



EBBA NUS

A FRIENDLY REPORT ISSUED MONTHLY TO THE MEMBERS
OF THE EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

Douglas Jones
Rec'd. 2/20/42

Members In
Florida, Georgia, South Carolina,
North Carolina, Virginia, Mary-
land, Delaware, District of Colum-
bia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey,
New York, and other States and
in Canada.

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"LET US BAND TOGETHER"

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CHECK YOUR RECORDS

This issue of "EBBA NUS" is being sent to all members whose dues were paid in '41. Due to mail and mimeograph expense, we will be unable to send any further issues to members who are delinquent for 1942. Likewise the January issue of BIRD BANDING will be the last than can be sent to members whose 1942 subscription to this quarterly remains unpaid. As we close this issue, three-fourths of our membership have already paid for 1942. Such prompt loyalty encourages us and gives us a warm feeling of friendship for all banders.

Payment of the current dues has been made very simple for we have sent all members a card and a return-envelope so that all a bander had to do was to make out his check and mail it back to our Treasurer to pay for '42. If you find a blue check mark in the margin of this page, our records show that we haven't received your dues and feel "mighty blue" about it. Check your records. If we are wrong drop us a postal. Otherwise we suggest you make payment now.

Send your check to our Treasurer at the address printed above. In this way, for \$1, you will continue to receive all issues of the 1942 EBBA NUS, and of course BIRD BANDING too, if your payment is \$3 or \$5. You are the best judge as to whether your past dues have been worthwhile - - and don't forget, with EBBA NUS for '42, you'll have INLAND NEWS sent you too!

MR. GROSKIN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an annual report of Horace Groskin's banding station at Ardmore, Pa. Mr. Groskin advances the suggestion, which we heartily endorse, that as many banders as possible send in a similar report for 1941, following the simple style illustrated. Obviously it will be impossible for us to publish each individual report, but a plan can be worked out whereby several reports from a State or a locality can be combined on a single page. Depending on the number of reports submitted and the interest shown, it may be practical to issue a special number containing just such surveys of the work done at the different stations. Such reports are most valuable and increase in value as the years roll by. Won't you sit down some evening with your records and make out such a report, then mail it with your comments to your Editor. Whether you band just a few birds or "scads", your report is valuable. Your Secretary and your Editor will do their utmost to see that you haven't calculated in vain.

WHO BANDED THIS PURPLE GRACKLE

On Nov. 14, 1941, Will Astle of Flushing, N.Y. trapped a Grackle wearing a band No. ??-200048. The yearly serial number was not learned. "Ye Ed" put No. 41-200048 on a Robin, so it isn't 41. Will banders please check their Grackle records and see if this recovery is one of their birds? Thanks.

RETURNS AND RECOVERIES...WHAT ARE THEY?

From time to time, letters and reports come through using these terms in wrong places. Ebba finds old issues that compound this error and adds further to the confusion. Ebba doesn't wish to say all banders are mixed up in this matter, but for the benefit of any who are not sure in their minds, we define the terms as we accept them.

A RECOVERY is the record acquired when a banded bird is found or trapped at a locality some distance from its place of banding. Such records cannot be added to a total of returns, no more than one could add six tea balls and six eggs and have a dozen oranges.

A RETURN is the record made by a banded bird that returns to its place of banding after a migration has occurred, with no repeats between captures. Can a recovery be classified as a return? Yes, but only when a bird is banded in one season and is found in the same season in the following year within a mile or two of the place of banding.

For example, a robin banded in June, 1940 is found dead by a school boy within half a mile of its place of banding on July 18th, 1941. This bird obviously returned to its place of banding but just didn't happen to enter the traps before it met its death and may never have entered the traps had it lived - yet such a recovery with the necessary explanation can be added to a tabulation of Robin returns. If this Robin had entered the traps on July 1st, 1941 and then was picked up dead by the lad on the 18th, then the recovery would really be classed as a repeat. However, if this Robin, banded we shall say in New Jersey, was found dead in Florida or in Maine, the record so made would not be a return, it would be a recovery.

