



THE ARKANSAS HAWKING ASSOCIATION



About the AHA

The Arkansas Hawking Association was established in 1992. Our principle goal was to organize the falconers of Arkansas and establish a respectable relationship with state and federal agencies. It is through this relationship we have had a voice in our state's falconry regulations which has become one of the best documented regulations throughout the United States. The Association became a legal non-profit entity under the Federal 501(c)(3) code as of November 19, 2014.

Mission Statement

In order to improve, aid, and encourage competency in the art and practice of falconry among interested persons, to provide communication among and to disseminate information to interested Members; to promote scientific study of the raptorial species, their care, welfare and training; to promote conservation of the birds of prey and an appreciation of their value in nature and in wildlife conservation programs; to urge recognition of falconry as a legal field sport; and, to establish traditions which will aid, perpetuate, and further the welfare falconry and the raptors it employs.

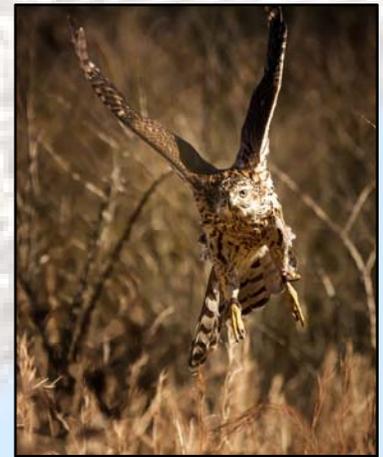
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For more information, look us up on the web at
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What is Falconry?

What is Falconry?

Falconry can be defined as the taking of wild quarry in its natural state and habitat by means of a trained raptor. This ancient art is a very demanding endeavor, requiring a serious dedication of time and energy from the falconer. On November 16, 2010 the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) added falconry to its list of [Intangible Cultural Heritages of Humanity](#). Here's an overview for those who want to know more.

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BECOME A FALCONER?

You may have recently read about this ancient art in a book or periodical, learned about it through television or radio, perhaps a movie, or may have even seen a trained hawk in action. Whatever the case, you were obviously impressed enough to want to learn more about the sport of falconry, and we appreciate your interest.

Few people thrilling at the brief, intense magic of a trained hawk in flight realize the intense demands placed upon one who aspires to be a falconer. Even fewer are willing to make the necessary sacrifices.

Time

Falconry is not an "overnight" achievement. **Becoming a Master falconer takes at least seven years; finishing your apprenticeship alone will take at least two.** Your hawk requires a significant amount of time, every day, 365 days a year, and a bird in training requires substantially more time. Raptors, unlike a rifle or a bow, cannot be hung on the wall and forgotten until the next hunting trip. You might be oaky with this time commitment, but is your spouse okay with it? Your kids? Your career?

Effort and Ethics

Of all sports in America, falconry is the only one that utilizes a trained wild creature. Falcons, hawks, eagles and owls are essential elements of our wildlife. The competent falconer takes care to follow sound conservation principles in the pursuit of the sport. Even though the federal government's environmental assessment states falconry has "no impact" on wild raptor populations, a careless, uninformed individual, attempting to satisfy a passing fancy, can do great harm to one or more birds and cast the shadow of discredit on the sport of falconry itself. Most falconers, therefore, before they will agree to help anyone newly attracted to the sport, will require evidence of a serious, committed interest in falconry. They just don't have time for anything else. The [ethics](#) of practicing quality falconry are an important part of a falconer's every day life.

Permits

Because all raptors are protected by state, federal, and international law, all potential falconers must obtain the necessary permits and licenses before acquiring a hawk or practicing falconry. This can take quite a while, since it includes taking a written falconry exam and getting the appropriate signatures. In some states, hunter education courses are required before you can get your hunting license. If you can't keep your paperwork straight, even in triplicate (three copies), don't consider falconry.

Money

Most people immediately think of the cost of acquiring a hawk, but the price of the bird is only the beginning, assuming you can purchase one. In North America most apprentice falconers will be required by their sponsor to trap at least their first bird from the wild. You must have money to spend. Spend on food, shelter, equipment, veterinary costs, permits and fees, and travel. To keep it healthy, you must feed your raptor only fresh raw meat, preferably the exact same whole birds or mammals they would catch in the wild on their own. Housing and equipment requirements are mandated by state and federal law. You will need the money to buy the raw materials and you will need the skill to work with these materials and you will be inspected before you are permitted to acquire a hawk by state and possibly local officials. Most falconers also spend considerable amounts of money on [books](#) as a source of vital information and enjoyment. You will have to pay permit and license fees as well. Travel adds up fast, too; obtaining a hawk, visiting other falconers, training and hunting can put literally thousands of miles on your car and empty wallets quickly.

