

THE EBBA ANNUAL MEETING, 1967

The 1967 annual meeting was held at the Center of Adult Education of the University of Maryland, in College Park, Md., not far from Washington. Apart from activities conducted at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in nearby Laurel, the meeting took place in the excellent building of the Center of Adult Education, which also had fine accommodations used by nearly all who attended the meeting. EBBA's First Vice-President, Dr. Franklin McCamey, who as head of the committee on arrangements had presided over setting up this meeting, was unfortunately unable to attend but Mrs. Cynthia Turner, who had assisted him, was present and constantly busy, and the Association is properly most grateful to both for the success - and comfort - of this meeting.

FRIDAY A large number of members had already arrived by dinnertime on
 EVENING Friday, April 7, and had ample opportunity to renew acquaintances and make new ones at the informal reception after dinner, over punch and cookies. While the Council met elsewhere in the building, a film entitled "Autumn Flight" was shown by Dennis Puleston. This is a documentary-type film, intended for the layman, principally about fall mist-netting. While the Editor, attending the Council meeting, was unable to see it, we are informed that it was an excellent film, and that in the not too distant future it will be distributed commercially, for sale or rent.

SATURDAY The morning session was held in the Center of Adult Education's
 MORNING large auditorium, and began with the business meeting (see Minutes of the Annual Meeting in this issue).

Mr. Walter F. Crissey, Director of the Migratory Bird Populations Station, spoke on "Research in Bird Populations". Mr. Crissey spoke on many facets of studying bird populations, largely through banding, and explained how conclusions were reached as to the status and changes of populations. Much of this was related to game bird populations, as they require careful management which should be based on these studies; however, Mr. Crissey touched on the application of these and similar methods to non-game birds. This talk was both most interesting and of great assistance in gaining an understanding of how banding data are actually "put to work".

Mr. Earl B. Baysinger, Chief of the Bird Banding Laboratory, then spoke on "Current Activity in the Banding Program", after supplying everyone present with a 22-page compilation of forms, both those used at the Banding Office and those used by banders, together with some samples of correspondence on recoveries (some of which can be most amusing). Mr. Baysinger explained the use of the forms, and banding office procedures, stressing throughout the utmost importance of completeness and accuracy. Among this compilation of forms was a copy of an actual banding schedule,

with bander's name removed, illustrating an extreme and, one hopes, rare comedy of errors and omissions, to show what the Banding Office must contend with at times.

SATURDAY The meeting transferred to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center at Laurel, Md., where it divided into four groups to see four different aspects of the work carried on there.

Bird Banding Laboratory. Earl Baysinger conducted a tour of the Banding Office, demonstrating the movement of paperwork, data-processing equipment, and other facets of the office's work - an enlightening experience for new banders and a welcome refresher for old-timers. Here, the banders were given the opportunity to pick up recovery reports which would be sent to them.

Research Library and Population Study Exhibits. Under the guidance of Chandler Robbins, banders had the opportunity to examine the exhibits (prepared for this meeting), literature and library, housed in the building which used to house the Banding Office.

Blackbird Investigations Program. A field demonstration of a large blackbird decoy trap - complete with respectable numbers of Redwings, Cowbirds and Grackles - was given by John S. Webb, who also explained the Blackbird Investigations Program and distributed literature on it, including a guide to aging and sexing blackbirds. Copies of this guide may be obtained by writing Mr. Webb at Patuxent.

Rare and Endangered Species Study. At the enclosures where a number of Sandhill Cranes regarded the banders with occasional vociferous outbursts, Mr. Glenn Smart explained the program by which efforts are made to determine how best to protect rare and endangered species, including their care in captivity and promotion of breeding in captivity. Rather than risk the endangered species themselves, studies are conducted using commoner but closely related species. Thus Sandhill Cranes are studied for information which could be related to the Whooping Crane, South American Snail Kites for Everglade Kites, Andean Condors for California Condors, and so forth.

ANNUAL BANQUET The banquet was held in the main dining room of the Center of Adult Education, with the blessing asked by Raymond Middleton, and was as well-attended as any EBBA banquet this writer has seen. After completion of the repast, Raymond Middleton made the Association's presentation to Mrs. Eleanor Dater of a token gift in recognition of her many years of service to EBBA as a past-president, council member and, until this year, chairman of the net committee, a time-consuming activity including all the work involved in importing, selling and shipping mistnets. Then, Arthur Fast made a similar presentation to Frank P. Frazier in recognition of his eleven years, from 1956 to 1967, as Editor of EBBA News during the Association's period of considerable growth.

Afterwards, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Fernandez showed slides prepared by them and by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Johnson, of nesting Ospreys in connection with studies they have been conducting in the Westport-Dartmouth area of Massachusetts under the auspices of the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

SUNDAY Tours of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center were given by personnel of the Migratory Bird Populations Research Station, throughout the morning. These showed the Wildlife Habitat Research and Farm Pond Development Programs as well as other parts of the refuge. At the same time, there was "open house" at the banding office and research library, where banders could pursue their individual interests and discuss them with Patuxent personnel at leisure.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Eastern Bird Banding Association was held at the Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. April 8, 1967 at 9:00 am. with the President, Miss M. Rebecca Cregar, presiding. The minutes of the 1966 meeting were read and approved. Dr. Robert Merritt presented the mist net report and requested that any EBBA members interested in the possible purchase of English nets (dacron, approximately \$10 each) advise him.

Miss Cregar announced that Frank P. Frazier, Jr. was appointed the new Editor of EBBA News for 1967.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mrs. Elise Dickerson. She noted that EBBA now has over 700 members. A motion was made (Mendinhall, seconded Bell) that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Carried.

Mr. Albert Schnitzer announced the winner (from nine applicants) of the 1966 Memorial Award. It was won this year by Frank W. Peek, a doctoral candidate at Pennsylvania State University.

Mr. Arthur Fast presented a resolution of Council changing the address of the Eastern Bird Banding Association from 424 Highland Avenue, Upper Montclair in the County of Essex, New Jersey, to 530 Valley Road, Upper Montclair in the County of Essex, New Jersey. This was submitted to the membership for approval by Mr. Fast, was seconded by Bigger and carried.

Mr. William Pepper presented the following slate of officers and councilors for election:

For President	Miss M. Rebecca Cregar
1st Vice President	Dr. Franklin McCamey
2nd Vice President	Mr. Albert Schnitzer
3rd Vice President	Dr. Jeff Swinebroad