ANOTHER PROBLEM SURMOUNTED

"Thanks mainly to an idea gained from Mrs. Drew of Barre, Vt., the one-man manipulation of small colored celluloid bands is settled", writes Raymond T. Fuller of Winterton, N.Y. "I have been operating on Chickadees as follows:

"Long thin-nosed scissors are needed to snip off a scant eighth-inch from both ends of band (for Chickadees) before unrolling. I use a small compass-divided (Woolworth's 15¢); pressure-spring in handle for enlarging; thumbscrew to set its opening at a desired width...setting said screw so opening is limited to about $\frac{1}{4}$ " , I pinch compass points together and insert into center of the trimmed band. A little gentle twisting back and forth in the band causes band to open under the pressure of the compass points; open far enough so that a bird's leg could be laid inside the band.

"The compass carrying the open band is now put aside; set-screw preventing further opening. (No water or heat has been applied). Only now does one pick up a bird in the left hand, as for aluminum banding. Holding compass legs between right thumb and index finger, slip opened band under and around bird's leg, (from foot upward), then pinch compass points together releasing band onto leg. Put down compass. Roll band carefully onto leg more firmly. Here is where outdoors a little warmth from fingers helps. And now pick up a dropper holding a few drops of acetone (lying ready near you) apply the stuff freely and continue holding band perhaps 60 seconds until evaporation is complete. Band is thus cemented for greater permanence.

"For the smallest bands and smaller birds, I believe this technique is perfect. I emphasize: 1. The scissors. 2. The compass-dividers and the rest is practice". There you are banders, another mystery solved!

MORE ABOUT MYRTLES

In our December, 1940 issue, Ebba mentioned 2 Myrtle Warblers banded on Long Island, N.Y., later recovered in the Carolinas. One was almost 7 years old. In March, 1941, Ebba commented on the winter banding of Myrtles at the Bowdish Station at Demarest, N.J., stating that one had been caught with a strange band. Well, here we give you more news of the hardy "yellow-rumps" from what might be termed the headquarters of a big "Myrtle-bander". He bands at Demarest, too.

Keshon Garland writes as follows: "I think I have 2 fairly good recoveries for our readers: Myrtle Warbler banded here by me Oct. 10, 1937, was found dead Mar. 1, 1940 at Zellwood, Fla. Another banded here Nov. 21, 1938 was trapped by B. S. Bowdish at Demarest, N.J., on Feb. 21, 1941. A third Myrtle banded here Oct. 7, 1939 was found dead at Dalton, Ky. on Dec. 3, 1940".

Mr. Garland adds the following figures on his banding:

Year	Birds Banded	Birds banded in Oct.	Myrtles banded in Oct.
1937	589		310
1938	1,856	1,143	714
1939	1,396	854	434

"I have banded 68 species since I started banding in 1932. October is the best banding month for me. I operate a very small patch of ground and get good results when I have time."

Seems as though there's an under-statement here somewhere. Ebba will bet that if Mr. Garland had just a mite more time, a slightly larger patch of ground and really let himself go, --- why, he'd set the banding world on fire.

NEWS FOR THE BIRD BANDERS

Private Tom Imhof writes from a camp in the south that he expects to be shipped to the tropics soon and that he is taking 500 bands along. If he gets a chance, he expects to do some banding and hopes to have some interesting banding experiences to relate. Private Imhof is attached to a U. S. Army Hospital Unit. Keep them fit and fighting, Tom, and we'll keep the "Nus" coming.

Dick Fischer of Flushing, N.Y. read in the January issue of "Nature Magazine" that H. M. Halliday of Toronto caught a Richardson's Owl, one of the first of these birds to be banded. Reading a challenge in the note, Dick decided to go and do likewise. Doggone it, he almost did. While prowling around in a dense tangle on Jones Beach, he spied a Saw-whet Owl. Shedding his equipment and overcoat, he sneaked up on this owl and got it. This was on Jan. 3 and was his first capture for 1942. In the April, '41 issue of the "Nus" there is more about this bander's bare-handed way with owls. Guess owls like him. Can't blame them as they are supposed to be wise. Most folks like Dick Fischer.

"Birds of Long Island", a magazine published by the Long Island (N.Y.) Bird Club, carries an exciting article on Banding in the December issue. It is written by two of our members, Mrs. Marie V. Beals and John T. Nichols and is based on material collected at Mrs. Beals' banding station at Elmhurst, N.Y. The magazine sells for \$1 per issue.

The Rod and Gun column of the N. Y. Herald Tribune gives banding a boost in the issue of Jan. 19. Don Stillman, the editor of the column comments on a Black Duck banded at N. Y. Zoological Park, Bronx, N.Y. in the winter of '39 being shot last Fall at Fort Albany, Ontario, on the west coast of James Bay.

WE SALUTE NORTH CAROLINA

Four months ago we published a paragraph about Mrs. Jensen's banding station at Chapel Hill, N.C., saying her station was "Off to a Great Start". Honestly, we didn't know the half of it. Her enthusiasm seems contagious, for since that time, two more ladies have joined us from that area and both have mentioned Mrs. Jensen. These are Mrs. George Clark Potter, formerly of Jenkintown, Pa., but now residing in Charlotte, N.C., and Mrs. H. D. Crockford, also of Chapel Hill.

Just before Christmas, Mrs. Jensen sent us two splendid photos of her station, one a summer and the other a winter scene showing "just loads" of birds at her feeders, bird baths and traps. Her letter speaks of banding a Red-breasted Nuthatch on Oct. 12, an early date, and says she is getting Myrtle Warblers and Juncos.

Mrs. Potter tells us of Myrtle Warblers, Purple Finches and a Hermit Thrush that have fed at her window shelf and speaks of Brown-headed Nuthatches almost within reach. She closes her letter with a plea for bird trap plans. These have been mailed.

Mrs. Crockford writes that she got her Federal and State permits and a trap built by Jan. 10th. - Caught her first bird the same day - a Pine Warbler. "In 5 days I have banded 24 Pine Warblers (12 repeated), 1 Carolina Wren, 4 Carolina Chickadees, a Field Sparrow, a Tufted Titmouse and a Myrtle Warbler. Also I have caught a Wren and 2 Titmice that Mrs. Jensen banded last July. All in one trap of the pull-string type with a sliding door."

Banders, "Ye Ed" is speechless. Our best and most courtly bow to the banders of North Carolina!

WHERE THINGS GET DONE - WASHINGTON

Rev. Fabian Kekich, who took over the management of Rev. Stoehr's banding station at Capuchin College, Washington, D.C. sends in another breath-taking report. This report is for the banding during the last six months of '41 and is about 500 more birds than the former record of 1230 for the same period last year.

A running report follows: In the mountains of Pennsylvania 83 Barn, 19 Cliff and 3 Rough Wing Swallows were banded, mostly juveniles, but a few were adults on the nest. Caught in traps were 18 Baltimore Orioles, 61 Indigo Buntings, 3 Cedar Waxwings, 1 Black-billed Cuckoo, 17 Vesper, 3 Savannah, 179 Chipping, 77 Field, 86 Song and 2 Lincoln Sparrows.

Back in Washington in September about 200 warblers were banded including 11 Black & White, 6 Golden-winged, 10 Magnolia, 17 Chestnut-sided, 4 Kentucky, 26 Canada Warblers, 41 Redstarts, 20 Maryland Yellow-throats and 31 Ovenbirds.

November and December brought 256 Juncos, 17 Goldfinches, 18 Brown Creepers, 11 Red-breasted Nuthatches and 24 Golden-crowned Kinglets. On Dec. 20, 5 Bluebirds were caught in a potter. One of these had been banded at the station 2 years before. The Station also banded about 250 Thrushes and 159 Thrashers and Catbirds.

Of 236 White Throats banded, 7 returned the following year. 2 were shot in South Carolina. Of 28 Starlings caught at one time in March one was shot in Allentown, Pa. and another was recovered at Crystal, Maine. Of 666 Juncos banded in 3 winters, 34 returned and none were picked up elsewhere. One Junco banded Nov. 11, 1936 was captured at the Station on Jan. 9, 1942.

All of which gives one a rough idea of how matters are progressing at this Washington station. It would seem that Rev. Stoehr left the place in very competent hands.

BANDING RECORD 1/1/41 to 12/31/41 INCLUSIVE

at Ardmore, Pa., Station of Horace Groskin.

