

2011

## Eastern Regional News

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# *Eastern Regional News*

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***Eastern Bird Banding Association***

***Founded 1923***

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## **EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 02 April 2011**

### **Meeting Convened:**

Annual meeting minutes of the Eastern Bird Banding Association held at Shawnee on Delaware Inn, Shawnee, PA. President Kenneth Heselton called the meeting to order at 1400 hours.

### **Minutes:**

It was moved by Robert Yunick, seconded and approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes of the 2010 meeting as submitted.

### **Officers' Reports:**

#### **President's Report**

Heselton thanked William Hobbs for putting the conference together in such a nice venue.

#### **First Vice President:**

Hobbs thanked all those who are attending and special thanks to all the participants and speakers for making this year's conference successful. Special thanks to his wife, Regina, and also, Susan Heselton for all their assistance.

#### **Second Vice President:**

In Margaret Fritze's absence, Heselton reported that the 2012 meeting will be held at the Golden Inn, Avalon, NJ. The dates will be 30 Mar through 1 Apr.

#### **Third Vice President:**

James Tate reported that the budget for the year 2011-2012 has been accepted, projecting an income of \$13,880 and an estimated expense of \$16,500.

#### **Treasurer:**

Donald Mease reported that our assets can be broken down to:

Mutual funds, over \$104,000;

CDs and checking, over \$50,000;

Income for the year was:

dues and interest, over \$7,800;

from the net committee, approximately \$9,000.

Our expenses for the year were approximately \$12,500.

The bucket raffle last year brought in \$1,200.

Mease stressed that the bucket raffle money goes into investment and is not spent. The interest from that principle pays the honoraria.

#### **Editor/Production Coordinator:**

Robert Pantle reported that there are benefits of publishing in NABB. There are no page costs, and the manuscripts are not scrutinized as much as in other journals, especially in "News Notes and Comments." He noted that the manuscript contributions by EBBA members have been poor this year and asked for more manuscripts to be

published. Pantle reported that we need address changes to be sent in, each returned journal costs us money.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Nominating Committee:**

Heselton announced the candidates for officers and councilors:

President:	William Hobbs
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Margaret Fritze
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	James Tate, Jr
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President:	David Okines
Secretary:	Gerald Lahr
Treasurer:	Donald Mease
Councilors: 2014	Robert Yunick
	Andy Thiede (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
	Maren Gimpel (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
	Stuart Mackenzie (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

Nominations accepted as read. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved by Susan Heselton, seconded and passed to have the Secretary cast a vote for the proposed slate of officers.

#### **Publication & Membership:**

Elaine Mease noted that there are 330 paid members this year and a list of 16 new members has been posted. A motion was made by Yunick to accept the new members. The motion was seconded and carried

#### **Memorial Grant Committee:**

Doris McGovern reported that 21 applications were submitted of which the following four were selected by the committee:

1. \$500 to Patricia Newell, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Georgia, for her Study "Are between-year apparent survivorship and site fidelity of Rusty Blackbirds related to winter diet composition?"

2. \$500 to Susan Craig, graduate Student at Queen's University, Canada, for "Assessing the winter

habitat use, site fidelity and nesting (double breeding) by Loggerhead Shrikes on the Texas Gulf Coast."

3. \$500 to Adrienne Leppold, doctoral candidate at the University of Maine, for her study "Gulf of Maine Migratory Mystery."

4. \$1000 to Rebecca Cooper, master's candidate at the State University of Arkansas, for her study "Development of a non-lethal method of measuring persistent organic pollutants in adipose tissue of songbirds."

#### **Student Travel Grants:**

The council voted to accept the Travel Grant Committee's report and give \$100 to Emily Hope Thomas to help offset her costs.

#### **Net Committee:**

Ted Hicks reported that he is currently engaged in testing nets from a supplier, and if all goes well, we will be placing an order shortly.

#### **NABC Delegate Report:**

Anthony Hill reported that he attended the 2011 meeting in Ashland, Oregon. He stated that the banders' code of ethics was changed. To the Code of ethics #4 (ensure that your data are accurate and complete) was added, 'are submitted in a timely fashion to the responsible agency or organization, and are appropriately used to advance valid scientific purposes.' Hill also noted that three NABC awards were approved:

Outgoing Council Member Award to be the Glen Woolfenden Award,

Continuing Council Member Award, the Paul Barch award, and the

Trainer Award to be the James Henry Fleming Award.

He also stated that the NABC will be writing a letter to the director of USGS in support of the BBL.

#### **Other Announcements:**

1. The new version of Bandit is out and all are encouraged to download it.

2. Permits will no longer be automatically renewed.

3. There is an increased number of bands being sold on e-bay.
4. There has been increased concern about auxiliary markers.
5. NABC has display cases available for shipping costs only.

The next meeting will be held in Long Point, Ontario

#### **Bander Certification:**

Yunick announced that a bander certification session will be held at Braddock Bay 30 Sep through 2 Oct 2011. There is room for six bander candidates and three trainer candidates.

#### **New Business:**

**By-Laws:** A revision to Article III of the by-laws was passed by council to include District of Columbia in the list of states and provinces. Tate moved to accept the change to the by-laws. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Adjourn:**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1447 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gerald K. Lahr, Secretary

### **Abstracts from the Paper Session at EBBA's Annual Meeting**

#### **The Effect of Oil and Gas Development on Songbird Abundance in the Eastern United States.**

**Emily H. Thomas**, Margaret C. Brittingham, and Walter M. Tzilkowski, School of Forest Resources, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802, and Scott H. Stoleson, U.S.F.S Northern Research Station, Irvine, PA 16329.

Studies on the effects of forest fragmentation on songbirds illustrate both positive and negative effects. Resident, early successional species tend to

benefit or adapt, while forest dwelling Neotropical migrants are often displaced. The development of oil and gas resources can cause extensive forest fragmentation. My study examines the effects of oil and gas development on songbirds in the Allegheny National Forest. To determine effects, I measured the relative abundance of songbirds at both small- and large-scales. I completed point counts at individual wells and paired controls to determine songbird response at the well pad itself. I also examined the overall landscape effect by completing three point counts within 25 ha sites with various densities of active wells. My results showed that 12 species increased at individual wells, while nine species decreased at individual wells. Also, 11 species increased with overall well density, while two species decreased with overall well density. Species richness increased with well density; however, conservation value scores did not correspondingly increase. The increase in species richness but not conservation value with well density suggests that although total number of species increases with well density, the species found in areas with no or few wells are considered species of greater conservation concern than the species found in areas with many wells. I suggest that oil and gas developers place wells along existing roads or within previously cleared areas whenever possible to limit the elimination of core forest area and the forest interior songbird species that depend on it.

#### **Current Research on Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) Conducted by the Purple Martin Conservation Association (PMCA)**

**Robert A. Aepli**, Biological Technician: Purple Martin Conservation Association, 301 Peninsula Drive, Ste. 6, Erie, PA 16505

East of the Rocky Mountains, Purple Martins (*Progne subis*) depend almost entirely on housing provided by humans for their nesting. This dependency makes the Purple Martin a great research subject, because it eliminates time spent searching for birds and increases the ease of capturing them, allowing for large numbers to be banded. The PMCA and its partners at York