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Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

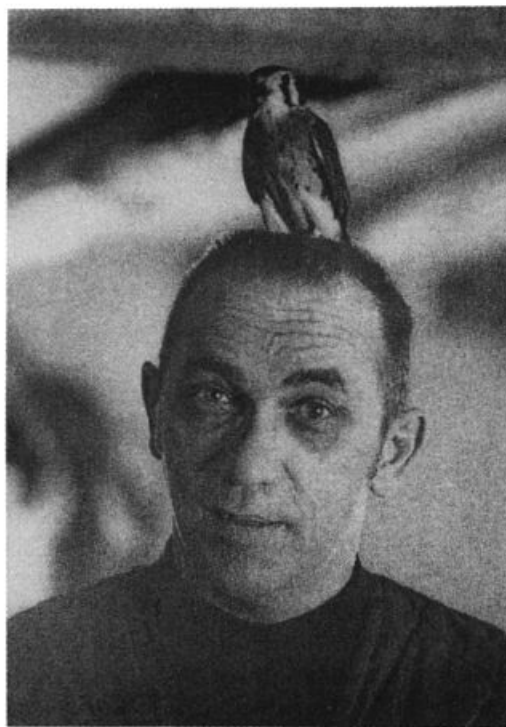
THOMAS M. MUTCHLER

June 26, 2002

Thomas M. Mutchler, 77, died at his home on June 26, 2002. He was superintendent of the Hartwood Club, Forestburg, NY, before retiring in 1991. Previously, he was a registered nurse working as an orthopedic surgical assistant in Bethlehem, PA, 1953 -1976.

He was an avid bird watcher and wildlife rehabilitator, focusing on raptors. His background and innovation led him to be a pioneer in the use of pinning of longbone fractures on injured raptors and other birds. Because of his expertise in rehabilitation, the state of Pennsylvania had granted him an individual permit to care for raptors.

Tom had been a bird bander for the Pennsylvania Wildlife Commission and a member of EBBA since 1972. He was also involved with the annual Bethlehem Christmas Bird Count and was



compiler for the Count from the late 1960s to 1975. He was one of the first banders in his area, creating a "wave" of new banders. He founded the hawk station at Little Gap, PA, which is still in operation.

He served EBBA as a councillor and vice president and seldom missed an EBBA meeting. He revised and published *B.I.R.D.* (Birders Information Resource Data) *Manual*.

Tom was a kind, generous person and an inspiration to many. He was predeceased by his wife Nadia (Mickie) and son, Tom M. Our sincere sympathy to his family for their (and our) great loss.