

THE STORY BEHIND THE NEWS....

We started our story in the March-April 1971 issue with the job of the Editor. After the editor has toiled over the manuscripts, they go to the printer and the bindery and finally, they arrive at the home of Chris and Ruth Rose...Here's where we once again resume our story...

EBBA NEWS GOES TO THE POST OFFICE

Ten years ago the Rose Family began its affiliation with EBBA NEWS. A web of circumstances surround this; Mrs. Victor King, a family friend, who was then doing EBBA mailing, was desirous of easing into retirement with her husband, now that the children were grown! Our family was at the other end of this spectrum. Ruth was "itching" to become involved (having worked with Mrs. King in her business), and EBBA NEWS was in need of a circulation manager. Frank Frazier, Sr., and Frank Jr., were then the Editors.

From that point on it's history. We had traveled full circle and in a round about way, we were returning to "Birding" again! I had given up the latter to go into teaching. (Frank Frazier, Jr., and his sister Nancy were former students of mine.) I "encouraged" Ruth a bit and she took over the mailing service when EBBA's membership was about 350 members. Bi-monthly, our home settles a bit deeper into the Watchung Hills as eight giant packages are stacked inside our front door.

It has been work--lots of work, but through the years names have taken on faces and personalities as we meet and greet members at the EBBA annual meetings. Changes of addresses "meter" the success of one of our younger members as he gains a degree or 'island hops' to a new research assignment- or signals the onset of the 'golden age' as one of our senior members migrates to warmer clime as winter moves in. Sadly, but warmly, we reflect on the names we have known as friends as we are informed of his or her passing.

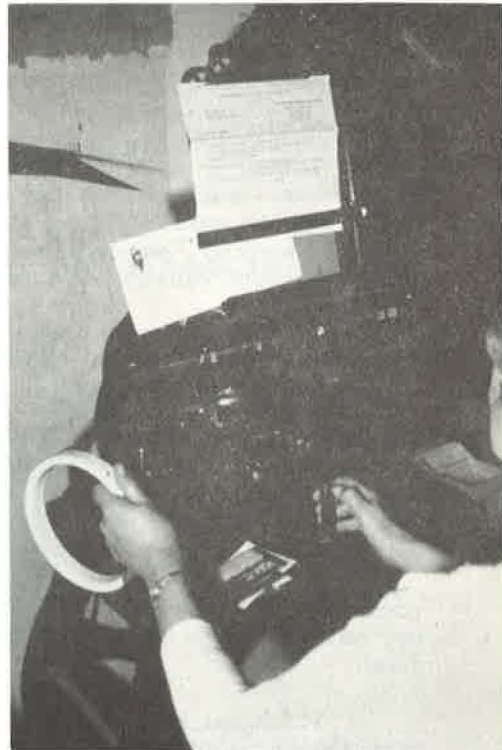
In answer to the varied interest which has been shown and comments expressed concerning the arrival of EBBA NEWS to your mailboxes, may we share with you what this household is like as we get the mailing done.

It begins with a warning from the Editor that "the copy" has been sent to our printer. Ed Johnson, the printer, in turn phones Ruth that on a given day and hour, he will be delivering the "8 giant packages" next to our T.V. Here is a photo coverage of the five days of work required to ready our mailing deadline.

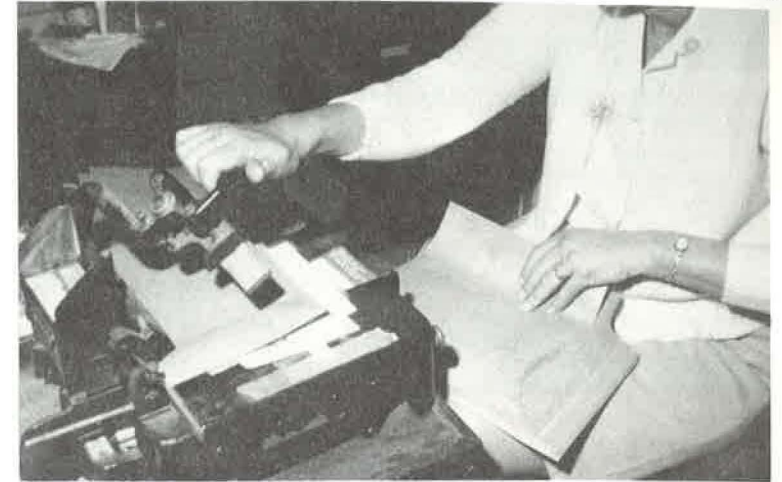
Turn the page.....

