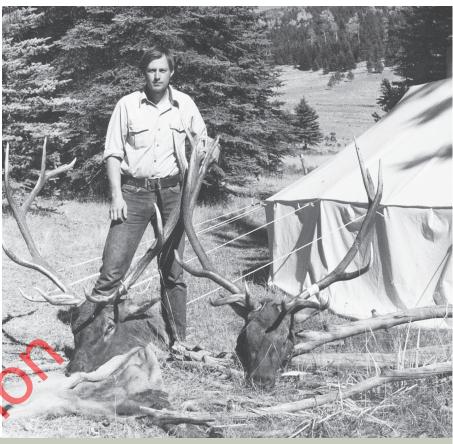


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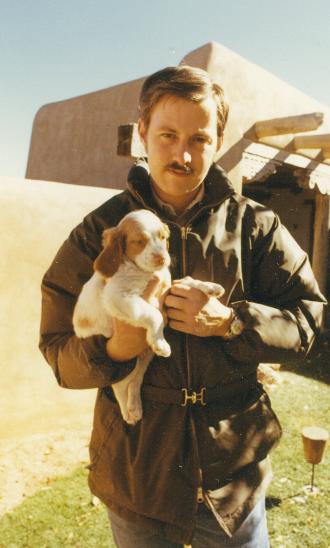


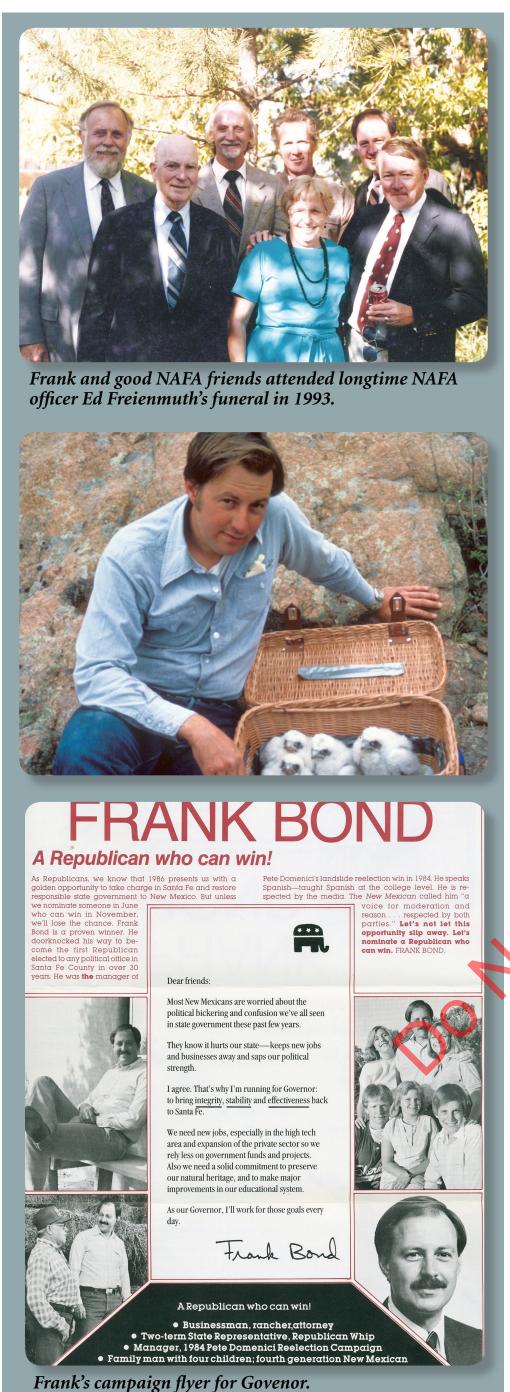




Frank was an amazingly humble, gifted, and quiet man who always found the time to help and counsel anyone who requested aid. He was generous, honest, diligent, and disciplined.







ONE OF FALCONRY'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS

By Ralph Rogers

In 1943, Frank Bond was born in Albuquerque New Mexico. He joined three other Frank Bonds already famous in that state, his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, were all Frank Bonds. All the Frank Bonds were famous as honest forthright wool buyers who had an eye for business, and most importantly, could get along with anyone, friend or foe. Young Frank lived by the fundamental lessons, and skills about how to get along with people from his grandfathers and kept them with him to adulthood.

Frank was raised in Espanola while the family ranched on the Valle Caldera ranch, 125,000 acres (51,000 hectare) of some of the most beautiful land in the United States. He spent his summers in and amongst the cowboys, and vaqueros, learning the American Hispanic culture and language. This place, the Bond Ranch, is now protected by the US Government as a natural area, they wanted to make a national park out of it... This land has been the filming stage of 10 Hollywood movies. Living in this beautiful place is where Frank developed his love for the natural world and hunting and why he always wanted to return to ranching.

