



# NEWSLETTER

## Animal Behavior

### Society

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Susan A. Foster, Secretary

Cristin Hulslander, Editorial Assistant  
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#### ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY RESEARCH GRANT WINNERS

The Animal Behavior Society Research Grants Committee is extremely pleased to congratulate the following eight winners of ABS Student Research Grants for 1997:

Daniel J. Albrecht for 'Sex ratio manipulation in nests of second-mated female house wrens'. \$1000

Barbara C. Glassey for 'Parent-offspring communication in red-winged blackbirds'. \$695

Suzanne Amy Henson for 'The effect of conflict within and between the sexes on the evolution of animal mating systems'. \$1000

Laura Jane Howard for 'Polyandry in the Pheasant-tailed Jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*)'. \$1000

Christine A. Johnson for 'The role of host-queen killing by the slave-maker ant, *Polyergus breviceps*, in stimulating host worker heterospecific brood care (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)'. \$985

William J. McClintock for 'A phylogenetic test for pre-existing bias in *Schizocosa* wolf spiders'. \$990

Laura King Sirot for 'Sexual coercion in the damselfly, *Ischnura ramburii*'. \$880

Erica L. Wildy for 'The Interrelationships between kinship, intraspecific predation and functional morphology in long-toed salamanders, *Ambystoma macrodactylum*'. \$950

In receiving this award, these eight were singled out from a highly competitive field of 91 meritorious proposals; a success rate of less than 9%. Noting the extremely high calibre of applicants, the clear need for funding, and the difficulty of choosing between

proposals, the Committee endorses the recent entreaty from Ira Perelle and the Development Committee of ABS. The membership should consider giving generously to the Student Awards Program.

#### NEW AGREEMENT ON ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR BETWEEN ABS AND ASAB

**Susan Riechert, ABS President**

Many thanks to all of our members who responded to the questionnaire concerning our relationship to ASAB in relation to the journal *Animal Behaviour*. Your insightful comments were put to good use by the *ad hoc* Journal Committee consisting of Meredith West (chair), Mike Beecher, Lee Drickamer, Dave Duvall, Jeff Galef, and Ira Perelle. I am pleased to report that ABS and ASAB are in the process of developing our first formal agreement over joint publication of the journal *Animal Behaviour*. Briefly, ASAB, which will retain ownership of the journal, has offered ABS a 50/50 share of all journal profits after the publisher (Academic Press) has been paid. ABS will apply some of these revenues to purchase (at cost) copies of the journal for the 1400 members we have in excess of the total membership of ASAB. Each society will maintain its respective editorial office out of its portion of the profits. An ABS representative will attend all meetings with the publisher concerning *Animal Behaviour*. We look forward to working with ASAB in ensuring the continued success of *Animal Behaviour* as the premier journal in the field. Since we now have a share in the profits, which we will put to good use in our grants programs and other initiatives that will benefit our membership, please encourage your library to obtain or maintain an institutional subscription to *Animal Behaviour*.

## 1998 ABS ANNUAL MEETING

The 1998 ABS annual meeting will be held 18-23 July at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL. For information contact Lee Drickamer, Department of Zoology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901, USA.

### DIRECTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

**ABS Newsletter** and general correspondence concerning the Society: Susan Foster, Dept. of Biology, Clark University, 950 Main St., Worcester MA, 01610-1477, USA. Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding each Newsletter. The next deadline is July 15, 1997.

Articles submitted by members of the Society and judged by the Secretary to be appropriate are occasionally published in the ABS newsletter. The publication of such material does not imply endorsement by the ABS of the opinions expressed.

**Animal Behaviour:** manuscripts and editorial matters: *Animal Behaviour* Editorial Office, University of Washington, 119 Guthrie Hall, Box 351525, Seattle, WA 98195-1525, USA. Phone: (206) 616-1527; Fax: (206) 616-1528; E-mail: journal@u.washington.edu.

**Change of Address:** missing or defective issues of *Animal Behaviour*: Randall Breitwisch, Dept. of Biology, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH, 45469-2320, USA or Steve Ramey, Assistant to the Treasurer, svrsul@aol.com.

### ABS OFFICERS

**President:** Susan Riechert, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 37996-1610, USA. E-mail: sriecher@utk.edu.

**First President-elect:** David Duvall, Dept. of Zoology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078, USA. E-mail: duvalld@okway.okstate.edu.

**Second President-elect:** Meredith West, Departments of Biology and Psychology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, 47405, USA. E-mail: mewest@bio.indiana.edu.

**Past President:** Lee Drickamer, Dept. of Zoology, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 62901, USA. E-mail: drickamer@zoology.siu.edu.

**Treasurer:** Randall Breitwisch, Dept. of Biology, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH, 45469, USA. E-mail: breit@neelix.udayton.edu.

**Secretary:** Susan Foster, Dept. of Biology, Clark University, 950 Main St., Worcester, MA, 01610-1477, USA. E-mail: sfoster@vax.clarku.edu.

**Program Officer:** Anne Clark, Department of Biological Sciences, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY, 13902, USA. E-mail: aclark@binghamton.edu.

**Parliamentarian:** Kimberly Sullivan, Department of Biology, Utah State University, Logan, UT, 84322-5305, USA. E-mail: yejunco@cc.usu.edu.

**Editor:** Michael Beecher, Animal Behavior Program, University of Washington, 119 Guthrie Hall, Box 351525, Seattle, WA, 98195-1525, USA. E-mail: journal@u.washington.edu.

