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## COMMENTARY

### Year-End Message From the President, January 1987

**NEW DIRECTOR AND OFFICERS.** The ballots for directors are in and the results are as follows: Mike Collopy (At Large #1); Dave Bird (Canadian, East); and Grainger Hunt (Pacific and Mountain). Grainger is a new Board member and we welcome him aboard.

As I reported at last year's Business Meeting, 1987 will be my last year as President. Three, two-year terms are long enough for both the organization and the individual. I am delighted to announce that your Board of Directors has asked Gary Duke to be your next President; his term begins January 1988. I am equally pleased that they asked Richard Clark to "re-up" for a second term as Vice-President. Our organization is in good hands and I wish both Gary and Dick the best of luck as we enter a new passage in the life of the Foundation.

**1986—A YEAR OF MANY FIRSTS.** Not only did our membership surpass 1,000 in 1986, for the first time, but we were able to award two grants: \$500 from The Leslie Brown Memorial Fund and \$500 from the Steven Tully Memorial Fund. By a unique coincidence both award committees chose Vicky Meretsky for her application to work on the Egyptian Vulture in Israel. Our membership directory, "The Kettle," has undergone its first update and includes a "Raptor Organization Directory." Both products are thanks to the efforts of Dick Clark. Members will receive their updated directory in 1987.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING.** Our annual meeting is usually the highlight of the Foundation's efforts each year, and thanks to Mike Collopy and his Local Committee, 1986 was no exception. Over one hundred authors contributed to a total of over seventy scientific papers. A special thanks also goes to Keith Bildstein, 1986 Program Chairman, for providing such a rich array of presentations. The winner of the Anderson Award for the Best Student Paper at the Annual Meeting was John A. Smallwood (Ohio State University), for his paper, entitled "Winter Territoriality in American Kestrels: A Mechanism of Sexual Segregation by Habitat." Congratulations to John! Dr. Lovett Williams, an honest-to-goodness Florida "Cracker" and Wildlife Biologist par excellence, was our entertaining and informative banquet speaker, which put the "icing on the cake."

Our 1987 meeting will be in Boise, Idaho, 28-31 October. Richard Howard, Chairman of the Local Committee, can be reached at: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 4696 Overland Road, Room 576, Boise, Idaho 83705; (208) 334-1888 (FTS 554-1888). Two workshops will be held in conjunction with the conference: NWF's "Western Raptor Management" and the Peregrine Fund's "Captive Raptor Propagation Techniques," both 26-28 October. Questions concerning the program should be addressed to the Program Chairperson, Karen Steenhof, Boise District, BLM, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705; (208) 334-9277 (FTS 544-9277). Current members will automatically receive announcements and details, so make sure your membership and address are up-to-date. See you there!

**A NEW EDITOR, A NEW PRESS.** Clayton White has served as Editor of *Raptor Research* for 10 years and has done an outstanding job of shepherding our journal through troublesome, adolescent stages. Clayton is taking a well-deserved break but before stepping down as Editor, he initiated an exciting move to Allen Press, Inc. Our sincere thanks to Clayton for so many years of dedication and for the increased professional image that will come with the new press. Jimmie Parrish, who served as Clayton's Assistant Editor for many years, will be our new Editor, and I can't think of a better man for the job! Look for some big changes in our journal.

**AS A WRAP UP.** The past year was an impressive one but, with your input, 1987 can be even better. You, the Members, are what makes the Raptor Research Foundation what it is, and we welcome new members from all disciplines and areas of interest. For information on membership and publications or just to let me know what you're up to, please drop me a line. Have a great year.—**Jeffrey L. Lincer, President.**