Western Regional News

President's Note

I recently returned from our annual meeting held in Ramsey Canyon in southeast Arizona 11-14 September. We had a great meeting with more than 40 people in attendance. The weather was perfect and the surroundings were beautiful. For those of us out-of-towners staying at the Ramsey Canyon Inn, the accommodations were wonderful, especially the fresh-baked pies provided daily by the proprietor.

Never having been to southeast Arizona, this meeting offered me the opportunity to meet researchers and banders working on various projects in the southwest, not to mention the many new bird species I observed. If you ever get the chance to visit this part of Arizona, I highly recommend it. Did I mention the pies?

Meeting events were held primarily at the Arizona Folklore Society. Outstanding presentations were made during the scientific paper session and during the evening programs. The Board of Directors held its annual business meeting on Thursday, 12 September. The Membership meeting was held on 13 September where the 2013-2014 officers and directors were elected. We welcome to the Board Chespi Elizondo as a Board Member and Chrissy Kondrat-Smith as Secretary.

A full write-up of the meeting including a report from the Board of Directors and abstracts from the scientific session is in progress and will be printed in the next issue the *North American Bird Bander*.

C. John Ralph is presently considering serving as host to the 2014 WBBA meetings in northern California in Arcata, CA. We are looking forward to this possibility.

Thank-you to those who attended and a special thank-you to the National Park Service for helping financially with securing the meeting facility. Hope to see you at a future meeting.

Please visit our website:
(**http://www.westernbirdbanding.org**)
for more information.

Howard Browers, President

Klamath Bird Observatory Banding In 2012

Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) continued its comprehensive, long-term bird monitoring program in the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion of northern California and southern Oregon in 2012, in pursuit of our mission to advance bird and habitat conservation through science, education, and partnerships. This report provides a brief summary of our 2012 banding efforts which included tissue sampling, technical training, and banding-associated outreach and education efforts.

KBO operated 12 constant-effort banding stations from May to October and one other year-round. In addition, we held a single one-day banding public demonstration (International Migratory Bird Day festival) and completed four one-day target-species netting efforts (American Dipper nest study). We continued banding efforts at 11 constant-effort stations that have been operated for 10 or more years and one now operated six years. Combined capture totals from 257 banding efforts at the 17 locations totaled 8,611 birds of 93 species captured during 10,908 net hours. Net hours were not tabulated for the target-species netting efforts.

The ten most numerous captured species were Song Sparrow (913 total captures, 561 newly banded), Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco (856 total, 608 banded), Fox Sparrow (633, 537), Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler (442, 426), Orange-crowned Warbler (383, 351), Hermit Thrush (381, 351), White-crowned Sparrow (280, 258), Purple Finch (278, 243), Yellow Warbler (281, 227), and Spotted Towhee (285, 219). Unusual species captured included a Northern Waterthrush and two Chestnut-sided Warblers, all at Upper Klamath Lake constant-effort banding stations. The Northern Waterthrush is considered a very rare breeder but is otherwise a vagrant in Oregon, and the Chestnut-sided Warbler is considered a regular transient.

Our bird banding training program is an integral part of our monitoring program. During 2012, eight student volunteer interns received experiential instruction in advanced bird banding and survey techniques. The instruction is supplemented with study materials, published by the North American Banding Council, pertinent scientific literature, and regular