

26 November 1987

Randall D. Williams
2730 So. Cornelia
Sioux City, IA 51106

Dr. Thomas H. Kent
Iowa Bird Life
211 Richards ST
Iowa City, IA 52240

Dear Dr. Kent,

I guess this is an appropriate day to be thinking and writing about birds. These slides returned late yesterday and this is my first opportunity to get this anecdotal report written. I am assuming others, most likely Jerry Probst, has or will be submitting a formal report to the records committee.

About 4:15 pm on Wednesday, 18 November I received a telephone call from Jerry Probst stating that there was a Snowy Owl sitting on the chimney of the house at 1007 Iowa ST, Sioux City, IA. I placed a hurried call to another photographer, Mike Greiner, grabbed the camera bag and binoculars and ran out the door.

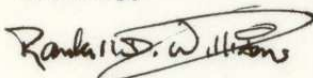
When I arrived at the address there were many other Loess Hills Auduboners present with spotting scopes and binoculars, but only one other photographer, Mike Greiner. Although we were already losing light for photography (everyone told us we should have been there five minutes earlier, of course), Mike and I tried our best for at least a few images. I seriously underestimated how quickly it gets dark. In my rush to leave the house I forgot my tripod. Mike was kind enough, however, to allow me the use of his tripod while he was changing film and cussing the weekend batteries of his motor drive.

All of these images were recorded on Kodachrome 64 with a Nikon Photomic Ftn, Vivitar 200mm f/3.5 and a Soligor 2x telextender. *The Sioux City Journal* for Thursday, 19 November had a front page picture of the owl taken by *Journal* photographer Ed Porter.

The owl was first sighted about 11:30 am by kids in the school building across the street. The bird remained at least until dark at about 5:10 pm. It was not there when checked the next day. The owl appeared to be in good health. There were reports of it disgorging an owl pellet earlier in the day. The bird was very cooperative and seemed to be unconcerned with the human activity around it. It seemed to be more concerned when the dogs of the neighborhood made the most noise.

Use the photographs and whatever information you see fit. Feel free to submit them to the records committee. I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,



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