

Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

Inland Bird Banding Association Annual Meeting

The Inland Bird Banding Association met 11-13 Nov 2016 at the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary near Connersville, IN. Amy and Carl Wilms hosted the meeting during which 104 registrants (44 of whom are IBBA members) from 15 states and one province took advantage of the Sanctuary's facilities and attended talks, banding demonstrations, and organized birding tours. The IBBA Board met Friday, 11 Nov, with agenda, reports and discussion the same or very similar to that of the general meeting (presented below). Friday presentations included a welcome and introduction to the **Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary** by Carl and Amy Wilms and **Banding and Education at Hueston Woods State Park and the connections to the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary** by David and Jill Russell. The evening's Northern Saw-whet Owl banding demonstration had some success.

Abstracts of the Saturday and Sunday presentations:

Tracking Golden-winged Warbler migration with geolocators reveals population specific timing, routes and wintering areas by *Henry M Streby, Gunnar R. Kramer, Sean M. Peterson, Darin J. McNeil, Jeffery L. Larkin, Justin A. Lehman, David A. Buelher, Petra B. Wood and David E. Anderson.*

Golden-winged Warblers are Neotropical migrants experiencing very different population trends across their breeding range, but these trends are not explained by breeding-ground factors (e.g., habitat is available and nest success is generally high). No information exists on non-breeding distributions,

migration routes, or timing of migration among populations, and factors outside the breeding period may influence population trends. We tracked annual movements of 21 Golden-winged Warblers from three North American breeding locations experiencing varying population trends using geolocators from 2013-2015 to investigate the potential for non-breeding site factors to influence breeding populations. We present geolocator attachment methods. We analyzed geolocator data using the template-fit method, which is more accurate than the commonly used threshold method. We present results supporting near complete temporal and spatial isolation of Golden-winged Warblers from Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Tennessee during migration, and a lack of overlap among populations on the wintering grounds. This isolation among populations supports our hypothesis that non-breeding factors likely influence populations differently and, therefore, influence observed differences in local and regional population trends on the breeding grounds. We present preliminary results from 2015-2016 with >75 additional birds, including Blue-winged Warblers and hybrids from 22 sites across the breeding range of this species-complex.

Banding as a critical tool in documenting the biology and restoration of Peregrine Falcons in the midwestern United States by *John Castrale, Patrick Redig and Amber Burnette.*

Once extirpated in the Midwestern US and adjacent parts of southern Canada, Peregrine Falcons have now been restored to around 300 pairs mainly as the result of the release of over 1200 captive-reared

chicks in 12 states and two provinces from 1981-2007. Due to an extensive, coordinated effort to color band Peregrine Falcon chicks and identify banded adults on breeding territories, the Midwest Peregrine Falcon population is one of the best studied of any restored bird population on such a large scale. This presentation discussed the growth and distribution of the Midwest Peregrine Falcon population, as well as productivity, pair bonds, site fidelity, survival rates, age distribution, longevity and dispersal.

The future of Boreal Owls in Alaska: how will climate change effect a common, elusive owl of the north by *Aaron Anderson*

The effect of climate change on environmental disturbance is particularly evident in higher latitude ecosystems. In boreal forests, the projected temperature increases associated with climate change are expected to increase summer droughts and thus increase wildfire frequency. Boreal Owls, inhabitants of these high latitude forests, are a species of special concern, as they depend upon old growth forests for abundant prey items. Will this increase in wildfires, projected to dramatically alter the forest composition of the boreal forest effect the breeding success of an elusive denizen of the north? Using a combination of chick growth monitoring, video monitoring of provisioning events and GIS analysis of the habitat surrounding nest sites, I hope to shed light on this question and will discuss the results of my research.

American Kestrel research: building nest boxes; determining success by *Michael Hall*

No abstract.

Kalamazoo Valley Bird Observatory: serendipity in long-term banding by *Brenda and Rich Keith*

No abstract.

Habitat distribution of Bendiere's Thrasher in New Mexico by *Allison Sales*

No abstract.

Bird Banding Laboratory update by *Bruce Peterjohn*

No abstract.

