

PREFACE

On 25 October 1994 Allan turned 80; on 10 November 1994 Amadeo M. Rea wrote me and asked a question I should have asked myself some time ago, "Is anyone contemplating a Festschrift for him." On 15 December that year I mailed an invitation to friends and colleagues soliciting manuscripts for such a Festschrift—we hoped it would appear while Allan was still with us. On February 3-5, 1995, a wonderful (and that modifies both the following words) family reunion was held in Denver, organized by his sister Ruth. I was invited and told them of this effort. Allan was kept posted of progress, and in early December 1995, I was able to tell him I was naming a new subspecies of Spotted Owl for Juanita, and that Mexico would have to live with a Phillips into perpetuity - both to his great joy.

Bibliographers will probably groan at my use of 'compiler' (facilitator would be even worse) rather than 'editor,' but those who know me know how ill-befitting the latter word would be.

In November 1994 John P. Hubbard and I visited Allan in San Nicolas de los Garza, and I took him my "old" 286 computer for word processing. We had convinced him to start on the third volume of his "Known Birds" series, only this time he was not to plow through taxa in order, but was to deal only with any problems that interested him. Unfortunately soon thereafter, health problems prevented his being as active as he was when we were there, although he did work on a number of projects. When we left San Nicolas in January 1996, we returned with two brief cases of Allan's last efforts. JPH went through every scrap of paper in them, a yeoman task, and he concluded that the only manuscript completed sufficiently was Allan's essay on the number of species and subspecies of recent birds. Actually there were two drafts of this, each of which John felt had salient points, so he combined them, adding the minimal verbiage required to integrate Allan's words. Thus, there will be no volume III of Known Birds, and we publish Allan's last single-authored paper herein.

I learned very early on that one does not critically comment on invited papers; I did that to one sent by a colleague and dear friend—who finally forgave me and sent another paper. A few papers were reviewed, and those authors accepted the suggestions; and as the readers will note, other papers that should have been edited were not! Other than those few, editing was generally limited to spelling errors; none to word usage or content; those are on the shoulders of the authors. Although authors were requested to follow *Wilson Bulletin* format, they frequently strayed! We have attempted to maintain that style, but not in detail (one author preferred that we not). Accents were retained as submitted, but none were added elsewhere. Readers and reviewers will find considerable variation, especially among literature citations.

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We attempted to arrange authors alphabetically, but in one case had to modify the sequence so that the colored plates could be inserted between signatures.

I most sincerely thank Amadeo for putting the idea in my head, as well as the several colleagues that spent hours writing remembrances of times past with Allan; I used bits and pieces of those in the biography. They will all be deposited in the archives at the University of Arizona. A few patient graduate students helped guide my computer schooling, and J. C. Richardson of the ex-National Biological Survey (now renamed the BRD and part of the U.S. Geological Survey), always just laughed when I took a messed-up table to her, and promptly put it right! The curators and collections managers of the institutions listed in the section on taxa described by ARP are gratefully acknowledged for their patience in making this as complete as possible. Kenneth C. Parkes volunteered to do the badly needed proofreading, and added greatly to the annotation of the list of taxa Allan described. (When I was an undergrad, Ken found *Sturnus* spelled 5 different ways on the first few pages of my field catalog). Janelle Harden of The Studio shared her professionalism and coerced the manuscripts into page format! But especially I owe an infinite debt of gratitude to John P. Hubbard and Ellen Cavanaugh-Espinoza for their efforts and guidance, without which this task could never have been completed.

Support for the publication of this Festschrift was provided by colleagues of Allan's; income from its sale will go into the ARP Memorial Endowment for Ornithology in the University of New Mexico Library.

Finally an apologia. Our lives are like meandering, abraded rivers; when one of us is in one channel, the other has wandered away. When some important events were going on in Allan's life, I was elsewhere; thus the inevitable gaps in the biography. Pivotal people/events undoubtedly have been unintentionally omitted!