Obituaries of Members of the Ohio Academy of Science: Report of the Necrology Committee, 1987

The Necrology Committee of the Ohio Academy of Science consists of the following members: Emanuel D. Rudolph, Chairman, The Ohio State University; Richard H. Mahard, Denison University; W. Louis Phillips, Certified Genealogist, Logan; and Ronald L. Stucky, The Ohio State University. The author is identified at the end of each obituary.

Robert Thomas Cossaboom (1914-1986)

Mr. Robert Thomas Cossaboom, professor emeritus of geography and geology at Baldwin-Wallace College, died 3 November 1986 at Southwest General Hospital, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, at the age of 72.

Born 12 January 1914 in Boston and raised in Lancaster, Massachusetts, he was a son of Robert G. and Jane C. (Kelly) Cossaboom. At Worcester, Massachusetts, Mr. Cossaboom earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration (1933) from Becker Business College and an A.B. degree (1941) in biology from Clark University. He received an M.S. degree (1943) in entomology from The Ohio State University.

Mr. Cossaboom was buried at Sunset Memorial Park at North Olmsted, Ohio.

Samuel Charles Kendeigh (1904-1986)

Dr. Samuel Charles Kendeigh, professor emeritus of zoology at the University of Illinois, died 13 November 1986 at Clark-Lindsey Village in Urbana, Illinois, at the age of 81. Ecologist, ornithologist, teacher, author, and preservationist, Dr. Kendeigh was highly respected for his integrity, devotion to science, and concern for students and associates.

Born 18 December 1904 at South Amherst, Ohio, he was a son of Milo Cornelius and Clara King Gillman Kendeigh. Dr. Kendeigh’s ancestors were German-Swiss Mennonites who fled Switzerland and settled in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, about 1715. The surname was originally spelled “Kendig.”

A graduate of Oberlin High School (1922), he received his A.B. degree (1926) and A.M. degree (1927) from Oberlin College, was a graduate student at the University of Nebraska (1927-1928) and earned his Ph.D. degree (1930) at the University of Illinois. His interest in the biological sciences surfaced in high school where he was a member of the Natural History Club.

Dr. Kendeigh held the following positions: research associate, Baldwin Bird Research Laboratory, Gales Mills, Ohio (1925-1939, summers); teaching fellow, University of Nebraska (1927-1928); graduate fellowship, University of Illinois (1928-1930); instructor in biology, Western Reserve University (1930-1936); and at the University of Illinois: assistant professor in zoology (1936-1940), associate professor (1941-1948), professor (1948-1973), and professor emeritus (1973-1986). Several summers were spent as a research fellow at the Edmund Niles Huck Reserve, Rensselaerville, New York, (1942-1944) and as a teacher at the biological stations of the University of Iowa (1940), the University of Michigan (1946), and the University of Minnesota (1955). He also served as a collaborator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (1945); senior staff member, Center of Zoonosis Research (1962-1973); and a council member of the Center of Human Ecology (1958-1973).

Dr. Kendeigh studied with and later succeeded pioneer American animal ecologist, Victor Shelford. He became mentor to Eugene Odum, Robert Whittaker, and 49 other doctoral candidates and 65 masters students. Many undergraduate students were introduced to ecology through his textbooks: Animal Ecology (1961) and Ecology with Special Reference to Animals and Man (1974). Dr. Kendeigh also authored five laboratory and field manuals and 83 scientific publications. Courses taught at Western Reserve University (1930-1936) were general zoology, ecology and ornithology; and at the University of Illinois (1936-1973): general zoology (laboratory), vertebrate ecology, ornithology, wildlife management, animal ecology, physiological ecology, field ecology, advanced ecology and wildlife management (seminar), animal behavior (seminar) and human ecology (in part).

Quoting from “Awards” (Bull. Ecol. Soc. Amer., 1978, 59: 168-169), colleagues wrote that Kendeigh’s imaginative studies, from his 1927 paper on the house wren to a recent manuscript on comparative energetics of birds and mammals, constitute a model of scientific productivity in the development of a major theme — vertebrate physiological-ecology. His work on bird energetics began very early to stimulate what became an explosion of ‘energy-flow’ work in ecosystem ecology. The 1932 book Physiology of the Temperature of Birds is a classic. Other themes running through Kendeigh’s eighty publications are population census and dynamics, community classification, general conservation, and the preservation of research lands.

Sensitivity to the contributions of earlier workers is exemplified by his devoted work in completing preparation of Shelford’s The Ecology of North America, editing it and seeing it through publication.

“The practical art of wildlife management was not neglected; that field is well represented among the many and varied courses and seminars Kendeigh handled. He was a founder and chairman of the national organization, The Nature Conservancy, originally termed the Ecologist’s Union, and served eight years on its Board of Governors. He was the first chairman of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and for a quarter-century chaired his university’s committee on natural areas.”

