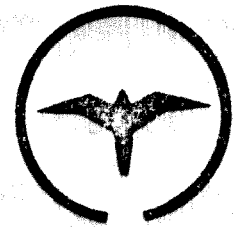


ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION



FEBRUARY 1979 NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the OBBA will be held on Saturday March 3, 1979, in the Lecture Room of the McLaughlin Planetarium. The Planetarium is located just south of the Royal Ontario Museum at Avenue Road and Bloor Street, Toronto.

AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 09:15 Registration (Fee \$1.00)
- 09:45 Introduction of members and visitors
- 10:00 Minutes of 1978 Annual General Meeting
- 10:10 President's Report
- 10:15 Treasurer's Report
- 10:20 Editor's Report
- 10:30 Banding Report
- 10:40 Station Reports
 - 10:40 Long Point Bird Observatory - David Hussell
 - 10:50 Prince Edward Point - Helen Quilliam
 - 11:00 Hawk Cliff - Marshall Field
 - 11:10 Toronto Bird Observatory - David Broughton
 - 11:20 Guelph Banding Group - Toni Salvadori
- 11:30 Election of Officers and Executive Committee for 1979
- 11:45 Any other business
- 12:00 Adjourn for Lunch
- 12:00 - 13:30 The Bird Room at the R.O.M. will be open

- 13:45 William Clark, Director, Raptor Information Centre, Washington, D.C. will speak on "Raptor Banding at Cape May, New Jersey; twelve year results".
- 14:45 Coffee break
- 15:05 Bruce Duncan; "Banding Recoveries of Raptors from Southern Ontario".
- 15:25 Jim Jones (University of Toronto); "Radiotelemetry Studies of White-throated Sparrows"
- 15:45 William Clark; "The Raptor Information Centre, Washington"

At 7:30 p.m., there will be an informal gathering at the home of Mr. & Mrs George Fairfield, 332 Sheldrake Blvd, Toronto, to which all are cordially invited.

No specific arrangements have been made for lunch or supper, but there are a number of good and reasonable eating places within walking distance of the Planetarium.

GUELPH BANDING GROUP

The Guelph Banding Group now consists of seven permittees - Toni Salvadori, David Brewer, Martin Wernaart, Len Simser, Gary Hatton, Charles Francis and Brian Wyatt. In 1978, banding took place at several locations around Guelph - Mountsberg Conservation Area, Aberfoyle, two locations near Arkell, Guelph itself and from time to time at other spots, including Luther Marsh and near Red Bay in Bruce County. The duck and shorebird programme at Mountsberg was carried on this year, as well as a lot of small bird banding. The Mountsberg operations were used exclusively in the Halton Region Conservation Authority Outdoor Education Programme.

In the list below are given banding totals. The figure after the species indicates the number banded in 1978; the figure in brackets the overall total banded from 1971 (the year Salvadori and Brewer took out a joint permit) to 1978; the final figure where present indicates the total number of recoveries received to date for that species.

Common Loon	1	(1)	Red-Necked Grebe	(1)
Horned Grebe	(1)		Pied-Billed Grebe	1 (1)
Great Blue Heron	1	(5)	Green Heron	3 (5)
Black-Crowned Night Heron	(49)		American Bittern	(1)
Whistling Swan	(2)		Canada Goose	112 (306) 21
Mallard	1872	(5011) 298	Black Duck	501 (1532) 75
Mallard X Black Hybrid	26	(79) 6	Gadwall	11 (35) 3
American Widgeon	(2)		Pintail	16 (32)
Mallard X Pintail Hybrid	(1)		Green-Winged Teal	3 (22) 2

