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July 19, 2010

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Hawk Mountain Sanctuary announces next leader

KEMPTON, PA –Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association today announced that Jerry Regan will be the next leader of the world-famous raptor conservation organization. Regan is currently executive director at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art in Millersburg, Pennsylvania, and will assume his new post October 4.

“I’m honored to have an opportunity to lead one of the world’s premier bird-conservation organizations,” Regan says, “and look forward to building on the important work of its past leaders and volunteers.”

“Together, we’ll keep the vision of Hawk Mountain founder Rosalie Edge at the forefront as we reach out to inspire a new generation,” he adds.

Founded in 1934, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is recognized internationally as the world’s first refuge for birds of prey and an international leader in raptor conservation. The Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association operates the 2,600-acre mountaintop refuge as a nature-tourism center to fund local to international raptor conservation science and education programs. The Sanctuary welcomes more than 60,000 visitors per year and its membership totals more than 9,000.

“When Jerry read the specs for the Hawk Mountain president position, his reaction was, ‘I’ve spent my entire career training for this job.’ And, in fact, he has,” explains Board Chair Joseph Mallory.

Following a position as major gifts officer at Cornell University, Regan assumed leadership at Ned Smith Center in 2002 and went on to lead the organization through a period of dramatic growth. Under his direction, staff increased from three to 11 and its budget now boasts assets totaling more than \$11 million.

Other major accomplishments under his reign include raising funds to open the Sourbeer-Lick Education Building—the center’s permanent home—and completing a 250-foot handicapped-accessible footbridge across Wiconisco Creek that links the building to its 12-mile trail system. Additionally, its Olewine Gallery hosts exhibits of the likes of John James Audubon, David Sibley, and National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore. Works by the renowned British land artist Andy Goldsworthy are currently on exhibit.

The appointment follows a national search that drew applicants from across the country and beyond, but according to Mallory, the candidate from central Pennsylvania was the obvious choice.

“Jerry’s passion for nature and the outdoors, his outstanding track-record in fundraising and financial management, his integrity and work ethic, and his genuine excitement about Hawk Mountain, all combine to make him the ideal choice,” he explains.

“With Jerry Regan at the helm, we look forward to launching a new chapter in Hawk Mountain history,” he adds.

For more information on Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, please visit www.hawkmountain.org or call 610-756-6961.

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