



Western Regional News

Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

From WBBA's President

Annual Meeting 1986, Santa Barbara CA

Our annual meeting for 1986 (October 10-12) was a success and joy. Some major features of the meeting, and of its business accomplishments, are outlined in sections that follow, provided by WBBA Secretary Ruth Russell and Treasurer Howard Cogswell. I am grateful to David DeSante and his coworkers for the organization and management of the meeting. For gracious and warm hospitality in attractive surroundings we are thankful to the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum and to Betty and Richard Doutt. This meeting was a time for changes in WBBA's officers or in their responsibilities. In completing his presidency of WBBA, Bob Tweit becomes our new Editor. Manuscripts and correspondence relating to NABB from the WBBA area should now be directed to him. We are very grateful to Bob for his leadership as President and pleased that he will be continuing his constructive contributions as Editor.

Our meeting benefited also from the participation of Fred Schaeffer, president of the Eastern Bird Banding Association. Personal interassociation communication continues to be a vital thread in planning our joint editing and publishing of NABB. Many aspects of bird banding are the same across North America so I invite all banders of whatever geographic or associational affiliation to WBBA's meetings.

Future WBBA meetings

WBBA tries to have annual meetings at different places dispersed within our territory, north to south, east to west. We often choose centers of banding activity and locations convenient to many members. It has been apparent that it would be helpful to plan

meeting times and locations further ahead. However I and the other WBBA officers are always interested in input from our members, so please write or telephone if you have ideas or suggestions to share. We have usually alternated our annual meeting site between California and other western states and within California between northern and southern areas. However this should not be considered a fixed pattern. Our meeting in 1985 in Colorado was a welcome visit to the eastern part of our territory. A future meeting to the north should be considered soon.

The preferred time for our annual meeting seems to be a fall weekend, particularly late September and October. This avoids conflicts in spring and early summer with major field projects. Weekends are the best.

The 1987 meeting will be October 9 -11 in Tucson, Arizona. Steve and Ruth Russell and Bob and Joan Tweit will be the organizers of the meeting to include workshops, field trips, banding research reports and association business. Please let us know of your suggestions for this and subsequent meetings.

The 1988 meeting will tentatively be in Arcata, California, at about the same time. C. J. Ralph and his associates will organize the meeting and some of the sessions will be held at the USFS Redwood Science Laboratory. A great diversity of habitats will be available for field trips and demonstrations.

The 1989 meeting will tentatively be at Reno, Nevada, with Alan Gubanich of the University of Nevada as organizer. This area also has a wide variety of habitats and good meeting facilities.

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North American Bird Bander

A major concern of the three associations is our journal, North American Bird Bander. We wish this to be a useful publication representing all North American bird banders and relating to their interests and needs. We also wish to maintain and upgrade its quality and significance for our membership. We must all work together to maintain and improve NABB and to enhance its long term stability. Terry Ingram and his staff at

the Eagle Foundation are doing a great job and deserve our thanks for publishing NABB on time. Suggestions from our members concerning NABB are welcome either directly to the WBBA officers or for publication in the Bander's Forum. The most important characteristic of such publication is **constructive suggestion**. Let us work together in a mutually respectful and supportive way.

W.B. (Bill) Quay
home: (707) 253-7346

Financial Summary 1985-86 and Budget 1986-87

	Budget	Actual	Budget 86-87
RECEIPTS			
Membership Dues	\$4550	\$7739	\$7400
Contributions	300	116	100
Interest	400	426	440
Sales	1000	1417	450
NABB Advertising	0	20	0
1985 Meeting surplus & deposit refund	0	401	0
1986 Meeting receipts			1000
TOTAL	\$6250	\$10119	\$9390
EXPENDITURES			
NABB (5 issues in 85-86)	\$4400	\$5415	\$5200
Annual Report	300	191	250
Officers exp. & supplies	400	634	570
Sales expenses	0	356	300
Indexes to NABB	300	472	0
Research grant	250	250	250
Miscellaneous	175	135	0
1986 Meeting expenses			920
Surplus	425	2666	1900
TOTAL	\$6250	\$10119	\$9390
GENERAL FUND (GF): Balance 4/1/85	\$4454	(includes \$1900 loan from EF)	
Balance 3/31/86	\$5719	(includes \$707 loan from EF)	
ENDOWMENT FUND Balance 4/1/85	\$4420	(includes \$1900 on loan to GF)	
2 Life memberships	520		
Balance 3/31/86	\$4940	(includes \$707 on loan to GF)	

For a more detailed report, write the Treasurer.

**THE 1987 ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE IN TUCSON, ARIZONA
OCTOBER 9-11.**

WBBA Annual Meeting - 1986

Program Highlights

The meeting was held at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum; Dave DeSante was program chairman. The morning workshops featured two outstanding presentations from Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

DeSante spoke on 'Strategy, methods and operation of a year-round banding station,' stressing the usefulness of such a program in determining productivity and survivorship. Weather conditions of temperature, wind and rainfall should be monitored and good records maintained to allow analysis of these important factors. DeSante discussed variables affecting the total number of birds in the banding area including productivity, immigration, emigration and survivorship, and variables controlling the number of birds captured. He detailed many of the factors affecting banding techniques and emphasized the importance of a standardized procedure to produce reliable data.

