

cattle grazing, farming, and high pesticide use, the Cattle Egret has become a virtual "reverse" bioindicator — its presence indicates human disturbance and habitat degradation! Whatever we might think of this recent immigrant, it is most certainly a highly successful, remarkable, and ecologically fascinating bird.

--William E. Davis, Jr.

ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

Richard Salvucci, of Brighton, Massachusetts, began his career as an artist by illustrating books, book covers, and even a children's book. But a visit seven years ago to an exhibit coordinated by the Society of Animal Artists opened a door to a new world: since then, Richard remarks, he has "only wanted to paint or draw animals, particularly birds." His greatest satisfaction comes in attempting to capture the personality of any animal he paints or draws, and this approach has earned him a number of awards in juried wildlife art shows. Richard's work has appeared in publications as diverse as the Manomet Observatory newsletter and *The New York Times*, and he has shown his art at numerous museums, galleries, and conventions. The National Alliance for Animal Legislation commissioned him to create a drawing of two chimpanzees, which was presented to Dr. Jane Goodall as an award for the eminent primatologist's life's work. Richard will be the guest artist at the Wildlife Art and Carving Expo in Byfield, Massachusetts, in November, and his originals are exhibited at the Francesca Anderson gallery in Lexington, Massachusetts.

KESTREL STUDY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

In order to assess the current status of American Kestrel breeding and wintering populations in southern New England, I am looking for volunteers to collect information, share data on kestrel nest boxes, and conduct roadside surveys of raptors in open areas of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. All birders who enjoy watching kestrels are urged to participate in this study. If you are interested in participating, please contact: Tom Harrington, 30 South Windham Road, Willimantic, CT 06226, (860) 423-2041, e-mail: tomh@neca.com

ERRATUM: BIRD OBSERVER TIDE CHART

The tide chart published in the December issue of *Bird Observer* is off by one hour for the period of daylight savings time. In order to correct, please **subtract** one hour from the listings. We blame it entirely on *El Nino*.