

## AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

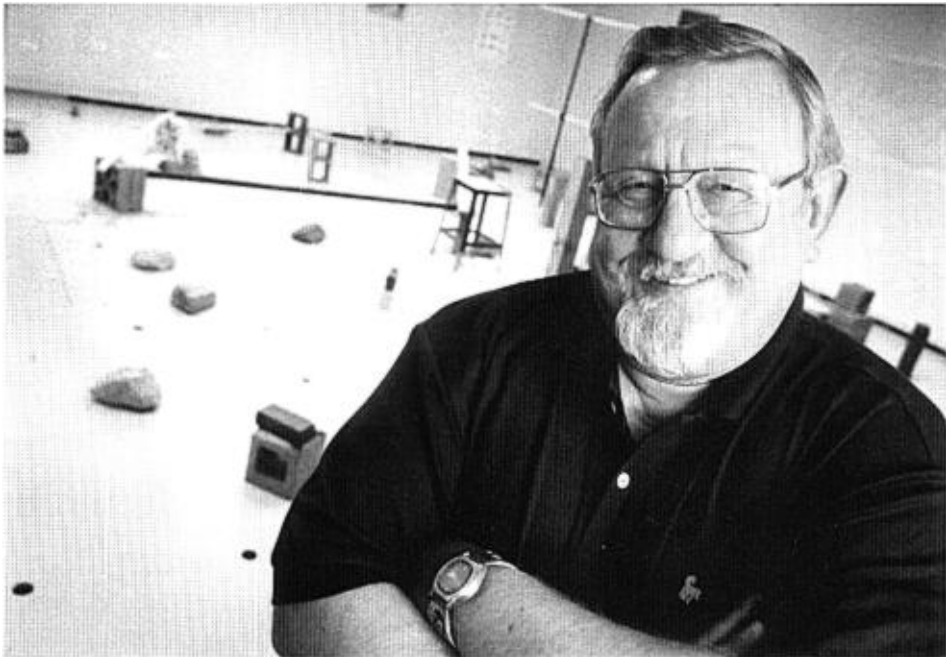
### MILLER RESEARCH AWARD

The Cooper Ornithological Society takes great pleasure in naming Russell Paul Balda the recipient of the Loye and Aiden Miller Research Award for 1998, which is presented for lifetime achievement in ornithological research. In 1967 Russ completed a Ph.D. at the University of Illinois under the guidance of S. Charles Kendeigh. His doctoral dissertation dealt with the ecological relationships of the breeding birds of the Chiricahua Mountains in southeastern Arizona. Virtually all of Dr. Balda's research, briefly noted below, has been conducted since he joined the faculty at Northern Arizona University in 1966.

### CITATION FOR RUSSELL P. BALDA

The Miller Award is given to Russ Balda in recognition of more than three decades of research accomplishments on a wide variety of topics in ornithology. These include natural history, conservation, breeding biology, habitat selection, community ecology, population ecology, sociobiology, evolution, behavioral ecology, and cognitive ethology. For the past 26 years Russ has been studying the behavioral ecology of the Pinyon Jay (*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*). The results are reported in numerous research papers and a book co-authored with John Marzluff. For the past 15 years Russ has been working on spatial cognition in seed caching birds with Alan Kamil. Special emphasis has

been given the characteristics of spatial memory in Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*), comparative tests of spatial memory in seed-caching corvid species that have different degrees of dependence on cached seeds, and differences in spatial memory between the sexes. With Wolfgang Wiltschko, Russ discovered that certain seed caching birds can use the sun compass and the associated biological clock as aids in locating cached seeds. Much of the work has been accomplished in the Avian Cognition Laboratory, a state-of-the-art research facility Russ designed and had built on the Northern Arizona University campus. Recently Russ has developed hypotheses pertaining to the evolution of abstract intelligence in closely related corvids. These hypotheses are based on the idea that social animals must develop skills that allow them to judge complex interactions with conspecifics. These ideas are being tested with the aforementioned corvids and also Western Scrub-Jays (*Aphelocoma californica*) and Mexican Jays (*A. ultramarina*). At Northern Arizona University Russ has served as the major professor for 36 M.Sc. and 14 Ph.D. students. In 1979 he received an Alumni Distinguished Faculty Award, and in 1987 a President's Award for Teaching, Research, and Service. In 1988 Russ became Northern Arizona University's first Regents' Professor. Extramurally, both nationally and internationally, Russ has accumulated a long list of honors including Honorary Mem-



Russell Paul Balda, the 1998 recipient of the Miller Award.

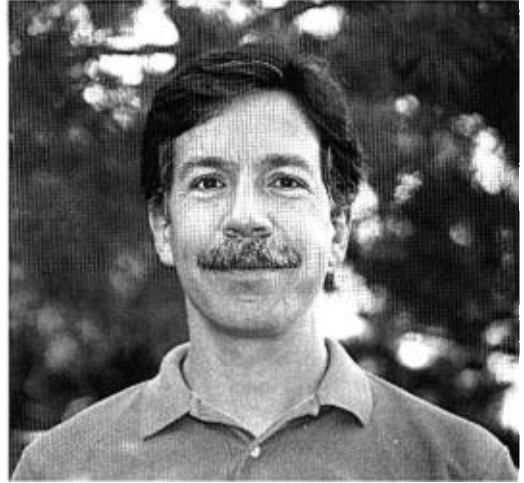
bership in the Cooper Ornithological Society, for which he served as President, Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, the Animal Behavior Society, the Deutsche Ornithologen-Gesellschaft, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Arizona and Nevada Academy of Sciences.

#### HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Honorary Membership is bestowed by the Board of Directors on individuals who have contributed significant service to the Cooper Ornithological Society. Few in recent memory have fulfilled this requirement more completely than Terrell D. Rich. For the past eight years Terry has held the post of COS Secretary, in which capacity he helped to plan the annual meetings and the agenda of the Board. He prepared minutes of Board meetings and transmitted them to *The Condor* for publication. He also took charge of the annual elections of Board members, carried on correspondence with other societies, and served as the liaison to the Ornithological Societies of North America. He served several times each on important COS committees, such as Ballot-Proxy, Resolutions, Membership, and those dealing with student participation such as Best Paper and Travel Awards. Terry carried out these duties in an orderly and punctual fashion. Attention to detail, organizational skills, and reliability characterized his participation as well; traits that helped to ensure the smooth functioning and overall success of the Cooper Ornithological Society during his tenure.

Terry contributed to the intellectual environment at annual meetings, not only by his faithful attendance for many years, but also by consistently presenting papers at the scientific sessions. He has published his own work on several occasions in *The Condor* and is,

of course, well known for his expertise at applying science. As an employee of the Bureau of Land Management, he has carried responsibilities for the management of nongame species, including migratory birds, and has been a key participant in governmental management and conservation efforts in recent decades. For his contributions to the science of ornithology and especially for his stellar service to the COS, the Board of Directors has unanimously, and with pleasure, conferred Honorary Membership on Terry Rich.



Terrell D. Rich, recipient of Honorary Membership in the Cooper Ornithological Society.