

1976

## Western Regional News

North American Bird Bander

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# Western

# Regional

# News

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## Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

President	Dr. Charles T. Collins Dept. of Biology, Calif. State Univ. Long Beach, CA 90840
First Vice President	Van A. Truan 833 Harmony Dr., Pueblo, CO 81007
Second Vice President	Roger L. Boyd 905 King St. Baldwin City, KS 66006
Secretary	Otis D. Swisher 1002 S. Oakdale, Medford, OR 97501
Treasurer	Shirley S. Spitler P.O. Box 3128, YPG, Yuma, AZ 85364
Editor	Eleanor Radke P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331

### Editorial Staff

Recent Literature	Richard W. DeHaven	Worksheets	Dr. Charles T. Collins
Auxiliary Marking	David W. Foster	Annual Report	Otis D. Swisher

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Applications for membership in the Western Bird Banding Association should be sent to the Treasurer. All classes of membership receive *North American Bird Bander*, the joint publication of Eastern Bird Banding Association and Western Bird Banding Association. Membership classifications are: Active Member, \$6.00 per year; Associate Member, \$6.00 per year; Sustaining Member, \$12.00 per year; Student Member, \$4.50 per year; Life Member, \$150.00.

## Who is . . . ? A note from W.B.B.A.'s editor

In NABB #2, fellow editor, Mickie Mutchler, began a series of "Who is . . . ?" to introduce EBBA's officers to our readers. This seemed to be an excellent idea — reaction was enthusiastic — so WBBA will start its series herewith.

I have been WBBA's editor for about 10 years. My husband and I live in Cave Creek, Arizona — about 30 miles northeast of Phoenix. But, as with the majority of people living in Arizona, I'm from somewhere else. "Somewhere else" includes California, Wyoming, Colorado, Massachusetts, and New York. (My banding began while we were living in upper New York State, and at that time — 15 years ago — I also joined EBBA.)

Here, on the northwest corner of our five acres of Sonoran desert, stands an old saguaro cactus which serves as a resting perch for Harris' Hawks — a species I am endeavoring to study. In the winter season, we have a substantial population of Gambel's race of White-crowned Sparrow, which I band for the Cooperative White-crowned Sparrow Project. Lastly, variations in the tail patterns of Black-throated Sparrows are also of interest to me.

My husband owns and manages a publishing business for which I am called upon to serve as typesetter, camera-person, pasteup artist, accountant, or whatever else is needed at the moment. This, unfortunately, interferes with banding but, hopefully, benefits NABB.

I'm not sure how a degree in Chemical Engineering ultimately led to bird banding and editing, but here I am.



E. Radke

## W.B.B.A. decals

Attractive, three-color decals — with the W.B.B.A. logo — are now available. In black, white and orange, these decals make an eye-catching addition to luggage, car and camper windows, banding bags, etc.

Send your order, along with one dollar (\$1.00) for each decal, to Shirley S. Spitler, Treasurer, P.O. Box 3128 YPG, Yuma, AZ 85364. Profits will go towards making a stronger W.B.B.A.

All new and renewing Sustaining Members will receive a complimentary decal.

## Corrections to the Annual Report

Obviously, our members do read the Annual Report in some detail, and they are considerate enough to let us know when they spot inaccuracies. The following have been called to our attention:

Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge was omitted from the list of contributing banders. Their address is P.O. Box 67, Green River, WY 82935, and they banded 372 individuals of 18 species.

Add to the summary table and credit to Allegra Collister of Longmont, Colorado: 5 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 1 Eastern Wood Pewee, 3 Myrtle x Audubon's Warblers.

