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North American Bird Bander

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Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

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Eastern Regional News is published quarterly in North American Bird Bander by the Eastern Bird Banding Association. Applications for membership and changes of address should be sent to the Treasurer. The dues: Active Members — \$8.00 per year; Sustaining Members — \$16.00 per year; Student Members — \$6.00 per year; Life Membership — \$200.00; Non-subscribing Members — \$3.00 per year. Canadian and foreign memberships add \$4.50. Contributions to the Eastern Bird Banding Association are tax deductible.

President's message

My aspirations for you as your President are to help you make your contributions to ornithological knowledge. The role of amateurs (that is, people who are not paid for their bird work) in ornithological research is considerable and a source of great potential. If you'd like to read a tribute and take a bow, look up H.F. Mayfield's editorial, *The Amateur in Ornithology*, *Auk* 96(1):168-171, 1979, or *The Amateur and North American Ornithology*, in *Proceedings of the Conference*, 17-18 February 1978, at Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY 1979. Then be sure to plan the next step in your repertoire. Whether you are learning to age and sex all your birds, or are learning to tell SY birds in the spring by retained plumage, or HY birds in the fall by skulling, or learning to use those standardized forms, or

are trying your first data analysis, remember, those astonishing migrations are accomplished one wingbeat at a time.

Specific questions of yours can be forwarded to the appropriate Committees: Education, Publication, Memorial Grant, etc. Write! Let your leaders help you! Would you like to see the Education Committee make workshops available in print? Which ones? Let me know! Do you have ideas on workshops that you would like to have at the next two meetings? Write your First Vice President.

Yours for those wingbeats toward growth in the next two years!

Hannah Suthers

Charles Henry Blake

June 11, 1901 — December 6, 1981

Born 11 June 1901 in Berkeley, California, he attended private schools in Tucson, Arizona and Brooklyn, New York. He received his bachelor's and doctor's degrees at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, specializing in zoology. He was on the teaching staff at M.I.T. for 32 years.

During World War II he was consultant to the Office of the Quartermaster General. He was on assignment in Australia and New Guinea for the Office of Scientific Research and Development from 1942 to 1945.

After the war he turned his attention particularly to birds. He was an Elective Member and Fellow of the American Ornithological Union (Chairman, Membership Committee); the Nuttall Ornithological Club (former Secretary, vice-president, president); Northeastern Bird Banding Association (ex-president); Eastern Bird Banding Association (Council member); Cooper Ornithological Society; Wilson Ornithological Society; Carolina Bird Club; Chapel Hill Bird Club (ex-president), and the British Ornithological Union.

His broad interest in science led to service on various boards of museums and memberships in scientific organizations, including: Curator of Mollusks, Boston Society of Natural History; editor, and fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Trustee, Boston Society of Natural History (Museum of Science); Board of Directors, deCordova and Dana Museum and Park; Bent Life History Committee; American Association for the Advancement of Science; and the Orange County Historical Museum in Hillsborough, NC.

Since retiring to Hillsborough, NC in 1957, Dr. Blake was interested in local affairs as a member of the Lions Club; the first president of the Hillsborough Historical Society; member of the Historic Hillsborough Commission; Chapel Hill Historical Society; and the Chapel Hill Preservation Society.

His travels included Australia, New Guinea, Europe, the West Indies, as well as extensive travel in the United States and Canada. He was on a Fulbright Fellowship in Jamaica in 1955-56 and was an Associate in Ornithology at the Agassiz Museum.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Mitchell Lehmer, formerly of Berkeley, California. EBBA was one of his particular interests and Mrs. Blake writes, "I am thankful for the pleasure he (Charlie) had in banding and for the good friends he made in the Association."

Dr. Blake greeted all with a warmth that took the "edge" off being a member new to the EBBA organization. He spoke to us as being the "Class of . . .", which suggested that our enthusiasm would carry us to a "state" of particular knowledge and experience in banding. In his workshop sessions he always punctuated his sentences with a smile while his voice shared an awe of the knowledge and experiences just presented. He spoke frequently on "molts and plumages," about statistics, but seemed to lay bare vast areas in which we could still pioneer, gain experience, and gather worthwhile data. . . to be later shared.

Many of us were fortunate to share in his friendship and counsel.

Christopher N. Rose