

## MEET OUR COVER ARTIST

Gordon Morrison is an accomplished artist who has illustrated more than a dozen books that include *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide*, *The Birdwatcher's Companion* by Christopher Leahy, and several Peterson field guides. His work has appeared in periodicals that range from *Bird Watcher's Digest* to *Fortune*, from *Ranger Rick* to *Playboy*, and from *Seventeen* to *New York Conservationist*. His murals grace high schools in Sharon and Stoughton and his diaramas, the Boston Zoological Society, the Public Service Company of New Hampshire, and Massachusetts Audubon Society. Gordon's work is in art galleries and collections in New York, Massachusetts, Florida, and Pennsylvania.

This artist regards his talent as a family trait. His father attended Massachusetts College of Art, but an artist's career gave way to supporting a family of ten children growing up in Boston. However, Gordon recalls that his father had a "nice way of encouraging by being constructively critical" when the boy early evidenced artistic gifts. An interest in art sparked a lackadaisical student into becoming a high school honor graduate and senior class president. He attended the School of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, graduated from the Butera School of Art, and put in a two-year stint as a commercial artist before discovering that this was not his field. He began working in 1969 as a free-lance artist, soon forming an alliance with Massachusetts Audubon Society, with zoos, and with sanctuaries, committing his talent to portraying wildlife. Gordon feels that "experience is the basis for understanding and interpreting nature." To paint a subject, human, bird, or animal, he must get to know the individual. And it is this quality that gives the ring of truth to his work. Gordon Morrison accepts commissioned work at his home studio at 52 Bulfinch Street, North Attleboro, MA 02760.

Dorothy R. Arvidson



Gordon Morrison

Photo by Thomas F. Maguire, Jr.