### To the editor:

I note in the "Annual Report" that the largest individual total of 63 Acorn Woodpeckers banded in 1975 was credited to me. These birds were banded by my sub-permittee, Walter Koenig, and it is his name, not mine, that should be engraved on the Wickerbill Perpetual Challenge Cup. When you get around to publishing "Corrections to 1975 Annual Report," I should be most grateful if you would include this correction.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) John Davis, Research Biologist

University of California, Hastings Natural History  
Reservation, Star Route, Box No. 80, Carmel  
Valley, CA 93924

## Annual Report data

A summary by species, state and highest individual total of birds banded in the Western region is given each year — for the preceding year — in the spring issue of *North American Bird Bander*. Because of space limitations, some of the data available cannot appear in NABB. However, anyone wishing a further breakdown of information may contact Otis D. Swisher, 1002 So. Oakdale, Medford, OR 97501.

Information available includes: yearly totals for any species reported since 1924, as well as who banded how many of a species (from 1963 to date). Information of this type may be of interest to anyone wishing to find others working with a particular species, to establish banding trends, etc.

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# Auxiliary marking authorizations

**Western Grebe:** Red or yellow patagial tags with a single letter (A or C) followed by two numerals. Virginia L. Scammell, Wildlife & Fisheries Biology, Univ. of California, Davis, CA 95616.

**White Pelican:** Blue and black plastic leg bands with letters A,C,E,F,J,K,M,P,R,T,V, or Y followed or preceded by two numerals. Walter D. Gaul, Colorado Div. of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216.

**Aleutian Canada Goose:** Light gray neck collars with black letter A,C, or E followed by two numerals. G. Vernon Byrd, Aleutian Islands NWR, P.O. Box 5251, Adak, AK 98791.

**Ruddy Duck:** Green and orange patagial tags with black letters and numerals. Edward J. O'Neill, Klamath Basin NWR, Route 1, Box 74, Tulelake, CA 96134.

**Swainson's Hawk:** Radio transmitters. Pacific Northwest Labs, Battelle, Richland, WA 99352.

**Harris' Hawk:** Yellow or white wing markers with letters A,C,E,F, or J above two numerals. Dr. John P. Hubbard, NM Fish & Game, State Capitol, Santa Fe, NM 87503.

**Northern Bald Eagle:** Red, blue, green, and/or white paint on the tail. Walter D. Gaul — address above.

**Prairie Falcon:** Radio transmitters. Dr. Robert L. Jarvis, Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97331.

**Greater Sandhill Crane:** Green plastic leg bands with a single letter (E) followed by three numerals (701 - 000). Walter D. Gaul — address above.

**Long-billed Curlew:** Red, blue, yellow, and green plastic leg bands and dye. Pacific Northwest Labs — address above.

**Western Gull:** Red, blue, yellow, green, orange, and white plastic leg bands. Dr. George L. Hunt, Jr., Bio. Sciences, Univ. of California, Irvine, CA 92664.

**Burrowing Owl:** Red, yellow, blue, and/or pink leg streamers. Dr. D.R. Johnson, 1132 East E St., Moscow, ID 83843.

**Scrub Jay:** Red, green, yellow, blue, and white plastic leg bands. Jon Atwood, 511 Santa Maria, Arcadia, CA 91006.

**Common Raven:** Green, white, or blue (plain) and/or red or yellow (with black diagonal stripe) wing tags. Joseph P. Mazzoni Malheur NWR, Box 113, Burns, OR 97720.

**Mountain Chickadee:** Red, white, green, blue, yellow, and black plastic leg bands. Kimberly Smith, Dept. of Biology, UMC 53, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322.

**Fox Sparrow:** Red, white, blue, green, yellow, and black plastic leg bands. Dr. Robert I. Bowman, Div. of Biology, San Francisco State Univ., San Francisco, CA 94132.

## Miscellaneous

**Golden Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Black Turnstone, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitcher, Red Phalarope, Northern Phalarope, and Lapland Longspur:** Red, yellow, blue, green, and/or white plastic leg bands (minimum of two color bands per bird). Dr. George C. West, Inst. of Arctic Biology, Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

**Black-chinned Hummingbird, Costa's Hummingbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, Rivoli's Hummingbird, Rufous Hummingbird, Blue-throated Hummingbird, and Violet-crowned Hummingbird:** Red, green, purple, orange, gray, black, and blue back tags. William H. Baltosser, Box 3AF, Dept. of Biology, New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces, NM 88003.

