



# Western Regional News

## Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

DONALD LOUIS BLEITZ

1915-1986

Donald Louis (Don) Bleitz, a Life Member of the Western Bird Banding Association since 1954 and President in 1962-63, died June 23, 1986. He was born in Los Angeles on October 1, 1915. As a young man he developed a highly successful photography business. Soon afterward he sold the business so that he could devote full time to the study of birds. While he was known to many as a bird photographer because of his outstanding pictures and photographic inventions, he was notable to banders for the introduction of Japanese mist nets for catching birds. In 1952 he founded the Bleitz Wildlife Foundation to supply nets and other equipment to banders. (See "Banding Equipment" below. -ed.) His publication "Mist Nets and Their Uses" was probably the most widely read of his writings. He was also a member of EBBA and IBBA, an elective member of the AOU, life member of Cooper and Wilson Ornithological Societies and held memberships in a wide variety of zoological and botanical organizations.

### *New Life Member Charles T. Collins*

Charles T. Collins, Professor of Biology at California State University at Long Beach, is now a Life Member of Western Bird Banding Association. He has been very active in WBBA, serving as President three times (1972-4, 1976-8 and 1981-2), and received the WBBA Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement in 1985. His most lasting achievement for WBBA was the merger of *Western Bird Bander* and *EBBA News* into *North American Bird Bander*. He is currently active as editor for Banding Worksheets, and as a member of WBBA's Advisory and Review Board for *NABB*.

His research interests center around swifts and the California Least Tern, and his papers on these birds and on banding techniques have appeared in *NABB* and its predecessors as well as a variety of other ornithological journals.

Charlie is also a life member of the AOU and Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies and is treasurer of Cooper. We welcome him to Life Membership.

### Banding Equipment

With the Bleitz Wildlife Foundation no longer in business, banders should be aware that equipment (other than nets) is available from:

Forestry Suppliers  
205 W. Rankin St., P.O. Box 3897  
Jackson, Miss. 39204-9987

### CALL FOR PAPERS & DEMONSTRATIONS

The 1987 WBBA Meeting will emphasize techniques useful to field biologists. Workshops include: special methods of netting, trapping, making traps, capturing raptors, marking (from hummingbirds to eagles), ageing, sexing, laparotomy, cloacal lavage, and special tissue and blood sampling methods. If you have developed a useful technique, plan to come and share it with others. If you need to learn a new technique, plan also to participate in the program in Tucson AZ, October 9-11.

Please contact:  
Dr. Stephen M. Russell, Dept. of Ecology & Evol.  
Biology, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ 85721.

**THE 1987 ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE IN TUCSON, ARIZONA  
OCTOBER 9-11.**