

vast accumulated treasure of bird paintings, prints, figurines, mementos of field expeditions, and other reminders of a long and productive ornithological life, and moved into a condominium. This process never stopped for long. Her friends would jest that her hobby was moving, as she changed residences some 10 or 12 times in 18 years, apparently deriving much pleasure from rearranging all her Wetmorabilia in a new setting at frequent intervals, thus keeping alive the memory of Alex for herself and all those who visited her. Her longevity deprived her of many cherished friends, yet her social circle was sufficiently wide that she never seemed to lack for companionship. She remained cheerful and active to the end.

Although she had no scientific inclinations of her own, Bea was a great benefactress of ornithology, becoming a Guarantor of the AOU in 1979 and regularly contributing very generously to the Wetmore Fund of the AOU and the Wetmore Fund of the Division of Birds at the National Museum of Natural History. She also devoted much effort towards compiling an ornithological gazetteer of Panama, extracting locality information from Alex's *Birds of the Republic of Panama* and from his field journals. Bea Wetmore lives on in the name of a distinctive subspecies of Grasshopper Sparrow, *Ammodramus savannarum beatriceae*, from the llanos of west-central Panama, her only other survivor being Margaret Wetmore Harlan, Alex's daughter from his first marriage.

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## IN MEMORIAM: SAMUEL A. GRIMES, 1906–1996

MARGARET C. POWELL

2965 Forest Circle, Jacksonville, Florida 32257, USA

Samuel A. Grimes died on 2 November 1996 at the age of 90 in Jacksonville, Florida. He was born 5 May 1906 in Carlisle, Kentucky, and moved to Jacksonville in 1912. Although he had a long career in photoengraving, he became known worldwide as an ornithologist and photographer of birds. His photographs appeared in *Encyclopedia Britannica*, *World Book Encyclopedia*, *National Geographic*, *Bent's Life Histories*, and many other books and journals. The first color photograph of a bird reproduced in *Bird-Lore* was his image of a Roseate Spoonbill with young. His discovery of the first known Cattle Egret nest in North America at Lake Okeechobee, Florida, on 5 May 1953 made headlines round the world. His sighting of an Ivory-billed Woodpecker was mentioned in Alexander Sprunt's *Florida Bird Life*. A collection of his work was published in 1958 as *An Album of Southern Birds*. Over two-thirds of these superb photographs are of birds at their nests, includ-

ing the secretive Black Rail, a testimony to his great skill at finding nests.

Sam's interest in birds began at age 5. He participated in the Duval County Audubon Christmas Bird Count on his bicycle at age 13. He joined the Wilson Ornithological Society in 1924 and the AOU in 1925, becoming an Elective Member in 1951. He was a charter member of the Florida Ornithological Society and in 1979 became their first Honorary Member. He was President Emeritus of the Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee. On his birthday in 1984, the University of North Florida awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree for his many contributions to ornithology in Florida.

Sam also pioneered in recording bird songs in the field. In 1979 he produced a phonograph record, *The Vocally Versatile Mockingbird*, from over two miles of taped song of his favorite bird. His willingness to share both his pictures and his wide knowledge of birds made him an inspiration to all who knew him.