

Far younger in spirit than his years, Bud had a puckish sense of humor and was well known for his practical jokes, which invariably topped those of his student "adversaries." He was a caring, perhaps ideal professor. His love of scholarship and science were contagious. Never aloof, he always had time to talk with his students, who he expertly guided through the academic and political hoops of graduate school. Each student was treated as an individual; those needing extensive nurturing were given this attention, whereas others, more advanced in their training and abilities, were allowed to develop in the University setting with only the requisite guidance. Dr. Owre showed great interest in all of his students' research projects, from vulture behavior to the biology of introduced species to the ecology of waders, and loved to participate in the collection of field data. But then, there were the dreaded two to four hour practical exams administered one-on-one in Dr. Owre's office, and consisting of trays of selected bird specimens from which an endless string of thought-provoking questions arose. Those were long afternoons.

Dr. Owre retired from active teaching at the University of Miami in the mid-1980s, thereby giving him more time to work on his book on the birds of Lake Rudolph and continue his research.

Although he performed little field work in the West Indies, through his teaching and association with that region's ornithologists, he significantly contributed to the knowledge of Caribbean ornithology.

Dr. Owre is survived by his wife, Lydia Rose, his daughter Caroline Owre-Cicco, and three step-children, Lisa, David, and Lanea Eschmeyer.

The Tropical Audubon Society has voted to establish the Oscar T. Owre Memorial Fund, a scholarship to assist undergraduate students interested in a career in ornithology. Contributions to this fund may be addressed to: Tropical Audubon Society, Inc., 5530 Sunset Drive, Miami, Florida 33143.

My lasting image of Dr. Owre is of that gentle, fatherly man, sitting amid his extensive library-office, with a pot of potent Ethiopian coffee percolating, beckoning me with a youthful smile into his office for a chat with a "Yes, yes! ... and what can I do for you..."

Jim Wiley

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### News of the Río Abajo Aviary for the Puerto Rican Parrot

Although not officially inaugurated, the Río Abajo Aviary, located in Utuado, Puerto Rico, has started operations. The aviary will serve as a second facility for the captive propagation of the endangered Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*).

On 26 August 1990, a group of 30 Hispaniolan Parrots (*A. ventralis*) was placed in outdoor cages at the Río Abajo Aviary. These birds will serve as both disease sentinels and will provide the aviculturists with the opportunity to make any adjustments needed to assure the proper functioning of the aviary. If all goes well, an estimated 12 Puerto Rican Parrots will be transferred from the Luquillo Aviary in eastern Puerto Rico to the Río Abajo Aviary in the summer of 1991.

The Río Abajo Aviary will be operated in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through Section 6 funds, the Department of Natural Resources of Puerto Rico, and the Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico (a private organization). José Rodríguez Vélez and Anne M. Smith are the aviculturists in charge of the new facility.

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### Job Opportunity

The Department of Natural Resources of Puerto Rico is actively seeking interested candidates to fill the role of Assistant Aviculturist for the Río Abajo Aviary, located in Utuado, Puerto Rico. The aviary will be a second propagation site for the endangered Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*). Applicants must have a Bachelor of Science degree and/or several years experience working with birds, preferably psittacines, and must be willing to live on-site. Government housing will be provided. If interested in the position, send a cover letter and resumé to the address below. To request more information, send request and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

José Rodríguez Vélez  
Head Aviculturist  
Río Abajo Aviary  
Box 439  
Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00613-0439

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### Macaw Conservation and Management Workshop

A workshop on the conservation and management of macaws in Mexico and Central America organized by The Center for the Study of Tropical Birds (CSTB) and the Honduran National Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) will be held 4-7 January 1991 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Topics to be discussed include: status and distribution within the region, ecology, censusing techniques, management alternatives