Access to Land

You must have permission to enter adequate and convenient locations in which to fly a hawk or falcon and there must be appropriate game available. Remember too that in some locations written permission of the property owner is required. The falcons require wide open expanses of land where they may be flown high over the falconer, while hawks and small accipiters can be hunted in smaller fields or farms. Gun hunting, roads, power lines, urban settings and barbed wire fences may render an otherwise suitable location unusable because of the potential threats to the raptor and or the falconer.

Personality

Are you sincerely interested in all aspects of wildlife and the out-of-doors?

How badly do you want to learn? Are you ready to start at the bottom.. and stay there for two or more years?

Can you listen to and follow other people's advice?

How much have you already read? A serious commitment to becoming a falconer is often evidenced by a ravenous appetite for books or online information.

Can you hunt? Not do you know how, which is a challenge in itself, but are you emotionally prepared? Falconry is sharing your life with a creature that has evolved over millions of years as a predator.

After investing all this time and effort, do you really understand that, at any moment of free flight, your bird can choose to simply fly away and never return?

This is just a brief overview. It is not meant to be discouraging. It is meant to make you realize that the art and practice of falconry is months and years of hard work punctuated by brief moments of exhilaration, excitement and joy as well as punctuated by moments of sorrow, grief, stress and frustration.

If you feel you are ready to get serious, the next steps are to contact your [local wildlife agency \(state or provincial game department\)](#) for a falconry packet, join your [local falconry organization](#), and [join NAFA](#). Need a step-by-step recommendation on how to become a falconer? Click [here](#).

Whether or not you eventually become a falconer, we hope that you will retain a friendly interest in birds of prey, their conservation, and the ancient art and sport of falconry.

Falconry Ethics

This document was developed by the NAFA Ethics Committee and originally produced in April, 2009 and approved by the NAFA Board of Directors on May 21, 2009.

NAFA Policy: 09-004

I. Use of Raptors by Falconers

Falconry is taking wild quarry in its natural state with a trained raptor.

Falconry does not include the keeping of birds of prey as pets or prestige items, for captive-breeding purposes, for rehabilitation or education purposes, for shows, renaissance fairs and the like, or for purely scientific purposes.

The justification for falconers to possess raptorial birds is the sportsmanlike pursuit of wild quarry.

Because they use a natural resource, falconers have certain obligations to assure the continued availability of that resource locally as well as regionally, nationally, or globally.

The future survival of wild populations of birds of prey, should temper the activities of all falconers by using sound wildlife management principles.

The falconer will ensure that raptor nests are disturbed as little as possible and will ensure that all traces of human contact are removed (through the use of moth balls, for example).

At least one eyass shall be left in the nest.

Due to the high natural mortality rate of young wild raptors and the fact that wild adult birds represent breeding stock, falconers should acquire only eyass, passage, or captive-bred birds.

Falconers are totally obligated to birds in their immediate possession. Their physical and psychological welfare is of the greatest importance.

Falconers should keep only as many birds as can be cared for properly and hunted effectively.

Unwanted birds should be passed on to fellow falconers or released in a manner which will assure their survival.

Every effort should be made to recover lost hawks, particularly imprinted eyasses that become lost.

Falconers should seek the aid of a competent veterinarian or other medical help should their bird become ill or injured.

Falconers should take all necessary steps to remove or mitigate the known risks of electrocution, engine exhaust (carbon monoxide) poisoning, injurious squirrel bites, collisions with fences, injury due to extremes of temperature, etc.

II. Legal Obligations of Falconers

Falconers must practice falconry in accordance with existing laws.

State, federal and international laws which relate to all aspects of falconry should be understood and obeyed.

A falconer convicted of a serious misdemeanor or a felony related to his falconry activities should resign from all organized falconry activities.

