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### FROM THE EDITOR

I began my tenure as Editor of the *Journal of Field Ornithology* 5 yr ago with a letter (62[1]:18) to our readers, so it seems appropriate to end my tenure with another. First, I sincerely thank many people: John Smallwood and Bob Beason, who edited the Recent Literature sections; Greg Butcher, Robert Marshall and Jim Lowe, who edited the Bird Count Supplements; Jed Burt, Greg Butcher and George Mock of the Association of Field Ornithologists; Sharon Kindall and Nancy Owen of Allen Press; Raúl Pérez-Rivera, Enrique Hernández and Bob Black, who did the Spanish translations; and most especially Teresa Holevas, who was my editorial assistant. Second, I thank the authors who submitted manuscripts for publication in the *Journal of Field Ornithology*. With remarkably few exceptions, my interactions with authors, whether or not their manuscripts were accepted for publication, were professional and pleasant. Any credit for the quality of this journal goes to the authors of the papers that have been published. Third, I wish my successor, C. Ray Chander, well in his position as Editor. The transition seems to have been a smooth one, and I have every confidence in Ray's editorial ability.

My first issue began with an unusual paper (62[1]:1–18), so it seems only fitting to end my last issue with an unusual paper. As Nisbet et al. explain, their paper was written in response to a critique by Bertram Murray, Jr. of their work on Blackpoll Warbler migration. I had intended to publish these two papers back-to-back in this issue, but Murray withdrew his manuscript. After considerable deliberation, I decided to publish the Nisbet et al. reply to Murray's critique. Readers will no doubt detect the intensity of feeling among the protagonists in this controversy. I have always been drawn to controversies in biology, and I have found the "blackpoll debate" to be a fascinating example of the sociology of science. Interested readers might want to contact Bert Murray for a copy of his manuscript.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as Editor. Working with authors was tremendously rewarding for me, and although I look forward to my "retirement," I urge others with the inclination to take up the editor's pen. You will not regret it.