**Members-at-Large:** Katherine Wynne-Edwards, Dept of Biology, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada, K7L 3N6. E-mail: wynneedw@qucdn.queensu.ca.

Jean-Guy Godin, Department of Biology, Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B., E0A 3C0, Canada. E-mail: jgodin@mta.ca.

Ken Yasukawa, Department of Biology, Beloit College, Beloit WI, 53511, USA. E-mail: yasukawa@beloit.edu.

**Historian:** Donald Dewsbury, Dept. of Psychology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 32611, USA. E-mail: dewsbury@webb.psych.ufl.edu.

### ABS COMMITTEES

#### Membership

Jennifer Fewell (1999), Chair  
Stacey Lance (1997)  
David Westmoreland (1997)  
Sean O'Donnell (1997)  
Suzette Tardiff (1999)  
Kathy Karlsted (1999)  
Carole Skinner (1999)

#### Policy

Michael Renner (1997), Chair  
Lee Drickamer (1997)1  
Meredith West (1997)3  
Kim Sullivan (1998)4  
Paul Verrell (1997)  
Bernadette Marriot (1997)  
Jim Bendix (1997)  
Jill Mateo (1998)  
George Waring (1999)

#### Education

Sam Ha (1999), Chair  
Lee Drickamer (1997)1  
Meredith West (1997)3

Nancy Solomon (1998)  
Cheryl Logan (1998)  
Tom Sproat (1998)  
Kathleen Morgan (1998)  
Steve Trumbo (1997)  
Michael Ferkin (1997)  
Christy Kimpo (1997)  
Mary Crowe (1999)  
Lynne Cook (1999)  
Lauren Wentz (1999)

#### **Organization and Bylaws**

Kim Sullivan (1998)4, Chair  
Jo Manning (1997)  
Jennifer Mather (1998)  
Maggie Hodge (1999)

#### **Nomination**

Lee Drickamer (1997)1, Chair  
Zuleyma Tang-Martinez (1997)  
Hugh Dingle (1999)

#### **Animal Care**

Deborah Forthman (1999), Chair  
Larry Williams (1997)  
Scott Kight (1997)  
Martin Kavaliers (1998)  
Janette Wallis (1998)  
Robert Sikes (1998)  
Merle Krause (1998)  
Randall Kyes (1999)  
Mark Krause (1999)

#### **Public Affairs**

Linda Rayer (1998)  
Linden Higgins (1998)  
Kim Sawrey (1998)  
Laura Higgins (1998)

#### **Film**

Neil Mercando (1997), Chair  
Lauren Wentz (1997)  
Lee Davis (1997)  
Bob Woll (1998)  
Randall Wolfe (1998)  
Anne Storey (1999)  
Diselle Mora (1999)

#### **Historian**

Donald Dewsbury (1998)

#### **Research Grants**

Katherine Wynne-Edwards (1997)5 Chair  
Jean-Guy Godin (1998)5  
Ken Yasukawa (1999)5  
Scott Carroll (1997)  
Don Jensen (1997)  
Betha King (1997)

Chris Maher (1998)  
Martha Chaiken (1998)  
Beth Jakob (1998)  
Caldwell Hahn (1999)  
John Alcock (1999)  
Tom Jensen (1999)

#### **Ethics**

Deborah Gordon (1999), Chair  
Marc Bekoff (1997)  
Jerry Hogan (1997)  
Charles Blaich (1998)  
Jeffery Walters (1998)  
Barbara Turpin (1998)  
Sarah Lewis Tufts (1999)  
Fred Dyer (1999)

#### **Issues in Applied Animal Behavior**

Patricia McConnell (1997), Chair  
Kathleen Morgan (1997)  
Randall Wolfe (1997)  
Desmond Maynard (1997)  
Marianne Feaver (1998)  
Sheila Foran (1999)  
Victoria Voith (1999)  
Suzanne Hetts (1997)\*  
Chair BPC subcommittee  
Dave Duvall (1997)2 \*  
Sharon Crowell-Davis (1997) \*  
Phil Lehner (1997) \*  
Sue McDonnell (1999) \*  
Kathryn Bayne (1999) \*  
Pam Reid (1999) \*

\* Indicates members of Board of Professional Certification subcommittee (BPC)

#### **Career Awards**

Lee Drickamer (1997)1, Chair  
Ken Yasakawa (1999)5  
Katherine Wynne-Edwards (1997)5  
Jean-Guy Godin (1998)5  
Bridget Stutchbury (1997)  
Sid Gauthreaux (1998)  
Stuart Altmann (1999)  
Martha Chaiken (1999)  
Linda McPheron (1999)

#### **Endowments**

Ira Perelle, Chair (1997)  
Laurie Hiestend (1998)  
Will Gergits (1998)  
Stephen Zawistowski (1999)  
Claudio Romero (1999)

#### **Conservation**

Jim Ha (1999), Chair  
Allison Alberts (1998)  
Jeff French (1997)

Cheryl Asa (1999)  
Janine Clemmons (1998)  
Richard Buchholz (1997)  
Guillermo Paz y Miño (1999)  
Cully Nordby (1998)  
Joanne Oliva-Purdy (1997)

**Investments (ad hoc)**

Robert Matthews, Chair (1997)  
Randall Breitwisch (1997)  
Jane Brockmann (1997)  
Bennett Galef (1997)  
Patricia DeCoursey (1997)

