

Lester S. Thomas



Lester S. Thomas, a past president and honorary member of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, passed away Feb. 1, 1998, at the age of 99.

Les joined the DVOC in 1950 and was president of the club in 1968 and 1969. He is probably best remembered for his treatise on "Birds of Bucks

County, Pennsylvania," published in the 1953 *Cassinia* and updated in 1954, 1959 and 1964. He also wrote "The Pine Barrens of New Jersey," as well as twenty years of nature columns in *The Advance of Bucks County* and various trail guides to New Jersey and Bucks County forests and parks.

A founder of Bucks County Audubon Society, he had birded much of North and Central America, as well as the Bahamas. He also helped establish the Churchville Nature Center, which contains the Lester S. Thomas Nature Library.

Although Les and his wife, Elizabeth, returned to his hometown of Lake Luzerne, New York, in 1971, he remained in touch with his many friends in DVOC throughout the years. Into the 1980s, he was still a regular fall visitor to Cape May and returned in 1990 for the club's Centennial Banquet.

In recent years, Alan Brady had apprised members on Les' health and had brought a birthday card for club members to sign on the occasion of his 99th birthday.

— Sandra L. Sherman