



# Western Regional News

## Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

### Officers

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	<i>Editor</i>	Eleanor L. Radke P.O. Box 446 Cave Creek, AZ 85331	

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<i>Worksheets</i>	Dr. Charles T. Collins		Dr. Charles T. Collins
<i>Annual Report</i>	Van Truan		Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt
			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*. 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., postage must be added to each membership except Life Member.

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## President's Message

The annual meeting of WBBA in Albuquerque, New Mexico was held in conjunction with WBBA's parent organization, the Cooper Ornithological Society.

J. David Ligon chaired the host committee and deserves a special thank you from WBBA for his efforts. Meeting in conjunction with COS gave banders access to many presentations, including George A. Hall's long-time banding studies in the Appalachians, and a special symposium on the value of long-term studies, a topic of obvious interest to banders. WBBA presented a banding demonstration, with former President L. Richard (Dick) Mewaldt demonstrating proper netting techniques, Past President Charles T. (Charlie) Collins showing us how to get nets up into the canopy — without too much difficulty in getting the birds down to band — and Secretary Robert C. (Bob) Tweit indicating some ways in which the computer can help banders. These gentlemen were all kind enough to repeat their presentations on a second day for those who missed the initial demonstration.

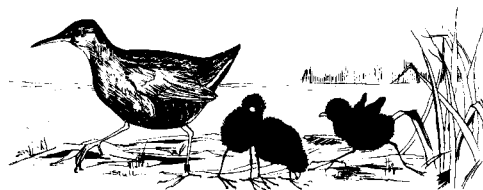
The WBBA annual meeting was fairly well attended, with EBBA Editor, Nadia (Mickie) Mutchler, present as a special guest. Besides Collins and Mewaldt, former Presidents in attendance included Martha Balph and Howard Cogswell. We welcome Martha back on to the Board, along with newcomer, Michael Rigney. The next President's Message will contain details of actions taken, primarily in the (unfortunate) necessity of raising dues and some proposed by-law revisions. An important highlight was the announcement conveyed by Selection Committee Chairman, Robert C. Leberman, of the selection of Thomas A. Stierhoff of Flagstaff, Arizona as the recipient of the 1983 WBBA grant. We look forward to reading the results of Mr. Stierhoff's project, "Cooperative breeding in the Western Bluebird."

A running theme of my messages last year concerned the importance of long-term banding studies at fixed stations. The New Mexico meeting gave us all a chance to learn about one such station. Chuck Hundertmark spoke on the aims, efforts, and results to date of the banding program of the Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque; many of us visited the center the next day.

WBBA members who were not able to attend this year will have a chance to see two banding stations in operation in 1984. We shall be meeting at the newly-established South San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory near San Jose, California with a trip to the long-established and highly successful Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Details will be announced as they fall into place but, for now, keep Easter and the weeks before and after open until we settle the exact date. We hope to see many members there!

Members who cannot travel to New Mexico or California need not feel left in the dark about the activities of banding stations in WBBA territory. WBBA Editor, Eleanor Radke, has invited about 30 stations in our area to contribute station reports — generally along the lines long given by EBBA and recently initiated by IBBA. If your station was not included in the invitation, please write to Eleanor and ask for the excellent package of guidelines prepared by her and Steve Russell. The station reports will not be complete until every province and state in WBBA territory is represented!

Martin K. McNicholl



## Worksheets for western birds

Ageing/Sexing worksheets for western birds are mailed as published with NABB, to Western Bird Banding Association members only. They are, however, available to anyone interested. For each worksheet desired, send 25 cents (or \$1.00 for any five worksheets) to Mrs. Donald F. Radke, P.O. Box 446, Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

The following species sheets have been issued: Merlin, Harris' Hawk, Scaled Quail, California Quail, Gambel's Quail, Mountain Quail, Common Snipe, Band-tailed

Pigeon, key to kingbirds, Eastern Kingbird, Tropical Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Cassin's Kingbird, Myarchis flycatchers, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, Yellow-billed Magpie, Roadrunner, Clark's Nutcracker, Verdin, Bushtit, Varied Thrush, gnatcatchers, Orange-crowned Warbler, waterthrushes, *Oporornis* warblers, Tricolored Blackbird, Western Tanager, Summer Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Cassin's Finch, American Goldfinch, Lesser Goldfinch, towhees, White-crowned Sparrow.

