



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

President's Report

A small but enthusiastic group of IBBA members attended our first "north of the border" meeting in early September at the historic Delta Marsh in Manitoba. Expertly hosted by the Delta Marsh Bird Observatory and its director, Heidi denHaan, the meeting included a great array of papers, local history and sites, and great discussion. I hope this first "Canadian" meeting will mark a new beginning for expanded activity of IBBA both here on the written page and in the field where ornithological knowledge is gained and instituted. You may read the highlights of the meeting elsewhere in *NABB*, so I will just touch on a few items that I wish to emphasize and encourage participation of you as members and researchers.

First, I am happy to announce we are fiscally solvent as an organization and will be providing additional information both in future issues of *NABB* and on our web page concerning research grants available through the organization. If you have projects, look into the granting procedure. An additional plea has been a long-standing request to publish your work. We must not lose sight of what the end product of banding is. Band placement is a means to the end of education for general consumption or improved land management and not the end product in itself. By publishing our work no matter how in depth, how broad or finely focused, or how statistically strong, we can advance our knowledge of the avian resource. Education is impossible without sound scientific research and research is useless if not used to inform.

A goal of IBBA will be to provide guidance and assistance to rank-and-file members in sample design, data collection, and statistical analysis. With this goal in mind, I will be contacting banders throughout the region to act as a resource for others requesting help in this area. We will also be developing a list of banding stations that allow visitation for banders wishing to acquire a broader experience base and for the general public that are interested in the natural resources. I hope to have a form placed on the web page in the near future for willing station operators to complete.

I also want to encourage your consideration of taking out a life membership to IBBA; there are few better buys in the ornithological world.

Finally, I wish to welcome the new board members to the team and especially wish to express a thank-you from the organization to Tom Kashmer and Keith Kimmerle for their service to the Board as their terms expired. Neither will be allowed to drift out of the picture.

Mark C. Shieldcastle
President

IBBA Board and General Meetings
7 - 8 September 2001
Delta Marsh, Manitoba

Treasurer's Report - Tom Kashmer:

Discussion: Present treasury consists of \$54,374. Presently, it costs \$8.50 (out of \$15 dues) to pay *NABB* production costs for U.S. members; \$16/year to mail 4 issues to Canada,

and \$20/year to mail overseas. Increasing outside -U.S. dues should be discussed in the near future.

After the annual meeting, the treasurer is directed to transfer \$8 for each life member from the life membership account to the regular account to cover cost of printing and mailing the *North American Bird Bander*. It was recommended that Life Membership dues be reviewed by the By-Law Committee with a potential increase being mandated.

Membership Secretary's Report - Tom Bartlett:

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Regular	226	208	210
Sustaining	22	17	19
Life	68	65	74
Institutional	27	27	30
Complimentary	4	4	4
Exchange	2	2	2
Student	3	4	0
No NABB	3	2	2
Total Membership	355*	330#	338^

* includes 43 delinquent members

includes 16 delinquent members and 17 new members

^ includes 40 delinquent members and 29 new members

Discussion: No student memberships (paid by IBBA) have been requested for this year. Members are reminded of this potential for up-and-coming ornithologists who may be assisting you in field work. The Membership Secretary receives five extra copies of *NABB* and the Back Issues Coordinator gets 10 copies. New members are sent back issues while they last, after which they may be purchased from the Back Issues Coordinator.

Editor's Report for 2001 - Peter Lowther:

Last year's report covered four issues of *North American Bird Bander* (vol 24, no 3, through vol 25, no 2, inclusive). Since then, four issues (vol 25, no 3 through vol 26, no 2, inclusive) have appeared. I thank reviewers Caryn Lowther, Gloria Lowther, Larken Powell, Michael Guzy, and Kevin McGowan for their assistance and

participation in the publication process. Two issues among these last four did not include any IBBA material. As always, IBBA members are encouraged to contribute to the journal at any time. *NABB* needs your support and help to fill its pages. This plea comes from all three editors involved with *NABB*. Please consider the possibilities of your involvement. I will be happy to assist authors in preparation of more "formal" articles; our "News and Notes" section is for informal dialogue and is suitable for anecdotal observations, banding results, and other information and news.

