

New and Recent Books

Birds of Prey of the World, Friedhelm Weick, with Leslie H. Brown. 1981. Paul Parey (Hamburg and Berlin), P.O. Box 236, New York 10016. 160 pp. large octavo, with 1144 figures (40 plates) in color, 160 drawings. \$48 hardcover. This ambitious work is an attempt to provide an identification guide to the world-wide Order Falconiformes (other birds of prey, such as Strigiformes, are not included) and it works. Illustrated are not only every species, but each distinctive race, adult and immature plumages, and color phases, with the familiar pointer lines to indicate critical field marks. The quality of the art varies from very good to strange, but a sampling perusal suggests that it is accurate as to coloration, size, etc., and serves its purpose well. An introductory text of 60 pages, with excellent Weick line drawings, gives keys to genera and

some species; text facing the 40 plates is in tabular form, in German and English. Indices of scientific and vernacular names, and a bibliography, are included. Can you entrust world-wide identification to illustrations 1 to 2 inches high? Try it in the field and see.—R.A.

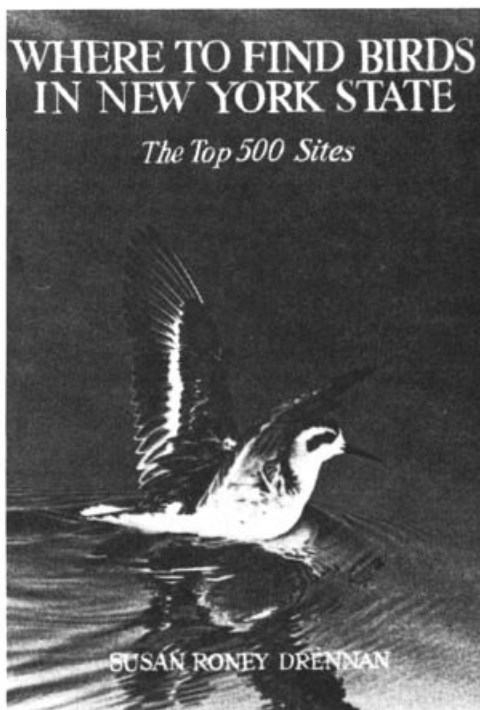
A Guide to Bird Finding West of the Mississippi River. Second edition.—Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. Oxford University Press, New York. 1981. xxx + 783 pp. \$25. hardbound. To undertake the revision of the 1953 edition of this birdwatcher's classic would have been a task sufficient to make a brave man shudder, but, Pettingill has once again done it and in his usual thorough style. This new edition is a mother lode of best birding sites in the 22 states lying totally or partially west of the Mississippi River, complete with 60 black-and-white line drawings (26 of which are new with this edition) by George Miksch Sutton. One must marvel at the energy it took to completely revise and expand the book's coverage. The result is a volume bearing all of the author's hallmarks. It is a solid, informative, ultimately useful

book and would be a bargain at twice the cost.—S.R.D.

A Review of *The Penguin Year* by Maureen Roney Drennan. [It seemed appropriate that this children's book be reviewed by Miss Drennan, age 10. Herewith, unedited, her review.—Ed].

A Penguin Year. Susan Bonners. Delacorte Press, New York. 1981. 47pp. \$9.95 hardbound. This book was written and illustrated by Susan Bonners. The book tells about penguins and their ways of life. Most penguins live in the South Pole which is colder than the North Pole. Penguins like the cold. These Penguins are called Adelie Penguins. Each penguin has some fat and a oily feather coat to keep warm. The penguins get plenty of food from the ocean. But soon it will be spring and time to leave the sea. Spring comes in late September at the Southern Hemisphere. The days grow longer. Lots of penguins start the long journey to Antarctica where they were born. In some places they can walk because the ice floes are frozen together. Once the penguins leave the water they have no food.

