

Flash!

Bulletin!

Extra!

This dispatch is written on the Editor's typewriter July 18th, he having just received two copies of the May issue! Not to waste valuable space on an extended explanation of this publishing phenomenon, he only asks that the members of EBBA believe that the unconscionable delay has not been due to his own fault in any respect. He has partly explained the details to some of EBBA's officers—and let that suffice for now! No good warming up old hash. . . .

1949 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Eastern Bird-Banding Association was held in Philadelphia on April 23, 1949, President Horace Groskin presiding.

The following communications were read by the Acting Secretary:

1. From Mr. R. L. Smith resigning as Editor of EBBA NEWS. It was moved and seconded that the resignation be accepted. The motion passed. Mr. Groskin expressed the gratitude of the Association for the services of Mr. Smith. It was moved, seconded, and passed that this expression be made an official resolution of the Association.
2. From Mr. Raymond T. Fuller accepting the position of Editor of EBBA NEWS for a trial period of nine months beginning on April 30, 1949.
3. From Mr. Geoffrey Gill attaching an estimate from Shields & Eckstein,

Printers; of the cost of publishing EBBA NEWS for the balance of 1949. In order to finance the publication an increase in dues of \$1.00 per annum would be necessary. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the annual dues be increased from \$1 to \$2 per annum.

4. From Richard Fischer announcing his inability to serve as an officer of the Association for the coming year. Mr. Groskin expressed the regret of the Association.
5. From Mr. Charles Blake, President of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, advising that their Association was being forced by rising costs to reconsider their policy of financing the publication of Bird-Banding. The views of our Association were requested.
6. From Mr. Paul Downing, President of the Inland Bird-Banding Association, expressing his regret at his inability to attend our Meeting. He also referred to Mr. Blake's letter (5) and proposed consideration of consolidations.
7. A second letter from Mr. Blake reporting that divergent opinions expressed on his implied proposal made it seem advisable to delay any further actions.

Dr. Merrill Wood moved that the Eastern Bird-Banding Association should not support consolidation but should support Bird-Banding. Mr. Groskin ruled that Mr. Blake's second letter had closed the matter for the present so that no motion was required.

Here's some important, detailed, very recent advice and instruction from Mr. Seth Low (Director F&WLS at Patuxent Research Refuge):

WHEN AND HOW TO REPORT RECOVERED BIRD BANDS

1. State the full reading of band.
2. Flatten band and affix it to your letter with scotch-tape. (It will be returned to you if requested.)
3. Give exact date of recovery; day, month, year.
4. State locality where found, giving nearest town—and State and County.
5. State just how band was obtained: trapped, shot, injured, dead, etc.
6. Give full address of person who found or shot this bird.
7. PRINT your permanent address and your full name on your letter.
8. Address your letter: BIRD-BANDING OFFICE, PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, LAUREL, MARYLAND.

All letters will be acknowledged, but do not expect immediate or early reply, as it takes weeks to months to process some reports.

And here's a few reasons why an acknowledgement is not always received by the person who reports a recovered band.

1. Your letter does not reach the banding office at Patuxent.
2. One-third such letters do not provide all the needed information or address, and additional correspondence is necessary.

3. During hunting seasons several thousands of letters pour into this office, and such volume of clerical work cannot be kept currently up by our small staff.

4. Illegible bands (being difficult to process) are subjected to the chemical etching process not oftener than once a year.

And—if you again write (or send additional information) about a reported band, be sure to again state that band's full number as a reference, or it will not be possible to locate your original letter in the vast files.

Bands for next year are now reported to be in full supply. In the past several years the supply often fell below the demand from banders in the field.

WARNING: There has been an ominous shortage of notes, queries and information sent in by EBBA members to be published in EBBANEWS. Surely this is your magazine—or nobody's—and if our members in the active field do not supply this Editor with material fit for publication, said Editor will surely quit. (No Editor I have ever heard of—and I've been a writin' feller for years—writes as well as edits his publication.)

—Which brings up the question-and-problem: Wouldn't it be just as well to make the EBBANEWS a bi-monthly? —Cost a lot less. Submitted material might be enough for six issues per year; it is at present not enough for twelve issues. Incidentally, ex-editor Bob Smith writes (in his letter about another topic) "I have always felt the NEWS was pub-