

Atlantic Flyway Review — Region III

Robert Dewire, Coordinator

Region III covered the banding stations on Long Island and one station at Westport, Connecticut. There was little more than local movement during the month of August at any of the stations and migration in September was disappointing. In October, flights were very good, noticeably of White-throated Sparrows which were the most commonly banded bird at all of the stations. Winter finches did not put in an appearance this year, food crops being excellent throughout the northeast.

Station summaries are as follows:

	Manorville, NY	Brookhaven, NY	Westport, CT
Days of operation	36	91	41
No. of nets used	3 to 10	14	3 to 8
No. of birds banded	367	2976	909
No. of birds banded in 1973	559	3024	1061
No. of different species	42	75	63
Birds/100 net-hours	53	83	83
Birds/100 net-hours in 1973	52	73	84

Manorville — Gilbert Raynor

The monthly breakdown for the Manorville Station is as follows:

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	9	39	1	0	27	13
Sept.	7	30	0	0	51	9
Oct.	20	298	6	58	53	35

The drop in numbers from 559 in 1973 to 367 this year was largely due to the few days of banding in September (7 this year, 18 in 1973) due to travel. In August there were virtually no migrants, residents making up most of the birds caught. October flights were best here on Oct. 5, 6, 11 and 12. White-throated Sparrows were most commonly banded, with 108 birds caught. Both White-crowned and Lincoln's Sparrows were also noted in better numbers. Two Carolina Wrens were banded on Sept. 21st, a bird that is increasing yearly on Long Island due to the mild winters. A Sharp-shinned Hawk was netted on Oct. 11th. A Gray Catbird banded at the station on August 5, 1970 was recaptured on October 5, 1974 for the 5th consecutive year.

Brookhaven — Dennis Puleston

Mr. Puleston sent the following report in just before leaving on a trip to South America.

In 1974 I started banding on August 17th when the migration (especially in Yellowthroats and Cat-

birds) was well underway. Except for a few days of adverse weather or when absent on business I was able to operate regularly all through the fall, for a total of 91 days (103 days in 1973). I banded a total of 2976 birds of 75 species for 3562 net hours. In 1973 it was 3024 birds of 87 species for 3510 net hours. All my banding is done in the early morning, from dawn until about 9:00 or 9:30 A.M.

As usual, I had a heavy flight of Swamp Sparrows; 469 were banded in 1974 though 1973 was the peak year when I had 580. Lincoln's Sparrows were surprisingly high — 27 banded as compared to the usual 8 to 12 in previous years. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were also in good numbers — 63 in 1974 as compared to 15 in 1973. The usual big flights of Goldfinches and Pine Siskins that appear on the salt marsh in late October to feed on the seeds of the marsh elder (*Iva frutescens*) did not materialize. I had no siskins at all and only 132 goldfinches (116 siskins and 282 goldfinches in 1973). Since there are no flights of Evening Grosbeaks, crossbills and siskins this winter so far, perhaps it can be assumed that an extra abundant crop of pine cones in the northern forest is keeping them up there this year.

Many biology students from the Bellport High School came down to observe and help whenever their classes would permit. I also had visits from many other school groups, Cub Scouts and Brownies. Working at a banding station is a fine experience for youngsters interested in wildlife, they deserve every encouragement.

Wadsworth Wildlife Sanctuary, Westport, Conn. — Robert Dewire

The monthly breakdown is as follows:

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	12	126	1	10	45	22
Sept.	14	198	0	16	56	37
Oct.	15	585	0	21	132	51

The operation at this station was the same as the past two years with a regular schedule of banding from sunrise to 9:00 A.M. plus evening banding on days of good movement. For the third year, both numbers and species were lower. There was a decrease in number of hours of banding (338 in 1972, 262 in 1973, and 181 this year). Birds per 100 net hours however were almost the same (84 in 1973, 83 this year).

The migration was quite unusual this year in this area in that there was little movement until the first week in October. The numbers of warblers usually netted in September arrived instead in October, which accounts for the higher species list for October rather than September as is usually the case (in 1973 51 species were banded in September and 39 in October, almost the reverse of this year). Only on Sept. 23-24 was there any noticeable movement. In October the entire first week was active in addition to good flights of sparrows on the 17th and 18th.

