



Western Regional News

Western Bird Banding Association

Founded 1925

Minutes—W.B.B.A. Annual Meeting Estes Park, Colorado 4 June 1985

President Robert Tweit called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Twenty-three persons were present.

Editor Wilbur Quay presented the Editor's report. The WBBA Editor processed 9 full-length articles in 1984 and 4 (as of June) in 1985. He indicated that the publication of NABB is now almost on schedule and thanked Terrence Ingram for his efforts as Coordinator. He also thanked the members of the WBBA Advisory and Review Board for their work during the past year. Retiring board members Willis Royall and Martha Balph will be replaced by David DeSante and one or more additional reviewers.

Martin McNicholl, chairman of the Nominations Committee, presented the following slate of nominees for office: President, Robert C. Tweit; First Vice-President, Wilbur B. Quay; Second Vice-President, Stephen M. Russell; Secretary, Ruth R. Ogden; Treasurer, Howard L. Cogswell; Editor, Wilbur B. Quay; Directors-at-Large, Kerry P. Reese (term expires 1986) and David F. DeSante (term expires 1987). There were no further nominations from the floor. It was moved that the slate be accepted as read; the motion was seconded and passed.

President Tweit thanked several persons for their service to WBBA during the past year, including WBBA's retiring Advertising Manager, Jolan Truan.

The minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings held on 3-4 June were summarized by incoming Secretary Ruth Ogden (for 3 June) and outgoing Secretary Martha Balph (for 4 June). Highlights of the meetings included:

- (1) Acceptance of the Nominations Committee report, presented by chairman Martin McNicholl.
- (2) Acceptance of the Treasurer's report and proposed budget for the coming year, presented by President Tweit (for treasurer Shirley Spitler). It was decided that, due to delays experienced in the receipt of dues, renewal notices should be separately mailed rather than included with NABB.
- (3) Discussion of NABB indexes. Two hundred copies of the index to volumes 1-5 have been printed. It was agreed

that the index to volumes 6-10 should be printed, but questions remained as to which association should be responsible.

(4) Presentation of a report on the status of NABB by IBBA President Terrence Ingram. In future issues of NABB, Martin McNicholl will be listed as Review Editor for all regions, Martha Balph as Editor for Significant Returns and Recoveries for all regions, and Terrence Ingram as Production Manager.

(5) Agreement to drop the extra assessment that WBBA makes of Canadian members.

(6) Acceptance of the Directors Award Committee report, presented by chairman Martha Balph.

(7) Decision to hold WBBA's 1986 annual meeting in the fall (to avoid conflict with the IOC's meeting in the spring), most likely at a site in southern California.

Martha Balph, chairman of the Director's Award Committee, announced the establishment of the Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement to honor individuals who have made noteworthy research contributions related to banding or who have rendered exceptional service to WBBA. This new award replaces the former category of Honorary Membership. Chairman Balph announced two recipients of the award for 1985: Charles T. Collins and L. Richard Mewaldt. She cited the recipients for their accomplishments and presented each with a certificate.

Howard Cogswell announced that he would take a group photograph of meeting participants and gave details.

Charles Collins indicated that a break-even point will soon be reached on T-shirt sales (item to be appended to the Treasurer's report).

Richard Mewaldt announced that WBBA's photograph album, which had been missing for 15 years, was recently discovered at PRBO and given to him. The album will be turned over the Historian Martin McNicholl.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha H. Balph

**W.B.B.A. Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement, 1985:
Charles T. Collins and L. Richard Mewaldt**

In 1985 WBBA established the Board of Directors Award for Outstanding Achievement to honor individuals who have made noteworthy research contributions related to banding or who have rendered exceptional service to the Association. Recipients of the award for 1985, announced at the WBBA Annual Meeting in June, were Charles T. Collins and L. Richard Mewaldt.

Charles T. Collins (known to most of us as Charlie) was born in New Jersey in 1938 and received his education at Amherst College, University of Michigan, and University of Florida. Since 1968 he has been on the faculty of California State University at Long Beach, where he currently is Professor of Biology. Charlie served three terms as President of WBBA (1972-74, 1976-78, and 1981-82) and played an instrumental role in bringing about the Great Journal Joining of EBBA, WBBA, and later IBBA. In addition to his many years of service to WBBA and his efforts on behalf of NABB, Charlie has made significant contributions to research incorporating banding in such projects as the Least Tern Recovery Team and his personal research on swifts.

L. Richard ("Dick") Mewaldt was born in Wisconsin in 1917 and received degrees from University of Iowa, University of Montana, and Washington State University. In 1953 he joined the faculty of San Jose State University, where he now is Emeritus Professor of Zoology. Dick has been a longtime pillar of WBBA and has served as both President and Treasurer of the Association. He also is a past President of WBBA's parent organization, Cooper Ornithological Society. Among his many research accomplishments, Dick conceived and directed the Cooperative White-crowned Sparrow Project, which coordinated the activity of many banders to produce important contributions to ornithology. Dick also was a co-founder of Point Reyes Bird Observatory and San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory.

WBBA extends congratulations to both of these very deserving individuals.

Martha H. Balph

Is It a Cooper's or a Sharp-shin?

Editor's note: Following is an account of the morning field trip taken by IBBA and MBBA members on Saturday October 26 before the conference commenced.

On Saturday morning, we awoke to a very frosty sunrise, and made our way to the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) where Elliot Bedows led us on a bird walk through the Arboretum and Botanical Gardens. This forested area near the river, with its diversity of tree and shrub habitats is very attractive to migrating birds. Noisy flocks of Canada Geese were prominent that morning as were permanent resident birds, while many of the later migrants still flitted about amid the last of autumn's golden foliage. Most of us saw about 25 species on this exhilarating walk in one of the finest Indian summer mornings of the season; but, as usual, the companionship and the stimulating discussions were the highlights of the trip. Bird banders, it seems, are always eager to learn from each other; and we had our usual debate over the identity of the Cooper's—or was it a Sharp-shinned Hawk? This time, however, we did not have to use a bird guide to settle the dispute—we just asked Chandler Robbins.

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