



*The Auk* 109(1):205-206, 1992

**WILLIAM BREWSTER MEMORIAL AWARD, 1991:**

**LEWIS W. ORING**



A field that has grown significantly in the last decade is that of the evolution of sex-role reversal and polyandry, an area where ornithology has produced important contributions. Lew Oring's research on sex-role reversal has not only led the way in this new field, but has also helped create and define the entire area of subsequent study. His studies have been impressively broad, encompassing communication, mating behavior, extra-pair copulation, population dynamics, annual and lifetime reproductive success, nutrition, and endocrinology. Among his major accomplishments is the first experimental demonstration of high prolactin levels in males associated with incubation, and of the antagonism of testosterone and

prolactin in their effects upon incubation. He has published 28 papers and eight book chapters on aspects of avian sex-role reversal, most within the last 10 years.

Lew Oring's major contributions to avian sex-role reversal include significant works on theory and evolution (e.g. Avian polyandry: A review. *Curr. Ornithol.* 3:309-351, 1986), population ecology (e.g. Population studies of the polyandrous Spotted Sandpiper. *Auk* 100:272-285, 1983, with D. Lank and S. Maxson), endocrinology (e.g. Hormonal changes associated with natural and manipulated incubation in the sex-role reversed Wilson's Phalarope. *Gen. Comp. Endocrinol.* 72:247-256, 1988, with A. Fivizzani, M. Colwell and

M. El Halawani), and reproductive success (e.g. Lifetime reproductive success in the Spotted Sandpiper [*Actitis macularia*]: Sex differences and variance components. *Behav. Ecol. Sociobiol.* 28:425-432, 1991, with M. Colwell and J. M. Reed).

His outstanding work on mating systems theory is highlighted by his seminal paper with Stephen Emlen in 1977, which initiated the modern field of mating-systems research, and his 1982 review of avian mating systems in *Avian Biology*, Volume VI. His

accomplishments include heading the team that defined international standards on the use of wild birds in research. This work forms the foundation for ethics in wild-bird research.

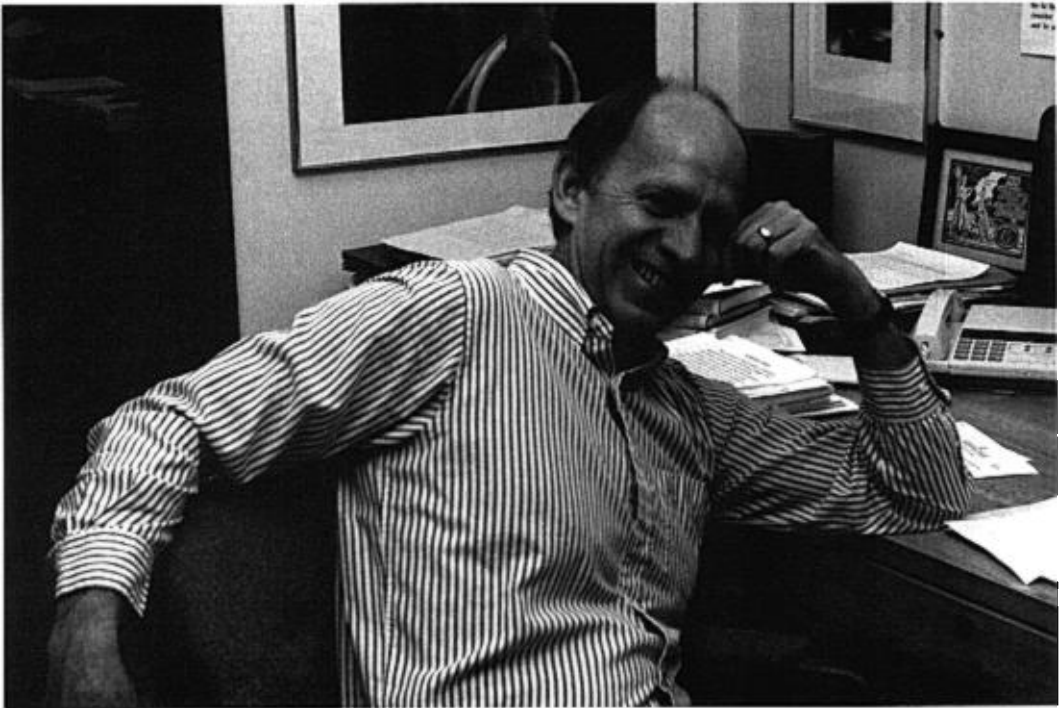
Because of his record of excellence in field research and his influential publications, the American Ornithologists' Union takes great pleasure in presenting the William Brewster Memorial Award for 1991 to Lew Oring.

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### ELLIOTT COUES AWARD, 1991:

JOHN A. WIENS



Throughout his career, John Wiens has maintained an exemplary level of productivity and critical thinking. His research on avian ecology and community structure, especially in the grassland and shrubsteppe communities of western North America, has produced fundamental challenges to equilibrium-based views of communities and has led to an increased recognition of the importance of scale in avian ecology. His recent ecomorphological and life-history comparisons of the shrub-desert avifaunas of Australia

and North America provide a new dimension to these studies. This work culminated in a two-volume book, *The Ecology of Bird Communities*, published by Cambridge University Press in 1989. Collectively, his work has resulted in major changes in the way we perceive avian communities.

His research interests are quite varied. In addition to his work on bird communities in grassland and shrubsteppe, he has conducted studies on landscape-mosaic approaches to biological conservation, the dy-