



In Memoriam

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IN MEMORIAM: ERNST SCHÜZ, 1901–1991

ERNST MAYR

Museum of Comparative Zoology, 26 Oxford Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA

Schüz was for many years the leading student of bird migration in Europe. Born 24 October 1901, he earned his Ph.D. in 1927 in Berlin under Stresemann on the theme of powderdowns in birds. In 1929 he became an assistant and later director of the famous bird research station ("Vogelwarte") Rossitten on the Baltic, dedicated primarily to the banding of migratory birds. He developed in Germany and beyond a far-flung network of amateur bird banders, adding in due time the systematic banding and population censusing of the White Stork, Grey Heron and other conspicuous species. Rossitten became a world-renowned center of bird migration research. The war resulted in 1943 in the closing of the station.

After the war, Schüz was appointed director of the Stuttgart Museum für Naturkunde, but participated also actively in the revival of the Vogelwarte in Radolfzell-Möggingen near Lake Constance, under the auspices of the Max Planck Society. Under Kuhk, Gwinner, and Berthold,

the Vogelwarte reestablished its world position. Schüz had a rich list of publications: the first *Atlas of Bird Migration* (1931); a text on bird migration (1952, 1971); the new journal *Vogelzug* (now *Vogelwarte*), founded together with Rudolf Drost (1930), of which he was editor until 1974; and hundreds of individual papers, many devoted to the population dynamics and the conservation of the White Stork. Schüz was a master of cooperation and was particularly devoted to helping amateurs to retain their enthusiasm. He played a leading role in the conservation movement. He died in his 90th year on 8 March 1991. A short obituary was published in the *Journal of Ornithology* 132:461–463; a full bibliography will appear in the journal *Ökologie der Vögel* (by J. Holzinger).

Schüz was an honorary member of most ornithological societies of the world. He was elected in 1938 a Corresponding Fellow and in 1953 an Honorary Fellow of the AOU.