



## IN MEMORIAM: JAMES DAVID MACDONALD, 1908–2002

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Roberts, encouraged him in his natural history interests and took an active role in his wildlife filming adventures. With her assistance and guidance, Ed filmed other bird and mammal species, selling stock footage to the major Hollywood studios in the pre-Disney days; the team was among the premier wildlife filmmakers in the 1940s and 1950s.

Ed joined the Cooper Ornithological Society (COS) in 1931 and became an Honorary Member in 1960. At the time of his death, only one other had belonged for a longer time. Starting in the 1940s, he held a number of offices and was eventually elected president after a successful proxy battle with Alden Miller and several of his influential former students. That led to a bitter feud between the professional ornithologists in the society and the still large amateur contingent, including Ed, who wanted to retain and broaden the popular appeal of *Condor*, albeit at the inevitable expense of its scientific stature. Unlike most of his principal supporters in that unusual but ultimately unsuccessful venture, Ed remained faithfully active in the COS for many years after.

Museums were Ed's real business. He had a particular passion for serving on museum boards, including the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, San Diego Natural History Museum, and Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, where he stoutly defended the interests of the respective scientific

staffs to less-sophisticated or indifferent fellow board members. His vision and persistent efforts behind the scenes were largely responsible for the creation of the well-regarded Page Museum at the Rancho La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles.

He founded the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in 1956, initially as a strategy to maintain his scientific collecting privileges (and to keep his private collections), but also to serve as a depository for orphaned egg collections. The foundation, located in Camarillo, California, now houses the largest bird egg and nest collections in the world, a study skin collection containing over 50,000 specimens, and one of the largest ornithological libraries in the world. He also initiated several technical publication series at the Western Foundation, including the respected *Proceedings* series.

Ed was an old-fashioned philanthropist with both his time and money. He helped many struggling organizations and starving biologists, usually with scant publicity and often at greater personal sacrifice than was generally realized. Although he lacked a formal education, his "can-do" attitude and unusual enthusiasm for life conveyed an irresistible charisma and confident air that opened many doors for him among California's socially and scholarly elite. Ed was the last of the Victorian-style natural history collectors in America.

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JIRO KIKKAWA

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James (Jim) David Macdonald, a Corresponding Fellow of the AOU since 1949, died peacefully in Brisbane, Australia, on 17 September 2002, at the age of 93. With his death we lost one of the professional ornithologists with a classical museum background and an advocate of their traditional roles in society. He is survived by Dr. Betty Macdonald, his wife for 64 years.

Jim was born near Inverness, Scotland, on 3 October 1908, and grew up in the Scottish highlands, developing his love of nature and skill of painting. Winning bursaries and scholarships, Jim chose to pursue natural science. At the University of Aberdeen he obtained his BS in forestry in 1930 and in biology in 1932. His earliest research was on decapod crustaceans with the Scottish Fishery Board.

When appointed to the British Museum (Natural History) in 1935 he was placed in the Bird Room, where he started as Assistant Keeper and retired in

1968 as Senior Scientific Officer in charge of the Bird Room and Deputy Keeper of the Zoology Department. Apart from war service with the British Admiralty, his entire career was dedicated to traditional museum ornithology. He ran collecting expeditions to South Sudan in 1938–1939 and South West Africa in 1950–1951, each substantially enhancing African collections in the Museum; that led to publication of a comprehensive report on the birds of the region. He also restored the bird gallery of the Museum with attractive displays, following war damage. He served on the Council and as a Vice-President of the British Ornithologists' Union, and was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Linnean Society of London, the Zoological Society of London, and the Institute of Biology.

