

**Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
1934—2009 Chronology**

- 1929**—The Pennsylvania Game Commission places \$5 bounty on the Goshawk
- 1931**—George Miksch Sutton, Pennsylvania state ornithologist, reports on the status of the goshawk in the *Wilson Bulletin*, noting the high number of bounties paid for goshawks shot at Dreherstown, and reviewing what he knew of a "remarkable" migration there along the Kittatinny Ridge.
- 1932**—Sutton's article prompts birder and photographer Richard Pough of Philadelphia to investigate further. On a Sunday in September, he travels to the ridge above Dreherstown and witnesses the hawk shooting. He returns to photograph hundreds of gunned-down Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks, reporting the slaughter scene in *Bird Lore*, the precursor of *Audubon* magazine.
- 1933**—Pough addresses a New York City meeting of conservationists on hawk-shooting, with special reference to Hawk Mountain. In the audience is Rosalie Edge, head of the Emergency Conservation Committee.
- 1934**—In June, Edge visits the Mountain with her son and Pough, and a few weeks later obtains a lease on 1,400 acres for \$500. In September, she installs the first warden and curator, Maurice Broun to stop the shooting. Broun and his wife Irma post the property, notify local newspapers of the Sanctuary's new status, and hire an armed deputy to patrol the nearby road. Later that fall, Broun begins to monitor and count the migrating birds.
- 1937**—A Pennsylvania law protects all hawks except the goshawk, Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawk, however the law is not enforced.
- 1938**—The Emergency Conservation Committee secures clear title to Hawk Mountain and deeds it to the newly incorporated Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association; Rosalie Edge is its first president.
- 1940**—Hawk Mountain's total raptor count reaches 100,000 on September 13.
- 1942**—In April, Maurice Broun addresses 14,077 local sportsmen and students, illustrating his talk with a color movie of hawks in flight over the Sanctuary; the film is later internationally distributed by the Brooklyn Children's Museum.
- 1943**—No counts of migrating raptors are recorded from 1943 to 1945, during World War II.
- 1946**—The Sanctuary begins year-round operations.
- 1948**—Annual attendance climbs to 5,500; membership to 1,000; Edge urges every member to work for hawk protection legislation in their own states.
- 1949**—Broun publishes *Hawk's Aloft*, a personal account of the Sanctuary's early years.

- 1950**—Broun and volunteers continue to document hawk shooting of protected species at nearby ridges. On September 4, 1950, a one-day record 48 Bald Eagles fly past, at least one tattered by gunshot.
- 1951**—The Pennsylvania Game Commission terminates the \$5 bounty on goshawks.
- 1952**—In Connecticut, Hawk Mountain members lead the way for the first comprehensive state law protecting all hawks and eagles.
- 1954**—Hawk Mountain's annual visitation rises to 12,000. Two goshawks grace the cover of the January *Pennsylvania Game News*—the first of a commissioned series of bird of prey portraits by Dr. Earl Poole, director of the Reading Museum and one of the first board members of the Sanctuary.
- 1957**—A Pennsylvania law protects all hawks during the migration months of September and October in the northeastern part of the state (Limited to area north of Route 22 and west of the Susquehanna River).
- 1959**—Hawk Mountain builds and opens the Common Room to use for education programs.
- 1962**—As evidence of DDT's impact, Rachel Carson cites the decline of Bald Eagles as seen in migration counts at Hawk Mountain in *Silent Spring*. Upon the death of Mrs. Edge, her son Peter Edge assumes presidency.
- 1965**—Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is designated a National Natural Landmark by the U.S. Department of Interior.
- 1966**—Maurice Brown retires as first curator and is succeeded by Alex Nagy.
- 1970**—The Pennsylvania State Legislature passes the Pennsylvania Model Hawk Law, protecting all birds of prey except the great horned and snowy owl.
- 1972**—Widespread use of DDT is banned in the United States. Startlingly low counts of Bald Eagles (23), Peregrine Falcons (10) and Ospreys are recorded at Hawk Mountain. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act is amended to extend protection to all hawks and owls.
- 1973**—*Feathers In the Wind* by Alex Nagy and Jim Brett and *The View From Hawk Mountain* by Michael Harwood, are published.
- 1974**—Hawk Mountain's student intern program begins with one local student. Systematic hawk watches at sites along migratory flyways, like that begun at Hawk Mountain, are linked by the newly formed Hawk Migration Association of North America. New Visitor Center opens.
- 1978**—A record flight of 21,488 broadwings passes the Sanctuary.
- 1979**—Schaumboch's, a revolutionary-era cottage, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1971**—Maurice Broun passes away.
- 1981**—Alex Nagy retires as curator and is succeeded by Jim Brett.