Blue-Winged Teal	563 (1480)	27	Wood Duck	175 (537)	31
Redhead	1 (7)		Ring-Necked Duck	6 (8)	
Greater Scaup	(1)		Lesser Scaup	(1)	
Bufflehead	(6)		Ruddy Duck	(1)	
Hooded Merganser	(7)		Common Merganser	1 (1)	
Goshawk	4 (5)		Sharp-Shinned Hawk	(20)	
Red-Tailed Hawk	21 (82)		Red-Shouldered Hawk	(1)	
Rough-Legged Hawk	(2)		Bald Eagle	1 (1)	
Marsh Hawk	(3)		Osprey	(1)	
American Kestrel	29 (43)	1	Ruffed Grouse	1 (5)	
Virginia Rail	(1)		Common Gallinule	(1)	
American Coot	50 (81)	1	Semipalmated Plover	(5)	
Killdeer	30 (74)		American Woodcock	5 (12)	
Common Snipe	(7)		Upland Sandpiper	1 (1)	
Spotted Sandpiper	51 (93)		Solitary Sandpiper	4 (6)	
Lesser Yellowlegs	5 (16)		Knot	(1)	
Pectoral Sandpiper	2 (20)		Least Sandpiper	15 (73)	
Short-Billed Dowitcher	(3)		Stilt Sandpiper	3 (3)	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1 (43)		Herring Gull	353 (353)	
Ring-Billed Gull	1461 (1461)		Black Tern	2 (2)	
Mourning Dove	25 (65)	2	Black-Billed Cuckoo	6 (10)	
Barn Owl	(3)		Screech Owl	2 (11)	
Great Horned Owl	23 (32)	1	Snowy Owl	(14)	2
Short-Eared Owl	(3)		Saw-Whet Owl	(1)	
Chimney Swift	(1)		Belted Kingfisher	1 (3)	
Common Flicker	22 (71)		Red-Headed Woodpecker	5 (6)	
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	1 (3)		Hairy Woodpecker	5 (21)	
Downy Woodpecker	34 (75)		Eastern Kingbird	43 (79)	
Great Crested Flycatcher	26 (48)		Eastern Phoebe	11 (57)	
Yellow-Bellied Flycatcher	22 (34)		"Traill's" Flycatcher	22 (24)	
Least Flycatcher	54 (130)		Eastern Wood Peewee	27 (60)	
Olive-Sided Flycatcher	1 (2)		Horned Lark	4 (5)	
Tree Swallow	586 (2298)	1	Bank Swallow	54 (98)	
Rough-Winged Swallow	9 (12)		Barn Swallow	130 (429)	
Cliff Swallow	(64)		Purple Martin	112 (139)	
Blue Jay	60 (202)	2	Common Crow	3 (6)	
Black-Capped Chickadee	137 (688)	2	White-Breasted Nuthatch	8 (35)	
Red-Breasted Nuthatch	2 (23)		Brown Creeper	18 (76)	
House Wren	60 (206)		Winter Wren	(14)	
Long-Billed Marsh Wren	(1)		Catbird	75 (272)	
Brown Thrasher	8 (43)		American Robin	90 (377)	
Wood Thrush	7 (25)		Hermit Thrush	9 (164)	
Swainsons Thrush	75 (372)		Gray-Cheeked Thrush	7 (40)	
Veery	44 (127)		Eastern Bluebird	15 (115)	
Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher	(1)		Golden-Crowned Kinglet	7 (347)	
Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	77 (670)		Cedar Waxwing	17 (89)	
Northern Shrike	2 (17)	1	Starling	47 (308)	2
White-Eyed Vireo	1 (1)		Yellow-Throated Vireo	(1)	
Solitary Vireo	3 (17)		Red-Eyed Vireo	100 (207)	1
Philadelphia Vireo	32 (64)		Warbling Vireo	112 (149)	
Black & White Warbler	20 (100)		Golden-Winged Warbler	3 (8)	
Blue-Winged Warbler	(1)		Tennessee Warbler	283 (525)	