Overall warblers were less numerous than previous years. Thrushes were also lower except for Swainson's which had a station high of 19 (14 in 1973). The White-throated Sparrow was the most numerous species at the station with 124 birds banded followed by Gray Catbird (116) and Northern Yellowthroat (61). Four new species were added to the station list — Sharp-shinned Hawk, Black-billed Cuckoo, Long-billed Marsh Wren, and Worm-eating Warbler. This brings the total species list of the station since its start in 1971 to 90.

Thirteen Lincoln's Sparrows were a high for the station (9 in 1973) and other unusual birds included a male Connecticut Warbler in full breeding plumage on Sept. 10th and a Saw-whet Owl on Oct. 21st.

The drop in towhees noted last year did not occur again this year as 40 birds were banded (10 in 1973). Blue Jays did remain at low numbers (9 this year and 7 in 1973) while Black-capped Chickadees dropped to 21 from 34 in 1973. The Yellow-rumped Warbler, so common at most coastal stations, has remained the biggest surprise here; after a catch of

166 birds in 1972, numbers have dropped to 18 in 1973 and to only 4 this year.

Gateway National Recreational Area, Sandy Hook Unit, Highlands, N.J.

Davis H. Corkran and Waldron F. Kennison

Operations at the Sandy Hook station covered 15 banding days between August 31, and October 27. Banding was confined to weekends. Weather was slightly better than last year in that, over the same time span, four more banding days were realized this year. All birds were fully processed, i.e. weighed, fat classed, aged by skulling, wing measured, and sexed. Age ratio studies on selected species were continued.

1430 individuals of 75 species were banded this fall. This compares with 1623 individuals of 71 species the previous fall. This year, there were six days in which more than 100 were banded. These dates were Sept. 8 - 104; Sept. 15 - 170; Oct. 14 - 155; Oct. 19 - 245; and Oct. 20 - 214.

Most numerous species banded were: Myrtle Warbler 201; Golden-crowned Kinglet 172; American Redstart 150; Yellowthroat 103; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 80; Tree Swallow 48.

Seven returns were recorded. These were:

Species	Banded	Returned
Yellowthroat	Jun 4, 1972	Aug 31, 1974
Yellowthroat	May 25, 1974	Sep 15, 1974
R-s Towhee	May 18, 1974	Sep 15, 1974
R-s Towhee	May 25, 1974	Sep 21, 1974
Grey Catbird	Sep 22, 1973	Sep 22, 1974
House Wren	Jun 9, 1973	Sep 22, 1974
White-eyed Vireo	May 19, 1973	Sep 22, 1974

New species for this station this year were Pine Warbler, and Brown-headed Cowbird.

Mariedor Sanctuary, New Gretna, N.J. — John and Mary Schmid

After no banding in the 1972-1973 fall migrations due to a serious operation and several stays in the hospital, we resumed banding in September 1974. Now we look forward to more days and net hours for the 1975 record.

We did not use as many nets or have as many net hours as we did in 1963, but nevertheless we believe there were fewer birds migrating through our area in the fall of 1974. This was especially noticeable for catbirds and thrushes. Only 1 Veery, 14 Swainson's Thrush, 3 Gray-cheeked Thrush, 3 Wood Thrush and 5 Hermit Thrush were banded.

From 4 to 6 nets were used on 12 days in September, 17 days in October and 3 days in November for 848 net hours. There were 760 birds banded of 56 species. As in all former years, the most banded bird was the Myrtle Warbler (360). White-throated Sparrows, with 70 banded, replaced the Catbird, only 22 banded, which had been the second most numerous in other years. Robin was third with 23 banded. Only 1 bird was banded of the following species: Long-billed Marsh Wren, Carolina and House Wrens, Purple and House Finch, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Belted Kingfisher, Lincoln's and Chipping Sparrows, Brown Thrasher, Bay-breasted, Cape May and Blackpoll Warblers, and Solitary and Philadelphia Vireos.

Island Beach State Park — Herman W. Cooper

There were 39 days of banding beginning August 31 through November 3. During this period, a total of 6676 birds were banded of 99 species using 4025 net hours.

The best banding days, in numbers, were: September 15 — 554, of which 129 were American Redstarts; October 27 — 673, of which 236 were Song Sparrows; November 2 — 512, of which 183 were Dark-eyed Juncos and November 3 — 651, of which 218 were Dark-eyed Juncos.