- 1983**—The Sanctuary inaugurates a formal volunteer program.
- 1984**—The President's Council on Environmental Quality cites the Sanctuary Association as a model private initiative for conservation in the Sanctuary's 50th anniversary year.
- 1986**—Hawk Mountain welcomes its first international intern, a student from Israel. *The Mountain and Migration* by Jim Brett is published.
- 1987**—Hawk Mountain receives the prestigious Chevron Conservation Award.
- 1991**—The Joseph and Helen Taylor Visitor Center, named in honor of Helen and Joseph Taylor, the Sanctuary's president from 1967 to 1992, is built and opened to the public in November. The new visitor center contains a raptor exhibits gallery, bookstore, public restrooms and administrative offices.
- 1992**—Hawk Mountain's 1 millionth counted raptor, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, passes the North Lookout on October 8.
- 1993**—*Hawks Aloft Worldwide*, the Mountain's international conservation initiative, contacts over 600 raptor conservationists to identify raptor migration sites worldwide and unify conservation efforts.
- 1995**—*Hawks Aloft Worldwide* publishes a Spanish & English version of the *Raptor Migration Watch Site Manual*. A training workshop in Veracruz, Mexico, draws participants from seven Latin American countries.
- 1996**—20th Anniversary of Internship Program. Jim Brett retires as curator.
- 1997**—Hawk Mountain observes a season record of the highest number of migrating golden eagle— 101 and peregrine falcon— 60.
- 1998**—Membership rises to 10,000. New records are set for migrating Bald Eagles (154), Golden Eagle (144) and Cooper's Hawk (1,121).
- 1999**—Hawk Mountain purchases a 20-acre parcel, extending the Sanctuary to over 2,400 acres. Known as The Amelia Earhart Tract, it is the first land addition in 15 years.
- 2000**—*Raptor Watch, a global directory of raptor migration watchsites* published in June. More than 800 raptor experts contributed to this book that describes 388 globally significant sites in 89 countries. Hawk Mountain adopts its Land Management Plan.
- 2001**—Hawk Mountain Sanctuary acquires 43 acres for building site and breaks ground to construct the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning.
- 2002**—Hawk Mountain adds 124 acres, its largest land acquisition in 17 years. The Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, the Sanctuary's new biological field station and training facility, is dedicated. Wings of Wonder exhibit opens at Visitor Center. Peter Edge passes away. A record 31 Peregrine Falcons observed October 3.
- 2003**—The Acopian Center for Conservation Learning marks its first full year of operation by launching two large-scale research projects on raptor migration. More than 30 visiting scientists are welcomed to the Center.

- 2004**—Executive Director Cynthia Lenhart steps down after 12 years of service and Lee Schisler, Jr, assumes the newly-named position as President. The Sanctuary receives its first endowed staff position, the Sarkis Acopian Director of Conservation Science.
- 2006** The 70th Annual Hawkwatch records more than 25,000 raptors, including record Golden Eagles and Merlins, and record-tying Peregrine Falcons.
- 2007** Hawk Mountain launches the new educational outreach program "Raptor Challenge." Hawk Mountain and its partners in the Raptor Population Index project publish, "State of North America's Birds of Prey," the first continental-scale assessment of raptors.
- 2009** Hawk Mountain celebrates its 75th anniversary as the first refuge for birds of prey. The Acopian Center hosts an international workshop for nearly 40 scientists to establish a common repository for collecting satellite telemetry data on migrating raptors. Hawk Mountain and its partners in the Raptor Population Index Project receive the national Partners in Flight Leadership Award for contributions to bird conservation.