**House Sparrow, Gray Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Steller's Jay, Scrub Jay, American Robin, and Gray-headed Junco:** Red, green, blue, yellow, and white plastic leg bands. Barbara L. Winternitz, 28 Garden Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

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## Hummingbird recaptures

Don Bleitz

On 3 July 1976 — while banding hummingbirds at Mountain Home, California at an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet in the San Bernadino Mountains — I captured a total of 45 hummingbirds. These included 1 adult male Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*), only 14 Anna's Hummingbirds (*Calaptes anna*), and the rest Black-chinned Hummingbirds (*Archilochus alexandri*).

Of the 45 individuals captured in about 6 hours of netting time, 5 — or more than 10% — were previously banded birds. Of these 5, 2 were Anna's

Hummingbirds, both banded 11 June 1972, and the other three were Black-chinned Hummingbirds, all of which had been originally banded 24 May 1974. This full house seems to be an almost unbelievable coincidence and a record which I believe our membership would find fascinating.

Band numbers for the birds are: X23405, X23368, X23438, X23464, and X23442.

Bleitz Wildlife Foundation, 5334 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, CA 90027.



## Point Reyes Bird Observatory hires new director

(From PRBO Newsletter, No. 39, September 1976)

### Welcome, Jane Church!

In the spring when John Smail advised the Board of Directors of his desire to leave PRBO, the Board and staff embarked on a detailed and systematic search for his replacement. As a result of this search, on July 1, Jane Church became the new Director of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Jane was initially proposed to the Board by John Smail and then further recommended by Chandler S. Robbins, a member of our Advisory Board, and Dr. Philip S. Humphrey, Director of the Museum of Natural History at Lawrence, Kansas.

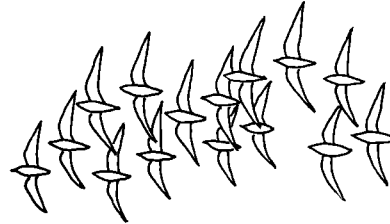
Jane, a member of the Observatory since its inception, brings to this position the following background and experience:

- Administrative Officer (five years) Smithsonian Institution's Pacific Ocean Biological Survey Program, performing supervisory, financial and editorial functions;
- Field Assistant on Smithsonian work in Panama, the Pribilof Islands, and in California coastal waters;
- Assistant to Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy at the World Wildlife Fund and with the Pan-American Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation as a volunteer.
- Secretary-Treasurer of the World Nature Association;
- Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy;
- Tour leader and escort for 12 bird-oriented tours in North America and Africa;
- Board member Virginia Society of Ornithology;
- Secretary and Membership Chairman of the Eastern Bird Banding Association (EBBA);
- Referee for the new publication (Joint EBBA-WBBA) *North American Bird Bander* and currently preparing The Auk's ten-year index (1971-1980);
- Bander of over 20,000 birds of about 200 species with a life list of 2,200 species.

PRBO is at an exciting point now, and it is important to have a strong administrative Director who can establish effective procedures to aid our scientific staff in the varied research and educational

programs and a Director who can broaden communication between staff, advisory board and the membership. Jane Church fits these needs perfectly, and we are happy to have her.

Y'all come and meet her, hear?



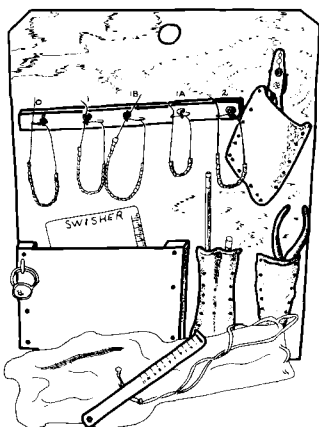
### Worksheets for western birds

Ageing/sexing worksheets for western birds are mailed with NABB only to Western Bird Banding Association members. They are, however, available to anyone interested. For each worksheet desired, send 25 cents (or \$1.00 for any five worksheets) to Mrs. Donald F. Radke, P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

The following species sheets have been issued: Scaled Quail, California Quail, Gambel's Quail, Mountain Quail, Common Snipe, key to kingbirds, Eastern Kingbird, Tropical Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Cassin's Kingbird, *Myarchis* flycatchers, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, Verdin, Bushtit, gnatcatchers, Orange-crowned Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, *Oporornis* warblers, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Tanager, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Cassin's Finch, Common Redpoll, American Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, towhees.