**Committee to Consider Permanent**

**ABS Office (ad hoc)**

Meredith West, Chair (1997)  
Lee Drickamer (1997)  
Susan Foster (1997)  
Robert Matthews (1997)  
Joy Mench (1997)  
George Waring (1997)

**Legislative Liaison (ad hoc)**

Irene Pepperberg (1997)

**Latin American Affairs (ad hoc)**

Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, Chair (1997)  
Linden Higgens (1997)  
Chuck Snowdon (1997)  
Peter Narins (1997)  
Daniela Brunner (1997)  
Gabriel Francescoli (1997)  
Dwain Santee (1997)

**Liaisons (ad hoc)**

AAAS (Sec. G) -- Patti Gowaty (1999)  
AIBS -- Carlos Ruis-Miranda (1998)  
APA -- Donald Dewsbury (1998)  
APS -- Kathleen Morgan (1998)  
AAALAC -- Joy Mench (1999)  
SICB -- Steve Nowicki (1999)

**Webmasters (ad hoc)**

ABSnet- Jim Ha (1997)  
WWW page- Shan Duncan (1997)

Ex-officio Members (these individuals are regular voting members on ABS committees):

- 1 This position is filled by Past-President
- 2 This position is filled by First President-Elect
- 3 This position is filled by Second President-Elect
- 4 This position is filled by Parliamentarian
- 5 This position is filled by Member-at-Large

**IN SEARCH OF MEETING SITES**

Sites for future ABS meetings are needed. Anyone wishing to host one of our meetings should contact David Duvall to discuss requirements and to receive further information.

**PLEASE SEND OR CORRECT  
YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

The Society is trying to increase the level of email correspondence in an effort to reduce mailing costs and paper waste. If you did not receive an email copy of the member letter or ballot, and feel that you should have, and would like to have done so, please send a message to Steve Ramey, Assistant to the Treasurer, indicating address change in the subject line. He will check your email listing for accuracy. He can be reached at svrsul@aol.com.

**FREE CAREERS GUIDEBOOK  
AVAILABLE**

Our affiliate, AIBS, under agreement with the National Academy of Sciences is providing free of charge a career guidebook for students planning for grad school and beyond in the sciences and engineering. This book is available free of charge to all who agree to make it widely available. Requests to receive the book should be sent to: Careers Guidebook, AIBS, 1444 Eye Street NW, Washington DC, 20005. The text of the book is also available on the NAS web-site (<http://www2.nas.edu/cpc>).

**ABSnet INFORMATION**

ABSnet was started by James Ha at the University of Washington to facilitate communication among those who are interested in the study of animal behavior. It is maintained with the cooperation of the Animal Behavior Society. One does not have to be a member of the society to join the list but must at least support their interests. ABSnet became so successful among Animal Behavior E-mailers that the electronic newsletter was moved to a unix server running the majordomo software. This software now takes care of most of the day to day subscription requests freeing the editors to edit the content and not have to maintain the address databases. James Ha is the primary editor while Shan Duncan maintains the server and serves as the co-editor.

ABSnet is an electronic newsletter. This means items which need a rapid distribution are particularly well suited for this medium. It is not intended to replace the paper copy of the ABS Newsletter (which you are now reading) but should include items such as requests for information, items which have an upcoming deadline (grants, job announcements, field assistants etc.), and short items that might be of interests to anyone who is studying animal behavior such as software reviews, or books notices, and quick observations or notes.

The primary aim of this electronic format is to support quick and easy communication among researchers and others who share a common interest - the study of animal behavior. The more who use ABSnet, the better. Remember you DO NOT have to be an Animal Behavior Society member to join ABSnet (to simply "support the interests of the Society" is enough). We STILL have the feeling that there are email-using animal behaviorists out there that would like to know about ABSnet.

ABSnet uses the majordomo software to handle subscriptions. Majordomo has its own account and waits for specific instructions to come to it via e-mail. The unix server, named "gila" is located at the Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior in Bloomington Indiana - the account used is called "cisab". To subscribe all you need to do is send an e-mail to: **cisab@gila.cisab.indiana.edu** no subject is needed but in the BODY of the e-mail include the line: **subscribe absnet**.

Make sure your e-mail does not automatically add your signature on the end. If it does make sure you put END on a line by itself after your absnet commands.

You will receive a message telling you if your request was successful, followed by another e-mail with a short message welcoming you to absnet with additional instructions on how to use the server.

The software that takes care of subscriptions and unsubscriptions is VERY picky about your e-mail address. For security reasons it will only pay attention to you if your E-MAIL ADDRESS MATCHES THE ONE YOU USED TO SUBSCRIBE. So if you change your e-mail address, move to another machine, or your university changes mailing address on you, you should unsubscribe using the old address and resubscribe using your new address. The software is set up to try and use the most general portion of your address (i.e. "gila.cisab.indiana.edu" and "indiana.edu" should both be ok as long as your login\_name has not changed) BUT the machine can not always figure all the

different addresses out. At any rate make sure your address is of the form:

login\_name@hostname.domain

You can also subscribe and unsubscribe from a specific address by sending the command:

subscribe absnet login\_name@hostname.domain

That will send a message to the maintainer of the server asking for approval so this route might take a day or two.

