242, 1962) indicating that a good portion of the diet of Goshawks includes Ruffed Grouse. Meng noted crows (in the same size class as grouse) to make up 44.9% of his total. Medium-sized birds included 31.2% of our total, but only 13.5% of Meng's. Sciurids compared nicely—33.8% in our study to 37.3% in Meng's. Goshawks may be looking for a particular prey size, and differences may represent variation of abundance and availability of species of a particular prey size.

Schnell (op. cit.) recorded food items from one nesting pair in California. Sciurids comprised 21.6% and medium-sized birds 59.1% of the total food items taken. His study, however, began in June with young in the nest, and differences may reflect seasonal variation. Our data from June through August show 50% of the food items to be medium-sized birds, which would agree with Schnell.—JOSEPH A. GRZYBOWSKI AND STEPHEN W. EATON, *Dept. of Biology, St. Bonaventure Univ., St. Bonaventure, N.Y. 14778. (Present address JAG, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman 73069).* *Accepted 22 Sept. 1975.*

Extra-parental assistance by male American Kestrel.—On 5 June 1975, in the township of Minetto, New York, I first observed 2 adult male American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) alternately carry mice (probably *Microtus*) to the same female kestrel at the nest. The 2 male kestrels preyed on mice from utility wires extending across an open field approximately 1 km from the nest. Within a 10 min period the female kestrel received a partially denuded mouse from each of the males during flight. The female carried the mice to the decayed roof molding of a farmhouse. Investigation of the cavity revealed the female brooding 5 downy young.

I observed the birds daily until 29 June 1975, at which time the 5 kestrels were fledged. During this period I witnessed 47 instances of prey transfer from the male kestrels to the female. On a daily basis it appeared that one male carried a greater number of prey items to the female, but I was unable to determine whether this was the same individual from day to day. The female was not seen foraging during the 24-day period.

I have made occasional observations on the nesting kestrels at the farmhouse during the past 2 years. Kestrels have used the same nest site for at least 3 breeding seasons. Prior to the spring of 1975, I never witnessed a third kestrel assisting the breeding pair, or hunting in the established territory of the pair. Skutch (Condor 63:198–226, 1961) reviewed documented instances of extra-parental assistance in bird species and the American Kestrel was not among 134 species listed. More recently, Vries (An eco-geographical study with special reference to its systematic position, Vrije Universiteit te Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1973) documented polyandric trios of the Galapagos Hawk (*Buteo galapagoensis*). He established that pair bonds persisted from year to year in this species, and that polyandry varied in frequency with population density, occurring more often among denser populations.—WILLIAM A. WEGNER, *324 Shuart Ave., Syracuse, NY 13203.* *Accepted 4 Nov. 1975.*

Yellow-crowned Night Herons defecate, disgorge pellets on shore.—Watching Yellow-crowned Night Herons (*Nyctanassa violacea*) fish in a small piedmont stream at Woodlawn, Baltimore Co., Maryland, in 1973 and 1974, I found that they quite regularly went ashore to defecate, and then reentered the water. I saw this sequence 16 times; another time a bird flew out of sight instead of reentering the stream. In contrast, I saw one bird defecate while standing in the water, and twice saw one defecate into the stream while flying above it.

This behavior has been reported (this note; Brackbill, Wilson Bull. 78:316, 1966; Recher and Recher, Auk 89:896, 1972) for every North American ardeid except *Bubulcus ibis, Egretta garzetta, Nycticorax nycticorax* and the 2 bitterns. Reynolds (Br. Birds 58: 384, 1965) and the Rechers have discussed the possibility that the behavior prevents the spread of endoparasites.

Another habit which might have that value was shown by the Yellow-crowns. They went ashore to disgorge undigestible material and then promptly reentered the stream. I saw this sequence 3 times, including once by an immature bird. A fourth time, a heron that had caught a small crayfish carried it a few meters to a sand bar, biting it to death on the way, placed it on the ground, disgorged, ate the crayfish and reentered the stream. Only once did I see a Yellow-crown regurgitate into the water. I find no mention of this behavior in the literature, and have no data on disgorging by other herons.—HERVEY BRACKBILL, *2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore, MD 21207. Accepted 6 Oct. 1975.*

Mourning Dove, Common Grackle cleaning bills.—Reviewing avian bill-wiping, Clark (Wilson Bull. 82:284, 1970) comments that he has not seen this done by Mourning Doves (*Zenaida macroura*). These doves visit my window feeding shelf in numbers, and in the frequent fights that occur tufts of small feathers are sometimes torn out. Usually these at once fall or blow away, but occasionally one sticks to the attacker's bill. Since 1962 I have noted that 1 bird dislodged such a tuft by shakes of the head, and 6 birds wiped it off by a stroke of the foot; I have never seen the bill wiped on the feeder rim or floor. I have also 5 times seen Common Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*) brush things off the bill with a foot; this species is on Clark's list of wipers.—HERVEY BRACKBILL, *2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore, MD 21207. Accepted 6 Oct. 1975.*

Cliff Swallow breeding in south-central Florida.—The breeding range of the Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) in the southeastern United States has been expanding in recent years and the first breeding records for Georgia and South Carolina were reported from Hartwell Dam on the Savannah River in 1965 (Tedards, Chat 29:95–97, 1965). On June 1975, I discovered 9 Cliff Swallow nests beneath U. S. Highway 441 bridge (Lat. 26°59'N, Long. 80°37'W) across the St. Lucie Canal, Port Mayaca, Martin Co., Florida. The bridge is located about 200 m east of Lake Okeechobee. This locality is approximately 840 km south of the nearest known nesting site at Hartwell Dam, Georgia–South Carolina line. How long Cliff Swallows may have been nesting in Martin County is unknown. No additional colonies were found during a search within a radius of 32 km from Port Mayaca.

Four visits during June to the Florida colony revealed that 2 nests were used by swallows, 3 by House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*), and 4 were empty. I watched as 2 young fledged from one nest on 10 June; the other nest contained much smaller nestlings. An adult male in breeding condition (right testis, 9.5 × 7.5 mm, left, 11.5 × 7.5 mm) was collected on 17 June from the nest where young had fledged. I knocked the nest down to retrieve the specimen and found that it contained 2 fresh eggs. This specimen (NMNH 567576) of the nominate race and eggshell fragments are at the U. S. National Museum. Adults were still feeding young in the remaining nest on my last visit to the site on 19 June.

The nests were located at the top of 2 sets of concrete pillars supporting the bridge spans. Each set of pillars is connected at the top by a concrete cap and by a large transverse beam just below the cap. Such structures create artificial "cliff" faces protecting