

MEMOIRS OF THE NUTTALL ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB, NO. 13

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
HISTORY OF NORTH  
AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY  
VOLUME II**

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CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Published by the Club

2000

## History of the Association of Field Ornithologists (Northeastern Bird-Banding Association)

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**ABSTRACT.**—The New England Bird Banding Association (later Northeastern Bird Banding Association) was formed in 1922. This was a response to a growing need for regional organizations stemming from the federalization of bird banding in North America and a rapidly growing interest in bird banding. During its formative years the organization was run by established Massachusetts ornithologists, including Edward H. Forbush, Charles Wendell Townsend, Alfred O. Gross, Francis H. Allen, John C. Phillips, and Arthur Cleveland Bent. Against strong opposition the Association began publication of a journal (*Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association*) in 1925. In 1930 it became the national journal *Bird-Banding*. The financial survival of the Association and its journal in these early years was largely the result of patronage of a few prominent members. The *Recent Literature* section of *Bird-Banding* became an internationally recognized feature of an increasingly prominent ornithological journal under the leadership of Margaret Morse Nice. Through the 1970s the organization retained a parochial northeastern identity while *Bird-Banding* matured into a journal of international significance. The constant financial problems associated with increasing journal production costs were balanced by revenues from mist net sales under the direction of E. Alexander Bergstrom and Brian Harrington. During the 1980s the organization metamorphosed into a national organization with the journal renamed *Journal of Field Ornithology*, the organization becoming the Association of Field Ornithologists and accepted as a member of the Ornithological Societies of North America (OSNA). During the 1990s increased membership and an inheritance from Charles Blake have produced a strong financial base for the organization. A focus on Latin America, together with a journal that emphasizes field ornithology, have produced a niche for the organization as it prepares to enter the 21st century.

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## THE EARLY YEARS

*The need for an association arises.*—The desirability and practice of individually marking birds date back at least to Roman times, and the practice of placing metal bands on birds's legs to the eighteenth century (Lincoln 1921, 1933). Aluminum bands were first used in Europe in 1899 by a Danish schoolmaster, Hans Chr. C. Mortensen, who according to Lincoln (1933) "may well be called the father of scientific bird banding." By the beginning of the twentieth century it was becoming increasingly clear that the study of bird migration, site fidelity, and a host of other natural history and ecological phenomena would require populations of individually-marked birds.

In North America individual marking of birds dates back to Audubon's famous 1803 "banding" of Eastern Phoebes (*Sayornis phoebe*) with silver wire, but important scientific use of banding began with Paul Bartsch who banded Black-crowned Night-Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) in 1902-03 (Cole 1909). The first organized bird-banding in North America was sponsored by the New Haven Bird Club in Connecticut in 1907 (Cole 1922). Sporadic banding continued until 1909 when the American Bird Banding Association (ABBA) was established at the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) meeting; Leon J. Cole was elected president (Cleaves 1913, Cole 1909, 1910; Lincoln 1933). The Linnaean Society of New York took over responsibility for the ABBA in 1911, and the association chugged along, struggling with unavailability of mass-produced aluminum bands, inadequate funds, and the disruptions attendant to World War I.

On 16 August 1916, the governments of Great Britain (acting for Canada) and the United States concluded the "Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds." This was the first of five treaties aimed at the conservation of "migratory birds" (a bird does not have to migrate to be a "migratory bird" in the legal sense) to which the United States is currently a party. The Migratory Bird Treaty gave the federal governments responsibility for the conservation of "migratory birds" and the authority to regulate activities that could be deleterious to their conservation. One such authority provides for regulation of "taking" of migratory birds. The capture of birds, even for banding purposes, falls within the definition of "taking" (E. B. Baysinger pers. comm.).

In 1919, the successes of banding studies, particularly with waterfowl, led Edward W. Nelson, a student of avian migration and Chief of the Biological Survey, to offer to take over banding-related responsibilities from the Linnaean Society. The offer to coordinate bird banding and attendant record-keeping nationally was accepted, and in 1920 Frederick C.

Lincoln took charge of the Biological Survey's new project. The provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act made federal and state licensing of banders possible, and the coordination of the activities of local banders and banding stations, particularly along major migration flyways, created the need for formal regional associations. This need precipitated the formation of the New England Bird Banding Association (NEBBA) (later Northeastern Bird Banding Association) which was to claim bander service responsibility for the New England states, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

*NEBBA is formed.*—On 17 January 1922, a meeting was held at the Boston Society of Natural History with Glover M. Allen of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University and president of the Nuttall Ornithological Club (NOC), presiding. Major E. A. Golden representing the Biological Survey, S. Prentiss Baldwin from Cleveland, Ohio, and Edward Howe Forbush, State Ornithologist of Massachusetts, all made presentations. The minutes of the meeting report, "The business of forming a bird banding association then proceeded." The groundwork had been done prior to the meeting as evidenced by the presentation of a report of a By-Laws Committee and a vote to accept the By-laws "as read and corrected." The chairman of the Committee on Officers presented a list of candidates who were then elected. The New England Bird Banding Association was then in existence with a set of By-Laws, annual dues of \$1, and an impressive slate of New England ornithologists as officers: Edward H. Forbush, president; Charles W. Townsend, vice-president; James Mackaye, 2nd vice-president; Lawrence B. Fletcher, secretary and treasurer; Alice B. Harrington, recording secretary; and as councillors: John E. Thayer, John C. Phillips, William P. Wharton, Aaron C. Bagg, Arthur C. Bent, and Charles L. Whittle. Three councillors were to be elected each year for two-year terms, and the Annual Meeting was scheduled for January of each year.

The first Council meeting followed, on 26 January 1922, at the Hotel Vendome in Boston. It was voted to deposit the funds of the organization in the Commonwealth Trust Company of Boston. The major agenda item was a discussion of whether or not the Association should publish a journal. The discussion was extensive (the minutes occupy seven single-spaced type-written pages) and resulted in the formation of a committee consisting of President Forbush, Vice-President Townsend, Secretary Fletcher, Councillor Whittle, and Charles F. Batchelder to consider the matter. The latter was a founding member and former president of the AOU, and a founder and for 50 years treasurer of the Nuttall Ornithological Club. Several people commented on the difficulty of getting papers published, and the protracted turn-around-time for notes published by *The Auk*.

Several options were discussed. Charles Phillips and Edward Forbush favored some arrangement with the AOU whereby money would be contributed by NEBBA to the AOU so that the size of *The Auk* could be increased or a supplement issued. The possibility of joining forces with the Nuttall Ornithological Club to revise the NOC *Bulletin* or produce a new journal was explored, as was the possibility of making an arrangement with the Boston Society of Natural History. A number of influential ornithologists had been queried about the desirability of NEBBA producing a journal, and Mr. Oberholser (probably Harry Oberholser of the U.S. National Museum) suggested that, since the *Wilson Bulletin* was "on its last legs," money could be raised and it could become the organ of NEBBA. The discussion meandered into the realm of membership and the recommendation of the Biological Survey that other regional bird-banding organizations be formed. Questions of costs and what kinds of papers would be published in a journal were considered. In the end it was agreed that the committee should investigate a broad spectrum of possibilities, and Forbush concluded, "This committee can report on any plan on earth."

The Committee, with 2nd Vice-President Mackaye replacing Secretary Fletcher, reported to Council on 27 February 1922. The Committee unanimously agreed that NEBBA required an outlet for the publication of bird-banding notes and scientific papers, but, not wishing to publish a journal that would rival *The Auk*, recommended that an arrangement should be sought with the AOU so that NEBBA material could be published in *The Auk*. Pursuant to this arrangement, an endowment of \$25,000 should be raised to cover the expected publication costs. While these plans were unfolding, the Committee recommended that any available funds be placed in the hands of a Board of Trustees, selected by the Council or membership, for investment. Discussions with Witmer Stone, editor of *The Auk*, had already begun, and in the interim, before any agreement could be reached, it was agreed that NEBBA papers and notes could be published in *The Auk* at cost.

