worth the price. This book will help with many identification problems. For example, a few years ago there was a debate in the banding literature about the differences between juvenal and first-year winter plumage of White-throated Sparrows. These plumages are illustrated clearly on Plate 19 (illustrations 44c and 44d), which would have cleared up the confusion that started the series of letters. I would confirm the text's natural history information and range descriptions before using them. This will be possible to do by consulting the relevant "Birds of North America" accounts when the latter have all been published. In the field, this book will be quite useful to the sparrow-lovers out there.

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Recent Literature

BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

Ben B. Coffey, Jr. elected Fellow in the American Ornithologists' Union. J. A. Ferguson. 1992. *Migrant* 63:25-38. 5340 Canewood Ave., Memphis, TN 38134 (Biographies to 1991 of the late Ben Coffey and his widow, Lula, both prominent contributors to ornithology in Tennessee, surrounding states and parts of Latin America through their work with banding, sound recordings, Christmas bird counts, breeding bird surveys and training others in bird identification. Their best known banding project was their major contribution to a co-operative effort to locate the wintering grounds of Chimney Swifts. Five of the 13 bands recovered in the Amazon basin of Peru in 1943 that documented the first known winter location were theirs. A major heron banding project provided considerable data on post breeding dispersal northwards and subsequent wintering locations farther south, as well as incidently documenting Mexican wintering grounds of Anhingas breeding in the southeastern U.S.A.) MKM

Articles and tapes by Ben B. Coffey, Jr. and Ben and Lula Coffey. M. G. Waldron. 1992. *Migrant* 63:33-38. 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis, TN 38119 (Lists of publication 1931-1987 and tapes 1986-1992, some undated.) MKM

In memoriam Nathaniel R. Whitney, Jr., 1923-1997. L. M. Baylor. 1997. *S. Dak. Bird Notes* 49:57-59. 1941 Red Dale Dr., Rapid City, S.D. 57702 (Biography of prominent South Dakota physician and amateur ornithologist, best known as the author of two books on South Dakota birds, co-author of a book on birds of the Black Hills, and for his research on the White-winged race of the Dark-eyed Junco. His research included banding, and he served on the board of the Inland Bird Banding Association.) MKM

BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Misuse of data from mist-net captures to assess relative abundance in bird populations. J. V. Remsen, Jr. and D. A. Good. 1996. *Auk* 113:381-398. Mus. Nat. Sci., 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, LA 70803 (The authors used models to show that by changing parameters such as proportional use of vertical height categories, frequency of bird strikes with respect to home range size and overlap, number of flights, mean flight distance, and capture rates can produce different relative abundances for species with identical realized abundances. These results preclude quantitative comparisons of relative abundance for different species or species in different habitats. These results are applicable not only to mist-net use, but also to

any method attempting to estimate relative abundance of mobile organisms using stationary traps.) GAS

How to erect nets easier and faster. S. de Beer. 1995. *Safring News* 24:23-26. Box 70036, Mieder Park 2527, South Africa (Description of light system of poles, pegs and guy ropes, as well as instructions on rapidly erecting nets.) MKM

IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS

Colour of Purple Finches. J. Niskanen. 1997. *Ont. Birds* 15:45-46. c/o Ontario Field Ornithologists, Box 62014, Burlington Mall Postal Outlet, Burlington, Ont. L7R 4K2 (Observations of several females with varying intensities of yellow to golden-yellow on rump, one of which also had a golden-yellow throat.) MKM

Recognizable forms bill colour and identification of female Barrow's Goldeneye. B. Di Labio,R. Pittaway and P. Burke. 1997. *Ont. Birds* 15:81-85. 44 Helmsdale Dr., Kanata, Ont. K2K 2S3 (Dark, yellow-tipped bills attributed to winter females of eastern North American populations of Barrow's Goldeneye in most field guides apply instead to Icelandic populations, with eastern North American birds displaying the same largely orange-yellow bills of western North American wintering females. Head shape, bill size and to a lesser extent head color are more reliable distinguishing features between female Barrow's and Common goldeneyes than bill color.) MKM

