

*Tom*

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January 29, 1980

Peter C. Petersen            and Dr. Gladys Black  
235 McClellan Blvd.           Pleasantville, Iowa 50225  
Davenport, Iowa 52803

Dear Pete and Gladys,

I'm reporting the sighting of one Snowy Owl. On Friday morning, January 25, 1980 Mr. and Mrs. Garold Galvin (Ila May) spotted the Snowy Owl on a fencepost along the east side of Buena Vista County Iowa blacktop highway near the NW corner of Section 7 Township 92 North- Range 37 West (Scott Township). The Garold Galvins address is RR 2 - Alta, Iowa ~~5022~~ 51002. Their phone is (712) 296-4407.

Garold called me about 11:30 A.M. to alert me to the presence of the Snowy Owl. Virginia couldn't go because she was down with the flu. I contacted Mrs. Phil (Ruth) Thornton and Mrs. Robert (Ardiss) Galvin - both are birders. We drove to the site of the sighting. Ardiss spotted it flying northwesterly over the NW 5 acres of Section 7. It flew to a fencepost about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile north of the sections corner intersection which is the blacktop hwy. M38 and an E-W county gravel road. The post was on the west side of the hwy. on the east side of Section 1 T 92N - R 38W (Elk Twp.) Buena Vista County Iowa. The 3 of us with binoculars and scope watched from the intersection. I shot Ektachrome 200 with 400 mm telephoto on my 35 mm SLR camera but don't expect to see much at that distance. When we attempted to close\* the distance for closer looks and photos the Owl flushed. Flying close to the ground it soared to the highest point on the moraine located about the middle of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 1. We watched it from that distance for some time and then returned home.

I went back alone on Saturday, but was not able to spot the Owl.

Very truly yours,

*Ed Crocker*

copy to The Garold Galvins  
The Robert Galvins - RR 1 - Alta, Iowa 51002  
The Phil Thorntons - 326 Otsego - Storm Lake 50588