



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

President's Message

IBBA had an excellent meeting in Oklahoma, thanks to Don and Joyce Varner, the Indian Nation's Audubon Society and the Oklahoma Ornithologists Union. The weather was great and the location very nice. I enjoyed it very much in spite of sitting in a marathon board meeting most of the time.

I believe it was especially useful for NABB. Robert Tweit president of WBBA, Bill Quay, editor of WBBA, and Walter Protzman, president of EBBA were all able to attend. They joined Norman Sloan and myself for a panel discussion on NABB.

I feel that everyone gained a better feeling and appreciation for each other's feelings about what NABB should be. It was a fine idea and a great dream to join the association into one publication. However, like any dream, there is a big gap to reality.

As I see it, for NABB to continue as a viable publication no single organization can dominate the content and philosophy. For this to occur, we must develop a philosophy that will be accepted by the members of all associations. Perhaps it should be part of the By-Laws of each organization. Then it could not be changed except by the membership as a whole.

Volume 10 of NABB will contain more information about this whole process. We are very interested in hearing from each of you. Your views are important. So important in fact that the editorial committee composed of the Presidents and Editors of each association decided to start a new column or department in NABB called "The Banders Forum."

This section will include only letters from the members of the three associations. The only editing any letter will get will be to shorten it if space does not allow printing of the full letter. Any topic may be addressed in your letters. They may be complimentary (we always like), critical (essential for improvement) or just comments and recommendations concerning a previous article in

NABB. Send your letters to myself, Coordinating Editor for NABB, Box 155, Apple River, IL 61001.

We now have NABB back on schedule and plan to keep it there. We plan to mail each issue during the last two weeks of the final month of each quarter. Each organization can then plan to use the mailing as an opportunity to send other materials to save postage and to announce upcoming meetings. By keeping it on schedule we will all benefit. In fact we are using this issue to send out dues notices and to IBBA members a copy of the By-Laws.

Many other topics were discussed by the board during our marathon meeting. Probably the most important affecting NABB were the following two resolutions:

"The Philosophy of the Board of Directors is that the material that Inland Bird Banding Association accepts for Publication in the *North American Bird Bander* should reflect the interests of all its members and directs that our editor is responsible for insuring that these interests be protected."

"Considering the above stated philosophy, the board directs the president to accept a master editor only under the condition that such editor will protect the right of each association to express its own philosophy in the material presented for publication in the *North American Bird Bander*."

Now we have to develop a philosophy from all of the organizations that will include our resolutions as well as each of theirs. Once this is done, we will be able to keep NABB as a viable publication with each association retaining its own identity and autonomy. There is still much correspondence to be sent and differences to be negotiated, which is why I agreed to remain your president for another year. I hope when I step down this next year, I'll be able to turn over a position that has much less turmoil and unmade decisions. Only time will tell.

Terrence N. Ingram