Distribution, size and moult of migrant warblers in the southern Transvaal—part two. J. M. H. Raijmakers and J. H. F. A. Raijmakers. 1995. *Safring News* 24:3-12. Box 5067, Vanderbijlpark 1900, South Africa (Measurements of wing, tail, tarsus, culmen, and head, masses, and molt data [generally, wing, rectrices, and body] are summarized for African Marsh, European Marsh, European Sedge and Willow warblers (*Acrocephalus baeticatus, A. palustris, A. schoenobaenus,* and *Phylloscopus trochilus*), with seasonal patterns when sample size is sufficient.) MKM

Descendant eccentric partial post-juvenile primary moult in the Blackcheeked Waxbill *Estrilda erythronotos*. M. Herremans. 1995. *Safring News* 24:13-14. Box 40210, Gabarone, Botswana (Data from 12 adults and 23 juveniles suggest a primary molt pattern in which the inner feathers are "skipped" as documented in some other passerines previously, but not in other estrildids.) MKM

The use of plumage features resulting from a partial post-juvenile moult in age determination of southern African passerines. M. Herremans. 1995. *Safring News* 24:19-22. Box 40210, Gabarone, Botswana (Documents number of retained juvenal outer-greater wing coverts on 21 passerine and two barbet species caught in Botswana from 1991 to 1995 and discusses reliability of molt condition in determining age of several species.) MKM

An examination of road-killed European Swallow *Hirundo rustica* moults. R. K. Brooke. 1995. *Safring News* 24:42. Percy FitzPatrick Inst. African Ornithol., Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa (The range of molt scores on road-killed wintering Barn Swallows during a five-day period suggested that they originated from more than one breeding population.) MKM

Bertram's Weaver *Ploceus bertrandi* in Limbe. S. Lane. 1995. *Safring News* 24:51-52. Box 51147, Limbe, Malawi (Measurements by age and sex of 33 captured birds, and description of plumages.) MKM

Western dark morph Buteos. B. K. Wheeler. 1994. *Hawk Migration Studies* 19(2):4-7. Box 943, Longmont, CO 80501 (Discussion of identification features of seven western North American *Buteo* species, including both dark and lighter morphs, confusing juvenile plumages, subspecific differences and other potential identification problems.) MKM

Edmonton and its imperfect albino Black-billed Magpies. J. Hudon. 1995. *Edmonton Nat.* 23(3):21-23. Prov. Mus. Alberta, 12845-102nd Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T5N 0M6 (Results of a survey indicate that an unusually high proportion of magpies in Edmonton, Alberta and surrounding areas have the normally black parts of their plumage replaced with gray.) MKM

NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Within- and among-year effects of cold fronts on migrating raptors at Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania, 1934-1991. P. E. Allen, L. J. Goodrich and K. L. Bildstein. 1996. *Auk* 113:329-338. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, R.R. 2, Box 191, Kempton, PA 19529 (Data from hawk counts over 55 years combined with weather data suggest that cold fronts enhance fall

migration of raptors at Hawk Mountain within, but not among, years. The authors conclude that this pattern is real and not just an increase in visibility of hawks during cold fronts.) GAS

Food finding and the influence of information, local enhancement, and communal roosting on foraging success of North American vultures. N. J. Buckley. 1996. *Auk* 113:473-488. Dept. Zool. & Oklahoma Biol. Survey, Univ. Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 (247 Black and 107 Turkey vultures were wing-tagged with All-flex cattle eartags. Turkey Vultures usually arrived first at carcasses, but were often usurped by Black Vultures. Turkey Vultures seemed to prefer smaller carcasses, perhaps so they could devour them before Black Vultures arrived. Communal roosting may facilitate formation of foraging groups rather than information exchange, an often-suggested major reason for communal roosting.) GAS

