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“The statuettes were named Oscar by Mrs. Donald Gledhill, wife of the Academy secretary, who grew weary of saying “the little statuettes.” In the Gledhill household was a mythical character called Uncle Oscar to whom all inexplicable things were attributed and once she appropriated his name for the trophies, it stuck.”

Mr. Donald Gledhill (1905 - 1983) joined the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences in 1929, serving as the Executive Secretary between the years 1934 through 1943. His wife, Margaret Herrick (d. 1976) was also employed by the Academy and served in that same position between the years 1943 and 1970.

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