Illegal forms of commercialism or trafficking in birds of prey, wild or captive-bred, are not in the best interests of falconry or the falconry community, since they lead to exploitation of wild populations, disrespect of the noble raptor, and damages to the honored sport of falconry. Falconers should have no part in such criminal activities.

Any falconer with factual information concerning illegal trafficking in birds of prey should make such information available to the proper authorities. It is in the best interests of falconers to police their own ranks.

Since lawful does not always mean ethical, falconers will err to the side of the highest standards of conduct towards their bird, their fellow falconers, and the laws of the land. Just because an activity is legal does not mean it is always desirable, ethical, or biologically sound.

In addition, NAFA members have the obligation to comply with NAFA by-laws, and policies of the organization.

III. NAFA Positions on Ethics of Falconry

Underlying these positions is the following definition: "Falconry is taking wild quarry in its natural state with a trained raptor."

A. Raptor Maintenance

NAFA supports falconers in keeping, within regulatory entitlement, only those birds (both by species and numbers) that they can regularly fly at quarry. It is incumbent upon each falconer, in addition to meeting minimal standards required by regulation, to ensure that his/her birds are equipped, housed, and maintained in the manner most conducive to their individual well-being. Each falconer is urged to take all available measures to minimize the possibility of loss of his birds and to make every effort to recover any birds lost. Each falconer, likewise, is expected to spare no effort in curing a sick raptor. He is expected to ensure that if a raptor is no longer desired, it is passed on to another qualified falconer able to fly it at wild quarry or that it is returned to the wild with full capability of sustaining itself.

B. Compliance with Falconry Laws and Regulations

Each falconer is under a moral as well as a legal obligation to observe the laws and regulations of his own and foreign countries with regard to taking, importing and exporting raptors, the taking of quarry, and access to land.

C. Conservation of Raptors

The well being of our native raptor populations is fundamental to the continued practice of falconry. Each falconer, therefore, should endeavor to promote the utmost welfare and survival of these populations in their wild state in accordance with accepted precepts of use-management conservation. NAFA opposes the taking of haggards, or members of the wild breeding population, except under

exceptional circumstances, (such as birds that would be destroyed due to depredation). NAFA urges that in taking eyass raptors, at least one young should be left in the eyrie/nest unless, again, exceptional circumstances prevail. NAFA opposes commercial traffic in wild-taken North American raptors regardless of private ownership status. NAFA does not support the creation of vendors in wild-taken raptors or of individual falconers profiting from the sale of wild-taken birds.

D. Fair Chase

Originally, falconry was a means of providing meat for the falconer's table. In its purest form, falconry is a raptor doing what it does naturally – hunt its prey – in cooperation with a human. The laws of nature decree that a wild raptor pursuing wild quarry is a fair chase. Neither side has an unfair advantage over the other. This is the purest form of falconry, its highest ideal and practice. NAFA holds that modern falconry should be conducted in this same manner. Unfair advantage, no matter its source, should be avoided in favor of quarry having a fair chance of escape. This practice of fair chase is a high calling. Where falconers adhere to it, the sport of falconry cannot be judged guilty of acts of cruelty or inhumane treatment of quarry.

E. Sponsorship

The future of falconry rests in the hands of today's falconry sponsors. The responsibilities of a sponsor to the apprentice, and the apprentice's bird, are very serious. True sponsorship requires a high level of dedication, involvement, and personal sacrifice. Sponsoring an apprentice falconer is not to be taken lightly. It is more than signing a form. A falconry sponsor is responsible to the apprentice, to his/her raptor, and to the rest of the falconry community. Therefore, the falconry sponsor should be scrupulously legal, uncompromisingly ethical, and continually available to the apprentice. The falconry sponsor should be a highly competent falconer who hunts regularly and who is always aware of the apprentice's activities and the condition of the apprentice's bird.

F. Exotics

Based on extensive scientific scrutiny and historic evidence, NAFA supports the use of non-native (exotic) raptors - to include hybrids - in the practice of falconry in North America. Despite lack of scientific evidence of any threat to native avifauna, NAFA nonetheless counsels against any deliberate release into the wild of such raptors. NAFA assumes that falconers treat exotic raptors no differently than native raptors, regardless of the differences in their legal standing.