**\*\*Where do I send items?**

The best and preferred method is to send e-mail to: absnet-post@gila.cisab.indiana.edu

This address will archive the message and send it on to both James Ha and Shan Duncan. The software is setup so people can not post directly to ABSnet instead messages sent to absnet-post are edited and then put into a digest. This moderation helps cut down on the amount of e-mail subscribers receive and keeps accidental messages off the list. You can also send items directly to either Jim or Shan but then the software does not automatically archive the messages. The addresses for both are at the end of this article.

If you have problems send an e-mail to Shan Duncan at: sdduncan@indiana.edu

He will get most of the problems sent to him anyway by the software when it can't figure something out. He would be the person who would most likely know what is going on. Generally, Shan is viewed by cisab@gila as a redundant, very slow but reliable organic parallel processor who is at times handy to have around.

If you are going to be away from your e-mail (can't imagine why that would be), you can unsubscribe by sending e-mail to cisab@loris.cisab.indiana.edu with the e-mail message: unsubscribe absnet or unsubscribe absnet login\_name@host.domain When you return you can subscribe again and catch up by using a World Wide Web browser and pointing it to: <http://www.cisab.indiana.edu/ABS/absnet.html> then selecting the "ABSnet Back Issues" link.

All commands to ABSnet are sent via e-mail to cisab@gila.cisab.indiana.edu these include:

**help:** A one-line summary of commands

**info absnet:** The "welcome to ABSnet" introduction

**subscribe absnet:** The command to add you to ABSnet

**unsubscribe absnet:** The command to take you off ABSnet

## MARTIN H. MOYNIHAN (1928-1996)

By Michael H. Robinson

Martin H Moynihan died in Albi, France, on December 3rd 1996, after lengthy treatment for lung cancer. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on February 5, 1928 but spent the major part of his adult life working in the tropics based at the Smithsonian's Tropical Research Institute in Panama. From there he traveled extensively in the neotropics, Africa, Asia and Australasia. He is survived by his wife and associate Dr. Olga F. Linares, a distinguished anthropologist. Martin was the quintessential ethologist, utterly fascinated by describing, analyzing and explaining animal behavior from an evolutionary perspective.

From Princeton, where he was graduated with an A.B. in 1953, he went to Oxford to study for a D.Phil. He once told me that his original intention was to study chickadees in Whytham Woods with David Lack but they were too small for him to see well. He therefore transferred to Niko Tinbergen's Animal Behaviour Research Group and studied black-headed gulls, which are large and conspicuous. It is a good story, slightly belied by the fact that Martin later studied honeycreepers, birds that are smaller than chickadees. Tinbergen, in his autobiography, is less than revealing, of black-headed gull studies he remarks: "it was a stroke of luck that just when we were ready to study this species, a young American student turned up in Oxford who wanted to do research on the behaviour of birds. Martin Moynihan..." Whatever the facts, this experience started Martin on a life-long interest in gulls and a consequent absorption with the structure, function, and evolution of displays. It also led directly to his important 1959 monograph: *A revision of the family Laridae*, and, by my count, to 14 other gull papers. From the start Martin's extraordinary skills as an illustrator, not to say artist (which he was) greatly enriched his publications.

After stints as a fellow at Cornell and then Harvard, where I guess he concluded that teaching was not his first priority, he made a life-changing decision. For Martin 1957 became a nodal year. He was offered the position of Resident Naturalist and Director of the tropical field station at Barro Colorado Island in the Panama Canal Zone. This was a "momentous moment". From it came an unprecedented expansion of this so-called Canal Zone Biological Area, which was transformed into the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI). Now the world's premier center for tropical studies. From a collection of wooden huts on a water-engirded former hilltop, in the middle of the artificial Gatun Lake, STRI now consists of modern well-equipped Pacific and Atlantic

marine laboratories, with a two ocean research vessel, a Panama City laboratory and administrative complex, a magnificent and unique library, and an extensively modernized Barro Colorado residential and laboratory complex. Martin's drive and energy sparked this evolution which was enthusiastically supported by the then Smithsonian Secretary -ornithologist Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, and the US Congress. The original resident scientific staff of one (Martin himself) was expanded to include a broad range of disciplines in evolutionary biology and, eventually, archeology and anthropology.

These achievements would be enough for one career but during all this skillful outpouring of administrative zeal there was an equivalent outpouring of inspiration to students, colleagues and scientific visitors. Two dicta Moynihanian are memorable. One was advice not to waste too much time "proving the intuitively obvious"; the other was the injunction to look beyond detail, however fascinating in itself, for "broad theoretical generalizations". Martin showed his commitment to these principles by continuing to do field research, seldom experimental, involving new groups of animals, and then synthesizing the results in broad theoretical generalizations. Among other animals he studied (and published on) mixed species flocks of Andean birds, New World Primates, and, remarkably, cephalopods. (One of my most vivid memories is of an underwater view of him snorkeling in the San Blas archipelago, watching the behavior of reef squid -with notebook, pen and pipe dangling from his belt.) One monograph (1982) and a book (1985) admirably show the depth and delight of the cephalopod studies. Later he returned to birds with studies of kingfishers and hornbills. Before he died he completed a book: *On the importance of tactics: the social regulation of competition and aggression in animals*. This is being prepared for publication.

Perhaps all this sounds cold and logical? What I may not have conveyed is the human warmth that Martin radiated. He goaded us all to greater effort, and simultaneously had a deep sensitivity and personal concern for his staff, friends, colleagues and dozens of "apprentice" biologists. Alongside a mercurial temperament, the twinkling magic of humor was never far away, even when events conspired to frustrate. Frustrate they did, for the obstacles to progress generated by several bureaucracies were many. He was far less tolerant of these than he was of the weaknesses of his circle. In particular, his encounters with representatives of the Panama Canal Company are legendary.

