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From the Presidents

North American Bird Bander

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From the Presidents

Occasionally there will be items of mutual interest to both EBBA and WBBA members which may call for a joint message from your Presidents. Such joint messages may deal with finances; with projects which call for an effort from both groups; or, there may be a need to express a philosophy or tell of an agreed-upon approach to some matter. And, there will probably be times when the officers and Boards wish to bring a united message to their members. This is one such message.

The Boards of both EBBA and WBBA have voted to raise the annual dues from \$6 to \$8, to be effective with your renewals of membership for 1979.

Both Boards took this step with reluctance and only after cost computing future issues of NABB and comparing this with anticipated income. Lengthy discussions as to the need for such an increase and its effect on our memberships were carried on by the Boards.

Those who have read NABB from Issue 1 to the present should certainly agree that despite financial belt-tightening, the Editors have not permitted the quality of the issues to suffer. The high standards and, indeed, improvements with each issue are a credit to our Editors.

Are there alternatives to a dues increase? One would be to reduce the number of pages of NABB. Another might be to follow the footsteps of another important ornithological journal and require authors to stand the cost of printing their work. Neither alternative is acceptable.

We all look forward to receiving NABB each quarter. We shall be disappointed if it does not maintain its high standards.

For our part, we are working to secure additional financing. It is our hope that by using one Advertising Manager we may be able to supplement our finances adequately and avoid frequent requests for dues raises.

You can help, too, in at least two ways.

When your renewal notice arrives, renew promptly. Perhaps move up to a Sustaining Membership if you are now an Active Member. And, if you have sub-permittees, encourage them to join.

When you move, send in your new address promptly to EBBA's Circulation Manager, Ruth Rose (98 Lopez Road, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009) or WBBA's Treasurer, Shirley Spitler (3975 N. Pontatoc Road, Tucson, AZ 85718). The Post Office destroys the undelivered copy of NABB; in addition, it charges 25 cents to update your address if it must notify us. When we send the second copy of NABB to you so you won't miss any issue, that raises our cost of this one transaction to nearly \$3.00. Help us avoid this unnecessary expense.

Our journal is one of the finest ornithological publications in the country. We solicit your cooperation.

Robert Pantle
President
EBBA

Otis Swisher
President
WBBA

(Note: The complete dues rate structure appears on the title page for each association's Regional News.)