



I had always heard that the Bird Banding Office did not want us to do much publicity on banding, as large scale publicity would increase returns and distort records and trends.

This bothered me as we all know countless returns go unrecorded due to the ignorance of the general public to first look for a band on a bird and second to do something about it.

During the Annual Meeting at Douglass College I discussed this subject with Dr. Duvall who assured me this was not the case. The Bird Banding Office has no objection to publicity in local papers or talks before schools, scouts, or other organizations.

I wonder how many of EBBA's 700 members are spreading the gospel the way they could. How many of you have informed all of the local police departments and principals of schools what to do if someone reports a band? How many have written articles or requested the local nature writer to do a story on banding -- not once but every few years? How many of you have overcome inhibitions and have gotten up before groups and told the story of banding?

Here is an opportunity for all of us to further the cause of banding by helping to educate the public to look for and reports bands. Let's all do something about it!

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THE FRONT COVER

John Wallace Coffey, of Bristol, Tennessee, whose photograph appears on the front cover, writes: "As a member of EBBA I am sending you this photo of an Osprey which I had in captivity for a very short time. It had been shot in the wing and was brought to me by a friend who found it perched on a rock in the water of Boone Lake, one of the many lakes in this area. It was photographed by my close friend, a bird student, George Craig. We are often field companions and have decided to enter the photo as a team since he is not a bander or EBBA member." (They win the Award this issue - Ed.)