"The book is great. . . . Bird watching in New York State should reach a new high. . . . This is the most detailed and sophisticated state directory yet produced."—Roger Tory Peterson



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Susan Roney Drennan

Foreword by Roger Tory Peterson

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They will live on the fat they stored up in the winter. Each flock walks in single file for miles. They use the sun to guide them. Two weeks later the flocks have reached some scattered stones. This is a rookery. Each year the penguins make their nests and raise their young here. Then each penguin looks for the nest they made last year. When they find it the male calls in a loud voice: "Ark A-a-ark!" Then the male scrapes the ground with his feet. He is making the nest. Then male and female mate. After this is done they get up and call noisily. With some stones the penguins start making more of the nest. For several months the Penguins guard the eggs. Then the females go to the ocean to get some food; when they come back the males go. The penguins cannot fly because they are fat but under water the penguins are wonderful swimmers. By early December the chicks hatch. The chicks have fluffy silvery-gray down. About two months later the baby penguins have to swim, their parents have left them but they learn to survive. It was a good book with large printing and colorful pictures so young children could read it. It told facts about penguins and you should buy and read it. It's very good.—M.R.D.

Thermalling.— Maxwell Corydon Wheat, Jr. Cow Meadow Press, 333 Bedell Street, Freeport, NY 11520. iv + 24 pp. 1981. \$3 + .50 postage from publisher. Max Wheat's poetry is filled with the sounds, the colors, the flashing wings of birds. We love his poetry, and if you don't know it, this little collection will be a revelation. We reprint a brief sample:

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW
(for John J. Elliott)

A June afternoon
I listen in our east lot
for a sparrow trapeezing on red beard
grass
pitching grasshopper "zeeeeeee's"
which grandfather, remembering
seventy five years ago on the prairie,
tried to hear, cupping his ear
against deafness and breezes
the Saturday before I buried him

The haunting "October"—our favorite
is worth the price alone.—R.A.

Also Received (some will be reviewed in forthcoming issues of *American Birds*).

Annual Variation of Daily Energy Expenditure by the Black-billed Magpie.— John N. Mugass and James R. King. 1981. Studies in Avian Biology No. 5. The Cooper Ornithological Society. vii + 79pp. \$8. from Allen Press, Lawrence, KS 66044.

Alaskan Bird Sketches of Olaus Murie.— Compiled and edited by Margaret E. Murie. 1979. 40 color plates. 57 pp. Alaska Northwest Publishing Co., Box 4-EEE, Anchorage 99409. \$11.95.

Beyond the Bird Feeder. The habits and behavior of feeding-station birds when they are not at your feeder.—John V. Dennis, 1981 Alfred A. Knopf, New York, xvi + 201 pp. \$13.95.

Bird Community Dynamics in a Ponderosa Pine Forest.— Robert C. Szaro and Russell P. Balda. 1979. Studies in Avian Biology No. 3. The Cooper Ornith. Soc. vi + 66 pp. \$6.50 p.p. from Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Calif., Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Birds of the Gambia, an annotated check-list and guide to localities.— Jørn Vestergaard Jensen and Jens Kirkeby.

1981. 284 pp. Available from Aros Nature Guides, Skolebaaken 5-4.tv, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark. 11.80/D.kr. 148.00 p.p.

Caged Bird Medicine, selected topics.— Charles V. Steiner Jr., and Richard B. Davis. 1981. Iowa State Univ. Press, Ames. xi + 176 pp. \$19.50.

Diets for Birds in Captivity.— Kenton C. Lint and Alice Marie Lint. Blandford Press, Poole, Dorset, England. 1981. Available from Sterling Publishing Co., 2 Park Ave., New York, NY 10016. ix + 222 pp. \$50.

Duckling is Born.— Hans-Heidrich Isenbart, color photographs by Othmar Baumli. 1981. For ages 4-6. Putnam Publishing Group, New York. 38 pp. \$9.95.

Estimating Numbers of Terrestrial Birds.— Eds. C. John Ralph and J. Michael Scott. 1981. Studies in Avian Biology No. 6. x + 630 pp. Proceedings of the Symposium on estimating numbers of terrestrial birds held at Asilomar, Calif., Oct. 26-31, 1980. Orders to Allen Press, Lawrence KA 66044.

Birders write about RARE BIRDS OF THE WEST COAST
by Don Roberson:

Birding has come of age on the West Coast with this book which every active birder should have, whether he is a neophyte or one of the sophisticated hotshots looking for strays within the states and provinces that border the Pacific. Roberson has done a masterful job in compiling, graphing, mapping, and documenting these rarities as well as giving us some hot tips on identification problems. A must!