Celebrating 100 years of bird conservation: Migratory Bird Treaty by *Katie Koch*

This year marks the centennial of the Convention between the United States and Great

Britain (for Canada) for the Protection of Migratory Birds, signed on 16 Aug 1916. The resulting Migratory Bird Treaty, and the three others that followed, form the cornerstones of our efforts to conserve birds that migrate across international borders. Celebrating the Centennial of the first Treaty allows us to bring together those who have contributed to its success. The four broad goals of the centennial are to create awareness about the importance of migratory bird conservation, promote key actions to help birds, increase support for migratory bird conservation, and expand opportunities for engagement in migratory bird related recreation. Throughout 2016, the US Fish & Wildlife Service will work with partners to enhance the conservation of migratory birds by advancing these four goals. Together, we will develop a series of strategies and actions to launch Midwest bird conservation into the next 100 years..

Worm-eating Warbler breeding demography and post-fledging habitat use in south-central Indiana by *Patrick Ruhl.*

Over the past two years of banding in six (4-ha) clearcuts in the Brown County Hills region of southern Indiana, we have captured and banded over 100 adult Worm-eating Warblers in breeding condition during the month of June. Based on their described breeding phenology, this early association with young forest habitat raises several questions. In addition to banding efforts in 2016, we implemented a nest-searching and radio-telemetry study in an attempt to better understand Worm-eating Warbler habitat use and breeding demography in this region.

Loggerhead Shrikes in decline and what bird banders can do to help them by *Allisyn Gillet*

Over the past 40 years, the population of Loggerhead Shrikes in North America has declined by more than 70%. In Indiana alone, Loggerhead Shrikes are declining at a rate of 5%/year. Now fewer than 10 breeding territories are occupied annually. This means that within the next century, shrikes may very well become extirpated from the state, where nearly 100 breeding pairs had been found less than 30 years ago. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has recognized this decline and listed the Loggerhead Shrike as state endangered. Through many years of monitoring, the Indiana DNR has developed several

research questions that when answered, can help conserve this species across its range. I will discuss the population trends of Loggerhead Shrikes in Indiana and the methods involved in banding them. Finally, I will pose questions that will hopefully inspire future research across their range. I solicit the help of bird banders and researchers alike to help resolve this conservation conundrum.

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

Welcome – Meeting was called to order by President Vernon Kleen at 4:00pm, Saturday, 12 Nov 2016. Thanks goes to the Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary for hosting the 2016 IBBA meeting. We are happy to see so many participants, especially students, at this meeting.

Secretary's Report – With no motions for corrections or additions to the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in *NABB*, vol 41, no. 4, a motion was made to approve minutes (Samantha), seconded (Mary H.), approved.

Treasurer's Report – The total income for this year, \$6,068.16, comes from membership dues, donations and conference income. *NABB* transfers and conference start-up return add \$1813.02. Total expenses are \$4,403.32 cover costs for *NABB* camera ready copy and printing, postage, office supplies (labels), and annual conference start up funds. Current checking account balance is \$6,516.03. There are balances of \$16,638.83 in the Life Members account, \$8,263.24 in the IBBA Grand account, and \$17,580.79 in the Stewart account. One Stewart fund grant was awarded (\$1000). Motion to accept (Bob), seconded (Nadine), approved.

Membership Report – There are 74 Life memberships and 120 Regular memberships in IBBA. Dues can be paid this weekend; applications are in each registration packet. Dues may be sent to Mike Eichman at any time.

Editor's Report – Three issues for this year are out, one a double issue. *NABB* issues are coming out every three months, and past issues have all had IBBA contributions. The next issue proofs have been received and it will probably be mailed by early December. Please send any articles or field notes to Peter Lowther, who will be happy to help with the publication of your research. *NABB* has a new recent literature editor.

Additional recent issues of *NABB* will be copied onto the SORA database soon.

NABC Report (Mark Shieldcastle) – The 2016 Meeting in April was in West Virginia. The Waterbird Society was added to the list of cooperators. All of the NABC publications are being reviewed, with the Shorebird certification completed. A raptor workshop certification program was held in September (Idaho) as a test program for the new version. NABC is revamping the certification process for all three levels (assistant, bander, trainer) in order to standardize throughout for all taxa, as requested by BBL. There will be an addition of permitting requirements and a requirement for research study design in each certification program.

Midwest Migration Network (Mark Shieldcastle) – Migration banding should set up a similar program to MAPS, using standardized methods for collecting data so separate programs will be comparable and produce data usable by agencies. The protocol is established and a training component is getting established. There will be three tracks: banding/ground survey, telemetry, and radar. These will be organized in order to work together. Banding can be useful for telemetry and radar programs. New life cycle models will be the direction of management in the future, and migration is the next part of life cycles to be studied. Anyone doing migration banding can contact Mark to get information on this network. BBL will help with cleaning up errors in data collection so that training modules can be developed. The protocol is to establish the Midwest Migration network in the great lakes area, but is available to all areas.

