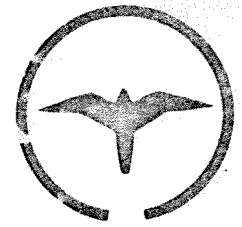


ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1979 NEWSLETTER

BANDING WORKSHOP - MAY 1979 - Kevin Gilhooly

The banding workshop held on May 12, 1979 at Peter Lockhart's property near Newtonville, Ontario was the second such trip that I had gone on. Both times I found it interesting and rewarding. The banding was not too hectic, with 23 birds of 12 species banded and 3 retraps as follows:

Cowbird	4	Veery	1
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3	Downy Woodpecker	1
Baltimore Oriole	2	Solitary Sandpiper	1
Blue Jay	2	Myrtle Warbler	3
Common Grackle	2	Common Yellowthroat	1
Red-winged Blackbird	1	Yellow Warbler	2

Retraps:

Northern Waterthrush	1
Song Sparrow	1
Black-capped Chickadee	1

MEMBERSHIP DUES

In 1977, and again in 1978, each member who had not renewed membership in O.B.B.A. was reminded by an individual letter. Again this year, there are about 30 people who need such reminding, but postage is expensive.

If you have not paid the dues for 1979, there is a red mark on the address label on this Newsletter. We hope it is an accidental oversight, and that you do not intend to let your membership lapse. If we do not hear from you, we must regretfully make this your last mailing.

<u>Dues:</u> Individual	-	\$6.00
Family	-	\$7.00
Student under 19	-	\$2.00

H. Richards
Membership Secretary
37 Killdeer Crescent
Toronto, Ont. M4G 2W7

EXHIBITION OF WORK OF TERENCE MICHAEL SHORTT

A fifty-year retrospective exhibition of the work of Terence Michael Shortt, considered by both ornithological authorities and art critics to be one of the finest bird portraitists in the world, will be held at the Galerie Dresdnere, 130 Bloor St. West, Toronto from Wednesday, September 26 to Saturday, October 13, 1979.

Mr. Shortt was Chief Artist in the Life Sciences Division of the Royal Ontario Museum for over twenty-five years, and his thorough knowledge and talent enable him to excel in capturing the beauty of birds from many lands. He is also author/illustrator of over thirty books on the subject of birds.

Over sixty works in watercolour and four prints by Mr. Shortt will be shown.

GULL BANDING - QUEBEC

In the 1950's and early 1960's, the late Alf Bunker and Gordon Lambert made a rather adventurous banding trip each summer to islands in the St. Lawrence. They banded large numbers of gulls, ducks and cormorants. Recoveries still come in each year. The Great Black-backed Gulls seem to live remarkably long lives. Here is an example: Great Black-backed Gull 617-38976 banded by Alf Bunker at Trois Pistoles, Quebec, June 30, 1963 found dead at Matane, Quebec September 14, 1978. Probably a fifteen year old gull of this species is not very rare.

WINTER BANDING 1978 - 1979

What happened to the Finches that should have appeared in the winter of 1978 - 1979? One backyard bander in Toronto, during the winter of 1977 - 1978, caught 260 Goldfinch, 347 Pine Siskins and 1,342 Common Redpolls. Usually Goldfinch begin gathering at the feeders in November, and gradually increase. In December, the Siskins appear, and as they increase, the flocks of Goldfinch fade away. Then came the Redpolls, and the others all but disappeared. In late winter, the sequence reversed and in April and May, there again were good numbers of Goldfinch. But what a difference last winter; not one Siskin or Redpoll appeared. Even the Goldfinch came late and none were banded until January. However, as of April 25, 1979, 343 Goldfinch have been caught. One of them had been banded at the same place in December, 1973 and another in March, 1976.

RECOVERIES - Harold Richards

On July 6, 1968 in Toronto I banded Common Grackle 963-05688 AHY-M. On August 4, 1978, I retrapped him and replaced the worn out band with 1063-58365. On June 27, 1979, I again retrapped him. This bird is at least 12 years old.

AHY-M Red-winged Blackbird banded in Toronto June 4, 1972, 502-99463 found dead in January, 1979 in Lowellville, Ohio by Thomas J. Javonsky.

May 2, 1979 trapped and released Goldfinch 1450-27492 ASY-M. May 5, 1979 trapped and released Goldfinch 1480-76397 AHY-F and 1470-02214 ASY-M.

BIRD BANDING PERMITS

We continue to get requests for information on how to obtain a permit to band birds. Please apply to: Director, C.W.S., Department of the Environment, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0W1, attention: Bird Banding Office.

You will find that their requirements are quite strict. There is an age limit for young people. Moreover, you must have a very specific bird study project which, in their opinion, has scientific significance, and requires banding.

One good way to approach the project is to get in touch with an Executive member of your local bird observatory, such as that at Kingston, Toronto or Long Point. You will be welcome to participate in their programs and will enjoy the training and experience. A sub-permit might be arranged.

BANDING DEMONSTRATION - OCTOBER 13, 1979

There will be a bird banding demonstration at the Mountsberg Conservation area, Campbellville, Ontario at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 13, 1979. Participants will get an opportunity to see banding and trapping techniques of small birds and waterfowl. They will be able to handle the birds under supervision of experienced banders.