G. Captive Breeding

NAFA recognizes the importance of captive breeding as a significant source of birds for both falconry and release to the wild for restoration of wild populations, when necessary. NAFA concurs in the commercial sale of captive-bred progeny to appropriately licensed and qualified recipients as a way to encourage the production of captive-bred birds so that they will be available for both purposes.

H. Publicity

Falconers are cautioned about the dangers of publicity. Those considering public presentation are urged to consult NAFA's Public Information Officer. In general, the only two acceptable alternatives are the very highest quality presentation or no publicity at all. With or without publicity, application of discretion, moderation, and common sense by all falconers will go a long way toward maintaining a

favorable image of our sport. Activities aimed at, or reasonably capable of, recruiting new falconers are to be avoided. Falconry is not for everyone and the decision to become an apprentice falconer should be carefully made. Falconers should not be overly solicitous when approached by someone wishing to become a falconer. Making sure they understand the true nature and requirements of falconry is the primary goal.

I. Private Ownership of Raptors

NAFA is a strong supporter of private ownership rights of captive bred falconry raptors, within the overall meanings of this policy. From a practical perspective however, NAFA's position is that the well-being of raptors is a higher priority than the rights of the falconer. Falconers do not intentionally place their own interests above the well-being of their birds. Therefore, NAFA supports the current legal frameworks which allow only duly licensed persons to possess raptors for any purpose.

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Recommended Reading

The following is a list of reading material recommended by the North American Falconers Association. There are several good book dealers who will be able to supply you with the items below.

Are you a falconer who is:

- Still Trying To Make Up Your Mind?
- Acquiring Basic Knowledge And Studying For The Test
- Organizing Your Equipment And Facilities
- Manning, Training, and Hunting
- Expanding On The Basics -- Achieving Greater Perspectives

There are also good reference books available:

- Ancient And Modern Classics
- Natural History And Biology Of Raptors
- Raptor Identification
- Medical Texts

Still Trying To Make Up Your Mind?

· **A BOND WITH THE WILD**

North American Falconer's Association. 1993. North American Falconers Association. Berthoud, CO. 207pg. (out of print) Twenty-four essays by several of the best modern falconers trying to explain why we go to all the effort and expense of falconry. A great book on the "why-we-do" of falconry.

· **THE LURE OF FALCONRY - video**

California Hawking Club. 1991.

This 20-minute video is an excellent introduction to our sport; contains information hard to find from other sources. The educational video reveals the incredible partnership between humans and birds of prey, and it is a good introduction to the art of falconry. It explains how state and federal regulations protect both the raptors flown in falconry, as well as wild raptor populations. The video is especially useful to the prospective falconer who is trying to make up their mind to "take the plunge," as well as the experienced falconer. It is the best video to illustrate both the risks and the rewards of this ancient, compelling sport.

Acquiring Basic Knowledge And Studying For The Test

· **A FALCONRY MANUAL**

(2nd edition), Beebe, F. L. 1992. Hancock House, Blaine. 197pg.

This is an excellent companion to the previous California Hawking Club products. This book, when added to the video, the study guide, and apprentice manual, should be able to help you make the final decision to become a falconer and provide with the basic information that would help you pass "The Test."

· **APPRENTICE STUDY GUIDE**

Holderman, F.W. (Ed.). 1998. California Hawking Club. 110pg.

This study guide helps you prepare for the falconry exam that is required by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and is administered by individual states. It provides questions similar (not identical) to those included on the exam, and it provides explanations for correct answers. The study guide covers

identification, natural history, hunting and falconry techniques, health and illnesses, and an up-to date section on laws and regulations.

- **APPRENTICE MANUAL**

California Hawking Club. In Press.

This is a narrative supplement to the California Hawking Club APPRENTICE STUDY GUIDE.

Organizing Your Equipment And Facilities

- **FALCONRY EQUIPMENT**

Kimsey, B.A and J. Hodge. 1998. (2nd printing), Kimsey/Hodge Publications, Houston, TX. 184pg.

After you pass the test, you will need to get your equipment and facilities together to pass the required inspection. This book and your sponsor will be your best guides to hawk houses (mews), weathering areas, perches, and a variety of falconry equipment to properly care for a bird.

Manning, Training, and Hunting

- **AMERICAN KESTRELS IN MODERN FALCONRY**

Mullenix, M. 2002. Western Sporting Publications, Ranchester, WY. 139 pg.