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# Significant encounters with banded birds

Edited by Philip M. Walters and Martha H. Balph

## II. Passerines

**Ash-throated Flycatcher.** 1171-28330. Banded as AHY-U by David R. Bontrager at Starr Ranch Audubon Sanctuary, CA on 25 May 1975. Renetted at same location on 7 June 1981. Male, at least 7 years old; 5 previous returns.

**Black Phoebe.** 850-53119. Banded as AHY-U by David Bontrager at Starr Ranch Audubon Sanctuary, CA on 4 May 1974. Renetted at same location on 6 June 1981. At least 8 years old; no previous returns.

**Cliff Swallow.** 78-32534. Banded as AHY-M by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 26 June 1976. Renetted at same location on 15 May 1981. At least 6 years old; no previous returns.

**Steller's Jay.** 543-77498. Banded as ASY-U by Howard L. Cogswell at Hayward, CA on 2 April 1977. Retrapped at same location on 4 April 1981. At least 6 years old; 2 previous returns.

**Scrub Jay.** 873-52289. Banded as HY-U by Howard L. Cogswell at Hayward, CA on 9 October 1979. Caught by cat at San Leandro, CA (7 km northwest of banding site) on 21 April 1980.

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee.** 1420-41022. Banded as HY-U by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 19 June 1976. Renetted at same location on 25 January 1981. Female, 4½ years old; several previous returns.

**Bridled Titmouse.** 29-27154. Banded as U-U by Sally H. Spofford at Portal, AZ on 5 December 1976. Retrapped at same location on 17 December 1981. At least 5½ years old; no previous returns.

**American Robin.** 692-80270. Banded as AHY-F by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 14 May 1976. Renetted at same location on 21 July 1981. At least 6 years old; 1 previous return.

**Hermit Thrush.** 78-31365. Banded as AHY-U by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 27 January 1976. Renetted at same location on 30 January 1981. At least 5½ years old; no previous returns.

**Hermit Thrush.** 78-32349. Banded as HY-U by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 12 October 1976. Renetted at same location on 3 November 1981. 5½ years old; several previous returns.

**Swainson's Thrush.** 110-114983. Banded as U-U by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 7 May 1975. Renetted at same location on 13 May 1981. Male, at least 6 years old; 1 previous return.

**Swainson's Thrush.** 110-115915. Banded as AHY-M by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 29 June 1976. Renetted at same location on 23 June 1981. At least 6 years old; no previous returns.

**Swainson's Thrush.** 110-115956. Banded as AHY-U by P.R.B.O. at Bolinas, CA on 17 July 1976. Renetted at same location on 13 May 1981. Male, at least 6 years old; no previous returns.

**Orange-crowned Warbler.** 1300-51982. Banded as HY-U by Fern R. Tainter at San Luis Obispo, CA on 28 September 1976. Recovered by S. Perala at Kenai N.W.R., AK on 4 June 1982. 6 years old.

**Virginia's Warbler.** 1260-48720. Banded as U-U by D. Archibald McCallum at Cottonwood Gulch, NM on 1 August 1977. Renetted at same location on 29 July 1981. Male, at least 4 years old; 2 previous returns.

**Painted Redstart.** 27-29141. Banded as AHY-U by Sally H. Spofford at Portal, AZ on 30 January 1975. Retrapped at same location on 3 January 1981. At least 6½ years old; 5 previous returns (see also N.A.B.B. 4:143 and 6:125). (S.H.S. reports that this color-banded bird, a "regular" at her feeding station for 6 winters, was not seen again after January 1981.)

**Yellow-headed Blackbird.** 732-15588. Banded as AHY-M by John Cummings at Upham, ND on 17 August 1980. Shot at Jaral Del Progreso, Guanajuato, Mexico on 22 October 1980.

**Common Grackle.** 743-79784. Banded as AHY-M by John Cummings at Denver, CO on 6 May 1976. Found dead at Wheatridge, CO on 13 May 1981. At least 6 years old.

