

1955 ANNUAL MEETING ISSUE
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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
by Frank P. Frazier

We had a fine meeting at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. I wish that each one of you could have been there. We learned something -- at least I did. But best of all was meeting and talking things over with many new and old friends.

In between the talk about traps and returns, about weights and recoveries and band sizes, there was an undercurrent of speculation over the attitude of the government towards private bird banders. There seems to be a trend, these days, to chivvy and harass scientific and conservation organizations. Pressure groups, with various axes to grind, are always about their dubious business. It would be too much to expect that we bird banders, as few as we are, would escape their attention.

One way of meeting these attacks is to come into close accord with the other banding associations. Towards such an accord, your Council, as you will read elsewhere in this issue, is taking steps.

Another way of strengthening our position is for us to make a particular effort to aid in the special projects of the Fish and Wildlife Service. One such project is the banding of Mourning Doves -- both nestlings and breeding adults. I strongly urge each member to give earnest thought to the ways and means of assisting in it. (See details later in this issue.--Ed.)

Another plan I hope every EBBA member will try to make is to attend next year's annual meeting. Those of us who come together regularly each April will not soon forget the wonderful hospitality we enjoyed at Baltimore last year or the thrill of meeting this year at Hawk Mountain where Maurice Broun has done so much for ornithology and conservation.

Our EBBA slogan, "Let us band together", is most apt; let us meet together, too, next April.

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