Orange Crowned Warbler	5 (16)	Nashville Warbler	91 (353)
Parula Warbler	2 (12)	Yellow Warbler	101 (144)
Magnolia Warbler	165 (596)	Cape May Warbler	28 (73)
Black-Throated Blue Warbler	15 (75)	Myrtle Warbler	208 (597)
Black-Throated Green Warbler	15 (72)	Cerulean Warbler	(1)
Blackburnian Warbler	21 (82)	Chestnut-Sided Warbler	47 (149)
Bay-Breasted Warbler	82 (366)	Blackpoll Warbler	21 (67)
<u>Pine Warbler</u>	1 (1)	Palm Warbler	3 (21)
Ovenbird	34 (107)	Northern Waterthrush	8 (51)
Connecticut Warbler	1 (3)	Mourning Warbler	12 (20)
Yellowthroat	30 (59)	Yellow-Breasted Chat	(1)
Wilson's Warbler	9 (44)	Canada Warbler	38 (156)
American Redstart	44 (126)	House Sparrow	(33)
Bobolink	7 (13)	Eastern Meadowlark	(7)
Red-Winged Blackbird	121 (473) 1	Baltimore Oriole	70 (162)
Common Grackle	95 (404) 9	Brown-Headed Cowbird	167 (1590) 13
Scarlet Tanager	11 (34)	Summer Tanager	1 (1)
Cardinal	11 (69)	Rose-Breasted Grosbeak	83 (169)
Indigo Bunting	4 (7)	Evening Grosbeak	524 (1979) 12
Purple Finch	2 (60)	Hoary Redpoll	1 (2)
Common Redpoll	1758 (2115) 4	Pine Siskin	5 (165)
American Goldfinch	1599 (5633) 15	White-Winged Crossbill	(16)
Rufous-Sided Towhee	1 (5)	Savannah Sparrow	55 (97)
Grasshopper Sparrow	2 (7)	Vesper Sparrow	1 (5)
Slate-Coloured Junco	391 (1824)	Tree Sparrow	634 (1964) 2
Chipping Sparrow	18 (67)	Field Sparrow	22 (77)
Harris' Sparrow	(1)	White-Crowned Sparrow	88 (230)
White-Throated Sparrow	336 (929)	Fox Sparrow	9 (39)
Lincolns Sparrow	16 (29)	Swamp Sparrow	11 (33)
Song Sparrow	293 (704) 1	Lapland Longspur	(2)
Snow Bunting	286 (512)		

In 1978, 15,475 birds of 141 species and one hybrid were banded; twelve species, those underlined, were banded for the first time in 1978. During its eight years of operation, the Guelph Group has now banded 43,296 birds of 181 species and two hybrids. The 1978 banding total exceeded the previous highest total, in 1977, by some four thousand four hundred bird.

OBSERVATIONS

Rob Nisbett observed a Canada Goose at Frenchmans Bay in November 1978, with a red leg band number 217. This bird was banded as an adult female in February 1976 at Hiawassee, Tennessee.

FORMER O.B.B.A. MEMBER

Some of our older members will remember "Bim" Westcott who was active in the early days when O.B.B.A. and L.P.B.O. were formed. We lost him when his employer moved him to British Columbia. In his Christmas card he wrote:

"Got a card from friends up at 100 Mile House where I did some banding ten or eleven years ago. They have a banded Gray Jay coming to their feeder. So it must be at least ten years old.

This has been a 'vintage year' for birds, even though we are now converted fishermen. In September, up near Merritt we watched the migration of the Sandhill Cranes. Six big flocks went over one afternoon... about 100 in each flock, and only about 500 feet up. Also saw a Peregrine Falcon in action south of Campbell River. He was chasing a Bonaparte Gull for about half an hour. He came over to the boat about 20 feet up. Every time the gull got up off the water to join the wheeling gulls he would power-dive and chase it back into the water.

Also saw a partially albino Bald Eagle. All these were seen on fishing trips, so you had better take-up fishing. We have been know to catch the odd fish too."

RECENT PUBLICATION

"A Guide to North American Bird Clubs"

- by Jon E. Rickert

This book claims to be a comprehensive compendium of all North and Central American Bird Clubs, and gives such information as the address of the Secretary, when and where meetings are held, details of field activities, publications and Subscription rates. It would certainly prove useful for members wishing to establish contacts in other parts of the continent or who are planning trips.

It is available for \$15.00 U.S., post-paid, from Avian Publications, Inc., Box 310, Elizabethtown, KY42701, U.S.A.

DOMINION STORE TAPES

The Toronto Bird Observatory has started to collect Dominion Store cash register tapes in an effort to help purchase equipment.

We would appreciate it if any O.B.B.A. members and friends would also save their Dominion Store grocery tapes and send them to: Kathleen Wilson, 58 Edgar Avenue, Thornhill, Ontario, 221-2304.

Any amount or number of tapes will be greatly appreciated.

If 15 persons collect tapes for one year we will be able to purchase a typewriter.

BIRD STUDY WORKSHOPS

One or two four-day sessions of ornithological training, each for up to six students aged 14 through 16, will be held at the Long Point Bird Observatory in late June, or late August 1979, or both (exact dates to be announced later). These workshops will include an intensive introduction to techniques of censusing, trapping and banding birds, preparation of specimens, and an introduction to bird identification and behaviour. All training will be under the direction of experienced ornithologists. The course is intended for young people who already have some knowledge of birds and have a serious interest in learning more about field ornithology and bird study. Successful completion of the course will help qualify students for positions at the Observatory as summer assistants.

The cost of the course will be \$35.00 including room and board at the Observatory Headquarters.

