

ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The first meeting of the season will be held at Point Pelee, Saturday September 14, 1968 at 7 pm E.S.T. (8 pm E.D.T.) Mr. and Mrs. W. Wasserfall will be hosts for this meeting which will be held in the Nature Centre at the Park. The speaker of the evening will be Mr. D.J.T. Hussell.

Members coming to Point Pelee for the weekend to attend the meeting will have to make their own arrangements for accomodation. There are several motels in Leamington and a large campsite within the park. A continuous programme of banding and observation of Sharp-shinned Hawks is being carried out at the Point Pelee Bird Observatory from Sept. 7 until late Oct. under the direction of Mr. J.O.L. Roberts, 22 Rowanwood Ave, Toronto 5, 929-3704. The station is located at the end of the point.

MAY MEETING

The May meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Les Gray, Tuesday May 14, 1968 with 17 members present. Mr. W. Wasserfall acted as Chairman. Mr. G. Page gave a short summary of activity at Long Point. The water is considerably higher this year (18"). There have been few warblers and in late April a night at the Lighthouse, mainly Hermit Thrush. Work was started on HT1.

Mr. W. Wasserfall mentioned that the Point Pelee Bird Observatory trailer had been taken up to Whitefish Point again this year. 140 Sharp-shinned Hawks were banded, 30 Long-eared Owls, a few Saw-whets and 1 Great Gray which appears to be a first for that area.

The highlight of the evening was our speaker, Mr. John Woods who described the work he has been doing over the past year with Saw-whet Owls. He showed some most interesting and unusual slides.

A NEW EDITOR FOR ONTARIO BIRD BANDING

Mr. Doug Dow, who has so capably edited ONTARIO BIRD BANDING for the past 2 years is leaving in September to take up a position at the University of Queensland in Australia. We wish Doug and Ann the best of luck and express our appreciation for the excellent job he has done.

The new editor, Dr. Richard Brown is a Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service in Aurora. Anyone having articles to submit for publication is asked to send them to: Dr. R.G. Brown, Canadian Wildlife Service, P.O. Aurora, Ontario.

OBSERVATIONS NEEDED ON COLOUR MARKED SANDPIPERS

Members of the O.B.B.A. are currently banding and colour marking sandpipers throughout the Province of Ontario in order to study migration patterns within the province. The Sandpipers are marked in various colours and information is requested on any observations which readers might make during the fall migration. Please send the location, date, species, colour and leg on which the bird is banded to:

Professor A. Salvadori,  
Mathematics Dept.,  
University of Guelph,  
Guelph, Ontario.

LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

HIGHLIGHTS - June 1 to August 18

During the summer breeding season over 125 nests of 21 species were located. These included 1 American Bittern, 3 Piping Plover, 2 King Rail, 13 Kingbird, 34 Tree Swallow, 25 Barn Swallow and 5 Eastern Bluebird. Seventeen of these nests were found on the breeding bird census plot. A small expanding colony of Common Terns was destroyed by a storm in late June.

Fall migrants began arriving about July 4 with sporadic influxes of Empidonax Flycatchers, Blackbirds, Warblers (Yellow and Northern Waterthrush) and a consistent movement of Waders. Swallows have been migrating intermittently since July 10 with Bank Swallows being the earliest and most abundant species.

SHOREBIRDS

Shorebird activity has been characterized by steady movements of Waders and very few Peep Sandpipers. Approximately 150 Shorebirds of 17 Species have been trapped including Northern Phalarope, Black-bellied Plover, Stilt Sandpiper and about 80 Peep Sandpipers. Stilt Sandpipers were observed periodically between July 6 and August 6, Knots since August 13 and Black-bellied Plover since August 15. Interesting returns include a Killdeer on July 16 which was banded as a local bird in 1967, 2 Spotted Sandpipers, 1 Least and 2 Semipalmated from 1967. The Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were all caught on August 7. Colour marking has continued and yellow is being used at Long Point.

FLYCATCHERS

Empidonax Flycatcher influxes occurred on July 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 25, August 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 13. To date fall trapping has

produced 105 Leasts (86 Adults), 20 Traills and 16 yellow-bellied. Numbers of Least Flycatchers have decreased considerably since 1967.

#### KINGBIRDS

The kingbird project was continued and expanded this year to include the trapping of adults using a captive Crow as a lure. The adults were colour marked allowing for behavioural and territorial observations of both sexes. Two Kingbirds banded as adults in 1967 were recaptured this year.

#### TREE SWALLOWS

The number of nest boxes was increased this summer and 34 Tree Swallow nests were recorded. Several of the returning birds were recaptured.

#### OTHER INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS

Sandhill Crane Spring, Snowy Egret June 4, Willet June 19, 2 Cattle Egrets June 24, Little Gull July 22,24, American Avocet August 3. A redwinged Blackbird banded in the spring of 1966 was recaptured in Area 1 on August 4.

#### REQUESTED

Bob Stamp needs pictures of Long Point Bird Observatory for inclusion in the Annual Report and requests that anyone having suitable photographs which they are willing to lend send them to: Mr. R. Stamp, 770 Queenston Rd. Stoney Creek, Ont.

#### BOOKINGS FOR LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

Anyone planning to go to Long Point must book with: Mrs. P. Woodford, 116 Three Valley Drive, Don Mills, 444-7939. Because of the limited space, only those who have booked previously can be provided with accomodation.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs. P.S. Woodford,  
116 Three Valley Drive,  
Don Mills, Ontario.  
(444-7939)

A. Wasserfall,  
Secretary, O.B.B.A.