The first and only hawking guide that is devoted completely to training and caring for the challenging American kestrel. This book is an excellent companion to the books on the red-tailed hawk, and it is an absolute necessity if you are considering a kestrel.

- **BUTEOS AND BUSHYTAILS**

Brewer, G. 1995.. GLB Publications, Chandler, TX. 135pg.

Highly focused on the art of squirrel hunting in dense woods with red-tails and Harris' hawks. Exceptionally reader friendly.

- **TOPICAL SELECTIONS FROM HAWK CHALK -- Conditioning and Training**

Shor, W. 1997, North American Falconers Association

This set of selected articles have been reprinted from the pages of HAWK CHALK (the NAFA newsletter) and discuss the latest training and conditioning techniques, including operant conditioning and click training

Both of the following manuals are devoted to training and caring for the passage red-tail hawk. While other authors have covered a variety of subjects for all levels of falconers, McGranaghan and Oakes have focused on the passage red-tail in a way that particularly benefits apprentice or beginner falconers. Topics range from equipment/facilities, trapping, manning and hunting.

- o **THE FALCONER'S APPRENTICE**

Oakes, W. 1993. -- A Guide to Training the Red-Tailed Hawk. EagleWing Publishing, Warrens, WI. 175pg.

- o **THE RED-TAILED HAWK**

McGranaghan, L. 1996. -- A complete guide to training and hunting North America's most versatile game hawk. Privately published. 160pg.

Expanding On The Basics -- Achieving Greater Perspectives

- **THE HISTORY AND PRACTICES OF FALCONRY**

Oswald, A. 1982. . Spearman, Jersey. 120pg.

Oswald discusses the history of falconry from our shadowy beginnings until the modern day. Many falconry books cover little, if any, of the history of falconry, but this one is devoted to the topic. The small volume lends perspective to the traditions of our sport.

THE PILGRIM AND THE COWBOY

McKay, P. 1989. . McGraw-Hill Publisher. Co., New York, NY. 214pg. (ISBN 0-07-045317-9)

All falconers, young and old, must constantly be reminded about Operation Falcon -- one of the 'darkest events' in American falconry. This book, written by investigative journalist Paul McKay, recounts this undercover sting operation that culminated in June, 1984. The author illustrates how a few individuals were able to 'create' a black market in falcons that resulted in several falconers being enticed into breaking the law.

FALCONRY, ART AND PRACTICE

Ford, E. 1992. Blandford, London. 191pg.

Very much the British equivalent to Frank L. Beebe's A FALCONRY MANUAL, Ms. Ford covers falconry in England, where the handling the birds is very similar, but the laws and regulations are quite different as compare to in North America.

NORTH AMERICAN FALCONRY AND HUNTING HAWKS

Beebe, F.L and H. M. Webster. 1994. (7th edition). Privately printed, Denver, CO. 540pg.

One of the most comprehensive books on falconry, this masterpiece covers the depth and breadth of falconry in North America, with somewhat of an emphasis on long wings. [NLP]

UNDERSTANDING THE BIRD OF PREY

Fox, N. 1995. Hancock, Blaine. 384pg.

Primarily a technical book about birds of prey, Chapters 7 and 8 discuss hunting with raptors (falconry) and the interactions between raptors and humans that lends additional insights to the how we work with our birds.

DESERT HAWKING . . .WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

McElroy, H. 1996. . Privately published. 430pg.

Written and published by one of America's foremost short-wing falconers, this book expands on the apprentice's perspectives to include the accipiters and Harris' hawks.

UNDERSTANDING GOSHAWKS

Perkins, D. 2008. Privately published. 175pg.

Former NAFA President and Author Darryl A. Perkins has captured the essence of this northern predator of the boreal forest and gives the reader an intimate glance into the psyche and training of this magnificent bird.

THE IMPRINT ACCIPITER II

McDermott, M. 2009. Western Sporting, 2nd Edition 272pg.

A superbly written book by Mike McDermott that has a great new wealth of information about training the Northern Goshawk, Coopers hawk and Sharp-shinned hawk. A full color edition with many new pictures, graphs and illustrations.

THE Harris's Hawk Revolution

Coulson, Jenifer and Tom 2012. Parabuteo Publishing, L.L.C., 661pg.

