
IN MEMORIAM

F. J. HARTLEY FREDEEN, 1920-2003

C. STUART HOUSTON, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8, and J. FRANK ROY, 650 Costigan Way, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3R2

Hartley Fredeen was born at Macrorie, Saskatchewan, on September 23, 1920 and died in Saskatoon on September 10, 2003. He grew up on a farm in the Coteau Hills, 21 km west of Macrorie. Hartley's mother had been a school teacher who owned a copy of Reed's *Pocket Guide to Birds* and took her pupils on bird walks. While still in his teens, Hartley wrote an article "in defense of the crow," printed in the farm weekly newspaper, the *Western Producer*, which caused naturalists Norman and Stuart Criddle to correspond with him from Manitoba.

Except for a few months in Grade 8, Hartley completed his primary and secondary education without formal schooling. Overcoming tuberculosis and other ailments, Hartley was educated at home by his mother and through correspondence courses from the Department of Education.



*Hartley Fredeen holding nestling Ferruginous Hawk in 1940
Olive Arrasmith Fredeen*

When Hartley was 18, Mr. Conrad, the local high school principal, wrote a letter in support of his bird identification abilities, allowing him to obtain bird banding permit #369. Between 1938 and 1943, Hartley

banded 1,762 individuals of 74 species, from which he had 28 recoveries. Apart from one Ring-billed Gull at Redberry Lake and one Broad-winged Hawk at Madge Lake, he did all his banding on or near the family farm. From 29 Swainson's Hawk nestlings banded, he had three recoveries, one of which was the first recovery in Argentina of a North American Swainson's Hawk. This notable recovery was reported as such by May Cooke in *Bird-banding* in 1943.¹

Hartley attended the University of Saskatchewan in 1939, obtaining a B.S.A. in 1943 and an M. Sc. in 1951. He became a research scientist in entomology for Canada Agriculture, specializing in black flies and their control. One of the founders of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists and a charter member and past chair of the Entomological Institute of Canada, he was also a member of the International Water Apportionment Board, and a 60-year member of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. He was seconded to work in Montreal for three years to develop and manage a comprehensive insect control program for Expo '67. He also served in West Africa with the World Health Organization. He sat on thesis committees as an adjunct professor, both at the University of Saskatchewan and at Simon Fraser University.

Hartley loved the outdoors. Perhaps

because of his early bouts with illness, he knew the importance of physical activity. He became an ardent hiker, mountain climber, canoeist, speed skater and cyclist, and was happiest when engaged in these activities with members of his family. Hartley was also a long-time member of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, the Saskatoon Nature Society, and the "Golden Eagles," a seniors group within the Saskatoon Nature Society.

Hartley was strongly committed to an environmental ethic and to social justice. He feared the consequences of corporate expansion and the rise of inappropriate consumerism. In 1997 he and his wife, Margaret, were presented with the Alumni Award of Achievement at the Fall Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan.

Hartley's son Alan concluded the funeral eulogy with a memorable observation about his father: "There was a full harvest moon rising on his last day with us, the same moon under which he came into being in 1920. It wouldn't have escaped his attention. He would have marveled at the sight, remembered past harvests and pondered what part of the planet the sun was illuminating at that moment."

1. Cooke, M. T. 1943. Returns from banded birds (#13). *Bird Banding* 14:67-74