

Sandpiper was retrapped by Dr. Hanson at Prudhoe Bay, one that had been banded the year before (1971) by a team from the University of Alaska. The bird was caught within 500 meters of its 1971 nesting site. The band carried by this bird was badly corroded, even though it had only been worn for one year. The corroded band was replaced with a new band. The same problem of corroded bands has been encountered on shorebirds that returned to the Cheyenne Bottoms banding station. To help alleviate this problem, the shorebirds were banded above the tarsus instead of on the tarsus to reduce contacts with corrosive material, such as seawater. Some bands were so unrecognizable that only a mass of oxidized metal remained.

I thank Dr. Hanson and Battelle-Columbus Laboratories, contractors for the Alaskan Arctic Gas Study Company, for permission to use the information regarding this report.—E. F. MARTINEZ, 5851 Hemlock, Great Bend, Kansas 67530. Received 1 July 1974, accepted 6 August 1974.

**Unusually large numbers of Chimney Swifts at a nest.**—Over the past 31 years studies have been made on the nesting groups that occupy air shafts on the campus of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio (*Ohio J. Sci.*, **69**: 193-213, 1969). A single nest is constructed in each occupied air shaft of our older buildings. The average number of pairs of swifts has been 13 and, in addition, an average of 2.5 threesomes and an occasional foursome has occurred each year since 1944. In the summer of 1974 I found for the first time one group of five and one group of five to six Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) together at one nest.

In air shaft H1 a male swift no. 71-18473 that nested in the shaft in 1973 was mated to female no. 71-32594 that was nesting for the first time. With this pair were three visitors banded with nos. 73-26435 through -37. Probably these were first-year birds and joined the colony that season. At the time of banding four eggs were in the nest. Because of the disturbance of banding, only one of the visitors remained with the pair for the remainder of the nesting season. During the heavy thunderstorm of 14-15 July 1974 the nest in this shaft, along with two others, was washed off the wall. Two or three nestlings survived the fall.

In shaft S1 Chimney Swift no. 31-197243, which had nested in that shaft since 1970, came to nest there with a new mate (71-32522), which had roosted in that shaft the previous year. Three or four visitors lived with them at various times during the nesting season, becoming the largest nesting group ever observed during the course of my studies. One of these was a permanent visitor no. 73-26434, that remained with the mates throughout the summer. This bird had been banded from shaft S1 in 1973, but it could not be proved that it was raised in that shaft. On 22 June 1974 two additional visitors were found to be a repeat from shaft E1 where this bird (73-26440) had also been a visitor, and an unbanded bird, probably immature, that was then banded with no. 73-26441. On 5 July 1974 the mates and the permanent visitor and the repeat from shaft E1 were joined by another repeat (73-26442) from shaft Q2 where it had been a temporary visitor, and a swift (71-32570) captured as a return. This was the largest group observed to occupy a shaft while nesting was in progress. At that time four nestlings were in the nest. On 9 July 1974 the nesting group consisted of those birds trapped on 22 June 1974, and the five remained together for the remainder of the nesting season.

During 20-21 Sept. 1974, these two air shafts were inhabited by roosting flocks. In shaft H1 there were 18 swifts including the H1 mates, one of their visitors (73-26437), the mates from shafts H5 and N9, one of the breeding birds from four other shafts, a temporary visitor from shaft S1 (73-26441), and six unbanded birds. In shaft S1 there were 57 swifts including the six - some as originally trapped on 5 July 1974 while nesting was in progress, five other repeats from the campus colony (including one of the visitors from H1 (73-26436)), six returns not found on the campus during the nesting period, and 40 unbanded birds.—RALPH W. DEXTER, *Dept. Biol. Sci., Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44242*. Received 31 July 1974, accepted 20 August 1974.