

The entomological community lost one of its long-time members on 24 November 2016, with the death of Jim S. Kelleher at the age of 91. Jim was born in Saskatchewan and grew up in Brandon, Manitoba. He served in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II aboard HMCS Kirkland Lake and, upon his return to Canada, completed a BSc in Biology at Brandon University, later obtaining an MSc (University of Iowa) and PhD (University of Minnesota). With increasing staff in the Canada Department of Agriculture after the war, Jim was hired as a research scientist at the Brandon Lab in 1946. There he worked with Ralph Bird on sweet clover weevil and he began his own research into the biological control of Colorado potato beetle and *Hylemya* (now *Delia*) *planipalpis*, the latter a member of a complex of crucifer root maggots. His experience in Brandon led to his transfer to the Institute for Biological Control in Belleville, Ontario, in 1959, where he was appointed as the Importation Officer, responsible for obtaining, providing and processing the biological control material required by the Canada Departments of Agriculture and Forestry. He was in charge of the National Quarantine Facility at Belleville until 1972 when the Institute closed and continued in this capacity at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa until his retirement.

Jim was friendly, out-going and always helpful. TDG first met him in the summer of 1970 when, as an aspiring young entomologist, he walked into the Belleville Lab and approached the receptionist to announce he was a student at the University of Guelph and interested in talking to an entomologist. The receptionist was taken aback, but she disappeared, soon to return with Jim. He greeted his guest with a big smile, a handshake, and most important, as a colleague, even though the latter had completed only 1 year of an undergraduate degree. He took Terry on a tour of the lab, and introduced him to several entomologists who would later end up in Winnipeg, just down the street from where he eventually worked at the University of Manitoba. Had the Director been in his office that day, Jim would surely have introduced Terry to him, too. After the tour, he took him to coffee with Conrad Loan, where they talked about entomology in general, and especially about careers in entomology. That meeting had a tremendous impact on Terry at the time, and is always remembered for the encouragement he received from Jim.

When the Belleville Institute closed in 1972, Jim moved to Ottawa where he continued his work on regulation and importation of natural enemies for biological control of insects. During his time in Ottawa, Jim maintained his contact with Manitoba, where he returned often to visit family and to act in a professional capacity. He was part of the working group that obtained the initial funding for the pilot study for the Canada Biting Fly Centre in Winnipeg, and then served as a member of and secretary for the National Advisory Committee for the Centre – for 10 years. In his role as secretary of the Expert Committee on Insect Pests of Animals, Jim met another young entomologist, PGM, the newly hired black fly entomologist in Saskatoon. Jim's calm and welcoming personality influenced, among other things, the former's understanding on how to filter relevant information from sometimes lengthy meetings. As serendipity happens, PGM moved to Ottawa and incorporated the work on regulation and importation of natural enemies, which continues today, as part of a new biological control research program. Each time we encountered one another Jim would ask how the biological control program was doing.



James Stewart Kelleher
6 November 1924
– 24 November 2016

Jim retired on 12 October 1990, after 43 years of service. He and his second wife, Murielle, lived in Dorval for a time. Later, Jim enjoyed wintering on the shores of Lago de Chapala, Mexico's largest freshwater lake where he ran into his old grad school mate and BRI Ottawa co-worker Larry L'Arrivée and wife Cathy of Lethbridge, Alberta. For several years, Jim spent time teaching English to mixed classes of young and old alike.

Jim returned to Manitoba, with one more job to do in the province. While in Brandon, Ralph Bird had given Jim a desk made by the pioneer entomologist, Norman Criddle, a desk Norman had used at the Entomology Lab in Aweme. Jim transported this desk with him to Belleville, then to Ottawa, but in 1998, decided it needed a new home. He dismantled it and drove it to Manitoba to be placed in a museum there, but the current whereabouts of the desk are unknown.

For the last 5 years of his life, Jim enjoyed the activities, facilities and kind staff at the Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Care Facility in Ottawa. In his last year, a returning Afghan Veteran donated a collection of spiders and insects mounted in acrylic to the facility, and it was kept by the nurses in Jim's ward and presented to him periodically for comment. Even with failing eyesight and diminishing cognitive skills, he would take about 10 seconds to size up "the bug board". Invariably, he would take a deep breath, sigh, and patiently, calmly begin his lecture with "to begin with, they are not all bugs".

Jim was one of the friendliest and most helpful individuals you could ever want to meet, someone genuinely interested in other people, and always willing to lend an encouraging word. He will be sorely missed.

Terry D. Galloway (Winnipeg), Peter G. Mason (Ottawa) and Mary Jane Kelleher (Ottawa)
(with help from Peter Belton, Reiny Brust, Mary Galloway, Neil Holliday and Manfred Mackauer)