The most birds banded were: Dark-eyed Junco with 734 followed by Gray Catbird — 512, White-throated Sparrow — 506, American Redstart — 488, Golden-crowned Kinglet — 431, Song Sparrow — 415, and Common Yellowthroat — 404.

Station banders were: Mary Doscher, Jesse Grant-ham, Will Merritt, John Miller, Sam Orr, Bob Pantle, Marge Pepper, Bill Pepper, Walt Protzman, Howard Spindelw, Jeff Spindelw, Hannah Suthers, Mabel Warburton, Bob Yunick, and Bud Cooper.

I wish to thank the banders who participate at Island Beach and also extend an invitation to other banders who may be interested.

Atlantic Flyway Review — Region IV

Donald F. Clark, Coordinator

Reports for the 1974 fall migration were received from all but one of the previous contributors. Allen Valentine of East Aurora, N.Y., was transferred to the Midwest during the year. We will miss his report but expect he will continue his activities for the Inland Bird Banding Association. Michael Hughes of Liverpool, N.Y., has submitted his first report of banding at Nine Mile Point, near Oswego, N.Y. Malcolm Lerch, a long-time bander, also reported this year for the first time from Penn Yan, N.Y. Reports from other banders in this region would be welcome.

This year's totals at most of the northern stations were significantly down. The southern stations had increased numbers with Allegheny Front having its most productive year ever. With the exception of Allegheny Front, contributors remarked that there were few major movements of birds and fewer cold fronts moving through the area. Mrs. Bradley Fisk perhaps said it best with her comment, "the weather was bland . . ."

Station summaries are as follows:

	Nine Mile Point N.Y.	Penn Yan N.Y.	Farmersville Station N.Y.	Presque Isle Pa.	Powdermill Pa.	Allegheny Front W.Va.	Long Beach N.C.	Homestead Fla.
Days of Operation	21	82	79	11	73	45	40	42
nets used	4-7	2-10	2-10	—	8-42	—	3-9	to 20
birds banded 1977	163	2847	642	815	4142	7171	399	1668
birds banded 1973	—	2816	814	1471	5482	4743	263	1348
diff. sp. 1974	42	85	65	63	98	73	46	64
Largest daily catch	42	—	32	177	223	660	41	60
Total net-hours	420	—	2091	982	13330	2522	2078	11500
Birds/100 n.h. 1974	39	—	24	83	31	284	19	15
Birds/100 n.h. 1973	—	—	26	95	41	144	18	17

Nine Mile Point — Oswego County — New York State — Michael Hughes

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	11	56				20
Sept.	10	107				33

For the first year, banding operations were undertaken at Nine Mile Point. The point is located on the south shore of Lake Ontario, co-ordinates 433-0762, and approximately one mile east of the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plant owned by Niagara Mohawk. The banding area is on a private tract of approximately seventy acres. Four mist nets were used in a path through second growth shrubs and trees with a peak height of eighteen feet. Three nets were later added in a path that is bordered by a field on one side and fifty foot deciduous trees on the other.

Banding activities were carried out from August 2nd to September 22nd with 21 days of coverage. Nets were usually opened at 06:00 and were closed at 11:00. Weekends were about the only available times for banding due to the 45 mile drive and outrageous gasoline prices. Banding was curtailed at an early date due to an impending arrival in the family.

Certain geographical difficulties present themselves at this station so far as fall migration is considered. Being on the south shore of a large body of water, birds moving from Canada southward have a tendency to fly over the banding area into deeper woods. Therefore, fall banding success is very limited.

Highlights of the season included 1 Golden-winged Warbler, 1 Hooded Warbler and the repeat situation involving 3 Black-capped Chickadees which were banded on 08/07 and recovered at varying dates in September. The Chickadees were banded as AHY-U and were originally thought to be moving because of the sudden incursion of Chickadees on that date and not having been seen again until early in September. The most unusual occurrence at the station during the period was the use of one of the aluminum poles by a Downy Woodpecker as a tree.

Deep appreciation is extended to those people who assisted, especially Gerald Smith and David Muir who put up with all of the changes in policy until things got straightened out. Most importantly I would like to thank Mr. Noyes, the owner of the tract, for his granting of permission and liberal

policies concerning this endeavor. Also, my poor pregnant wife, who never saw me.

The most commonly banded birds were: Red-eyed Vireo — 22, Black-capped Chickadee — 13, Catbird — 11, Song Sparrow — 11.

Penn Yan — Yates County — New York — Malcolm Lerch

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	27	878				54
Sept.	28	906				69
Oct.	27	1063				52

This banding station is located approximately one mile west of Penn Yan, N.Y. on Townline Road. From 2 to 20 nets are used at several locations. These include a brush lot with many hawthorns, buckthorns, and dogwoods; a small swampy woodlot; a brushy stream; and a typical backyard and garden.

A Brewster's Warbler was banded on 08-15-74.

The ten most commonly banded species were: Song Sparrow — 415, Magnolia Warbler — 150, W.T. Sparrow — 144, S.C. Junco — 126, Catbird — 125, Ruby-crowned Kinglet — 64, Hermit Thrush — 63, Tennessee Warbler — 61, B.C. Chickadee — 55, Swainson's Thrush — 50.

All banding was done by Malcolm Lerch assisted by his wife Izora.

Farmersville Station — Cattaraugus County — New York — Donald F. Clark

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	14	73	2	5		26
Sept.	21	253	6	26		48
Oct.	20	167	14	50		32
Nov.	24	149	47	82		10

This year, records were included for the month of November. Many sparrows continue their migration through the area during this month so were added to the station report.

It was a stable, flat migration. No peaks were recorded during the entire fall period. The largest number of birds banded on any one day was 32.

Five new birds were added to the fall migration banding records for this station. A Yellow-throated Vireo was banded in September, the first fall

sighting. A Red-tailed Hawk was banded the end of September and a Northern Shrike the first week in November. A Palm Warbler was netted the end of September. This was the first time one has ever been seen in the fall at this station. An early Evening Grosbeak was captured in November.

The migration was slow, few in numbers and very disappointing. All warblers were down. The thrushes and sparrows were also lower in numbers. No species were caught in higher numbers than average. This is the first year traps were used in addition to nets for the fall migration period. 140 of the 642 birds banded were caught in a maze trap plus 5 Potter traps.

A Black-capped Chickadee #1300-37765 banded on 09-29-73 was netted and released by Bruce Penrod at Delevan, N.Y. on 02-09-74. This is about 15 miles to the northwest of the banding site.

The ten most commonly banded birds were: Tree Sparrow — 111, W.T. Sparrow — 77, Catbird — 38, Song Sparrow — 34, B.C. Chickadee — 32, Magnolia Warbler — 31, S.C. Junco — 30, Field Sparrow — 24, R.E. Vireo — 21, Blue Jay — 13.

All banding was done by Donald Clark assisted by his wife, Jane.

Presque Isle State Park — Erie, Pennsylvania — Ronald Leberman

Month	New Birds		New Birds/		
	Days Banded	Banded	Returns	Repeats	100 Net-hours Species
Aug.	1	20			
Sept.	7	394			
Oct.	3	401			

Bird banding resumed at Presque Isle August 24 this fall with a total of eleven days. This is about five days shorter than average and is the result of relatively bad weekend weather and little vacation time.

The water level of Lake Erie and Erie Bay was down slightly this fall bringing our net lanes to near normal condition. The last two seasons they had been flooded. Plant food and insect food supply was as good as past years or better. Migration was slow, with no major movements noted. Our best day, October 5, produced only 177 birds. That is a six-year low. No new species were netted and no unusual numbers recorded. No S.C. Juncos were netted for the first time in thirteen years of operations although they were present in usual numbers.

The ten most commonly banded birds were: R.C. Kinglet — 99, W.T. Sparrow — 89, Swainson's Thrush — 60, Hermit Thrush — 51, Brown Creeper — 49, Magnolia Warbler — 48, Winter Wren — 37, G.C. Kinglet — 37, R.E. Vireo — 29, *Semipalmated Sandpiper* — 29.

This is the first year a shorebird has made the top ten.

Banding was done by Mary N. Leberman, Ronald Leberman and Mr. and Mrs. James G. Stull.

Powdermill Nature Reserve — Rector, Pennsylvania — Robert C. Leberman

Month	New Birds		New Birds/		
	Days Banded	Banded	Returns	Repeats	100 Net-hours Species
Aug.	27	541	152		56
Sept.	24	1919	191		75
Oct.	22	1682	200		70

At Powdermill the 1974 fall banding totals were down from most recent years. To some extent this resulted from a 7% decline in total banding effort, with less help available to tend the nets on weekends; but the birds per net hour ratio was also 23.6% lower than in 1973. Much of the decline can be attributed to local weather conditions that apparently permitted many birds to pass over the region without a stopover. During this autumn fewer than the usual number of cold fronts passed through the area to produce the "wave" effect. Most of the usual species were present at their expected times, but their flights were rather evenly spaced throughout the duration of their migratory periods and there were few large concentrations.