Many of us leave no significant intellectual or material monuments. Martin left behind an important legacy to all ethologists in his writings and art. Of

all his papers my nomination for the most seminal is: *The control, suppression, decay, disappearance and replacement of displays* (1970). This was a phylogenetic landmark in the line of descent (ascent?) to his cephalopod revelations and insights and to his final book. Equally important he left behind a rich and important logistic resource -the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, for this he was recognized in the award of the Smithsonian's Joseph Henry Medal. Those who stand on his shoulders in the future will see further, and with far greater clarity, because of his work in both these fields.

### **BYRON A. ALEXANDER (1952-1996)**

**By George Byers**

The Animal Behavior Society lost one of its productive young members at the altogether unanticipated death of Byron A. Alexander, on 30 November 1996. Byron was an associate professor in the Department of Entomology and the Department of Systematics and Ecology at the University of Kansas; he was also a curator in the Snow Entomological Museum.

He was a student of the natural history of insects and published papers on nest provisioning and on predator-prey interactions in sphecid wasps and the evolution of social behavior in wasps. But at the same time he was applying cladistic methods to the study of phylogeny of bees and wasps.

Byron was an enthusiastic and capable teacher - of courses in insect classification, social insects, external morphology of insects, and introductory systematics. His courses were highly regarded by his students. He was also an unusually skilled artist, a talent he applied to his publications on insect behavior and morphology. He also illustrated a book by Howard Evans and Kevin O'Neill (1988), *The Natural History and Behavior of the North American Beewolves*.

Byron Allen Alexander was born in El Paso, Texas, on 14 April 1952. He graduated with highest honors from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1974. Originally intending to study primate behavior, he enrolled in a course on primatology at Stanford University and went briefly to West Africa to observe chimpanzees. But he contracted hepatitis and had to return to the United States. While working as a seasonal park naturalist in the Southwest, he became interested in behavioral studies of wasps being conducted by students of Howard Evans. As a result, he went to Colorado State

University to work with Evans and earned the M.S. degree there in 1983. Thereafter, he studied with George Eickwort at Cornell University, where he received the Ph.D. degree in 1989. In 1990, following a post-doctoral appointment at the United States National Museum of Natural History, he joined the faculty at the University of Kansas.

In addition to his membership in the Animal Behavior Society, Byron was active in the Entomological Society of America (associate editor of the Thomas Say Publications in Entomology since 1994), the Central States Entomological Society (president in 1995, member of the editorial board since 1994), the International Society of Hymenopterists, the International Union for the Study of Social Insects, the Society of Systematic Biology, and other professional organizations.

He is survived by his parents, Professor and Mrs. Harold Alexander of El Paso, Texas, and two brothers, Harold, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, and David, of Portland, Oregon. A scholarship fund has been established in Byron's name at the University of Kansas.

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME: IS THERE A COST TO CHOOSING HUMOROUS TITLES FOR RESEARCH PAPERS?**

One of the peculiarities of our discipline of animal behavior is that we, for the most part, truly like the animals we study. Generally the more we know about their lives and capabilities, the more we like them. Their lives are interesting and complex, and we like peeking into them.

Further, the more we observe our animals, the more likely it becomes that we see behavior patterns that make us smile. Just between us animal behaviorists, lots of us descend into anthropomorphic shorthand in discussions and even, in jest, imbue our study species with emotional responses when the animals find themselves in particular circumstances. Sometimes, animals "look" surprised or confused or aware of mistaken intention or being exploited. After all, men, how would *you* feel if you found out that all of your children had been fathered by different men? No wonder that male songbird is rapidly chasing that other male in his territory. He's pissed! Such pitfalls of interpretation, even in jest, yawn before us.

My concern is with what may be an increasing tendency to give our articles humorous titles, as if to reflect the above. Rather than select several and risk the impression that I am singling out "offenders", I

leave it to the reader to glance at a year's worth of titles in *Animal Behaviour*. The reason that I am concerned is that most of us will end up employed in biology departments that have one animal behaviorist. We are it. If we're lucky, we might have a kindred soul or two. And, then, there are our other faculty colleagues, both in and beyond our department (remember tenure?), who cannot possibly understand why we should choose such titles. Like it or not, people whose opinions affect us do sometimes judge books by their covers. Seeing a humorous title, they just know that good science cannot be so packaged. Quite simply, this confirms their suspicions about us and our discipline.

I make a distinction here between the primary literature and popular writing. Indeed, I am forced to draw such a distinction, having been gently coerced into accepting the title "Tickling for Ticks" for a *Natural History* article I wrote on the mutualism between oxpeckers and large mammals in Africa. Believe me, the other choices were worse.

Animal behaviorists have struggled a long time to be taken seriously by our scientific colleagues outside of our discipline. I caution young investigators against succumbing to the temptation to display wit in the titles of articles displaying our science. Am I over cautious?

Randall Breitwisch, Department of Biology,  
University of Dayton, Dayton, OH, 45496-2320.  
breit@neelix.udayton.edu.