Dr. Kendeigh, a life member of The Ohio Academy of Science (zoology section), joined in 1930 and became a fellow in 1935. He also belonged to the following scientific societies: Ecological Society of America (past president), British Ecological Society, AAAS (on Council 3 years), American Institute of Biological Sciences, American Zoological Society, American Ornithologists’ Union (vice-president, 1969-1970), Wilson Ornithological Society (president), Nature Conservancy (founder, past chairman, Board of Governors for 8 years), Animal Behavior Society (founder), Cooper Ornithological Society, Institute of Hungarian Ornithology (honorary member), Wildlife Society, American Association of Mammalogists, American Genetic Association, Illinois Academy of Science, and International Society of Biometeorology.
A recipient of the Ecological Society of America's Eminent Ecologist Award (1978), Dr. Kendeigh also received the American Ornithologists' Union's Brewster Award (1971). He was a member of the following honorary societies: Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Phi Sigma, and Phi Kappa Phi.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Elizabeth (Burton) Kendeigh of Urbana, whom he married on 6 September 1930 in Cleveland; a daughter, Mrs. Sidney P. (Katherine Jane) Little of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and a son, Donald Charles Kendeigh of Westfield, New Jersey. Memorial services were held at the Wesley United Methodist Church, Urbana.

W. LOUIS PHILLIPS

Howard Nicholas Maxwell (1909-1982)

Dr. Howard Nicholas Maxwell, professor emeritus of physics at Ohio Wesleyan University, died 9 May 1982 at Grady Memorial Hospital in Delaware, Ohio, at the age of 72. Specializing in optics, atomic spectroscopy and interferometry, Dr. Maxwell served as Chairman of the Physics Department at Ohio Wesleyan University for 26 years.

Born 5 December 1909 at Zanesville, Ohio, he was a son of Clement A. and Edith (Miller) Maxwell. He received a B.S. degree (1932) from the Carnegie Institute of Technology where he was a member of Tau Beta Pi physics honorary society, an A.M. degree (1933) from Harvard University, and his Ph.D. degree (1937) in physics from The Ohio State University.

Dr. Maxwell served as an instructor of mathematics and physics at Hood College (1936-1940), assistant and associate professor of physics at Kalamaoo College (1940-1949), and professor of physics at Ohio Wesleyan University (1949-1975). Beginning in 1946, he served for three summers as a visiting professor at The Ohio State University, and in 1953-1954 was a consultant at Battelle Memorial Institute. He was associate program director for the summer study program of the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. (1961-1962), and continued to serve as a consultant to the PES Division of the National Science Foundation (1963-1973). He spent the summer of 1966 in India as a participant in the USAID Education Program at the University of Mysore.

Dr. Maxwell became a member of The Ohio Academy of Science (physics and astronomy section) in 1956, a fellow in 1959, and emeritus in 1980. He also belonged to the American Association of Physics Teachers, American Physical Society (Ohio Section, secretary for 13 years), and American Association of University Professors. He was a member of the Zanesville Masonic Lodge and a member, elder, and former Sunday school teacher at the First Presbyterian Church of Delaware. He was a former moderator of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley and a charter member of the Clan Maxwell Scottish Association.

As of 1982, surviving were his wife, Mrs. Leona (Gillooly) Maxwell of Delaware, a son, Robert Maxwell of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and a daughter, Mrs. Mary Lombard of Chicago, Illinois. Services were held at the First Presbyterian Church with interment in Oak Grove Cemetery in Delaware.

W. LOUIS PHILLIPS

Loyal Ruegsegger, Jr. (1920-1986)

Mr. Loyal Ruegsegger, Jr., retired system engineer (meters) for Ohio Valley Electric Corporation at Piketon, died 20 May 1986 at age 65 while on vacation in Mesa, Arizona.

Born 19 June 1920 in Stark County, Ohio, he was a son of Loyal Ruegsegger and Dora E. Leyman. During World War II he served in the 8th Air Force in England (1942-1943) and in the 9th Air Force in England and France (1943-1945), where he was a flight engineer and top-turret gunner in the 451st Bomber Squadron. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 10 oak-leaf clusters and four offensive (battle) stars.

He received a B.S. degree (1950) in electrical engineering from Ohio Northern University. Mr. Ruegsegger was employed by: The Eureka-Williams Corporation at Bloomington, Illinois, as a test engineer (1950-1951); the Ohio Power Company at Canton, Ohio, as a relay department substation engineer (1951-1954); and the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation at Piketon, Ohio, as field relay, meter and communication engineer (1954-1956), meter engineer (1956-1961), and system engineer, meters, (1961-1985).

