

1977

Western Regional News

North American Bird Bander

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Western

Regional

News

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	Dr. Martha H. Balph Dept. of Wildlife Science, Utah State Univ. Logan, UT 84322
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Treasurer	Shirley S. Spitler 3301 E. Linden, Tucson, AZ 85716
Editor	Eleanor L. Radke P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Directors at Large	Bruce Sorrie (term expires 1979). Dr. Carl Marti (term expires 1978)

Editorial Staff

Recent Literature	Richard W. DeHaven	Worksheets	Dr. Charles T. Collins
Auxiliary Marking	Jon L. Atwood	Annual Report	Otis D. Swisher

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. Outside the U.S., add \$2.00 to each membership class except Life Member.

From the President

I usually look at writing the quarterly president's message as something of a mixed blessing. At times I have an idea bubbling within me and have been ready if not anxious to share it with the membership of WBBA. At other times ideas have been in short supply and I feel I am simply going over well worn paths and contributing little that is new. At such times I tend to wonder if anyone reads my message anyway and if the space could not better be used to print an article. However, from time to time I get some form of feedback to indicate that a previous president's message was in fact read and perhaps even accomplished something. My last contribution regarding the need for uniform data collection procedures was apparently read as quite a few people wrote for the sample data sheet and set of instructions. Hopefully they will find them useful.

Having been thus "revived" by this form of feedback I am encouraged to seek further feedback from you the readers. WBBA would like some suggestions along several lines. First of all we are interested in starting up another joint project similar to the very successful one on White-crowned Sparrows recently completed under the direction of Dick Mewaldt. There are several possibilities being considered, but perhaps you have suggestions. If so, please let me or one of the other board members know.

We are also interested in your views on the material we are presenting in NABB and what else we might consider. A few years ago it was suggested we begin a new WBB'er column in the

form of a "Recent Literature" section. It seemed attractive so under the able editorship of Rich DeHaven and his several assistants massive amounts of the ornithological literature were culled in order to present to you abstracts of articles dealing with banding. This section has been continued as a part of NABB. However, as of this issue Rich has asked to be relieved of his duties as editor due to the press of other commitments. We sincerely thank him for his service to WBBA and NABB. The editorship has been passed along to Susan Kaiser who has been one of his most active abstractors since the project began. In general I feel this has been a most successful and useful addition to our publication. Have you any other ideas we might consider?

Lastly there is the matter of personal involvement. We are always interested in hearing from people who would like to become further involved in WBBA activities. Soon enough it will be annual meeting time and the nominating committee will need to prepare a slate of new officers. Accordingly we would like to have volunteers and/or suggestions for possible officer material. Let us hear from you — get involved!

Speaking of the annual meeting, we will be meeting with our parent organization, the Cooper Ornithological Society in Tempe, Arizona from 25-28 May 1978. The full details will be in the next issue of NABB. Circle the dates and plan to attend. See you there!

Charlie Collins

Clearance sale

Some back issues of *Western Bird Bander* and its predecessor, *News from the Bird Banders*, are still available. However, many more numbers are now out of stock because of recent orders. We can offer the following:

1926-1955: A limited number of incomplete sets of approximately 45 issues are available to members or libraries at \$5.00 per set (postpaid). These sets include many very early numbers and provide interesting reading of past activities.

1955-1966: All numbers out of stock.

1966-1973: Some numbers are available at \$0.25 per quarterly issue. Do not send advance payment with orders as we may be out of specific numbers you want. We will bill you later for the numbers we can provide.

1974-1975: Copies of numbers 2, 3, and 4 for both years are available at \$1.00 per quarterly issue.

Order from: Dr. Charles T. Collins, Department of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840. Please make checks payable to Western Bird Banding Association.

Who is...? Shirley Spitler

Shirley Spitler is W.B.B.A.'s capable treasurer. In addition to this responsibility and a few others, both she and her husband, Joe, are preparing for second careers. Joe, retired last summer from the Army and now a student at the University of Arizona, hopes to be teaching in junior college by next fall. After 25 years of housewife/mom, Shirley is back in school at Pima College, working towards a degree in biology to back up her banding activities.

Shirley has always been interested in the outdoors, growing up in New Mexico where there is so much of it. Daughter Kim was the first serious birder in the family and began her bird list about the time she learned to write. Mother and daughter became active birders in the Maryland Audubon Society six years ago in Aberdeen, Maryland, and this led to learning to band with Marion Glass and Gladys

Cole. After moving to Yuma, Arizona, Shirley became a master permittee, and she and Kim banded, birded, surveyed, and counted in this unique river valley/desert until their move to Tucson this summer.

