

In the latter case, the side panel is cut 10½ inches high compared to only 8 ¾ inches in the slotted model. The holes are centered 1½ inches below the top and two inches from one another.

One other way to eliminate interference from the squirrels is to pipe mount the feeder rather than hang it from a wire. A pipe flange attached to the base would allow connection to a pipe mounted in the ground. An aluminum flashing skirt of about one-foot width tacked to the bottom perimeter of the box will prevent access by squirrels and other quadrupeds which can climb the pipe.

--1527 Myron Street, Schenectady, New York 12309

EDITOR'S NOTES

I would like to express my appreciation to the persons who have so generously donated their time and efforts to make this issue a success. Now, if only we could keep this up, to assure a bumper-crop of papers and notes for other issues of the News, which are still ahead of us.

This is it! We've reached (or are about to, in April) our 50th Anniversary. We sprang up from a handful of banders, led by Dr. Allen, in 1923, and our ranks have swelled to a great number of active field-workers, banders and birders. Our magazine began as an eight page bulletin; 50 years later, it has been enriched in size and content. Circa 300 different authors have contributed by communicating, to make it so. Issues, however, need not be large, to be interesting. I find the early issues, in their own right, as interesting, as any of the later editions which are larger and contain a more varied menu.

I would therefore like to dedicate this issue to our founder, the late Arthur A. Allen (1885-1964).

The Editor

We recently heard of the passing of Selena Burdge in October 1972. She was a Park Naturalist at Island Beach State Park and an EBBA member for 2-3 years, even though she was not a bander. It was largely through the efforts of Selena Burdge and Kit Price, that an invitation was extended to EBBA to hold its 1973 annual meeting at the Island Beach State Park area.

The Editor

MIMESIS IN BLUE JAYS

By A. Ogden Ramsay

Some years ago I found that Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) can acquire a perfect imitation of the human "wolf whistle". (Ramsay, 1972). To study this matter further, on June 2 1972, I took three young Blue Jays from their nest when they were four days old and before their eyes were open. Each hour as I fed them, I made this same whistle to them. I continued to do this until July 1. Some weeks later when they first began to sing, I observed that they occasionally incorporated these same notes with their song. Only once were these notes ever heard in the reverse order. Four days later these notes were also given as an oft-repeated call note and this was a permanent acquisition. All during August, I whistled a different series of notes to them several times a day: "How dry I am". Once one was recorded as he repeated this. However, this series of notes was very rarely heard and did not become incorporated with their song, nor did it ever appear as a call note.

These experiments were recorded on tape and the birds were banded and released on September 1, 1972. I had hoped that they would remain in the vicinity so that I might see if any of their progeny would acquire these notes, but I have not heard them since September 4th.

Ramsay, A. O. 1972. Mimesis in hand-reared Blue Jays. *Bird-Banding*, 43:214-215.

--R.D. 1, Pine Grove Road, Hanover, Pa. 17331

