



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

President's Notes:

One of the goals I set when I was elected your President in 2009 was to be sure that there was something in the *North American Bird Bander* from your Inland Bird banding Association representatives. Recent issues of *NABB* have had little or no IBBA contribution, but we hope to avoid this in the future. Your editor, Peter Lowther, is always looking for articles and papers to publish in *NABB*. Please feel free to send him stuff. He is more than willing to work with you to make it presentable. Anecdotal articles about your banding experiences are also welcome. Members love to hear what other members are doing and finding.

The 2011 annual meeting will be in south Texas, the weekend of 2 - 4 Dec 2011. Mary Gustafson is spearheading the host team. It will be in the McAllen/Westlaco area and close to all the top birding spots. Come early and stay late. I plan to. More will be coming your way soon. It has been several years since we were in Texas and are looking forward to getting back.

One of the items at the annual meeting will involve cleaning up our Bylaws. The Board has been working on this for several years and it appears we are almost done. We have one amendment to the Bylaws to clean up. Many believe this was done in the late 1990s, but we cannot find it in the minutes, and one set of minutes is missing. So we will vote on it again this year. It involves Article IV, Section 5.3 which deals with terms of Board of Directors. The Bylaws state that a Director may only serve one

three-year term. It has been the association's practice over the last 10+ years to allow two terms. So the amendment will change the last sentence in Section 5.3 from: "No Director shall serve a succeeding three-year term as Director." to: "A Director may serve one additional succeeding three-year term as a Director."

Also, at the annual meeting we will be electing new Officers and Directors. James Coffman, of Ohio, has agreed to serve as the nominating committee chair this year. Nelson Hoskins, of Ottumwa, Iowa, is completing his second term as a Director. Nelson has been a long-time IBBA member and has worked on numerous IBBA Boards over the years. I want to thank him for his years of service. Eric Soehren, from Alabama, is completing his first term on the Board and has done an excellent job; hopefully he is willing to serve a second term. Linda Tossing, of the St. Louis area, has served for five years as our secretary and, has done an outstanding job. Her 5th term is up and, according to the Bylaws, cannot run again this year. Thank you, Linda!

As many of you have noticed, things are costing much more in this day and age. The cost of postage to send you the *North American Bird Bander* has gone up. The cost of printing *NABB* has gone up. Brent Ortego, your Treasurer, has informed me that the cost of *NABB* last year was over \$23 per member. The regular membership dues was only \$20 for 2010, so we lost money on last year's members. We will need to vote on

raising regular membership dues at this year's annual meeting. We will need to raise it to \$25 per year, at least. Of the three banding associations, IBBA's annual dues are lowest. In addition, we have 85 life members. At the rate we are going, the life membership fund will run out in less than seven years. CD's are only paying about 1% and that does not cover the cost of *NABB* for life members. We need to raise the cost of a Life Membership or eliminate the Life Membership in the future. One thing that the three banding associations are looking into is the possibility of electronic copies of *NABB*. This would save thousands of dollars each year.

Key items for the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting will include discussion of the following: (1) increasing regular dues; (2) increasing cost of, or eliminating, the Life Member category; and (3) approving changes to Bylaws. The proposed ballot to be presented for 2012 officers will nominate H. Thomas Bartlett (Ohio - 3rd term) for President, David Cimprich (Texas - 3rd term) for 1st VP, Cathie Hutcheson (Illinois - 5th term) for 2nd VP, Brent Ortego (Texas - 3rd term) for Treasurer, Dana Ripper (Missouri - 1st term) as Secretary, and Eric Soehren (Alabama - 2nd term) as 2014 Director. The second 2014 Director position remains open at this time.

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16 May 2011

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Margery Adams Bird Banding Station
Spring 2011 Report
Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Springfield, IL

The 2011 spring banding season at Margery Adams Bird Banding Station (MABBS) ran from 21 Mar through 26 May. Up to 28 mist nets were used on 38 mornings (weekdays and some Saturdays) producing 4,549 net-hours of operation. [One net-hour is the use of one standard, 12-m net for one hour during daylight hours.] This spring's totals were 1,356 birds of 80 species banded, plus repeats and

returns of another 317 birds (+ 2 more species) for a season average of 0.37 total birds per net-hour.

The majority of nets were placed in the wooded portion of the sanctuary and were responsible for capturing most of the warblers, thrushes, vireos, flycatchers, kinglets, creepers, White-throated Sparrows, catbirds and cardinals. The six nets placed in the "prairie" portion of the sanctuary were most productive for species associated with non-woody vegetation including several sparrows (especially Lincoln's, Song and Swamp), Indigo Buntings, American Goldfinches, Common Yellowthroat and the *Empidonax* flycatchers; it was in one of these nets that the sanctuary's first Prairie Warbler was captured. A net that was half in and half out of the woods, but relatively close to the newly created pond, caught the season's two Yellow-breasted Chats, the White-eyed Vireos, three towhees and the sanctuary's first Green Heron.

One event that all birders thrive to be a part of is a major "fallout"; such an event occurred at the sanctuary on 13 May last year when 376 birds were banded and another 200+ were let go unbanded. I doubt I will ever encounter a day like that again. This year there were no "fallout" days and there were only two days when 100 or more birds were banded.

Although MABBS is only in its third spring season, this season produced the highest banding totals for at least 17 species. New records were established for four *Empidonax* flycatchers, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Palm Warbler, the "prairie" sparrows, and Red-winged Blackbird. Although not record-setting, there were good numbers of all thrushes, creepers and kinglets, plus 12 hummingbirds (and two more that were returns from last year).

There were several birds of special interest caught this spring; however, four are worth sharing. A male cardinal was recaptured that had been banded on 3 Jan 2004 (which made it at least eight-year-old); a Warbling Vireo that was originally banded on 20 May 2009 (and may be a nesting species at Adams) was caught again on 9 May this year; a Red-eyed Vireo was banded as a migrant on 20 May