

Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

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IBBA/NNBA Joint Annual Meeting

29-31 October 1982
Norfolk, Nebraska

The Northeastern Nebraska Bird Banders hosted IBBA for its 60th Anniversary meeting. The efforts of Chairpersons Willetta and John Lueshen, Jane and James Dunlap, and all of their many helpers were certainly evident as the meeting was well attended and was extremely enjoyable.

Many attendees stopped on Friday at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge on the Missouri River. The refuge's visitor center, which was recently completed after four years of planning and two years of construction, is a visitor's delight. The 26,000 sq. ft. building houses, in a controlled environment, the artifacts of the steamboat Bertrand, which sank in 1865. The presence of only a few thousand of the hundreds of thousands of migratory waterfowl and the absence of the Bald Eagles that are attracted, by the dozens, to the refuge each fall and winter did not diminish the beauty of the refuge. The recently arrived Harris' Sparrows that were present in good numbers were a treat to the eastern visitors.

On Friday night, preceding a beautiful reception hosted by the Northeastern Nebraska Bird Banders, Mark Brogie discussed the Niobrara Valley Preserve, located in northcentral Nebraska. Mark's concentration on his presentation was made more difficult by an earlier phone call announcing that Whooping Cranes had been sighted on the Preserve, a species that he had always wanted to see on the Preserve.



Figure 1. Left: Donald Beimborn, Afton, MN, IBBA President
Right: Merrill Wood, College Station, PA

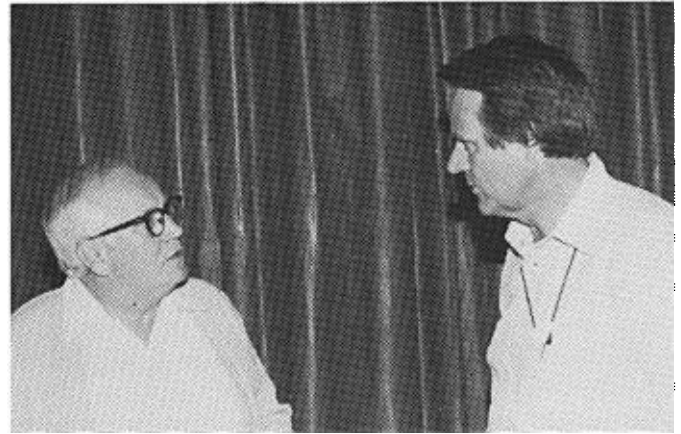


Figure 2. Left: Donald Johnson, Ottumwa, IA
Right: George Jonkel, Laurel, MD, Bird Banding Lab

Saturday morning offered an opportunity to view Jane Dunlap's banding operation or partake from a selection of field trips.

Saturday morning and afternoon sessions included papers given by:

Gary Lingle, "The Platte River Whooping Crane Habitat Trust and Migratory Bird Management."

Craig Faanes, "The Prairie — A Vanishing Resource."

Jean Schulenberg, "The Least Tern in Kansas."

Balazs Elody, "An Independent Study of the Barred Owl."

Don Varland, "Raptor Banding and Migration in the Loess Bluffs of Southwestern Iowa."

Additional features on the Saturday program were multiple 15-minute rotating workshops on identification of species, age, and sex using skins from the Wayne State College collection; presentation of photography contest slides and winners by Ed Brogie and Judge Jon Farrar, Senior Editor of *NEBRASKAland Magazine*; the annual report from the Bird Banding Laboratory by George Jonkel; and a forum led by Merrill Wood and Don Beimborn on banding techniques and age/sex determinations.

The Annual Meeting saw the re-election of all current

officers. New Board Members replacing Dorothy Flentge, IL and Gene Burns, IA are Norm Sloan, MI and Henry West, IN.

In addition to the extensive collection of bird study skins, a variety of materials was on display, including publications, bird art, banding equipment, bird feeders, materials offered in a silent auction, and several tables full of door prizes contributed by almost 40 individuals, companies, or other organizations. It seemed that almost all registrants left with a valued door prize. Display highlights included several items of IBBA memorabilia and a live Red-cockaded Woodpecker that accompanied IBBA Editor Jerry Jackson on his long trek to Nebraska from Mississippi.

The 60th Anniversary Banquet featured Nebraska beef, colorful table decorations, imaginative table favors, and concluded with Jon Farrar presenting a beautiful slide show on the Sandhills of Nebraska.

Next year's annual meeting will be hosted by Terry Ingram and the Eagle Valley folks in southwestern Wisconsin.



Figure 3. Left to right: Norman Sloan and Balazs Elody, Houghton, MI; Mark Brogie, Wayne, NE; Ed Schulenberg, Admire, KS

Central Flyway Review: Spring 1982

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Nine banding stations from within the IBBA area contributed data to the first "Central Flyway Review." The reporting stations represent five states, and include stations from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border. There are many more banders and banding stations operating within the IBBA area than the nine reporting stations would indicate, and I certainly hope that other stations will add their support to this review in the future.

Even though this is the first review for this vast area, several very interesting trends are already developing. Especially intriguing is the build up of migrants at some of the inland banding stations such as Olive Park in Chicago. A record of 563 birds per 100 net-hours is almost unbelievable and illustrates the importance of proper habitat to migrating birds even within urban areas. Other interesting observations have been obtained from the four Texas stations that reported. Two of

Table 1. Central Flyway Summary

	Fort Bolivar TX	Galveston TX	Pipe Creek TX	Driftwood TX	Lake Hubert MN	Ottawa Co. OH
Days of operation	31	52	31	51	18	23
Number of nets used	1-15	3-7	8	5-25	8	2-9
Total net-hours	2690	2316	650	2852	576	742
Largest daily catch	973	127	10	71	30	403
Birds banded, 1981	5755	588	104	693	126	2150
Different species, 1981	83	65	34	79	32	92
Birds/100 n.h., 1981	213.9	25.4	16	24.3	21.9	289.6