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Letter from the President

Tom Bartlett

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Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

Letter from the President

This past November, I was elected President of Inland Bird Banding Association at the annual meeting in St. Louis. It was an outstanding meeting; but I must admit, I have never been to a disappointing IBBA meeting. I always learn something.

I banded my first bird (a Red-tailed Hawk) in the spring of 1971. I have been an IBBA member since 1972 and have been active on the Board since 1990. I believe in the organization and what it has to offer. What disappoints me is that not enough banders use it. We are an organization of 300+ banders with many years of experience and tons of data sitting in our files. We need to share that experience and data. We need to learn from others and improve what we are doing and how we collect the data.

One of things that I have tried to do already is to see that IBBA pages have IBBA information in each issue. Each Board member is responsible for an

article at least once a year. Look for these articles, read them, and make comments. If you have questions or concerns, contact me or a Board member and we will try to address them. I would like to see some of the concerns/questions published in *NABB* along with suggested answers. Then other members could comment or make suggestions. I would like to see reports from the various banding stations in our region.

Too often, banders stay obscure and no one knows what we are doing. Unless we get our findings out to others, it is useless. If you have data and do not know how to write them up, contact us. Peter Lowther, our editor, is more than glad to help as are any of your Board members. We want those data out there.

Tom Bartlett

**1833 South Winfield Drive
Tiffin, Ohio 44883**

hthomas.bartlett@gmail.com

2009 Banding at Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve, Ohio

The year 2009 marks the 26th year of this bird banding/avian research project at Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve in Ohio. This year banding was conducted on 38 days— four days during the spring, nine days during summer, and 15 days in the fall. For 2009 there was a total of 2107 net-hours of effort, which is our third highest effort in 26 years. We have averaged 28.5 days of banding per year over the 26 years (34.6 days/yr over the last 10 years). We have averaged 1121 net-hr/yr over

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the 26 years (1915 net-hr/yr over the last 10 years). Birds handled this year were 2175; however, some of these birds were handled more than once during the year. Eighty-two species of 1,653 individual birds were banded during the year for an average of 0.78 b/nh, making 2009 a below-average year. The 26 year average capture rate was 0.93 b/nh (0.82 b/nh for just the last 10 years). The 82 species banded ties for fifth in number of species banded in a year with 2006.

No new species were banded at the marsh this past year. We have banded 119 species at the marsh in 25

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