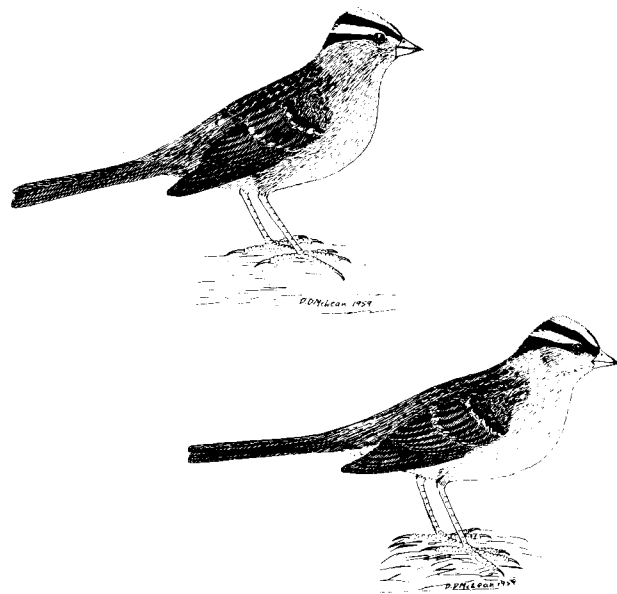
Most of the rest of the family has gradually become "infected." Kim is now a freshman at Colorado State University, actively pursuing her life-long dream. Kris is a music student at the University of Miami (Florida) and an avid second-year birder. Kara, along with her husband and son, is keeping track of the Starlings in Westminster, Connecticut; and Kathy is a geology major at the University of Montana, where she keeps an eye out for birds while backpacking, climbing, and skiing. Joe patiently and sometimes enthusiastically supports Shirley's activities, and Dan (the youngest) endures.

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: Harris' Hawk, Scaled Quail, California Quail, Gambel's Quail, Mountain Quail, Common Snipe, Band-tailed Pigeon, key to kingbirds, Eastern Kingbird, Tropical Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Cassin's Kingbird, Myarchis flycatchers, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, Yellow-billed Magpie, Verdin, Bushtit, Varied Thrush, gnatcatchers, Orange-crowned Warbler, waterthrushes, Oporornis warblers, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Tanager, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Cassin's Finch, Common Redpoll, American Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, towhees.

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.



White-crowned Sparrow worksheet

A new four-page worksheet on the five races of the White-crowned Sparrow — prepared by Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt — is being mailed to W.B.B.A. members with this issue of NABB.

Non-members may obtain the worksheet by sending one dollar (\$1.00) to Mrs. Donald F. Radke, Editor, P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331. Please make checks payable to Western Bird Banding Association.

Recaptures

Short-tailed Albatross. 558-30754. Banded as L-U by Palmer C. Sekora at Tori Island, Japan on 10 March 1964. Captured by hand at Midway Islands on 28 October 1976. 12 years old; spent 5 winters at Midway.

White Pelican. 509-15468. Banded as L-U by Stillwater WMA at Anaho Island NWR, NV on 21 June 1965. Recovered at American Falls Reservoir, ID on 4 June 1976. 11 years old.

Mallard. 717-97307. Banded as AHY-M at Columbia NWR, WA on 13 February 1964. Shot at St. Charles, AR on 14 January 1976. 12 plus years old.

Pintail. 656-72839. Banded as U-U by R.R. Freeman near Tilley, Alberta in August 1963. Shot at Glide Ranch, central CA in August 1976. At least 13 years old.

Semipalmated Sandpiper. 750-03610. Banded as L-U by Wayne C. Hanson at Franklin Bluffs, AK on 8 July 1976. Trapped at Berbice, Guyana in September 1976.

California Gull. 625-82107. Banded as L-U by Louis M. Moos at Ocean Lake, WY on 11 June 1964. Recovered at Moffett Field, CA on 26 August 1976. 12 years old.

Vaux's Swifts. 72-00606, 72-00614, 72-00656, 72-00695. Banded as AHY-U by Charles T. Collins, 20 km north of Maracay, Est. Aragua, Venezuela between 13 April and 1 July 1972. Renetted at same location between 27 June and 13 July 1976. At least 5 years old; no previous returns.

Anna's Hummingbirds. X23368, X23405. Banded as HY-F by Don Bleitz at Mountain Home, CA on 11 June 1972. Renetted at same location on 3 July 1976. 4 years old; no previous returns. (See also NABB 1:148)

Clark's Nutcracker. 1083-34550. Banded as AHY-U by Allegra Collister at Bear Lake, Rocky Mountain National Park, CO on 26 July 1968. Recaptured at same location on 30 October 1976. 9 plus years old; no previous returns.

Starling. 732-90767. Banded as U-U by Richard DeHaven and Fred Crase at Colusa, CA on 22 October 1969. Found dead at N. Vancouver, B.C. on 26 June 1976. At least 7 years old.

Orange-crowned Warbler. 121-89013. Banded as AHY-M by Shirley Wells at Rancho Palos Verde, CA on 20 April 1970. Renetted at same location on 14 March 1976. 6 plus years old; 5 previous returns.

Tricolored Blackbirds. 732-97122, 732-98293, 752-49856, 752-52929. Banded by Richard DeHaven, as follows: L-U, near Herald, CA on 29 May 1970 (-122); L-U, near Patterson, CA on 2 June 1970 (-293); HY-F, near Colusa, CA on 23 September 1970 (-856); L-U, near Clay, CA on 27 May 1971 (-929). All shot near Galt, CA on 29 April 1977. 6-7 years old.

Evening Grosbeak. 741-17642. Banded as AHY-F at Dartmouth, MA on 25 February 1972. Trapped by Edgar T. Jones at Edmonton, Alberta on 3 March 1976. 4 plus years old.

House Finch. 75-66590. Banded as U-M by Emerson A. Stoner at Benicia, CA on 23 October 1969. Retrapped at same location on 20 July 1976. At least 7 years old; no previous returns.

Auxiliary marking authorizations

Edited by Jon L. Atwood

Yellow-bellied and Williamson's Sapsucker: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Albuquerque, NM. Dr. J. David Ligon, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

Willow Flycatcher: Plastic leg bands in Sierra Co., NM. Charles A. Hundertmark, 626 Dartmouth NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Scrub, Mexican and Piñon Jay: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Albuquerque, NM Ligon, address above.

Winter Wren: Plastic leg bands in Thurston Co., WA. James T. Shiflett, 1506 Overhulse St., Olympia, WA 98502.

Western and Mountain Bluebird: Plastic leg bands in Klickitat Co., WA. Christopher J. Herlugson, Dept. of Zoology, Wash. State Univ., Pullman, WA 99164.

Gray Catbird: Plastic leg bands in Bernalillo Co., NM. Hundertmark, address above.

Starling: Plastic leg streamers in WA. Thomas R. Hoffman, Animal Damage Control Center — WA, 506 W. Valley Mall Blvd., Union Gap, WA 98903.

Western Meadowlark: Dye in Weld Co., CO. Dr. Lowell C. McEwen, Rocky Mountain Field Station PWRRC, Bldg. 16, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

Western Meadowlark: Plastic leg bands in Albany Co., WY. George F. Wrakestraw, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., Box 567, Torrington, WY 82240.

Red-winged Blackbird: Plastic leg bands on De Anza College campus, CA. Douglas T. Cheeseman, Jr., Biology Dept., De Anza College, Cupertino, CA 95014.

Red-winged Blackbird: Plastic leg bands in Bernalillo Co., Valencia Co., and Socorro Co., NM. Ligon, address above.

Black-headed and Blue Grosbeak: Plastic leg bands in Bernalillo Co., NM. Hundertmark, address above.

Rufous-sided Towhee: Plastic leg bands in Benton Co., Lane Co., Lincoln Co., and Tillamook Co., OR. Dr. John A. Wiens, Dept. of Zoology, Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97330.

Lark Bunting: Dye and plastic leg streamers in Weld Co., CO. McEwen, address above.

Savannah Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Clarence Rhode NWR, AK. Christian Dau, Box 346, Bethel, AK 99559.

Savannah Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Prudhoe Bay, AK. Hanson, address above.

Black-throated Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in Dona Ana Co., NM. Dr. Ralph J. Raitt, Dept. of Biology, New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces, NM 88003.

Oregon Junco and Chipping Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in Madera Co., Fresno Co., Tulare Co. CA. Dr. Jared Verner, Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, 1130 "O" St., Fresno, CA 93721.

Brewer's Sparrow: Dye in Weld Co., CO. McEwen, address above.

This regular feature is designed to promote cooperation and information exchange among banders and other field biologists. Please remember, however, that sightings of marked birds should be reported directly to the Bird-Banding Lab, which will then notify the bander responsible.

White-crowned and Song Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in Benton Co., Lane Co., and Tillamook Co., OR. Wiens, address above.

McCown's Longspur: Dye and plastic leg streamers in Weld Co., CO. McEwen, address above.

Lapland Longspur: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Prudhoe Bay, AK. Hanson, address above.

Lapland Longspur, Snow and McKay's Bunting: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Clarence Rhode NWR, AK. Dau, address above.



