

of *South Florida: An Interpretive Guide*) classify the Wood Stork in south Florida as fairly common, though declining in numbers.

Prior to the two recent sightings at Sanganois C.A., the last Illinois Wood Stork was that of two birds at Quincy in September 1967 according to Bohlen (1989, *The Birds of Illinois*). Bohlen classified the Wood Stork as a very rare vagrant or postbreeding wanderer and noted that all Illinois records occurred in late summer and fall with the exception of a single May record. ➤

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## 14,000 Broad-winged Hawks in Lake County

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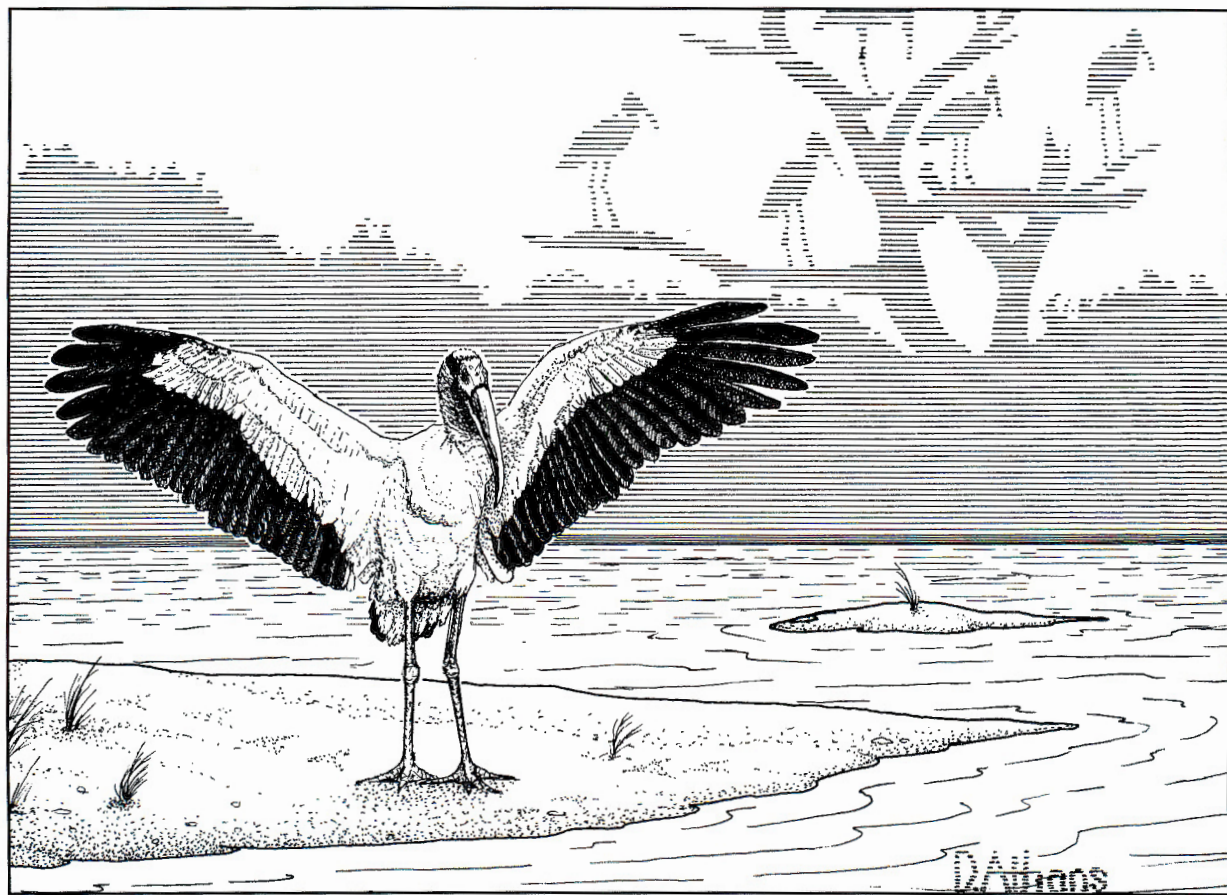
At 4:15 p.m. on 18 September 1992, while driving west on Route 22 in Highland Park in

Lake County, I saw in the distance what first appeared to be a gigantic flock of starlings darkening the eastern sky. Upon reaching the intersection of Routes 41 and 22 the "starlings" turned into one of the largest flights of Broad-winged Hawks (*Buteo platypterus*) that I have ever seen.

Many hawks, though distant, were visible with the naked eye. I grabbed my Zeiss 10 x 40 binoculars and Baush and Lomb 15-60x zoom telescope for a better look. The sky was filled with hawks. A major flight was streaming southwest. I noticed several kettles of 100 to 300 hawks in the air as well. I concentrated on the larger stream of hawks for the initial counting since it seemed to be the most productive.

I counted the width of the band, which numbered 40 hawks, and then counted the groups of 40 as the flight passed over a set of power wires just southwest of my location. I have used this standard method of estimating large flights of passing hawks for more than 15 years while observing hawks in New England. The method is also used at Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania.

I began by stationing the telescope to the farthest point of the flight in the west and then counted over the same



Wood Stork. Drawing by David Athans.