



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

IBBA ANNUAL MEETING 13-15 Oct 2000

The annual meeting of the Inland Bird Banding Association (IBBA) will be held at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Shreveport, Louisiana, from 13 - 15 Oct 2000. The Shreveport Society for Nature Study, Bird Study Group and the Louisiana Ornithological Society will host the meeting. Fall migration will be well underway and a full schedule of field trips, workshops, and scientific paper sessions will provide great opportunities for all that attend. Other activities in the Shreveport- Bossier City area include SciPort Discovery Center and IMAX Theater, American Rose Society rose gardens, historic Caddo Lake, plus many more man made and natural wonders.

We are anxious to have contributed papers that deal with banding techniques or the results of studies involving bird banding. Scientific paper sessions will also be open to contributed papers based on original research on any aspect of field ornithology.

Members are encouraged to register early for the meeting so that facilities and trips can be planned accordingly. The registration fee will be \$15 for those registering prior to 1 Aug 2000 and \$20 thereafter. For information from the local committee about local accommodations and arrangements for the meeting, please contact: **Dr. James L. Ingold**, Department of Biological Sciences, LSU-Shreveport, Shreveport, LA 71115. Phone: 318-797-5236, Fax: 318-797-5222, Email: jjingold@pilot.lsus.edu.

Bander's Cheat Sheet

With the many numbers, abbreviations, codes, etc., banders must become familiar with, it is often difficult to process birds in a timely and efficient manner. For those of us who do not have perfect

memories, it becomes time consuming and burdensome digging for or flipping through separate pages of Alpha Codes, band sizes, AOU numbers, MAPS codes sheets (which seem to change often) and a comprehensive *Identification Guide to North American Passerines* with 691 pages of data to thumb through. Our banding stations, whether on pick-up truck tailgates, folding tables, or picnic tables, are crowded enough with banding tools, balances, bands, data sheets, etc. The less we have to tote around and sort through, the better—even more so for those who band from net to net! In an effort to increase efficiency at my stations and other banding stations throughout Ohio, I took the time to create a simple "cheat sheet" or "shortcut key" which is also very useful when preparing banding schedules at the end of a strand, project, or banding year.

I created a list of 135 species (expected in my banding area) listing family, species, AOU number, alpha code, band size and page number in Pyle. This listing fills three half-page, landscape columns of standard 8.5" x 11" paper. The remaining half-page is formatted with two columns of MAPS codes (skull pneumaticization, cloacal protuberance, brood patch, fat, body molt, flight-feather molt, flight-feather wear, juvenal body plumage, and disposition). For ease of use, the cheat sheet is printed or copied on the front and back of a colored piece of paper (choose a color easy on the eyes in sunlight). Print/copy the back side upside down to make it possible to flip the paper over and back for quick reference. Insert the cheat sheet into a plastic sheet protector.

If you would like more information on how you might prepare cheat sheets for the birds specific to your area, or copies of my Ohio version, please contact **TolfordTK@aol.com** - subject "OBBA birdlist".

Timothy K. Tolford
Ohio Bird Banders Association