

Ontario Bird Banding Association

October 1974 Newsletter

Program for October

The date of the indoor meeting for October has been changed from Tuesday Oct 8th to WED. OCTOBER THE 9th. Please note the change of date. This meeting will be held at the home of Ted Dinniwell, 7 Esquire Place, Hamilton, Ont. at 8.00 P.M.

This is a members night meeting. Those of you that would like to give a short talk or show slides, please phone Dave Broughton at 416-463-7646 or write to him at 407 Rhodes Ave. Toronto, Ont. Please let him know if you can bring a slide projector. We have a screen. For those of you that don't know how to get to the meeting place phone me at 389-3416. At present there are a few roads being rebuilt, so I won't give any written directions.

The second meeting for Oct. is a banding training session that is being held at the home of Dr. David Brewer at 10.00 A.M. on Saturday, Oct. 26. Meet at his place. If you don't know how to get there, meet at the parking lot of the Aberfoyle Steakhouse on Highway 6, one mile north of the 401 and about 8 miles south of Guelph. Members who have nets and poles are requested to come earlier to set them up. This meeting will be cancelled in event of rain. To be sure phone Dave Brewer at 519-824-4342.

Dave Broughton on Sunday Sept. 2, 1973 came across a dead immature herring gull wearing band no. 616-36936. The gull was washed up on the western shore of Toronto Island and had apparently been dead for several days. There were no obvious signs of disease, injury etc. This band was issued to C.W.S. on 06-16-58 to the Canadian Wildlife Service in Ottawa. They of no record of it and neither does the Fish and wildlife service in Laurel, Maryland.

If anyone has any information on this gull would you please contact Dave Broughton at 407 Rhodes Ave. Toronto, Ont.

News from David Hussell at Backus House-

"We have daily banding coverage arranged at Backus House from Sept 9 to Sept 29. Thus we can take care of any inexperienced people who would like to participate during that period."

So anyone who would like to participate contact David at Backus House or write to him at P.O. Box 160 Port Rowan, Ont. N0E 1M0

One bad piece of news to report- The National Parks Board has said no to banding at Pelee for at least a year. To those of you that have banded there, it is sad news.

Duck Banding Planned for this Year

(This material is taken from The 1974 Co-operative Banding Program for Eastern Canada- W.R. Whitman, Chairman Banding Committee Atlantic Waterfowl Council Sackville, New Brunswick May 1974).

Co-operative waterfowl banding stations in Eastern Canada will be restricted to those locations which in the past have consistently banded sufficient numbers of mallards, black duck, American green-winged teal or wood duck to meet new quotas suggested by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The Co-operative Banding Committee at its annual meeting in March recognized a need for greater first hand knowledge of banding operations in Eastern Canada. It was recommended that a Committee representative appraise all banding stations in Eastern Canada in 1974 with reference to the effectiveness and efficiency of the overall program. The work should include a review of written reports on past operations, an on-site inspection of banding stations and discussions with those in charge of banding and with the actual banders.

O.B.B.A. Duck Banding Stations (Dundas, Niagara River, Pinafore Park, Aylmer- Yarmouth Areas).

Dates: August 1- October 31. Some stations such as Pinafore Park and Niagara River may also be operated during the winter period.
 Personnel: Jim Andeson, 92 Grant Blvd., Dundas, Ont. at Dundas; Mr. & Mrs. Frank Folemsbee, 417 Mears Ave., Box 57 Chippewa, at Niagara River and vicinity; Marshall Fields, 89 Elm St., St. Thomas at Pinafore Park; Robert Hubert, 50 Highes St., St. Thomas at several areas near St. Thomas.

Materials, Supplies and Equipment: Provided by the banders with the assistance of Co-operative State Funds.

Bands and Banding Permits: Ordered by and issued to individual banders.

Local Contacts- Individual banders, Robert Alison and Donald Baldwin.