This falconry book is specifically designed to help falconers become better caretakers, trainers, and hunters, to help breeders increase production, and to make captive bred raptors better falconry birds and hunting hawks. The Coulsons teach about husbandry, rearing, training, socialization, scouting, hunting, selective breeding, and captive propagation techniques.

Ancient And Modern Classics

Some of the following books may no longer be in print, and most are considered classics on falconry and birds of prey. If you're lucky, you might be able to locate a copy to check out of a library or borrow one from another falconer. If you're really lucky, you might be able to purchase one for your own bookshelf, but expect to pay the price. As for obtaining your own personal copy, these books occasionally appear on lists of books available from book vendors or in silent auctions. Another source might be by obtaining one free as a door prize at a falconry meet or a picnic (that is if you're really, really lucky!).

DE ARTE VENANDI CUM AVIBUS ("The Art of Falconry").

Emperor Frederick II of Hohenstaufen. 1248. Translated and edited by C.A. Wood and F.M. Fyfe in 1943 (later reprinted in 1955 and reissued in 1961), Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA. 637pg.

You won't find any more of a classic book on falconry than this one -- it was the first major work published on falconry, and has been acclaimed in ornithological textbooks as a hallmark book on the study of birds. Although it has been 750 years since this treatise was written, much of it was penned in a manner that reflects the knowledge and experience of some of the best modern falconers. Not only does it address the training and hunting of birds of prey, but it contains a wealth of information on the ecology and behavior of waterfowl and upland game birds as well.

THE GOSHAWK

White, T.H. 1996. Lyons and Burford Co., New York, NY. 215pg.

This book was first published in 1951. It is a well-written classic about a man learning about falconry.

A HAWK FOR THE BUSH

Mavrogordato, J. 1960. Clarkson N. Potter, Inc. New York, NY. 206pg.

A classic book on training shortwings, with an emphasis on Old World short-winged hawks. Expect to pay big bucks for this book, if you can find a copy (out of print and in high demand).

THE ART AND PRACTICE OF HAWKING (7th edition)

Mitchell, E.B. 1971. Charles T. Branford Co., Newton, MA. 291pg.

This classic book on falconry in Great Britain was first published in 1900. This reference is better for providing a glimpse of what falconry was like during the late 1800's in England, rather than being a guide for the practice of falconry in North America today.

OBSERVATIONS ON MODERN FALCONRY

Stevens, R. 1978. Falconiformes Press Ltd., Saskatoon, Sask. 112pg. (ISBN 0-920158-04-8)

An excellent text that entirely lacks pictures and diagrams. Yet, this book provides excellent food for thought and reflection for someone who has already trained a couple of birds. It has brief but excellent passages on hooding, hacking, and the gyrfalcon.

Natural History And Biology Of Raptors

LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS OF PREY (Vol. I & II)

Bent, A.C. 1937-1938. , Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 409pg & 482 pg.

These two volumes, which are part of a larger set of volumes dedicated to the life histories of all North American birds, represent one of the most comprehensive looks into the lives of raptors. Have plenty of time available, if you should choose to read these two volumes cover to cover.

POPULATION ECOLOGY OF RAPTORS

Newton, I. 1979. , Buteo Books, Vermilion, SD. 399pg.

Dr. Ian Newton is considered by many authorities to be the leading raptor biologist in the world. In this book, he synthesizes virtually all of the published literature that existed on raptor population biology at the time of publication. The book truly sets a standard for what is known and what is not known about raptor population dynamics and population interactions. While it is "a must" for any professional raptor biologist, its readability lends it also to being a leading choice to occupy the bookshelf of most falconers and raptor enthusiasts.

EAGLES, HAWKS AND FALCONS OF THE WORLD

Brown, L. and D. Amadon. 1989. The Wellfleet Press, Secaucus, NJ. 945pg.

Originally printed as a two-volume set in 1968, this single-bound edition was reprinted to make this standard reference more available. It is one of the most, if not the most, cited reference on birds of prey of the world. An excellent resource, especially if your interest in raptors goes beyond the North American continent.

HAWKS, EAGLES AND FALCONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Johnsgard, P.A. 1990. . Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 403pg.

This is an excellent reference to the biology of North American raptors. It contains some of the most concise, accurate, and detailed descriptions on numerous aspects of raptor biology.

THE WIND MASTERS

Dunne, P., 1995. 263pg.

