

Editor's Corner

There are at least three things which EBBA members could do to improve the News and assist the Editor. They are:

1. Reply to cards or letters sent out by the Editor requesting information or news. The response so far has been less than 10% which is certainly discouraging.
2. Voluntarily send in material for the News. Virtually all of the useful news has come in from no more than a dozen members. Little hints on traps, trap location, new baits, good ways to keep records, and interesting results from your own banding---all of these would be helpful and interesting to other members.
3. Arrange to receive your copy of the News when away from home during the summer. Unclaimed copies are returned and the Editor has to foot the postage bill. It isn't much but it does add up---and it doesn't serve any useful purpose.

Let us work together to improve the News. One Editor cannot do it but fifty members can. There have not been enough critical letters received---these are the ones which help to improve the News.

Terminology

President Groskin writes as follows:

"It appears to me that there is some confusion among some of our members who do not fully understand the difference between a 'return' bird and a 'recovery', and also as to what is a 'repeat'.

"A 'repeat' is a short time retrapping, less than three months, of a live bird within five miles of the place of banding.

"A 'return' is a bird recaptured at the same station where banded during or following a migration period, or has been absent from the banding station three months or more since its last capture at the station; and birds meeting death at or near the station are also 'returns'.

"Recoveries are banded birds recaptured or found dead at any time more than five miles away from the point of banding. Birds with 'foreign' bands, banded by other cooperators, retrapped or found dead more than five miles away from the point of banding are also 'recoveries'."

"For a further explanation, one might consult the manual for bird-banders issued in 1947 by the Fish and Wildlife Service, of the Department of Interior, Washington, D.C."

NEBBA Spring Meeting

Mrs. Dater sent in an account of this meeting which was held on April 23rd. at the Evergreen Sanctuary of Mr. and Mrs. Gstell of Berlin, Conn. Portions of this account follow.

The Gstell's have approximately two acres which they started to develop twelve years ago. Every shrub on the place furnishes either food or shelter for birds,; some both. Northern birds are encouraged to spend the winter by many feeders of original design which are filled by Mrs. Gstell every half hour.

Mrs. Gstell is a bander (and a member of EBBA, Ed.), they

both make traps and bird houses, not just a few, but dozens. The traps all have brass fittings and unique trips. Mr. Gstell is a genius at trap design. Banding is done in the garage and all records are there. This necessitates the poor car living out of doors.

The meeting was held in the afternoon in their basement. Evening Grosbeaks were the main topic for discussion. It was suggested that various people volunteer to take a single species and to make a survey, keeping record of all bands used by various cooperators, so that information on recoveries would be readily available; this survey to be copied from the Evening Grosbeak survey conducted by the Shaubs of Northampton, Mass. (What do EBBA members think of this? It sounds like a terrific job for species like the Junco or Chimney Swift-Ed.)

Station Reports

Mrs. Marie Dumont of Pequannock, N.J. has sent in a most interesting report of the banding activities at her station for the fiscal year 1950. A total of 587 birds of 50 species were banded--380 from May 1 to Oct. 31, and 207 from Nov. 1 to April 30. The species taken in the largest numbers were the Starling(102), Catbird(74), White-throated Sparrow(59), Song Sparrow(40), Blue Jay (34), Junco(32), Brown Thrasher (31), Towhee (27), Robin (25), Black-capped Chickadee(25), and Tree Sparrow(21).

Her list includes eighteen species of Warblers including four Wilson's Warblers and one each of the Bay-breasted, Cape May, Nashville, and Tennessee Warblers. Other unusual captures were Rose-breasted Grosbeak(4), Scarlet Tanager(3), and Ruby-crowned Kinglet (3).

During the year she secured 48 returns of 14 species summarized in the following table:

Blue Jay	2	Tree Sparrow	14
Downy Woodpecker	1	Slate-colored Junco	2
Starling	1	Red-eyed Towhee	2
Black-capped Chickadee	5	Brown Thrasher	2
White-throated Sparrow	2	Catbird	6
Song Sparrow	1	Wood Thrush	2
Field Sparrow	1	Robin	7

There were the two following recoveries:

Blue Jay--42-332773, banded Aug. 18, 1947 found dead three blocks from the banding station Jan. 15, 1950.

Brown Thrasher--39-305453, banded July 6, 1946 found dead by J.P. Rosenagel on Parsippany Boulevard, Whippany, N.J. Apr. 21, 1949

Many other banders must have reports on their years activities which would be of interest and worth publishing in the News.

Biographies

This month we are pleased to present a short biography of Mrs. Dumont whose station report appears above.

"Being members of the New Jersey Audubon Society, our good