Remarks: Financing will be directly between the bander and the Wildlife Management Institute. Up to \$800.00 co-operative Funds will be used.

The above material was submitted by Don Baldwin.

Material is urgently needed for the newsletter. Please mail to Dr. Ted Dinniwell, 7 Esquire Place, Hamilton, Ont. L9C 2R2

Transatlantic Migrants.

Over the past few years the incidence of birds crossing the Atlantic appears to have increased and it may be worth mentioning some recent recoveries.

Many more species have crossed from North America to Europe than vice-versa. Only two species from Britain appear to be recovered with any regularity in the New World and as expected these are sea-birds - the Fulmar and Manx Shearwater.

It is interesting to record that a chick Fulmar ringed at Fair Isle on 19.7.71 was recovered off Cape Roseway, Nova Scotia on 15.11.71, probably around two months after learning to fly. Large flocks of waders/shorebirds spend the winter on the estuaries of Scotland and England and have received special attention from ringing groups in the past four years. One remarkable record has emerged very recently - a Knot, part of a flock of 10,000 wintering on the Solway Firth (S.W. Scotland) ringed on 14.2.71. was killed by an Eskimo at Broughton Island, off Baffinland on 11.6.72.

There are many records of British ringed birds from Greenland viz. Knot, Turnstone, Dunlin, Arctic Skua, Great Skua and Kittiwake. It would appear that the Baffinland Knot used the Greenland-Iceland-Faeroe route to reach Scotland.

Two European species now breeding in Canada, the Little Gull and Black-headed Gull may be joined in the not too distant future by the first land bird, the Collared Dove. This species has swept across Europe with amazing rapidity and now nests in every county in Britain. Ringing has shown that the North West movement is still in progress. Birds have progressed via Shetland and Faeroe to Iceland and there are now records from Greenland, Canada seems to be the next country destined for colonisation. The Collared Dove will fill nicely the niche left by the Passenger Pigeon.

Canadian banded birds recovered in Britain are few in number although special efforts are always made to trap and ring rare vagrants. The recent recoveries are as follows;-

Great Shearwater - banded Bay of Fundy (New Brunswick) recovered two years later at St George's Channel (West England), on 14.11.67.

Green-winged Teal - Banded Queenstown (N.B.) on 22.8.70, recovered St Mary's, Isles of Scilly (S.W. England). 2.1.71.

Blue-winged Teal - banded at Jolieure Lakes (N.B.) on 26.7.71 recovered at Martlesham Creek, Suffolk, (East England) on 10.9.71.

Brent Goose - banded at Eureka Sound, Ellesmere Island on 8.8.71, two birds (adults) were shot in Northern Ireland one on 22.10.71 and the other on 9.10.71.

American Wigeon (2) and Pintail (1) have also been recovered in recent years. There are no recoveries of Passerines but Greenland banded Wheatears have occurred three times in Britain.

Each year, in Scotland, several North American species are recorded and it might be of interest to list those known to have occurred in 1972. These are; - Green-winged Teal (3), American Wigeon (1), Wood Duck (1, perhaps an escape), Ross's Goose (2, escapes ?) Snow Goose (1, escape ?), White-Rumped Sandpiper (2) Buff-breasted Sandpiper (1), Wilson's Phalarope (1), Bonaparte's Gull (1), Blue Grosbeak (1 escape) Painted Bunting (1, escape). The last two species were males and like the Lazuli Bunting of 1971 will probably be considered imported birds which have escaped. In 1973 there were several records of Buff-breasted Sandpipers in Britain and one new species for Europe, an Ovenbird was seen in Shetland.

B. Zonfrillo.

Ed. Note- The above material was submitted by O.B.B.A.'s only Scottish member (28 Brodie Road, Glasgow G21 3SB, Scotland) The information is taken from the B.T.O. Annual Report on Bird Ringing for 1971 and the Scottish Bird Report published by the Scottish Ornithologists Club.