

IN MEMORIAM: ED NEWTON HARRISON, 1914–2002

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In Memoriam

The Auk 120(3):908–910, 2003

IN MEMORIAM: WILLIAM ALEXANDER CALDER III, 1934–2002

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The life of William Alexander Calder III was ended abruptly on 23 April 2002, by acute leukemia. The disease was diagnosed only a short time before his death and progressed rapidly. Bill Calder's entire life was fast-paced; his mind and body never seemed to stop in his efforts to reach mountaintops, to solve physiological questions, or to offer solutions to environmental problems for newspaper readers or rural residents of remote parts of Mexico.

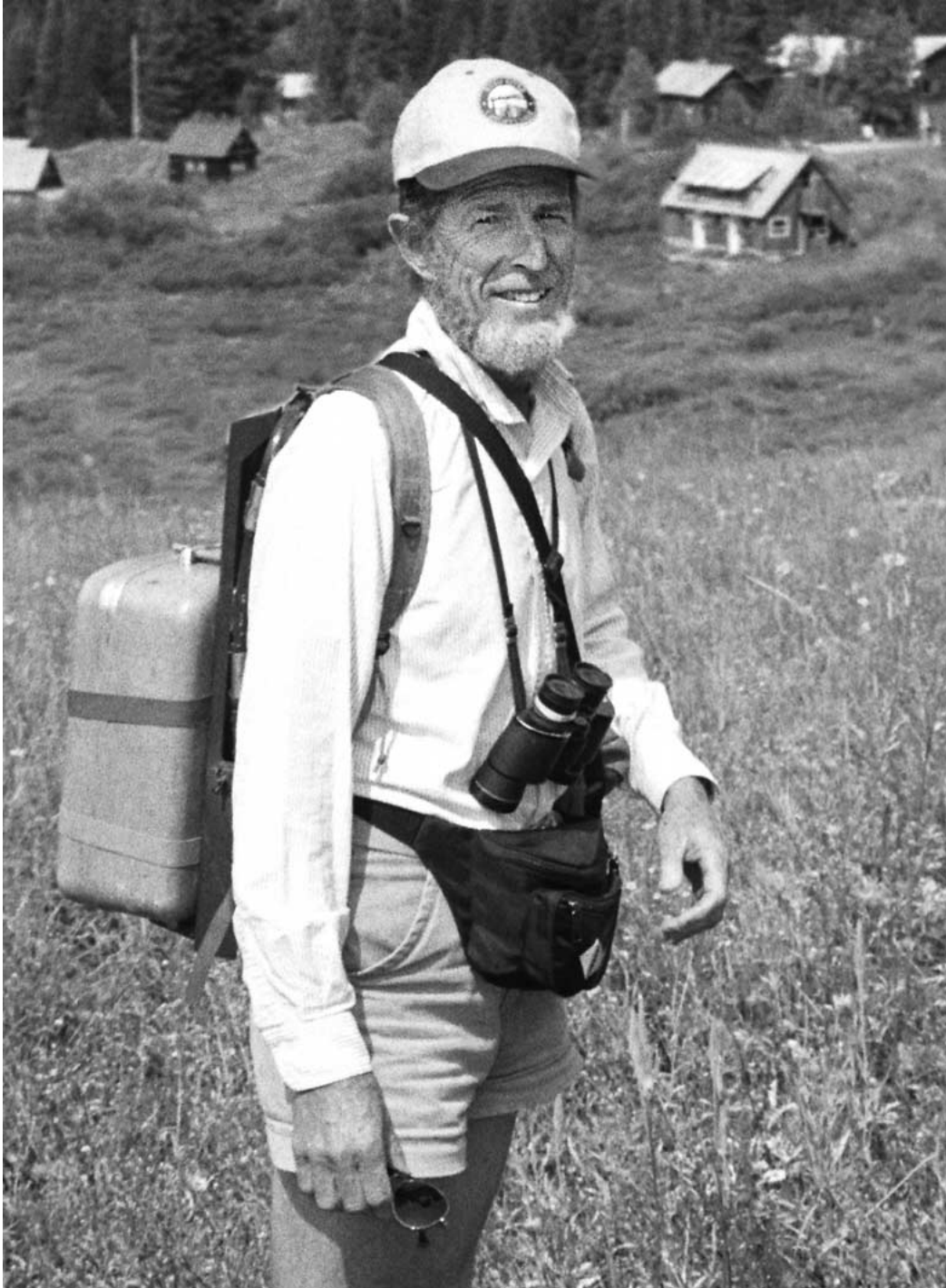
Bill was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on 2 September 1934. At age 16, participation in field trips sponsored by the Atlanta Audubon Society led to an interest in bird watching. He acquired a distaste for collecting when a professor shot a Great Blue Heron but failed to prepare the specimen. After two years at Emory University and summers spent as a Forest Service smoke-jumper in Montana, he completed his BS degree in zoology from the University of Georgia in 1955. Enlisting in the U.S. Coast Guard, he became a pilot of twin-engined seaplanes, doing search and rescue operations and fish and wildlife patrols in Florida, Texas, and Washington. Graduate school took him to Washington State University where he studied Zebra Finch metabolism for an MS thesis (1963) under the guidance of James R. King, and then to Duke for a Ph.D. dissertation (1966) on roadrunner metabolism with Knut Schmidt-Nielsen. During that time, two summers were spent as a seasonal naturalist at Grand Teton National Park, where his interest in hummingbirds was initiated by a Calliope Hummingbird nest, and one summer as a ranger-naturalist at Glacier National Park. After two years teaching at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he moved to the University of Arizona at Tucson in 1969, becoming a professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in 1974. He joined the AOU in 1961, becoming an Elective Member in 1974, and a Fellow in 1988.

