



Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

President's Message

As this term's President, I plan to improve communication among EBBA members and within the three North American banding associations. Our recent council meeting tackled such topics as taking *NABB* electronic, increasing our web presence, and establishing a strategic plan for the association.

Recent developments in the press have made it essential for us to maintain the reputation of bird banding as an essential method of gathering biological data. So, we must publish! *NABB* is the most powerful direct form of communication within our organization, and it is an honor to be in the company of the authors whose work is printed in this issue. *NABB* production manager, Bob Pantle, is anticipating taking *NABB* into electronic form. This is an exciting development but a complicated matter, and involves collaboration with our sister associations IBBA and WBBA.

I am happy to announce the formation of our Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by Tom Greg. Soon we will be mailing a survey to you, asking you to consider the future of our journal, the objectives of the association, and the issues you believe are most important to our continued success. Your responses will enable officers and council members to plan actions based on what our membership expects from this association.

If we can tap into the vast resources of talent, experience and dedication that is our membership, we will achieve the goals set forth in our By-

Laws in 1923: "(1) To encourage investigations into the biology and migration of birds by the banding thereof, (2) To actively encourage its members and other interested persons to publish the results of their scientific ornithological research in the journal of the association, and (3) To encourage the cooperation of its members in pursuit of such purposes."

I leave you with some food for thought: Have you encouraged a colleague to join EBBA lately? Thought about publishing results of your own banding data? Presenting your results at the next association meeting? There are many who will gladly help along the way, and the result will be satisfying to you and valuable to all.

Do we have your most recent e-mail address? Contact Elaine Mease to update your e-mail. We have frequent requests from banders who are searching for an associated station. With a little communication you could reap the rewards of additional volunteers and future publications from your data.

The next Annual Meeting, scheduled for 5-7 Apr 2013, will be in beautiful Falls Creek State Park in Pikeville, TN. Check the EBBA website for info: <http://www.frontiernet.net/~bpbird/> I hope to see you there! Until then, in the interest of improved communication, I invite you to email me anytime.

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