



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

NATURE NOTES FROM NEBRASKA

It's always exciting to me to find a new bird in my home state, and it's equally exciting to find a familiar species in a part of the state where it has never been reported before. Yellow-throated Vireos, *Vireo flavifrons*, are relatively common in the Missouri River Valley of eastern Nebraska, and a few records exist as far west as Grand Island. But they have never been reported in the Sandhills of Thomas County. On May 22, 1990, I was birding one of my favorite places, Halsey National Forest, which is about 300 miles west of my Bellevue home. As I drove into Halsey, the first sound that caught my attention was the familiar song of Yellow-throated Vireos. I quickly located two birds foraging in the top of a cottonwood tree along the Middle Loup River. Intrigued by this find, I watched them off and on all that day before I finally concluded their behavior certainly indicated they were on territory. I went back to the same place again on the 23rd and 24th several times to find them in the same tree, exhibiting the same behavior.

The presence of this species this far west raises a question in my mind. Are these birds merely expanding their range, or could it be temporary displacement due to extreme weather conditions across their migratory corridor this spring? Perhaps the heavy, almost continuous rain storms across Texas, Louisiana, and other southern states affected northward migration and forced them west of their normal range.

Whatever the reason may be, I intend to be back at Halsey next May looking for Yellow-throated Vireos and an answer to my question.

Ruth C. Green
Bellevue, NE

LIFE MEMBERS

We have been informed that we have lost contact with several life members. If anyone has knowledge about these individuals, please send the information to Ruth Green, 506 W. 31st Avenue, Bellevue, NE 68005 or Don Johnson, 81 Woodshire Drive, Ottumwa, IA 52501. The members and their last known addresses are:

Lawrence O. Duckwall
P.O. Box 1312
Minot, ND 58701

Dick D. Heller, Jr.
Rt. 3, Box 3
Decatur, IN 46733

Dr. William G. Ryan
901 Welch Blvd.
Flint, MI 48504

MINNESOTA BAND-OUTS

A group of Minnesota banders have organized a couple of band-out weekends during May. One purpose of the band-out is to share learning experiences involved in the collection of ticks from the birds for the Lyme disease study. Another purpose was to develop a structure to share information and to pool resources so that they can meet the goals suggested by the Fish and Wildlife Service and other government agencies.

Jane Olyphant writes that the core group of banders who managed the 1989 IBBA meeting are working on a new community adventure. At a site at the Carlos Avery Sanctuary in Forest Lake, they will be banding during the warm seasons of 1990 and beyond to collect ticks for Lyme disease research. The ticks will be kept until they can be examined for the presence of the spirochete. Though birds may carry the disease, there is no positive evidence of a bird with Lyme disease.



1989 BANDING RESULTS
JANE C. OLYPHANT
EVELYN WALL (Subpermittee)
8609 Hidden Bay Trail
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Jointly, 1,427 birds of 66 species were banded, including 21 species of warblers. The five most numerous species and the warblers are listed below:

Top Five

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|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Pine Siskin | 153 |
| 2. Black-capped Chickadee | 147 |
| 3. Dark-eyed Junco | 144 |
| 4. American Goldfinch | 134 |
| 5. Purple Finch | 123 |

Warblers

Black-and-White Warbler	12
Golden-winged Warbler	2
Nashville Warbler	20
Orange-crowned Warbler	2
Tennessee Warbler	17
Cape May Warbler	3
Yellow Warbler	4
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	11
Magnolia Warbler	9
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3
Bay-breasted Warbler	8
Blackburnian Warbler	2
Black-throated Green Warbler	4
Ovenbird	17
Connecticut Warbler	1
Mourning Warbler	1
Common Yellowthroat	1
Wilson's Warbler	1
Canada Warbler	6
American Redstart	7

Excluding the robins, the brown thrushes nose-dived the most this year for me. So did the flycatcher family; I only got one of the *Empidonax* group. Another year that I have missed the Brown Thrasher. During the spring quarter, I demonstrated what the art of banding is all about to the Biology students at Lakewood Community College. Evelyn Wall is banding for the classes that she teaches at Belwin Outdoor Educational Lab in Afton.