Bill's earlier research publications concerned mainly water balance, respiration, and energetics of birds, but he published two papers on temperature relationships of the water shrew. In 1971 he spent the first of many summers at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) in Gothic, Colorado. There he

investigated physiological problems associated with small size, especially of hummingbirds. For the rest of his life, most of his research focused on hummingbirds; it resulted in many papers on their physiology, ecology, and behavior. A significant departure was a sabbatical in New Zealand in 1976–1977, where he studied kiwi physiology. His interest in tiny mammals, tiny birds, and big eggs (as in the kiwi) led him to question many established ideas about the relationship between size and function; he wrote *Size, Function, and Life History* (1984, Harvard University Press). He contributed chapters to a number of books, most on hummingbirds, matters of size, and conservation issues.

Personal research with subsequent publication was not Bill's only goal; he was a dedicated teacher at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. He wanted students to question what they saw and read and to learn to derive their own answers. He was irreverent of established rule and used provocative questions daily in his classroom. He transmitted the joy of "doing" science; his own work proved it could be fun. Theories were never lacking in his discussions; he could always offer a theory about anything. Many ideas were not productive, but others led to fruitful research. The University of Arizona College of Science honored him in 2002 with its Career Mentoring Award, in recognition of a lifetime of excellence in teaching. He left a compelling model on how to live and how to do science, described by one of his colleagues as "equal parts of humor, keen observation, hard work, and absolute honesty."

Bill's love of the outdoors was a compulsion; he liked nothing better than to climb the nearest high mountain. At RMBL, he often invited new students or colleagues to talk with him, but that involved bushwhacking to a nearby 13,000 ft (3,950 m) peak! His physiological ecology course was dubbed "Backpacking 101." With his wife Lorene, he started graduate student seminars at which they would serve peppermint tea prepared on a wood burning stove and served in specimen jars. He was a regular participant in the 4th of July footrace, an eight mile (13 km) ordeal between Gothic and



WILLIAM A. CALDER III, 1934–2002

(Bill Calder at the Rocky Mountain Biological Station, Gothic, Colorado. Photograph taken in July 1999 by Lorene Calder.)

Mt. Crested Butte, all above 9,000 ft (2,700 m) elevation. He was often the oldest runner and his energy was legend—he could out-walk or out-run almost everyone. The no-talent show at RMBL was an annual event in which Bill made fun of himself and others. Music was a major part of his life; he made a backpacking mandolin for hiking and saved his better instrument for concerts with the Gothic Chamber Music Ensemble, which he had organized.

Bill wrote the species accounts in *The Birds of North America* for Broad-tailed, Calliope, and Rufous hummingbirds, with Lorene collaborating on two of them. He believed that researchers should write for the public and published articles in *Scientific American*, *Natural History*, *Wild Bird*, and other popular magazines. Often he was a consultant for major television productions on birds, particularly hummingbirds. At RMBL, he established a scholarship for journalism students who were interested in science. He was recruited by Gary Nabhan for the "Forgotten Pollinators" program at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson. That involved considerable field study in Mexico on Rufous Hummingbirds, meshing well with his long-term efforts to track the species to and from its wintering grounds. During the course of many trips to Mexico, Calder introduced students there to the banding and study of hummingbirds. His banding included Neotropical migrants and he is

said to have "lost" many bands in Mexico, reputedly placed on nonmigratory species, contrary to banding regulations. Some of his Mexican students studied at the University of Arizona or RMBL, sometimes partially supported by funding set up by the Calders. On one trip to Mexico, he asked a participant "Have you ever looked at the eye of a hummingbird with a hand lens? You can see the universe there."

