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## BOOK NOTES

Two books available at large discounts from the Birding Book Society (BBS) deserve mention. The avid collector of field guides will not want to miss the first book, regardless of cost, and the second offering will appeal to the birder who is interested in the exciting frontiers of ornithological research.

A Field Guide to the Birds of the U.S.S.R. V. E. Flint et al. N. Bourso-Leland, tr., with J. Baird, adviser (both of Massachusetts Audubon Society). 1984. Princeton University Press, 420 pages, \$65 (BBS: \$42.50). The 728 species described are nearly all pictured in color and include birds from much of Europe, East and Central Asia, and India with 303 distributional maps. The Russian edition of 1968 is out of print; this is the first U.S.S.R. field guide in English.

Perspectives in Ornithology. A. H. Brush and G. A. Clark, eds. 1983. Cambridge University Press, 560 pages, \$30 (BBS: \$21). This is a collection of papers and commentaries presented at the A.O.U. centennial celebration in September 1983. The essays included not only review what is known but point out what is not yet understood. Topics covered include avian mating systems (D. W. Mock) and cooperative breeding strategies (S. T. Emlen and S. L. Vehrencamp); optimal foraging (J. R. Krebs, D. W. Stephens, and W. J. Sutherland), an analysis of the complexities of bird behavior in habitat selection; the genetics of speciation (G. F. Barrowclough); paleornithology (L. D. Martin), changing views of bird evolution and the uncertain position of Archeopteryx, not on the main line of evolution but a primitive lizard; song-learning (P.J.B. Slater), examining why some birds learn their songs and others do not; and bird navigation (C. Walcott, A. J. Lednor, and K. Able), the mystery of the nature of a bird's navigational "map." These are lively and speculative discussions by active, and for the most part, young, iconoclastic researchers, and the reader gains a glimpse of the expanding horizons of research in this field.

D.R.A.

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### WILDLIFE OBSERVATION PERMIT FOR NORTH MONOMOY ISLAND

Access to the North Island of Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge will be by PERMIT ONLY from April 15 to August. Anyone planning to visit this area during this period may obtain a permit from the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, Morris Island, Chatham (telephone 945-0594).



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