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Eastern Regional News

North American Bird Bander

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Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

President's Message

Communication: The exchange of thoughts, messages, or information.

Looking over my shoulder at the last several years of EBBA's performance, I can't help but wonder if we haven't forgotten what communication is all about. Communication, or rather the lack of it, is the single most pressing problem facing EBBA today. Unfortunately, the solution to this problem is very complex and cannot be solved by looking in the dictionary.

From where I sit, I can see that authors are submitting manuscripts but there seems to be a log jam somewhere in the system, and the material isn't being published. That's the first item of business we will attend to in my administration. When we can get to the bottom of that dilemma, then at least the external avenues of communication will have been opened.

This log jam began when NABB had a change in publishers, a situation further complicated by almost a year of no EBBA editor. It took the Wanders some time to get used to us and to their duties and at the beginning of 1986, we thought the problems were over. Still, recent issues of NABB have had too few manuscripts published proportional to the number of manuscripts accepted for publication by them. We'll find out why and we'll set the matter straight!

The lack of "President's Messages" is a different problem. To my knowledge, a President isn't required to publish "President's Messages," although it is encouraged. As President, I intend to submit one for each issue. President's Messages belong to the category of internal communications; that is, between the president and the members.

There are other forms of internal communications, viz. between the President and the Council, or in reverse. Some presidents have found it difficult to communicate frequently. I don't foresee that as a problem, especially since I use a com-

puter to do most of the hard work. Many of today's decisions, particularly regarding finances, NABB, meetings, and similar aspects of running the Association, need to be shared with Council. Presidents cannot or should not make ad hoc decisions without first soliciting some feedback from Council. Council (as we call it) is the Board of Directors of EBBA.

Then there is negative communication. That's not the lack of communication but rather it is the generation and exchange of information that comes from uninformed people. Some rumors started during the last few years have had rather disquieting effects on the Association.

Only the EBBA Council can and should speak for the Association. Anyone who has problems with that should refer to Section 9 to Article VII of our Bylaws. Anyone who has concerns that need to be looked into should first write to one of the officers or councillors for guidance or clarification. We will discuss the matter and get back to the writer.

I have tried to address some of the problems I feel we have. They will be worked on, and a solution will be found as rapidly as possible. There may be other problems I might not be aware of, and those I'd like to hear about. There are still people who are writing to me at my New York address. I have lived in Miami since March of 1984. I've set up a private post box largely because of the expected flow of EBBA mail and other reasons. It is:

Fred S. Schaeffer
444 Brickell Avenue
Suite 51-195
Miami, FL 33131
(Home phone: 305-854-7133 evenings, Mon. to Fri.)

I welcome your communications and will answer them as soon as possible.

Fred S. Schaeffer

EBBA Membership Drive

Sustaining Members in EBBA are allowed a reduction on net purchases and should use the "Sustaining Rate" as published in the EBBA Net Committee advertisement.

From now until the next EBBA meeting, any EBBA member who introduces a NEW EBBA member to us will be raised from "Regular" to "Sustaining" membership. If the sponsoring member is already a Sustaining Member or holds a membership category other than Regular, there is unfortunately nothing EBBA can offer you at the moment. Suggestions are welcome. To change your membership category in our files, please drop me a postcard indicating whom you sponsored for membership.

Senior Members. Did you know that members 65 years of age or over, who have been an EBBA member for at least 10 years, may become a Senior Member? If you fit these prerequisites, please drop me a line. You won't have to pay dues anymore!

Membership Roster. EBBA Council has directed that a Membership Roster be mailed to all members. Since Bob Pantle (see next item) will relinquish his duties as Membership Chairman in order to devote all his time to being Editor, I will get the list into camera ready form as soon as possible and have it printed. We hope to have it ready for mailing in about 1 to 2 months.

We have a new Editor. Robert J. Pantle (35 Logan Hill Road, Candor, NY 13743) has been appointed Editor by the EBBA Council. We urge all members to make a special effort to contribute to **North American Bird Bander**. We do have a number of unpublished articles and notes (a healthier backlog is desirable), and you will soon see these in print.

New Net Committee Chairperson. Effective immediately, please address all net order to: Mr. Gale Smith, P.O. Box 278, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009.

Matters of concern. Many EBBA members have written Bob Pantle during the last quarter of 1985 and the early part of 1986 about their membership, what they felt they were entitled to and what they thought they weren't getting. Please give us a chance to improve. If you feel there are serious shortcomings that need to be looked into, please feel free to write me. Your letter will be answered and hopefully a solution will be provided. I am pleased to be your new president, and I will do everything in my power to restore your confidence in EBBA!

Fred Schaeffer, President
444 Brickell Avenue, Suite 51-195
Miami, FL 33131 (305-854-7133 Eve.)

Committee Appointments

The following EBBA chairpersons have been appointed. The first three committees are specified to be chaired by the First, Second and Third Vice Presidents in accordance with the EBBA By-Laws:

Program.....	Don Schwab
Location.....	Judith Bell
Finance.....	Robert P. Yunick
Publication.....	Jeffrey Spendelow
Conservation.....	Howard Fischer
Memorial Grant.....	Robert Sagar
Education.....	John S. Weske
Membership.....	Robert Pantle
Nominations.....	William Oberman
Historian.....	Pat Melville
Auditing.....	Mickie Mutchler
Membership List.....	Howard Fischer
Liaison Committee.....	Robert P. Yunick
Net Committee.....	Gale Smith

Education Committee

EBBA authors who need assistance preparing manuscripts for publication for submission to *North American Bird Bander* may contact the EBBA Education Committee. Such requests may come from members who plan to publish something that has been written up but who get stuck, or from members whose paper has been rejected by the Editors as publishable but in need of major revision. It is not our intention that the Education Committee write your paper, but rather that there is a facility where help can be obtained. For additional information, please contact the Chairman of this committee: John S. Weske, P.O. Box 116, Sandy Spring, MD 20860.

Fred S. Schaeffer, Pres.

Harris Sparrow Research Award

The Inland Bird Banding Association is seeking research proposals to study the Harris Sparrow. A \$100 stipend will be awarded at the annual banquet in Moline, Illinois. Proposals are to be sent to: Terrence N. Ingram, Chairman, Endowment Fund, Inland Bird Banding Association, Box 155, Apple River, IL 61001.