
News, Notes, Comments

NABB Update

To all members of the Eastern, Inland and Western Bird Banding associations, and those of you who may be affiliated with any non-USA banding organizations:

Since early 2023, there have been many meetings of the editors and association representatives to try to streamline the effort involved to put together an issue of **North American Bird Bander**. Many suggestions have been put forth, and this note is to let you know of some of them that have been enacted and others will be coming.

Throughout these meetings one constant problem kept coming up, and that was the fact that content for each issue is difficult to come by. The editors are always in need of manuscripts and items to fill the News, Notes and Comments section. This has caused editorial delays and/or problems where it was not cost effective to print an issue without combining issues.

As NABB is not a journal backed up by a major organization such as the Wilson Ornithological Society or the American Ornithological Society, it does not have the leisure for an editor to spend six to twelve months with an author to flesh out each submission. What is needed is a continuous backlog of information so there would always be articles “in the pipeline” that are ready for publication as newer ones are being edited.

If you have a project that you have been working on and are thinking about writing it up, why not publish your findings in NABB? We welcome shorter items as well, such as those describing unusual or significant observations. Any of our regional editors would be happy to assist you with your submission if you are new to the process or have any questions or reservations. An updated copy of “Suggestions for Authors” can be found on each website for EBBA, IBBA, and WBBA to help you write a contribution that conforms with what is printed in NABB. To all prospective authors, there are no page charges for manuscripts

printed in NABB, that is, publishing in the journal is completely free.

Other changes we are looking into are for people to assist with the editorial processes, from helping to edit manuscripts and reviewing the final proofs before printing, as well as the fact that there is always a need for pictures or drawings of birds to fill in the blank sections of a page that sometimes happens at the end of an article. If you are interested in contributing illustrations, especially black and white drawings, please contact your regional editor. All contributors will be acknowledged for their submissions.

Upcoming changes-Our last issue, 48 (No. 2 & 3), was the first to be printed digitally which is both a cost saver for the Associations as well as a time saver as it allows for shorter printing and quicker mailing times to you. With the change to digital printing, we are looking into the possibility of printing photographs in color. The Flyway Reviews will now be in each issue instead of both Inland and Atlantic crammed into a single issue, and the BBL will be given space to cover multiple topics, including any new longevity records, frequently asked questions and a summary of the latest MTAB (Memo to all Banders).

You may have had the opportunity to fill out a short survey about NABB that went out by email a month or two ago. If you returned it, thank you. If not, please look it up and send it back. We are looking for any information to help make your journal better and better.

Thank you.

Dan Zmoda

On behalf of the

NABB Steering Committee