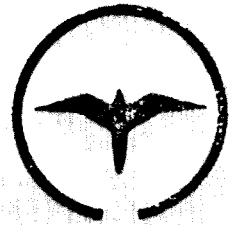


ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION



FALL 1981 NEWSLETTER

I EDITOR'S NOTE

First of all, Peter Lockhart and I would like to apologize to all of you who have been wondering what has happened to the OBBA NEWSLETTER. The spring newsletter was ready for mailing in late May. It was to be sent out with the latest issue of the Ontario Bird Banding journal. However, the bundle of newsletters never quite made it to Bruce Duncan's home in Caledonia. Somewhere along the way it was lost by Canada Post. Hence, this newsletter contains the minutes of the Annual Meeting held last February, originally scheduled for the spring newsletter, as well as more recent material. Thank-you for your patience.

Erica Nol and Peter Lockhart

II PRESIDENT'S NOTE

From all accounts to date, this years Annual General Meeting was a huge success. Both the morning Business Session and the afternoon program were well attended. I was very pleased to meet so many of the "old timers" at our 25th anniversary meeting. Those who missed our evening get together at Locke House certainly passed up a treat. We hope that you will be able to make it next year.

As you will note in the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, the membership dues for 1982 will be increased - that's inflation! This is the first increase that anyone can remember and hopefully the last for a long time to come. One way that we can minimize our costs is to increase our membership. With that objective in mind, I challenge each of you to enroll one new member - repeat... just one new member. If we all accomplish that one small task it will go a long way to improving the overall picture. We have enclosed a brochure outlining the aims of OBBA with an attached application form to be given to an interested person. If you would like additional copies of this brochure to hand out to members of your local naturalists club or the neighbourhood library, please write to Ricky Dunn, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan,

Ontario, NOE 1MO.

If there is anyone who has not renewed their membership for 1981, this application form can be used for that purpose.

III MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 28, 1981

Peter Lockhart, President, brought the meeting to order at 10 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. He asked everyone to introduce themselves.

The minutes of the 1980 Annual General Meeting were read by Bruce Duncan, Recording Secretary, and were accepted as read on a motion by Murray Spiers, seconded by Ricky Dunn.

The President then extended thanks to the Executive for their work in the past year and talked briefly about the two most important projects undertaken by OBBA in 1980. These were the banding training program, largely the work of Chris Risley, and the group banding project on Snow Buntings which will be continued in 1981 and 1982.

In 1981, the OBBA trailer will be repaired and to raise money for this project, David Brewer, Peter Wigham and George Fairfield will be acting as OBBA representatives in the Baillie Birdathon on May 2.

Fred Barrett, Treasurer, presented the financial report noting that a balance of \$488.56 remained in the bank as of December 31, 1981. The report was accepted on a motion by Fred Barrett, seconded by Ricky Dunn. Fred was thanked by Peter Lockhart for being treasurer for the past two years.

Since there has been an excess of expenditures over receipts in 1980, Harold Richards moved that for 1982, the membership fees be raised from \$6.00 to \$8.00 and remain at \$2.00 for students under 18. This was seconded by Antonio Salvadori. Some discussion ensued followed by a motion by David Hussell, seconded by Ricky Dunn, that family memberships be increase to \$10.00. This was carried as an ammendment to the main motion. The ammended main motion was then carried. David Hussell moved, seconded by Chris Risley that the Executive decide upon the appropriate fees for senior citizens. This was carried after some discussion. An informal poll of those present showed a majority felt there should be no difference between the fees for regular members and those for senior citizens.

David Brewer, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for 1981:

President:	Peter Lockhart	Other Members:	Erica Nol
Vice-presidents:	Ricky Dunn		Don Pope
	Chris Risley		Heather Howkins
Membership			Martin Wernaart
Secretary &			Ann Lambert
Treasurer:	Bob Hubert		Harold Richards

Jim Anderson moved that the nominations be closed. David Broughton seconded and the motion was carried.