Because we hope the participants will have a genuine interest in working with birds, we require each applicant to write a letter stating name, age and address, and explaining the extent of his or her background and interest in birds. The letter should also give the name and address of an adult (preferably a teacher or naturalist acquaintance) who could provide a recommendation. Applications should be sent by May 1 to: Bird Study Workshop, Long Point Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ontario NOE 1M0.

POSITIONS OPEN AT LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY · 1979

The following positions are expected to be open in 1979. Applications stating qualifications, experience, and time available; and giving names of one or two people who can be referred to for recommendations, should be made in writing to: David J.T. Hussell, LPBO, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, Ont. NOE 1M0.

LPBO Warden

The warden will be responsible for operation of the Observatory's field stations on Long Point for part or all of the period April 1 - October 31, 1978. The warden will be expected to work with volunteers on migration observation, banding and other projects, and will be responsible for maintaining station facilities, for communications, and for transportation of supplies and personnel to and from the mainland. Essential qualifications include experience and interest in bird identification, banding and other fieldwork; ability to carry out maintenance work on buildings, boats, and related equipment, to operate boats, and to work with volunteers in isolated conditions. Car ownership and possession of a driving licence will be assets. Remuneration will be \$400. per month. Applications are due by March 15.

Observatory Assistants

Two or more assistants will be required in 1979 to assist in various aspects of the Observatory's program including any or all of the following: migration observation and banding, breeding bird censuses, research projects on migrant or breeding birds, maintenance and operation of physical facilities including buildings, boats, traps, etc., clerical work and typing, and educational programs for schools. These are essentially volunteer positions, but living expenses and accommodation are provided at the Observatory. Successful applicants can expect to benefit from extensive training and experience in various aspects of the Observatory's program. Positions are open throughout the year and to persons of any age or experience who are available for at least a month. Applications will be considered at any time, but should be submitted by April 1 for the university and high school summer vacation periods.

Volunteers

Many aspects of the LPBO program depend on the help of short-term volunteers. Anyone wishing to take part in the Observatory activities outlined above is encouraged to do so. A small fee is charged for accommodation and boat travel, and reservations must be booked well in advance. Write to David Hussell for further details (see address above).

WORKSHOP IN FIELD TAXONOMY AND IDENTIFICATION

The Biology Department of Queen's University is offering a residential workshop in field taxonomy and identification in June. The workshop is designed to meet the needs of summer naturalists who have to run interpretive programmes and meet the public, often with little experience of field biology. It is also suitable for naturalists who are experts in one form of wildlife but would like to increase their expertise in other areas. The aims are to familiarize field workers with available literature, to give them practice in identifying common organisms, and to introduce them to a variety of habitats with their associated plants and animals. Emphasis will be on organisms of interest in interpretive programmes.

The taxonomy necessary for using keys will be taught in seminars, participants will be introduced to the keys and floras available, and shown how to get access to further information and to reference collections. The groups of organisms which will be studied are mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, insects, flowering and non-flowering plants. Field trips will be to woodlands, wetlands (marsh, bog, swamp), successional sites such as sand-pits and old fields, and to the Rideau Lakes; the field trip programme is cumulative, with more groups of organisms being studied in the later trips. Several instructors will accompany each trip, and there will be opportunities for participants to follow the particular interests.

Location

The workshop will be held at the Field Biology Station which is situated on Lake Opinicon, one of the Rideau Lakes north of Kingston. The Station includes about 850 acres of forest, wetlands and farmland. The workshop will be residential, accommodation being either in small dormitories or cabins; the station has laboratories, a library, a dining-hall, and a variety of boats. Accommodation is comfortable for a field station, but is not plushy. During the summer about twenty researchers live at the station, and a large number of students attend short courses in ecology run by the Ontario Universities Field Programme in Biology.

Date

Arrive evening June 3, depart noon June 10, 1979.

Enrolment

Minimum 10, maximum 20

Credit

The workshop is not a credit course, and will not include examinations or written reports. A diploma will be issued to participants who attain competence.

Cost

\$195. This includes transport to and from Kingston, accommodation, food and tuition.

Personnel

Instructors will include:- Drs. Cooke, Crowder, Downe, Keast, Roff, and Messrs. Frank Phelan and Floyd Connor.

Registration

Registration must be completed by May 15, and payment in advance is required. For further details and a complete time-table write the co-ordinator, Dr. A. Crowder, Biology Department, Queen's University, Kingston.

