

Most banders fail to make use of the allurements of decoys. One added sidelight is the use of decoys on other species. Many a bander is familiar with the great caution shown by the first evening grosbeak when alighting on a feeder tray or entering a trap. The piling in that usually follows is also a familiar sight. Well, why not hasten the piling in process with a decoy or two in the trap? Presently, 18 male evening grosbeak silhouettes are waiting for some grosbeaks to arrive. So far this has not been a "finch winter." In preparation are some goldfinch silhouettes.

This one year's trial-and-error use of shore bird decoys has been most satisfying. The take for the year with most of the banding done in the spring and very little done in the fall was 123 birds of nine species including the following: semipalmated plover, killdeer, common snipe, spotted sandpiper, solitary sandpiper, lesser yellowlegs, least sandpiper, dunlin and semipalmated sandpiper.

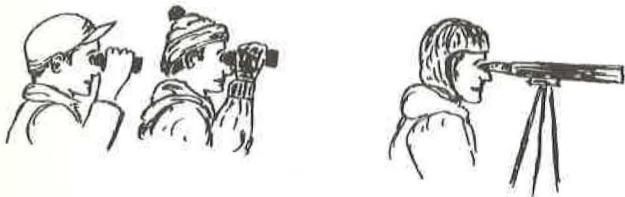
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#### HAND-REARED ROBIN RETURNS TO PLACE OF RELEASE By Leonard J. Bradley

Sooner or later, anyone who operates a banding station will be asked to band a hand-reared bird which is about to be released. Here at Audubon Center we band a number each year provided that they are fully fledged and ready to fly. We do this chiefly for the sake of good public relations, even though we know that the chances of a hand-reared bird, particularly a migratory bird surviving in the wild is slim indeed. This year we have proof that it can happen.

One of my returns was an adult robin, No. 612-25242, banded June 6, 1963, as an immature, hand-reared bird. It was raised from a fledgling at Katonah, New York, but was banded and released at the Audubon Center of Connecticut, Greenwich, Conn., some 15 miles from Katonah. It was retaken at the Audubon Center on June 19, 1964.

Audubon Center of Greenwich, 613 Riversville Road, Greenwich, Connecticut



Looking Forward to EBBA Annual Meeting  
Ocean City, Maryland, April 23, 24 & 25, 1965