

## NEWS

### *Raptor Research Foundation, Inc.* LIFE MEMBERS



EDMUND AND JUDITH HENCKEL  
(Photo by Peter H. Bloom)

They are best described as a matched pair of jewels, one uncut hiding a precious gem within and the other a finely polished stone radiating its warmth to everyone within reach. If you have the great pleasure of making their acquaintance, you will soon know who is who.

Ed was born in Orange, New Jersey, on 21 September 1927. After serving as a first-class petty officer in World War II and the Korean War, he worked for 39 years as an electrician for the Delaware Lacawana Rail Transit. He drove Class X dragsters to become NHRA Eastern Champion. Later he switched to a more sedate source of propulsion, aloft in a hot air balloon. Ed has two children and a grandson from a previous marriage.

Ed's introduction to raptors came in 1967 when he began teaching outdoor education to boy scouts as Camp

Ranger at Camp Mt. Allamuchy in New Jersey. Here, Ed earned the Boy Scouts of America's prestigious Silver Beaver Award for distinguished volunteer service. During his nine year stint, "Ranger Ed" developed a deep and undying passion for birds of prey, especially for the much maligned vultures. Ed had a formidable impact in favor of raptors in New Jersey. He was the first "rehaber," formed the New Jersey Raptor Association and was the driving force behind the implementation of falconry regulations in this state.

Judith was born in Easton, Pennsylvania, on 29 January 1945. She has two children from a previous marriage, has participated in ski patrols, and loves gardening and photography. Although Judy once quipped that one of her goals is to amass the world's largest collection of raptor

jewelry, her main concern is promoting environmental awareness and conservation through raptor research and photography.

While earning a B.A. and an M.S. in biology from East Stroudsburg University, she monitored a Bald Eagle hack site in 1983, the first year of the program in Pennsylvania. Judy has brought a spark to the eyes of youths in 12 states with live birds and slide illustrated lectures, supported by the National Wildlife Federation. Judy was co-founder of Pennsylvania Raptor Rescue.

Both avid falconers, Ed and Judy were married in a ceremony at the 1980 meeting of the North American Falconer's Association in Alamosa, Colorado. Not far from their home in Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania, the Henckels operated a well-organized raptor banding station. Their considerable experience in trapping raptors and their "have RV—will travel" philosophy, adopted after Ed's retirement five years ago, has led to a full pallet of contracts in the western United States. The Henckels are involved in studies of the impact of contaminants on Bald Eagles in Alaska and Red-tailed Hawks in California, and studies of the use of home range by Northern Goshawks, Bald

Eagles and Swainson's Hawks in northern California. They also dedicate much effort to a long-term ecological study of Red-shouldered Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, Barn Owls and Great Horned Owls in southern California, working with Pete Bloom, another life member of the Foundation. This intensive study focuses on breeding biology, food habits, mate and territory fidelity, contaminants, dispersal and habitat and home range use.

The Henckels have done a great deal over the years to allow the Foundation to stand for what it does today. Ed attended the first major meeting of the Foundation in Fort Collins in 1973 and has been missed during only one meeting since then. Judy has attended all meetings since she joined at a meeting in Tempe, Arizona, in 1977. The Henckels have participated in meetings on raptors in Greece and Israel and were particularly instrumental in organizing one of the many great RRF conferences in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1978. They have served on the Foundation's education and conference guidelines committees, and Ed served as secretary from 1982 to 1984.—**Prepared by: David M. Bird, Peter H. Bloom and Debbie Keller.**

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**Request for reprints on owls.** Authors who wish for their articles or other publications dealing with owls to be listed in the second edition of a "Working bibliography of owls of the World" are asked to send reprints to: Richard J. Clark, The Owl Bibliography, c/o Department of Biology, York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA 17405-7199.

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Publications available: **Birds in jeopardy:** the imperiled and extinct birds of the United States and Canada including Hawaii and Puerto Rico, by Paul R. Ehrlich, David S. Dobkin and Darryl Wheye. 1992. Send \$17.95 for paper or \$45.00 for cloth-bound copies to: Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA 94305. **Eagles: hunters in the sky,** a story-and-activities book tested by children in museum classrooms, and written by Ann Cooper. 1992. Send \$6.95 to: Roberts Rinehart Publishers, P.O. Box 666, Niwot, CO 80544-0666. **1991 Symposium on Peregrine Falcons** in the Pacific Northwest, edited by Joel E. Pagel. Send \$12 to: Rogue River National Forest, P.O. Box 520, Medford, OR 97501.