

Eastern Regional News

Eastern Bird Banding Association

Founded 1923

President's Message

Greetings!

I am honored to be your new President of EBBA. I am following in the footsteps of a long line of past presidents and contributors who have brought us to the successful, robust organization that we are today. Special thanks go to our immediate past president, *Andrea Patterson*, who skillfully steered us through the pandemic. And on a lighter note, I am the last in line of the Triple A presidents: First *Adrienne* served as our president, then *Andrea*, and now *Andy*. Recent EBBA Council meetings could sometimes be confusing!

Now for some great news! EBBA's next Annual Meeting will be in-person in Groton, CT, on the weekend of 11-13 March, 2022. Our 2020 and 2021 meetings were both cancelled due to COVID, so we are very much looking forward to seeing everyone again. Event registration will open this coming fall, but in the meantime, please mark your calendars!

We held a virtual Annual Meeting on 16 March this year. For those who missed it, here are a few brief highlights:

Research Grants: We awarded \$2,000 in research grants. Congratulations to *Stephanie Augustine* (Spatial Demography and Migratory Ecology of Canada Warblers in Central Appalachia) and *Sarah Fensore* (Identifying Key Roost Sites and their Connectivity for Swallows and Swifts).

Nets: We are liquidating our inventory of nets. We have 36 nets left at 5" mesh (good for raptors) at \$10 each. Let us know if you would like to purchase any.

Social Media: Our presence on social media continues to grow, thanks to *Maren Gimpel*. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram. News items and updates of interest are regularly posted to these sites.

Committee Initiatives: Past president, Andrea, created several committees with goals to be established throughout the year. If you have an interest in volunteering with us, please let us know!

My goals for the coming year are to increase member engagement, introduce a new online membership platform and website, upgrade to new financial software and strengthen our operational processes. I look forward to engaging with you! With gratitude,

Andy Thiede Berlin, CT