His house, in Espanola, is now a museum on the Register of Historic Places.

Falconry was lucky in 1943 and became lucky again because of an odd se of circumstances. Frank Bond was on the lacrosse team when he went to University, The Colorado College. There Frank's coach was Dr. Robert Stabler, a very important falconer in US history. Frank was mentored by Stabler as he became involved in falconry.

His love of the outdoors and hunting, his friendship with Robert Stabler and his studies of the Spanish language all made the perfect combination for Frank.

At a young age of 27, Frank's dedication and reputation as a conservationist and falconer drew him together with Tom Cade, Bob Berry, and Jim Weaver to found the Peregrine fund. Frank donated some of the first birds to breed in that environment and his birds constitute an important part of the genetics of the peregrines we see in western America today. While the re-establishment of the peregrine was the work of many, all agree that the founding of the Peregrine Fund was the most important single act of that massively successful effort. Falconers today can enjoy a harvest of wild peregrine in the US ...and all who do, owe Frank (among others) thanks. Frank spent many hours researching a take of a wild New Mexico peregrine during the 2014 season. Before the cancer had begun to hurt him badly, he had located many eyries and was deciding from which one to take his bird.

The 1960's through the 1970's was a time of transition for falconry in America. American falconers like Frank were changing from possession of raptors, to developing skills of hunting American quarry with these raptors. Frank was part of that transition and would join in various "camps" with friends, most of whom became leaders of this transition, and a transition into political and conservation activities. While we were learning to hunt at the same time, Frank was forever our leader dealing with politics. The 1970's also forced us to deal with the legalization of falconry. In 1976, the final regulations allowing falconry throughout the United States was passed. Though young, Frank was a big part of the implementation of those regulations.

Franks reputation as an "old style" politician who could work to find solutions to problems with anyone was firmed by his two terms of service

in the New Mexico legislature. Immediately after his first year, he was given a high leadership position in his party. His reputation grew as an individual who was honest, friendly, and who could find common ground with political friend or foe. Frank could disagree completely with folks, and they admired him even more.

He ran for governor of the state twice as a republican; New Mexico is traditionally a Democratic state. He narrowly lost them both, but gained huge



Frank and Ata Annamamedov from Turkmenistan, switching hats.

respect from all candidates in both parties. This experience also gained him notoriety on the national level; this power base coupled with Frank's personality literally helped save US falconry from destruction caused by over-regulation proposed by the Fish and Wildlife Service following Operation Falcon.

Most NAFA presidents used Frank as the ultimate weapon. The stories of what almost happened to falconry in the United States in the mid 1980's are legend...and the look of our great atmosphere for falconry would be completely different today if it hadn't been for Frank. In the end of this 8 year battle, Frank got an appointment for us with the Secretary of Interior, in the US President's Cabinet (an old personal family friend from New Mexico). Because of the doors Franks was able to open, the final regulations appeared as a blessing to falconers in this country, along with the words. "The US Fish and Wildlife Service finds falconry an honorable sport, its practitioners abide by the regulations and have a deep and abiding regard for the resource. The USFWS supports the sport of falconry."

By 2000 Frank had moved on to devoting his effort with the IAF. But not before: founding the P-Fund, founding the North American Grouse Partnership (NAGP), and serving as long-term board member of the Holistic Range Management Group. Even during his tenure as leadership in the IAF he continued to serve as NAFA's General Counsel and NAGP's General Counsel.

In the late1990's after years of working on a rewrite of the US falconry regulations and having them stalled in Washington DC, NAFA sent Frank and Ralph Rogers to meet with the Department of Interior. They had an appointment with the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and his staff. Shortly after they shook ahnds and sat down, the Director thanked Frank for "getting him confirmed" by the US Congress. Frank just smiled and said... "it was nothing, I just made a few phone calls". Frank never really appreciated the power he had, or the respect he garnered from everyone, whether a President of the US, or a cowboy working for day wages.

Frank was an amazingly humble, gifted, and quiet man who always found the time to help and counsel anyone who requested aid. He was generous, honest, diligent, and disciplined. No matter who approached him, they left knowing Frank had listened closely to them, and they felt appreciated. While this disease took Frank very quickly, in the end he always had time to speak with friends. Frank said that he didn't want to be remembered as just a falconer but that he was most proud of his work as a diplomat, and his many friends.

Falconry has lost one of its greatest champions; we have all lost a dear friend. (*Continued on next page*)



A GREAT FRIEND & COMPANION

By Tom Cade

Frank Bond had an abiding interest in all things to do with raptors and falconry, as revealed by the voluminous files he left behind on his involvement with The Peregrine Fund, the North American Falconers' Association, and the International Association of Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey. After receiving his law degree and license to practice in New Mexico in 1983 he served as legal counsel to all three of these organizations and eventually was President of the IAF for six years, at the time that organization successfully established falconry internationally as an "Intangible Cultural Heritage" under UNESCO sponsorship.