Roger Tory Peterson

I almost didn't buy it because the title did not seem to offer much to a birder from Michigan. I would have been much quicker to get it if I had realized how much good ID info there is contained within.

Bill Bouton

This is a book which all ornithologists who have an interest in North American bird distribution should obtain.

Guy McCaskie, Birding

A unique and very helpful contribution to North American Ornithology. It is the kind of book that makes birders drool!

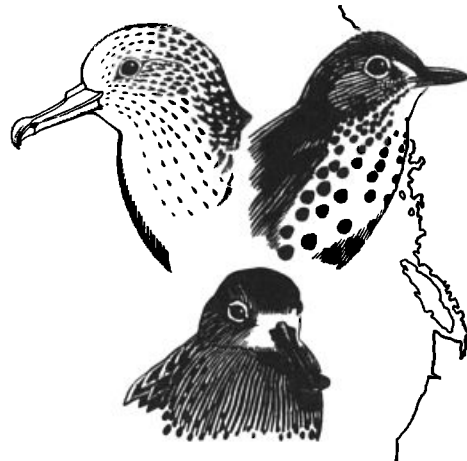
Jim Tucker, ABA founder

Very useful identification summaries . . . fascinating reading for rarity enthusiasts anywhere in the world.

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How to Control House Sparrows.— Don Grussing. 1981. Roseville Publishing House, Box 8083, Roseville, MN 55113. 52 pp. Price not given.

Native Names of Mexican Birds.— Lillian R. Birkenstein and Roy E. Tomlinson. 1981. U.S. Dept. of the Interior. F & W.S. Resource Publ. 139. Washington, DC. 159 pp. No price given.

Role of Insectivorous Birds in Forest Ecosystems.— Eds. James G. Dickson, Richard N. Conner, Robert R. Fleet, Jerome A. Jackson and James C. Kroll. 1981. xiii + 381 pp. Academic Press, New York. \$31.

Stories about birds and bird watchers.— from *Birds Watcher's Digest*. Ed., Mary Beacon Bowers. 1981. Antheneum Publishers, New York. xix + 233 pp. \$12.95.

Those of the Gray Wind: The Sandhill Crane. Paul A. Johnsgard. 1981. St. Martin's Press. New York. 116 pp. \$8.95.

Going Places

Trips and Tours, 1982

FOLLOWING IS A partial listing of bird oriented and natural history tours scheduled for March–December, 1982. *American Birds* has compiled the listing from information supplied by tour sponsors and is not responsible for cancellations or alterations. Since air fares and dollar currency exchange are subject to change, fees quoted may be considered approximate.

In addition to the tours listed here, most sponsors offer more (some *many* more) trips omitted here because of space limitations. These limitations have caused us to omit trips of less than 8-9 days, with rare exceptions, many of which are of great interest.

Tour sponsors are indicated by key initials at the end of each listing; full addresses will be found at the end of the December listing. Readers who wish further details through catalogs, bro-

BIRD BONANZAS has just received authorization to operate a tour to the area of eastern Cuba where the Ivory-billed Woodpecker was found in November 1980. (See *American Birds*, May 1981, p. 338.)

With Cuba's Ivory-bill population in rapid decline, this may be the last opportunity to see this bird before it becomes extinct. The tour will also visit areas of central and western Cuba and is designed to see the maximum number of endemic Cuban species. Dates are April 29 to May 10, 1982.

Following the Cuba tour, we are also offering an unprecedented birding opportunity — our **FREE Panama Weekend** from May 14 to 18, five days in one of the most exciting birding areas of the world with the leadership of Jaime Pujals, the premier birder of Panama.

We are also operating **the first authentic birding tour to the Peoples' Republic of China** April 17 to May 17, 1982. Our itinerary spans China from near its southern border with Vietnam to near its northern borders with Siberia and North Korea, visits many areas never before seen by ordinary tourists and promises not only exciting birding, but unique adventure.

Other tours are offered for Rwanda, Brazil, Antarctica and many other exciting destinations.

For additional information write:

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