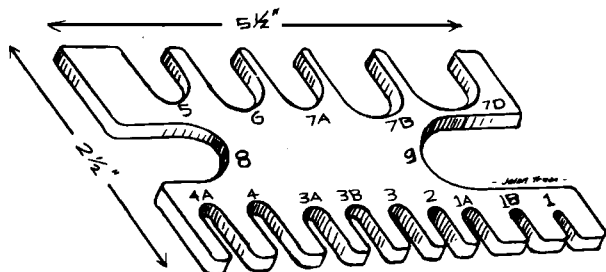
**Rufous-crowned Sparrow.** 81-45164. Banded as AHY-U by Howard L. Cogswell at Hayward, CA on 13 March 1978. Retrapped at same location on 4 April 1981. Female, at least 4 years old; 1 previous return.

**Golden-crowned Sparrow.** 1231-43985. Banded as HY-U by Ralph B. Williams near Juneau, AK in the spring of 1981. Tarsus, with band, found in coyote feces along the McKenzie River, Lane Co., OR in the fall of 1981.

# Banders' Marketplace

For advertising information and rates, contact Jan Truan, Advertising Manager, 3314 W. Glenn Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85021.

**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, 2½ x 5½, with engraved lettering. Price: \$6.00 ppd. in U.S.A.



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

**McCamey Chickadee Trap:** A precision-made trap, 6" x 8" x 12" made of welded wire. Priced at \$12.00 each, plus shipping. Please give a street or R.R. box number for delivery. Also Bal-chatri **Kestrel** and **Raptor** traps. Send for brochure. Order from Donald E. Payne, 34886 Mathews Road, Eugene, Oregon 97405.

**Attention bird (watching) clubs:** If you are tired of having to hand-write addresses on your newsletters or other mailings, we can help you. We will maintain your mailing list and update it at your instruction, furnish labels (in ABC or ZIP sort order), furnish reports of addresses on file, etc. We prefer small organizations (approx. 50-400 members). Reasonable rates. Inquire: Shepherd Consultant Services, c/o Frederick S. Schaeffer, 84-55 Daniels St., Jamaica, NY 11435.

**Bander's Gift:** ... to give or to receive. Handcrafted miniature Potter Traps — single cell, made to scale.

16-gauge, vinyl-clad welding wire, ½" x 1" mesh. Aluminum hardware.

16-gauge, galvanized welding wire, ½" x 1" mesh. Galvanized hardware.

**Please send for prices:** J.A. ImBrogno, 22 Westmoreland Drive, Monessen, PA 15062

**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 \$0.50 handling charge on all orders under \$10.00. Please give 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	Mem	Sust	Act	Mem	Sust	Act	Mem
<b>Regulation Nylon Nets</b>									
1¼	6.75	7.35	7.65				11.15	12.15	12.65
1½	4.95	5.40	5.65				8.45	9.20	9.60
2½							9.35	10.20	10.65
4							9.85	10.75	11.20
<b>Nylon Tethered-Top Nets</b>									
1¼				10.65	11.60	12.10	13.20	14.40	15.00
1½				7.80	8.50	8.85	10.40	11.35	11.85
1¼ x 2.6 cm							13.20	14.40	15.00
<b>Polyester Tethered-Top Nets</b>									
1¼				13.00	14.20	14.75	16.70	18.20	18.95
1½				11.25	12.25	12.75	14.80	16.15	16.85

Sust—Sustaining member

Act—Active member

Non Mem—Not a member of EBBA

**Hawk fowling nets.** 210 d/4 Nylon, 3 shelves. 4½" str. Mesh x 50 M.D. (2.6 m) x 12. Regular type. Available from E.B.A. Mist Net Committee.

Sustaining Member.	\$9.80
Active Member.	\$10.25
Non-Member.	\$11.15

**Wing Measure:** 15 cm & 30 cm **rigid tempered steel rules.** The 15 cm rule is stainless, rigid, 19 mm wide, graduated ½ mm, mm & cm; 30 cm rule is satin chrome finish, 12.7 mm wide, graduated ½ mm, mm & cm.

Both rules feature a stainless steel "bend-of-wing" fixture secured at right angles to the end of the rule. The fixture is "off-set" to permit accurate tail measurements.

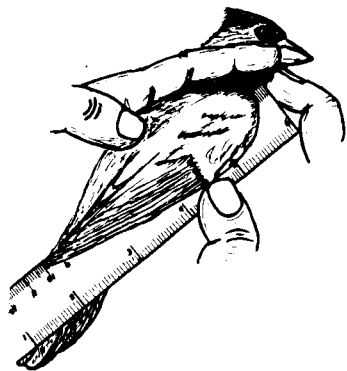
Price: 15 cm rule is \$ 9.85 ppd. + .55 ins. in U.S.A.  
30 cm rule is \$18.50 ppd. + .80 ins. in U.S.A.  
(Prices subject to change)

**Institutions: Please send payment with order.**

Order from: Chris M. Rose, 98 Lopez Road, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009. Allow at least four weeks for shipment.

