

# "A FIELD GUIDE"

The history of "A FIELD GUIDE FOR HAWKS SEEN IN THE NORTH EAST" parallels the beginning of the NEW ENGLAND HAWK WATCH which started in SEPTEMBER OF 1971.

On the back of an INSTRUCTION SHEET sent out to the PARTICIPANTS OF, AS IT WAS CALLED THEN, THE FALL HAWK MIGRATION, WAS PRINTED some simple HAWK SILHOUETTES. These were drawn by a non-ARTIST Jon Hopkins.

As the HAWK WATCH PROGRESSED OVER THE YEARS the need for a simplified field guide became APPARENT. At this time one of the WATCHERS Paul Carrier, ARTIST and GRAPHIC DESIGNER, volunteered to produce such a GUIDE. THE FIRST GUIDES, WERE PRINTED IN 1973 the COST<sup>of</sup> production was PICKED UP by Jan and Stu Mitchell of PORTLAND, ME.

By 1976 the FIELD GUIDES BECAME self-sustaining. A FEW YEARS later the guide was REVISED FROM a 4 page to a 6 page FORMAT AS IT APPEARS today. THE NEW GUIDES ADDED THE GYRFALCON AND Bald and Golden Eagles. THE COST OF THE GUIDE IS \$1.00 WITH BULK RATE VARYING FROM 10 COPIES for \$5.00 to A 1000 OR MORE \$125.00.

The primary purpose of the New England Hawk Watch was to study the Hawk migration with a secondary purpose of introducing more people to Hawks. In 1971 the founders of the New England Hawk Watch, Neil Currie, Gerald Mersezeau and Donald Hopkins, thought that by introducing Bird Clubs to 3 Field Trips (Hawk watches) two in the fall and one in the spring (Sept Oct & April) we could accomplish both objectives.

As most Bird club members were oriented toward the "dicky" birds, it was felt that a simple field guide was needed to improve their identification skills. Thus far some 70,000 guides have been distributed.

This formidable task has, over the years, been carried out by Jan and Stu Mitchell. The Mitchells who are now retired and are traveling eight months of the year, find it impossible to keep this up. Therefore they have turned the production and distribution over to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association. The guide has been revamped by Paul Carrier to include some of the western hawks, this should be available soon.

We ARE ALL deeply indebted to the  
ARTIST PAUL CARRIER AND JAN AND STEE MITCHELL  
FOR BRINGING hawks to so many people.

Dear Paul,

3/18/99

This is the best that I can come up  
with at this time. Edit it to fit what  
you need.

Sincerely

Don

HEYRUS