



ISLAND BEACH STATE
PARK
50TH ANNIVERSARY
MEETING
OF THE
EASTERN BIRD BAN-
DING ASSOCIATION
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APRIL 27, 28 & 29
1973

"Island Beach State Park occupies the last undisturbed stretch of barrier beach in New Jersey, and probably the largest natural area of its kind on the North Atlantic coast. Consisting of a narrow finger of sand reaching from Seaside Heights to historic Barnegat Inlet, Island Beach is separated from the mainland by the quiet waters of Barnegat Bay and pounded on its eastern flank by the Atlantic Ocean. Its ten miles of ocean shore and more than 2,300 acres of dunes, thickets, woodlands, and marshes comprise a unique remnant of the primitive Atlantic coast, which looks today very much as it did to the early settlers."

Thus, William E. Martin begins his story about "An Unspoiled Bit of Atlantic Coast", published by the New Jersey State Museum, 1970. It is not surprising therefore, that Island Beach State Park, has, over the years, been such a fantastic spot for migration bird-banding. It features the unique "coastal scrub" habitat which is known to attract migrants so strongly. The western edge of the park consists of an area of low dunes. The vegetation is highly variable in character because it is controlled by dune elevations and water relationships. These low areas are occupied by dense thickets of green briar and ivy, occasional cedars, clumps of holly and hardwood shrubs.

When you attend the 50th Anniversary Meeting of EBBA, you will observe the effects of this vegetation on birds.

Weatherwise, there are still some 30° temperatures in the early morning, but during the day it warms up to 55° or 60° that time of year. It is recommended that you bring some warm clothing along.

Katherine G. Price, Director of the Island Beach Banding Station, will be in charge of the Workshop. This Workshop will deal with plumages and molts and aging many spring birds. The theme of the meeting will be: THINK SPRING!

The Workshop session will be held in the net lanes on Saturday morning, weather permitting. If there is inclement weather, it will be held inside. The net lanes will be run by the following banders: Bob Yunick, Margaret & Bill Pepper, Hannah Suthers, Bob Pantle, John Miller, John Weske, Lloyd Price, Gale Smith and Scott Wood. There will be an hour-long summary of Workshop material in the afternoon, at which time a panel will also serve, consisting of Mary Clench, Kathleen Anderson, Dorothy Bordner, Merrill Wood, Bob Yunick, Burt Murray, Charles Blake, Jeff Swinebroad, Chan Robbins and all those present from the Bird Banding Laboratory.

All the folks from Island Beach are looking forward to have the opportunity to warmly welcome you, to this, our 50th Anniversary Meeting.

We've been told that three Charter Members are planning to attend; they are: Raymond J. Middleton, Howard Cleaves and Mrs. John A. Gillespie. If there are any other charter members who would like to attend, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Mrs. Price (address below) or the Editor.

Finally, if you would like to attend this meeting, and you haven't as yet made reservations and/or sent in your pre-registration form, please do so at once. Hotel information appeared in our August 1972 issue of *EBBA News*, on p. 214, and in our November 1972 issue on page 277-278.

Speaking of page 278 in the November issue, the Pine Barrens field trip, will be lead by Betty and Jim Woodford.

If you want to bring any exhibits to the meeting (there have been some great exhibits in past years' meetings), there will be ample room to display them. Exhibits have always been a meeting highlight, particularly traps, and other banding paraphenelia.

We really feel this is going to be a great meeting. Even though it is still very early, a great many people have already told us they're coming. Following the theme of the meeting - THINK SPRING! - let's really get in this spring spirit - wear your colorful birding clothes - have a grand time!!!

If you need more information - write to Katherine G. Price, 121 Cherry Street, Mount Holly, New Jersey 08060.