Nocturnal nest attendance of Killdeer: more than meets the eye. N. Warnock and L. W. Oring. 1996. *Auk* 113:502-504. Environ. & Resource Sci. /186, Univ. Nevada, 1000 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89512 (Killdeer were trapped in automatic nest traps. Individuals were marked with color bands and 17 males and 15 females were also fitted with 2.65 g. radio transmitters glued to their lower backs. Males performed the bulk of nocturnal nest attendance, but females also regularly attended nests at night. Nocturnal nest attendance was believed previously to be almost excusively by males.) GAS

Factors affecting interannual movements of Snowy Plovers. P. W. C. Paton and T. C. Edwards, Jr. 1996. *Auk* 113:534-543. Dept. Fish. & Wildl. and Natl. Biol. Serv., Utah Coop. Fish. & Wildl. Res. Unit, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322 (Snowy Plovers were color-banded uniquely at eight different sites around Great Salt Lake from 1990-1993 [n=361]. Male plovers showed greater site fidelity than females. Female site fidelity was influenced highly by nesting success and nest density the previous years. Avoidance of high density nesting sites may be an anti-predator behavior.) GAS

Helper effects on variance components of fitness in the cooperatively breeding Red-cockaded Woodpecker. J. M. Reed and J. R. Walters. 1996. *Auk* 113:608-616. Dept. Zool., Campus Box 7617, North Carolina State Univ., Raleigh, NC 27695 (Individuals were color-banded uniquely in one of the largest [about 1,110] extant populations of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in the Sandhills of south-central South Carolina. Reproductive success of older breeders was greater than that of younger ones. Helpers increased the probability of producing young, and contributed to fitness through effects on mean reproductive success.) GAS

Florida Scrub-Jay demography in different landscapes. D. R. Breininger, V. L. Larson, D. M. Oddy, R. B. Smith and M. J. Barkaszi. 1996. *Auk* 113:617-625. DYN-2, Dynamic Internatl., NASA Biomedical Operations Office, John F. Kennedy Space Center, FL 42899 (Observations of color-banded individuals in known territories from 1988-1993 allowed the authors to compare demographic parameters in their study populations at J. F. K. Space Center [KSC] to published results from the much-studied scrub-jay population of Archbold Biological Station. Archbold Biological Station is well drained, with open sandy areas and few trees, whereas the KSC study area is poorly drained and consists of flatwoods vegetation and marshes. For most of the demographic parameters compared, at least one of the two KSC sites showed no differences from Archbold. Predation was believed to be the main cause of differences between KSC and Archbold.) GAS

Bird migration at different latitudes in eastern North America. I. Newton and L. C. Dale. 1996. *Auk* 113:626-635. Inst. Terrestrial Ecol., Monks Wood, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE17 2LS, U.K. (The authors used published accounts of breeding and wintering distributions to identify some migration patterns that correlate with latitude. As latitude increases, the proportion of breeding species moving south for the winter increases from 12% in southern Florida [35° N] to 87% at Ellesmere Island [80° N], an increase of 1.4% per degree. The proportion of wintering species moving north for the summer decreases from 52% at 25° N to 0% at 70° N, a decrease of 1.1% per degree. The authors compare the results of the present study with those of a similar study on western European species, and suggest that latitude is a good "surrogate" measure of other factors likely to influence migration, such as climate and day length, which in turn affect food supplies.) GAS

Habitat sampling and habitat selection by female Wild Turkeys: ecological correlates and reproductive consequences. A. Y. Badyaev and W. J. Etges. 1996. *Auk* 113:636-646. Arkansas Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit and Dept. Biol. Sci., Univ. Arkansas,

Fayetteville, AR 72701 (Turkeys were captured with cannon nets and 105 females were fitted with 120 g. backpack radio transmitters. Movements of females tracked during the pre-nesting stage allowed the authors to document how females "sample" potential nesting areas. Females that surveyed a greater area before nesting were more successful than those that limited their search. Searching larger areas enabled females to find nesting sites with more cover, thereby reducing chances of nest predation and increasing nest survival.) GAS