Old Business:

Mist net account. It was moved to close the net account and have all funds and mist nets returned to the treasurer. Inclusion of complete accounting of issued funds is to be supplied by the Net Committee.

North American Banding Council update. Tom Bartlett (alternate) represented IBBA at the March 2001 NABC meeting held at the Bird Banding Laboratory. Certification testing at the bander level continues to evolve. Part of the test is multiple choice, but comments can be made to justify any answer given. A data base of 600 questions is planned with different questions utilized for each test period.

IBBA direction on certification. Discussion centered on how we can raise the skill levels of IBBA banders and prepare individuals for certification. Potential future plans at IBBA meetings could involve offering the written exams at different locations throughout the region and scheduling a field practical test linked to the annual meeting or providing the written exams at annual meetings with the field practical scheduled at other sites within one year. It was recommended that a link be established on the IBBA web page to the NABC page.

Bylaw revision. By-laws were last updated October 1994. The last review was conducted July 1996 but recommendations were not acted upon. A four-member By-law Committee was assigned to review and provide recommendations for changes to the Board by the end of the year. Time table goals are to provide the final changes to the membership by July 2002. Bylaw changes will be mailed with next year's meeting notice and made available on the web

page. Recommendations from the floor for committee consideration included a review of the potential of increasing the number of Directors (with three-year terms) from three to six. It was also suggested to develop a Funds Committee under the By-laws that would spell out procedures for research awards.

Meeting handbook (Mark Shieldcastle). A rough draft for a meeting handbook was distributed to the Board for comments. The objective is to provide a meeting handbook to the annual host so problems are avoided and meeting needs are clear. It was recommended that the web page be updated more promptly on meeting notices. It was recommended that IBBA compile a list of state bird banding organizations to send information about the meetings as well as a list of Bird Band Listserv, and other state listserv in the region. Mark will try to have a draft by November that will be sent to the Board for final review.

Annual IBBA Banding Report - Brent Ortego is putting together an article for *NABB* to request 2001 banding data be compiled and published in *NABB* similar to *WBBA* reports. There will be an announcement placed on the web page to request information.

New Business:

Discussion was held on what kinds of IBBA material should be included in *NABB*. Appropriate material includes:

1. Annual Meeting Minutes - to be compiled by the Secretary, routed to all Board members within two weeks following the meeting for corrections and clarification and then submitted to *NABB*.

2. The 1st Vice-President will collect abstracts from each annual meeting, organize and provide them with a short meeting description to be published in *NABB*.

3. The Annual Banding Report to be compiled by Brent Ortego.

4. A President's report.

5. The Membership Secretary is to complete an article on membership and provide information pertinent to individual members.

It was also suggested that IBBA develop and publish a list of state banding organizations and encourage banding station reports. Individual banders are also encouraged to submit articles for

the IBBA section or for the technical report section of *NABB*. Request for assistance by members in publishing their data may be made to the editor or President.

Web page. It was recommended that the web page be updated more often. The Secretary will provide the web master with information for updating the officer page. An NABC link, meeting notice, grant applications for funding, and banding site locations are recommended for inclusion on the web page.

Reports from National or Regional meetings - banding related topics (i.e. AOU, state banding meetings, etc.).

A short review of the Ohio Bird Banding Association meeting was given by Mark Shieldcastle and Tom Bartlett. They made use of the BBL collection of bird parts and photos to increase banders' ability in using Pyle, and informed members about certification.

