

1978

## 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	Dr. Martha H. Balph Dept. of Wildlife Science, Utah State Univ. Logan, UT 84322
Secretary	Otis D. Swisher 1002 S. Oakdale, Medford, OR 97501
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	Susan Kaiser	Worksheets	Dr. Charles T. Collins
Auxiliary Marking	Jon L. Atwood	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. Outside the U.S., add \$2.00 to each membership class except Life Member.

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## From the President

A little over 50 years ago a group of people belonging to the Cooper Ornithological Society formed a "splinter group" consisting of those who were interested in the relatively new preoccupation of studying birds by means of bird banding. Later they formed a new and separate organization known as the Western Bird Banding Association and published a newsletter 'From the Bird Banders.' Over the years this publication metamorphosed into *Western Bird Bander* and most recently to NABB.

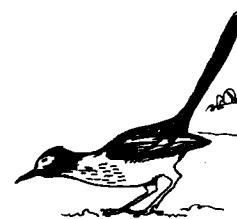
Somehow over the years there has been a tendency to separate the membership and interests of these groups as well as the journals. This is unfortunate since both groups are concerned with the study and preservation of birds. Admittedly, one group seems to have a more "academic" outlook and the other the "practical" or "functional" approach to their studies of birds. This difference is really more apparent than real and there is much to be gained from the intermixing of the two approaches. Banders can learn more about new avenues of study and data analysis which may give better direction to their banding activities. The academic researchers can well profit from the wealth of experience of the banders in capture and marking techniques.

It dismays me to see situations where one group is, through lack of communication, missing out on the expertise and established techniques of the other. Joint meetings of W.B.B.A. and its former parent

group, the Cooper Ornithological Society, have made progress in alleviating this condition of mutual isolation and actively fostering the cross-exchange of ideas. Our 1978 annual meeting will again be such a joint W.B.B.A./C.O.S. meeting. It will be from 11-14 May at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. The details are presented elsewhere in this issue.

In addition to the regular papers sessions, we will have a separate meeting of W.B.B.A. on Saturday afternoon for a short business meeting and election of officers for 1978-79 and to get an update on things in Laurel from a representative of the Bird Banding Laboratory. There will be time for some informal presentations from members at this session; otherwise abstracts can be submitted for a place on the program in the regular paper sessions of the meeting. There will also be a workshop on Thursday afternoon on "Design, construction and selection of binoculars for ornithological use" which our members might find particularly interesting and useful.

It should be a stimulating meeting in a wonderful setting, so please plan to attend!



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## Who Is . . .? Otis D. Swisher

W.B.B.A.'s capable and conscientious secretary is Otis D. Swisher of Medford, Oregon.

A Junior High School math teacher since 1954, Otis also works as a resource person for elementary grade Outdoor Education classes and teaches birding classes for the Adult Education Department of Medford Public Schools.

For seven years Otis wrote a monthly birding article for the *Medford Mail Tribune*. He has compiled or co-compiled several local checklists of birds.

He began his banding in 1969 and is now guest lecturer for ornithology classes at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland. His chief banding in-

terests at present are the Black Phoebe and the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, whose only known regular nesting areas in Oregon are near Medford.

Otis has also been a member of a select committee which developed a snag policy for Rogue River National Forest. He did a four-year study of the riparian habitat along Bear Creek, which flows through the center of Medford, and he now serves on the Park Commission which is developing a city park along the creek.

In his "spare time," he enjoys fishing and photography as well as compiling the huge amounts of data which go into the publication of W.B.B.A.'s Annual Report.

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## Annual meeting: 11-14 May 1978

Our 1978 Annual Meeting will be held jointly with the Cooper Ornithological Society at Arizona State University, co-hosted by the Department of Zoology, ASU, Maricopa Audubon Society, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Arizona State University in Tempe is in the southeast portion of the Phoenix Metropolitan area just off Interstate 10. Located within minutes of the campus are the Phoenix Zoo with its many beautiful and interesting exhibits including a new Arizona section; the Desert Botanical Gardens, displaying desert plants of which many will be in bloom; and the open desert, which, if you have not seen an Arizona desert, is well worth the trip.

If you have the time, Arizona offers some spectacular sights such as the Grand Canyon National Park (5 hours driving time from ASU), Tombstone (4 hours), Superstition Film Studios at the foot of the famous Superstition Mountains (45 minutes), Petrified Forest and the Painted Desert (4 hours), Organ Pipe National Monument (3.5 hours), and Old Tucson Movie Studio and Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum, a living museum (just 2.5 hours).

