



Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

President's Message

The Eastern Bird Banding Association's Annual General Meeting in Ontario was a great success and over 70 people attended this joint meeting with the Ontario Bird Banding Association. This was the first EBBA meeting to be held in Canada. Feedback from several people showed that the meeting was received well and the talks presented well.

The speaker diversity was large, with topics varying from shorebirds to waterfowl to passerines, with most showing some form of collaboration with either other banders or with the public, such as the Ontario Snow Bunting Project, which is a collaboration of banders, and the Trumpeter Swan project, which relies heavily on resights from the the public. Ricky Dunn gave us a presentation that showed how to find the origins of migrant passerines by using stable isotopes from tail feathers collected by Canadian Migration Monitoring Stations. Dave Brinker showed how several Snowy Owls were fitted with satellite transmitters and were followed throughout the winter and also on their migration back north.

Friday night's introductory speaker was Chris Guglielmo from Western University, Ontario, speaking, among other things, about how birds manage their fuel load on their long migration flights over the ocean and other adverse conditions. Saturday night's keynote speaker was Chip Weseloh from the Canadian Wildlife Service, who showed the results of several years of wing-tagging nestling egrets at their Ontario nesting colonies and tracking them to their wintering grounds far to the south.

Local birding produced King Eiders and Snowy Owl at Bronte Harbour, a first for several people. The field trip on the Sunday was to Niagara Hawk Watch near Grimsby and included several stops along the lake to view waterfowl.

Next year's meeting will be held at North Bay Adventure Camp, 11 Horseshoe Point Lane, North East, Maryland, 27, 28, 29 Mar 2015. Place this date in your calendar now and plan to attend. Further details are already starting to appear on the EBBA website (<http://www.keh-ee.com/EBBA/program.htm>).

Attending these annual meetings is a great way to meet friends you have not seen for a while and to make new friends. It is also a great place to present and share some of the data you have diligently been collecting over the years. Contact Melanie Reichley:

(mreichley@northbayadventure.com) to reserve a speakers' slot at the next meeting to present your data or to have a poster presentation or even book a room and register.

The 2016 meeting will be held at Blackwater Falls State Park, Davis, West Virginia, on 8, 9, 10 April 2016, so book these dates as well. Contact Dave Brinker (dfbrinker@verizon.net) if you want to present your work at the 2016 meeting.

EBBA welcomes Wayne Laubscher to the Board and invites any one else who is interested in joining the Board to contact any of the current Board members for further details of the duties involved.

*David Okines
EBBA President*