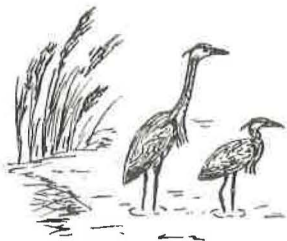


What happened on May 8 and 9, 1968, when I look back on it all now in October, I find hard to believe. This had been a truly high adventure in banding and I shall never forget it.

4000 Hidden Bay Road, St. Paul, Minn. 55109



NEW EVENING GROSBEEK LONGEVITY RECORD
By William E. Savell

This concerns, in our opinion, a new longevity record for the Evening Grosbeak and the story is as follows:

On November 30, 1968 at our Linwood, New Jersey banding station, we recovered an AHY Male Evening Grosbeak, bearing band 54-197708. The bird looked just like every other male grosbeak to us, and we submitted a report to the banding office the same day.

On April 1, 1969 we received our certificate of appreciation and were amazed to learn the bird had been banded on January 23, 1956 by Maurice Broun at Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania. Our great delight and the thought that this might prove to be a new longevity record for the species, prompted us to write Dr. Broun immediately. Shortly afterward we received a reply from him in which he said in part, "Thanks so much... Remarkable, that 14 year old grosbeak; indeed a record, I think. The banding office has not yet notified me..."

Feeling this was rightly a record about which Dr. Broun might wish to write, we withheld our comments from EBBA News. However, on July 17, 1969 we received a further communication from him, saying "The write-up on Evening Grosbeaks in latest Bent series has some longevity data but, so far as I can see, our bird could well be the oldest for wild birds. May I suggest that you prepare a note for EBBA..."

It is with great pleasure that we report and share this thrilling experience with a noted ornithologist.

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