



Cogswell Led Efforts to Preserve Shoreline

Emeritus biology professor Howard Cogswell, who was instrumental in preserving the Hayward Shoreline, died on June 8 at the age of 91.

Cogswell, who taught at Cal State East Bay from 1964 to his retirement in 1980, was an elected East Bay Regional Park District director representing southern Alameda County. During his 12 years on the park district board, from 1970 to 1982, he helped restore thousands of acres of salt evaporation ponds to the marshlands. Cogswell Marsh on the Hayward Shoreline of San Francisco Bay is named in honor of his efforts at preserving this area for wildlife and recreation.

Cogswell helped make the university famous for its field biology, particularly its ecological class field trips and summer field classes, according to biology professor Chris Kitting. These classes included work in the campus ecological preserve, its field station, and on the first Cal State East Bay boats around San Francisco Estuary.

Cogswell was an alumnus of Whittier College and UC Berkeley where he received both master's and doctoral degrees. He was a member of the faculty at Mills College prior to joining CSUEB.

Cogswell's professional interests were in ornithology and animal behavior and he was a distinguished authority on the birds of California, according to Ned Lyke. His contributions in the field of ornithology culminated in the 1977 publication of *Water Birds of California*, a major field guide. He was a founding member of the Ohlone Audubon Society.

His courses were comprehensive and field trips were noted for the enthusiasm and rigor of the instructor as he helped his students learn about birds and explore the ecology and natural history of California. Many of his graduate students have gone on to prominent positions in teaching, ornithology, and natural resource education and management throughout the state.

He is survived by his wife, Bessie, and son, Denis, and two grandchildren.