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RECOVERIES AND AGE RECORDS SHOULD BE MAILED TO OUR CO-EDITOR.

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MISSING FROM THIS ISSUE ARE THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AND THE BIRD BANDER'S DIARY. JEFF SWINEBROAD AND RALPH BELL, RESPECTIVELY, PHONED THAT THEY COULDN'T MAKE IT THIS TIME. JEFF IS VERY BUSY WITH MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AT THIS TIME OF YEAR AND RALPH IS VERY ACTIVE IN THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB AND WISHES TO BE EXCUSED THIS TIME. AFTER TEN YEARS OF CONTINUOUS DIARIES, WE GLADLY EXCUSE YOU, RALPH, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT DIARY EPISODE IN THE AUGUST 1973 ISSUE.

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THERE ARE NO AGE RECORDS IN THIS ISSUE. JOHN KENNARD, PRESIDENT OF N.E.B.B.A. IS DOING A SIMILAR PROJECT AND TO MAKE A MORE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION, WE'VE JOINED FORCES WITH THEM. ALL AGE RECORDS WE COLLECT, WILL BE FORWARDED TO DR. KENNARD AND THEY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN BIRD-BANDING. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO REPRINT FROM THEM, LATER ON. PLEASE SEND AGE RECORDS TO HARVEY FARBER, 102 WILSON PLACE, PLAINVIEW, N.Y. 11803.

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(Since this issue is going to press while the Annual Meeting is held, we'll again reserve this page for Officers & Councillors names, starting with the next issue. Editor)

STUDIES ON WINTERING MYRTLE WARBLERS IN NORTH FLORIDA (1966-1972)

Peter H. Homann

This report summarizes six winters of Myrtle Warbler (Dendroica coronata) banding at a location in the outskirts of Tallahassee, Florida. The banding program was carried out on the southern third of a 13 acre area owned by the Florida State University (fig.1), with the cooperation of my wife, Ursel Homann. The Myrtle Warblers were attracted to this site by many old pecan trees and, in particular, several evergreen hedges of Ligustrum and Viburnum.

When banding was begun in 1966, only the eastern edge bordered on a residential area with single family homes amongst ornamental shrubs and old pecan trees. Across the street in the south were old Live Oaks and thick underbrush, while the land to the west and north was largely open with high weeds and scattered trees and bushes. During fall migration, these latter areas attracted moderate numbers of transient warblers of which many were netted and banded. A Yellow Warbler (Dendroica petechia) and a Northern Waterthrush (Seiurus noveboracensis) were captured here in two consecutive years (EBBA News 32:269; 33:78). These returns suggested that the location was chosen for a stop-over not merely by accident. To the migratory birds, this area apparently was a favored resting place for the reaccumulation of body reserves needed during the remainder of their journey south. Frequent recaptures of transient birds over periods of more than a week supported this view.

Since 1968, large portions of the open fields (area E on fig.1) were developed into a mobile home park. Single family homes were built in Area C which had been covered with half grown pine trees. In 1972, area D became a site for apartment houses, and the land in the south was cleared for development. Today, the banding area is surrounded by residential districts. Migratory warblers are rarely seen and, surprisingly, even the wintering flocks of Myrtle Warblers became smaller from year to year (Table 1).