(Left). THE ADDRESSOGRAPH PLATE FILE DRAWER: This is one of the three drawers in which is stored some 780 active addressograph plates. The membership is filed by States, Canada and Foreign. We have members and exchanges in all but a few of the 48 states, 14 in Canada and about 28 Foreign Country addresses.

(Right). ADDRESS CHANGES: As soon as a mailing goes out, address changes begin to arrive and plates must be made or restamped. We average some 20 plus, changes per mailing. EBBA must pay 10 cents for every issue which is returned to the editor because of incorrect address, so it is most important that members be sure to send their change of address (to the editor) as soon as possible to avoid this extra expense.



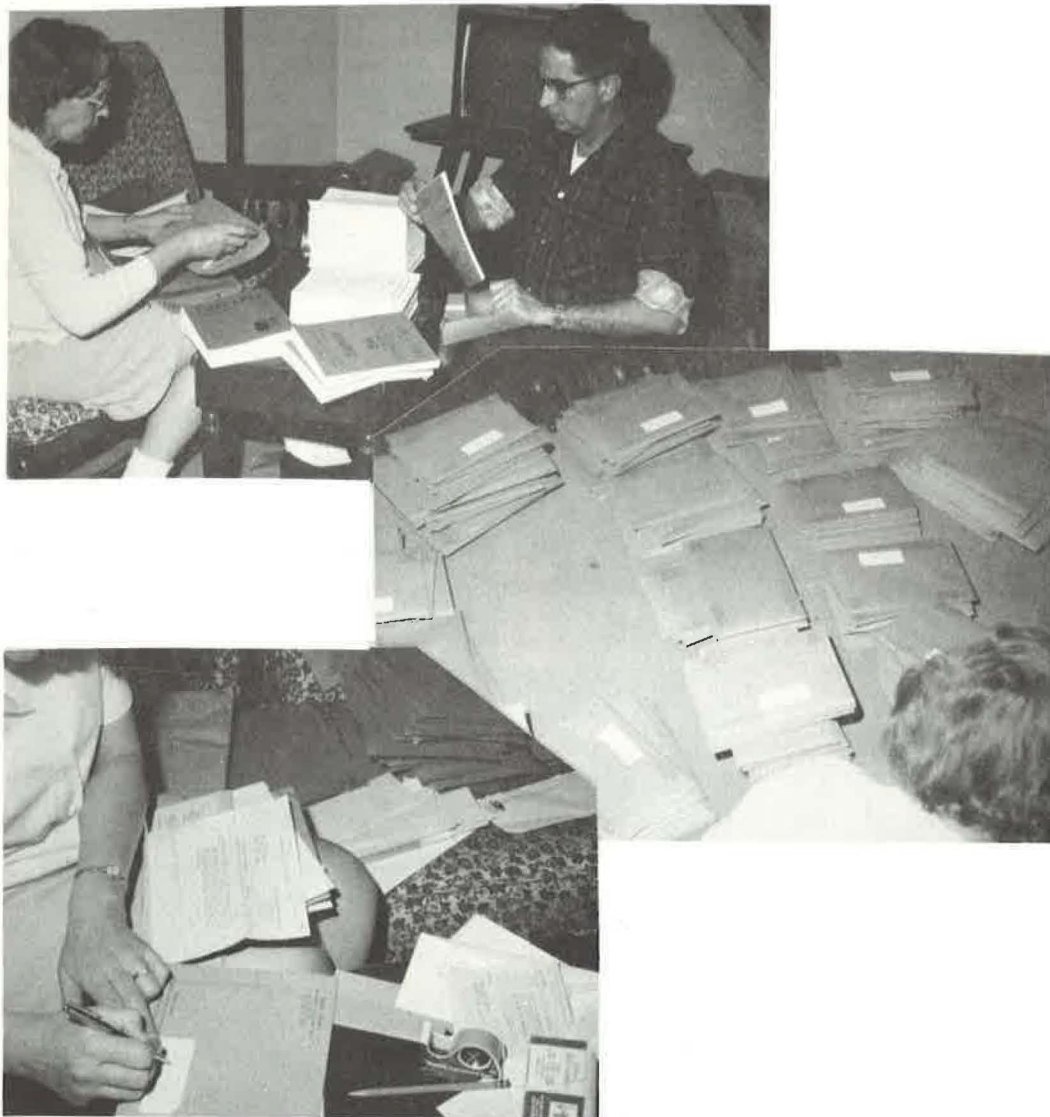
(Top): ADDRESSING: Envelopes being addressed prior to the delivery from the printer. Last minute phone calls and letters from Becky Cregar and Fred Schaeffer concerning changes of addresses have yet to be processed.



