

IN MEMORIAM: DONALD LOUIS BLEITZ

KENNETH E. STAGER

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California 90007 USA

Donald Louis Bleitz, a Member of the A.O.U. since 1947 and an Elective Member since 1985, died 23 June 1986 in Los Angeles, California. Don Bleitz was born in Los Angeles, California, on 1 October 1915.

As a professional photographer and inventor of numerous photographic devices and techniques, Don Bleitz revealed his considerable ability and deep interest in the photography of birds. During his lifetime he photographed more than 600 species of North American birds; one of his most outstanding contributions was obtaining the first good photographs ever, anywhere, of the Eskimo Curlew (J. V. Gollop 1986) in 1962. It was Don's life-long plan to publish

a sumptuous, many-volumed work on the birds of North America, using his wealth of excellent colored photographs. This worthwhile project never came to fruition. He did, however, author numerous feature articles in the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Reader's Digest*, and *Arizona Highways*.

A member of numerous scientific and civic organizations, Don Bleitz was a Life Member of the A.O.U., the Cooper Ornithological Society, and the Wilson Ornithological Club. He was a member of both the Western and the Eastern Bird Banding Associations. In 1952 he founded the Bleitz Wildlife Foundation, an organization devoted to wildlife preservation and study.

IN MEMORIAM: JAMES R. KOPLIN

MICHAEL W. COLLOPY

Department of Wildlife and Range Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611 USA

Dr. James R. Koplin, a Member of the A.O.U. since 1963 and an Elected Member since 1986, died on 18 May 1987. Born in Monte Vista, Colorado, on 9 June 1934, he obtained his B.S. and M.S. degrees in wildlife technology from the University of Montana, Missoula, in 1959 and 1962 and his Ph.D. in zoology from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, in 1967. Jim was an assistant professor of biology at the State University of New York at Albany from 1965 to 1967. He also served as a visiting professor of zoology at the University of Montana Biological Station at Flathead Lake during the summers of 1966 through 1968. In 1967, Jim Koplin joined the faculty of the Department of Wildlife Management at Humboldt State University, where he taught and conducted research for the following 20 years. He served as Director of

Graduate Studies of the School of Natural Resources (1970-1974) and Chairman of the Department of Wildlife Management (1974-1975 and 1976-1977).

Jim Koplin's early research contributions included important papers on competitive exclusion in voles and numerous articles on woodpecker predation. More recently, he made significant contributions to our understanding of the behavioral ecology, nesting biology, energetics, and habitat use of raptors. In his 20-plus years as an educator, literally thousands of young scientists took his courses in wildlife ecology, management, and population dynamics. As a result of his long-term commitment to training young ecologists, Jim Koplin's contributions will be felt for many years to come.