

add many to the long list of Wilson admirers and give Wilson his rightful position as "first" as an American ornithologist.

Eleanor E. Dater

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WHOSE BAND IS THIS?



(Approximately 3 times its natural size)

An aluminum band (pictured above at 3 times its natural size) was found on the leg of a male Evening Grosbeak trapped January 3, 1962, by George M. Smith, 116 High St., Strasburg, Virginia. The band was replaced with an F & W band and the original sent to the banding office, which replied that they had no information as to who used it.

George Smith writes further: "Although our experience with this species has been somewhat limited, we suspect that a sizeable number of bands of the split-ring type are being removed by grosbeaks (and cardinals) shortly after banding. Repeats of recent grosbeaks frequently appear in our traps with partially open bands."

(Ebba News editors will welcome any information about this band -- and will also welcome answers to George Smith's remarks about bands being opened by grosbeaks.)

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EGAD WHAT COWBIRDS! writes Betty Knorr on her Christmas card. She continued, "In the past couple of weeks I've banded more than 4,000 of them without even making a dent in their population!" Betty bands at So. Amboy, N.J.

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BANDING PLIERS

These pliers have proved invaluable in Operation Recovery use as well as for home station every day banding. Ask any bander who has used them or has seen them in use.

These KENNARD type pliers have holes bored in flat-nosed pliers that fit standard band sizes to avoid lapped bands and make it quite easy to get a perfect fit. A band opener on the plier enables the user to open the band evenly with one operation. A spring provides tension to keep the opened band in the plier while handling the bird.

One plier will handle band sizes 0, 1, 1B and 1A (price \$6.00) and the other will handle sizes 2 and 3 (price \$5.00) -- prices include postage within the U.S. Send your order to the originator and manufacturer - Roger N. MacDonald, 850 Main St., Lynnfield Center, Mass.