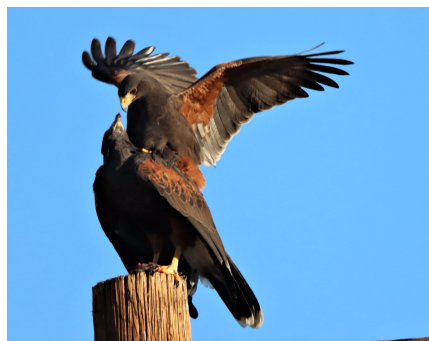


# Gillespie Creek Journal

Harris's Hawk is a common Buteo Raptor (broad winged) once threatened but now successfully reintroduced into the ecosystems SW of the United States to Argentina. To the naked eye as this hawk pair fly by they look completely black. Buddy Walker's excellent camera and photographic skills capture the beautiful unique definition and actual coloring of the species.

This Harris pair first caught my attention in late November when playing golf on the South Course in Sun City. In the weeks following they were at work hunting front -9 territory. Try as I might I couldn't find their nest. Tuesday I walked up to the 7th green to putt, the male flew in to land in their well camouflaged nest high in the pine tree.

Buddy and I drove over to the course before sunrise the next day. We found one bird hunting. Thursday Buddy returned to get this "once in a lifetime" shot of the female sharing her prey.



Male Harris's Hawk  
**"Look of Love"**  
 Photo Series by Buddy Walker

## Love Story

I've been fascinated by the courting progressing between these two "Black" colored Raptors. As you see the male is a bit larger than his sweetheart. Notice the rust colored shoulder and white under part of the female as well as the white tip on their tails. These markings identify the pair as Harris's Hawks.

Audubon named this Hawk in honor of his ornithological companion, financial supporter and friend Edward Harris. Harris's Hawk species are known for hunting in packs rather than alone as most Raptors do.

The breed is a popular species used in falconry. They catch their prey on land or while in flight.

Its call is a low, harsh hissing sound.

Hawks symbolize intelligence, independence, adaptability, messages, clairvoyance and spiritual awareness.

**A Google search tells me that carrying a Hawk totem can bring good luck in making your dreams a reality so that you can soar in your life.**

Visit [gillespiecreek.com](http://gillespiecreek.com) for archived Newsletters and Photos. Each can be loaded by clicking on the menu bars.