His professional career culminated in a series of expeditions to Australia sponsored mostly by Major Harold Hall, an Australian philanthropist. That was

the last systematic collecting of Australian birds by an overseas institute, collecting in all parts of the continent and enriching the British Museum collection of Australian birds by some 6,500 specimens (skins, skeletons, and fluid). The leader of the first expedition in 1962–1963, Jim's party discovered a new species of bird (Hall's Babbler) in Queensland. In that expedition, his wife Betty accompanied him as doctor and caterer for the team. They liked the outdoor life in Australia, so they settled in Brisbane upon his retirement. Jim became the inaugural president of the new Queensland Ornithological Society in 1969, led the Society in its formative years, and was elected an Honorary Life Member. He also produced the first handbook of Australian birds (*Birds of Australia: A Summary of Information*, with a chapter on the origin

of Australian birds by Dom Serventy and illustrations by Peter Slater) in time for the 16th International Ornithological Congress held in Canberra in 1974. His efforts to popularize bird study are seen in the publication of *Bird Biology* (1959), *Bird Behavior* (coauthored by D. Goodwin and H. E. Adler, 1962), *Bird for Beginners: How Birds Live and Behave* (1980), and *The Illustrated Dictionary of Australian Birds by Common Names* (1987).

Jim never lost the modesty and quiet passion cultivated in his native country. His gracious appreciation of Australian generosity expressed through dour looks was seldom recognized. Queensland Ornithological Society (Birds Queensland) is planning the publication of a special issue of its journal *Sunbird* to commemorate his contributions to Australian ornithology.

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## IN MEMORIAM: SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD, 1914–2002

TOM J. CADE AND LLOYD F. KIFF

*The Peregrine Fund, 5668 Flying Hawk Lane, Boise, Idaho 83709, USA*

Dr. Sally Hoyt Spofford, AOU member from 1940 and Elective Member from 1978, died on 26 October 2002, at a hospital in Tucson, following an accidental fall sustained along the path to her bird feeders. Born Sarah E. Foresman in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, on 11 April 1914, Sally was the daughter of John H. and Julia E. Foresman and acquired her love of birds from them. After schooling in Williamsport, she enrolled in biology at Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, leading to senior honors work in ornithology in 1935. She obtained her MS degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1936 and then returned to Wilson College as an instructor in biology and psychology.

At the urging of her biology professor, Dr. E. Grace White, Sally entered Cornell University Graduate School in 1939. There she met John Southgate Y. Hoyt, another graduate student, and they were married in 1942.

During World War II, Sally was a civilian medical technician in Army hospitals in Charleston, South Carolina, and Memphis, Tennessee. The Hoyts returned to Cornell in 1946 to complete their Ph.D. studies and bought a small home on Fall Creek in Etna, New York, a few miles from the campus. It was a stimulating time at Fernow Hall where Professor Arthur A. Allen's group was then housed in the Department of Conservation. Fellow graduate students included Dean Amadon, Gardiner Bump, Lawrence Grinnell, Oliver Hewitt, Brina Kessel,

Heinz Meng, Kenneth Parkes, Allan R. Philips, John Trainer, and Dwain Warner.

Sally and South each earned their Ph.D. in ornithology in 1948. Her dissertation was "A reference book and bibliography of ornithological techniques." Shortly thereafter, South became seriously ill, and Sally spent most of her time nursing him until he died of cancer in 1951 (*Auk* 69:225–226).

Sally remained in Etna and worked as an assistant to Arthur A. Allen. In 1956, when Allen and Peter Paul Kellogg moved their operations off campus to the new Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology at Sapsucker Woods, Sally became the administrative assistant, the heart and soul of the laboratory, a position she held until retirement in 1969. She basically kept the place running for the rest of the staff and students, who increased greatly after the arrival of Bill Dilger and Tom Cade. There were 20 or more graduate students contending for office or research space and seeking Sally's help. She conducted birding walks in Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary and was heard regularly on the statewide WHCU radio program, "Know your Birds," which originated from the Laboratory on tape.

Although primarily an educator and popularizer of birds, Sally's main scientific contributions centered on her collaborative studies of the Pileated Woodpecker, drawing on her late husband's unpublished dissertation (*Ecology* 38:246–256), and a series of 50 short papers on various aspects of bird behavior. She was