The Council meeting of 13 November 1922 concentrated on the emergence of bird-banding associations in North America. The formation of the Inland Bird Banding Association (IBBA) was announced, and overlap in membership with NEBBA discussed. Letters to NEBBA enquiring about membership from people in the IBBA area were to be referred to that new organization. The question of extending NEBBA to include the Atlantic Slope was discussed at length, and in general sentiment was in favor of extension. The recommendation that a \$25,000 endowment be established for the publication of bird banding papers in *The Auk* produced the sentiment that help in raising these funds be shared by other bird banding groups including newly formed IBBA. There was considerable enthusiasm

for NEBBA commencing serious scientific work, including the study of bird migration in the Connecticut Valley and intensive study of individual species and terns along the East Coast. A letter was sent to Witmer Stone requesting him to publish "some interesting notes from the New England Bird Banding Association" in the January issue of *The Auk*.

Another Council meeting was held on 18 November 1922 at the State House in Boston. It was voted to request Councillor Whittle, Alfred O. Gross, a Professor of Biology at Bowdoin College, Bowdoin, Maine, and Prentiss Baldwin of Cleveland, Ohio, and president of IBBA, to deliver talks at the Annual Meeting. The final Council meeting in December 1922, dealt with finances, producing a suggested change in the date when annual dues would be assessed from July to January, and establishment of a new category of membership—Sustaining Member at \$5 per year. It had been a very busy and productive year for the fledgling New England Bird Banding Association as the reports at the Annual Meeting were to show.

The first Annual Meeting of NEBBA was held on 17 January 1923 in the lecture hall of the Boston Society of Natural History, presided over by President Forbush. The business of the association was conducted with the election of officers and the affirmation of the Council decision to shift the date of dues collection to January 1. There was substantial change in the officer ranks with Charles W. Townsend becoming president; Winsor Tyler, 1st vice-president; and Alfred O. Gross, 2nd vice-president. The corresponding secretary reported on the roughly 2500 letters that had been sent, many concerning state and federal permits for members, and a campaign involving mailing out 15,000 to 20,000 "letters and articles of various kinds relating to bird banding." This included a mailing to the entire AOU membership and other bird clubs and organizations throughout North America. The treasurer's report showed a postage expenditure of \$463. The secretary received records from bird banders, with files kept in the office of the Massachusetts State Ornithologist at the State House. Several banders had banded more than 300 birds and as demand exceeded inventory, the supply of bands had run out. The treasurer's report showed receipts of \$1094, expenditures of \$1027, and bills payable of \$67.24. The organization had survived an extraordinarily busy year financially but was facing a deficit. A general address was given by Frederick Lincoln, followed by Alfred O. Gross who discussed banding Common Nighthawks (*Chordeiles minor*), H. W. Herrick on experiences at his bird-feeders, and motion pictures by Herbert K. Job. A note of humor was injected into the proceedings when a list of the 33 attendees was recorded on a specially prepared "banding" schedule, with each person (listed in a column "Homo sapiens") receiving a band number. Under the column "Return," 19 of the 33 had entries dated 16 January 1924, the date of the 1924 Annual Meeting.



*Consolidation.*—A series of Council meetings in 1923 dealt with the organization of several NEBBA-sponsored programs including a Field Day in Cohasset, Massachusetts, at which banding stations would be visited, a dinner at the AOU meeting in Boston, and a ten-lecture series on ornithology by Glover Allen which included a "correspondence course" consisting of excerpts from the lecture transcripts and synopses. In 1923 NEBBA sent delegates to the AOU meeting and to a meeting under the auspices of the Linnaean Society of New York at which the Eastern Bird Banding Association (EBBA) was formed. Arthur A. Allen, of Cornell University, was elected the first president of EBBA, and suggested, in a letter, the formation of a central bird banding organization with perhaps five subdivisions on the Atlantic seaboard. At the 10 September 1923 Council meeting this suggestion was discussed. President Townsend argued that the present system of regional organizations was better and received unanimous Council support for this rather separatist position. This regional identity of NEBBA remained central to the organization throughout much of its history. The Council meeting of 4 January 1924 focused on changing the name of the Association, necessitated by the inclusion of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces of Canada in the Association's domain. The name "North Atlantic Bird Banding Association" was proposed and defended by President Townsend and others, but the name "Northeastern Bird Banding Association," proposed by Arthur Cleveland Bent, was adopted, largely on the argument that it more logically complemented with the new Eastern Bird Banding Association. The proposed name reported in the minutes did not include the hyphen between "Bird" and "Banding" as became standard usage.

The Minutes of the 17 January 1924 Annual Meeting reflect the various accomplishments of 1923, and the name change to Northeastern Bird Banding Association was formally approved by the membership. Alfred O. Gross became president, Charles L. Whittle 1st vice-president, and Henry S. Shaw 2nd vice-president. Papers presented at the meeting included one by Alfred O. Gross on banding Black-crowned Night-Herons, at Barnstable, Massachusetts, illustrated with "lantern slides," and a paper by Harry Oberholser on the benefits of bird banding. The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$339. The organization now had a name it was to retain for more than half a century, a positive bank balance, solid relationships with the other regional bird-banding associations and the AOU, an educational program, and evident stability. The focus of the Association was now turned to the publication of a journal.

*NEBBA gets a journal and the organization stabilizes.*—At the 16 January 1925 Annual Meeting, President Gross was elected for a second

term, and the By-laws were changed to provide an increase in dues to \$2 per year. After the morning business meeting and four presented papers, an informal meeting was held where bird traps and other bird-banding paraphernalia were displayed. At the end of 1924 the treasury contained \$30—not much for an association which was about to publish a journal for the first time.

The focus of the 22 December 1924 Council meeting, with Vice-President Whittle presiding, was on the question of publishing a journal. Despite objections to the prospect of raising dues and fund-raising, four motions were passed: (1) to increase dues to \$2 per year, (2) to accept Lawrence Fletcher's offer to finance the first issue of the bulletin up to \$75, (3) "To proceed at once to the publication of the first bulletin," and (4) to elect Charles L. Whittle the first editor, with Francis H. Allen and Winsor M. Tyler associate editors. There is no indication in the Council minutes why the idea of using *The Auk* or some other extant outlet as an outlet for publishing bird-banding papers had been abandoned. Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association (Bulletin)* was published in January 1925, and the full complement of four issues (73 pages of text) was published that year. In a Foreword in the first number, the purposes of the journal are succinctly stated: "These objects are to furnish a medium wherein our members can publish matters of interest to bird-banders and of value to ornithology, and by means of which the Council can keep in touch with the needs of individual banders." There were several general articles published and a section of "General Notes." In addition a membership list was published with 219 listed from Massachusetts, 79 from other New England states, 43 from other states, and 11 from Canada. Advertisements offered bird seed, traps, bird books, bird nest boxes, and binoculars. In No. 3 Recording Secretary Harrington reported that in 1924 the membership banded 12,463 birds of 69 species and subspecies, with 763 returns (of which 119 were Purple Finches, *Carpodacus purpureus*).