Advertising in *North American Bird Bander* is available to interested firms providing services and products related to birds and bird banding.

## Banders' Marketplace



**Birds in Southeastern Arizona**, Davis and Russell. The most up-to-date guide to bird finding contains directions for 43 top areas and bar graphs and habitat notes for 450 species. Available at \$6.50 (postpaid) from TUCSON AUDUBON SOCIETY, 30-A N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson AZ 85716, your best source for southwestern and Mexican birding information and supplies. Write for a sales list.

**Banding Pliers:** 6½". Holes in jaws to fit standard band sizes. Split pin on top for even band opening. Spring on side keeps opened band in pliers for easy handling.

**Pliers for band sizes 0, 1, 1B, & 1A.** \$13.00

**Pliers for band sizes 2 & 3.** \$13.00

**Pliers for band sizes 3B & 3A.** \$13.00

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

**Bird Banders' Special.** Quality 3-ring binders for sale to banders and friends. Perfect for banding records and notes. These brand-new binders are available as the result of an overstock by a leading electronics firm and are 2¾" thick, plastic-covered, with some printing on front and spine.

Prices postpaid are: 1 to 6, \$3.00 each; 7 to 24, \$2.75 each; 25 and over, \$2.50 each. NY residents, please add 7% sales tax. Add \$0.25 per unit shipping west of Miss per book. Order from: Associated Consultant Services, 33 Ogden Ave., East Williston, NY 11596.

### Banding Supplies

Bleitz Wildlife Foundation has available a new listing of the more than 100 styles, colors, and types of Mist Nets, Portable Poles, Pesola Scales, etc., which are available from the Foundation. Reprints of "Mist Nets and Their Use" are also available.

#### Partial list of current items available from Bleitz Wildlife Foundation:

**Monofilament** 40d/single ply nets in 1", 1¼", 1½"; 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 60'—3 x 42, 10 x 42, 10 x 60.  
30d/2ply Nylon in 1", 1¼", 1½", 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60'—3 x 42, 10 x 42, 10 x 60 in Black, White, Sand, and Green  
50/2ply Nylon in 1¼", 1½", 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60' Black, White, Sand, and Green.  
70/2ply Nylon in 1½", 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60' Black  
50/2ply Terylene in 1", 1¼", 1½", 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60', 3 x 42, 10 x 42, 10 x 60, 20 x 100, 30 x 100, Black, White, Sand and Green.  
The 20' is 12-shelf; the 30' is 18-shelf.  
75/2ply Terylene in 1½", 2½", 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60'.  
110/2ply Nylon in 2½", 7' x 18', 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60', Black, White, Sand, and Green.  
210/2ply Nylon in 4", 7' x 30', 7' x 42', 7' x 60', Black, White, Sand, and Green.  
210/4ply Nylon in 4", 10' x 42', and 10' x 60', Black.  
All of the above nets are tethered.

**Pesola Scales:** 5 gm. 10 gm. 30 gm. 50 gm. 100 gm (3 styles), 300 gm (2 styles), 500 gm, 1000 gm, 2000 gm, 2.5 kg, 5 kg, 12 kg, 30 kg, 50 kg.

**Portable, stackable anodized duraluminum Net Poles**, in ⅝" diameter, 36" sections, 40" sections, 48" sections; 1" diameter in 48" sections.

#### Price List available on request.

**Example:** 70/2 Nylon, 4-shelf, Black only (our lowest priced nets)

- #1 — 7 x 18 x 1½ \$6.00. Loops tied on themselves in square.
- #2 — 7 x 30 x 1½ \$8.00. Knots, tethered at 18" intervals.
- #3 — 7 x 42 x 1½ \$10.50. Top loops white, balance black.
- #4 — 7 x 60 x 1½ \$16.00. Webbing 25% longer than frame. 120 meshes high.

We prefer to ship UPS, so please include **STREET** address. Surface U.S. delivery is included. Air or Export shipment costs added.

Bleitz Wildlife Foundation • 5334 Hollywood Boulevard  
Hollywood, CA 90027