Directions: From Toronto, take Exit 38 south from Highway 401 (signposted Guelph Line, formerly Campbellville Road); 500 yards south, turn right (west) in Campbellville just before the pond. Go 4 miles and turn right. The entrance is a further 1/2 mile. All turns are signposted. Meet in the parking lot near the Nature Centre. There is a small admission charge to the area. For enquiries, contact David Brewer 519-824-4342.

DO NOT CALL THE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY. This demonstration will be cancelled in the event of rain.

MEMBERS NIGHT - NOVEMBER 7, 1979

There will be a member's night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Barrett, 56 Killdeer Crescent on Wednesday, November 7, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. Bring any pictures or slides that you wish to share with other members or any other item of interest to banders; or just bring yourself and enjoy an evening out talking about birds.

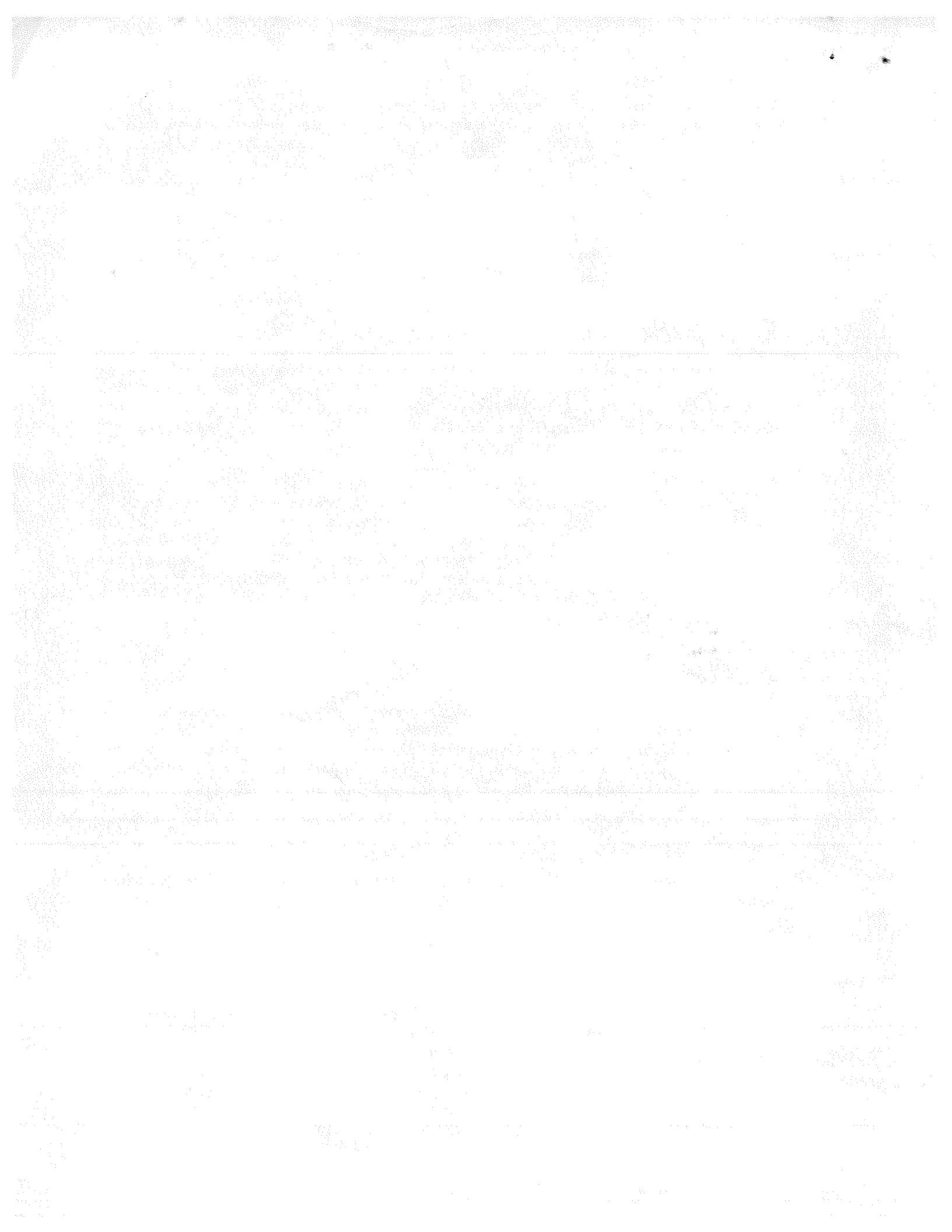
ANNUAL MEETING - 1980

The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 1980. Details will follow in future Newsletters.

CORRECTIONS FOR "ONTARIO BIRD BANDING" - Erica H. Dunn

Enclosed with this Newsletter are two labels saying "Volume 12 No. 2". These are for you to paste over the incorrect "Volume 12 No. 1" which appeared on your latest issue of Ontario Bird Banding (Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station, Seventh Annual Report: 1977, by M. and D. Field). The proper Volume 12 No. 1 issue contained Hawk Cliff's Sixth Annual Report, for 1976 (by M. Field and W. Rayner).

A second error in the same issue appear in Figure 1, where the two halves of the map were interposed. I apologize for both of these errors, which were entirely my own, and hope you will note the proper corrections in your own issue.



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 1MO.

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.