Frank developed an early interest in the Peregrine breeding program at Cornell University, placing two pairs of New Mexican Peregrines, which he and Tom Smylie had put together, on permanent loan to the program. He was one of the four original founders of the 501(c) (3), non-profit organization that came to be known as The Peregrine

Fund, Inc. in 1974. As such he was a permanent member of the board of directors until his death on Christmas day 2013. He had a special concern for the Archives of Falconry and worked hard in the last year of life, even after bedridden, to secure a sound legal basis for its future. As a young man Frank spent time in Spain studying Spanish at the University of Madrid. During that time he became acquainted with the famous Spanish falconer, Felix Rodriguez de la Fuente and his vivacious, French wife, Marcelle Parmentier. They became friends, and Frank often went hawking with Rodriguez, who soon after had an international reputation for his TV program on wildlife [the Marlin Perkins of Spain] and widely proclaimed as "El Amigo de los Animales."

In 1972, Frank arranged for the two of us to visit Rodriguez for the purpose of obtaining some young Spanish Peregrines to add to our growing population of potential breeders at Cornell. We spent a couple of weeks with Rodriguez's falconers examining some 20 eyries in the Castilian countryside around Madrid and Valladolid, where nesting pairs often located near "palomars" full of free-flying pigeons. At Peñafiel we visited the old castle where in the 14th Century Don Juan Manuel could look out from its battlements and see four Peregrine eyries; three were still occupied in 1972. We brought back two fine pairs of youngsters, which developed into productive breeders at Cornell. Felix and Marcelle remained good friends of The Peregrine Fund until his tragic death in an airplane crash in 1980 while filming a documentary on the Iditarod dog-sled race in Alaska. Later Frank helped Marcelle with some legal matters resulting from her husband's death.

Following soon after Spain, our next trip together in May of 1972 was to Arizona to search for anatum Peregrines. The P-Fund had obtained a generous permit from the Arizona Game and Fish Department to collect five pairs of young Peregrines for our breeding program. Unfortunately we had specific locations for only a few eyries; but an acquaintance, Don Prentice, told us that he had recently found Peregrines nesting along the Mogollon Rim. We went there but found it to be very rough terrain to travel in and saw only a single adult falcon on the whole trip, which also included Cave Creek in the Chiricahuas and elsewhere. Regrettably we were unable to take advantage of the permit, which was our last state permit before Peregrines and other

birds of prey were placed under the U. S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act later that year. If we had only known then what we know now about the distribution and abundance of Peregrines in Arizona our trip might have turned out differently, although this was the time when Peregrines were at their lowest numbers throughout North America. In 1980, Frank and I took our most adventuresome trip down the Colville River on the Arctic Slope of Alaska to count Peregrines. We traveled downstream in a motorized Avon inflatable raft from the mouth of the Etivluk River to Ocean Point at the delta, the standard survey route first established in 1952. We found some 22 occupied Peregrine eyries, twice the lowest count of 10 pairs in 1975. The Bureau of Land Management asked us to take photographs and record locations of all the falcon nesting cliffs along the river, an assignment that fitted well with

Frank's penchant for photography – a skill he refined by studying under the famed Ansel Adams.

The weather was good to us with mostly sunny days, and we had a great time bonding more closely in our friendship. I remember one camp near the mouth of the Awuna River where we were awakened by a grizzly bear pawing around our outdoor "kitchen." Frank had his rifle ready, but the bear just moved on through, apparently not smelling us inside our tents, although it passed within 30 feet. Another time, as we were approaching the long cliff [#41] on the left limit of the river opposite the mouths of the Oolamnagavik and Killik tributaries, we saw a beautiful jerkin displaying as it flew along the cliff face. He was pure white on his underneath parts but rather heavily marked with dark bars on his upperparts. He was performing a series of undulating dives up and down. As he approached the bottom of each dive, he rolled rapidly from side to side with outstretched wings, producing a spectacular flashing of white contrasting with his darker back. It was one of those natural scenes one never forgets—like seeing the white wolf glowing golden in the midnight sun with Walter Spofford along the same stretch of river in 1968.

Frank was a special companion—Der Kumpan—a man who was always at my back looking out for my best interests and keeping me out of trouble when I occasionally shot my mouth off too rashly at bureaucrats and politicians. Good to have had a friend who was also a lawyer.



Frank and his friend Paul Domski flying in their native New Mexico.



Frank with his first Saluqui "Lahaq

