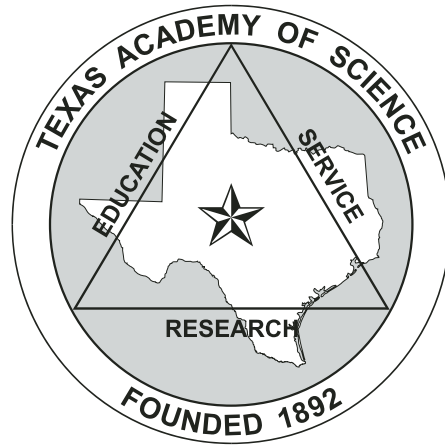


111th Annual Meeting of the Texas Academy of Science



PROGRAM and ABSTRACTS



March 6–8, 2008
Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi, Texas





DR. CLARK HUBBS

March 15, 1921 – February 3, 2008

It's with great sadness that we share the news that Dr. Clark Hubbs passed away Sunday, February 3. He died at the age of 86, after a battle with cancer, at home in the care of his wife, Cathy, and three children. The Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society offers our condolences to Cathy and their whole family, who have been such wonderful friends and colleagues to the Chapter. Clark was born March 15, 1921 and was the second child of noted naturalists Carl and Laura Hubbs. He developed a love for the science of fisheries biology at an early age. His parents paid Clark and his sister and brother five dollars for collecting a new genus and one dollar for collecting a new species. They also paid them five cents for each species collected. Not surprisingly, Clark became an ichthyologist, a scientist who studied fish and truly loved his chosen profession.

During World War II, he served in the army in the 96th Infantry Division Headquarters, including the invasions of Leyte and Okinawa. After the war, he obtained his PhD from Stanford in 1951 under the GI bill. He met his wife of 58 years, Catherine, while on a field trip with the Stanford Natural History Club.

In 1951, Clark Hubbs became an assistant professor of zoology at the University of Texas and subsequently became an associate and then full professor. From 1974 to 1976, he was chairman of the Biology Department, and from 1978 to 1986 he was chairman of the Zoology Department. He was professor emeritus at the time of his death. During his long career, he published more than 300 articles. He was still collecting field data for his studies in January 2008. He was editor of *Copeia*, the journal of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists for more than a decade, and a former president of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the American Institute of Fisheries Research

Biologists, the Southwestern Association of Naturalists, Texas Organization for Endangered Species, and the Texas Academy of Science. He was Chair Emeritus Science Committee Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute. He was a tireless supporter of the Texas Academy of Science, Edwards Aquifer, and protection of endangered species. Four different species were named after him.



Clark Hubbs sampling fish on the Rio Grande.

In addition to Dr. Hubbs many professional accomplishments, he was a great asset to the mission of the Texas Academy of Science. Dr. Hubbs was also a founding member and the only Leader of the Rio Grande Fishes Recovery Team for its 30-year history. Under his leadership, the team was an active force in conservation of fishes in west Texas and southern New Mexico. He was instrumental in furthering fisheries research in Texas and a staunch advocate for preventing extinction of many rare species. He also played a pivotal role as an expert witness in the litigation of the Edwards Aquifer for the protection of spring flows for endangered species. Dr. Clark Hubbs will be greatly missed, but his legacy will live on in his students, his research and his inspiration for the next generation of conservation scientists.

Besides being a brilliant fisheries biologist, it is noteworthy to mention that Dr. Hubbs was a character. As an example, when we were returning from a sampling trip on the Rio Grande, he made me stop at several streams to sample the Western Mosquitofish, one of his favorite fish species for distributional ecology and population structure. I could not determine how he was evaluating what streams he had me stop at, and so I finally asked him. He said he just liked the name of them, such as "Woman Hollering Creek," near San Antonio. He said he just had to sample the fish species in a creek with a name like that. My heart is heavy with sadness, but I also have to smile a little when I remember those times spent with my friend, colleague, and mentor: Dr. Clark Hubbs.

There are many students who have strong feelings about their association with Dr. Clark Hubbs. Here is one of them, from former student Fred Stevens, TAS Executive Secretary: "I owe a great debt to Clark Hubbs. I came to Texas specifically to do graduate work under his direction. During those years in Austin in the 1970s I was a beneficiary of his sharp mind, his integrity, and his absolute commitment to quality scientific work. He always expected the best from his students and would accept nothing less. I will always think of myself as a Hubbs' student. This is one of the deepest and most stable elements of my identity. Hubbs students are not so much members of an academic society as they are members of an extended family. I know that I can never pay back this debt, but I can pay it forward – to the next generation. Service to the Texas Academy of Science is one way for me to accomplish this."

Clark Hubbs was preceded in death by his mother, father, and two sisters, Marjorie Anne Hubbs and Frances Miller. He is survived by his wife, Catherine, his brother Earl, daughters Laura Hubbs: Tait and Ann Hubbs, son John Hubbs and four grandchildren, Aaron and Aiden Tait, Eric Hubbs, and Adam Weissman as well as hundreds of students, colleagues, and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute (www.HSWRI.org) or a charity of your choice. Memorial services were held at the Congregational Church and reportedly will be held at numerous scientific meetings. The Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will also provide tribute to Dr. Hubbs in our next Annual Meeting.



Tribute by Ray Mathews, President-elect & Program Chair