



It has come to my attention that EBBA might receive the gift of a big library of bird books if we had a lending library. There is no time like the present to prepare for such an eventuality. It seems obvious that to activate a lending library we must first find someone willing to run it. Here are some of the things involved: space for the books, easy access to a Post Office, and the time and interest to do the work.

A fee would have to be charged to cover mailing, mailing envelopes, insurance on rare books, and the insurance of the books while in the librarian's house. Since books are difficult to move from here to there a prospective librarian should count on doing the job for several years running. Are there any book lovers in the association who would enjoy being in charge of an EBBA lending library? If so we may be able to set this up at the April Council meeting.

It was with regret that I have accepted Betty Knorr's resignation from the Council. Betty continues her numerous contributions to EBBA. The tally of birds banded by us in 1965 published in the last issue of EBBA NEWS shows her painstaking dedication to banding and EBBA. I hope everyone has filed their "EBBA Annual Banding Report" where it can be filled out and sent in to Betty right after the U.S. Fish & Wildlife has received your '66 banding report and well before her deadline of March 1.

The Council has elected Fred Mears to fill Betty's unexpired term on the Council. Fred will take on the additional duty of Chairman of the Education Committee. We look forward to any information this committee can give us which would help us better to age and/or sex the 243,760 birds of 272 species which were reported banded by our members.

Our By-Laws list among "Standing Committees" the Conservation Committee, with duties including "the investigation of netting locations on the East coast, and attempting to interest conservation groups in acquiring these areas". The world in which we live moves rapidly indeed, and since we wrote these By-Laws conservation has become big business. Both private generosity and Title 3 have secured valuable land and are organizing under the guidance of knowledgeable executive directors. It may come as a shock to banders that we are actually needed to assist in some of these programs. Part of our niche is to help with educational banding (who doesn't take this aspect of banding for granted at his home station?) but we are also needed to help organize and carry out concurrent scientific banding projects.

Mr. Pepper and Lt. Murton have been challenged by the Schuylkill Valley Nature Center - 400 acres within the city limits of Philadelphia. Please, as banders search your home areas for any such Nature Centers and report to Chris Rose anything you may find so that his committee is alerted to this new challenge to banders.

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