

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Herring Gulls ranging in age and plumage from first year through fourth year are being individually marked at sanitary landfills at Groton and Stonington, Conn. The gulls marked at the Groton dump have blaze orange dumb-bell shaped wing tags. The tags have a 1/4 inch black border with a black letter painted over

the number, ie. 1 - 9, through letter (F). The letter-number system has been reversed with letters H through Z, ie. H - H etc. Stonington gulls have blue wing tags with a 1/4 inch white border on the edge. The same letter-number

sequence as Groton has been used, ie. 1 - 9, through letter F. The tags can be read with a spotting scope up to a distance of 100 yards. Reports of sight records of these marked gulls would be greatly appreciated. Please include date, time and location of sighting, color of tag, and letter-number series. Reports should be sent to: FRANK R. HAENI, *Thames Science Center, Center Gallows Lane, New London, Conn. 06320.*

Autumn Hawk Migration Monograph.—Research and the writing of a comprehensive book detailing autumn hawk migrations in eastern North America is nearing completion. An exhaustive literature search has been conducted, and many unpublished data have been gathered from institutions and private individuals. Persons who have not yet forwarded unpublished data for 1971 or earlier are urged to do so immediately if they wish to have their work recognized and considered for inclusion in this monograph. Please send all information to: DONALD S. HEINTZELMAN, *629 Green St., Allentown, Pa. 18102.*

NOTES AND NEWS

NEBBA Spring Meeting, 8-9 June 1973

Ipswich River Sanctuary of the Massachusetts Audubon Society

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING—8 June 1973 at 20:00.

Councilors present were Youngstrom, Hagar, Kraus, Kennard, Howard, Anderson, Seamans, Fiske, Harrington, Davis, and Regan. It was MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting and the Minutes of the Business Meeting on 4-5 November 1972 be waived, as the Councilors had all received these in the mail. The Secretary then read the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting on 10 March 1973 at the home of Deborah Howard.

No Secretary's or Treasurer's reports were available.

The **Fall Meeting** will be held on 3 November 1973 at the University of Rhode Island at Kingston. Messers. Baird, Kraus and Kennard form the Arrangements Committee. Dr. Davis suggested that the program be mailed out ahead of the meeting if possible. Dr. Kennard suggested that one section of the fall meeting be devoted to short papers on interesting returns and recoveries by NEBBA members.

The next order of business was a report of the Mist Net Committee from James Seamans. He stated that the Committee, as authorized by the Council, has concluded arrangements with Manomet Bird Observatory to act as an agent for NEBBA in the Mist Net business as Alexander Bergstrom's death had left no one to handle the business. He said Manomet Bird Observatory is going ahead, doing a good job, and the business is continuing. Brian Harrington, an employee of MBO and a NEBBA Councilor, authorized as an Assistant Treasurer for the Mist Net account, reported that their only problem at this time was a shortage of nets as no reorders had been placed between November 1972 and May 1973. Mr. Seamans stated that they will be putting out a new net price list shortly. He said that they planned to stock only tethered extra full nets in the future and that Mr. Baird and Mr. Hallett had agreed to a list of new base prices. The prices will be published in *Bird-Banding* soon. An increase in prices is necessary because of a 24% devaluation of the dollar relative to the yen. It was noted that the agreement for MBO to act as an agent for NEBBA runs from April 1973 to 31 March 1974, which will give the Net Committee and the Council time to decide on future arrangements in the fall.

Dr. Kennard congratulated the Mist Net Committee for the smooth change-over. It was then MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED unanimously that the Mist Net Committee prepare recommendations for consideration by the Council prior to the Annual Meeting relating to the best procedure to be carried out at the termination of the present contract.

The next item of business was the 1951-60 Index. Larry Bartlett says it will be done by August (he is leaving for Hawaii in September). Dr. David Johnston will handle arrangements. The 1961-70 Index Committee Chairman, Roger Lawrence, had no report and it was noted by Ms. Howard that that committee had been inactive this year. She further commented that the problem which the Committee had never been able to resolve satisfactorily was that of computerizing preparation of a ten-year Index.

Dr. Kennard then read a letter from the Editor, Dr. David W. Johnston. First, Dr. Johnston asked whether people should have to be members of NEBBA in order to publish their papers in *Bird-Banding*. He felt that they should, but suggested that if the Council did not think this appropriate, he would be willing to "strongly urge" those who submitted papers to join NEBBA. After a considerable discussion, the Secretary agreed to find out from the *Auk*, *Condor* and *Wilson Bulletin*, what arrangements they make with regard to (1), publishing and being a member, and (2), page charges. It was then MOVED, SECONDED and unanimously VOTED that people should not have to be members in order to publish in *Bird-Banding*. Second, Dr. Johnston wished authorization for the preparation of a 1973 Index. It was MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED by the Council to authorize him to publish a one-year Index with the 1973 Autumn issue and to expend not more than \$50 in the preparation of this Index. The money was to come out of the Index Fund. Mr. Harrington volunteered to perform the task of indexing the 1973 issue and the Secretary agreed to write Dr. Johnston telling him of this.

