

2011

President's Message

Tom Bartlett

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NABC Certification Session

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory hosted an NABC Certification Session at both the Bander and Trainer level on the weekend of 30 Sep-2 Oct 2011. Participating Trainers were Dave Alexander, Betsy Brooks, Annie Crary, Erin Karnatz, Anthony Hill, David Holmes, Sara Morris and Hannah Suthers.



Four people were certified at Bander level: Tyler Christensen, Pennington, New Jersey; T. Keith McKenrick, Port Allegany, Pennsylvania; Andrea Patterson, Rochester, New York; and George Rowsom, Orient, New York.

Two people were certified at Trainer level: Molly McDermott, Columbus, Ohio and Andrea Patterson, Rochester, New York.

Congratulations to the successful candidates!



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

President's Message

By the time you are reading this, our 2011 annual meeting will be over. I am sure it was great. How could it not, in south Texas. We are currently trying to prepare for 2012. If you think you or your group would like to host the 2012 IBBA Annual Meeting, please let me know as soon as possible. It appears we have a possibility of a joint meeting with Eastern Bird Banding Association in the works for 2013 and maybe a 2014 meeting in Canada. We are always looking for new places to have our meeting. I know it takes some effort to put on a meeting but it isn't that tough and can be fun. We have a booklet which helps you through the steps to put on a successful meeting. It will be on our webpage in the near future. Look it over and think about it.

As always, your editor, Peter Lowther, is looking for material for **NABB**. Please feel free to send in anecdotes, banding station reports, or even scientific papers. We need material for our section of **NABB** and the banding community needs to know what you are doing and have found out. Publishing what you find is a major justification for banding. Get your findings out there!

For some reason, banding is being drawn under fire. There was a recent article in a journal of the Wildlife Society [*Wildlife Professional* 5 (3): 84-85, fall 2011] giving "pros and cons". In fact the title, "Is it Time to Halt Bird Banding?" gives some idea of where the article is going. Chief of the Banding

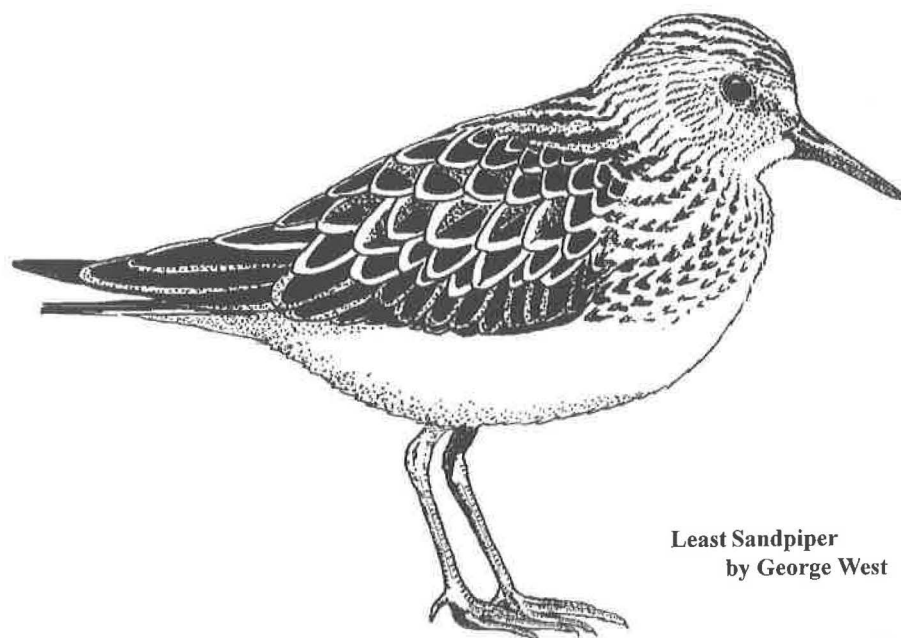
Lab, Bruce Peterjohn, did an excellent job in support of banding but the con side came from a wildlife photographer and some of her points are being used here in Ohio. I do not want to say that some of her points were inaccurate but they were incomplete. One of our Ohio banding projects is under fire from individuals who oppose banding for any reason and are using some of her argument. I believe the journal would have been better served if the article had a different title and used two professionals who have banded but have different views on where banding might be going. This is just setting up a dispute within the conservation community when we do not need one. The Banding Lab is under duress due to financial constraints and it is going to get worse under the current climate in Washington. The Lab needs our support now more than ever.

And, to change the subject: It was Only a Matter of Time!

If you follow the banding community and the North American Banding Council, you know that many of the countries to our south are in the process of or have already set up bird banding programs. Soon you may find in your nets or traps, a banded bird with an unfamiliar band. Although it is not from

one of the new banding programs, we experienced our first foreign recapture this summer. Tom Kashmer and I have been running a shorebird banding project in northwest Ohio for six years. This year we had a chance to train a biologist from Baca National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado. Her name is Corinna Hansen. On 18 Aug, Corinna successfully removed a banded adult Least Sandpiper from one of our nets at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge. Corinna was excited because it was a banded bird but it got better quickly. I removed the bird from the bag and noticed it was not banded as we band shorebirds. Then I looked at the band. It was very stained and hard to read. I cleaned it up and read the band: 4660080 but under the number was MUSEUM and under that was PARIS. To say we were excited is an understatement. However, you cannot enter such a band into our system via computer. So I called the Banding Lab after we finished for the morning. Three days later, we had our answer. The bird was banded by a French Research team 11 Sep 2003! It was eight years old. And it was banded on the island of Martinique off the north coast of South America. Some days it does pay to get up at 0400 and slop through the mud ...

Tom Bartlett
President, IBBA



Least Sandpiper
by George West