

To the Editor:

This letter is to call attention to a minor error in the otherwise excellent "Movement of Black-capped Chickadee in New York State analyzed through banding re-encounters", by Elizabeth W. Brooks, which appeared in the Summer 1991 issue of *The Kingbird* (41:3), and to add a few comments on one of those encounters.

Table 1, part D (p. 139) lists the four chickadees banded out-of-state and re-encountered in New York in a subsequent spring. The last of these, banded at Brush Valley, PA, 8 Nov 75 is listed as having been re-encountered at Port Henry, NY, on 9 Jun 76. This latter date is incorrect and the location a bit imprecise. My own banding records and the "Certificate of Appreciation" I received from the Bird Banding Laboratory give a banding location "near Indiana, PA" (which may well be Brush Valley), with a recovery location "2 miles SE Port Henry, NY" (the nearest post office) and the recovery date of 9 May 1976. Interestingly, this was among the first birds I netted and released at what has since become an annual May banding station at the Crown Point State Historic Site, near the tip of Crown Point peninsula (2 linear miles SE of Port Henry). During the first day of operation, a band of Black-capped Chickadees were heard approaching from the south and soon reached the nets. The first bird removed was wearing band #1340-82870.

In his report of Fall 1975 Niagara-Champlain Region migration in *American Birds* (30:1), Douglas P. Kibbe noted, "A large scale movement of both chickadees was reported (e.g. 500-2000 Black-capped per day Oct 15-28 at Pt. Breeze on L. Ontario-J.&W. Listman) and by December virtually every portion of the region had reported Boreal Chickadees." In the same issue, George A. Hall reported of the Appalachian Region: "There was a very heavy southward invasion of Black-capped Chickadees... The bulk of the flight was in the second half of October and early November. Hall added that these birds were much larger than the Regional population of Black-capped Chickadees and that along with these visitors from the north came a few Boreal Chickadees. In his subsequent report of Winter 1975-76 in the Appalachian Region for *American Birds* (30:3), Hall added, "The fall invasion of Black-capped Chickadees produced some high winter counts..." noting also, "Boreal Chickadees were reported from five Pennsylvania localities: two at Indiana, Pa. from mid-December to February..."

The hawthorn thickets that covered the foundations of the 18th century French village, in the midst of which this chickadee was netted back in 1976, have since been cleared, and the area is today an open grassy field.

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