

1981

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region V

North American Bird Bander

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Recommended Citation

North American Bird Bander (1981) "Atlantic Flyway Review: Region V," *North American Bird Bander*. Vol. 6 : Iss. 4 , Article 12.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/nabb/vol6/iss4/12>

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Atlantic Flyway Review: Region V

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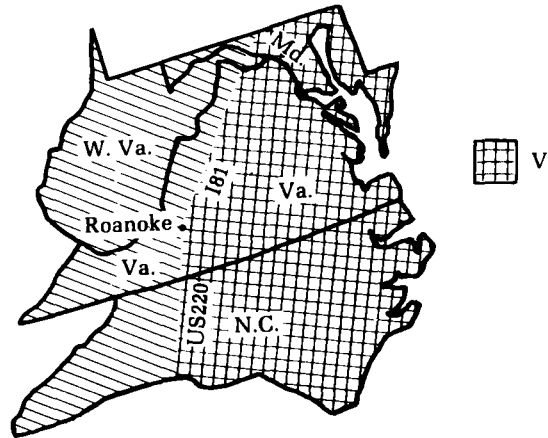
New stations continue to sprout in Region V, making it possible to obtain a better sampling of the autumnal migration than was possible a decade ago. Relative abundances and age ratios vary considerably among stations as well as from year to year, so good geographic distribution as well as large sample sizes are needed for reliable interpretation of banding results.

Region V banders invested a record-high of 92,290 net-hours of effort at 15 stations and banded 37,205 birds, for an average of 40.3 birds per 100 net-hours. This is not only the most effort and most birds to date for Region V, but it comes close to equaling the totals for the four other regions combined.

New A.F.R. participants this year were the Patuxent and Sandy Point stations, both of which had benefited from the experience of less intensive operations in prior years, and a brand new station on the Aberdeen Proving Grounds at the head of Chesapeake Bay. Much of the effort from the Maryland Ornithological Society's tum Suden Sanctuary was transferred to the new Aberdeen station, so tum Suden no longer appears in Table 1. The death of Isabel Tipton has terminated the reports from Long Beach, NC.

The autumn of 1980 was less productive than the previous year: only 39.27 birds per 100 net-hours in 1980, compared with 45.11 in 1979, based on the 11 stations in Table 1 that were operated both years. This is a decline of 13%. This does not necessarily mean that fewer birds passed through the region, however, because about half the stations had a higher rate of capture in 1980. The larger stations tended to show a decrease and this resulted in a regional decrease in capture rate. The species most commonly banded in Region V this autumn are shown in taxonomic sequence in Table 2. The Myrtle (Yellow-rumped) Warbler continued to hold first place by a healthy margin, though it would drop to fourth place if Kiptopeke were excluded. Gray Catbird remained in undisputed second place, and was the most commonly banded bird at four stations. Regional totals for the American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, White-throated Sparrow, and Swainson's Thrush were next in abundance, with about 1,900 to 1,270 of each. The Ovenbird was new to the table this year, replacing the American Robin.

When the species totals from Table 2 are compared with those for the same table for the previous year (NABB 5: 164) and adjusted for the 46.5% increase in net-hours in 1980, substantial increases (30% or more) are suggested for the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Red-eyed Vireo, and Common Yellowthroat, and substantial decreases (30% or more) for the Myrtle Warbler and Song Sparrow. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were also reported in higher numbers than 1979 in Regions II, III, and IV (NABB 6: 36, 60, 64), adding to the evidence of



recovery from the hard winters of 1976-77 and 1977-78. There were a few comments from other regions on a decrease in numbers of Yellow-rumped Warblers captured and an increase in Common Yellowthroats. Comment from other regions on changes in Red-eyed Vireo or Song Sparrow numbers was scanty and inconclusive, although several banders reported decreases in Red-eyed Vireos. The emigration of Black-capped Chickadees reported from regions to the north did not extend into Region V.

Each year banders in Region V make a point of aging as many of their birds as they can. As in past years, a summary of the percentages of hatching year (HY) birds from three geographic areas of Region V is presented in Table 3. The Maryland stations, which are all non-coastal, are compiled in a single entry for 1980, and compared with the Maryland data for 1979. The 1980 sample size applies only to the Maryland stations. The Jekyll Island and Gulf Breeze stations are combined under the Southeast heading. Except for species with small sample sizes, the percentage of young (HY) birds at the coastal Kiptopeke station is higher for all species than at the inland stations. Comparing the Maryland columns for 1979 and 1980, there is evidence (difference of 5 percentage points or more) of a higher reproductive rate in 1980 for the House Wren, Gray Catbird, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Veery, Magnolia Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, and Rufous-sided Towhee. Valerie Freer (NABB 5: 120; 6: 35) presented similar summaries for several species for Region II. Of the above species that also appeared in her tables, she found no change for the Gray Catbird, but increases in percentage of HY Magnolia Warblers and Common Yellowthroats. The Maryland data suggested a decrease in HY birds only for the Yellow-rumped Warbler. A possible decrease in Region II was too slight to be convincing.