A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (physics and astronomy section) since 1969, Mr. Ruegsegger served as an Ohio Junior Science Day Judge. He also belonged to the following professional organizations: National Society of Professional Engineers, Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (Ohio Northern University Secretary, 1949; Chairman Chillicothe Section, 1960), Power Engineering Society, Instrument Society of America, and National Edison Electric Institute.

Mr. Ruegsegger was active in numerous civic and fraternal organizations, including: American Legion Merritt Post 142 at Waverly, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2832 at Piketon (Commander, 1982-1983), Masonic Orient Lodge 321 at Waverly, Aladdin Temple Shrine at Columbus, Pike County Shrine Club, Order of Eastern Star 99 at Waverly, 451st Bomber Squadron Association, Waverly Service Club, Pike County Senior Citizens, and Boy Scouts of America.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. June (Smith) Ruegsegger of Waverly whom he married on 20 May 1944, son L. Rick Ruegsegger of Columbus and daughter Mrs. Arthur (Carol June) Verdugo of Riverside, California. Funeral services were held at the David Road Church of Christ in Waverly and internment was in Waverly Evergreen Cemetery.

W. LOUIS PHILLIPS

Walter A. Tucker (1896-1986)

Walter A. Tucker, the first director-secretary of the Metropolitan Park District of Columbus and Franklin County, passed away on 19 November 1986 at the Eastland Care Center in Columbus. He was 90 years of age. Walter had been a member of The Ohio Academy of Science for 50 years and played an active role on Academy committees and in special projects. He was elected a Fellow in 1941 and became an emeritus member in 1976. In 1969 Walter was named the Wheaton Club Man of the Year; in 1985 the club honored him with its Distinguished Service Award. Walter helped found the Ohio Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and in recent years served as Honorary Life Trustee of the Ohio Chapter. Walter was also an Honorary Life Trustee of the Columbus Natural History Society. He remained active in many areas of conservation until just a few months before his death.

Walter was born 11 September 1896 near Clyde in Sandusky County. On many occasions he recalled that it was his mother who instilled in him an early interest in nature. He came to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University and, fortunately for Columbus and Franklin County, decided to make Columbus his home. Walter became an editorial artist for the Columbus Dispatch and also wrote special news items related to
garden ing and conservation. During this period in his life Walter operated a small business dealing in aquarium and garden supplies. At this time he also became acquainted with the late Edward S. Thomas, a young Columbus attorney, who was embarking on a career as curator of natural history at the Ohio Archaelogical and Historical Society and as a nature columnist for the Columbus Dispatch.

Walter was in the forefront of a civic movement to establish a metropolitan park district for Columbus and Franklin County in the image of the successful park district formed in Cuyahoga County two decades earlier. He was named secretary of a citizens group to study the feasibility of a park district. To bring the plan into reality took the backing of a lot of Columbus business and civic leaders, but they looked to Walter Tucker to tell them the possibilities.

Not the least of Walter Tucker’s accomplishments in the Ohio conservation movement came as a result of his activity as a free-lance lobbyist at the Ohio General Assembly. Working with the late Don Smith and the late Roscoe Franks, Walter spent many days (and nights) influencing lawmakers to remove bounties on birds of prey. Another top agenda item for Walter was to keep the bobwhite quail on the songbird list. Walter worked for many years to organize the League of Ohio Nature Clubs and the Save Outdoor Ohio Council. He was also active in many garden clubs.

Carl Ebleight, former assistant to the executive editor of the Columbus Dispatch, liked to recall that the only things that interfered with Walter meeting deadlines with his art work were quail bills in the legislature or someone willing to discuss parks for Columbus. Edward S. Thomas, the first appointee and chairman of the Park Board that Walter served for 25 years, wrote: “Walter didn’t know very much about metropolitan parks but he learned fast and few men have ever approached a job with greater dedication than Walter Tucker. Before long he was recognized as a leader in park management and especially in nature interpretation. He was quick to realize that it is useless to talk about conservation to people if they don’t have knowledge and sympathy for what we are trying to conserve.”

Under Walter Tucker’s direction the park system gained national prominence in the areas of park planning and nature-oriented recreation. It grew to include about 5,500 acres, about half its size today.

Walter also believed that people should understand the importance of conserving land. He instituted a number of nature appreciation programs and worked with Columbus Public Schools to provide instruction for school children in the parks.

Walter is survived by his wife Berenice, daughter Janice Tucker McFadden, son Walter Emerson Tucker, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Walter Tucker belonged to many organizations. In most of them he became an active participant, giving freely of his knowledge and absorbing what could be useful in his own work. In the words of the late Don Smith: “Many are the things that make a man, and with Walter Tucker and his chosen profession it all started with an interest in park work. But this was followed by a strong desire — finally a compulsion. Years of hard work — consolidation of gains after many reverses — always guarding the net result — and planning for the future.”

