



Western Regional News

Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

President Dr. Martha H. Balph
Dept. of Wildlife Science, Utah State Univ.
Logan, UT 84322

First Vice President Dr. Charles H. Trost
Dept. of Zoology, Idaho State Univ.
Pocatello, ID 83209

Second Vice President Dr. Carl D. Marti
Dept. of Zoology, Weber State College
Ogden, UT 84408

Secretary Jane Church
P.O. Box 423, Sonoita, AZ 85637

Treasurer Shirley Spidler
3975 N. Pontatoc Rd., Tucson, AZ 85718

Editor Eleanor L. Radke
P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331

Directors at large Dr. Ralph Moldenhauer (term expires 1981)
Dr. Martin McNicholl (term expires 1982)

Editorial Staff

Recent Literature Dr. Martin K. McNicholl
Auxiliary Markings Jon L. Atwood

Worksheets Dr. Charles T. Collins
Annual Report Fern R. Tainter

Advisory & Review Board

Dr. Keith A. Arnold Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt
Dr. Charles T. Collins Willis C. Royall, Jr.

Applications for membership in the Western Bird Banding Association should be sent to the Treasurer. All classes of membership receive *North American Bird Bander*, the joint publication of Eastern Bird Banding Association and Western Bird Banding Association. Membership classifications are: Active Member, \$8.00 per year; Associate Member, \$8.00 per year; Sustaining Member, \$16.00 per year; Student Member, \$6.00 per year; Non-Subscribing Member, \$3.00 per year; Life Member, \$200.00. Outside the U.S., add \$2.00 to each membership except Life Member.

From the President

Most societies such as ours hold annual meetings. These meetings serve a variety of functions that include the conduct of society business, exchange of scientific information among participants, and visits among friends who share similar interests. As the time for WBBA's annual meeting approaches, I believe all of us should give some thought to the question of how well our meetings serve banders' needs and how WBBA's meetings might be improved. In this message I shall address myself to this concern by considering the following points:

1. What should be the content of our meetings? WBBA's annual meeting traditionally has consisted of a business meeting, papers session, report from the BBL, banquet, and field trip. We may wish to consider changing or expanding this general format. For example, Donald Radke has suggested that the meeting also include banding workshops and vendor displays. Such additions might make our annual meetings more interesting for banders and perhaps encourage increased attendance.

2. Where should our meetings be held? In the recent past, choice of an annual meeting site has been dictated by several considerations (beyond the obvious one of finding a willing host). One aim has been to try to maximize attendance by planning meetings at locations close to bander population centers — for example, in California. It also has been felt, however, that annual meeting sites should be representative of the WBBA region as a whole; thus, meetings held occasionally in outlying areas (such as Utah) have been thought to be appropriate. Faced as we now are by rising travel costs and the specter of energy shortages, should WBBA hold its annual meetings more frequently (perhaps even exclusively) in central areas? or do the benefits of meetings held in more remote parts of the WBBA region outweigh their potential inconvenience and greater financial cost to members?

3. When should our meetings be held? WBBA often has scheduled its annual meeting in the spring. One benefit is that, in many areas, the season provides superior birding opportunities. However, spring may not be the most convenient time for many WBBA members to attend a meeting. Perhaps some would prefer that annual meetings be held in the summer, when job schedules are less hectic or when vacation trips can be combined

with travel to the meeting. A further point to consider is, should we schedule the annual meeting at roughly the same time every year, or should we aim to vary its timing from one year to another?

4. Should we continue to hold some of our meetings jointly with other societies? and if so, how often? In recent years, WBBA has held most of its annual meetings separately from those of other ornithological societies. Periodically, however, we have scheduled joint meetings with other organizations, primarily the Cooper Ornithological Society. Charlie Collins has pointed out some of the benefits that such interaction can afford (NABB 3:41). WBBA's meeting last year with the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies was, I think, especially valuable in this regard, as it provided an opportunity for us to interact with banders and ornithologists from eastern as well as western areas.

Since these issues will be discussed in relation to plans for the 1982 meeting during our upcoming meeting at El Coronado Ranch, I'd appreciate hearing your opinions on the questions I have raised above. Your written comments and suggestions would be welcome; or, better yet, plan to come to El Coronado in April (see meeting announcement in this issue) and participate in the discussion.

Martha Balph



Correction to the 1979 Annual Report

On page 80 of NABB 5(2), 253 Pine Grosbeaks banded in Colorado by Dr. Ronald A. Ryder should read 253 Pine Siskins.

WBBA's 1981 Annual Meeting



WBBA's 1981 Annual Meeting has been scheduled to intercept spring in southeastern Arizona on 17-19 April. We will meet at El Coronado Ranch, a University of Arizona facility, on Turkey Creek in the Chiricahua Mountains. The Ranch is 120 miles southeast of Tucson and will provide meals, lodging, and meeting rooms.