Table 1. Region V banding summary

	Adventure	Sandy Spring	Laurel	Patuxent	Stevenson	McDonogh	Towson	Parkville	Sandy Point	Aberdeen	Damite	Kiptopeke	Jekyll Island	Gulf Breeze
Days of operation	78	73	75	55	48	53	29	40	24	24	67	59	11	44
Maximum nets used	28	62	12	37	30	10	8	2½	18	5	42	48	22	4
Total net-hours	25228	10667	3874	6921	5439	1644	870	380	2468	635	11857	20114	1427	554
Largest daily catch	261	330	29	151	136	118	49	10	—	27	103	888	301	84
Birds banded 1980	4895	6158	630	3571	2582	1585	554	92	1095	284	1993	11888	1237	608
Birds banded 1979	3522	4715	363	—	3757	867	400	106	—	—	621	11903	1009	481
Total species 1980	93	94	61	86	92	81	57	20	66	39	93	97	48	73
Total species 1979	93	93	56	—	97	72	44	24	—	—	57	92	53	54
Birds/100 n.h. 1980	19	58	16	52	48	96	64	24	44	45	17	59	87	110
Birds/100 n.h. 1979	17	62	13	—	55	86	53	18	—	—	28	68	125	93

Table 2. Most commonly banded species, 1980

	Adventure	Sandy Spring	Laurel	Patuxent	Stevenson	McDonogh	Towson	Parkville	Sandy Point	Aberdeen	Damite	Kiptopeke	Jekyll Island	Gulf Breeze
Gray Catbird	268*	1092*	93*	183*	679*	95*	96*	12*	124*	13	42	577*	33	40
Swainson's Thrush	791*	302*	41*	159	83	28	26*	0	5	0	45	68	0	23
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	85	234	9	408*	50	4	15	5	70*	30*	222*	127	0	10
Red-eyed Vireo	204	88	7	286*	32	62	4	3	27	1	18	119	48*	41
Y-rump (Myrtle) Warb	466*	453*	14	53	56	92	1	0	64*	14	45	5802*	0	87
Ovenbird	224	77	33*	109	41	41	12	0	18	0	69	241	0	4
Common Yellowthroat	54	215	11	235*	127*	60	12	7*	222*	9	44	544*	194*	34
American Redstart	72	61	15	79	34	8	15	0	134*	1	52	1294*	83*	49
White-thr. Sparrow	254*	718*	57*	123	52	57	30*	2	18	65*	163*	94	0	9
Song Sparrow	128	534*	7	70	207*	156*	31	27*	4	26*	32	34	0	1

* One of the 5 most common species at this station in 1980

Romney Creek

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 393-0761

Barbara C. Billsborough

The possibility of opening a banding station at Aberdeen Proving Ground was first discussed in May 1980 and Romney Creek Station began operating on 27 September. The late start caused us to miss many species.

Located on the upper part of Romney Creek, the area has a variety of habitat. Along the creek, beaver activity has formed a wet swampy area. Moisture-loving vegetation such as sweet-bay magnolia, common winterberry and willow along with weeds and grasses grows in abundance. It is here on a narrow strip of relatively dry land, about 4 feet wide extending out into the creek, that we have our 2 most productive nets. Back from the creek on somewhat drier ground is deciduous woods followed by an open area with thick weedy growth and an area of mixed grass, weeds and sapling growth. Ten net lanes have been laid out: 4 in the swamp section, 3 in the moist woods, 2 along edge between open area and woods and 1 in the sapling growth. Only 5 nets are open at any one time.

The station was open 3 or 4 days per week from 7:00 a.m. until mid or late afternoon. One assistant, Nancy Roberts, was

almost always with me and on Saturdays we were frequently joined by Joe Schreiber under whom I had my subpermit. Contrary to what most stations report, our peak time is likely to be from about 10:30 until mid afternoon.

The most interesting birds were those which I had not previously handled, namely, 2 Wilson's Warblers, Connecticut Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow, Black-billed Cuckoo, and an Eastern Kingbird. I was also pleased with 30 Ruby-crowned Kinglets as these were rare at tum Suden where I had done most of my previous banding.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to band at Romney Creek. Special acknowledgment is due Ellis Porter, Game Warden at APG, for his invaluable help in the initial stages of obtaining approval, his continuing active interest and assistance in clearing net lanes, setting poles and countless other details. Acknowledgment also goes to the staff of the Environmental Management Office of APG, especially to its former head, Bill Russell, and current head, Joe Ondeck, for obtaining the necessary clearance through the Security Office.

tum Suden Wildlife Sanctuary
Harford County, MD. 392-0761
Joseph J. Schreiber, Jr.

Banding operations were reduced now that the Romney Creek Station has opened 12 miles to the east. The tum Suden station will continue to operate in the spring and fall for the purpose of demonstrations and workshops.

Banding was done from early morning to early afternoon on a total of 10 days in August, September, and October. A total of 33 new birds were banded, using 212 net-hours for a ratio of 157 birds/1000 net-hours. The first Connecticut Warbler for the station was banded on 13 September. Barbara Billsborough and Nancy Roberts helped operate the station.

Towson, MD. 392-0763
Gladys H. Cole

The fall of 1980 was only fair, partly because I had so much cat trouble. Also, I had new neighbors with a large dog that broke two new nets. Except for Ruby-crowned Kinglets, which I was unable to age by skull, I aged all 392 individuals of my 13 most common species; 93% were HY birds. My best days were 6 October, 29 August, and 24 September. I gave demonstrations to several adult groups.

Parkville, MD. 392-0763
Joseph J. Schreiber, Jr.

