



Western Regional News

Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

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Applications for membership in the Western Bird Banding Association should be sent to the Treasurer. All classes of membership receive *North American Bird Bander*, the joint publication of Eastern Bird Banding Association and Western Bird Banding Association. Membership classifications are: Active Member, \$8.00 per year; Associate Member, \$8.00 per year; Sustaining Member, \$16.00 per year; Student Member, \$6.00 per year; Non-Subscribing Member, \$3.00 per year; Life Member, \$200.00. Outside the U.S., postage must be added to each membership except Life Member.

From the President

New Year's Day may be the time for individuals to look back, see where they've been during the last year, and to plan a bit for the future. With associations such as W.B.B.A., the "New Year" comes at the time of the annual meeting, whenever that falls, and the change-over of officers.

Accordingly, I look back over a very successful year since our 1980 annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas. Many people have contributed to this and (stealing my thunder) Martha Balph thanked most of them in her last president's message. However, adding Martha's name to the top of the list, I would repeat W.B.B.A.'s sincere thanks to the many who have done so much, particularly Eleanor Radke, Shirley Spitler, Fern Tainter, Otis Swisher, and Jane Church. Several of these people have accepted the same or new assignments for the coming year. I want also to thank Jolan Truan for his help as Advertising Manager; every bit of income helps and his efforts are greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to the coming year is a bit more difficult. Where do we go from here? Clearly, NABB has become a superior journal for corresponding with and between banders. More articles are being attrac-

ted, but we can all help keep the incoming manuscripts flowing to the editors. Waving a flag I have waved before, I would like to encourage the idea of joint W.B.B.A. projects. Steve Ervin is currently sponsoring one such project (see NABB 6:19) and deserves our help. However, I believe there is room for another. Any suggestions? Our past W.B.B.A. White-crowned Sparrow project proved that much good data can be derived from such group efforts. Start thinking!

W.B.B.A. worksheets have been few and far between lately; helpers and/or suggestions as to species that can be done are most welcome. I have talked to several people about some interesting possibilities, including instructions for scoring hybrids. We'll have to see what comes of it. I would hope that we can get back on the track with this program.

As always, W.B.B.A. is only as vigorous as the members make it. Thus — as we get going for another year — get involved, pass along suggestions, and if you are so inclined help in the running of your association. We are always looking for, and have need of, people to get involved.

Charlie Collins



New Life Member Roger B. Clapp

W.B.B.A.'s newest Life Member is Roger B. Clapp of Reston, Virginia, who is employed as a Museum Specialist in the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

After completing his B.S. at Cornell University and additional graduate studies at Cornell and the University of Maryland, Roger forsook his native Connecticut for the lures of working for the Pacific Island Biological Survey Program and the study of pelagic seabirds in the Central Pacific. He admits to an inordinate fondness for sun, oceans, islands, and the feathered "critters" thereon. By his own estimate he has personally banded in the order of 10,000 Masked Boobies, including as many as 565 in one night. High on the list of other birds he has banded in quantity are Audubon's Shearwaters, White Terns, and both Black and Brown Noddies. His

current research includes an avifaunal survey of the northern Marianas Islands and work on a three-volume opus on the "Marine Birds of the Southeastern United States."

Roger is already the author or co-author of over 50 research papers and currently working on several more including a jointly-authored update of the longevity records of North American birds and, of course, the results of his seabird studies.

In addition to his being a member of numerous scientific organizations, Roger is currently the chairman of the Archives Committee of the A.O.U. In his "spare" time he indulges himself in his love of science fiction and nature photography, all the while trying to keep up with the multiple interests and activities of his daughter, Hollis, and son, Roger.