## MEETINGS

**First Meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology** will be held in conjunction with the 29th Annual Conference on Reproductive Behavior in Baltimore, Maryland, 28-31 May, 1997. This meeting will bring together scientists with a research focus on hormonal regulation of diverse behaviors including aggression, affiliation, ingestion, learning, anxiety and reproduction related. Abstracts are due 15 MARCH 1997. Please contact Dr. Gregory Ball, Dept of Psychology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 21218, phone (410) 516-7910, for a preliminary program and registration material (email: gball@jhuvms.hcf.jhu.edu) or see the meeting website at [www.psy.jhu.edu/~sbn.html](http://www.psy.jhu.edu/~sbn.html).

**Chemical Signals in Vertebrates 8.** The eighth international symposium on chemical signals in vertebrates will meet at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, July 20-25, 1997, hosted by Bob Johnston. This meeting occurs every three years and brings together chemists, molecular biologists,

physiologists, anatomists, psychologists, and ethologists/behavioral ecologists. Symposia will encompass a variety of topics and taxonomic groups. For information contact: Robert E. Johnston, Dept. of Psychology, Uris Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 14853 (attn: Chemical Signals in Vertebrates). Fax: 607-255-8433; email: [csvrts97@cornell.edu](mailto:csvrts97@cornell.edu).

**FORAGING/97**, Santa Cruz, California. An international conference on foraging behavior is being organized. The conference will be held in late 1997 on the campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz. The organizers encourage interested parties to preregister by visiting <http://eric.unl.edu/foraging>. Additional information (topics, possible dates and speakers) is available on the web-page. Those without web-access may contact the organizers at the address below. Organizing Committee: Dave Stephens and James Anderson (Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln), Marc Mangel (Univ of California, Santa Cruz), Don Kramer (McGill Univ.) Address: FORAGING/97, c/o David Stephens, School of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68588 USA.

**The Society for Conservation Biology Annual Meeting.** June 6 to 9, 1997, Victoria, BC, Canada. The SCB Annual Meeting offers an opportunity to present papers and posters on a variety of topics, with a major theme this year on Marine Conservation Biology. Invited and contributed special sessions will be held concurrently with other non-marine sessions, but the special emphasis in a number of symposium sessions will be similarities and differences between conservation biology in the marine setting and in other realms. Oral and poster sessions will be scheduled over three days, with evening times available for roundtables and discussion groups. Single and multi-day field trips are planned for the June 10 - 14 period, and will include topics and destinations such as: Forests and Forestry in the Carmanah Valley, Gray Whales of Clayoquot Sound, Marine Biota of the Strait of Georgia, and Ethnobotany of British Columbia Aboriginal People. Call for Papers and Posters deadline is January 15, 1997. For information on abstract submissions, please refer to the conference web site at [http://geography.geog.uvic.ca/dept/announce/scb\\_page.html](http://geography.geog.uvic.ca/dept/announce/scb_page.html) Program Information: Dr. David Duffus, Dept of Geography, University of Victoria, PO Box 3050, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8W 3P5. Phone (250) 721-7344, FAX (250) 721-6216, Email [dduffus@office.geog.uvic.ca](mailto:dduffus@office.geog.uvic.ca). Conference Coordination: Pat McGuire, Conference Management, University of Victoria, PO Box 3030, Victoria, BC, Canada, V8W 3N6. Phone (250)721-8746, FAX (250)721-8774, Email [pmcguire@uvaix.uvic.ca](mailto:pmcguire@uvaix.uvic.ca).



**The XXVth International Ethological Conference at Vienna** will be held from 20th to 27th August, 1997. This conference will celebrate nearly 50 years of international ethological meetings - an excellent opportunity to present a general view of the field. Therefore, the selection of major topics of this conference aims at representing the broad divergence of this vastly expanding field. The interactions between the highly successful subdisciplines of ethology will be especially emphasized, as well as their linkage with other, specialized branches of modern biology.

Plenary talks will be given on adaptive value, signal design, behavioural genetics, development, behavioural and physiological mechanisms, immunocompetence and disease resistance, neural wiring, comparative analyses, population dynamics, applied aspects, cognitive mechanisms, and evolutionary psychology. Speakers include Jan Bolhuis, Frank Bronson, Leda Cosmides, John Endler, Cecilia Heyes, Emilia Martins, Manfred Milinski, Robert Page, Wayne Potts, Edmund Rolls, Bill Sutherland and John Webster. There will be Symposia on sensory ecology (Barth), conflict resolution (Aureli), vocal displays in birds (Groothuis/ten Cate), conflict of interest between the sexes (Halliday/Magurran), neuromodulators and behaviour (Huber), perceptual processes and evolution (Klump), physiological evidence for ethological concepts (Leonard), Darwinian aesthetics (Grammer/Møller), long-range communication (Naguib/McGregor), sperm competition (Peschke), broadening the view of lekking (Wikelski/Taborsky) and, motivation: from brain to behaviour (Zupanc/Lamprecht). Roundtable Discussions will complement the program, for example on mating systems and parental care, hermaphrodite courtship, early hormonal influences on behavioural differentiation, teaching ethology, parasite mediated sexual selection, olfactory communication in mammals, and others. A special event will be a podium discussion with invited participants on "The proximate/ultimate crux: split or synthesis?", chaired and introduced by John Krebs. Five satellite symposia on specific themes take place in Hungary and Austria before and after the conference.