(Editor's note: These worksheets are not bound into NABB for two reasons: (1) They are easier to use in the loose-leaf format. They can be slipped into a clear plastic jacket to be taken into the field — protected against wind, rain, and other hazards. (2) The worksheets are, at this time, tentative. Everything possible is done to insure their accuracy, but it is difficult to be certain that everyone having significant data has been contacted. By issuing the worksheets as we have, they go out into the field where, hopefully, we can get critical feedback. Then, if need be, corrected sheets can be issued.)

There is a need for additional worksheets. Members are urged to submit data to the worksheet editor, Dr. Charles T. Collins, Department of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840, who can help with the final format write-up. Data need not be original; field testing to prove its reliability is all that is required.



## E.B.B.A. and W.B.B.A. present . . .

**Wing Measure:** 15cm and 30cm Stainless Steel Rule. The 15cm rule is metric/English, rigid,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, graduated in 10ths and 32nds inch, .5mm, mm, and cm. The 30cm model is spring-tempered, satin-chrome finished, 12.7mm wide, .33mm thick, 30cm long. It is graduated on one edge in mm, one edge .5mm, English on the reverse side. Both rules feature a stainless steel "bend-of-wing" fixture secured at right angles to the end of the rule. The 15 cm rule is 6.30 ppd.; the 30cm rule is 15.50 ppd. within U.S.A. Institutional orders: please remit when ordering only one unit. **Order from:** Chris N. Rose, 98 Lopez Road, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009.

**EBBA Mist Nets** are available in the sizes listed below. Prices with an asterisk (\*) are for EBBA Sustaining Members only. Please write for order blank. Checks must accompany your order. Regular Parcel Post on all orders over \$10.00; for orders under \$10.00, please add 50¢ for postage and handling. Pennsylvania residents, please add 6% Sales Tax. Make your check payable to EBBA Net Account. **Order from:** EBBA Net Committee, Biology Department, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15701. Prices appear below:

MESH	5-METER	9-METER	12-METER
<b>Regular Nylon Mist Nets</b>			
1¼"	3.85*	4.20	7.30* 7.95
1½"	2.75*	3.00	5.00* 5.50
2½"			5.70* 6.25
<b>Nylon Tethered-top Mist Nets</b>			
1¼"		5.95* 6.50	7.95* 8.65
1½"		4.60* 5.00	5.70* 6.25
1¼x2.6M			7.95* 8.65
<b>Polyester Tethered-top Mist Nets</b>			
1¼"		7.60* 8.30	10.30* 11.25
1½"		6.10* 6.70	8.50* 9.25

**McCamery Chickadee Trap:** \$9.00 F.O.B. Eugene.

This trap is precision made and is designed to take birds the size of jays, grosbeaks, and cardinals. It is illustrated in EBBA Workshop Manual #5, 1975, p. 22.

It is sensitive to birds the size of chickadees and a 5 gram weight will trip the door. The main features are the sensitive treadle, a door lock for feeding when not activated, and a large handle for a gloved hand in winter. The back is fastened on with clips for easier access in case the treadle gets worked over by a squirrel.

Hundreds of these traps have been sold to nature schools, universities, and individuals in the States and Canada over the past ten years.

Packed individually, they weigh about three pounds and are shipped F.O.B. Eugene, Oregon via United Parcel. Order from Donald E. Payne, 34886 Mathews Road, Eugene, Oregon 97405.

**EBBA Workshop Manuals** — Volumes II and IV available from Kathy Klimkiewicz, 13117 Larchdale Rd. #2, Laurel, MD 20811. EBBA members: \$1.75; non-members: \$2.00. Make checks payable to: Marion Glass, MABBG. Money will be used to finance future workshop manuals.