Since publication of the 1973 review we have received one additional recovery of an autumn banded bird. An American Woodcock #963-98521 banded on October 16, 1971 was shot by a hunter near Roaring Branch in southeastern Tioga County, Pennsylvania on October 19, 1974. The recovery locality is approximately 150 miles northeast of the Reserve. From 1962 through 1974 we have netted a total of 50 woodcocks at Powdermill. To date there have been four encounters of the species away from this station, all shot by hunters for a recovery rate of 8%.

As in the past I was able to be in the field for the entire autumn banding period. Mr. A.C. Lloyd helped with the field work on many weekends, and Dr. Mary H. Clench, Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes and Mrs. Helen Brownlee also deserve special thanks for their work with the project.

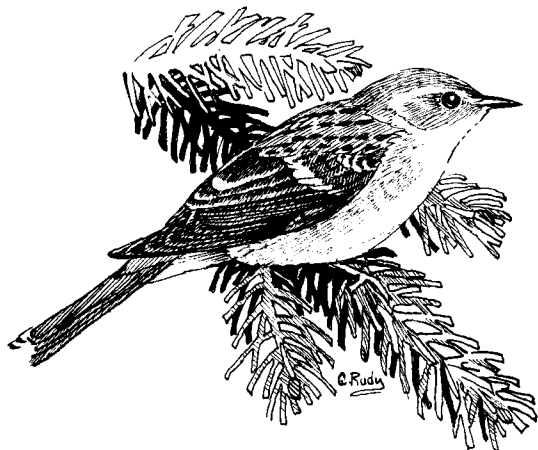
The ten most commonly banded birds were: Common Yellowthroat — 265, R.C. Kinglet — 196, W.T. Sparrow — 194, Swainson's Thrush — 179, Song Sparrow — 166, Am. Redstart — 164, Catbird — 159, Magnolia Warbler — 153, Least Flycatcher — 145, Myrtle Warbler — 123.

Allegheny Front Migration Observatory — Grant County — West Virginia — George A. Hall

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Aug.	4					
Sept.	30					
Oct.	11					

Almost everything about the seventeenth year of bird banding on Allegheny Front Mountain on the border between Grant and Tucker Counties, West Virginia has to be said in superlatives. This was far and away the most productive year of all, and some of the catches bordered on the fantastic. The station was manned for four days in August, thirty days in September and eleven days in October. Rain forced the suspension of one day's operation in August, and an early season cold wave brought sub-freezing weather, high winds, and two inches of snow on October 2 and 3 causing a shutdown on those days. This coverage, which was not the heaviest we have had, resulted in a total of 7171 birds banded in a station effort of 2522 net-hours, giving a capture ratio of 2843 birds per 1000 net-hours. This ratio was twice that of last year, and the total number of captures far exceeded the previous record high of 4743 in 1973.

The day of greatest numbers banded was September 16 on which 660 birds were banded. Never before has such a number been reached in



one day. On 25 days the number of captures exceeded 100, on five days it exceeded 200, on four days it exceeded 300, and on four days it exceeded 400. These large catches were due in part to the fact that with lots of help present at all times, a maximum number of nets were used on each day. But this would account for only a fraction of the increase. There can be no doubt that an unusually heavy warbler migration went past this station in this year.

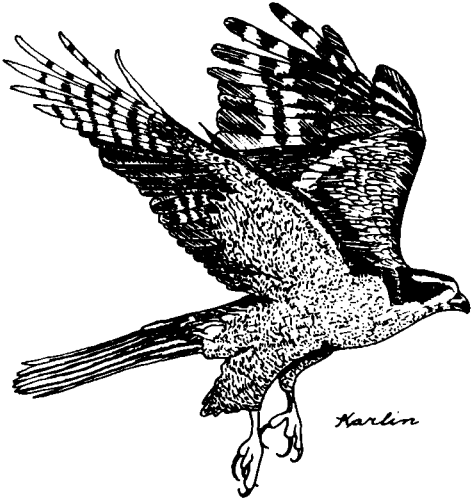
The migration followed a familiar pattern with a pronounced peak in captures August 31 - September 1 followed by a long period in early September with relatively low capture numbers. From September 11 to September 20 the real peak occurred, ten days to two weeks earlier than usual. During this ten day period 3128 birds were banded. There was another big flight on September 25-26 and a final big wave on October 4-5 (after the cold snap) when 911 birds were banded.

