

ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of the O.B.B.A. will be held at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Don Baldwin, 62 Walmsley Blvd., Toronto, on Tuesday, October 9th. The programme will include identification quizzes by Frank Lovesy using slides and by John Lunn using tape recordings.

FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month. The following are scheduled as principal items on the November and December programmes respectively:-

November 13th	Discussion of Operation Recovery led by John Lunn.
December 11th	Sutton film and slides by Dave Hussell and Don Baldwin.

REPORT OF SEPTEMBER MEETING

Mr & Mrs Gray were hosts at the very successful meeting held at McAuley's Cottages, Point Pelee on September 15th. Twenty members and guests attended, including members from Bowmanville, Detroit, Montreal and the Niagara peninsula.

The first highlight of the meeting was Bob Wright's description of his set-up at Bradley's Marsh.

The Bradley property comprises some 2,000 acres of which 1,300 acres is a controlled marsh. Other property adjoining it makes a continuous marshland area of some 4,000 acres. The marsh is located immediately north of the mouth of the Thames River and borders on Lake St. Clair. Banding is carried out on a narrow ridge covered with willows, long grass and weeds, between the marsh and the lake. Trapping is almost entirely by mist net (1" mesh nylon); as many as twenty-two are used at one time. Four banders and assistants take part. The owners of the property are enthusiastic about the banding and have been very co-operative; they are the possessors of a fine collection of bird skins collected in the area some years ago by Dr. Wood.

The second highlight was Bill Wasserfall's account of Sharpshin banding at Pelee over the last seven years. Bill discussed the development of trapping methods in considerable detail. Presently in use are duck nets and thrush nets. Varying numbers have been banded each fall, principally first year birds. The recovery rate has been approximately 2%. Bill went on to discuss details of the recoveries to date using the same map which

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he presented at the last annual meeting to illustrate their distribution. The recoveries are roughly included in the area described by joining Pelee to the ends of an arc stretching from Northern Florida to Mississippi.

The meeting concluded with a display by Don Baldwin of bat skins representing the various species found in Ontario. Little is known about the migrations of the various species of solitary bats which are caught in the nets at Pelee from time to time. A specimen of the uncommon Hoary Bat had been trapped and released Saturday morning.

It had been hoped that the week-end would be a good one for Sharpshins but this was not to be. However warblers and thrushes were unusually plentiful. 893 birds of 53 species were banded in the two days. Saturday's take included 24 species of warbler.

JOLR
October 2-62