OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

President: RAYMOND J. MEFFERTON
131 E. Whitetall Road, Horristown, Pa.

Secretary: FRANK EVARTER
420 Highland Ave., Upper Montclair, N.J.

Treasurer: BERISILE WOOD
511 W. Allen St., State College, Pa.

Editor: ALBERT B. CONWAY
Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

Vice Presidents: LEWY WILCOX, RICHARD C. BEMIS,
and JOSIAH H. CALBURN

Council Members: MRS. RICHARD G. MEFFERTON, LAURIE H. BROWN,
and ARTHUR H. FOSTR

Published Monthly by

THE EASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION

$2.00 per Year

"Let Us Band Together"
With this issue, as was announced in the May-June issue, 
HSEA NEWS is prepared under the direction of a new editor. It is 
not anticipated that there will be immediate or drastic changes in 
the format or content of this newsletter, but, from time to time, 
and especially in response to comments from readers, changes may 
be made. In the present issue, there is a slight change in that all 
the material pertaining to the announcement of publication of HSEA NEWS, 
published in each issue as required by postal regulations, together 
with the list of officers is confined to the front cover so that the 
inside cover is available for other uses.

Regardless of the competency or willingness of the Editor, 
this newsletter can be produced regularly only if each member will, 
from time to time, send in items of interest pertaining to his 
banding activities. At the moment, such material is especially in 
need to build up a reasonable reservoir of material.

The Editor would especially welcome comments as to types of 
articles and other material readers would like to see in future 
issues. For example, would species symposia, similar to those 
on the June and the White-throated Sparrow, be of interest? 
Do readers like to see tabulations of birds banded at other 
sources' stations? What about recovery or return records?

Articles for use in HSEA NEWS can be divided into three 
types. The first includes a rather formal style such as the Brown, 
Petersen, and Golden-crowned Sparrow articles in this issue. The 
second is more informal, such as the quotations from Mrs. LeBrie's 
letter. The third consists of brief notes, queries, comments, 
etc. Any of these would be most welcome.

It would assist the Editor very much if members who type their 
contributions would use a column 65 spaces wide and consisting of 
39 lines, the size of a single page of HSEA NEWS.

Don't forget, HSEA NEWS will be what your contributions make it!
Shortly after seven on the morning of June third this year, my father, L. Earl Rider, removed a "yellow-crowned" sparrow from a Middleton thrush trap in our yard. He had watched through binoculars as it alighted near the trap and immediately entered it. Knowing that it was an unusual species, he hastened to remove it from the trap and bring it into the house. We were thrilled to discover that we had captured a rare and beautiful bird. It was a male Golden-crowned Sparrow in adult plumage, at this season an inhabitant of Alaska and northwestern Canada.

Before it was released bearing band number 21-122216, the sparrow attended the testimonial dinner for Roger Tory Peterson at Lititz, Pennsylvania, where it was examined by no less than Dr. Peterson, Dr. Alexander Niles, Hal Inman Geist, Seth W. Low, Dr. Lawrence Brown, Dr. Earl Pyle, and many other guests. It was amusingly fitting that this bird, added to the Pennsylvania State list through the banding program, should be held in the hand of Seth Low, director of this work!

Raymond J. Middleton, Audubon President, and family came to our home to inspect the Golden-crown, as did Mr. Charles R. Nichols of the American Museum of Natural History, and Mrs. Nichols. Many other birders came from within a radius of seventy-five miles. The Westfield (New Jersey) Bird Club was strongly represented, and many members came from the West Chester and Lebanon Valley Bird Clubs.

Being primarily a seed eater, the sparrow thrived in captivity until June 16th when it was released to go on its way rather than end up in a museum collection. It remained with us until the evening of the eighteenth when it was recaptured for the fifth and last time.

This individual is, in so far as we know, the second banded cast of its normal range and one of five or six records cast of the Rocky Mountain region where it is a strong nesting bird, normally breeding west of the Sierra Nevada mountain range.

---

Mrs. Howard G. McIntee, an active bander and new member of Audubon's Council, contributes the following:

"I had a very interesting experience a few weeks ago—July 10th to be exact, a dull, chilly day noted for two reasons. First, it produced the first pronounced wave of warblers to go through up place—the birch tree seemed filled with Magnolias, Cape May, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Redstart, etc.; second, it provided me with a very interesting and lively pet. All morning, interspersed with warbler notes an occasional series of harsh notes was heard. Being busy in the garden, I didn’t take the time to follow it up, although all the time in the back of my mind it was pursuing me, but in the afternoon from the kitchen window I noticed a very unusual bird near my Middleton trap. Getting the binoculars on it, I still couldn’t figure out what it was—a peculiar shade of green with dark edgings on the wing feathers—but suddenly it turned around and then I saw its bill and knew I might shortly trap a Parrochial! Sure enough, in a minute or so it walked right into the trap. I found it minus a tail but otherwise unharmed, and so this is the story of how we acquired a new pet."