Miscellaneous

Turkey Vulture; White-tailed Kite; Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, Swainson's and Marsh Hawk; Golden Eagle; Prairie Falcon; American Kestrel; Roadrunner; Barn, Great Horned, Burrowing, Long-eared, and Short-eared Owl: Radio transmitters, plastic back and patagial tags. **Band-tailed Pigeon; Mourning Dove; Roadrunner; Yellow-billed Magpie; Western Meadowlark; Yellow-headed, Red-winged, Tricolored and Brewer's Blackbird; Brown Towhee:** Radio transmitters and plastic leg streamers. **Mallard; Pintail; Cinnamon Teal:** Radio transmitters and plastic back tags. **Horned Lark; Lark Sparrow; Sage Sparrow:** Plastic leg bands and leg streamers. All marking in Tulare Co., Monterey Co., and San Luis Obispo Co., CA. Paul L. Hegdal, Section of Mammal Damage Control, Denver Wildlife Research Center, Bldg. 16, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

Black-capped and Mountain Chickadee; Plain Titmouse; Common Bushtit; White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Pygmy Nuthatch; Brown Creeper: Plastic leg bands in El Paso Co., CO. D. Archibald McCallum, Box 652, Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819.

Common Flicker; Lewis', Hairy, and Downy Woodpecker; Tree and Barn Swallow; Gray, Blue and Stellar's Jay; Black-billed Magpie; Clark's Nutcracker; Black-capped and Mountain Chickadee; White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Pygmy Nuthatch; Brown Creeper; House Wren; Townsend's Solitaire; Bohemian and Cedar Waxwing; Western Meadowlark; Common Grackle; Brown-headed Cowbird; Lazuli Bunting; Cassin's and House Finch; Common Redpoll; Pine Siskin; Dark-eyed Junco; Chipping, White-crowned, White-throated and Song Sparrow: Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Missoula, MT. Dr. Catherine H. Ream, 4217 Timberlane, Missoula, MT 59801.

Missing any issues of NABB?

If you have failed to receive an issue of *North American Bird Bander* because of a recent change of address — or any other reason — please notify the Circulation Manager of your banding association.

The Circulation Manager for EBBA:

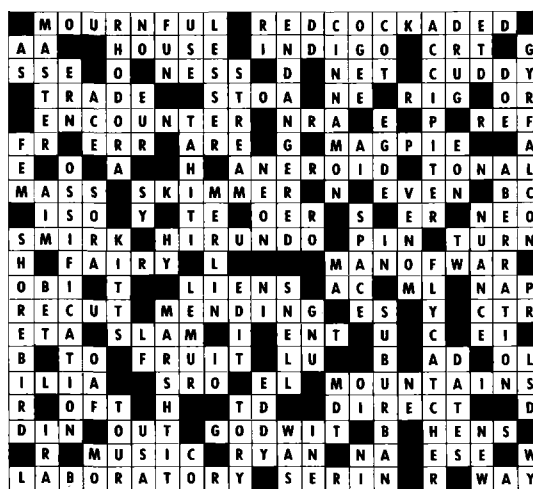
Ruth M. Rose
98 Lopez Road
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

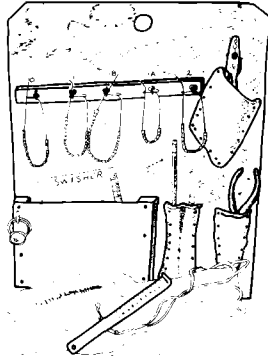
For WBBA:

Shirley S. Spitler
3301 E. Linden
Tucson, AZ 85716



Answers to crossword puzzle appearing on page 176.





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

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.

B.I.R.D. Manual. The Education Committee of EBBA has compiled the best of old workshop manuals with some new ideas for banders: Ethics, Traps, Nets, Suppliers, Ageing/Sexing Techniques, Identification, and many other aids. It has been prepared for use in a loose leaf notebook and the committee will be adding to the information occasionally with inserts in NABB. The B(anders) I(nformation) R(esource) D(ata) Manual is available from: Tom Mutchler, c/o Hartwood Club, Box 212X, RD 1, Monticello, NY 12701. \$2.50 ppd.

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.

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.

Back issues of EBBA News and other bird magazines. Write for price list to: Mabel Warburton, 15 S. Bell, Yardley, PA 19067. Profits go to EBBA.

Index to EBBA News: Interested members and other persons may obtain a copy by sending \$1.60 ppd (3rd class mail) to Mrs. Roger W. Foy, Box 164, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008. Please get your orders in soon, as this is a limited printing and the last Index to EBBA News — 1968-1976.

Checks or money orders should be made payable to Eastern Bird Banding Association.

McCamey 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.