Not a book about falconry, but written by one of the premier bird watchers in North America, this book gives us a glimpse into the inner workings of our raptor's minds.

HAWKS IN THE HAND (2nd edition)

Craighead, F. & J. 1997. Lyons and Burford Co., New York, NY. 352pg.

Originally published in 1939, this highly readable book spins a web of birds, dogs and people that has entrapped and entertained falconers and falconer "wanna-be's" over the decades since it first was published. It remains entertaining and applicable today.

Raptor Identification

These three books are intended for the identification of birds of prey, mostly in the field. Dunne et al. describes how to tell raptors apart as they soar lazily overhead or from snatched glimpses as they fly away. The first Clark and Wheeler book is your basic Peterson field guide, which obviously is dedicated to diurnal raptors. The second book adds the depth of color to the first.

HAWKS IN FLIGHT

Dunne, P., D. Sibley, and C. Sutton. 1988. . Houghton-Mifflin, Boston, MA. 254pg.

GUIDE TO THE HAWKS OF NORTH AMERICA

Clark, W.S. and B.K. Wheeler. 1987. Houghton-Mifflin, Boston, MA. 198pg.

· **A PHOTOGRAPHIC GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN RAPTORS**

Wheeler, B.K., and W. S. Clark. 1996. (2nd edition). Academic Press. 216pg.

Medical Texts

· **MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF CAPTIVE BIRDS OF PREY**

Redig, P.T. 1993. (2nd edition). The Raptor Center, St. Paul, MN. 184pg.

The essential medical manual for beginners, with a special chapter on the care and maintenance of falconry hawks.

· **VETERINARY ASPECTS OF CAPTIVE BIRDS OF PREY**

Cooper, J.E. 1978. The Standfast Press, Gloucestershire, U.K. 256+pg.

This is an excellent book on raptor diseases and injuries. It is quite technical in nature, but is a good one for the bookshelf.

· **RAPTOR BIOMEDICINE**

Redig, P.T., J.E. Cooper, D. Remple, and B. Hunter. 1993. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, MN. 288pg. This is an excellent but highly technical veterinary manual on birds of prey. A bit advanced for beginners, but an excellent reference.

SUGGESTED READING

Falconry: Art and Practice by Emma Ford -approx \$30.00

Apprenticeship Manual by the California Hawking Club -approx \$15.00

Apprentice Study Guide by the California Hawking Club -approx \$20.00

(This book has sample questions and sample tests to take)

Hawks In Flight by Dunne, Peter, David Sibley & Clay Sutton -approx. \$14.00

(Good for learning Identification)

The Peterson Field Guide to Hawks by William Clark –approx. \$15.00

The Red-Tailed Hawk by McGranaghan -approx. \$30.00

American Kestrels in Modern Falconry by Mullenix -approx. \$20.00

A Falconry Manual by Beebe -approx \$20.00

North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks by Beebe & Webster -approx. \$60.00

(Considered “the” book by most falconers)

The Complete Falconer by Beebe- approx. \$70.00

Falconry and Hawking by Philip Glasier –approx. \$70.00

Falconry Equipment by B.A. Kimsey and J/ Hodge –approx. \$30.00

Veterinary Aspects of Captive Birds of Prey by J.E. Cooper –approx. \$35.00

7/14/2014

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Learn about Falconry Hunting & How to Become an Expert Falconer with Mike's Falconry Supplies - Your #1 Source for Falconry Training Supplies & More Online. Falconry is the art and practice of hunting for wild quarry with a trained hawk or falcon. Falconry was known as the sport of kings and dates back almost four thousand years and it is the oldest field sport known to mankind. What it takes to become a falconer. Time, Dedication & Patience needed. Edit contact information. Message Center. Discover Falconry Equipments. falconry gloves,hawking vests,hoods,jackets,lures,working gloves,leather glove Home Introduction Products Purchase List News Honor Contact Us. Location Home » Contact Us. If actively hunting wild quarry is not appealing to you, then falconry is not for you. Of all our field sports, falconry is the only one that uses a trained wild animal. The hawks and falcons that are utilized are a valuable part of the Commonwealth's wildlife. The competent falconer recognizes this and takes care to follow sound conservation principles in pursuit of the sport. In fact, the very existence of falconry depends upon the continued welfare of the birds of prey.