



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

**Inland Bird Banding Association
2011 Annual Meeting
Weslaco, TX
2 - 4 Dec 2011**

President's Notes

For those who were unable to attend the annual meeting in Weslaco, TX, you missed a great meeting. Mary Gustafson, Coordinator of the Rio Grande Joint Venture, and her committee did an outstanding job. Field Trips and banding sessions were great. Thanks to Santa Anna National Wildlife Refuge, the Valley Nature Center, and Estero Llano Grande State Park for hosting the meeting. A special thanks to Jennifer Owen-White, Santa Anna NWR manager; Martin Hagne, Director of the Valley Nature Center; the Staff at Estero Llano Grande SP; Mark Conway, Bill Clark, and Tim Brush. Numerous south Texas species which most of us had never had the chance to handle were in abundance. On Sunday morning at Quinta Mazatlan World Birding Center, over a dozen Clay-colored Thrush were banded. The raptor banders had a chance to band several White-tailed Hawks. In addition, various members presented excellent papers during the meeting. I also thank our speaker, Manuel Grosselet, for traveling up from Mexico City and sharing his experiences with us. There was discussion at the business meeting about adding parts of Mexico to the Inland Bird Banding region. Banding is expanding and we may need to adjust to that in order to help others. I also thank those who donated to the silent auction and especially Avinet, Inc. for their donations.

I look forward to next year's meeting at the Fontenelle Forest Nature Center near Bellevue, NE. Mark your calendars for 26-28 Oct 2012. Check the web page for more information as it becomes available.

Tom Bartlett
IBBA President

First Business Meeting – 3 December 2011

Tom Bartlett called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Bartlett welcomed conference participants.

Roll Call: Linda Tossing passed a sign-up sheet for conference attendees, 26 members present.

Minutes of the 2010 IBBA Business Meeting were published in *NABB*. Motion was made by Dave Russell to accept the minutes, Cathy Hutcheson seconded and the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Brent Ortego presented the Treasurer's report. The income for 2011 was \$7,000, with \$4,000 from individuals and \$4,000 moved from the Life Membership fund. The annual dues are not paying our base expenses. The interest income from the Life Membership Fund is less than 1%. The fund dropped to \$9,000 from prior year's \$12,000 total. Other fund totals are: IBBA

Research fund: \$22,300; Paul Steward Research \$18,700; Life Membership \$9,000, with a total of \$50,000. The checking account balance is \$1,000. Mike Eickman motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Hutcheson and the report was accepted.

Membership: Ortego presented the Membership report: Life Members 72, Regular Members 156, Inactive 4, with a total 232 members.

President's Report: Bartlett advised that the Bird Banding Laboratory (BBL) is in a financial crisis. He noted there is no BBL representative at the conference this year as the discretionary funding is very limited. Bartlett discussed these issues with Bruce Peterjohn, Director of the BBL, and asked what could be done for support. Peterjohn will let Bartlett know if something can be done.

North American Banding Council (NABC): Mark Schieldcastle, currently past-Chair of NABC, attended the NABC Conference in Ashland, OR, February 2011 and presented a summary of the meeting. Schieldcastle advised that the NABC is expanding the training program. The council added three trainers which will add more credibility in obtaining a banding permit. The focus will be on training and improving banders' skill levels. Also, NABC is becoming more involved on an international basis, by working with South American organizations. Schieldcastle confirmed the issues at BBL as presented by Bartlett. He advised the NABC sent a letter of support. The National Flyway Council has become involved in obtaining political support for BBL. Schieldcastle also indicated that the NABC Manual is being revised. The Hummingbird section will be the first section in current revision. Schieldcastle advised that another concern is the selling of bands on eBay. The BBL is researching ways to prevent people from selling recovered bands (a recovered band with an encounter certificate is worth more to collectors). Currently, it is illegal to sell bands.

Web Site: Bartlett reported that IBBA's website is <http://IBBAinfo.org>. He advised that the board is looking to update the website and make it more user friendly.

Old Business:

Future Meeting Sites: Bartlett advised the plans for future meetings: 26-28 Oct **2012** at Fontenelle Forest, Bellevue, NE, coordinated by Betty Grenon and Rick Schmid; spring **2013** to be held as a joint meeting with EBBA; and late August **2014** to be held in Regina, SK.

Bylaws Update: Bartlett presented the proposed Amendments to the Bylaws to be presented at the IBBA business meeting. Bartlett advised these changes reflected the current practice by the association. These changes were believed to have been voted on and accepted years ago by the association but the minutes of that meeting were lost and the changes were never reflected in the Bylaws. The ballot was distributed to the members; proposal approved.

Editor: Bartlett advised that Peter Lowther continues to look for submissions to the *NABB*, both the formal scientific articles and informal news and anecdotes. Lowther is very willing to help anyone wanting to publish in *NABB*.

New Business:

Nominations Committee: Bartlett presented the proposed slate of nominations for 2011-2012 IBBA officers and new directors. He asked if there were any nominations from the floor, none were received.

Tom Bartlett, President, 2011-2012; Dave Cimprich, 1st Vice President, 2011-2012; Cathie Hutcheson, 2nd Vice President, 2011-2012; Dana Ripper, Secretary, 2011-2012; Brent Ortego, Treasurer, 2011-2012; Eric Soehren, Director, 2011-2014; and Mark Schieldcastle, Director, 2011-2014. Vernon Kleen motioned to approve the nominations as presented, Julie Schieldcastle seconded the motion and the slate was accepted.

Membership Dues Structure: Bartlett expressed concern that our membership dues are not sufficient to cover the costs of *NABB* and other operational

costs. The Life Membership Fund was set up that interest income would fund future cost. The lower interest rate has failed to produce enough income and the concern is that the fund will run out. Bartlett advised we need at least \$35 a year to cover *NABB* costs. The IBBA board has recommended the following changes to the Annual Membership Dues: Regular, \$35; Institution, \$35; Sustaining, \$50; Student, \$20; Life, \$2,000; Benefactor, \$5,000; Non-Subscribing (no *NABB*), \$5.00; additional foreign cost (to cover postage and check fees), \$15.00. Dave Russell motioned to accept the Board's recommendation, seconded by Kelly Bryan; the motion was approved.

Other: Bartlett asked about thoughts to add parts of Mexico to the IBBA. It was agreed that more discussion and research is needed.

Bartlett thanked everyone to for attending the IBBA conference.

Hutcheson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ripper and the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Tossing
Secretary

Second Board Meeting, 3 Dec 2011

Attending: Tom Bartlett, Cathie Hutcheson, Brent Ortego, David Comprich, Dana Ripper, David Russell, Vernon Kleen, Mark Sheildcastle

Meeting called to order by President Tom Bartlett at 8:00 pm.

Old Business:

1. Reiteration of the need for contributions from Board members for *NABB*. Bartlett will determine all due dates and update Board members.
2. Sheildcastle and Bartlett will continue examination of whether Mexican states should be included in the IBBA.

New Business: No new business.

Russell made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded by Hutcheson. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

IBBA 2011 Bird Banding Report

Send banding results to:

Brent Ortego

2805 N. Navarro, Suite 600B

Victoria, TX 77901

brent.ortego@tpwd.state.tx.us