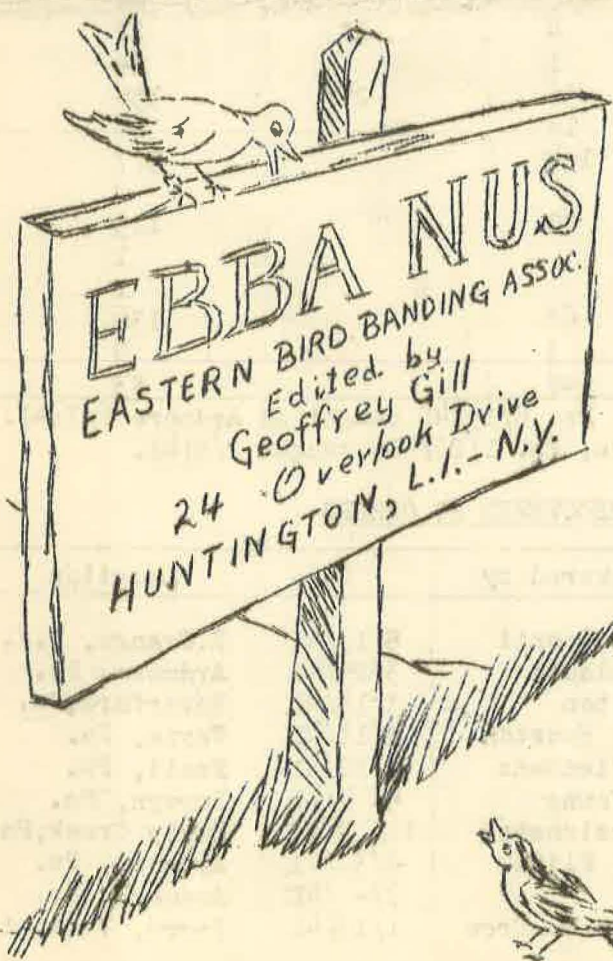
SPECIES Banded - 34	BANDED 1173	RETURNS 62	REPEATS 534	FOREIGN RECOVERIES 3	TOTAL CAPTURES 1772
Mourning Dove	26	1	15		42
Flicker	2				2
Downy Woodpecker	3				3
Blue Jay	8	3			11
Black-capped Chickadee	3				3
Carolina Chickadee	4		2		6
Tufted Titmouse	9	1	12		22
White Breasted Nuthatch	4	1	5		10
House Wren	1				1
Winter Wren	1				1
Carolina Wren	1				1
Catbird	14	11	66		91
Brown Thrasher	8	1	4		13
Robin	28		42		70
Wood Thrush	9	3	30		42
Hermit Thrush	9				9
Gray-cheeked Thrush	1		1		2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1				1
Starling	19	1	3		23
Myrtle Warbler	2				2
Ovenbird	1				1
Purple Grackle	26				26
Cowbird	7		4	1*	12
Cardinal	19	4	1		24
Purple Finch	245	13	96	2**	356
Pine Siskin	50		16		66
Goldfinch	469	4	104		577
Red-eyed Towhee	2				2
Slate-colored Junco	93	10	20		123
Tree Sparrow	1				1
Chipping Sparrow	1				1
White-throated Sparrow	67	7	62		136
Fox Sparrow	6		3		9
Song Sparrow	33	2	48		83

* A Cowbird banded by H.P.Baily of Overbrook, Pa. 6/19/40 caught at Ardmore 6/7/41.

**A Purple Finch banded by H.P.Baily, Overbrook, Pa. 1/20/41, caught 2/9/41.

HORACE GROSCHIN BIRDS RECOVERED BY OTHERS

Species	Banded at Ardmore	Recovered by	Date	Location
Flicker	7/30/40	J.Facciponti	5/13/41	E.Orange, N.J.
Blue Jay	6/16/38	K.R.Biddle	3/25/41	Ardmore, Pa.
Blue Jay	4/29/38	C.Sutton	3/13/41	Haverford, Pa.
Tufted Titmouse	7/ 9/40	W. B. Houston	1/11/41	Wayne, Pa.
Catbird	5/30/40	W.S.Clemmons	8/20/41	Paoli, Pa.
Robin	6/20/40	G.L.Young	5/ 4/41	Berwyn, Pa.
Starling	11/12/39	V.Persichetti	11/ 2/40	Darby Creek, Pa.
Cardinal	8/ 3/41	C. C. Blinn	8/30/41	Ardmore, Pa.
Cardinal	7/30/40	Shot	7/- /41	Ardmore, Pa.
Purple Finch	4/11/39	Elaine M. Drew	1/19/41	Barre, Vermont



Sec. 562 P. L. & R.
HUNTINGTON, N.Y.
1942

Prof. Dayton Stoner
New York State Museum
Albany, N.Y.