(Bottom): INSERTS: Occasionally extra inserts are put in with EBBA NEWS. In this picture, inserts of the ANNUAL BANDING REPORT and Announcement of the Annual Meeting are being inserted prior to "stuffing" in envelopes.



(Top pix, pg. 138): STUFFING: The whole family turns out for his turn of stuffing, including the photographer. In this way, we've managed to hold to the mailing deadline in most issues. Remember too, that the membership has doubled and the average issue has doubled in thickness since ten years ago, thus, it takes more time than in the past.



(Middle): SEPARATION BY STATE: We soon have "Wall-to-wall EBBA News" in the living room of our Cape Cod cottage. We use the organ bench for mixed Zips- 1 to 2 each state, and the bookcase for the foreign and Canadians.

(Bottom): CHANGE OF ADDRESSES: The slowest part of the mailing preparation... "pulling" the last minute changes of address from the state piles. These changes are usually made by hand (until new plates are made). . . .



..... and re-inserted, or changed to the new location of states.....



ZIP CODE SORTING: Each large state must be sorted by Zip Codes: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, to mention some.....



(Top). LABELING & TYING: Each "Zip Coded" package and each state package not required Zip coding must be tied and labeled. Philadelphia and Laurel, Md., have the distinction of being seperate city packages.

(Bottom). TIED & PACKAGED: When this is finished, EBBA NEWS is bagged for regional area routing--East, South, West and seperate bags for Penna, New York and New Jersey....



(Top). ON IT'S WAY...

Six bags are loaded aboard the station wagon for delivery to the post office, each weighing approximately 25-30 pounds. The 50-odd foreign and Canadian envelopes are not mailed with the regular permit mailing.



(Bottom). FINALLY: At the loading dock behind the Little Falls, N.J., post office, the bags are loaded onto a cart to be rolled into the weighing station. They are weighed and finally they are sent out on the journey to each one of you.

From this point on, our occasional research with a return postcard (enclosed in EBBA News) reveals a member in California has received his issue in 4-6 days, while a member in Pennsylvania may not receive his issue for 10 days. Local members (in this N.J. area) sometimes do not receive their issue for 5-7 days. As Third Class Mailing our publication is delivered at the option of the individual postman! (A quick check at the annual meeting revealed that some 15 of the @ 90 members in attendance had not received their March-April issue yet; it was mailed @ April 12th. Editor) If it is that time of the month when many magazines are in the mails, it will take much longer. If you "cue" your postman to the fact that it has to do with your banding activities--it might receive priority. Only First Class designation would move EBBA News faster. The Editor and Ruth have discussed this at length but found the cost too steep. It would mean an additional increase in the dues.

We hope this article will help the members to realize what goes on behind the scenes of EBBA NEWS before it arrives at its destination.

--Christopher and Ruth J. Rose, 98 Lopez Road, Cedar Grove, New Jersey
07009

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TO MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR MAGAZINE

TO CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS WITH EBBA NEWS....

About four to six weeks before you change your address, please drop a note in the mail (or POD FORM 3578) to the EDITOR.

Send all address changes to:

Eastern Bird Banding Association
Post Office Box 3295
Grand Central Station
New York, New York 10017

PLEASE

NOTIFY

YOUR

PUBLISHER ...

It is not necessary to notify the Treasurer or any other officer because the editor is in constant touch with all concerned and will promptly pass the information on... Perhaps this will make it less cumbersome for you....

Thank You!