**EBBA Patches and Decals:** Available from Fred S. Schaeffer, 84-55 Daniels St., #11k, Jamaica, NY 11435. Both are 3" diameter, green on white background. Patches \$1.00 each, ppd; Decals 60¢ ppd. Special price through 1976: Five Patches and Five Decals \$6.60 ppd. (you save \$1.40). Pay by check or money order made out to Eastern Bird Banding Association. Wear EBBA's insignia proudly!

# ...Banders' Marketplace

**Banding Pliers:** These 6½" long-nose pliers have holes bored in the jaws to fit standard band sizes, so as to make it quite easy to get a perfect fit. This avoids the danger of lapped bands, which may injure the leg if not corrected, and which are troublesome to remove even with good tools. There is a split pin on the top of the plier which enables the user to open a band evenly with one operation. A spring on the side of the plier provides tension to keep the opened band in the plier while handling the bird. While new banders may welcome such pliers to increase their confidence in attaching the band, many experienced banders have shown interest in the pliers in order to handle birds more rapidly at peak times.

Pliers for band sizes 0, 1, 1B, & 1A	\$7.50
Pliers for band sizes 2 & 3	\$7.50
Pliers for band size 3A	\$6.50

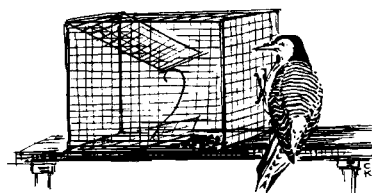
These prices include postage within the U.S. Orders should be sent to Roger N. MacDonald, 850 Main Street, Lynnfield, MA 01940.

**Banding Supplies:** Bleitz Wildlife Foundation has available a new listing of the more than 100 styles, sizes, colors and types of Mist Nets, Portable Poles, Pesola Scales, etc., which are available from the Foundation. Reprints of "Mist Nets and Their Use" are also available. Bleitz Wildlife Foundation, 5334 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, CA 90027.

**Potter Traps:** 16-gauge ½" x 1" welded mesh. \$4.50 per cell. One cell: 8" x 8" x 8"; 2-cell: 8" x 8" x 16"; 3-cell 8" x 8" x 21"; 4-cell: 8" x 16" x 16". Postpaid east of Mississippi River. Permit number requested. **Order from:** Walter K. Bigger, Trout Run, PA 17771.

Advertising in *North American Bird Bander* is available to interested firms providing services and products related to birds and bird banding. Combined EBBA/WBBA circulation 1200! For information and current prices, please contact: Robert J. Pantle, Advertising Manager (EBBA), R.D. #1, Candor, NY 13743, or Eleanor L. Radke, Editor (WBBA), P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

**Back Issues of EBBA News** (Vol 1 through 39, No. 1). In celebration of the Bicentennial festivities, EBBA has reduced its back-issue prices. Vol. 1 through 17: \$1.25\* per issue. Please note — we have few issues left of the earlier volumes. Vol. 18 through 27: 50\* per issue. Vol. 28 through 33: 75\* per issue. Vol. 34 through 37: \$1.50\* per issue. Vol. 38, No. 1: \$1.50\*. Vol. 38, No. 2: \$2.25 (scarce). Vol. 38, No. 3: \$1.50\*. Vol. 38, No. 4: \$2.25 (scarce). Vol. 39, No. 1 (Bicentennial Issue), \$1.00\*. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) are net prices and appropriate postage for the entire order must be added. **Order from:** Mrs. Roger W. Foy, Box 164, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008.



**Editor's Note:** Other than EBBA- or WBBA-sponsored products, there will not be any free advertising in *North American Bird Bander*. Both associations have adopted the same price schedule for ads. It is suggested that those organizations or individuals wishing to advertise in *North American Bird Bander*, that are situated in the western part of the United States, contact Eleanor Radke, Editor (WBBA). Those in the eastern part of the United States should contact Robert J. Pantle, Advertising Manager of EBBA. Those in the Middle West should select one of the above persons to contact, but not both.

Thank you