To describe Bill Calder as an environmentalist would be an understatement. He initiated and taught several conservation biology courses at different levels and was always prepared with quantitative data to support his points. Students in those classes were taken on many field trips; even if a student retained few facts, the outdoor experience would be of lasting value and ultimately benefit the environment. He lived what he preached (he regularly biked several miles to campus), did not throw things away, and built many things from scrap and spare parts. His resources have helped RMBL protect lands surrounding it.

Unrestrained enthusiasm and spontaneity aptly describe Bill's approach to life, science, family, environment, and teaching. He and his beloved and devoted Lorene were together for 47 years; their daughter Susan (who once bicycled from Tucson to Gothic with her father) and son Bill both share their parents' environmental concerns. Innumerable friends, students, and colleagues miss him and his inspiration.

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IN MEMORIAM: PETER F. CANNELL, 1954–2002

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Peter Frederick Cannell, director of the Smithsonian Institution Press, died at his home in Bethesda, Maryland, on May 18, 2002, of a brain tumor. He had been an Elective Member of the AOU since 1988.

Peter was born in New York City on 17 September 1954. He attended the Buckley School and then Milton Academy in Massachusetts, where he first met Amanda Henderson; they were married in 1977. Peter's interest in birds and the rest of nature was sparked at Bowdoin College, particularly at its research station on Kent Island, New Brunswick, under the guidance of Charles Huntington. After receiving a BA in 1976, he was an intern for several months at the Manomet Bird Observatory, spent the academic year 1977–1978 as a teaching assistant at Bowdoin, and then returned to Kent Island as acting director of the research station for the field seasons of 1979 and 1980.

In the fall of 1978, Peter enrolled in the Evolutionary Biology Ph.D. program offered jointly by the American Museum of Natural History and the City University of New York. His 1986 dissertation, "Syringeal Complexity and the Ordinal Relationships of 'Higher' Birds," was based on the comparative examination and interpretation of over 600 specimens representing 57 families and 22 orders of nonpasserine birds. Two shared, derived characters of the syrinx imply a relationship between parrots and colies and corroborate a previous suggestion of Robert Raikow, based on hind limb musculature. Using cladistic character criteria, Peter concluded that "there is no current evidence to support a close relationship between Piciformes and Passeriformes."

During his years in graduate school, Peter received extensive experience in curating the world's largest bird collection, performed admirably as an

outstanding and innovative teaching assistant at the City University, initiated an informal systematics seminar, and organized and taught a highly successful museology course. He also helped prepare for the AOU's centennial meeting at the Museum in 1983. Peter was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Museum of Natural History, working with Richard Zusi on bird morphology and evolutionary systematics. In 1988, Peter moved across The Mall to the Smithsonian Institution Press, as a technical editor for the Smithsonian Contributions and Studies series program and then the acquisitions editor for the natural sciences. He became director of the press in September 1996, but resigned for health reasons in January 2002.

Peter's most significant contribution to ornithology was as the editor and publisher of important books on birds and other relevant aspects of biology that increased both public and professional understanding of those fields. He also helped conceive and launch three new series: *Smithsonian Series in Comparative Evolutionary Biology*, *Zoo and Aquarium Biology and Conservation Series*, and *Biological Diversity Handbook Series*. In addition, he developed copublishing arrangements with foreign publishers, including the Natural History Museum of London, BirdLife International, New Holland Publishers (Australia), and Southern Book Publishers (South Africa).

Peter was a voracious reader, a tireless networker,

intrepid and fearless at approaching the biggest names, and dogged in working with authors to finish their manuscripts. Many authors found his encouragement, vision, and editing skills indispensable.

Aside from his work, Peter's chief interests were his home and his wife Amanda and their children, Tom, Oliver, and Louisa. He took a particular delight in how creatures related to one another. He could speak knowledgeably about most of the plants and animals found in the mid-Atlantic woods and shore. During the year of his illness, Peter's values never changed. He accepted with grace the incapacities that came and went and came again. During a period of remission when his strength returned and he took to exercise machines, he said he intended to come back with a better brain *and* a better body. Another time, when he was very weak, he was asked whether there was anything from that experience he thought others could learn. "To look carefully at everything," he replied, just as he would have in health. Thanks to his energy and influence, many valuable books were written and published.

In addition to his wife and children, Peter is survived by his parents, a sister, three brothers, and their families. We thank Vincent Burke and Duke Johns at the Smithsonian Institution Press, Mary LeCroy at the American Museum of Natural History, and Richard Zusi at the National Museum of Natural History for assistance.

