

by male and female red-winged blackbirds, *Agelaius phoeniceus*. Anim. Behav. 40:153-166.

———, AND W. A. SEARCY. 1982. Aggression in female red-winged blackbirds: a strategy to ensure male parental investment. Behav. Ecol. Sociobiol. 11:13-17.

Received 10 Mar. 1983; accepted 1 Jan. 1990.

## FROM THE NEW EDITOR

As this is my first issue of the Journal of Field Ornithology, I want to address our readers about several important issues. First and foremost, I thank my predecessor, Edward H. (Jed) Burt, Jr., for his outstanding service. Not only did Jed maintain the high standards of the journal, he also improved and streamlined its operation, and constantly worked to improve its image and scope. I inherited a journal in excellent condition, merely awaiting a new pair of hands to guide its production. Jed and his Assistant Editor, C. Colleen Bilsing, did everything possible to smooth the transition of editorship; any rough spots I encountered were my own fault. Second, I thank Raúl A. Pérez-Rivera for continuing as Spanish Editor. His professionalism and willingness to assist the journal are greatly appreciated. I also thank the staff at Allen Press, who have been very patient with and supportive of an inexperienced and frazzled new editor. And last, I sincerely thank the Association of Field Ornithologists for its confidence in me. Although many of my colleagues openly wondered whether they should congratulate me or offer their condolences, I believe that the AFO has given me a challenge and an opportunity. I hope my performance will justify their choice of a new editor.

The Journal of Field Ornithology is undergoing a few changes. As you will note, the page limit has been relaxed, although preference will still be given to short articles whenever appropriate. In addition, the journal is increasing its coverage of two vital aspects of field ornithology: life history and conservation, as shown by several papers in this issue.

Finally, please note that the first paper in my first issue of the journal is somewhat different from the typical JFO article. Cindy Patterson's study of parental behavior in Red-winged Blackbirds was the first of its kind, and has had a tremendous impact on avian behavioral ecology. Unfortunately, Cindy died before she was able to publish her study. When I learned of her untimely death, I made a promise that, if I ever became an editor, I would publish her paper. Cindy, it is a few years later, but here is your paper. I know you would be pleased to see it in print, and I trust you would forgive my heavy-handed editing.