Most of the discussion of the 17 December 1925 Council meeting related to suggested By-laws changes and a response to a letter from IBBA suggesting that Samuel P. Baldwin, first President of IBBA, be made "Dean of Bird Banding." The Council suggested that instead, Baldwin be made "Honorary President" of each of the bird-banding associations. Votes at the 15 January 1926 Annual Meeting initiated By-laws changes which, among other things, increased the number of councillors to nine, three elected by the membership each year at the Annual Meeting, with the Council electing the officers of the Association. The changes also provided flexibility in the number of vice-presidents elected, apparently to allow for sharing the work load of the organization among more people. The initials of the

Association were formally voted to N.E.B.B.A. The report of the recording secretary indicated that, up to the end of 1925, banders of the Association had banded 38,400 birds and recorded 1309 returns. The treasurer's report indicated a \$420 deficit at the end of 1925. At the 21 January 1926 Council meeting, Francis H. Allen was elected president and Francis Beach White, 1st vice-president. The question was raised of merging the publications of all of the bird-banding associations, but no decision was made.

At the next Council meeting, 11 June 1926, it was voted to send letters to the other bird-banding associations requesting that they send two delegates to the forthcoming AOU meeting in Ottawa, Canada, for a discussion of the advisability of consolidating the publications of the four associations into a single organ. At a subsequent Council meeting, the president was instructed to appoint two delegates to this meeting, and Recording Secretary Harrington and Harrison F. Lewis were appointed.

The meeting, presided over by Maunsell Crosby, an amateur New York ornithologist, was something of a disaster for the idea of a centralized journal. Several delegates argued that *Wilson Bulletin* would be a good place to publish bird-banding papers, and several argued against the idea of segregating bird-banding papers into a special journal on philosophical grounds. Others pleaded poverty. Harrington reported back to Council that Witmer Stone, editor of *The Auk*, "Spoke in rather an ambiguous manner," and Frederick Lincoln thought that segregating bird-banding material was not a good idea. After an hour and a half discussion, a motion to recommend that the four associations appoint committees to confer on the desirability of publishing a single journal failed six votes to four. EBBA delegates supported the idea, but expressed reservations on financial grounds. J. T. Nichols, who had vigorously supported the idea of a centralized journal, sent a check for \$150 to help with publication costs of the NEBBA *Bulletin*. The Council voted to send a letter to the membership explaining the financial plight precipitated by the *Bulletin* and soliciting donations of \$2 or more each. The Council also voted to follow up on the good will of the EBBA representatives and try to arrange a meeting with them to explore merging the bulletins of the two organizations. The minutes of the 23 November Council meeting are discouraging, with reports that Frederick Lincoln opposed consolidation, and further that Lincoln, Harry Oberholser, and Samuel Baldwin all opposed segregating bird banding from general ornithological publications, and suggested that the *Bulletin* should be opened up to more general subjects. All concerned were laudatory of the *Bulletin*, and wished its publication to continue—rather ambiguous messages. It was reported that *The Auk* had a two-year backlog of papers, and that the Western Bird Banding Association was "tied up" with *The Condor*, the publication of the west coast-based Cooper Ornithological Society. It

was announced that the *Bulletin* would be published in 1927 and that "the same four gentlemen who paid for it last year will pay for it in the coming year." Clearly, it was the determination and financing of a few individuals that kept the *Bulletin* afloat during these difficult times. Perhaps heeding the comments by Baldwin, Lincoln, and Oberholser, an announcement in the April, 1927, issue of the *Bulletin* stated that "many sources" have asked the editors to open the pages of the journal to papers of wider interest than were currently being published, and said that they would consider any papers that "seem likely to interest bird-banders even though not based on actual banding experiences." This broadening portended a name change for the journal, nearly a half century later, to the *Journal of Field Ornithology*.

*Routine business and the end of the "paper trail".*—In 1926 the Council busied itself preparing a resolution supporting the reappointment of A. L. Bazeley and William Adams to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation, and the business of arranging the 1927 Annual Meeting. The meeting was highlighted by the addresses of Edward Forbush and Thornton W. Burgess, and after the dinner, attended by about 150 members, a series of speeches concluded with Charles Crawford Gorst, "the most accomplished bird whistler in the country," giving imitations of bird calls and songs. The Annual Meetings had become well-attended, with cosmopolitan programs that reflected the burgeoning interest in bird banding. Cash on hand in the treasury, however, was \$36.

The 1928 Annual Meeting was held jointly with the Federation of New England Bird Clubs, and was a substantial affair held at the University Club in Boston. There were addresses by Harrison F. Lewis of Ontario, John B. May, and Oliver Austin, Jr., who showed motion pictures of arctic banding adventures. The after-dinner program featured T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies (now National Audubon Society), and Ludlow Griscom, newly arrived from New York and the American Museum of Natural History to become a research curator at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard. Cash on hand was \$199, but a "friend of the Association" contributed \$100 to defray the expenses of the meeting, and Winsor Tyler donated \$150 to publish the October issue of the *Bulletin*. At the 31 January 1928 Council meeting, Francis Beach White was elected president of NEBBA, and the possibility of establishing a category of "Life Member" was discussed and remanded to committee.

At this point the history of the Northeastern Bird Banding Association fades to obscurity with a nearly three-decade hiatus in its minutes of Council and Annual Meetings. Only the scattered recollections of a few of

the individuals who helped make the history and inferences drawn from the journal cast any illumination on the progress of the Association.

## THE MIDDLE YEARS

*The Great Depression and World War II—the journal matures.*—It is remarkable that the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association and its journal survived the consecutive traumas of the Great Depression, with the financial constraints it imposed, and World War II with all its manpower drains and financial and material constraints. An announcement in *Bird-Banding* (4:155) in 1933 stated that NEBBA was discontinuing the card-file system of banding records for its membership and that "This drastic move was made in the interest of economy." Henceforth, banding records would go directly to the Biological Survey. In the same year, a plea from the treasurer of the Association for financial assistance from the membership suggested that it might be necessary to reduce the size of the journal. Threats to the Biological Survey budget in 1934 were outlined by J. N. Darling (1934), along with the need for increased financing, either by Congressional appropriation or by private endowment. Announcements from time to time linked the need for increased funding to keep the journal afloat and the solution of increasing the membership of the Association.

Sometime between January 1928 and January 1930 successful negotiations were conducted, aimed at the production of a single bird-banding journal, national in scope, because the cover of the journal for the first number of 1930 reads: "Old Series Vol. VI" "New Series Vol. I" "Continuation of the Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association." The new journal was called "BIRD-BANDING" Journal of Ornithological Investigation," and was published for the Northeastern, Eastern, and Inland Bird-Banding Associations. The *Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association* had begun as a journal devoted nearly exclusively to bird-banding and related studies. In its first year, 1925, 21 major papers and 17 notes were bird-banding related, whereas only three notes dealt with other subject matter. In the four issues of *Bird-Banding* published in 1930 four of 22 major papers dealt with subjects broader than bird banding, although the preponderance of notes still was exclusively bird banding in orientation. A "Recent Literature" section was added with reviews by John B. May, including a review of papers on bird banding in *The Condor*, thus beginning the tradition of reviewing papers as well as books, which continues as a hallmark of the journal to the pres-

ent day. A section on "Correspondence" was also added. The quality of major papers improved, exemplified by the first in a series of life history papers on Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia*) by Margaret M. Nice (1931), the poignant paper on banding the last Heath Hen (*Tympanuchus cupido cupido*) by Alfred O. Gross (1931) that chronicled the demise of this subspecies, and the paper by Niko Tinbergen (1936) on sexual fighting and the origin of territory in birds. International papers, exemplified not only by Tinbergen's paper, but also by Seinosuke Uchida's study of swallows in Japan (1932) and banding practices in Italy by Francesco Chigi (1933), highlighted the breadth of the journal. The international involvement and scope of *Bird-Banding* are underscored by the 1935 list of exchanges, five with journals published in the United States, but 21 with journals published in Europe and Russia. In 1936 a cover design featuring an etching by Frank Benson of a Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) was adopted. It became emblematic of the Association and graced the journal covers until 1987.