Edward Henry Wollerman (1911–1987)

Dr. Edward Henry Wollerman, retired research entomologist, United State Forest Service, died 18 January 1987 at his residence in Columbus, Ohio, at the age of 75.

Born 16 March 1911 at Cleveland, he was the son of Edward H. and Margaret (Engler) Wollerman. He graduated (1929) from West Technical High School, Cleveland, where he was a member of the Nature Club and became interested in photography, an interest he would pursue throughout his life.

In 1935 Dr. Wollerman started attending Western Reserve University on a part-time basis, taking courses in biology. He received a B.Sc. degree (1941) in agriculture and an M.Sc. degree (1942) in entomology from The Ohio State University. His master's thesis was entitled "Survey and Control of Insects and Rodents in the Buildings of the Ohio State University." He was assistant curator of the University’s Entomology Museum (1940–1941) and also served as a research assistant in entomology at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station (1942–1943). His Ph.D. degree (1949) was also earned at The Ohio State University with a doctoral dissertation entitled "Development of the Southern Armyworm Relative to the Variation in Nitrogen Supplied to the Host Plant." While working on his Ph.D. degree, he was an assistant instructor in zoology and biometry.

His college training was interrupted by World War II in which he served three years (1943–1946), earning two bronze stars. Most of his service time was spent as a laboratory technician with the 31st General Hospital, U.S. Army Southwest Pacific, in the New Hebrides and the Philippines.

In 1950 Dr. Wollerman joined the United States Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine at Lockbourne Air Force Base, Columbus, where he worked on Dutch elm disease. In 1954 this bureau became part of the United States Forest Service, and he continued there as an entomologist until his retirement in 1979. Dutch elm disease remained the focus of his research throughout his career, but he also performed extensive research on locust borers. A more detailed coverage of Dr. Wollerman’s research activities appears in the obituary prepared by Bruce H. Kennedy, Wheaton Club Bulletin, 1(30): 27–29 (March, 1987).

A member of The Ohio Academy of Science (zoology section) since 1948, Dr. Wollerman became a fellow in 1966 and emeritus in 1977. He also belonged to the Entomological Society of America, A.A.A.S. (fellow), Wheaton Club (president, 1975), Sigma Xi, and Gamma Sigma Delta.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Dorothy (Pickett) Wollerman of Columbus, whom he married in 1943, and two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Emily) Cook of Morgantown, West Virginia, and Mrs. Frederick (Peggy) Firth of San Francisco, California. Interment was at Walnut Grove Cemetery, Worthington, Ohio.

David Fay Young (1921–1986)

Mr. David Fay Young, retired professor of biology at Marietta College, died 11 September 1986 at his residence in Marietta at the age of 64, Ill health forced an early retirement of an excellent, extremely popular teacher, but not before he gave over 30 years of his life to Marietta College.

Born 17 November 1921 at Marietta, Ohio, he was a son of Edwin W. and Nellie Fay Young. During World War II (1942–1945), he served as a sergeant in the U.S. Army in the Pacific.


At Marietta College, Mr. Young served on the Faculty Council, Continuing Education Committee, Long-Range Planning Committee, Instruction and Curriculum Committee, Athletic Committee, and was involved with freshman registration. He also served as coordinator of binary programs with Duke University and the University of Michigan.

Mr. Young conducted numerous investigations of local farm ponds and lakes; assisted Dr. Edwin D. Michaels of West Virginia University in environmental impact studies in the Canaan Valley, West Virginia; helped monitor the Wayne National Forest Wetlands Area (Bloomingfield); and assisted in the cataloging of the S. P. Hildreth and Harla Bay Eggleston collections of local freshwater mollusks.
Civic involvement included being a member of the Washington County, Ohio, Health Department (1952–1956); member of the Marietta City Board of Health (1960–1968); and a judge in local high school science fairs.

Mr. Young became a member of The Ohio Academy of Science (zoology section, Vice-President 1983) in 1956 and a fellow in 1985. He also belonged to the following professional organizations: American Institute of Biological Sciences, American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, Ohio College Biology Teachers Conference, Ohio Biological Survey (Executive Committee, 1973–1983; Advisory Board, 1972–1985), Scientific Research Society, Wilderness Society, and Sigma Xi.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Wanda L. (Wheeler) Young of Marietta, whom he married on 20 August 1950, and three sons: Andrew S. Young of Marietta, Mark A. Young of Bakersfield, California, and 2nd Lieutenant Daniel L. Young of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. Services were held in the First Congregational Church of Marietta with interment in Oak Grove Cemetery. Memorial contributions were directed to the David F. Young Alumni Scholarship Fund at Marietta College.

W. LOUIS PHILLIPS