

ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of the O.B.B.A. will be held at the home of John Roberts, 62 Inglewood Drive, Toronto 7, (one block north of St. Clair between Yonge and Mount Pleasant) on Tuesday, March 20th, at 8:00 p.m.

1962 MEMBERSHIP DUES

1962 dues (\$2) are now payable. A new supply of membership cards is being printed and 1962 cards will be forwarded to paid-up members with the April mailing. If your dues are not paid, please send them to the Secretary - J.O.L. Roberts, 62 Inglewood Drive, Toronto 7.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The sixth annual meeting - the first to be held separately from the annual meeting of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists - took place on February 24th, 1962, at the Royal Ontario Museum. The meeting was attended by Dr. Solman of the Canadian Wildlife Service and some 27 O.B.B.A. members.

The morning session was opened at 10:30 a.m. by the President and commenced with the introduction of members. This was followed by reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting by the Secretary.

Banding station reports were then presented as follows:-

Fall Banding at Bradley's Marsh - R. Wright (read by the Secretary)

Point Pelee - J. Roberts

Long Point - D. Hussell

Richmond Hill - J. Lunn (given p.m. due to late arrival)

The Treasurer's report was then read by Mr. Bruce Westcott. There were 51 paid-up members last year, and the bank balance on December 31st, 1961 was \$ 170.37.

The next item on the agenda was the President's report. Referring to the banding station reports, Mr. Wasserfall, noted the decline in banding activity at Point Pelee which he said was due to the transfer of effort on the part of Toronto banders to Long Point. He pointed out that this loss was largely offset by the good coverage at Bradley's Marsh by Bob Wright and his co-workers. The opportunities for hawk banding in the fall at Pelee were he felt of special interest and he suggested that an effort should be made to achieve greater coverage of this aspect in the coming year. Mr. Wasserfall went on to praise the efforts of Dave Hussell and the other members who have been active in establishing the Long Point Bird Observatory and cited their success as an example of the type of operation that can be established by cooperative effort.

Cooperation is being carried a stage further at the new banding station on Toronto Island. It is planned that the nature school there will cover the migration during the week, with O.B.B.A. members covering the week-end. Mr. Wasserfall felt that this new station could assume major significance. He noted that 2 members have been duck banding there this winter and that it is a concentration point for Saw-Whet owls in the fall.

The President then turned his attention to Ottawa. He noted that while the new banders manual was still far from complete, distribution this fall of the parts available marked a major step forward. The new schedules should make reporting a far less burdensome task in future years. Mr. Wasserfall however expressed dissatisfaction with the new recovery forms which require extensive deciphering and do not give the name or address of the recoverer; there is then no scope for checking for error or supplementary detail.

J. Woodford then took the chair as representative of the nominating committee. The slate of officers proposed included four executives without portfolio. D. Hussell pointed out that this is not permitted by the constitution. There were no nominations from the floor. A vote was taken to elect three of the four executive members without portfolio. The following were elected.

President	W. Wasserfall	Toronto
Vice-Presidents	N. Kelley D. Baldwin	Detroit Toronto
Secretary	J. Roberts	Toronto
Treasurer	B. Westcott	Toronto
Executive Members	D. Hussell G. Fairfield R. Stamp	Toronto Toronto Hamilton

Dr. Solman was then called upon and after expressing pleasure at being able to be present, agreed to answer questions of members. These related mainly to recent revisions in record procedures. Dr. Solman indicated that changes were intended primarily to reduce time spent by all concerned and to speed up the whole process of recording information and supplying data when required. While the new procedures are a clear improvement, he had no doubt that minor modifications would be desirable and that they would be made.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon for lunch.

During the lunch period members who wished to do so visited the bird room and the laboratory.

The afternoon session commenced at 2:15 p.m. with the introduction of the new executive.

This was followed by a talk by J.M. Speirs on the mortality of Black-capped chickadees based on a study of 13 colour banded chickadees. His limited data suggested that for every 10 eggs laid only one would produce a chickadee that would live to breed.

J. Woodford followed with a discussion of the apparent invasion of Tufted Titmice this winter. After noting the rather sparse records for this species in Ontario, he stated that he had received at least 40 reports of their occurrence over a wide area this winter. Increased numbers have also been observed in areas of the Northern United States where they are normally scarce.

Mr. Woodford also referred briefly to Operation Recovery. A mass of data has been collected and will probably be worked up by the separate stations. It is hoped that a 5 or 10 year report covering the whole operation will be published ultimately.

W. Wasserfall took the rostrum next and outlined the results of Sharp - Shinned Hawk banding at Point Pelee. 665 birds have been banded since 1955 with 12 recoveries or retraps so far. Most were within a few months of banding. Recoveries were all from the United States and occurred in a fairly narrow arc centred about a line running only slight to the West of South. However attention was drawn to the single recovery from banding at Long Point which was made in Western Mexico.

S. Downing followed with a very interesting talk on bat banding. Bats are mainly tropical and subtropical. Only 1 of the 5 families are represented in Ontario involving 5 genera and 9 species. Interest centres around the solitary (migratory) species rather than the cave (non-migratory) species. Very few solitary bats have been banded and no recoveries reported. Several types of bands have been used including bird bands (separate series). None are entirely satisfactory. There is considerable interest at the present time, Mr. Downing reports, in the role which may be played by solitary bats as carriers of rabies. Anyone interested in banding bats should contact Mr. Downing or D. Baldwin.

D. Baldwin followed with an outline of facilities at Long Point illustrated by a brief series of slides.

The meeting concluded with a most interesting 16mm film and talk by D. Hussell on his trip to Hooper Bay, Alaska. The shots included sharp close-up shots of Western Sandpiper, Black Turnstone, and Red Phalarope, nesting scenes of Emperor Goose, Bar-tailed Godwit, Rough-legged Hawk and Redpoll and scenes of the breeding behaviour of Sabine's Gull.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

O.B.B.A. BANDING STATIONS

Members wishing to take part in banding at Point Pelee, Long Point, Toronto Island or Bradley's Marsh should get in touch with the following:-

Point Pelee	J.O.L. Roberts, 62 Inglewood Drive, Toronto 7 or N.T. Kelley, 3681 Forest Hill Dr., Birmingham, Michigan
Long Point	D. J.T. Hussell, 17 Farnsworth Dr., Weston, Ont.
Toronto Island	D. Baldwin, 1446 Yonge Street, Apt. 6, Toronto 7
Bradley's Marsh	R.L. Wright, 16766 Lindsay Ave., Detroit 35, Michigan