

2005

Highlights of 82nd Annual Meeting - 15-17 Apr 2005

North American Bird Bander

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Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

President's Message

There are number of exciting developments taking place in the Eastern Bird Banding Association! First, Council members Clay Black, Bob Pantle and Tom LeBlanc explored the possibility of a new design for our logo which would incorporate all the states and provinces included in the EBBA region. Tom designed a prototype which is still being modified and improved. Our bylaws will have to be amended to make this change, and Bob Yunick is looking into that. Hopefully, we can vote for the logo design change at the 2006 EBBA annual meeting in Bethlehem, PA.

We have also formed a Strategic Development Committee to explore the future direction of EBBA in general, and NABB in particular. John Tautin agreed to chair this committee, which consists of Council members Gerald Lahr, Donald Mease, Robert Pantle, Robert Yunick, and myself as *ex officio* member.

Net Chairperson Gale Smith has just received a shipment of new nets from Japan and plans are underway to make the use of credit cards an option for purchasers. The EBBA Net Committee is working out the price of nets, so watch the EBBA website (<http://www.frontiernet.net/~bpbird/index.htm>) for future details.

And 1st Vice-President Tom Greg is busy planning the 2006 Annual Meeting to be held in Bethlehem, PA, on the weekend of 24-25 Mar. The whole point of annual meetings is to bring banders together to share knowledge and techniques...and, of course, to see old friends and make new acquaintances in the banding community. So... mark your calendars!

Betsy Brooks

President, Eastern Bird Banding Association

**Highlights of
EBBA's 82nd Annual Meeting
Held 15 - 17 April 2005
Rochester, NY**

***Partners Across Borders
Celebrating Canadian and United States
Banding Research***

***Hosted By
Braddock Bay Bird Observatory***

Officers' Reports:

President Ginger Bladen welcomed all to the meeting and thanked Betsy Brooks for all her work setting up the conference and Braddock Bay for sponsoring and assisting. Ginger stated that the year went smoothly due to the many competent people on the council. Special thanks to Elaine Mease, Gale Smith, Bob Pantle, and NABB's Recent Literature editor, Martin McNicholl.

First Vice President Betsy Brooks reported that there were 91 pre-registered and two walk-ins at the meeting. She thanked the Holiday Inn staff for assisting in the logistics of the conference.

Second Vice President Thomas Greg recommended that the 2006 annual meeting be held 24 and 25 Mar, in Bethlehem, PA.

Third Vice President Susan Finnegan reported on the budget, which was accepted as amended.

Treasurer Don Mease reported that our dues do not cover the cost of producing NABB. Our membership is down. On-line information and free web sites provide information which may eliminate the need to join EBBA.

NABB Editor Bob Pantle reported that all three associations contributed more pages over the last year; however, EBBA contributed fewer manuscripts last year.

Bob suggested we come up with some ideas to promote the Powdermill Monograph. Reviews of the monograph have been good but we need to advertise more.

SORA - the \$250 set aside for archiving one year of *NABB* may not become due this year and we may fall to six years behind in publication.

When requested by an author, manuscripts are now being sent loaded on CDs with the receiver paying any costs for the service.

Bob is concerned with digital pictures sent to him for publication in *NABB*. For good detailed reproduction, the three associations should consider using a coated paper for printing *NABB*. Coated paper would increase the cost of printing the journal and, due to increased weight, there would be additional mailing costs. It was suggested that the criteria for photographs be stated in *NABB* and any retouching would be an additional cost.

Committee Reports:

Net Committee: Gale Smith reported we made over \$18,000 last year. Net problems noted last year seem to have abated. Gale is negotiating purchasing nets from Brazil.

Nets kept at Gale's residence are not covered by insurance.

Gale looked into obtaining a credit card service. There are fees involved that would need to be added to the cost of the nets. Council agreed to accept credit card orders for nets as well as for dues, monograph, back issues, etc.

Gale asked for permission to order more nets, since it takes almost a year to get the nets after an order is placed. Council agreed to have the nets ordered.

Gale has all net sales information from 1986 to present. Council suggested that only the most current seven years be kept.

Nominating Committee: Candidates for officers and councilors were accepted as presented:

President	Elizabeth Brooks
First Vice President	Thomas Greg
Second Vice President	Susan Finnegan
Third Vice President	John Tautin

Secretary	Gerald Lahr
Treasurer	Don Mease
Councilor 2007	(Vacant)*
Councilor 2008	Mary Forness
	Robert McKinney
	(Vacant)

*(to replace John Tautin)

Memorial Grant Committee: Elizabeth Brooks reported that 19 applications were submitted, of which the following two were selected:

"Selective pressures on two sub-species of Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) in different marsh landscapes" submitted by Brian Olsen of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

"The overwinter ecology of the Bicknell's Thrush: Differential habitat occupancy and territoriality of Hispaniola" submitted by Jason M. Townsend of Binghamton University.

Each applicant received a grant of \$500.

Audit Committee: Audit not done prior to meeting but would begin shortly.

Membership Committee: Elaine Mease reported that there were 16 new members this year, which is about average. Three members have died; 84 second notices were sent for renewals and 61 still have not renewed. Most of the new members came from the web site inquiries.

John Tautin noted that about 1/3 of the membership is academic, 1/4 government, 1/4 avocational banders, and the rest non-government agencies and businesses. He suggested that we may want to popularize *NABB* and form a strategic committee to determine who we are, what we are, and what we want to be. Possibly a joint discussion with IBBA and WBBA on ways to advance the organizations.

Back Issues, Publication & Circulation Committee: Elaine Mease reported the following have been sold: three copies of "Introduction to Statistics for Banders," two copies of "Banders Information Resource Date, and 107 copies of the monograph.

NABC Delegate Report: Mary Doscher reported that recertification of banders is now an issue because they must be renewed every five years. The next meeting will be in Arizona.

Certificate of Appreciation Committee: Betsy Brooks had received no names for certificates. Anyone with suggestions should contact her.

Logo Committee: Clay Black reported that he has had no success in getting artists to design a new logo. The committee will continue to look for a way to have a new logo designed.

Communications Committee: Hannah Suthers verified our entry in the Encyclopedia of Associations.

Bander Certification Committee (ad hoc): Betsy Brooks reported that at a certification session at Braddock Bay in October, six trainers were involved, two banders were certified, and two trainers were certified. She indicated that EBBA has done very well as they have certified 22 banders and two trainers from all over the country.

Abstracts of papers and workshop presentations were published in *NABB* 30(2).

NABC CERTIFICATION AT BRADDOCK BAY

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory hosted EBBA's seventh NABC Bander Certification and second Trainer certification on 7-9 Oct 2005. Participating trainers included Tom Bartlett, Betsy Brooks, Mary Doscher, David Holmes, Erin Karnatz, Hannah Suthers, and Bob Yunick.

Peter Doherty of Sharon Springs, NY, and Annie Lindsay of Ligonier, PA, both passed the Bander certification. Sue Finnegan of Brewster, MA, Anthony Hill of S. Hadley, MA, and David Okines of St. Williams, ON, passed the Trainer certification.

Congratulations to all who participated in the weekend evaluation.

Betsy Brooks

Atlantic Flyway Review: Region 1 (Northeast) Fall 2004 Report

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Sunshine and lots of clear blue sky characterized the fall of 2004. The stations that did report results commented on the lack of weather fronts and the predominance of south winds. Yet, birds per 100 net hours (b/100nh) were up at 50% of the stations, and in the case of Island Beach State Park numbers were well up over 2003 figures (Table 1).

The top ten most commonly banded species changed dramatically from 2003 to 2004 at St. Andrews and Block Island where late migrant numbers were up, but at Wing Island and Island Beach the top ten species were the same as 2003, just in a different order (Table 2). It is always interesting to look at the top ten numbers and see what other stations catch on a regular basis. While we share many species throughout the northeast

region, there are always some striking differences. For example, Northern Cardinals have been expanding their range into New Brunswick, but I am lucky to catch one a year much less the 25 – 37 reported at other stations. I am also waiting for my first Eastern Towhee, another species uncommon in New Brunswick. I would like to be able to brag about some northern species that are rarely seen farther south, but all I can do at the moment is look with envy at some of the birds caught at other stations.

Thank you again to all contributors for this report. I am passing the "coordinator" reins over this year, as finding time to settle at the computer has become an issue. I will continue to contribute the St. Andrews Bird Banding Station results, if someone reminds me!

**Thank you, Tracey, for 13 years of service
coordinating the Region I AFR Report!**

Elizabeth Brooks, AFR Coordinator