Two new species, Carolina Wren and Chipping Sparrow, were added to the station list this year, bringing that to 107. The total birds banded at this station is now 33,553. Two birds banded in other years were retaken, a Black-capped Chickadee banded in 1973 and a Dark-eyed Junco banded originally in 1970 which has repeated each fall since then.

A long list of species was captured in record high numbers. In some cases the numbers caught this season exceeded the total caught in all previous years. The outstanding bird of the season was the Cape May Warbler. Until a few years ago this species did not figure large in the station totals. But over the last five years it has increased remarkably. Three daily counts exceeded 100 birds, 345 on September 16, 127 on August 31, and 116 on September 15. The Blackpoll Warbler, however, continued to be the station leader and it had daily catches of 287 on September 26, 120 on October 5 and 103 on October 6. Five species — the above two, Tennessee, Black-throated Blue and Black-throated Green — accounted for 65% of the captures.

Especially noteworthy were the 32 Winter Wrens (the cumulative total before this year was only 49) and the 25 Connecticut Warblers (which had tallied only 40 in the 16 previous years).

Besides the warblers, both kinglet species and the Brown Creeper staged unusually heavy flights. On the otherhand one notes that very few flycatchers were caught, vireos were not abundant — although the Philadelphia Vireo had a nice flight — and Gray-cheeked Thrushes were essentially absent.



The usually heavy Blue Jay flight along the mountain was not as heavy as usual and this is reflected in the rather low catch of this species. As in other years large numbers of Cedar Waxwings flew by but few are ever caught.

In addition to the banding season in 1974 some progress has been made in analyzing the data of earlier years. As mentioned in the 1973 report we have been interested in the differential migration of age classes. The 1973 data showed very nicely that HY Black-throated Blue Warblers migrate earlier than do AHYs, but that the two age classes of Blackpoll Warblers come together. It appears, but has not been proven, that in the Blackburnian Warbler migration the AHY birds come earlier. The work will continue and it is hoped that one or two papers can be written on this in the next year. As many of the readers of this report already know, a paper describing the warbler migration at this point was given at the XVth International Ornithological Congress in Canberra, Australia, in August of this year.

One of the additional features of this year's operation was the public demonstrations of banding techniques given to the many visitors to the station. This work, done largely by Clark Miller and John Linehan, was thoroughly enjoyed by several hundred people. Each year the station draws more visitors.

In addition to co-leaders Ralph Bell and George Hall, the other banders who participated were Connie Katholi, Maxine Kiff, John Linehan, Clark Miller, Avis Newell, Frances Pope, Anne Shreve and John Willetts. John and Genevieve Findley again this year acted as chief net-tenders. Howard

Heimerdinger helped John Findley clear the net lanes in August and then was unable to remain for the season.

The following people aided in tending nets, collecting birds and keeping records: Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ashworth, Sue Burke, Bill Burke, Sue Edmonds, Helen Evans, Walter Fye, Betty Gatewood, Donald Pattison, Bill Katholi, Kathy Klimkiewicz, Betty Linehan, George Mayfield, Carol McCullough, Fred McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Morecraft, Bill Oberman, Carl Rowe, Harvey Shreve, Ethel Surman, Jim Surman, Leon Wilson, Norris Gluck, Bill Wylie, April Fern Wylie, Joyce Wylie and other Wylie daughters.

Our most sincere thanks to all these people and any others whose names have been omitted by inadvertance or ignorance.

The ten most commonly banded birds were: Blackpoll Warbler — 1316, Cape May Warbler — 1224, Tennessee Warbler — 913, Black-throated Blue — 769, Black-throated Green — 406, Bay-breasted Warbler — 354, Blackburnian Warbler — 246, Swainson's Thrush — 243, Yellowthroat — 194, Magnolia Warbler — 148.