**Call for papers.** Three possibilities are offered for contributing papers; spoken papers, poster papers and poster talks. The latter includes a brief introduction of posters in a plenary session, at prime time. In the evenings, activities will include film sessions, a special guest lecture, receptions at the conference venue and town hall, and a conference dinner party (admission free for all registered participants). The **deadline** for especially reduced registration fees, grant applications and for the submission of abstracts will be **28th February, 1997**. The **final announcement** containing the preliminary

program, registration forms and booking details for accommodation and excursions may be obtained on request from Wiener Medizinische Akademie (WMA), "XXV IEC", Alserstr. 4, A-1090 Wien, Austria; or by E-mail: medacad@via.at; Fax: +43-1-405-1383-23; Phone: +43-1-405-1383; Home page: <http://evolution.humb.univie.ac.at/events/iec.html>.

**Seventy-seventh Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists.** This year's annual meeting will be held from 14 to 18 June, 1997, at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. The program includes a keynote address entitled "Carnivore Conservation: Reflections on a Decade of Research and Management Recommendations" by Dr. Katherine Ralls (Department of Zoological Research, National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution), recipient of the C. Hart Merriam Award. Also included will be a symposium on Social Structure and Deme Dynamics, chaired by Dr. Stephen Dobson of Auburn University and the usual ASM socials, ideal for professional interaction. Contributed papers will address all aspects of mammalian biology. For information: Karen McBee, Department of Zoology, LSW 430, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, 74078-3052, USA. Phone 405-744-9680, email [mcbec@okway.okstate.edu](mailto:mcbec@okway.okstate.edu).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A festschrift to celebrate the career accomplishments of Dr. Lowell Getz and an informal conference on vole reproductive behavior.** Through his career-long dedication to understanding vole biology, Lowell Getz has fostered the development of a still-growing interest in these fascinating rodents. Lowell will formally retire from the University of Illinois in May, 1997. We plan to use this occasion to celebrate his career accomplishments, and to bring together researchers interested in vole behavior, reproduction and related topics. The vole conference will be a satellite of the annual meeting of Animal Behavior Society, scheduled to be held at the University of Maryland, College Park from June 21-27. Time and Location: The vole conference will be held between 9:30 am and 5:00 pm on June 21, 1997. The meeting site is Room 1208, Zoology-Psychology Building on the campus of the University of Maryland (northwest of Hornbake Library on Campus Drive). The first event for the ABS meeting will a reception to be held on the evening of June 21, so attendance at the vole conference will not conflict with that meeting.

Presentations: Members of the conference will share recent findings and directions for future research

in an informal "data blitz" format. Time permitting, all participants will be invited to present 5-minute (5 slide maximum) talks highlighting their own research interests.

Registration: There will be **NO CHARGE** for registration for the vole meeting. However, we encourage registration by March 15 to allow local planning. **REGISTRATION WILL BE MANAGED BY EMAIL**, or if necessary by FAX or regular mail. Send your name, address, phone number, fax number, email address and a brief title for your presentation to [cushing@zool.umd.edu](mailto:cushing@zool.umd.edu) or by fax or mail Attn: Bruce Cushing (email and other addresses below). We will try to accommodate all requests to present slides, but if time does not permit this, then acceptance will be on a first-come basis. Attendance at the vole meeting does **NOT** require registration for the ABS meeting. Projectors for slides and transparencies will be available.

If you plan to attend the ABS meeting or wish to use dormitory housing, you **MUST** register for the ABS meeting. The website address for ABS is: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/cebh/abs97>, which will give you information on ABS, the meeting and when available, the ABS program.

Registration at the ABS meeting permits use of dormitory housing on campus and will entitle you to attend a picnic to be held for the entire ABS meeting on the evening of June 21 (\$15-17.50 for tickets). Dormitory housing can be reserved for the night of June 20 and 21 through the ABS registration procedures or by faxing or writing Conference and Visitor Services, 0101 Annapolis Hall, College Park, MD, 20742-9122; fax: 301-314-6693. Several motels also are located in College Park or Beltsville, which are within 1 to 5 miles of campus. The Conference Center on campus is \$79/night/single (301-985-7300). The Comfort Inn charges \$75/night and has shuttle serve to campus by appointment (301-441-8110). In addition, College Park is now located on the Washington Metro system, allowing easy access to the University from throughout the Washington area. Metro connections exist to Washington National Airport, which is the least expensive way to reach the University of Maryland. Shuttles are available from Dulles and Baltimore-Washington Airports.

**ORGANIZERS:**

Sue Carter and	Melinda Novak
Bruce Cushing	Dept. of Psychology
Dept. of Zoology	Univ. of Massachusetts
Univ. of Maryland	Amherst, MA
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<a href="mailto:cushing@zool.umd.edu">cushing@zool.umd.edu</a>	

**An Invitation from The National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis.**

In May, 1995, the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis was established at UC-Santa Barbara. The Center's mission is to advance the state of ecological knowledge through a search for general patterns and principles by synthesizing existing information. The Center supports workshops, working groups (small groups intensively addressing an issue), sabbaticals, postdoctoral associates, and creative combinations of these approaches and others. Funds are available to cover travel, accommodations, and local costs for these activities, and stipends are available for sabbatical fellows and postdoctoral associates. Facilities include offices, meeting rooms, high performance computing capabilities, and logistical assistance is provided for arranging Center activities.