The next order of business was a letter from Councilor Charles Blake asking whether NEBBA had any suggestions about what to do with approximately \$50 which was left over from the treasury of NACOBBA. The Council unanimously agreed that the \$50 should be donated to the Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund at the American Museum of Natural History. This fund supports needy students with small grants for ornithological research. The Secretary agreed to write Dr. Blake and inform him of this action.

The next order of business was the GJJ. The Council unanimously agreed to go on record encouraging the publication of a single lay journal to be sponsored jointly by all the North American bird-banding organizations. The Secretary agreed to send letters to the secretaries of the other four bird-banding organizations and to Earl Baysinger and George Jonkel informing them of this resolution.

Deborah Howard, the Secretary, was voted by the Council to act as both Vice President and Secretary until a new slate of officers was adopted in November.

Dr. Kennard then noted that he had appointed a Nominating Committee for the 1973 slate consisting of Claire Reed, Chairman, Marion Metcalf, and Gordon Johnson. This committee is to submit the slate to the Secretary in accordance with the by-laws at least three weeks before the next annual meeting. Dr. Kennard suggested that all people on the Council should send their suggestions to the nomination committee.

The next order of business was the NEBBA capital investments. Dr. Kennard suggested that a standing Investment Committee be appointed in the fall to advise the Treasurer and the NEBBA Council about their investments. It was agreed that at the fall meeting an Investment Committee would be appointed and its authority defined. Dr. Kennard suggested that the Council be thinking about people who would be appropriate for this committee.

Next order of business was another letter from Dr. Johnston asking whether *Bird-Banding* should accept advertising. It was MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED that *Bird-Banding* should not publish free ads for books or any other ads.

Ms. Anderson then stated that she had been in contact with EBBA and that the arrangements for the joint EBBA-NEBBA meeting at MBO 7, 8 and 9 June 1974 were moving along rapidly. She will have more definite arrangements in the fall.

Dr. Kennard noted that he had received from the banding office a large print-out containing a summary of birds, banded by state from 1955-1971. He also received two lists of banders: one numerical by banding permit and one alphabetical by state. All three are deposited with the Secretary.

The next order of discussion was a comment on keeping the membership files up to date. Mr. Seamans agreed that he would get a list of current members from Mrs. Downs for use of Manomet Bird Observatory Mist Net personnel. This is necessary because members get a discount when purchasing nets.

Ms. Howard noted that she had received a letter from the President of the Inland Bird Banding Association asking that we distribute IBBA cards at our meetings. Ms. Howard had left the cards with Dr. Kennard to be distributed at the meeting on Saturday.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 22:25

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah V. Howard, Secretary

SPRING MEETING—A bird walk led by James Baird, started at headquarters at about 08:00, and led around the grounds, including the marsh area and the Ipswich River, returning at about 09:30. This was highlighted by observation of Golden-winged and Blue-winged warblers and snapping turtles laying eggs.

Dr. Kennard opened the meeting at 10:10, and introduced as guests Mr. Jay Shepard of the Bird-Banding Laboratory, and Mr. Fred Shaeffer, Editor of *EBBA News*.

Erma J. Fisk then presented new aging and sexing sheets for banders, which she hopes will be published in loose-leaf form in Vol. II of the Bird-Banding Manual. She pointed out many of the errors in previously used, and even recently published, methods, and the difficulty in editing such a manual that would not be obsolete in part by the time it is published.

Harold Payson III gave an interesting summary of the banding and population studies being carried out under his direction in the Middlesex Fells area.

Jay Shepard then discussed common errors in the recording of data, as reported to the Bird-Banding Lab.

The Spring business meeting was called to order by Dr. Kennard at 13:00. He spoke of the great loss to NEBBA in the death of Alex Bergstrom who handled Mist Net sales for many years. James Seamans is now Mist Net Chairman and Manomet Bird Observatory is handling the net work under a temporary one year contract with NEBBA. It is hoped a more permanent agreement will be worked out in the fall. The new price list will be published in *Bird-Banding*.

The Index for *Bird-Banding* was then discussed. The 1951-60 Index handled by Larry Bartlett should be completed in 1973. No action has been taken on the Index for 1961-70. Suggestions for this are needed. At the suggestion of Dr. David W. Johnston an index will be printed annually from now on in the Autumn issue of *Bird-Banding*.

Trevor Lloyd-Evans gave a summary of the present state of research in the bird observatories of Great Britain.

Kathleen Anderson then summarized present activities of MBO.

Dr. Kennard summarized the present state of his work on the longevity of North American Birds.

There was a brief description of the computerized summary of the entire data of the Bird-Banding Laboratory by species and state, presented to NEBBA by Mr. Shepard. This will be held in custody by Mrs. Anderson at Manomet, for use by any member of the organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:40.

Lydia Kennard
Acting Secretary