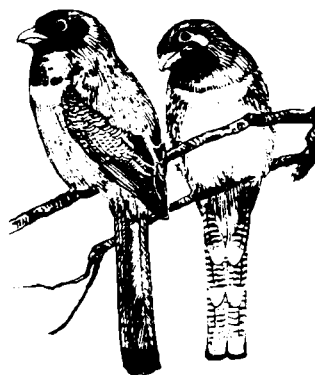
The program for Saturday includes a papers session and a short business meeting. Those wishing to present papers should send the pertinent information, including approximate time for presentation and equipment needed, to Dr. Stephen M. Russell, Program Chairman, by 1 April 1981. Dr. Russell's address is: Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, BioScience East Bldg., University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

We will be housed in a large, rustic old lodge overlooking a pond. Home-cooked meals are \$4.00 per person/night. Daytimes should be warm, but at 5600 ft elevation the nights will be chilly.

The Ranch is in oak woodlands and should produce a variety of local species including Mexican Jay, Bridled Titmouse, and Arizona Woodpecker. Field trips to higher and lower elevations can add Mexican Chickadee, Red-faced and Olive Warblers, Painted Redstart, Black-throated Sparrow, Curve-billed Thrasher, and many more.

Tucson is served by most airlines, Amtrak, and buses. Transportation from Tucson to the Ranch and back can be arranged by rented van (approximately \$15 per person for the weekend).

A packet of more detailed information will be sent to all pre-registrants. Please fill out the enclosed pre-registration form and send it with your \$3.00 fee at your earliest convenience.



Significant encounters with banded birds

House Finch. 81-29891. Banded as U-F by Chester E. Kebbe at Portland, OR on 9 December 1972. Retrapped at same location on 24 March 1979. At least 7 years old; no previous returns.

House Finch. 70-11711. Banded as AHY-F by Charles van Riper at Puu Laau, HI in August 1973. Renetted at same location (same net site) in October 1979. At least 7 years old; no previous returns.

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches. 1161-13972 (double-banded 1181-72464 on 14 January 1980) and 1161-13981. Banded as U-M and U-F by John Sarvis at Izembek N.W.R., Cold Bay, AK on 5-6 December 1973. Retrapped at same location on 14 and 17 January 1980, respectively. At least 6½ years old; several previous returns apiece.

Pine Siskin. 1430-39219. Banded as AHY-U by P.R.B.O., 5 km northwest of Bolinas, CA on 19 January 1978. Caught by cat at Tacoma, WA on 20 April 1978.

Green-tailed Towhee. 741-51723. Banded as U-U by Eleanor L. Radke at Cave Creek, AZ on 16 September 1972. Retrapped at same location on 18 October 1979. At least 7 years old; 3 previous returns.

Rufous-sided Towhee. 92-80341. Banded as HY-U by P.R.B.O., 5 km northwest of Bolinas, CA on 10 November 1971. Renetted at same location on 11 October 1979. Male, 8 years old; several previous returns.

Lark Sparrow. 101-173186. Banded as HY-U by L. Richard Mewaldt at San Jose, CA on 16 September 1970. Retrapped at same location on 23 September 1979. 9 years old; no previous returns.

Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco. 81-74219. Banded as ASY-M by L. Richard Mewaldt at San Jose, CA on 5 March 1972. Retrapped at same location on 15 February 1979. At least 8½ years old; no previous returns.

(Gambel's) White-crowned Sparrow. 1121-41554. Banded as HY-U by L. Richard Mewaldt at San Jose, CA on 31 December 1971. Retrapped at same location on 12 October 1979. Male, 8 years old; 4 previous returns.

(Gambel's) White-crowned Sparrow. 1211-21513. Banded as SY-U by Charles E. Corchran at Tucson, AZ on 8 February 1979. Found dead at Kamloops, B.C. on 28 April 1979.

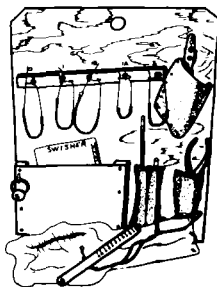
(Puget Sound) White-crowned Sparrow. 1121-41563. Banded as ASY-M by L. Richard Mewaldt at San Jose, CA on 15 January 1972. Retrapped at same location on 23 February 1979. At least 8½ years old; no previous returns.

Golden-crowned Sparrow. 771-92413. Banded as AHY-U by Ruth Troetschler at Los Altos, CA on 11 March 1973. Retrapped at same location on 25 March 1979. Male, at least 7 years old; no previous returns.

