

dismantled it and drove furiously through the Montana countryside, holding it out the car window until it dried. He was a walking library of tales from the years when E. Raymond Hall was at the helm of the K.U. Museum.

My last visit with Bob was in September 1989, shortly after his return to Lawrence from a fishing trip to Montana. Though he was weak and painfully thin by then, he decided that the fishing had been so enjoyable that there was no good reason not to go right back for more, which

he did. These pleasurable ventures were made possible by Marion's strength and unfailing support during the long course of his illness, which consisted of three different cancers, all apparently tobacco-induced.

Bob was a warm friend and a remarkably talented colleague. We miss him.

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IN MEMORIAM: KONRAD LORENZ, 1903–1989

PETER MARLER

Department of Zoology, University of California, Davis, California 95616 USA

Konrad Zacharias Lorenz died of kidney failure on 27 February 1989, in Vienna, the city where he was born on 7 November 1903. Internationally renowned as an authority on animal behavior, he received many honors, crowned by the Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine in 1973. He shared the prize with Karl von Frisch and his close friend and fellow ornithologist, Niko Tinbergen. He became a member of the AOU in 1938 and was elected an Honorary Fellow in 1951. Together, he and Tinbergen founded the subdiscipline of ethology, destined to have a profound effect on the scientific study of animals in general and birds in particular. The best known of his ornithological studies were on ducks and geese, especially the Graylag Goose. He became imprinted on Graylags as a small boy, watching their migration down the Danube, near his family home at Altenberg, a grand villa built by his father, Adolph Lorenz. The other bird that qualifies as a totem animal for Lorenz is the Jackdaw. His pioneering studies of the ethology of social corvids (1931, 1935) first became known to the English-speaking world in the translation of "The companion of the bird's world" by Margaret Morse Nice, published in *The Auk* in 1937. In the second volume of her classic studies of "The life history of the Song Sparrow," published in 1943, Nice related many of Lorenz's observations and theories, and applied them

creatively in interpreting the behavior of songbirds. Greatly influenced by the work of his mentor, Oskar Heinroth, and his massive, four-volume "Die Vögel Mitteleuropas" (1924–1933), Lorenz was more of an aviculturalist than a bird-watcher. He raised many bird species himself and was a gold mine of information on avian behavior and its development. He viewed ontogeny as a product of the interplay between instinct and experience, one of the best illustrations of which, even today, is the phenomenon of imprinting in galliforms and anatids.

Lorenz was a controversial figure throughout his life. To fellow ethologists, lucky enough to participate in the International Ethological Congresses in the fifties and sixties, he was a constant, sociable but authoritarian source of support and inspiration. The Max-Planck-Institut für Verhaltensphysiologie, created for Lorenz and Erich von Holst in Bavaria in 1950, became a mecca for everyone involved in the new science of ethology. Lorenz was always deeply concerned with the methodology and philosophy of biology, and the implications of ethology for understanding our own species. In her Song Sparrow monograph, Nice quotes from a letter Lorenz wrote to her that "the study of animal behavior is the only and ultimate source of understanding ourselves." This preoccupation with possible human implications of studies of innate behavior had its darker side. For

a time, he became involved with racial ideology, somehow confusing the less ennobling aspects of modern urban civilization with presumed effects of domestication in animals. There was a tendency to view what he regarded as "natural" human traits as socially desirable, an attitude that lent itself all too readily to exploitation by advocates of racial purity. Similarly, the delights of his wonderful book "King Solomon's Ring" are counterbalanced for some by the more sobering themes of his later book "On Aggression," in which he argues for innate substrates to human combativeness and the propensity for waging war.

Lorenz's publications, which span more than 50 years, present an inextricable blending of acute observation and interpretation. His comments on the emotions of animals and their patterns of social interaction were often leavened with anthropomorphic asides. In one of

his more recent books, "The Year of the Greylag Goose," it is especially clear that Lorenz's affection for these birds was as deep as his understanding of their behavior. His beloved wife, Gretl, was probably correct in identifying his fascination with birds and other animals as bordering on the obsessive, suggesting a relationship with his subject matter that is surely mirrored in the lives and preoccupations of many other great scientists. He was just as deeply concerned with the human condition, and in his later years he canvassed vigorously and tirelessly for the causes of nature conservation. Had he survived until today, he would undoubtedly have been out on the Earth Day lecture circuit. Throughout his life he was as much a campaigner as a scholar, a visionary with passion, the likes of which are found among scientists all too rarely.