Long Beach, North Carolina — Samuel R. and Isabel H. Tipton

Month	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	New Birds/100 Net-hours	Species
Sept.	13	65				22
Oct.	15	168				29
Nov.	12	166				17

Our banding station on Oak Island, on the southeastern coast of North Carolina near the mouth of the Cape Fear River, has now been open for two full years of banding. We use the same net lanes reported in our 1973 summary: 3-9 nets and 1-8 traps in woods bordering on a salt water marsh about 400 yards back of sand dunes on the beach strand. Our nets and traps were open for a total of 40 days between September 1 and November 23. Our best days were October 2 (41 birds of 13 species), October 8 (26 birds of 10 species), September 30 (24 birds of 8 species), November 23 (34 birds of 5 species) and November 6 (50 birds of 1 species). We banded 122 individuals of 18 species we believe to be birds migrating through the area. Of these birds 93% were hatching year birds.

Last year we reported that few birds in fall migration came through our woods at net levels. However, this year there was a definite migration,

but it lasted for only a few days and there were small numbers of birds netted and seen.

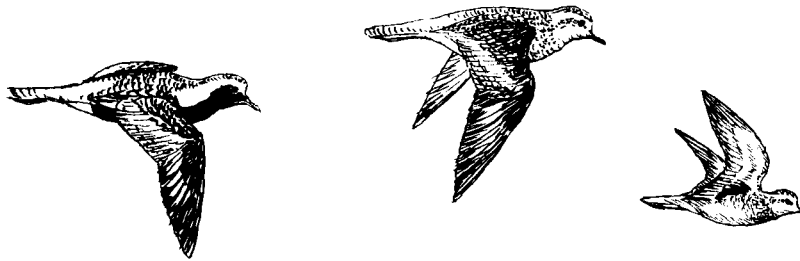
The ten most commonly banded birds were: Myrtle Warblers — 125, Catbird — 47, Yellowthroat — 38, Am. Redstart — 29, W.T. Sparrow — 23, Blue Jay — 12, R.S. Towhee — 12, House Wren — 10, Cardinal — 9, Brown Thrasher — 8.

Homestead, Florida — Erma J. Fisk

1974 was my 7th year of banding in the same habitats of woods, scrub weed trees, field and a small artificial pond about my cottage, one mile north of Homestead, Florida. I increased my nets to 20, my net hours to 11,500 (plus or minus) but the usual number of warblers were notably absent, and my biggest day of 60 birds compared to

previous "Big Days" of 100-120. Although my species count was average, I took only one or two of many usual species. 12 species of migrants and the R.S. Towhee were significantly down from the average of former years. 7 species were significantly up. The weather was bland except for a four-day northeast storm at the beginning of October which probably blew migrants of that period clear to the other side of the peninsula. 1 Canada Warbler and 1 fall Blackpoll Warbler were unusual bandings for south Florida. A rare banding was the single *Rufous Hummingbird*.

The six most commonly banded birds were: Catbird — 681, Painted Bunting — 89, American Redstart — 86, Ovenbird — 83, Veery — 77, Black-throated Blue — 61.



NSF workshop

The National Science Foundation is supporting a two-year project, sponsored by the American Ornithologists' Union, entitled "A Workshop on a National Plan for Ornithology."

The Workshop, financially administered by Washington State University and coordinated by James R. King and Walter J. Bock, will include 25 participants from throughout the United States and Canada. Its purpose is to inventory the resources, both intellectual and physical, of North American ornithology, to identify current strengths and weaknesses, and to recommend guidelines for its future development and support.

The first conference session of the Workshop will convene at the 94th Stated Meeting of the AOU, at Philadelphia, in August 1976. This will be followed by two meetings of each of the six Workshop panels (The Role of the Ornithological Societies and the Amateur Ornithologist; Ornithological Educa-

tion; Communications Resources; Special Data Banks; and Obtaining and Utilizing Birds), and will conclude with a final conference meeting for the integration and summary of results in a report to the National Science Foundation and the ornithological community at large.

Part of the Workshop inventory will consist of a questionnaire to be circulated as widely as possible among North American ornithologists. The success of the Workshop will be greatly aided by thoughtful and thorough responses from professionals and amateurs alike. An important goal of the Workshop will be an assessment of the role of the amateur ornithologists, who are a vital but underutilized scientific resource.

The Workshop plan was originated by the AOU, but it is to be hoped that it will be regarded as a joint effort of all of the ornithological societies and of the ornithological community at large. It represents a unique opportunity for introspection, critical assessment, and identification of future directions.