The fifth year of fall banding was completed at my backyard station in 1980. Age processing of all birds resulted in 79% HY, 13% unknown, and 8% AHY. A Downy Woodpecker banded as U-M, 28 October 1976, returned on 29 September 1980 and was at least five years old. Chestnut-sided Warbler and Golden-crowned Kinglet were new species for the station.

St. Timothy's, Stevenson, MD. 392-0764
James Stasz

In our second year of operation a few changes were made to the net lanes. We started this year with 23 net-lanes cut, including 6 nets in mature woods and 16 nets in second-growth spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), and Japanese honeysuckle. Seven nets were placed in waist-deep fallow fields (mostly chickory [*Chichorium intybus*] and common milkweed [*Asclepias syriaca*]). Net-hours per month as compared to 1979: August 195%; September 74%; October 58%; November 97% with an over-all decline to 78% of the previous year.

The biggest change to the banding station was beyond our control. The fallow field nets, which were extraordinarily productive last year, were much less productive this year. These nets are on the border of a large cornfield; last year the corn was cut in late September, this year the corn was standing into the last week of October. I suspect that the drastic de-

Table 3. Percentage of hatching year birds in 1980

Species	1980 sample	Maryland		Kiptopeke	Southeast
		1979	1980		
Carolina Chickadee	103	—	74-78	76-82	—
Tufted Titmouse	122	—	80-81	98	—
House Wren	179	83-87	90-93	96-97	—
Mockingbird	107	—	84-87	(93)	81-96
Gray Catbird	2731	84	89-90	96	89-93
American Robin	352	79-80	80-81	—	—
Wood Thrush	308	76-68	85-89	(100)	—
Hermit Thrush	220	73	78-79	92-93	—
Swainson's Thrush	1325	74-76	75	91	74
Gray-cheeked Thrush	172	—	67	91-93	(36)
Veery	342	54	63	98	(25)
Cedar Waxwing	323	—	83-85	—	—
Red-eyed Vireo	691	79	79	99	89-90
Black-&-white Warbler	257	—	64-67	98	59-71
Tennessee Warbler	298	—	86	95	—
Magnolia Warbler	424	55	74	97	(75-92)
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	284	—	88	97	33-67
Y-Rump (Myrtle) Warbler	1204	69-70	62-63	92	94-100
Ovenbird	613	79-80	78-79	98-99	—
Common Yellowthroat	517	63	69	95	76-88
Canada Warbler	168	—	73	—	—
American Redstart	383	70-71	68-69	97	84-94
Cardinal	580	75-76	77-78	(67)	54-88
Indigo Bunting	137	77	89-90	97	—
American Goldfinch	499	—	53-54	—	—
Purple Finch	253	—	51-53	—	—
House Finch	207	—	86-87	—	—
Rufous-sided Towhee	277	69-70	82-83	84-86	—
Slate-colored Junco	677	73	71	84-86	—
Chipping Sparrow	110	—	94-95	—	85-100
Field Sparrow	320	77-81	77-78	90	—
White-thr. Sparrow	1575	62	56-57	94	—
Swamp Sparrow	112	63-65	63-64	95	—
Song Sparrow	1155	80-81	80-82	88-91	—

Notes No percentages are given when sample is less than 10.

Percentages based on 10 to 19 birds are enclosed in parentheses.

When one or more birds were of undetermined age, a range of percentages is given.

Sample sizes apply to Maryland only.

cline of our *Emberizinae*, down to 495 from 1590 and a total miss of 4 species of sparrows, might be in part explained by their skulking through the cornfield where we had no nets.

The addition of 14 nets in the spiceberry growth increased our catch of some woodland species. After correcting for differences in net hours: Tyrannidae: 165% of 1979, Turdidae: 89%, attributable to the decline in Swainson's Thrush from 209 to 83, all other species remaining the same or increasing; Parulidae: 108%.

New to the station were Philadelphia Vireo, Prairie Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Baltimore Oriole, and Pine Siskin. House Finch (900-55066) banded as HY-F on 21 August was recovered 2 January 1981 near Standardsville, Virginia.

I would like to thank banders Barbara Ross, Glenda Weber, and Janet Ganter; and net-tenders/recorders Pete Webb, Bob Dixon, Woody Martin, Ray Weber, Bruce Reid, and Ed Boyd for their aid in running this station. Special thanks once again to the staff and students of St. Timothy's School and the staff of the Irvine Natural Science Center for their continued support.

McDonogh School
McDonogh, Baltimore Co., MD. 392-0764
Bob Jarboe

Days of operation remained the same as in 1979, but thanks to an increase in the number of nets we were allowed to use, net hours rose 66%, while birds and species banded increased 83% and 13%, respectively. We had 43 returns (compared with 16 in 1979), including a Baltimore Oriole, a Kentucky Warbler, a Red-eyed Vireo, 2 Wood Thrushes, a Blue Jay, a Field Sparrow, 4 Song Sparrows, a Gray Catbird, 3 juncos, and 6 goldfinches; 18 non-migrants were also recaptured, including a Tufted Titmouse handled for the twenty-second time since he was banded in September 1978. Our only foreign retrap was an immature Wood Thrush that wandered over from the St. Timothy's station, about 6 miles away.

New species in 1980 included a Green Heron and Belted Kingfisher caught in nets near observed fishing sites; a Red-shouldered Hawk that might have escaped had we not seen him make his dive toward our nets; and 2 Yellow-billed Cuckoos, 11 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, 4 Cedar Waxwings, 2 Solitary and 2 Philadelphia Vireos, 3 Worm-eating Warblers, and 3 Blue Grosbeaks.