In 1932, the first review (of five papers) by Margaret Morse Nice published in *Bird-Banding* was a harbinger. By 1934, reviews were being grouped under headings (e.g., "Territory," "Bird Behavior," "Banding Papers"), and the "Literature Review" section of the journal, under the guidance of Nice, was rapidly becoming a dominant feature of *Bird-Banding*. In 1936, Nice was joined by Thomas T. McCabe who, as associate editor, began to provide reviews. Nice was cosmopolitan, and hence reviews were from journals world-wide. Despite the inclusion of reviews by other people, Nice's own review output remained prodigious: more than 70 in 1934, over 125 in 1935, nearly 150 in 1936 and again in 1937, and a high of nearly 200 in 1942. Her reviews were not always just summaries—they were often critical assessments, sometimes incorporating rather blunt admonitions. Quality and quantity were her hallmarks. In 1942 when she resigned as an associate editor, she left a legacy of publishing reviews of ornithological papers of international scope that carved a niche for *Bird-Banding* and its successor *Journal of Field Ornithology*. In 1943 her legacy was continued by Donald S. Famer.

In 1939 Charles L. Whittle resigned as editor of *Bird-Banding* after nearly 15 years of service, and the editorship was assumed by James L. Peters, Curator of Birds at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University (Fig. 1). Peters guided the journal through the lean years of World War II. The character of the journal remained largely unchanged, although the war years saw a diminution in the number of papers available for publication, and some reduction in the number of published reviews. A notice in late 1941 hinted that the supply of bands might become problematic because of regulations about the non-defense use of aluminum. It had become the practice to publish announcements from



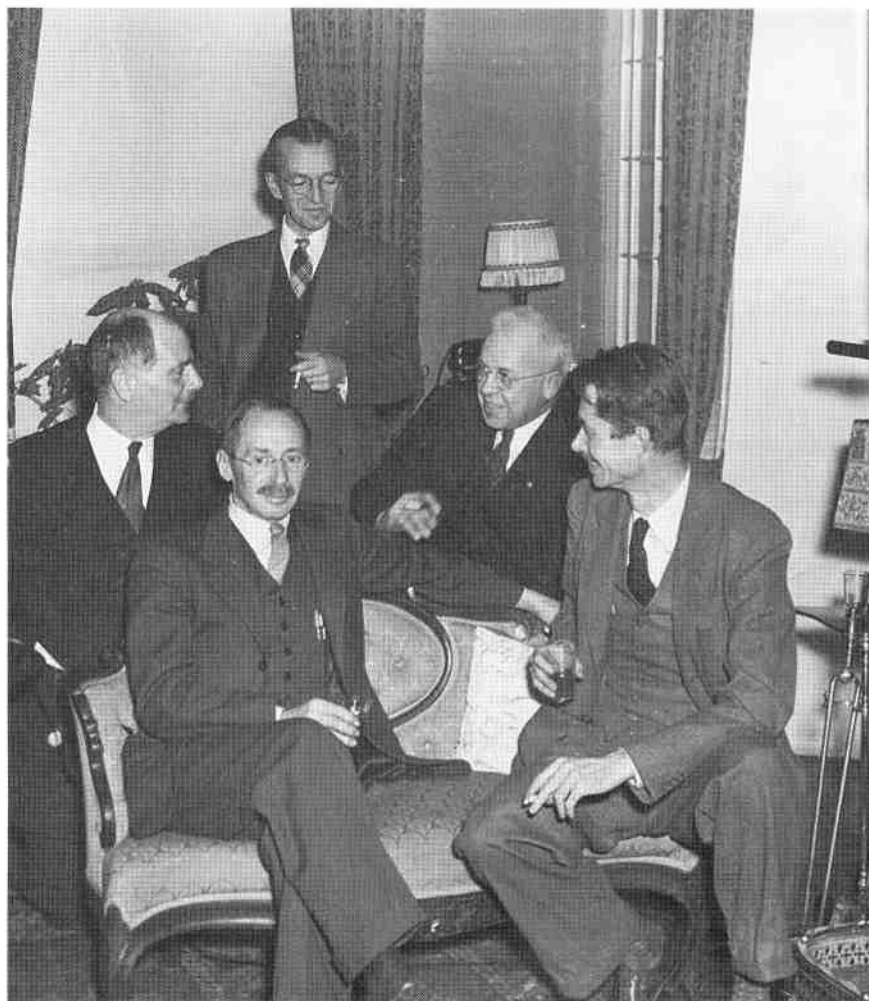


Fig. 1. On couch left to right: James L. Peters, editor of *Bird-Banding*, and Charles H. Blake, president of NEBBA and provider of a major trust fund for AFO; immediately behind Charles Blake is J. Archibald Hagar, vice-president and councillor of NEBBA; also present are Maurice Emery, standing, and Wendell Taber. Courtesy of the Nuttall Ornithological Club.

time to time to facilitate requests for help, to facilitate information exchange among banders, and to advertise events. An announcement stating that the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association was planning to hold a

series of out-of-doors meetings during 1942 at various banding stations was followed by an announcement two issues later stating that because of the need to conserve rubber and gasoline for the war effort the planned field excursions had been canceled.

The journal gradually returned to its normal size after the cessation of hostilities. In 1946, an announcement of news about the fate of European ornithologists and journals was published. The number of reviews published returned to, and then exceeded, pre-war levels until the number of pages devoted to reviews exceeded the pages of major papers and notes (e.g., 1950, vol. 21, no. 2: 27 pages devoted to reviews, 17 to papers). In 1950, James L. Peters turned the editorship of *Bird-Banding* over to E. Alexander Bergstrom, who was to pump new life into *Bird-Banding*, implementing a series of changes that made the journal more responsive to the needs of the membership and the ornithological community in general.

*The 1950s—winds of change.*—The decade of the 1950s saw changes in editorial policy, financial structure, and leaders of the Association. The structure of the Council was altered, the By-laws substantially changed, momentum for incorporation developed, as did the beginnings of a broadening of the spectrum of interests in things ornithological.

Changes in the literature review policies to have fewer but more analytical reviews, with a greater emphasis on papers of interest to banders, were implemented in 1951. In 1952 Oliver L. Austin, Jr. took over the editorship of the "Literature Review" section. A "Notes and News" section, beginning in 1951, provided glimpses into the workings of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, and the philosophy of its leaders. In 1951 we learn from "Notes and News" about the "very pleasant field meeting" of the Association at the banding station of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Nields in Hardwick, Massachusetts. An editorial entitled "Whither Bird-Banding" by Charles Blake (1952) suggests new lines of thought and communication among banders (Fig. 1). Paul Bartsch published a short paper on the first bird banding in America (1952). The "Notes and News" announcement outlines the two meetings a year policy of NEBBA: a summer meeting, usually at a private home with a banding station, and a fall annual meeting for which a call for papers was issued.

The philosophical base of the journal was changing. An October 1957 "Notes and News" announcement stated that the greater length of the journal makes possible more rapid publication of papers, and that papers of 40 manuscript pages or more were welcome. Furthermore, although preference was given to manuscripts related to bird banding, "we welcome good papers on many aspects of field ornithology, particularly migration,



population dynamics, nidification and reproduction, or plumages or molts."

The annual publication of the treasurer's report began in the early 1950s (Fig. 2). The financial state of the organization was precarious, but apparently stable. The net assets of NEBBA during this period rarely exceeded the cost of printing the journal for a single year. It seems likely that the gradual increase in financial health resulted, at least in part, from increased membership and subscriptions—hints to that effect occasionally surfaced in the "Notes and News." For example in 1957 (28:111) a total of 525 paid memberships or subscriptions was announced compared to 390 in 1951. The international status of the journal was also underscored by the statement that the mailing list included 43 states plus Alaska, seven Canadian Provinces, and 26 other countries.