Old Business

Web Page Update – Erica Ditmar is maintaining the web site, so please send her updates and photos.

Bylaws Update – Revisions published in *NABB* and presented at the 2015 meeting involve changes in how officers are elected. If proposed updates are approved, during IBBA elections a new Second Vice President will be nominated for a two-year term; the former Second Vice President becomes First Vice President for two years and former First Vice President becomes President for two years then becoming Past President. After serving as President,

this person shall serve on the IBBA Board for a year unless s/he is appointed by the IBBA to a vacated position. Secretary and Treasurer positions will be elected for five-year terms for, at most, two consecutive terms. Several corrections of mostly typing errors were made to the draft of revised changes. This bylaw revision was approved by vote.

Mission Statement Update – Mission statement: *IBBA serves to support the conservation and study of birds through scientific bird banding.* It was suggested that the mission statement appear on both the brochure and the web site.

Brochure – A new membership brochure has been produced. The brochure will be on the web page soon and will be downloadable so members can take it to other society's meetings to encourage membership in IBBA. Send Tom Bartlett a note with any suggested changes.

Grant Committee Proposals – IBBA awarded one grant of \$1000 from the Paul Stewart Fund to Gabriel Foley for his study on nighthawks. We have published notices in *NABB* asking for applications for grants to be submitted by 31 Dec 2016 for grants to be issued in 2017. One grant account is for IBBA members only and provides awards of up to \$500, the Stewart Fund is open to both members and non-members and award grants of up to \$1000. Anyone receiving grant money from either IBBA fund is requested to do a presentation at IBBA annual meetings.

Inland Flyway Review – Everyone who has a banding station in spring and/or fall is encouraged to complete a standardized form reporting station activity. Vernon Kleen will compile a yearly report to be published in *NABB*.

New Business

2017 Annual Meeting: An invitation from the Kalamazoo Nature Center to meet at or near the Center has been accepted. The meeting will likely be scheduled in August or September. [Annual meeting later scheduled for 29 Sep - 1 Oct 2017; Local Committee contact is Rich Keith at warblerrke@gmail.com]

Future Meetings – We would like to have suggestions for future meetings. States where IBBA has not met in recent years include North Dakota and Oct - Dec 2016

Kentucky. If anyone in either of those states would like to host an IBBA meeting, please contact Vernon Kleen. IBBA has a helpful outline of meeting organization for anyone interested in hosting a meeting.

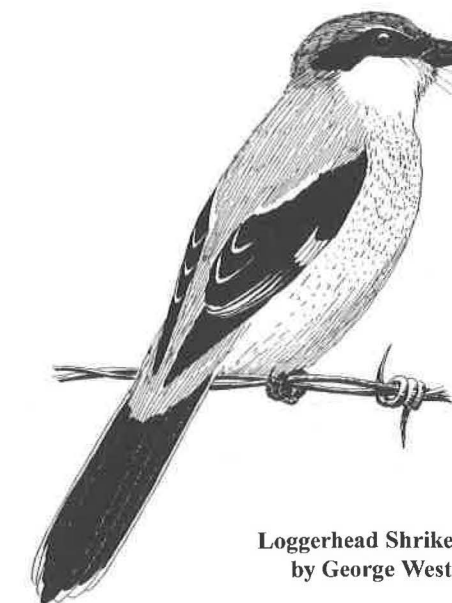
Nominating Committee Report – We are always looking for new people to serve on the IBBA board and help the organization. Attending the annual meeting is the only requirement for board members. The nominations for this year are:

- Vernon Kleen, President
- Linda Tossing, First Vice President
- Butch Tetzlaff, Second Vice President
- Cathie Hutcheson, Secretary (first term)
- Mike Eichmann, Treasurer (first term)
- Board Members (2018): James Ingold (second term), Scott Rush (first term).

Motion to accept Nomination Committee's recommendations, seconded and approved. Slate is unanimously accepted.

Other – The silent auction provides funds for the host organization and to IBBA. A proposal to take three \$20 one-year memberships for students from the IBBA share from the silent auction is proposed. Motion to accept, seconded, approved. Students who receive this one-year membership will be chosen at random from those students attending the annual meetings. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Cathie Hutcheson
Acting Secretary



Loggerhead Shrike
by George West