Grant awards. Discussion: The granting system of IBBA is in poor shape and improvement of the application process needs to be completed. Bylaws, guidelines, deadlines, protocol, personnel, and advertisement need to be changed and/or improved. Mark Shieldcastle assigned Vernon Kleen to chair a committee on Awards Protocols, which is to include Keith Kimmerle and Jim Ingold to resolve the above issues and provide a framework for the Bylaws Committee to incorporate into proposed changes in the Bylaws. Deadline for completion is 1 Nov 2001. It was moved to create a student monetary award for paper presentations at the Annual Meeting. Student awards would be one each year. The Awards Protocol Committee developed above are to set up a design and protocol.

New officers. Tom Bartlett, Chair Nominating Committee, submitted the following Slate of Officers: President, Mark Shieldcastle (OH); 1st Vice-President, James Ingold (LA), 2nd Vice-President, Vernon Kleen (IL), Secretary, Betty Grenon (NE), Treasurer, Tom Bartlett (OH); these terms expire in 2002 except for Treasurer which expires in 2006; and for Board of Directors: Brent Ortego (TX) to complete term vacated by death of Nedra Klein, term expires 2002, and David Cimprich (TX) with term to expire in 2004. A call for nominations from the floor was made. Sandy Herzinger moved to accept the slate as given, Darlene Ayres seconded. Motion approved. Mark

Shieldcastle offered a thank-you for their service to Tom Kashmer and Keith Kimmerle whose terms expired.

Future meeting locations. The 2002 meeting has been set for 20 - 22 September in Harlingen, Texas, at the Arroyo Colorado Wildlife Area. Brent Ortego will act as host. There will be forthcoming announcements in *NABB* of meeting themes and content. It was proposed that the 2003 meeting be held in Illinois and the 2004 meeting be held in Oklahoma.

Members in attendance: Darleen Ayres (IA), Tom Bartlett (OH), David Cimprich (TX), Heidi denHaan (MB), Joe Gartner (MN), Betty Grenon (NE), Morelle Herzinger (NE), Sandra Herzinger (NE), Nelson Hoskins (IA), Cathie Hutchinson (IL), Jim Ingold (LA), Tom Kashmer (OH), Keith Kimmerle (MS), Vernon Kleen (IL), Mark Shieldcastle (OH), Julie West (OH).

Abstracts from the IBBA 2000 meeting will be published in the next issue of *NABB*.



Founded in 1925

Western Regional News

Western Bird Banding Association 76th Annual Meeting 21-23 September 2001, Spokane, WA

Following tradition, Friday field trips again opened WBBA's annual meeting. This year we went to Turnbull NWR and to other areas in northeastern Washington. Good weather and a nice selection of species combined to make a successful day of birding. The Finch Arboretum, adjacent to the conference hotel, provided opportunities for shorter birding forays.

Friday afternoon's workshops in Band Manager and MapsProg were held in a computer lab at Spokane Falls Community College. Participants received instruction and had ample opportunity for hands-on practice. WBBA's Board of Directors also met that afternoon. The Friday evening barbeque had diners debating about whether the salmon, steak, or portabellos were the best - all were first rate! After dinner we heard a little about Turnbull NWR from Refuge Manager **Nancy Curry**, then had a fascinating talk about geology by **Andy Buddington**, Spokane Community College: "The Great Missoula Floods, the Formation of the Geologic Channelized Scab Lands."

The flight home Sunday gave some of us an opportunity to see and more fully appreciate some of the landscape characteristics described on Friday.

With only a few birds netted, Saturday's banding at Little Spokane Natural Area provided little opportunity for actual banding practice. The time was productively used by C. J. Ralph to present his "Tabular Pyle" where ageing and sexing criteria from Pyle's ID Guide are formatted to facilitate ease and speed of use. A demonstration of the "body pluck" method of extracting birds from nets was presented in verbal form, due to lack of birds.

Saturday morning papers (abstracts below) focused on migration monitoring and were followed by a Migration Roundtable with participants from several bird observatories discussing the need for monitoring birds during migration.

The luncheon keynote address was presented by **Rex Sallabanks**, Sustainable Systems Institute, on "The Role of Fire in Shaping the Composition of Western Forest Bird Communities."