Another, and increasingly important, factor in the economic health of the Association was the profit from mist-net sales conducted by the organization. The "Notes and News" announcement in the October, 1956, issue of *Bird-Banding* states that Japanese mist nets are for sale and that

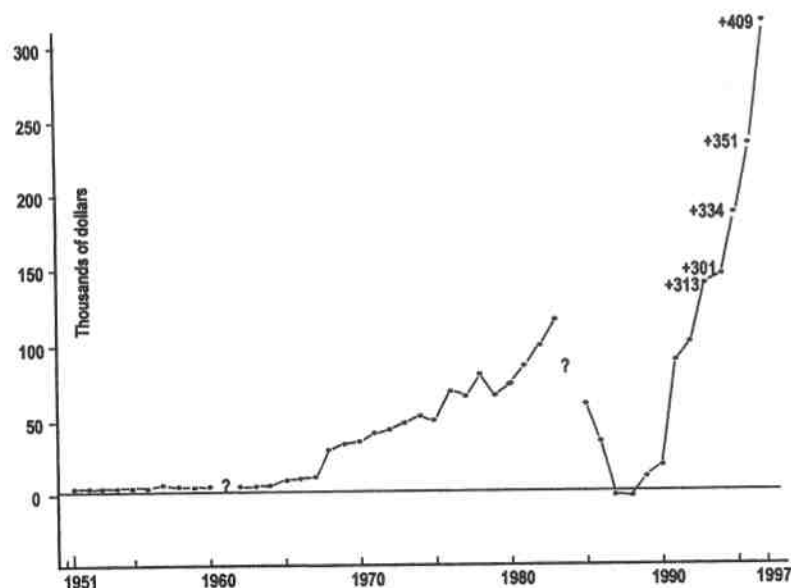


Fig. 2. Financial assets of NEBBA/AFO in thousands of dollars. The numbers preceded by a + represent the value (in thousands of dollars) of the Charles Blake trust for AFO.

inquiries should be made to E. Alexander Bergstrom. Bergstrom was to have a positive influence on NEBBA in many ways, but none more important than in the initiation and management of the mist-net sales for which he was solely responsible (J. O. Seamans, pers. comm.). Although founded to provide difficult-to-obtain nets as a service to ornithologists, the mist-net business was to provide the economic cushion that kept the organization afloat during an era of rising printing costs and other financial constraints. Figures for the mist-net business began to appear in the journal in 1957. Also available in the 1959 report of finances was a cost accounting of the Association's new involvement with the Nantucket Ornithological Research Station, an involvement for which almost nothing appears in the records of NEBBA.

The By-laws were revised in 1954, and among other changes, made past presidents permanent members of the Council. In 1955 definite term lengths were prescribed for vice presidents. In 1959 the position of secretary-treasurer was split into two positions. In 1960 (31:62) the "Notes and News" contained the announcement that a committee of William H. Drury, Jr., David L. Garrison, and Richard J. Eaton (chair), had been established to review the By-laws as part of the preparations for incorporating the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The winds of change were gusting strong.

## THE LATER YEARS

*Incorporation, growth and consolidation.*—At the 1 October 1960 annual meeting, the membership voted to incorporate the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association in Massachusetts as a "corporation for scientific and educational purposes" (Anon. 1961). A committee was authorized to arrange for the necessary legal steps to accomplish this end. The reasons given for incorporating were to make it easier for the Association to hold land and securities and to limit the liability of the Association officers. The By-laws, with the legal assistance of Kenneth W. Thomson, were overhauled to make them technically consistent for incorporation and this introduced substantial changes in the governance structure of the Association. Hereafter, there would be a single vice-president, the number of councillors was increased from nine to 12 and the term lengthened from three to four years. The fiscal year was changed from 1 November-31 October, to 1 September-31 August. President Edwin A. Mason led the delegation which signed the appropriate documents on 18 November 1960, and the incorporation was formally completed on 30 November 1960.

The decade following incorporation was largely one of consolidation. It was dominated by E. Alexander Bergstrom who provided financial stability to the Association through careful management of the burgeoning mist-net sales and as editor shepherded the expansion and scope of *Bird-Banding* (Figs. 3, 4). He also represented the Association at the XIV International Ornithological Congress, July 1966, at Oxford, England.

The minutes of the Council meetings reported on the discussions and votes on the usual humdrum business of running an organization. In the Council meeting of 7 October 1961 the discussion of the possibility of joint reorganization arrangements with the Eastern Bird Banding Association resulted in a decision of no action. The Association continued its pattern



Fig. 3. E. Alexander Bergstrom, editor of *Bird-Banding*, vice-president of NEBBA, and organizer of the mist-net business, 1953. Courtesy of Peter Bergstrom.

of two meetings per year with a field meeting in the spring and an annual meeting in the fall. The Council met at both of the meetings. As established by tradition, most of the field meetings were held at private homes with banding stations while most of the annual meetings were held at Massachusetts Audubon sanctuaries, particularly at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln, Massachusetts (Figs. 5-7). There was some discussion about the programs for the annual meetings with some preferring a field-oriented meeting with bird banding, and others wishing a more professional program with formal papers presented.

The mist-net business continued to grow despite longshoreman strikes which disrupted shipping, changes of agents in Japan, and problems with



Fig. 4. E. Alexander Bergstrom removing a bird from a trap, 1953. Courtesy of Peter Bergstrom.



Fig. 5. An informal NEBBA gathering, 1953. Courtesy of Peter Bergstrom.

U.S. Customs—all of which required enormous effort from Bergstrom. He was influential in getting a bill passed by the U.S. Congress in 1963 which exempted mist nets from custom duties—he kept a framed copy of the bill on his office wall. The profits were originally designated to cover the costs of the ten-year indices of *Bird-Banding*—with the indices and how long it takes to prepare them a recurrent theme in the minutes of the Council meetings of the 1960s and early 1970s. In 1961 the subscription and membership price was increased to \$5 to offset increased journal printing costs, and they were raised again in 1970, to \$6 for members and \$8 for institutional subscriptions. Council decided that as a matter of policy the Association should not contribute to local organizations and thus resigned from the Massachusetts Conservation Council. The Goetz fund was estab-



Fig. 6. Mary Shaub and Parker Reed, both vice-presidents of NEBBA, at informal NEBBA gathering, 1953. Courtesy of Peter Bergstrom.

lished with a legacy, subject to life estates, from Christian J. Goetz of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1964, and in 1969 it was the sense of the Council that the treasurer should invest these funds in short-term Treasury notes rather than leave it in a savings account. By 1970 this had been accomplished with the purchase of \$20,000 in short-term Federal National Mortgage Association debentures. A need for more professional management of Association funds was emerging. In 1969 a need to revise the By-laws again had arisen and at the 8 November Council meeting, President James Baird proposed a committee for By-laws review. Lawyer James Hallett agreed to serve on the By-Law Revision Committee. Of particular concern was the shifting of the fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year.





Fig. 7. C. Russell Mason, vice-president of NEBBA, center, at informal gathering of NEBBA, 1953. Courtesy of Peter Bergstrom.

It was during this decade that Manomet Bird Observatory (MBO) (now Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences) was founded and became strongly involved with the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association. The 26 October 1968 Council minutes include the resolve "to offer the formal, general support of NEBBA to the proposed Manomet Bird Observatory," and it was also voted to provide a research grant of \$200 for the observatory for that financial year. A grant of \$200 in 1969 to help with MBO publications was authorized. An unrestricted grant for the same amount was given in 1970.

