

teristics of geese with an accuracy that very few artists achieve. However, the colour illustrations are disappointing, especially of the goslings; it is hard to believe that they were done by the same artist. — Reviewed by *Fred W. Lahrman*, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina, Saskatchewan.

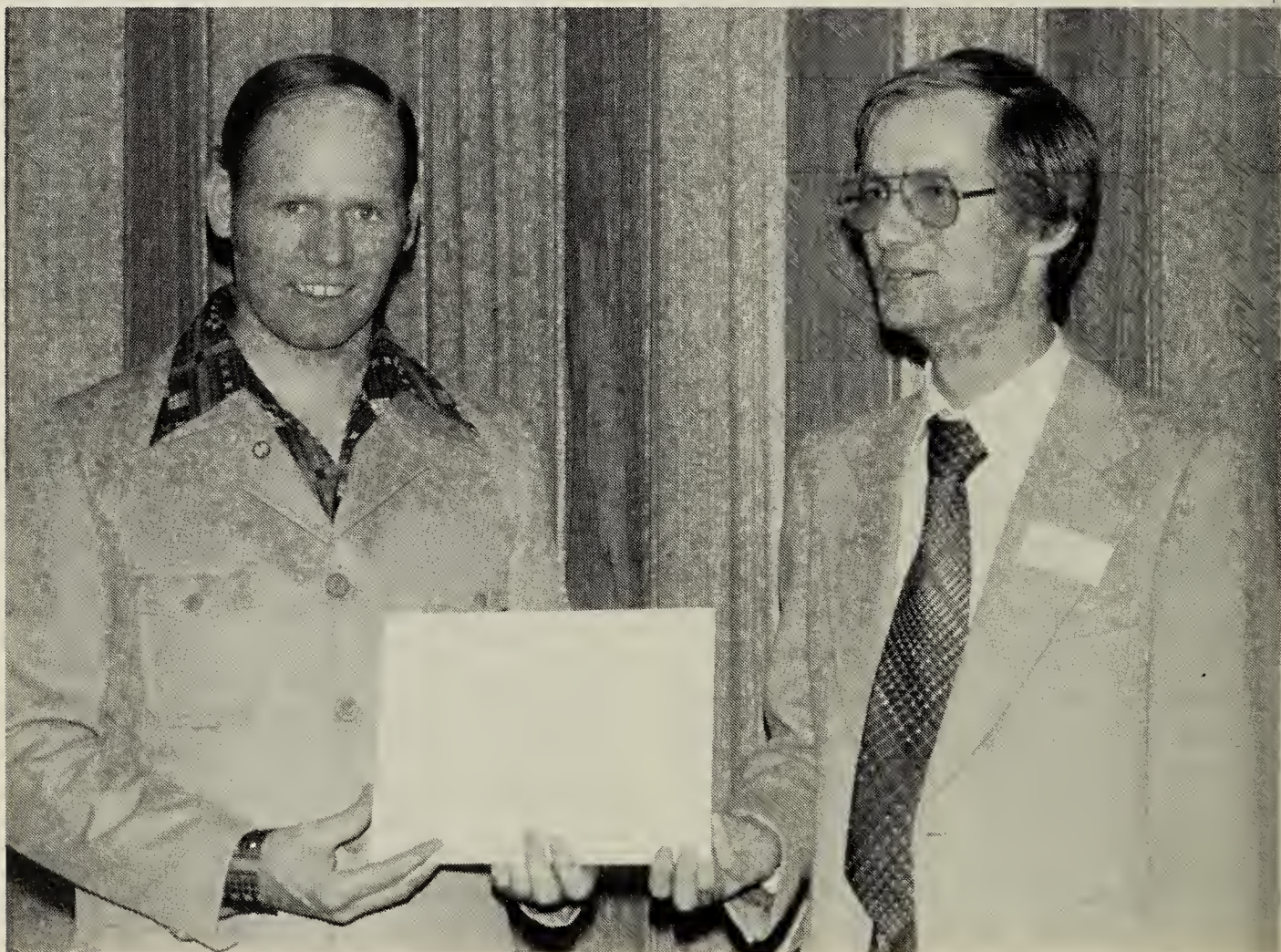
## 1978 CONSERVATION AWARD

Several years ago, a group of farmers who owned parts of a marsh complex near Wawota in southeastern Saskatchewan, known locally as Whitetail Marsh, petitioned the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture for financial assistance to drain these wetlands. Dumas Flood Control Project, as this drainage

proposal was called, was duly processed by the Department and was well on its way to approval. Fortunately, about one year ago members of the Wawota Wildlife Federation learned of this drainage proposal and resolved to halt it. They wrote to the Minister of Tourism and Renewable Resources demanding action to preserve the marsh for wildlife, and urged their members to do the same. They enlisted the town's support by pointing out that drainage might lower the water table and reduce the water supply to the town wells. They also sent a delegation to appeal to each farmer who had petitioned for drainage.

These approaches were successful. Because of the wildlife values of the marsh, the Department of Tourism and Renewable Resources took a strong stand against drainage. This forced the Department of Agriculture

*Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation President Tom Motta receives SNHS Conservation Award for Wawota Wildlife Federation from Dale Hjertaas Sheina Wait*







Sheina Wait

Robert Kreba receives Cliff Shaw Award from Blue Jay Editor Gary W. Seib

to consult with the land owners who had petitioned for drainage. General support for the drainage scheme no longer existed. The Dumas Flood Control Project was accordingly cancelled last summer.

The Wawota Wildlife Federation is not content to stop there. They are currently attempting, in co-operation with Ducks Unlimited (Canada), to develop the Whitetail Marsh for wildlife to ensure that the Dumas Flood Control Project is not revived in the future.

Mr. Tom Motta, President of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation accepted the SNHS Annual Conservation Award on behalf of the Wawota Branch. Their work in preserving Whitetail Marsh has earned the award, and provides a shining example for other groups to

emulate. — Dale Hjertaas, Membership Chairman, 3110 - 7th Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7H 1B3.

## 1978 CLIFF SHAW AWARD

The Cliff Shaw Award is presented annually in memory of the second editor of the *Blue Jay*. For 1978, the award was presented to Robert Kreba, a young naturalist on the staff of the Museum of Natural History in Regina.

Bob's article, "Observations of an Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer in captivity", was published in the June, 1978 issue, and tells of his observations and experiences in nursing it back to health and finally returning it to the wild.