the grasses, a Badger undulating across a field, and fantastic lightning and firefly displays. I am sorry more of you could not have shared these experiences.

Your officers for the next year are Terry Wahl (President), Laurie Binford (Vice-President), Phyllis Laymon (Recording Secretary), Garth Alton (Treasurer), and Elizabeth Copper (Membership Secretary).

How about San Diego in the fall of 1982? Plan on it. Pelagics, vagrants and the Salton Sea will be waiting for you. More details will be coming soon on this next meeting of WFO. — *John Luther*