*Bird-Banding* was expanding in size and scope and on 22 May 1965 Council unanimously approved the formation of an advisory board with a

representative from each of the bird-banding associations, but with the stipulation that NEBBA would maintain total control and financial responsibility for the journal. It was also decided that obituaries in *Bird-Banding* be restricted to officers of the Association. The membership gradually increased and the 1964 membership list of 576 was published in *Bird-Banding*. By 1970 the archaic requirement of formal election of new members to the Association was circumvented by granting the treasurer the authority to accept new members. In 1964 Oliver Austin, Jr. resigned as Literature Review editor having served the organization in that capacity since 1952. He was replaced by David W. Johnston. Four years later Jack P. Hailman took over these responsibilities.

In 1966 Council voted to merge the subscriber and membership list by electing all individual subscribers to membership, leaving only corporate bodies as "subscribers."

In the mid-1960s, Earl B. Baysinger, then Chief of the U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service's International Bird Banding Laboratory, expressed serious concern to key people in all four banding associations about difficulties in communicating effectively with banders throughout the country. The procedures for handling banding data were evolving from hand or typewritten, manually filed documents, into one using Automatic Data Processing equipment and systems. It became essential that banders be kept current to enable their data to be processed by the new systems. After attending several meetings of all four banding associations, it became apparent to Baysinger that banders were also having difficulty communicating among themselves (e.g., techniques or requirements well known among east coast banders were unfamiliar in the west and vice-versa). Baysinger suggested combining the individual journals into a new, national journal devoted primarily to banding techniques and information from the Banding Laboratory. The banding associations' reactions to the proposal, soon dubbed the "Great Journal Joining" were mixed (E. B. Baysinger, pers. comm.).

In 1969 Council discussed the future of NEBBA and bird banding, and it was the sense of Council that the Association should investigate the possibility of reaching agreement with the other banding organizations to produce a second journal—a less technical publication. This was further discussed in the 5 November 1971 Council meeting when it was voted that the president should appoint a committee of three to investigate with the other bird banding organizations the "Great Journal Joining" in which a "newsy type" journal would be jointly published. Incoming President John H. Kennard promptly appointed himself, James Baird, and E. Alexander Bergstrom to the committee. It was becoming clear that *Bird-Banding* had increased in scope and sophistication to the point where some people



believed that it no longer served the day-to-day needs of many bird banders. However, the Council minutes do not report on further progress with the proposal other than "supporting" the idea of a lay journal. In 1976 the Eastern (EBBA) and Western (WEBBA) Bird Banding Associations merged their regional journals to publish *North American Bird Bander*, and were joined by the Inland Bird Banding Association (IBBA) in 1981 (Jackson 1983). NEBBA chose not to join the other three organization in the production of a "newsy" journal devoted to bird banding. From the beginning, however, *North American Bird Bander* has included a blend of technical scientific articles and Association news.

In 1970 Alexander Bergstrom announced his intention to resign as editor of *Bird-Banding*, and President Baird appointed an Editorial Search Committee of Kenneth Parkes, Glen Woolfenden, and Harrison Tordoff to search for a new editor. David W. Johnston was appointed editor in November 1971, and E. Alexander Bergstrom's 21 years of service as editor came to an end. His health was failing, and new leadership was emerging which would guide the Association through the next decade.

*The beginnings of the shift to a national organization.*—During the next decade the Association would begin the shift from a regional to a national organization. Major personnel changes would occur. Alexander Bergstrom died in 1973 and Elizabeth "Betty" Downs stepped down in 1974 after serving the Association on the Council for 20 years, including 15 years as treasurer. She was eventually rewarded with Honorary Membership. The Association's governance structure modernized and changed, the membership grew substantially, and the paradox and associated problems of a small, regional association with an international-class journal would become apparent.

A burst of energy, enthusiasm, and change occurred in the early 1970s. This was particularly evident in the activities of the new editor, David W. Johnston. In his first issue of *Bird-Banding*, January 1972, he announced the formation of an Editorial Advisory Committee consisting of Jon C. Barlow, Alexander Bergstrom, Alan H. Brush, Nicholas E. Collias, L. Richard Mewaldt, and Bertram G. Murray, Jr. Jack P. Hailman stepped down as Recent Literature editor and was replaced by Bertram G. Murray, Jr. By 1973 Council was investigating the use of page charges to help offset printing costs. In 1975 the journal took on a new look with a square spine binding replacing the stapled saddle-stitch binding. The editorial duties were expanding along with an expanding journal, and in 1974 Council authorized funds for the editor to attend the annual meetings, and \$800 for editorial assistance. In 1975, Council voted to provide a \$1000 honorarium for the editor. Dr. Leon Kelso was made the first Honorary

Member of NEBBA in 1978 for "his faithful and devoted service to NEBBA as a reviewer of foreign literature for *Bird-Banding*."

The death of E. Alexander Bergstrom on 21 March 1973 ended an era for the Association and necessitated a restructuring of the financial arrangements. Over a 16-year period Bergstrom, often using his personal funds, had built the mist-net business into a major financial structure for support of the organization. The minutes of the 8 June 1973 Council meeting report that an arrangement had been achieved with Manomet Bird Observatory (MBO) to act as agent for NEBBA in the mist-net business. The Mist Net Committee, chaired by James O. Seamans (Fig. 8), would oversee the business, and Brian Harrington from MBO was appointed assistant treasurer for the mist-net account. At the same meeting President Kennard urged the formation of a standing Investment Committee to advise the treasurer on investing the Association's funds. At the May 1974 meeting the committee, consisting of President James O. Seamans, and the secretary and treasurer,

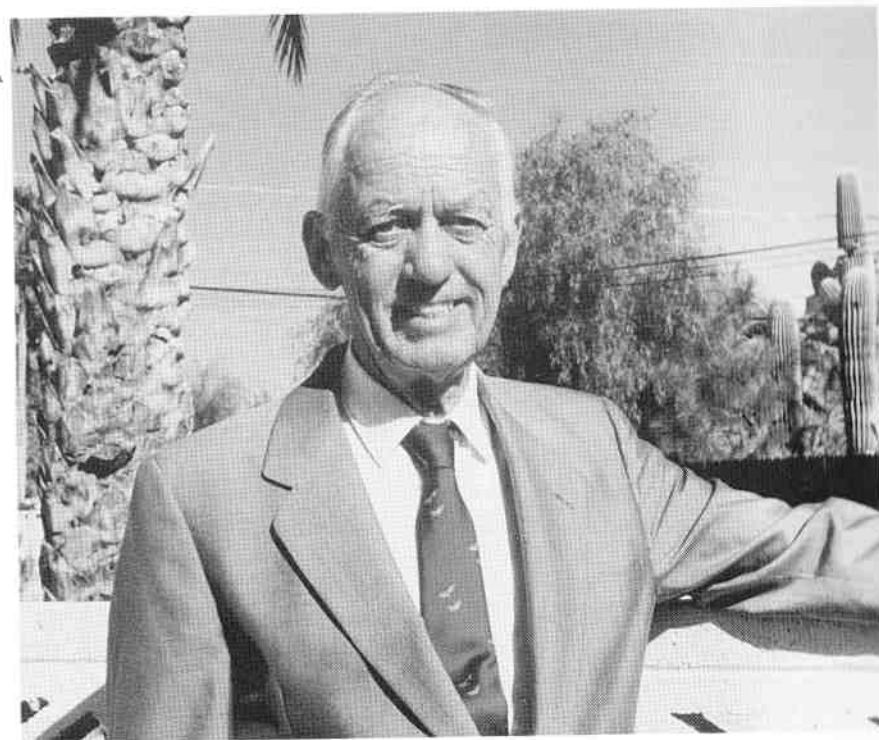


Fig. 8. James O. Seamans, president of NEBBA, 1990. Courtesy of James Seamans.



