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## President's note

Tom Bartlett

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# *Inland Regional News*

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***Inland Bird Banding Association***

***Founded 1922***

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## **President's Note**

By the time you read this note, the association will have entered a new era. We are having our first electronic Board meeting this fall. Minutes should be in the next issue of *NABB*. This is all due to the new Bylaw changes last spring. It should make us a better organization. We rarely have a full Board at Board meetings and this will allow all Boards members to have input. Time will tell. Topics will include grant proposals, webpage changes, a new brochure, and possible new Bylaw changes for the next member's meeting.

I have been getting questions about the annual banding totals section of *NABB* for the IBBA area. We had a Board member who was going to try to get that information for an article from the Banding Lab, but evidently that fell through. I have had several members offer to pick it up and will be taking them up on their offer. It is probably better to have non-Board members doing it anyway. The greater the participation by members, the stronger the organization. If you have 2012 data you would like to include, email them to me in an Excel file and I will pass it on. Next year we hope to have a better system up and running.

**Tom Bartlett, President**  
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## **The Exploratory Life of Hatching-year Birds**

By banding and subsequently recapturing birds, we are able to learn extraordinary details about the movements that individual birds make. It is through recapturing birds that we learn about the timing of movements, the distances birds travel, as well as the paths they choose to take. I have always been fascinated with bird movement, so when I was offered a master's project involving radio telemetry of migratory songbirds, I was ecstatic. Radio telemetry, like band/recapture, allows us to track an individual as it moves. The beauty of telemetry is that the added technology enables us the opportunity to find where an individual is located at

any time, not just when that individual happens to be captured in a mist net.

My project focuses on the habitat selection of Hatching-Year (HY) birds before their commencement of migration. My focal species is the endangered Black-capped Vireo and I conduct my research in central Texas, where a large population exists due to effective protection and management. In order to study movements of individuals, I attached radio transmitters to young vireos and proceeded to locate individuals twice a day until the battery inside the transmitter died. I have just