

1984

## Eastern Regional News

North American Bird Bander

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# Eastern Regional News

## Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

### President's Message

This is my first opportunity as President to write and it is with great pleasure that I thank all the people involved in putting NABB back onto the presses, with a special thanks to the group at Eagle Valley Environmental Center for their very fine job. Vol. 9-1 is a little later than some expected but this is partly due to our editorial changeover and our continuing search for a new editor. Also I am to blame for my slow reaction time to the needs of the editorial tasks.

As President of EBBA it turns out that my first major tasks involves the replacement of our hardworking and excellent editor of eight years. Mickie Mutchler has served us well, beginning with the inception of NABB and helping us through our recent crisis.

Mickie had a goal of serving 10 years as Editor and she came very close to reaching it. Mickie feels that the writers and the members really did the job but all of us know better. Without the writers and members she could not have done such an excellent, tough, time consuming task, but without someone like her managing this task, little would have been accomplished. Besides all the headaches, Mickie says one of her major accomplishments was learning to travel on her own. Mickie, we all thank you very much.

One thing we could always count on from you Mickie, was knowing where you stood on issues and as we search for a new editor I (we) will need your guidance more than ever. Also I need guidance and help from all of you in the interim in order to keep NABB going and in search for a new Editor. If anyone is interested in the position or knows someone who might be interested, please contact me, soon.

With NABB catching up we must all work toward other goals. Important goals are to increase interest in banding by education of ourselves and the general public, to increase our membership and to carry on with the goal of our past Presidents, i.e. to have the data we collect published. Published in a form that will present the data that all can understand and learn from.

About sixteen years ago I only knew that there were blackbirds, robins and larger birds, then I met our past president. I am so very glad that I have been introduced to birds so expertly. Along with being introduced to so many beautiful birds I have met so many marvelous people whom I hope to keep as friends as long as I am around. Banding and working with birds, especially photographing them, has become a growing passion with me. Someone who obviously did not know me too well accused me of being so devoted to my work that even if I were wealthy I would just continue in the same old way. Only if it would happen. Banding and its associated activities would be the major activity of my life, those trips would be fantastic and the photography I would be able to do and the slide shows I could present.

This last diversion was to express how important this activity and all of you are to me. I will make my mistakes as your President but with all of your help they will be few.

Walter P. Protzman