Fig. 9. Left to right: Jerome A. Jackson, Editor of Journal of Field Ornithology and president of AFO, John C. Kricher, and William E. Davis, Jr., both presidents of AFO, 1998. Courtesy of Jerome Jackson.

advised Council that they had rejected the idea of hiring someone to manage the funds because it was too expensive and hence they had bought some stock and opened a NOW account. In 1976 Council voted that the Investment Committee should consist of the president, treasurer, and secretary, with an option to add one or more NEBBA members. In 1978 James O. Seamans was voted chairman of the Investment Committee. The By-laws were amended at the 1978 annual meeting to have the fiscal year coincide with the calendar year.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) was concerned about unrelated business income in a non-profit organization, and the Association began a long discourse with them. The 1978 change making the fiscal year coincide with the calendar year caused further problems with the IRS which were finally resolved by President Robert Yunick. Another nagging prob-

lem raised by Council concerned the storage and distribution of back issues of *Bird-Banding*. This was temporarily solved with the transfer of the stock to Manomet Bird Observatory. In 1979 bookseller Patricia Ledlie in Maine took over responsibilities for storage and disposition of the stock.

The chronic problem of new member recruitment was addressed at the October 1975 Council meeting with President Seamans presiding. Council voted to establish a committee to examine ways for encouraging new membership, and George Clark, Charles Huntington, and Frederick Davis were selected for the committee. The report of that committee at the October, 1976 Council meeting provided the first glimpse into the profound changes that would occur in the Association during the 1980s. Frederick Davis gave the report and mentioned the need to enhance the image and perceived value of the Association if it were to attract new members. This was the first mention in Council minutes of a concern that led to efforts to convert the regional Association into a national one.

At the 1978 September Council meeting the problems of membership were again a topic of considerable discussion, and it was formally voted to establish a Membership Committee which "would look for a broader audience" to gain new members. At that same meeting, Editor Johnston reported that he had changed printers to the more expensive, but in many ways better, Allen Press, and after much discussion, the Council voted to change the name of the journal from *Bird-Banding* to *Journal of Field Ornithology*, a name first suggested by Claudia Wilds (D. W. Johnston, pers. comm.). The cover and format were to remain the same, a subheading "Formerly Bird-Banding" would be included, and the consecutive volume numbers would be retained making the 1980 volume of *Journal of Field Ornithology* volume 51. During its 50 years *Bird-Banding* had become a respected journal, but the shift in focus from bird banding to many areas of field ornithology had made its title obsolete. It was abundantly clear that this name change would in all probability enhance the image and standing of the journal and appeal to a wider audience. Because printing costs were increasing faster than income, the dues were raised in 1979 to \$8 for individuals and \$10 for institutional subscribers. In 1980 David Johnston stepped down as editor and, with the last issue of 1980, Jerome A. Jackson became editor (Fig. 9). Johnston's leadership had produced profound changes in the journal and were a harbinger of sweeping changes that would occur to the Association during the 1980s.

In 1974 Council discussed the possibility of establishing a fund named in honor of E. Alexander Bergstrom, to provide small research grants. The fund was established and the first grants by the E. Alexander Bergstrom Research Fund were awarded in 1975. In 1976, a gift of \$1000 from Elizabeth Bergstrom and a gift of \$500 from John S. Dunning substantially

added to the endowment for the Bergstrom Fund. In 1977, Council approved \$1000 for the committee to award that year.

The scheduling and structure of meetings changed substantially. A joint meeting with the Eastern Bird Banding Association was held in April 1976 at the 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. At the October 1976 Council meeting it was voted not to have a spring meeting in 1977. Although a winter or spring Council meeting remains a feature of the organization up to the present day, and the annual meeting is sometimes held in the spring, a Spring Field Meeting for the membership has not been held since 1976.

Despite increases in dues and membership (1175 members in 1981) the issue of using capital funds to pay for the journal surfaced in the April 1980 Council meeting. Assistant Treasurer Brian Harrington warned that overdrawn from profits of the mist-net business would lead to reductions in stock and possible future problems. It was clear that there was concern for the financial stability of an organization that depended heavily on mist-net income to balance its books. These nagging financial concerns would continue to plague the Association through most of the 1980s. In 1981 George Clark became president and the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association stood poised on the brink of major change (Fig. 10).

*Beginning a shift to a national organization*—In 1981 the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association was in the awkward position of producing a national or international journal with the financial base of a parochial and regional organization. Scott Sutcliffe (pers. comm.) referred to it as "a homespun organization of active banders, professional and backyard." The officers and councillors were mostly from New England and New York state, and the annual meetings were modest affairs with substantially fewer than 100 participants unless the meeting was a joint one with the Eastern Bird Banding Association. The meetings were usually at nature centers and Audubon sanctuaries. The meetings were informal and "Always in attendance was a stalwart group of amateurs who convened for friendly conversation, practical workshops, and advice from the bird banding lab" (S. Sutcliffe, pers. comm.). There was usually a single paper session with workshops being the dominant activity. The parochial nature of the organization is typified by an anecdote from the 1981 annual meeting. The banquet speaker had assumed that dinner would be provided and had not signed up for the banquet. Upon arrival at the banquet hall he was informed that there were no tickets available and he walked across the street to a Friendly's restaurant for dinner and then returned to give the evening presentation.

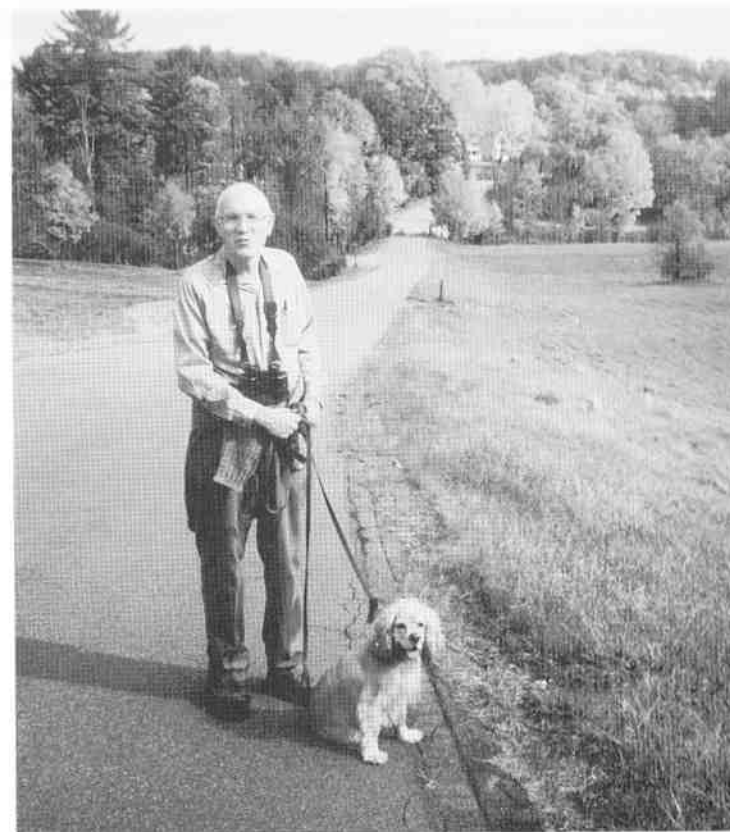


Fig. 10. George A. Clark, Jr., president of AFO. Courtesy of George Clark.