There were conspicuous increases in the following species: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, 0 in 1979, 11 in 1980; Wood Thrush, 16, 67; Veery, 8, 38; Red-eyed Vireo, 21, 62; Tennessee Warbler, 5, 17; Nashville Warbler, 0, 9; Magnolia Warbler, 4, 37; Yellow-rumped Warbler, 43, 92; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 2, 19; Palm Warbler, 4, 14; Ovenbird, 5, 41; Northern Waterthrush, 1, 13; Common Yellowthroat, 35, 60; Canada Warbler, 3, 23; Cardinal, 14, 33; House Finch, 57, 102; American Goldfinch, 24, 115; Savannah Sparrow, 4, 16; Junco, 11, 155; Field Sparrow, 26, 41; and White-throated Sparrow, 22, 57. Three species decreased: Indigo Bunting, 46 to 28; Swamp Sparrow, 11 to 6; and Song Sparrow, 182 to 156.

Projects: Banding at McDonogh is one of the primary activities of the Ornithology Club. Most members — especially the Middle Schoolers — are interested solely in seeing birds up close — and holding them — but others are studying raptors on the campus and most Upper School members are eager to become skilled at removing birds from the nets and identifying them, while Bob Lyon and I are continuing our study of the philopatry of American Goldfinches and a few other species, most of them seed-eating winter residents at our feeders. We are also very interested in the loyalty of Common Yellowthroats and Red-eyed Vireos to nesting sites on the campus, and in the effect of land development (in the Red Run corridor) on bird populations.

Participating in our program were sub-permittee Robert Lyon; students Mike Beyer, Scott Hartlaub, Marty Frame, Ed Sharkey, and Tanya Harper; and Andy, Jonathan, and Brenda Jarboe. Ogden Ramsay was our distinguished visitor on an October demonstration day that became so busy that the former bander here at McDonogh was pressed into service to help remove birds.

Damsite, Chestertown, MD 391-0761
Dorothy A. Mendinhall, Jim Gruber

Damsite Banding Station was in operation 67 days during the period 2 August — 23 November. The station was mainly operated from 7 A.M. until noon during weekdays and from dawn 'til 5 P.M. on weekends. We operated between 5 and 42 nets depending on weather and help.

August was a slow migration month with only 9.3 birds/100 net-hours. The first major movement was detected on the 16th when a small migration of warblers, mostly Canadas, were banded. The next major influx of warblers was on the 28th with 11 Tennessees, 4 Black-and-whites and 2 Cape Mays.

September banding was better, but the major movement of warblers was probably missed because the station operated only on weekends for the first 2 weeks. However, the weekend of 6-7 was very good with 95 and 44 new birds banded respectively. The 6th was filled mostly with warblers (11 Black-and-whites, 8 redstarts, 7 Black-throated Blues). Also, 15 Veeries were processed. The high point of the day was a Mourning Warbler, which is rare on the Eastern Shore.

The major movement of Ovenbirds seemed to come on 12 September, with 14 banded.

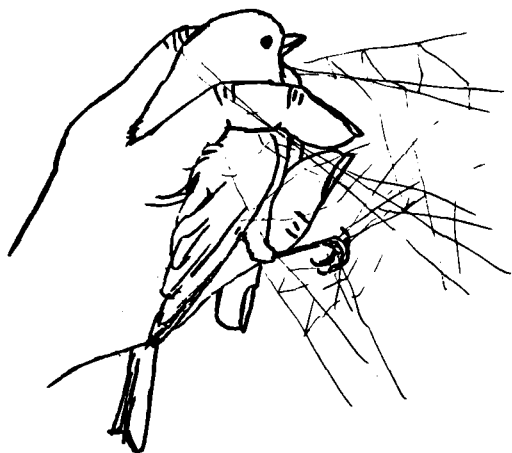
On 19-20 September 52 and 62 birds were banded, mostly Black-and-whites, Black-throated Blues, Ovenbirds, and redstarts. The 20th was also a day of excitement because we banded what we believed was a Western Wood Pewee. The first "winter" birds arrived in late September: A Ruby-crowned Kinglet on 20 September, a White-throated Sparrow on the 21st, and a Slate-colored Junco on the 24th.

October was the big month, as usual, with 889 birds banded. Good things happened early in the month as we banded on 4 October a new species for the station, a Long-billed Marsh Wren. It was caught about 400 feet from the Chesapeake Bay in a patch of deciduous woods with the nearest marsh over ½ mile (0.3 km) away. The main movements came on the 7th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 23rd, and 24th. Our biggest day of the year was 11 October with 103 banded, mostly sparrows. The 15th and 16th were our biggest days for kinglets.

November was slow but it had its highlights. We banded a Sharp-shinned Hawk on the 16th and a Black-capped Chickadee on the 15th. Our good days were the 2nd, 3rd, and 16th.

Many thanks go to Floyd Parks, Hank Gruber, and Brent Woyke for assisting at the station. Also to Margery Plymire who came in from Maine to band at demonstrations given on 9 October and 4 November. Much heart-felt thanks goes to Mrs. Dorothy Mendinhall who guided me and helped me over the rough spots throughout the fall banding.