A QUERRY

Mrs. McIntee also writes, "Hardly a day passes now that the doorbell doesn’t ring and there stand some eager kids with a baby bird for me. What can you do? I have talked myself hoarse this winter to scrounge to kids telling them not to pick up baby birds but to leave them alone as the parents can take care of them. But inevitably the kids take and sometimes their parents, too, but one and all are urged firmly to go right back where they found the bird, put it in a reasonably safe place, and walk away. This place would soon be a good sized one if I ever attempted to bring up these poor wails. Anyway, the bird’s chance for survival are just as good as they would be if reared by a human. My percentage of successful rearings is practically zero, so I just refuse to do it anymore. What I would like to know is, how do other banders cope with this problem?"

Can anyone help Mrs. McIntee?

490 Fairfield Avenue
Hillwood, New Jersey
July 1952

DINNER IN HONOR OF ROGER TORY PETERSON

On Friday evening, June 6, at the General Sutter Hotel in Lititz, Pennsylvania, the Lancaster County Bird Club sponsored a testimonial dinner in honor of Roger Tory Peterson at which a number of BBA members were present. The occasion was to fete Peterson in connection with the honorary degree of Doctor of Science which had been conferred on him by Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster earlier in the day.

The affair was a most delightful one, marked by a fine spirit of informality and friendliness on the part of all concerned. Kenneth R. Corbett, President of the Club, acquitted himself admirably as toastmaster. Seated at the speaker's table were many friends of Dr. Peterson who had been associated with him in a variety of situations.

The guests of honor included Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Judson Griscoc of the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University; Kenneth Morrison, Editor of Audubon Magazine; Dr. Irlton Barnes, President of the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia; Dr. Earl L. Poole, Director of the Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery; Sotome Low of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Dr. Lucien Brown, Curator of Bird Mountain Sanctuary; Orville H. Credner, Past President of the Maryland Ornithological Society; Dr. Herbert H. Beck, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Franklin and Marshall College; Mrs. Readike Edge, President of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association; and Dr. and Mrs. Peterson.

Following remarks by the honored guests, Dr. Peterson told of his recent work in preparing a field guide to the birds of western Europe.

Other BBA members, in addition to those previously mentioned, who attended the dinner included Dr. and Mrs. Harold E. Good, Jr., and Mrs. Albert E. Commy, and Barton L. Sharp. —ABB

July 1952

A CORRECTION

In the May-June issue of BBA NEWS, page 3, it is incorrectly stated that the price of the trapping guide of the British Trust for Ornithology is 60 cents. Dr. B. Alexander Bergstrom, editor of BIRD-MAN, advises that the correct price is 40 cents postpaid. Copies of this manual may be obtained from him; postage stamps are acceptable in payment. Address him at 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford, Conn.

BBA NEWS OF B.B.A.

The B.B.A. is happy to welcome the following persons into membership in the Association. If each member would make a serious personal attempt to add a new member to our roll, we would quickly achieve our goal of 300 members. If members will supply the Editor with names and addresses of good prospects, he will send a copy of a current or recent issue of BBA NEWS in the hope that this will help persuade the prospect to join. The list of new members follows:

Mr. Robert Loo Smith, a former Editor of BBA NEWS who is Route 1, Raynoldsburg, Pa., returning from military service.

Mr. James Cline
92 N. Union Road, Houston Hill
Lancaster, E.I., N.Y.

June E. Commy (Mrs. Albert E. Commy)
"Gormansham", Route 4, Easton, Pa.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. Marion L. Hunter
545 T. Virginia Ave.
Borgentown, Va.

To: P. O. Box 13
Granville, Ohio
YOU COULD MAKE YOUR OWN TRAPS

BUT WE CAN DO IT FOR YOU AT LOWER COSTS!

ONE-CELL  A good sturdy portable little job of all metal
TRAP-STEP  construction with galvanized floor and sliding
TRAP  take-out door. Our most popular model for
feeding shelf or on the ground. Size 6 x 6 x 8".

ONE-CELL  A good brush trap to be set in shrubbery or on a
TOP-OPENING  tree. Spring operated and all metal construc-
TRAP  tion. Size 5 x 5 x 8".

Each of these traps $2.00 plus 25 cents postage and packing.
Canadian orders add $1.00 per trap to cover shipping and other
charges. All traps available within 24 hours of receipt of
order. Specify 1/2 or 1/4 wire mesh as desired.

CATCHING  A safe all-metal gathering cage with 100 acres.
Cage  Size 4 x 5 x 8" with sliding door. $1.00 post-
paid in U.S.

Large traps of several designs available. For information write
for: Geoffroy Gill, 24 Overlook Drive, Huntington, L.I., N.Y.

Return to:
Albert E. Connaway
Rt. 4
Easton, Penna.

Mrs. Dayton Steen
309 State Street
Albany 10, New York

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED