

2014

Memorial for Ralph K Bell 1915-2014

North American Bird Bander

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(4) NABC is working to offer more NABC opportunities in Canada

(5) Seven Trainers from three countries assessed the skills of 11 candidates at a session held on 3-5 Nov at Long Point, Ontario. Certified at the Bander level were six candidates from Ontario, one each from Alberta and Quebec, and one from Colombia.

NABC Manual on banding with the public and various other useful reference materials, including ID guides, under 'Bander Resources' at NABC website.

'Busy Day' guidelines forthcoming

Photo guidelines - taking and publicizing; to be published in *NABB*

Member organizations (EBBA) in this case) urged to express support for BBL through communication with USGS.

New Business:

President Heselton stated that he is looking for volunteers to fill two committees; Outreach and Marketing, and NABB advertising.

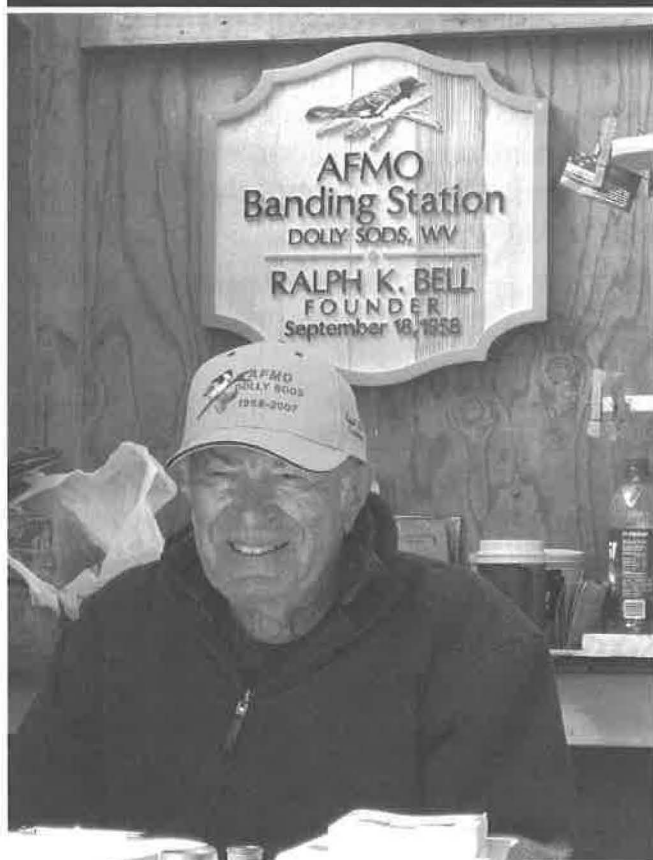
Adjourn:

It was moved and seconded to adjourn.

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1417 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gerald K. Lahr, Secretary



Ralph K. Bell

27 January 1915 – 20 May 2014

Ralph Bell left us on 20 May 2014, just a few months shy of what would have been his 100th birthday! He was an inspiration to all who knew him. He began studying birds around the age of 12 and kept records from that time on. He earned his Bird Banding Master Permit in 1954 and over the years, he mentored 15 sub-permitees. As of May 2013, Ralph had banded 142,255 birds and had 1,481 recoveries.

He won many awards and Certificates of Appreciation from the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the North American Bluebird Society in 1983, the US Department of Forest Service in 2003 for his 46 years of outstanding dedication and service, the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology Earl Poole Award in 1998, the Purple Martin Preservation Alliance Award in 2006, and many more.

Ralph was a life member of EBBA and had been an honorary member since 1983. He served on EBBA council, served as EBBA Vice President, and was signatory to EBBA's Certificate of Incorporation in 1962.

Ralph K. Bell was one of several banders awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the EBBA Council. He was presented this award in 2000. This award was given "to long-time banders to recognize their many contributions".

Over the years, Ralph published over 200 articles on birds and nature. From 1956 to 1975 he published articles in *EBBA News* and wrote a column titled "A Bird Bander's Diary."

Ralph founded the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory (AFMO), September 18, 1958. AFMO is the oldest, continuous running bird banding station in North America.

His wonderful smile and dedication to bird conservation, his family and friends will live on.