Steve Wendt of the Bird Banding Office, Ottawa was then introduced. He mentioned that recapture data as well as morphometric data are now being requested by the CWS particularly from feeder stations. This information will be stored by the CWS who will also be providing a standard form for recording this data along with standardized plumage cards. These are volunteer projects and no minimum number of recaptures has been decided upon as yet although a rough figure of fifty was mentioned.

The Office has hired a biologist to work on banding data; this is Colleen Hislop who was present at the meeting. She and Rick Poulin have recently published an Annual Report to Banders and are asking for comments on it.

Colleen Hislop, David Brewer and David Hussell are co-operating on the Banding Report which is to be published by the CWS and will have some information on recovery rates.

New permits should be ready by the end of July and will include the new salvage policy. Permits which expire in July will be automatically renewed to December 31, 1983.

STATION REPORTS:

Guelph Banding Group: Neal Bredin mentioned several aspects of the 1980 work. A lot of Goldfinches were banded in the winter of the year and in the early summer banding of Tree swallows in the nestboxes provided was undertaken. Cold weather in early June caused very high mortality of young north of Guelph but much re-nesting occurred. A gull-banding expedition, banding at a large Bank swallow colony and the problems of Blue-winged warbler hybridization were also mentioned.

Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station: Don Fowler noted that 2,360 hawks were banded in 1980, a lower total than in 1979 but one that can be explained by the lower coverage during the fall of the year. The American kestrel nestbox program and banding in the spring at Vinemount were also mentioned. This fall, a kestrel colour-marking program for nestbox birds will be undertaken.

Long Point Bird Observatory: David Hussell presented this report, noting that 16,789 birds of 145 species (more individuals than in any other year) were banded. There were some record high banding totals including a surprising 232 Northern Waterthrushes (89 be-

ing the previous annual high) as well as some record lows. The need to census data can be used to show annual variation in numbers of commoner species as well as indicate the pattern of the spring and fall migrations. Dr. Hussell presented some data of this sort. He also stressed that all the Observatories should be using a standardized census procedure.

Prince Edward Point Observatory: Mike Evans stated that 9,000 + birds of 129 species had been banded in 1980, a lower total than usual due to less manpower and the fact that the fall weather was poor. Wilson's Phalarope, Prothonotary Warbler, and House Finch were 'firsts' this year. Also, data processing has been improved.

Toronto Bird Observatory: David Broughton reported that TBO last year had its first CWS contract: one to study nesting Canada Geese on Muggs Island and the other a Herring Gull marking project. 5,708 individuals of 98 species were banded by TBO in 1980, Ring-billed Gull being the most common. Also, members in the Observatory increased by 50%.

After lunch, Marshall Field, Jim Woodford, Bill Wasserfall and David Hussell presented a very entertaining and interesting series of slides and reminisced on the early years of OBBA. Most of the material and stories were from the late 1950s and early 1960s with an abundance of vehicles stuck in the sand at Long Point and rather formidable traps that seemed to have limited effectiveness. From the first Heligoland trap in North America, built in the mid-fifties at Point Pelee, the co-operative banding at the Point, the origins of OBBA in 1956, the construction of banding stations on Long Point, and the beginnings of the Long Point Observatory to today were all discussed by the speakers. Chris Risley thanked them all for an enjoyable look back during OBBA's 25th year.

A presentation on the Saw-whet Owl migration at Toronto Bird Observatory by David Broughton followed. The variation in the number of these birds from 1977 to 1980 was discussed and the fact that an increase is the result of an increase in the number of HY birds was also mentioned. TBO has banded a total of 342 Saw-whets since 1977 and for some reason catches a larger percentage of females than does Prince Edward Point Observatory.

Gary Bortolotti gave information on the Bald eagle studies that have been going on in Saskatchewan since 1969 including age criteria and the results from wing marking birds.

Peter Fetterolf then presented the 1976 to 1980 results of studies of breeding Caspian terns on the Leslie Street Spit. The numbers of nests have increased from seven to over 100 in that time.

