

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Western Field Ornithologists was held jointly with the Arizona Field Ornithologists and Tucson Audubon Society from 30 July through 1 August 1993 at the Quality Inn in Tucson, Arizona. The Arizona folks organized a great meeting. Our field trips to all the southern Arizona haunts were exceptional. The Saturday paper session, banquet, and banquet speaker, Irene Pepperberg, were excellent. The local host committee—Joan and Bob Tweit, Shirley Davis, Tim Helentjaris, Barbara Koenig, Emery Froelich, Judy Edison, and Cherie Lazaroff—organized an outstanding meeting. I hope the WFO membership realizes how much time and effort are required to host one of our meetings—a special thanks to our Arizona members. During the planning, organizing, and operation of the Tucson meeting, one person deserves special credit, Joan Tweit, who gave so much of her time to oversee all activities, even the smallest detail, making the meeting very professional. In addition to the local committee, WFO appreciates the generosity of Wings, Inc., for its \$200 contribution toward the meeting.

The WFO board meeting held in Tucson was very productive, with many issues discussed relating to the organization and the journal. An important topic was an agreement to solicit advertising for *Western Birds*. By allowing certain advertising within the journal, the board hopes to facilitate financial growth, with the goals of strengthening the organization, expanding the journal's size, and enabling us to publish more articles. Included in this issue of *Western Birds* are the current advertising rates and policy. I would appreciate receiving from the WFO membership any constructive comments related to this matter. I am committed to strengthening the organization through membership, so please make friends, colleagues, and others interested in field ornithology aware of the benefits of belonging to WFO, including our first-rate scientific journal.

The membership elected David Stejskal, and reelected Guy McCaskie and David Yee, to 3-year terms as WFO directors. The board reelected Robert McKernan as president, Steve Summers as vice-president, and Dori Myers as treasurer/membership secretary. David Stejskal is replacing as a WFO director Janet Witzeman, who has served us in that capacity for more than 10 years, contributing countless hours. Thanks, Janet. I feel the health of an organization can be directly measured by those people who in the past and present have given so much of their time toward the organization's success.

The nineteenth annual WFO meeting will be held in Morro Bay, California, from 23 to 25 September 1994. Look for more details on this meeting in upcoming issues of *Western Birds*. I hope to see you all in Morro Bay in 1994.

Robert McKernan
WFO President