Peter Pyle presented 'Recent advances in ageing and sexing techniques for selected passerines,' emphasizing the use of feather shapes and colors. He demonstrated the ease with which this technique can be applied to a wide variety of passerines with many examples. Pyle is currently preparing a collection of new and revised ageing and sexing sheets, to be available in 1987.

During the afternoon session, Bill Quay spoke on 'Passerine sperm balls,' aggregates containing over 100,000 enmeshed sperm commonly found in breeding male and inseminated female passerines. Sperm from an early inseminated ball may have a competitive advantage in the female reproductive tract over those from later inseminations, a hitherto unappreciated mechanism for possible sperm competition.

Other highlights of the meeting included a report from George Jonkel, Director of the Bird Banding Laboratory; a presentation on the Least Bell's Vireo by Bruce Peterson and the banquet program by Peter Pyle, Birds of Southeast Farallon Island.

Ruth Ogden Russell

Minutes

President Robert Tweit called the meeting to order at 11:20 am, October 11, in the auditorium of the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum.

Treasurer Howard Cogswell distributed copies of his report (see previous page).

Tweit announced the death of longtime member Don Bleitz, founder of the Bleitz Wildlife Foundation.

Editor Bill Quay reported the receipt of nine articles for NABB in 1985 and four so far in 1986. He is now soliciting additional manuscripts. All manuscripts are evaluated by two or more experienced, impartial banders, usually members of the Editorial and Review Board. The subsequent revisions are again examined by the editor and when accepted, papers are transmitted promptly to the NABB production staff. Quay expressed his appreciation to Joan Tweit for the Annual Report, Martin McNicholl for Books and Recent Literature and Martha Balph for Recoveries.

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on 10 October at the home of Betty and Richard Douth, were summarized by the Secretary, Ruth Ogden Russell. Highlights included:

1. Acceptance of the Nominating Committee report, presented by its chairman, Martin McNicholl.
2. Review of the Treasurer's report and approval of the budget for 1986-1987.
3. Three positions to be filled: Martha Balph would like to be replaced as editor of Significant Encounters; Kerry Reese has agreed to be chairman of the Annual Research Award Committee; a volunteer is needed to chair the Director's Award Committee.
4. Future meetings: 1987, Tucson; 1988, Arcata, California; 1989, Reno, Nevada.
5. The Board voted to approve the Eagle Foundation as production manager for 1987 with the requested increase in page charges from \$5 to \$6, and to evaluate other possibilities to do the job starting in 1988. A motion passed that "no quotas are to be imposed on the number of pages in the front of NABB, extra charges are to be allocated on the basis of copies mailed."

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Minutes (cont.)

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Martin McNicholl. The slate of officers for 1986-87 is:

President: Dr. Wilbur B. Quay
1st Vice President: Dr. David DeSante
2nd Vice-President: Dr. Stephen Russell
Secretary: Ruth Ogden Russell
Treasurer: Dr. Howard Cogswell
Directors: Dr. Kerry Reese (1987)
Dr. Carl Barrentine (1988).

There were no further nominations from the floor. It was moved and passed that the slate be accepted as read.

Stephen Russell announced that Nora Mays is the winner of the Annual Research Award.

Joan Tweit, Annual Report compiler, thanked members for their cooperation in supplying banding data. The annual report form is mailed to over 500 banders with an 80% return. She requested that all master permit holders respond, even those not currently banding. Sub-permittees should report through their master bander.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ogden Russell, Secretary

CALL FOR PAPERS & DEMONSTRATIONS

The 1987 WBBA Meeting will emphasize techniques useful to field biologists. There will be workshops on special methods of netting, trapping, making traps, capturing raptors, marking (from hummingbirds to eagles), ageing, sexing, laparotomy, cloacal lavage, and special tissue and blood sampling methods. If you have developed a useful technique, plan to come and share it with others. If you need to learn a new technique, plan also to participate in the program in Tucson AZ, October 9-11.

Please contact:

Dr. Stephen M. Russell
Dept. of Ecology & Evol. Biology
University of Arizona
Tucson AZ 85721.

Publications available from WBBA:

BODY WEIGHTS OF 686 SPECIES OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS

by John B. Dunning, Jr.
\$3.75 prepaid

Ageing/Sexing Worksheets for western birds are available for the following species:

Harris' Hawk, Merlin, Scaled Quail, Gambel's Quail, California Quail, Mountain Quail, Common Snipe, Band-tailed Pigeon, Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned Hummingbird, *Myiarchus* flycatchers, key to kingbirds, Tropical Kingbird, Cassin's Kingbird, Western Kingbird, Eastern Kingbird, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Clark's Nutcracker, Yellow-billed Magpie, Verdin, Bushtit, gnatcatchers, Varied Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, waterthrushes, *Oporornis* warblers, Summer Tanager, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, towhees,

White-crowned Sparrow, Tricolored Blackbird, Cassin's Finch, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, American Goldfinch.

Price; 5 sheets for \$1.00

Order worksheets, the weight monograph and back issues of NABB from:

Jolan Truan
4220 W. Diana Ave
Phoenix AZ 85051

INDEX to Volumes 1-5 of NABB
\$2.00 prepaid

Order now (only a few left) from:
WBBA
4100 N. Romero, #108
Tucson AZ 85705-2350