Information on the breeding Ross' gulls at Churchill, Manitoba was given by Fred Cooke. Three nests were found and one young successfully fledged - the first successful nesting in North America. Some excellent slides by Bob Taylor accompanied this presentation.

Peter Lockhart then thanked all of the speakers as well as Kathleen Wilson who arranged coffee and snacks and Chris Risley who set up the program and arranged the speakers for the meeting.

An informal evening of conversation, food and drink followed at Locke House, the FON Headquarters.

O.B.B.A. - 1980 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DECEMBER 31, 1980

RECEIPTS

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1979</u>
Bank Balance - January 1	777.07	750.37
Memberships, donations, A.G.M. registrations, bank interest	<u>1302.85</u>	<u>958.50</u>
Total Receipts	\$2079.92	\$1708.87

EXPENSES

Executive expenses (newsletter, postage, 'phone, stationary)	754.95	391.74
Annual General Meeting expense	15.61	83.66
Bank charges	1.40	.40
O.B.B. Publications	<u>819.40</u>	<u>456.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$1591.36	\$931.80

Bank Balance - January	777.07	750.37
Receipts	1302.85	958.50
Expenses	1591.36	931.80
Excess receipts over expenses	-----	26.70
Expenses in excess of receipts	288.51	-----
Bank Balance - December 31	488.56	777.07

Fred W. Barrett
Treasurer

V DRAW FOR BATEMAN PRINTS AND PAINTING

A special fall meeting of the Long Point Bird Observatory is to be held at Edward's Gardens in Toronto on 29 October, 1981. Featured will be draws by Robert Bateman for the art work he donated as prizes in the Jim Baillie Memorial Birdathon. Wine and cheese will be served and there will be three presentations including a summary of the work on the Ontario Atlas of Breeding Birds, The Ontario Bird Feeder Survey, and an illustrated talk by Robert Bateman. All OBBA members are invited to attend.

VI REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

During 1981, Dr. Hans Blokpoel of the Canadian Wildlife Service colour-marked Common Terns at two large colonies in the Great Lakes area, with the objective of determining the year-round distribution of the birds, especially their migration routes and wintering areas in Latin America. Adult Common Terns were trapped on their nests at the Eastern Headland of the Toronto Outer Harbour (Lake Ontario) and at Tower Island (Niagara River). Orange plastic tags were attached to both wings of the trapped adult birds. In addition, Young Common Terns were marked with pink plastic wing tags at those colonies. One standard metal leg band and one coloured plastic leg band (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) were put on each of the tagged birds.

If you see a Common Tern with a pink or orange wing tag please record the following details: place, date and colour of the tag. If possible, also record the combination of numbers and/or letters on the tag (the two tags on any bird have the same colour and the same combination of letters and numbers) and note which legs the plastic and metal tags are on. Thank you very much for your assistance. All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to:

Bird Banding Office,
Canadian Wildlife Service,
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA
K1A 0E7

VII HAWK WATCHING ANYONE?

The Hawk Cliff Raptor Banding Station is offering accomodation and about \$50.00 per week to one person interested in watching and counting hawks during fall migration at the station. Contact: Bruce Duncan, (416) 765-3322 (H), 768-3288 (W) for further information.

VIII TORONTO BIRD BANDERS

The Toronto Bird Observatory will be banding passerines on Mugg's Island until mid-October and Saw-whet Owls beginning late September. Those interested in assisting in the banding program please contact: Carol Griffin at (416) 282-5528 between 7 and 10 p.m. on any night but Friday and Saturday.

IX BANDING RETURNS

For those of you trapping a large number of previously banded birds (i.e. 'retraps'), a member has provided a substitute 're-trap' sheet for the obsolete form 3-137b. Feel free to make duplicates if it would be useful in keeping your own records or in reporting retraps to the Ottawa office. Apparently the Bird Banding Office will be devising a standard form sometime in the future (see minutes of the Annual Meeting). This form should suffice until then. This form will be found at the end of this newsletter.