Sandy Point State Park, MD. 390-0762
Wayne Klockner

In its first year at this location, the Sandy Point banding station netted birds for 24 days during the period 16 August to 8 November. We ran a maximum of 18 nets, although 14 was the usual number. The nets were located in old field vegetation, hedgerows, and forest-marsh border.

Resident birds comprised the major portion of the catch in mid-August, but the end of the month saw large flights of migrants, including nine species of warblers and several Eastern Kingbirds. Interestingly, the kingbirds were captured while descending to mist net level to feed upon Sassafras berries. A highlight of the month was a very early Swainson's Thrush caught on 17 August.

September was very busy. A large flight of warblers occurred on the weekend of the 6-7th and included a Connecticut Warbler. Another flight of warblers, predominantly American Redstarts and Magnolias, occurred on the 9th and 12th. On the 19th the first wintering species and later migrants arrived, with Ruby-crowned Kinglets, a palm Warbler, a Solitary Vireo, and a Connecticut Warbler banded. Three Blue Grosbeaks were caught and banded during September.

On 4 October, both kinglets arrived at the station in large numbers, along with Winter Wren and White-throated Sparrow. The largest flight of the month was on the 19th, when Myrtle Warblers arrived to dominate the catch till the end of the season. Also captured on that date was a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

November was quite slow, but included Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Fox Sparrow, among birds banded before the operation was closed for the season.

Thanks to Tolly Peuleche and Charles Davis for assisting at the station.

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center,
Laurel, Prince Georges County, MD. 390-0764
Danny Bystrak

In 1979 I tried netting in a powerline right-of-way on the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. I did not write a summary that year because the effort was experimental; I ran few nets and started late in the season. The results were very impressive, with a high variety and a large number of birds per net-hour. Based on this attempt, I set up a full-scale operation in 1980 with up to 37 nets run from 9 August to 24 November. Coverage in August and November was scant, but there was daily coverage most of September and October as weather allowed.

The habitat is mostly low and brushy, dominated by Dwarf Sumac, Sweet Pepperbush, Viburnum, and Catbrier. The herbaceous layer is almost exclusively goldenrods of various species, with some broomsedge and other grasses. A stream traverses most of the area, but has little effect on the vegetation. The low vegetation and presence of a slight stream valley causes a serious frost problem during much of October and November. Many of my nets are nonfunctional for the first hour or two in the morning until the frost melts.

The catch in 1980 was also impressive, with an especially high variety of warblers. On two days, 21 species of warblers were captured. The total warbler species for the season was 31. The Orange-crowned on 22 October was the highlight of the season; I've been after one for 17 years. Because the powerline is surrounded by mature forest, sparrows are poorly represented, with only White-throats and juncos being common. The total of 86 species was a reflection of the good variety I had all season and makes the 100 mark seem a realistic goal.

Laurel, Prince Georges County, MD. 390-0765
Chandler S. Robbins

A record-high number of days of operation, including 15 days in August, contributed to this suburban station's highest autumn species total and a near record number of birds banded. Unusually large numbers of Gray Catbirds, and especially of Tufted Titmice, American Robins, and Ovenbirds, were banded. Other species were taken in expected numbers considering the increased effort.

A small immature Ovenbird, believed to be a female, set a record for length of stay of a transient; it was banded (820-65738) on 6 September and was last netted 42 days later on 18 October. The medal for obesity was awarded to immature Wood Thrush 871-90410, which tipped the scales at 61.7 g when banded on 4 October, and at 71.7 g (double-checked) when recaptured seven days later.

The greatest surprise of the season was the recapture on 29 November of a female Sharp-shinned Hawk that I had banded here as an adult on 11 November 1978. The oldest of 35 other returns were an 8-year-old Cardinal, a 7-year-old Tufted Titmouse, and a 7-year-old White-throated Sparrow.

Sandy Spring, Montgomery County, MD. 390-0770
John S. Weske

Banding coverage and continuity at Sandy Spring improved in 1980 and were the best in the station's 5-year history. Net-hours totaled 10,667 and 6,158 new birds were banded, increases over 1979 of 40% and 31% respectively (Table 1). The capture rate was 0.577 new birds per net-hour, down from 0.621 last year. Returns of 172 individuals representing 21 species were recorded.

The station was in operation on 73 days between 23 August and 2 December. It was open every day from 6 September through 9 November except for 25 October, a rain-out. It was also run on 4 days in late August and 5 days from 14 November on. Despite more banding effort in the early migration period this year, it is clear that greater coverage in August and early September will be necessary for the station to show its full potential. Nets were generally kept open from before daybreak until late morning. On most days, about 30 nets were used, but the number was increased to 52-62 on several weekends.

We banded 1,092 new Gray Catbirds, our most common species (Table 2). This total is up 106% over 1979, a large increase that seems mostly a result of more coverage at the right time. Last year's leader, the White-throated Sparrow, dropped to second and showed a slight increase from a year ago (718 vs. 706). Only 51% of all White-throats caught (returns included) were HY's vs. 57-65% during the past 4 years. This low age ratio may indicate a poorer than normal nesting year for the population we sampled. Myrtle Warblers declined to 453 from 605. In 1980, this species came through in an early, rapid surge (10-13 October) compared to a later, more prolonged flight in 1979 that allowed more time for birds lingering in the area to get caught.

Two foreign retraps were recorded, and another foreign bird returned. On 28 October we netted an immature Sharp-shinned Hawk that had been banded at Cape May Point, N.J., on 6 October 1980. An immature Gray Catbird banded at Manomet, Mass., on 12 September 1980 showed up in our nets on 24 October. A White-throated Sparrow that returned on 21 November had been previously captured here on 29 April 1978 and had originally been banded at Towson, Md., on 25 October 1977.

Species banded at the station for the first time this autumn were the Screech Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Black-capped Chickadee, Warbling Vireo, and Pine Siskin. The nets also intercepted some birds on extreme migration dates: an early Lincoln's Sparrow on 12 September and a late one on 3 November, and also on 3 November a late Swainson's Thrush that still had plenty of pale-spotted juvenal feathers on the head and in the scapulars and wing coverts.

The banders were John S. Weske and Nancy E. MacClintock. Assisting throughout the season were Stuart MacClintock and Tony Fitcher. Others who aided were Sharon Arkin, Bill Gill, Linda Hollenberg, Ann Inderbitzin, Kathy Klimkiewicz, Floyd Murdoch, Ann Smith, Steve Smith, Bob Whitcomb, and Steve Whitcomb.

Adventure, Montgomery Co., MD 390-0771
Mrs. Margaret T. Donnal

Banding at Adventure in 1980 continued the pattern of previous years, with the station in operation from dawn to dusk, 15 August through 31 October. Banding effort (aided by excellent banding weather) was 4% greater than in the previous high season (1978), while birds banded were 21% above the previous high year, 4074 in 1977 (3992 banded plus 82 returns) vs. 4959 in 1980 (4895 plus 64).

A comparison of the two top banding years for Adventure shows a shift in the major families represented, with a significant 1980 increase in thrushes and a reduction in both warblers and fringillids. Thrushes in 1980 totaled 1239 (25% of total bandings) compared with 651 (16%) in 1977. Wood Thrushes totaled 144 (up from a previous high of 76 in 1977) while Swainson's Thrushes totaled 791 (an increase of nearly 80% over the previous high of 447 in 1978). Of all birds banded in 1980, 16% were Swainson's Thrushes.

Warblers represented only 28% of all 1980 birds banded, vs. 36% in 1977. However, 1980 brought several all-time high warbler totals, including 84 Black-and-whites (71 in 1978), 158 Magnolias (108 in 1976), and 224 Ovenbirds (136 in 1976). Canada Warblers, with 94, were near their previous high of 103 in 1975. By contrast with these species, Yellow-rumped Warblers totaled only 466 in 1980, compared with a high of 857 in 1977.

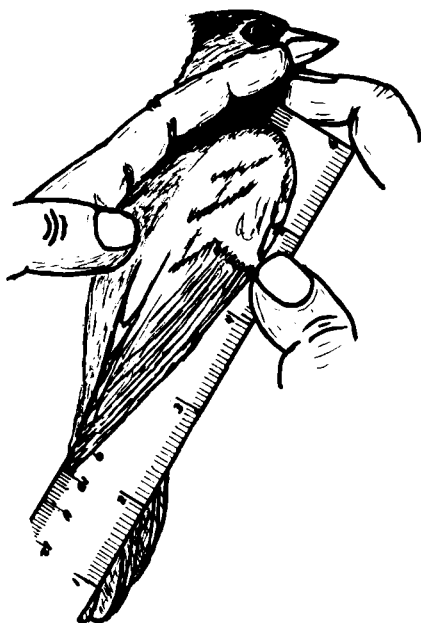
Fringillids in 1980 totaled 927 (18.7%) vs. 1064 (26%) in 1977. The shift in numbers reflects the continuing low count for White-throated Sparrows (260 in 1980) and the maturation of habitat in the banding area. The one surprising note in the finches was the 1980 total of 118 Purple Finches, up 93% from the previous all-time high of 61 in 1979.

There were 12 days in 1980 on which over 100 birds were banded. The peak day of the season came on the early date of 24 September with 261 birds of 41 species. Early dates included Brown Creeper on 22 September, and Winter Wren and Ruby-crowned Kinglet on 24 September.

Pine Warbler was a new species in 1980. The House Finch, first banded as a single individual in 1977, increased to 9 banded in 1980.

Beavers built a series of dams on Watts Branch in the Adventure Study Area (just 20 miles from the White House), but apparently were disturbed by predators and did not survive the winter.

Participating in station operation were: Subpermittees Richard Bray, Morrill Donnal, Ives Hannay, Manuel Lerda, Minette McCullough, Dave Mehlman, Charlotte Pryor, Lutie Semmes, Ed Smith, and John Vance, and Assistants Reid Adler, Pixie Christy, Dermott Cooper, Steve Cosson, Barbara Dowell, Neal Fitzpatrick, Delores Grant, Loretta Haggard, Linda Hollenberg, Pam Howard, Jane Huff, Rosemary Jagus, Adam Kauffman, Ruth Klein, Stella Koch, Henry Louie, Wilhelm Maane, Lisa McKelvie, Ann Mitchell, Hugh Morris, John O'Brien, Susan Phelan, Nancy Simpson, Cindy Vega, Clint Wilkins, and Ann Wonnacott.



Kiptopeke Beach
Northampton County, VA. 370-0755
F.R. Scott

1980 was the 18th consecutive year for this banding station which ran continuously for 59 days during the fall with the exception of 1 and 25 October when rain forced closure. As shown in Table 1, the total of new birds banded was virtually the same as in 1979, but total net-hours increased 14%. Average netting efficiency decreased to 59 birds per 100 net-hours from 68 in 1979.

