

HAWK

Migration

Studies



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American Kestrel. Photo: Steve Byland

Scanning The Ridge

As I write this column, the first spring reports are coming in from Borrego Valley and Fort Smallwood. When I see the first Osprey report from Smallwood, I know that spring is coming and it's only a matter of a couple weeks before my Ospreys are back at their nests in the swamps of New Hampshire. After a record-breaking snowy winter here in the granite state, I am ready.

This issue of Hawk Migration Studies has an overview of the excellent *Kettling In Kittitiny* joint RRF/HMANA conference last September. If you didn't attend, the abstract gives you an idea of what you missed.

I am delighted to welcome four new Board members to our ranks. David McNicholas, Michael Lanzone, David Brandes, and Steve Small bring a diverse list of strengths and experiences. I will take this opportunity to publicly thank our retiring Board members and Officers Kim Van Fleet, Kirk Moulton, Vic Berardi, Art Slaughter and Jason Sodergren for their years of devoted service. Jason remains our appointed secretary, and we also appointed Wavell Fogleman as our new treasurer.

I also want to acknowledge all our life members. As you can see I have given over a portion of my column space to list this group of steadfast supporters. Thank you for your dedication to the mission of HMANA.

On page 9 you will find details on the publication of *The State of North American Birds of Prey*. This long-awaited book is the culmination of findings from the Raptor Population Index project. It will give the "state of the union" for all of North America's raptors and highlight the priorities for future research and conservation. All of you who count raptors and submit your data to HawkCount are contributors to this landmark publication.

Keep counting for conservation!



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Photo: Maynard Wheeler

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