Lincoln's Sparrow. 880-75814. Banded as HY-U by B.C. Provincial Museum at Haney, B.C. on 5 September 1978. Netted at Stikine Flats, AK on 6 June 1979.

Song Sparrow. 78-32691. Banded as HY-U by P.R.B.O., 5 km northwest of Bolinas, CA on 20 October 1972. Renetted at same location on 22 October 1979. Male, 7 years old; several previous returns.

Snow Bunting. 1091-93079 (double-banded 1131-72306 on 26 January 1979). Banded as U-M by John Sarvis at Izembek N.W.R., Cold Bay, AK on 27 December 1970. Retrapped at same location on 19 March 1979. At least 9 years old; several previous returns (see N.A.B.B. 3:91).



E.B.B.A. and W.B.B.A. present . . .

EBBA Mist Nets are available in the sizes listed below. Please write for order blank. Checks must accompany order. All orders are shipped UPS. There is a 50¢ handling charge on all orders under \$10.00. Please have a local address, not a Post Office box number. Pennsylvania residents, add 6% sales tax. Make checks payable to EBBA Net Account. Order from: EBBA Net Committee, Biology Dept., Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15701.

Mesh	Length								
	5 Meters			9 Meters			12 Meters		
	Sust	Act	Non Mem	Sust	Act	Non Mem	Sust	Act	Non Mem
Regulation Nylon Nets									
1 ¼	5.80	6.05	6.55				10.50	11.30	12.25
1 ½	4.15	4.30	4.65				7.45	7.80	8.50
2 ½							8.50	8.85	9.65

Nylon Tethered-Top Nets

1 ¼		8.85	9.25	10.10	11.75	12.30	13.40
1 ½		6.85	7.15	7.75	8.50	8.90	9.70
1 ¼ x 2.6 cm					11.75	12.30	13.40

Polyester Tethered-Top Nets

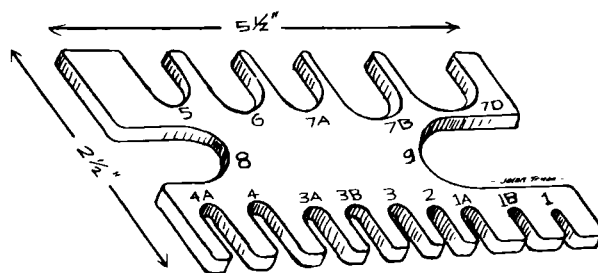
1 ¼		11.25	11.80	12.80	15.30	16.00	17.40
1 ½		9.10	9.50	10.30	12.60	13.15	14.30

Sust—Sustaining member
Act—Active member
Non Mem—Not a member of EBBA

Verbal Traps: Mr. C.H. Channing has retired from his verbal trap business and has instructed me in the techniques of verbal construction. I am taking over his operation and you may now order these traps from me. Kindly enclose a copy of your Federal Banding Permit with your order. Price: \$15.00 each. Orders should be mailed to Peter H. Bloom, 13611 Hewes Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705.

EBBA Patches and Decals: Available from EBBA Net Committee, Biology Dept., Indiana Univ. of Penna., Indiana, PA 15701. Both are 3" diameter, green on white background. Patches \$1.00 each, ppd; Decals 60¢ ppd. Special price: Five Patches and Five Decals \$6.60 ppd. Pay by check or money order made out to Eastern Bird Banding Association.

Leg Gauge: For proper determination of band sizes. Accurately machined slots correspond to inside diameter of all band sizes from 1 thru 9. The easy-to-use gauge allows pre-selection of correct band thus eliminating the difficult job of removing improper fitting bands. Made of durable plastic, 2 ½ x 5 ½, with engraved lettering. Price: \$6.00 ppd. in USA.



Order from: Len Soucy, 1390 White Bridge Rd., Millington, N.J. 07946



Banding Pliers: These 6 ½" long-nose pliers have holes bored in the jaws to fit standard band sizes, so as to make it easy to get a perfect fit. This avoids the danger of lapped bands, which may injure the leg if not corrected, and which are troublesome to remove even with good tools. There is a split pin on the top of the plier which enables the user to open a band evenly with one operation. A spring on the side of the plier provides tension to keep the opened band in the plier while handling the bird. While new banders may welcome such pliers to increase their confidence in attaching the band, many experienced banders have shown interest in the pliers in order to handle birds more rapidly at peak times.

Pliers for band sizes 0, 1, 1B, & 1A \$11.50
Pliers for band sizes 2 & 3 \$11.50
Pliers for band sizes 3B & 3A \$11.00

These prices include postage within the continental U.S. Orders should be sent to Roger N. MacDonald, 850 Main Street, Lynnfield, MA 01940.