With few exceptions, the totals of the more common birds were reasonably similar to those in 1979. Significant increases were noted in all the *Empidonax* flycatchers, House Wren, Tennessee Warbler, Ovenbird, and Common Yellowthroat, and the Black-throated Blue Warbler increased 145% to 476. Red-eyed Vireos declined 36% to 119 and Veeries at 181 were 38% lower than in 1979. Both Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes remained near their 18-year lows. For a banding station that is supposed to specialize in transient birds, it was interesting that a permanent resident, the Tufted Titmouse, took a minor spotlight. Forty-six of these were banded, all but 2 between 13 and 26 October, and all but one were HY birds. Not only is this more than double the previous seasonal record for this station, but in 3 years no titmice were trapped at all, and in only 2 other years did the total exceed 5! An HY Cerulean Warbler trapped here on 5 September was a first record for this station and possibly the first fall record for coastal Virginia.

There were 11 returns from previous years, 6 permanent residents and 5 assumed summer residents. The latter were 3 White-eyed Vireos, a Prairie Warbler, and a Blue Grosbeak. One of the vireos, the warbler, and the grosbeak had all been banded here 3 years before in 1977. The 9 foreign retraps included 5 HY Sharp-shinned Hawks banded farther along the coast 5 to 14 days earlier and an AHY Sharp-shin banded originally as an HY at Capt May Point in 1978. There were also 2 foreign American Redstarts, both direct recoveries of HY birds. One banded near Milford, Pa., by Raccoon Ridge Bird Observatory on 27 August was retrapped here on 3 September by F.R. Scott, and another banded near Manhasset, N.Y., on 21 September by James Pion was recovered here on 27 September by Dorothy Foy. Banding information on an HY Northern Waterthrush retrapped here on 6 September by Walter Smith was not available in time for this report.

Banders who manned the station for varying periods of time this year were John Buckalew, James Carter, Jane Church, Tom Drumheller, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Foy, C.W. Hacker, Kathleen Klimkiewicz, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Mitchell, F.R. Scott, and Walter Smith. They were assisted by over 90 other persons without whose help the results would have been much less successful. Walter Smith, who acted as resident bander most of the 8½-week period, also did the initial editing and tabulation of the daily field sheets.

Jekyll Island, GA. 310-0812
Doris Cohrs

The station at Jekyll Island was in operation between 27 September and 5 October and again on 10 and 11 October in 1980. Although this, our third year, showed the largest number of birds banded, it was less spectacular than 1979 in birds per net hour. Weather systems were not ideal for our brief, concentrated efforts.

The nine-day period of continuous operation was one week earlier than our 1978 and 1979 time slot. With this alteration, we may have pinpointed the arrival time of at least one common species. In 1979, the Gray Catbird constituted 26% of birds banded, while in 1980, it made up only 3%. Also of note, the Palm Warbler percentage changed from 26% in 1979 to 41% (510 birds) in 1980.

Three birds returned, most likely all permanent residents on the island. We added 12 new species to our station list, bringing the three-year total to 74. Yellow Warblers were new for the station as were Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Canada Warbler, Bachman's Sparrow and others. The most exciting addition was a Marsh Hawk. It frequently was observed hunting near one of our nets and we were afraid it would just leave a large hole. But somehow, the 1½" mesh held the hawk while two delighted helpers called for and got help from the equally delighted banders.

Master banders Terry Moore and Doris Cohrs were assisted by sub-permittees Jeannine Angerman, Don Cohrs, Vince Jackson, and Anne Wyand and band-aides Fairman Cumming, Ruth Gogel, Eileen Hutcheson, Joe Imhof, Trina Jackson, Carolyn Krueger, Don Smith, and Mary Ann Vernocy.

Lucy R. Duncan

We operated from 18 August to 13 November. Uncommon birds netted included Canada, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Mourning Warblers, Philadelphia Vireo, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Golden-crowned Kinglet. An unidentified *Oporornis* warbler (Mourning — MacGillivray's type) was secured as a state specimen. The critical "wing minus tail measurement" fell squarely within the overlap

Empidonax flycatchers are always difficult when they are not vocal (and sometimes when they are!). Therefore in areas where they do not breed and call, documentation rests solely with collectors and banders. For this reason I have a special interest in studying this genus. Seven "Trail's" were netted. Two of these were Alder Flycatchers (*E. alnorum*), one was a Willow Flycatcher (*E. traillii*), and four remained unidentified. Six Acadians, ten Least and eight Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were banded.

Participating in the station's operation were Robert Duncan and Scot Duncan, and Donna and Rory Hansen. William Duncan, age 3½, participated for his first year by checking nets, carrying bags and releasing banded birds. (He already knows that vireos bite!).

by Mrs. Roger W. Foy



The Executive Council met Friday evening at the Museum at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, election of officers for 1940 was held, followed by a business meeting for all members. Among the many speakers at the meeting were: J.J. Hickey who spoke on the "Progress Report of the Cooperative Herring Gull Survey;"

Councillors: Horace Groskin, Ardmore, PA.; Mrs. Lisa Von

Dr. Carlton Herman, former President of EBBA, is now Research Associate in Parasitology at the Hospital and Biological Research Institute of the Zoological Society of San Diego, Cal. Dr. Herman is working primarily on the parasites of birds.

