



Established 1925

# Western Regional News

## FOR A GOOD TIME...

Everybody wants to have a good time, right? Well, if you are into birds, bird-banding, sharing stories, making new friends, seeing old friends, learning more about birds, learning more about bird-banding, and ...well BIRDS...the place you need to be is the Western Bird Banding Association (WBBA) Annual Meeting. Need more convincing? In the spirit of the end of the year's "Top 10 Lists," I give you mine:

### Top 10 reasons for attending WBBA meetings:

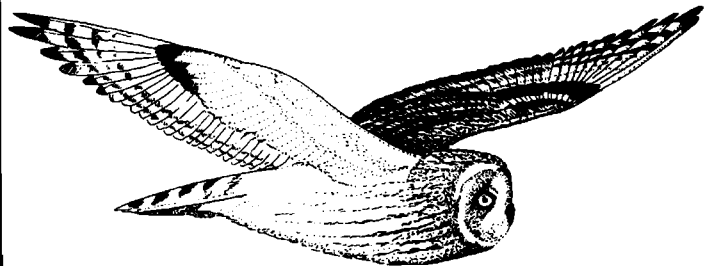
10. Birds - Enough said.
9. Travel and See the World - Each year the meeting is hosted at a different location and it's always near some birding hotspots. After Reno, Nevada, in 1999 (see below), think Alaska in 2000.
8. Make New Friends - If you don't know many people when you arrive, by the end every one will be like old friends.
7. See Old Friends - Those same people in Number 8 that were once new friends, now are old friends, and often this is the one time of the year you get to hang out and share stories.
6. Latest Bird-Banding Techniques - This is the place to be for learning new techniques to improve your banding efforts. Were you there to watch Peter Pyle processing birds and discussing ageing and sexing? Did you hear Ken Burton's talk about molts and plumages of passerines?
5. Learn about Local, Regional, and National Projects - A full afternoon of presentations

on projects related to birds and bird-banding. Were you a part of the roundtable discussion with David DeSante on the MAPS Program?

4. Find Out about Association Activities - Ever wonder what WBBA does? Well, lots of things. Come and find out!
3. What's Up at the Bird Banding Laboratory - Each year a representative from the Bird Banding Lab provides us with the latest and greatest from the Lab. Can't miss this.
2. Support WBBA - If you are reading this list then you are likely a member. The organization is only as active, as involved, and as meaningful as the members make it. So jump in, participate, and be a part of one of the most important organizations for bird conservation.
1. ITS FUN - The best reason of all.

**So mark your calendars now for  
24-26 Sep 1999 in Reno, Nevada.  
See you there!**

**Bob Altman**



## H. Elliott McClure 1910-1998

Dr. H. Elliott McClure was born 29 April 1910, in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Illinois and completed his Ph.D. in Wildlife Management at Iowa State University in 1941. During the 1930s, Dr. McClure began his life-long work in the study of birds. Over 60 years he banded more than 100,000 birds of 550 species.

After World War II, when Dr. McClure served in the U.S. Navy, he was hired by the State of California to study an outbreak of encephalitis in horses in Bakersfield. As a result of this work, Walter Reed Institutes of Research sent Dr. McClure to Japan to study encephalitis in birds, other animals, and humans. After nine years Dr. McClure moved to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and began a 20-year study of the migratory patterns of Southeast Asian birds. In 1975 Dr. McClure retired to Camarillo, California, where he taught classes for Moorpark and Ventura community colleges, lectured, and continued bird banding. During his lifetime he published over 150 scientific articles and eight books on birds as well as other areas of interest. His book, *Bird Banding*, published in 1984, is a definitive work on this subject. In 1994 he published his autobiography, *Stories I Like to Tell*.

Dr. McClure, 88, died 27 December 1998. The Western Bird Banding Association extends its sympathy to Dr. McClure's family and friends.

## NEW COVER FOR NABB FOR THE NEXT MILLENNIUM?

Do you have ideas for a new cover design for *North American Bird Bander* to reflect changes that have taken place in bird marking in the last 25 years? Our current design graced *Western Bird Bander* before the start of *NABB* and has served us well. Many developments have occurred in the last quarter century of bird marking. We want to attract papers and readers concerned with radio-telemetry, molts and plumages, and other research on marked birds. Possibilities might include new artwork, a subtitle to reflect our broader interests, and a list of the highlights of each issue on the front cover while leaving the Table of Contents on the back cover.

Send your ideas to Bob Tweit at [rjtweit@alum.mit.edu](mailto:rjtweit@alum.mit.edu) or 3116 N. Willow Creek Dr., Tucson, AZ, 85712. The Western Bird Banding board will consider them and circulate prospective designs to the other associations. We might blend ideas from several submissions. Thanks for your help in keeping *NABB* an informative and attractive journal.



## 1999 WBBA Annual Meeting

**The WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION will hold its  
1999 annual meeting in Reno, NV, 24-26 Sep  
hosted by the University of Nevada-Reno, the Lahontan Audubon  
Society, and the Great Basin Bird Observatory.**

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