



To speed up delivery, for those buying A BIRD-BANDER'S GUIDE TO AGE AND SEX OF SELECTED SPECIES by Merrill Wood, send \$3 (check made out to: The Pennsylvania State University) to BOX 6000, University Park, Pa. 16802.

Dr. Philip B. Stanton requests information on oiled birds you might find along our seashores. He is doing a study on "Analysis of Bird Banding Returns as an Indicator of Survival Rates of Oiled Birds Released to the Wild." The following information would be very helpful to him:



data on the number of banded birds that were the victims of tar, oil, or any petroleum product,

the number of band returns from these oiled birds and any information on the circumstances of how the band was recovered.

Here's an example of the type of information he is seeking:



Adult Male Eider Duck, banded Feb.15, 1967 by Mass. Fish & Game- oiled bird collected in Portland Harbor, rehabilitated and released May 16, 1967 - band recovered Oct.3, 1969, bird shot by John C. Jones off Marshfield, Mass.

If you have such data, please communicate your information to:



Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
84 Grove Street
Upton, Massachusetts 01568 (USA)

Quite a bit of correspondence was generated from the Army's action about the blackbird situation the south. We received a letter from General Brandenburg (Asst. Div. Cmdr. Ft. Bragg) that personnel from the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission through Dr. Snyder, Prof. of Biology, Austin Peay State Univ., Clarksville, Tn., had surveyed the birds after the February 19th spraying and had found only two(2) bands. Army personnel had covered about 50% of the area with metal detectors in order to locate bands on the dead birds. That hardly seems possible considering the amount of blackbirds that are being banded each year!



From Don Roberts (Permittee #8880) of Wesley Woods Camp (United Methodist Church) Dowling, Michigan, we received the following enlightening news:

"It has been my pleasure to work with both blind and Special Education students here at camp. What a great thrill a blind

camper experiences just being able to hold a live bird! Feeling the heart beat, and comparing the feet and wings of the bird to parts of their own body is truly nature study. One camper who could or would not utter any words at all was holding a Scarlet Tanager, and said very plainly "bird". The teacher said that was the first word that child had said in over six months."

We wish Don continued success with his program and we sincerely hope that other banders will seek out groups they can share their time with in this way. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Groups, Campfire Girls, Y.W.C.A., Y.M.C.A., church groups and school children would undoubtedly be eager to be exposed to our banding activities.

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Every life member of EBBA has been asked to submit his biography, and almost everyone has done so. It is awkward to write about oneself but since I am also a Life Member, today's my turn. I became a Life Member in 1970 when I became Editor of EBBA NEWS. I was born and raised in the Netherlands and came to the US in 1954. I've lived in Jamaica, N.Y. ever since.

In 1961 I went overseas with the U.S. Army and during this tour of duty, I had the good fortune to become acquainted with Dr. W. Keil who directs a bird observatory in Frankfurt, Germany. He introduced me to bird banding and I spent many happy weekends with him fighting with the Hawfinches (their bills are similar to our Evening Grosbeak but they are even stronger!). This did not discourage me, and when I returned stateside, I took up banding as a serious pasttime. With Tom Davis, another veteran bander, I started the Tobay Banding Station where I stuck it out from 1960-1966. This station has since been taken over by Tony Lauro. It is located near Jones Beach, N.Y.

Since then I spent many man-hours at various stations, banding terns and swallows at Great Gull Island, banding swallows and other passerines at Island Beach, Kiptopeke (assisting) and at Stonybrook-Millstone Watershed near Hopewell, N.J. My current banding station, affectionately known as "Cannonball Trail Banding Station" is located on Boy Scout property at Camp Glen Gray near Oakland, N.J. The main emphasis there is (for me) on banding Tufted Titmice and other winter visitors, and (for the scouts) teaching merit badge information and serving in other guidance positions. I started scouting late in life but I am giving more and more time to this effort, next to EBBA and EBBA News.

Unfortunately, having to make a living, I also have to think about working. This I do with pleasure at Scandinavian Airlines System in Jamaica, N.Y., as a Reservations Agent. I guess the only reason that I have so much time for all these extracurricular activities is that I am not married and as such my time is virtually my own. I belong to the BOU, NOU (Netherlands), AOU, Wilson O.S., Linnaean Society of N.Y., NEBBA, IBBA, EBBA, WBBA and I am co-editor of The Ring.
Frederick S. Schaeffer, Editor