Pair-bond dissolution in Mallards. M. P. Losito and G. A. Baldassarre. 1996. *Auk* 113:692-695. Environ. & Forest Biol., State Univ. New York, College Environ. Sci. & Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210 (Decoy traps were used to capture 338 male and 128 female Mallards, which were fitted with numbered aluminum bands. All females were also fitted with 20 g. transmitters and followed from 1990-1992. Reproductive success correlated positively with female age. ASY males and females tended to pair. Long-term pair bonds were rare, accounting for <1% of all bonds observed. The authors note the behavioral plasticity of Mallard mating systems.) GAS

Windsor Airport raptor control. B. Learmouth. 1996. *Northwind* 11(2):11-12, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 28:15-16, 1996. 2405 Princess St., Windsor, Ont. N8T 1V2 (Between 1993 and 1 February 1996, 189 birds of nine species were captured and banded at the Windsor, Ontario, airport, then released elsewhere. These included 70 Snow Buntings, 34 Red-tailed Hawks and 31 Horned Larks.) MKM

Sixteen years of banding birds during fall migration on Jekyll Island, Georgia. D. G. Cohrs and D. A. Cohrs. 1994. *Oriole* 59:37-48. Box 1908, Darien, GA 31305 (History of project since 1977 [pilot assessment], with details of participation, dates of coverage, methods, study site and 1978-1993 totals for 111 species banded to date. This study added Townsend's and MacGillivray's warblers to Georgia's state list, elevated Clay-colored Sparrow from "hypothetical" to "accidental," and showed White-crowned Sparrow to be a more regular fall migrant along the Georgia coast than believed previously.) MKM

Sixteen years of encountered birds during fall migration on Jekyll Island, Georgia. D. G.Cohrs. 1994. *Oriole* 59:49-51. Box 1908, Darien, GA 31305 (Details of five birds of four species banded in three U.S. states and recovered in Georgia, and of 11 birds of seven species banded at Jekyll Island and recovered elsewhere in Georgia, five other U.S. states, Cuba and Dominican Republic.) MKM

Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 1996. R. Z. Dobos. 1997. *Ont. Birds* 15:47-66. 1156 5th Concession Rd. W., R.R. 2, Waterdown, Ont. L0R 2H2 (Mist-netting/banding contributed to documentation of Bewick's Wren and Black-throated Gray Warbler records for Ontario and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher to the northwest of normal Ontario range.) MKM

Robin and House Finch banding recoveries. D. Tallman. 1997. *S. Dak. Bird Notes* 49:61. N. State Univ., Aberdeen, SD 57401 (House Finch banded in North Dakota, recovered in South Dakota; American Robin banded in South Dakota, recovered in North Dakota.) MKM

The Holiday Beach Raptor Banding Station: 1996. T. W. Carpenter. 1997. *Northwind* 12(2):1-2. 3646 S. John Hix, Wayne, MI 48184 (The record 978 individuals of 12 raptor species banded at this station near the western end of the north shore of Lake Erie brought the cumulative banding total to 4846 individuals. Fourteen additional hawks of four species captured had been banded previously at the same station, at Hawk Cliff [farther east along the north shore of Lake Erie], or at as yet unknown locations. An immature Swainson's Hawk was the third to be banded in Ontario. Annual totals for each raptor species are tabulated 1989-1996.) MKM

Windsor Airport banding and relocation summary, 1996. P. Roberts. 1997. *Northwind* 12(2):5 Essex Region Conservation Authority, 360 Fairview Ave., Essex, Ont. N8M 1Y6 (Details of age, sex, capture date and relocation site of 35 individuals of six raptor species caught in 1996, including five recaptures.) MKM

Survival of Ring-necked Pheasants in Iowa. T. Z. Riley, J. B. Wooley, Jr., and W. R. Rybarczyk. 1994. *Prairie Nat.* 26:143-148. Pheasants Forever, Inc., Route 1, Box 136, Chariton, IA 50049 (Radio telemetry on 160 female pheasants was used to document seasonal and age differences in mortality. Predation was the most significant mortality factor.) MKM

NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

Dietary relationships of migrant and resident birds from a humid forest in central Panama. B. Poulin and G. Lefebvre. 1996. *Auk* 113:277-287. Smithsonian Tropical Res. Inst., Box 2072, Balboa, Ancon, Republic of Panama (Thrushes [*Catharus*], wood-warblers [*Oporornis, Seiurus, Wilsonia*], and tyrant flycatchers [*Empidonax*] were trapped in mist nets. Thirty-six nets [3 x 10 m, 32 mm mesh] were set up every 25 m along eight transects 35 m apart. Diets overlapped little between resident and migrant individuals, but diets were similar within migrant guilds. Resident birds appeared to feed on resources of higher nutritional value than migrant individuals. The authors suggest reasons for this pattern.) GAS

Mate replacement is costly to males in the multibrooded House Sparrow: an experimental study. J. P. Veiga. 1996. *Auk* 113:664-671. Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, C.S.I.C., Jose' Gutierrez Abascal 2, E-28006, Madrid, Spain (Sparrows were caught in mist nets and marked with unique color band combinations. Some females were "handicapped" by clipping the sixth and seventh primaries of each wing and the four central rectrices at their bases. Males replaced handicapped females in subsequent broods more often than control females. Handicapped females renested less successfully than control females, and males mated to handicapped females took longer to produce their second clutches. Retaining mates between successive breeding attempts appeared to be advantageous for male House Sparrows.) GAS

Malachite Sunbird ringing in the Free State. D. H. de Swardt. 1995. *Safring News* 24:15-18. Dept. Ornithol., Natl. Mus., Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa (Seasonal patterns of 1990-1995 captures of 328 sunbirds and associated flower species are summarized, along with data on recaptures at the banding site and elsewhere.) MKM

Selected recoveries reported to Safring: July 1994-December 1995. T. B. Oatley. 1995. *Safring News* 24:27-38. SAFRING, Univ. Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa (Data on 50 species banded in and/or recovered in southern Africa. Data on species that occur regularly in North America include a 49-month Peregrine Falcon, a Red Knot banded in South Africa and recovered in France, Common Terns banded in Finland, Germany and Poland and recovered in South Africa and Barn Swallows banded in Botswana and recovered in Zaire and banded in Finland and recovered in Transvaal.) MKM

Seabird islands Nos. 226, 227 and 228. J. N. Dunlop, F. Matter, G. Oliver, H. Patterson and S. van Leeuwen. 1994. *Corella* 18:117-124. 162 Swansea St. E., East Victoria Park, WA 6101, Australia (Bridled Terns were banded at two of the Western Australian islands documented in these accounts, and Crested Terns at another.) MKM

Recovery round-up. Anonymous. 1994. *Corella* 18:131-132. c/o M. D. Murray, 17 Ashmore Ave., Pymble, NSW 2073, Australia (Recovery details are given for 17 species of which Wandering and Yellow-nosed albatross, Flesh-footed and Short-tailed shearwater, Masked and Brown booby and Black Noddy occur in North America. All recoveries of these species listed involve movements within Australia or between Australia and New Zealand or other islands in the Indian and South Pacific oceans.) MKM

Note: Thanks to James A. Ferguson for responding to my request for a copy of his biography of the Coffeys with a copy of the issue of *Migrant* in which it appeared. Betty Learmouth kindly provided volume, issue and page numbers of the original version of her *Northwind* article and subsequently sent copies of additional *Northwind* articles. Doris Cohrs graciously supplied copies of the Jekyll Island project papers published in *Oriole*, another state journal for which we do not have a regular reviewer. L. M. Baylor contributed a copy of the issue of *South Dakota Bird Notes* that contained his memorial tribute to N. R. Whitney.—MKM

MKM = Martin K. McNicholl
GAS = Gregory A. Smith