The mean temperature in Tempe during May is 92.4 degrees during the day and 55.1 degrees at night, so please pack accordingly.

For further details and registration form, see the insert at the back of this issue, or contact Dr. Charles T. Collins, Dept. of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840.

### Notice

At their 1977 meeting, the board of directors approved a motion to recommend to the W.B.B.A. membership a new category of membership — "non-subscribing member." Members in this category have all rights and privileges of other classes of membership but do **not** receive a copy of NABB. This is designed for those people who have had memberships in both W.B.B.A. and E.B.B.A. and wish to retain their dual membership but only receive a single copy of the journal.

The non-subscribing members will have greatly reduced dues since they do not receive NABB. Since this involves a change in W.B.B.A. Bylaws, it must be voted upon by the membership at the 1978 annual meeting. The directors recommend approval.



### Call for papers

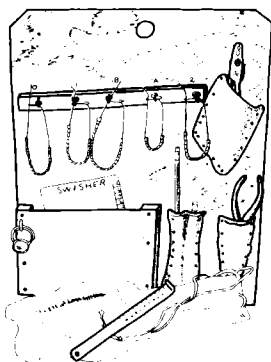
Papers are invited for presentation.

1. Papers should be restricted to 20 minutes including time for discussion. Participants will be held to this time limitation and should plan accordingly.
2. Titles and abstracts of proposed papers, submitted in quadruplicate, must reach the Program Chairman on or before 20 March 1978. Send to: Dr. Charles T. Collins, Program Chairman, Dept. of Biology, California State University, Long Beach, CA 90840.
3. Abstracts should not exceed 200 words and should include a succinct statement of results and conclusions—do not simply state the problem and add "results will be discussed."
4. Abstracts of accepted papers will be reproduced as submitted and thus they should be camera-ready. Abstracts must be neatly typewritten, single-spaced, on 8½ x 11 inch plain bond paper.
5. The heading should include a title, capitalized throughout, followed by the author's (or authors') name(s) and address(es). The name and mailing address of the author making the presentation should be underlined.
6. For each abstract please specify the following information in a separate paragraph: (a) length of time desired—not to exceed 20 minutes; (b) audiovisual equipment needs; (c) special equipment needed, such as blackboard, etc.
7. Those papers to be considered for the student prizes should append to the end of the abstract the following statement: "This paper is eligible for the Howell and Roberts Awards".

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## Auxiliary marking authorizations