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IN MEMORIAM: ED NEWTON HARRISON, 1914–2002

LLOYD F. KIFF

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Ed Newton Harrison, a member of the AOU since 1934 and an Elective Member since 1969, died on 25 September 2002, in Los Angeles. He was born near Cody, Wyoming, on 29 September 1914, but spent most of his life in southern California. He owned and managed commercial properties in West Los Angeles, including Westwood Center, a 21-story office building, and was involved in his family oil business.

He became involved in bird work as a teenager through the influence of geologist-ornithologist J. R. (Bill) Pemberton. With Bill Pemberton as his mentor, Ed passionately collected bird eggs and skins for his personal collection from the late 1920s well into the mid-1960s. He was physically strong and became a daring climber of tall eucalyptus trees and rocky cliffs. In the late 1930s, he accompanied Pemberton and several well-known southern California biolo-

gists on two long cruises of Pemberton's yacht, *The Kinkajou*, to document the natural history of the major islands off the coast of western Mexico.

Following Pemberton's example, and with his collaboration, Ed obtained rare film footage and photographs of the California Condor during frequent trips to the Sespe region of Ventura County, California, with the legendary field worker, Carl Koford, between 1939 and 1941. He had a lifetime interest in condor conservation, giving frequent lectures to civic and conservation groups, showing condor film vignettes that he and Pemberton had taken. Their footage, then the only high-quality color film of the condor in existence, was featured in virtually every condor news piece and educational film well into the 1970s.

Ed did not attend school at any level in a conventional sense, but his lifelong tutor, Mrs. Frances

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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IN MEMORIAM: JAMES DAVID MACDONALD, 1908–2002

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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.

The Auk 120(3):913–914, 2003

IN MEMORIAM: SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD, 1914–2002

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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

a coauthor of two popular books on birds: *Enjoying Birds in Upstate New York* (1963) with O. S. Pettingill, Jr. and *Enjoying Birds Around New York City* (1966) with Pettingill and R. S. Arbib.

In the 1950s and 1960s, Dr. Walter R. Spofford, a neuroanatomist at the Upstate New York Medical School at Syracuse and ardent raptor biologist, was a frequent visitor to Sapsucker Woods. He found a kindred spirit in Sally; they were married in 1964. Following their retirements, they moved to Rancho Aguila in Cave Creek Canyon, Arizona, in 1972. Their new home was strategically located for viewing a rich assortment of Chiricahuan wildlife, from black bears, coati-mundis, peccaries, and coral snakes, to the dozen species of hummingbirds attracted to her feeders. Open to the public each day from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Rancho Aguila became a mecca for 3,000 to 6,000 birders and wildlife enthusiasts each year. (See Paul Zimmermann's informative tribute to Sally and her "Avian Eden" in *Wild Bird*, May/June 2002).

During the 1960s to 1980s, Sally and Spoff made extended birding trips to Africa and Alaska, sometimes with Tom Cade, documented with some 40,000 color slides. In Zimbabwe they studied the rich association of eagles in the Matopos region with Val Gargett. Another African friend, Leslie Brown, dedicated *British Birds of Prey* (1976) to "Spoff and Sally." In Alaska they helped with surveys of Peregrine Falcon, Gyrfalcon, and Golden Eagle populations in the Alaska Range and on the Arctic Slope.

After Spoff's death in 1995 (*Auk* 113:933-934), Sally generously donated his entire slide collection, fully labeled and indexed, to The Peregrine Fund at the World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise, Idaho. That impressive collection includes historical images from the 1930s and 1940s of many of the eyries formerly occupied by the eastern "duck hawks." Their personal libraries, some 600 books and thousands of journals, including several rare and historical volumes on birds of prey and falconry, were also donated to The Peregrine Fund.

Sally and Spoff, true friends and colleagues for nearly 50 years, are remembered at the World Center for their many contributions to raptor study and conservation. At the recently completed Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, the Director's office has been named in her honor, thanks to a gift from one of Sally's dear friends. Sally and Spoff are also remembered for the Etna Nature Preserve, a tract of land along Fall Creek, which they donated to the Finger Lakes Land Trust in 1991. They also donated land in Cave Creek to The Nature Conservancy.

Sally's sudden passing has been deeply felt. It may seem odd to lament that an 88-year-old woman died before her time, but based on recent visits, we truly believe that Sally had the potential for more good years. Her abiding enthusiasm for her birds, and for the people who came to her backyard to watch them, make her accidental death even sadder.