

ANNUAL MEETING

The program for the meeting is now shaping up quite rapidly. There will be papers by Charles E. Blake, President of the North-eastern Bird Banding Association, E. A. Bergstrom who has been recently appointed Editor of Bird-Banding, Dr. David E. Davis of Johns Hopkins University, Mr. Arthur E. Fast, Dr. Carleton M. Herman and others. We still have room for a few more papers so if you have the material drop the Secretary a note. Be sure to mention the time required and whether you will wish to use a projector or not.

NEW MEMBERS

EBBA is in need of more members. If you have a friend who is a bander but not a member try your salesmanship. More members = better EBBA News and better meetings. Incidentally, if you have forgotten to send your 1951 dues to our Treasurer - Merrill Wood, 811 N. Allen St., State College, Pa. - do it now.

OLD AGE RECORD

G. Haggood Parks sent in the following note: "Today we trapped a return Northern White-Breasted Nuthatch which supplies us with an old-age record for this species which exceeds that included in the list which EBBA News published a few years back. This bird was banded as an adult male on November 15, 1942 with band No. 41-161722. He wore this band for almost one month more than eight years and, judging by his sprightliness, he seems destined to add measurably to the age record he has already set."

EVENING GROSBEAK NEWS

The Shaubs of Northampton, Mass. sent a copy of "Evening Grosbeak Survey News" to the News. It is a fine example of the kind of cooperative study which the News believes represents the ordinary banders greatest opportunity to contribute to ornithological knowledge. More power to the Evening Grosbeak Survey Group.

NOTE FROM IOWA

Mr. M. L. Jones of Ledges State Park, Iowa contributes the following interesting letter:

"I am trying to compile and summarize my bird banding going back to 1933. It's interesting but time consuming. I have written up a little on Junco results here in Iowa where I have banded them hit and miss over seven or eight counties. Mostly, however, I concentrated where I lived, which was in Calhoun Co. for the 1933 - '39 period. Fremont Co. 1940 to 2½ years later, then the last period in Boone County (1944 - 1950)

"During 18 years of banding I find that I have banded 8821 birds of 112 species. I have 17 recoveries, eleven of them out of state and two from Canada, one from Honduras.

"I have given quite a bit of attention to the mechanics of trapping, taking special pride in going after a certain species. I once transported water weekly by horse-back to an isolated set in order to catch a Yellow-Breasted Chat (very rare in this area). By both luck and patience I succeeded in capturing the Chat - the only bird I ever captured at that particular location - and it was an automatic trap.

"I am making copies for the Bird Banding Magazine, the EBBA and IBB as well as submitting an article to our local "Iowa Bird Life" magazine. I need to work up a little local interest in banding. Most Iowa banders are not banding much. Most of the permits are college deals and are used only on some special problem, which in many cases gets but a half dozen birds banded in a year. I tried to cooperate with one fellow on a Tree Sparrow study. He banded one Tree Sparrow.

"It must be much more interesting in the East where you have more operators."

Many EBBA members would be interested in Mr. Jones' experiences with the mechanics of capturing unusual birds. Your Editor has written him asking him to write them up for the News.

BANDING ROBINS

Mr. Fast wasn't banding as many as he thought he would, so he wrote to an expert, Mr. Irwin Sturgis of Lafayette, Ind. for advice. Mr. Sturgis' reply was forwarded to the News by Mr. Fast. Although too long to quote in entirety in one issue it is of sufficient interest to bring to your attention. Mr. Sturgis writes: