

2008

Eastern Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting Minutes 12 Apr 2008

North American Bird Bander

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are also mentioned, although emphasis depends on ease of identification in the field. For example, differences among three Merlin races are considered in detail, whereas Krider's is the only regionally distinct Red-tailed Hawk race considered in detail, presumably because of the complexity of the array of variation within and between other races, this array being emphasized in non-racial terms. The statement (p. 103) that Merlins are more likely than other falcons to harass other raptors may be true, but my observations at Vancouver International Airport would suggest that Peregrines do so more often—possibly a distortion of sample size.

As emphasis in this book is on identification at a distance, its value to banders is primarily in helping to hone identification skills generally. Hawk watchers and others who wish to increase their identification skills at considerable distances will find it a valuable reference tool.

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Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

Eastern Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting Minutes 12 Apr 2008

President - Dave Hauber read the e-mailed president's report from Sue Finnegan thanking the officers and councilors who helped make EBBA a special organization. Special thanks to Bob Pantle, Gale Smith, Don and Elaine Mease and John Tautin.

First Vice President - John Tautin stated that this year's joint meeting of NABC and EBBA has over 100 registered participants.

Second Vice President - David Hauber reported that the next annual meeting will be held on 27, 28, and 29 Mar 2009 in Chincoteague, VA.

Third Vice President - David Hauber provided a budget, in the absence of a Third Vice President, projecting an income of \$16,900 and an estimated expense of \$16,900

Treasurer - In the absence of the Treasurer, David Hauber gave the treasurer's report which showed that we closed the year with a slight surplus. Copies of the report are available to any member who would like a copy.

Editor - In the absence of Bob Pantle, Jerry Lahr reminded everyone that the job of editor is difficult and time consuming. EBBA contributed approximately 38% of items appearing in *NABB*.

Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee - Jerry Lahr announced the candidates for officers and councilors, which were approved unanimously:

President	John Tautin
First Vice President	David Hauber
Second Vice President	Ken Heselton

The 2008 joint EBBA/NABC meeting

More than 100 people registered for the 10-12 Apr 2008 joint meeting of the Eastern Bird Banding Association and the North American Banding Council, making it the largest EBBA meeting in recent years. The synergy of two banding organizations, a wonderful venue, outstanding presentations, and enjoyable social events combined to make the meeting a great success.



The meeting was sponsored by EBBA, NABC, the Purple Martin Conservation Association, Presque Isle Audubon Society, Presque Isle State Park, the Presque Isle Partnership, and Cussewago Farms. It was held at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC), Erie, PA, just outside the entrance to Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania's premier state park and regional birding destination. TREC, as the Center is referred to, contains state-of-the-art environmental exhibits, many of which feature birds, a café, a large screen movie theater, a gift shop, and ample meeting facilities. Erie's proximity to Ontario and Ohio helped draw attendees from those places, each of which has a banding association.

EBBA and NABC conducted their working meetings on Thursday and Friday and joined together for Saturday's program. Long-term banding was the theme of the program, with many presentations summarizing remarkably long runs of banding programs, stations and studies, all serving as reminders of the timeless importance of banding to avian research and management. (See this NABB's page 80 for the abstracts). Saturday's program was rounded out with posters, exhibits workshops on using stainless steel bands and;

Bandit software, reports from the Canadian and U.S. banding offices, the annual EBBA business meeting and, finally, David Brewer's perennially challenging (humbling) bird quiz.



Leo Salas explains how banding data can be utilized in the high-tech Avian Knowledge Network.

Friday evening's opening reception and Saturday evening's banquet featured Mediterranean/American food catered by Petra Restaurant, and locally produced adult beverages, compliments of Cussewago Farms. Friday attendees had a private showing of the film *Amazing Journeys* on TREC's Big Green Screen. Saturday's banquet guest speakers were noted ornithologists and authors Dr. Eugene Morton and Dr. Bridget Stutchbury. They summarized results from 20 years of color-banding at their Hemlock Hill Research Station located not far from Erie. The Saturday banquet concluded with the always popular bucket raffle organized by EBBA Vice-President David Hauber. This year's raffle was very successful due to the generosity of many prize donors, including Avinet and several authors who donated signed copies of their books. Dr. Stutchbury also signed and sold copies of her recent book, *Silence of the Song Birds*, donating the proceeds to EBBA.

We thank the all of the sponsors, donors, presenters and attendees for making the 2008 EBBA meeting a success. Look for another great EBBA meeting in 2009 at Virginia Beach, Virginia.

**John Tautin, President
Eastern Bird Banding Association**

Nominating Committee (cont'd)

Third Vice President	William Hobbs
Secretary	Gerald Lahr
Treasurer	Don Mease
Councilor 2009	Mary Dowdell (to replace Bill Hobbs)
Mary Forness	2011 (second term)
Audrey Heagy	(second term)
Bob Yunick	(first term)
Erin Karnatz	(first term)

Publication & Membership - Jerry Lahr, reporting for Elaine Mease, noted that there are 20 new members this year. Currently our membership is about 364.

Memorial Grants Committee

Elizabeth Brooks(chair), Doris McGovern, and Barbara Ross

There were 24 applications submitted of which the following three were selected:

Susan B. Smith (University of Rhode Island): "An assessment of ecological factors that limit passerines during long-distance migrations" - a \$1000 grant.

Christine Volonte (Antioch University New England): "Impact of invasive fruiting plants on the energetic condition of fall migrant songbirds" - a \$1000 grant.

Jessi L. Brown (University of Nevada, Reno): "Ecology of the Southeastern American Kestrel in Florida and its response to sandhill habitat conversion" - A \$500 grant.

Net Committee - Gale Smith reported that EBBA has the best nets available. He also noted that the appointed marketing committee should improve net sales.

NABC Delegate Report - Mary Doscher stated that the banding council is having its meeting this weekend in conjunction with EBBA. Next year's meeting will be in either Vancouver, BC, or Arizona.

Bander Certification - Betsy Brooks reported that Adrienne Leppold was certified at the Trainer level, and Margaret Fritze and Tom Greg at the Bander Level.

The membership was reminded that we are now able to accept credit cards for membership and sales.

ABSTRACTS FROM PAPERS GIVEN AT EBBA'S ANNUAL MEETING 11 - 12 APRIL 2008

Preserving your Banding data: into the Avian Knowledge Network - **Leo Salas**, PRBO Conservation Science, Petaluma, CA; **C.J. Ralph**, US Forest Service, Arcata, CA; **Grant Ballard**, PRBO Conservation Science, Petaluma, CA; and **Steve Kelling**, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY

Recent developments in internet technologies have accelerated the establishment and growth of networks of various types of avian data. The Avian Knowledge Network (AKN), an effort of several institutions, aims to provide an overarching cyber-infrastructure: facilitating data-integration, security, and analysis. Ultimately, the AKN intends to promote citizen science participation in a continent-wide effort to understand, monitor, and manage avian populations. Recent work has focused on accommodating banding data in the AKN. We are creating open source internet tools and technologies designed to be copied and improved upon freely, following an open-source software model. These tools will assist banders in data exploration, analyses, and hypothesis generation. We explain the benefits of sharing banding data with the AKN and briefly describe some of the technical details, including the banding data exchange schema, security, and data access. We will also illustrate current examples of observational data visualizations available through the California Avian Data Center, the first active node of the AKN, and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

10 years of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network - **Audrey Heagy**, Bird Studies Canada, Port Rowan, ON

After several years of development, the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network (CMMN) was formalized in 1998. From the outset, the Network was a cooperative venture of Bird Studies Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and partnering independent migration monitoring stations. As of the end of 2007, the Network has grown to include 19 member organizations operating some 22 banding stations from coast-to-coast across Canada. In 2005, a CMMN Steering Committee