

# ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 1983

Please send articles to:

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## Come To The Band-Out

The second annual OBBA Band-Out will be held at Presquile Provincial Park from Friday 16 September to Sunday 18 September 1983. All banders or other interested persons are welcome to attend. A variety of events are planned including morning banding sessions, afternoon demonstrations on banding techniques, short talks by guest speakers and an evening members get-together and slide show. Events start Saturday morning and run until Sunday at noon. Ample camping spaces are available at this time of year and the water should still be warm enough for the occasional swim. If you wish to make reservations for a camping spot you may do so by calling the park at (613) 475-2204 (ask for a spot in the High Bluff area). Last years Band-out was enjoyed by all. We hope to see you this year. If you are interested in coming or want more information call Peter Lockhart (416) 786-2091 or Wayne Ferguson (416) 261-5079.

## News from the North American Bird Bander -- Martin McNicholl

In recent years, there has been a welcome trend towards emphasis on 'quality' of banding, i.e. banding for a specific purpose rather than banding purely for the sake of ringing birds' legs with aluminum, or what the late William Rowan dubbed 'picnic banding'. I have always believed that banders should have specific goals in mind when they start a banding project rather than some vague idea that their banded birds may someday turn up somewhere. But I have also not welcomed the interpretation of this concept that banders should avoid general banding or netting, because such activity can form a major portion of studies of a specific area. I was thus pleased to read an editorial by Terry Oatley in the 1981 issue of Safring News, a banding journal for South Africa, calling for more banders, including those whose activities are concentrated in the back garden.

Similarly, Steve Wendt in a June 1982 publication of the Canadian Wildlife Administration, called for an increase in banding in Canada and encouragement of intensive local banding efforts, such as conducted at Long Point, Kingston, and the ravines of Toronto. Dave Hussell and his co-workers at Long Point have shown how such data may be used in migration monitoring. However, the value of such long-term localized efforts need not be restricted to major observatory efforts. Prof. W. Ray Salt found the long-term back-yard banding data base of Edgar T. Jones in Edmonton extremely useful in documenting migration patterns of vireos and wood warblers in Alberta when Salt wrote a book on these birds in that province. Similar data on other species in Eddie's notebooks remain to be tapped, and I am sure that such long-term data exist in many other banding households.

Thus, although banders should have some goals in mind whenever a net or trap is put in place, general banding over a long period of time can furnish valuable data provided that these data are eventually published.

Abstract from Annual report to banders -- Summary of bird banding in Canada in 1980. Progress notes C.W.S. 135

The number of birds banded in 1980, 187,480 decreased about 19% from totals for the previous year (232,522) and fell slightly below the 10-year average (190,092). The number of non-game birds banded decreased by 17,400 (15%) from the previous year while the number of game birds decreased by 27,642 (23%). The percentage difference in these two categories is attributable to the greatly decreased numbers of Snow Geese (White and blue phases) banded in 1980 (total 6,279) as opposed to 1979 (total 15,863). This difference of 9,584 birds represents 8% of the 1979 game bird total.

The number of active master permittees (129) also declined from the previous year's total (147) and was below the average for the previous 10 years (149).

A total of 292 species of birds were banded in 1980. The largest numbers of birds and species of birds were banded in Ontario, which also had the greatest number of active master permit holders. --C. Hyslop and A. M Demers

Look out for the...I never mind, too late(courtesy of D. Brewer)

Holyhead, Wales - State-owned British Rail invited television networks to film a nest containing three eggs laid by an oystercatcher bird between the tracks on the main line between London and Holyhead. Cameraman John Reay, 39, carefully filmed the eggs -- and then accidentally stepped on them. "It was the worst thing that has ever happened in my career," he said.

Banding and Birding Supplies

A new mail order service selling banding and birding supplies is 'Le Naturaliste'. They sell binoculars, spotting scopes, tripods, pesola scales, magnifiers and other equipment at very reasonable prices (e.g. a Bushnell Spacemaster spotting scope with lens costs only \$243.50). All shipping costs are included and there is no sales tax. For more information or a free catalogue write to: Le Naturaliste, 4 Est de L'eveche, Rimouski, Quebec G5L 1X4, (418) 724-6622.

Birding Publication Available

Interested in Birds? Learn more about birds and how to find them by subscribing to 'Birdfinding in Canada'. Issued bi-monthly featuring: Where to find those stories, survey, statistics, etc. For more information and subscription write: Birdfinding in Canada, P. O. Box 519, Kleinburg, Ontario, Canada L0J 1C0.

Field Research Projects Needed

The Shield Center needs research projects for volunteer field workers in the Algonquin Park area. We are looking for projects that: (1) will contribute to our knowledge of the natural world; (2) will generate useful data and results; (3) are keyed to problems in and around Algonquin Park; (4) can make use of field workers with varied levels of experience and expertise. All field work will be carried out under the supervision of staff naturalists. Financial assistance for projects may be available. For further information contact Ron Storey, Whitney, Ontario K0J 2M0 (705) 637-5430.

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ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT

December 31, 1982

RECEIPTS	<u>1982</u>		<u>1981</u>	
Memberships				
Single (140)	1,101.00			
Family (39)	368.00			
Student (7)	<u>14.50</u>			
	<u>1,483.50</u>		<u>986.32</u>	
U.S. exchange	28.54		11.97	
Other memberships	33.25		-	
Donations	23.00		49.00	
Registration at A.G.M.	78.00		76.00	
Journal	3.00		-	
L.P.B.O.	400.00		200.00	
Interest on savings account	<u>57.55</u>		<u>-</u>	
	<u>2,106.84</u>		<u>1,323.29</u>	
EXPENSES				
Sponsorship at L.P.B.O.	-		50.00	
Postage	319.84	*503.59	222.45	126% increas
Supplies	58.63		67.67	
Other memberships	33.25		85.60	
Telephone	6.37		-	
Locke House	25.00		25.00	
F.O.N.	25.00		30.00	
Bank service charges	21.18		4.20	404% increas
Journal/Newsletters	<u>730.01</u>	*873.37	<u>817.09</u>	
	<u>1,219.28</u>		<u>1,302.01</u>	
RECEIPTS LESS EXPENSES	887.56		21.28	
BALANCE FORWARD, JANUARY 1	<u>509.84</u>		<u>488.56</u>	
BALANCE END OF YEAR	<u>1,397.40</u>	*1,070.29	<u>509.84</u>	
MEMBERSHIPS	<u>186</u>		<u>167</u>	

\*Indicates actual totals as bills pertained to 1982 but were paid for in 1983.

Audited and found correct  
George C. Leverton,  
O.B.B.A. Member  
January 15, 1983