To enable more banders to participate in EBBA, it was proposed that (1) a new class of membership be established for one dollar a year, which include subscription to EBBA NUS

only.; (2) the dues in the regular class of membership increased to three dollars (\$3.00) a year, two dollars being for *Bird-Banding* and one dollar (\$1.00) for *EBBA NUS*. The Sustaining Membership of five dollars (\$5.00) a year, which adds materially to the treasury, would be maintained as formerly; (3) that a Councillor, or two, be appointed in each State and Province in our Territory. The Councillor may call local meetings as desired during the year and discuss measures to be presented to the main executive body at the Annual Meetings. He may also conduct local membership drives. Finally he may send ballots to his local members and receive votes from them on matters to be decided at the Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting he may cast — or send by mail — a number of votes proportional to his local group of banders. A ballot was placed in one of the issues of *EBBA NUS* asking members to vote on the three proposals.

The results overwhelmingly proved that most members favored all three classes of membership and the membership was accepted as stated above.

Local meetings were encouraged. Miss Lisa von Borowsky of Brooksville, Fla. invited all Florida members to a local meeting. A tentative meeting for Long Island and New York City, N.Y. to be held in the Fall was in the planning stage.

Horace Groskin of Ardmore, Pa., had an interesting article on banding, illustrated with photographs, published in the magazine section of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 9 June 1940.

In accordance with a vote of the membership, EBBA appointed the following new Councillors: Malcolm J. Lerch, Pen Yan, NY (for Northern NY); Carl A.A. Pederse, Montvale, NJ; Miss Mabel T. Rogers, Milledgeville, GA; Harry T. Davis, N. Carolina State Museum, Raleigh, NC.

A review of the membership by States and Provinces showed that Officers and Councillors were fairly evenly distributed geographically as follows:

Ontario, Canada: 7 members, 1 Councillor
New York: 60 members, 2 Officers, and 3 Councillors
Connecticut: 2 members, affiliated with the N.Y. group
New Jersey: 21 members, 1 Councillor
Pennsylvania: 47 members, 1 Officer, and 2 Councillors
Delaware: 1 member
Maryland: 4 members
District of Columbia: 5 members; total of 10 members with 1 Councillor to be announced later for the area.
Virginia: 5 members, 1 Councillor
North Carolina: 4 members, 1 Councillor
South Carolina: 3 members, 1 Officer
Georgia: 3 members, 1 Councillors
Florida: 12 members, 2 Councillors
Alabama: 1 member
Colorado: 1 member
California: 1 member
Peru: 1 member

The above tabulation does not include societies, libraries, or more than one member of a family living at a common address; the above lists 178 active banders/banding stations.

In reference to Proposal 3, the result of such action is very clearly stated by our Councillor for Eastern Pennsylvania.

Quote, "It seems to me that the Annual Meeting is not in itself sufficient to meet the need for personal acquaintance-ship between the members of a particular district. As is well known, there are a very limited number of members who can afford to give up the time and money to attend the Annual Meeting at some distance from their homes, and therefore, it becomes necessary to have local meetings in order to maintain the interest in the Eastern Bird Banding Association." "...At such meetings it might be possible to discuss such matters as pertain to local conditions, also subjects that appear in *EBBA NUS* and *Bird-Banding Magazine*. Many projects might be originated between local members that would have value in ornithological research." — Horace Groskin, Ardmore, Pa.

A Regional Meeting of the New Jersey banders took place on Sunday, 22 September, at the residence of Mrs. Marie Dumont, N.J. Methods of trapping, trap ideas and banding thoughts were generally exchanged. Cooperative plans were laid and the work of charting the recoveries from each station was discussed. This work is to be collated at a later date so that there will be one main chart showing all the recoveries from the State of New Jersey.

Horace Groskin and Dr. C. Brooke Worth were making arrangements to hold a regional meeting of the banders in and around Philadelphia area in the latter part of October.

Banders of Eastern Pennsylvania, members of this Association, held a meeting on 24 October at 9 p.m., at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Phila. Horace Groskin presided and Ray Middleton acted as secretary. Fifteen members and several visitors were present.

In the latter part of September, EBBA members living in Florida attended a meeting with members of the Florida Audubon Society at the Chinsegut-Hill Sanctuary at Brooksville. Miss Lisa von Borowsky, one of our Councillors for the State of Florida, was in charge of the program.

Keahon Garland, of Demarest, NJ, a Deputy Warden as well as a bird bander, recovered from the bag of an Italian hunter on 12 October, three banded Blue Jays, 6 unbanded Blue Jays, and a Rufous-sided Towhee. The jays had been banded by Beecher S. Bowdish of Demarest, one of them about two years previously and the other two about a year previous. The hunter was fined and paid \$200.00.

Speaking of Beecher S. Bowdish: he has been Secretary and Treasurer of the New Jersey Audubon Society almost 20 years!

Honorary Members 1925-1939

1925: S. Prentiss Baldwin

1939: Dr. Witmer Stone

1939: F.M. Chapman

Deceased Officers & Members 1925-1940

22 June 1938. Charles A. Urner, New Jersey.

31 December 1938. Dr. S. Prentiss Baldwin, Gates Mills, OH.

Honorary President 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934.

6 April 1939. Isaac G. Roberts, West Chester, PA.

23 May 1939. Dr. Witmer Stone, Phila. PA. Executive Officer at organizational meeting 1923.

27 November 1940. Frank Foster, Phoenixville, PA. Secretary, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937.