- Western Grebe:** Patagial tags and experimental tag harnesses in Lassen Co., CA. Virginia L. Scammell, Division of Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.
- Canada Goose:** Numbered plastic leg bands in MT. Dale Witt, Montana Department of Fish and Game, Box 488, Fairfield, MT 59436.
- White-fronted Goose:** Radio transmitters and neck collars in southern OR and CA. Dr. Stephen Ervin, Department of Biology, California State University, Shaw Ave. at Cedar, Fresno, CA 93740 and Frank M. Kozlik, California Department of Fish and Game, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814.
- American Wigeon:** Nasal saddles in Phillips Co., MT. Witt, address above.
- Wood Duck:** Numbered web tags in CA. Steve Simmons, 2499 5th Ave., Merced, CA 95340.
- Lesser Scaup:** Nasal saddles in Phillips Co., MT. Witt, address above.
- Ferruginous Hawk:** Wing tags in southern ID and northern UT. Leon R. Powers, 224 W. Dewey, Nampa, ID 83651.
- Harris' Hawk:** Numbered plastic leg bands in AZ. Eleanor Radke, P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331.
- N. Bald Eagle:** Patagial tags and leg tags in MT. Dr. B. Riley McClelland, School of Forestry, Univ. of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801 and David S. Shea, 517 S. 6th St. East, Missoula, MT 59801.
- Hawaiian Stilt:** Dye in Hawaiian Islands. John L. Sincock, Lihue Field Station, Endangered Wildlife Program, R.R. 1, Box 197, Loloa, Kauai, HI 96756.
- Burrowing Owl:** Numbered plastic leg bands in vicinity of Salt Lake City, UT. Dr. Herbert H. Frost, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Brigham Young Univ., Provo, UT 84602.
- Spotted Owl:** Radio transmitters in OR, CA, and WA. Dr. E. Charles Meslow, Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, 104 Nash Hall, Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97331.
- White-throated Swift:** Dye in vicinity of Fort Collins, CO. Dr. Ronald A. Ryder, Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, CO 80523.
- Yellow-shafted and Red-shafted Flicker:** Plastic leg bands in Logan Co., CO. Allen B. Crockett, Jr., 2131 Bluebell, Boulder, CO 80302.
- Red-shafted Flicker:** Plastic leg bands and/or dye in Jefferson Co., OR. Donald E. Payne, 34886 Matthews Rd., Eugene, OR 97405.
- Pileated Woodpecker:** Plastic leg bands in Missoula Co., MT. McClelland, address above.
- Pileated Woodpecker:** Plastic leg bands in Union Co., OR. Dr. Jack Ward Thomas, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service, Route 2, Box 2315, LaGrande, OR 97850.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** Plastic leg bands in Missoula Co., MT. McClelland, address above.
- Red-naped, Red-breasted and Williamson's Sapsucker:** Plastic leg bands and/or dye in Jefferson Co., OR. Payne, address above.
- Hairy and Downy Woodpecker:** Dye in Routt, Boulder, Larimer, and Gilpin Co., CO. Thelma Stevenson, 1601 N. College Ave. #98, Fort Collins, CO 80521.
- Barn Swallow:** Plastic leg bands and paint in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Dr. J. David Ligon, Department of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.
- Barn Swallow:** Plastic leg bands and leg streamers in CA, AZ, and NV. Steven Speich, 1250 W. Philadelphia Ave., Ontario, CA 91761.
- Cliff Swallow:** Plastic leg bands, leg streamers and dye in CA, AZ, and NV. Speich, address above.
- Stellar's and Scrub Jay:** Plastic leg bands in Contra Costa Co., CA. Dr. Miklos D.F. Udvardy, Department of Biological Sciences, California State Univ., 6000 J St., Sacramento, CA 95819.
- Scrub Jay:** Plastic leg bands in San Joaquin Co., CA. Dr. Richard R. Tenaza, Department of Biological Sciences, Univ. of the Pacific, Stockton, CA 95211.
- Scrub and Mexican Jay:** Plastic leg bands in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Ligon, address above.
- Black-billed Magpie:** Plastic leg bands in San Miguel Co., NM. Shaun M. McEllin, Department of Zoology, Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, CO 80523.
- Black-billed Magpie:** Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Fort Collins, CO and Larimer, Weld, and northern Boulder Co., CO. Joseph J. Trebella, 507 Phay Ave., Canon City, CO 81212.
- Northwestern Crow:** Patagial tags in Puget Sound area, WA. Paul B. Schneider, c/o Dr. S.G. Herman, Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.
- Piñon Jay:** Plastic leg bands in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Ligon, address above.
- Clark's Nutcracker:** Plastic leg bands and/or dye in UT. Stephen B. Vander Wall, Biology Department, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322.
- Plain Titmouse:** Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Tollhouse, CA. Dr. Arthur E. Staebler, Department of Biology, California State Univ., Fresno, CA 93740.
- White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Pygmy Nuthatch:** Plastic leg bands in Larimer Co., CO and San Miguel Co., NM. Shaun M. McEllin, Department of Zoology, Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, CO 80523.
- Dipper:** Plastic leg bands in Weber Co., UT. Stephen W. Everett, 678 Ogden Canyon, Ogden, UT 84401.
- Mockingbird:** Plastic leg bands in Riverside Co., CA. Dr. Lewis Petrinovich, Department of Psychology, Univ. of California, Riverside, CA 92502.
- Mockingbird:** Plastic leg bands in San Joaquin Co., CA. Dr. Richard R. Tenaza, Department of Biological Sciences, Univ. of the Pacific, Stockton, CA 95211.
- Western and Mountain Bluebird:** Plastic leg bands in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Dr. J. David Ligon, Department of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.
- Townsend's Solitaire:** Plastic leg bands in Lassen Co., CA. Dr. Roger J. Lederer, Biology Department, Calif. State Univ., Chico, CA 95926.
- Townsend's Solitaire:** Plastic leg bands in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Ligon, address above.
- Red-winged Blackbird:** Plastic leg bands in Socorro and Bernalillo Co., NM. Ligon, address above.
- Red-winged Blackbird:** Plastic leg bands in vicinity of Rocky Mountain Arsenal, CO. Michael W. Monahan, Department of Biological Sciences, Univ. of Denver, Denver, CO 80210.
- Great-tailed Grackle:** Plastic leg bands in Yavapai Co., AZ. Amadeo M. Rea, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.
- Western Tanager:** Dye in Routt, Boulder, Larimer, Gilpin Co., CO. Thelma Stevenson, 1601 N. College Ave. #98, Fort Collins, CO 80521.



**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.

#### **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.

**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.

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

**Back Issues of EBBA News:** 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.

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

**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.