Ecology encompasses many associated disciplines and the Center is interested in involving scientists from a variety of fields in analyses of important ecological topics. Ecologists, and scientists in related disciplines, are encouraged to discuss possible activities with the Director or to submit proposals to NCEAS. Proposals that deal with particularly novel ideas or approaches, that bring innovative ideas to bear on important issues, or that synthesize existing information in a creative fashion are especially welcome. Additional information about the Center, including contacts, proposal guidelines, and deadlines, is available at <http://www.nceas.ucsb.edu>.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

The Secretary would like to remind you although I try to avoid listing situations that are already filled, the time lag between submission and arrival of the Newsletter can cause this to occur. Please contact those offering the opportunities before applying.

**Assistants needed for the study of satin bowerbirds.** Volunteer field assistants are needed for the study of mate choice in satin bowerbirds. Assistants will primarily help to band birds and to observe behavior at bowers. The study site is in Northern New South Wales, Australia. This is a renewal of a study of mate choice which began 15 years ago in which we will follow the success of the offspring of male bower holders we studied earlier. The field season will be divided into 2 parts: 1) late July through mid to late September and 2) mid to late September through early January. Assistants must arrange for travel to the field site; we will provide food and lodging at the site. Tasks assistants will perform include assisting in the capture, banding and

blood sampling of birds, locating bower sites and clearing trails, monitoring the behavior of birds at bowers with infrared sensing equipment and camcorders and by direct observation. The work is very physically demanding and assistants must be focused on this project and flexible in their requirements.

Contact: Gail Patricelli, Al Uy or Gerry Borgia, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-4415 e-mail: patricelli@zool.umd.edu, uy@zool.umd.edu or borgia@zool.umd.edu Telephone: (301) 405-6943, eve. (301)345-0414.

**Florida keys hawk migration: Field assistant and four volunteers** needed 1 Aug - 15 Nov 1997. Goals include an overflight census of 16 raptor species, flight behavior in the Keys, and conservation issues such as stopover habitat use. In our second field season, fall 1996, we observed over 15,000 raptors. Peregrine Falcons were the 4th most common species; we had the highest one-day count of migrant Peregrines seen at any watch-site in the U.S. and the 2nd highest season total. Free, comfortable, oceanside lodging provided on Grassy Key is also the primary field site (50 miles north of Key West). Field assistant salary total is \$2,688 plus \$232 for travel; appointment to this position is based on field and management experience. Three volunteers will receive \$70 per week and one will be offered partial-board. Applicants will be considered for lengths of stay from 8 to (preferably) 14 weeks. Some raptor or ornithological experience necessary but field training will be available; some data-entry experience helpful. Must be able to get along well with others and withstand sunlight. Contact as soon as possible for consideration of posts. Please send resume, references, dates available, and/or inquiries to the following address: Cindy Brashear, Florida International University, University Park, OE Building, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Miami, FL, 33199. Phone: (954) 435-4469. E-Mail: CBRASH01@servms.fiu.edu or Cindybrash@aol.com .

**Volunteers** - Approximately 30 volunteer positions are open in 1997 at the American Museum of Natural History's Southwestern Research Station in Portal, Arizona. The volunteer program is run annually and offers students in biological sciences outstanding opportunities to observe and become involved with field research. Food and lodging are provided in exchange for 24 hr per week of routine chores, with the remaining time available for research. The program is open to undergraduate and graduate students; the latter may pursue their own research. Volunteers are needed between March 15 and Nov. 1. Appointments are for part of this period,

with a minimum of six weeks. Applicants for spring (March-May) should submit applications by Feb. 15, summer volunteers (June-August) by April 1 and fall volunteers (Sept. - Nov.) any time. Dr. Wade C. Sherbrooke, Director, Southwestern Research Station, American Museum of Natural History, Portal, AZ, 85632, USA. Phone (520) 558-2396.

**Research Volunteers needed:** Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, the world's first refuge for birds of prey, needs your help. Volunteers skilled in word processing and data entry are needed to help the Sanctuary's research staff maintain its unique and growing collection of library resources and field data. Volunteers should be willing to donate at least 8 hours a month to the effort. All work must be done at the Sanctuary, which is located near Kempton, Pennsylvania, approximately 25 miles north of Reading, 30 miles northwest of Allentown, and 85 miles northwest of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For more information on the Sanctuary's science-based conservation efforts and volunteer opportunities, write or call Keith L. Bildstein, Director of Research, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, 1700 Hawk Mountain Road, Kempton, PA. (610)756-6961; Bildstein@say.acnatsci.org.

**Cook/kitchen supervisor and maintenance chief positions open at the Southwestern Research Station, American Museum of Natural History.** Year-round positions to begin December 1997. Location is at 5400 ft elevation at a remote biological field station in the Chiricahua Mountains. Must be willing to live on site and be interested in overall operations of the Station. Number of visiting scientists, students, and other guests at the station varies seasonally - usually 40-70 during the season when meals are served (mid March - end October) Benefits include salary, housing (shared cottage), utilities, meals, and extraordinary scenery. The Museum has excellent health, dental, and retirement plans. An equal opportunity employer. Submit resume with telephone numbers of references to Dr. Wade Sherbrooke as described for volunteer positions above.

The Secretary requests that all submissions of more than a few lines be made electronically. Uncoded e-mail files are preferable, but submissions may also be made on disk. ASCII and most common word processing system files are acceptable. They may be either MAC or DOS based. The diskettes will not be returned unless a self addressed mailer is included. The e-mail address for submissions is sfoster@vax.clarku.edu. Please enclose a hard copy with the diskette, or send a hard copy in addition to email.

**APPLICATION / RENEWAL for ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

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- Begin my membership for current year (send back issues).  Begin my membership next January.

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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