George Clark reported (pers. comm.) that when he became president, the view was already prevalent that the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association should expand its scope, although there were counter currents that expressed concern that the strong amateur contingent and banders of the organization might lose interest. Certainly renaming the journal to reflect a broader scope had been suggestive. The journal continued to prosper under the editorship of Jerome Jackson, but printing costs were rising faster than dues from increased memberships and investment income. Hence, a deficit situation and the erosion of the Association's meager endowment became a constant specter and occasional reality. In 1981 membership dues contributed about 55 % of the income, investments about 20 % and the sale of mist-nets 25 %. Increase in membership was considered the major way in which to increase income, and membership



drives became a virtually constant activity. President Clark's comments, reported in the 29 April 1983 Council minutes, reflect the growing financial concerns: "He outlined problem areas which will need attention at this meeting, including the state of the financial records, the relationship between prospective income and expenditures and the strong possibility that additional income must be sought. . . ." Despite increases in memberships a dues increase from \$10 to \$14 was considered necessary and was so approved at the 1983 annual meeting. In addition, the membership secretary, Cindy Youngstrom, indicated that she could no longer continue the membership list duties. This precipitated a discussion of whether to transfer the list to Allen Press for computerized services, or whether to attempt to contract the services of the Ornithological Societies of North America (OSNA), which was then located at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. There would be inevitable delays to joining OSNA, so NEBBA membership services were transferred to Allen Press. The By-laws needed revision to make them conform to the new name of the journal and current procedures. Seven changes were voted in the 1983 annual meeting. Clearly, the Association was experiencing growing pains.

*The depths and the heights*—At the April 1984 annual meeting in Fairfield, Connecticut, John C. Kricher was elected president of the Northeastern Bird-banding Association, and on his recommendation, William E. Davis, Jr. was nominated and elected vice-president (Fig. 9). Their election was followed by an acceleration in the continuing shift from a regional Association to a national one.

John Kricher was a relative newcomer to the organization, having chaired its Membership Committee for a year, and having served on Council for a single year before becoming vice-president in 1983. Until 1983 he had never attended an annual meeting. He held a master banding and salvage permit, but bird banding was a minor concern to him. Davis had not served on the Council and had attended only the 1981 annual meeting prior to his election as vice-president. During the next five years, with Kricher as president for three years and Davis for two, the Association would change its name to The Association of Field Ornithologists, restructure its By-laws, begin the ascent to financial stability, and become a national organization as the fourth member of the Ornithological Societies of North America.

At the April 1984 annual meeting John Kricher was greeted in his new presidency with a treasurer's report indicating that finances were in disorder, an audit was needed, and the cost of publishing the journal was "becoming astronomical" with an increase of about 10% in the past year. The financial situation was to worsen over the next few years. Problems

with the treasurer's reports are evident in the Council minutes of 26 April 1985: "Figures were somewhat unclear and the organization's financial status was difficult to ascertain. . . . Discrepancies on the financial statements for 1984 included the fact that dues-on-hand were missing, no deposits-in-transit were listed, and our reserves were not listed. The new Treasurer [Scott Sutcliffe] faces quite a task to put our affairs in order. . . . We have no budget to adopt or discuss today." The January 1986 Council minutes read, "The IRS has written us a letter as of November 1985 indicating that we could be in for fines and criminal penalties as no tax returns have been filed by NEBBA for 1982, 1983, and 1984." The same minutes report "It was MOVED, SECONDED AND VOTED that the Board delete the sentence from the Treasurer's report in the Friday, 6 April 1984 Minutes of the NEBBA Council Meeting . . . 'He reported some difficulty in obtaining information on investment [Fund] moneys.' The Council deleted the statement because they are now convinced that it was untrue." In 1984 and 1985 checks totaling \$3000 were returned for insufficient funds. All was not well with the internal financial workings of the Association. Financial woes were exacerbated by declining mist-net sales and the erosion of the dollar compared to the Japanese yen. Competition from a new commercial supplier of mist nets, in 1987 added to financial problems.

Printing costs were skyrocketing and by 1986 the Association was showing a substantial deficit (about \$15,000 in 1986) and the books were balanced by spending capital. The one bright spot was the continued success of investments under the able leadership of James O. Seamans, chairman of the Investment Committee. The value of the investments increased by 24% in 1983. In 1985 Seamans was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Association for his accomplishments. Council member Peter Cannell organized a major membership drive, and Council authorized \$1000 to this end. By 1985 a standing committee dealing with membership development had been established by Council. But the major hope for reversing these financial trends lay in joining OSNA. Other organizations that had become OSNA members had experienced substantial membership increases. Despite all the other efforts the Council felt compelled to increase dues to \$20 for 1986.

President Kricher's 1985 annual report to Council indicated that he had initiated discussions with Sandra Gaunt of OSNA, and he proposed to Council that he be authorized to lay the groundwork for affiliation with OSNA. As part of the strategy to become eligible for affiliation with other national organizations President Kricher stated: "I am wondering if it would not be appropriate for our organization's formal identity to evolve in the same way that our journal's identity has evolved. JFO was formerly BIRD-BANDING. Perhaps it is time to consider the possibility of renaming our



organization the *Association of Field Ornithologists*, to indicate our broadened perspectives." At the following Council meeting he appointed a committee to look into the name change, and later placed an editorial in the journal asking for members' comments.

In 1985 President Kricher and Vice-president Davis attended the American Ornithologists' Union meeting in Phoenix and discussed the possibility of joining OSNA with its Director and the presidents of the three OSNA associations. They returned with the opinion that as a regional organization, NEBBA would not be permitted to join OSNA, and that an important first step would be to change the name of the Association to the Association of Field Ornithologists.

At the 19 January 1986 Council meeting, it was arranged for Council to vote by mail on the name change after obtaining legal advice on name-change procedures. The results of this ballot were 19 to 0 in favor of the name change. In his 1986 annual report to Council, President Kricher stated that all 35 replies to his journal editorial concerning the name change had been positive. His comments included the following analysis, "in the long run it makes little sense to move ahead boldly with the journal but remain strictly a regional bird-banding organization in identity. We must take on a more national posture, convince OSNA that we belong with them, and make major strides in enhancing our membership numbers. I am convinced that we can change our identity to AFO, assume a larger posture, and still welcome contributions by amateur ornithologists who have been important contributors throughout the history of the association." On 3 May 1986 the organization became the Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO) by a vote of the members with 45 in favor, zero opposed, and one abstention.

One very unexpected discovery accompanied the name change. Attorney John A. Shetterly, representing the Association in the legal aspects of the name change, found when he was filing the required papers, that the annual reports had not been filed with the Secretary of State for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for many years, if ever, and that the Association legally no longer existed! The corporation had been dissolved. A flurry of negotiations followed and it was agreed that the retroactive filing of the last ten years of annual reports, duly signed by current officers, would make possible the revival of the Association. On 11 March 1987, Secretary of State for Massachusetts, Michael J. Connally signed the Certificate of Revival with the new name in place, and John A. Shetterly was appointed Resident Agent for the Association.

The positive results of the name change were swift in coming. At the August 1986 AOU meeting at Mississippi State University, Edward H. Burt, Jr. and Jerome A. Jackson represented AFO at the OSNA Council meeting.

At that meeting approval in principle was given to AFO becoming the fourth member of OSNA. President Kricher designated Scott Sutcliffe, Edward H. Burt, Jr., and William E. Davis, Jr. as the OSNA Transition Committee. It was announced at the May 1987 annual meeting that AFO would formally join OSNA before the beginning of calendar year 1988. AFO officially became a member of OSNA on 1 September 1987. The welcome from the three other OSNA societies was warm and President Davis received an invitation for AFO to join the other OSNA societies in a joint meeting in Los Angeles in 1990. Mary Clench, President of the Wilson Ornithological Society (WOS) offered the alternative of a joint meeting with WOS in New England in 1990. AFO ultimately chose the latter alternative.

The By-laws of the new AFO were somewhat out of line with the practices of the new organization, and John A. Shetterly agreed to prepare by-laws changes consistent with AFO becoming a member of OSNA. A By-laws Committee was appointed by incoming President Davis in May 1987 with Shetterly as chairman. At the January 1988 Council meeting Shetterly presented By-laws revisions for discussion. The major proposed changes included limiting the tenure of the president and vice-president to two years, and past Presidents, except for the immediate past President, would no longer automatically be members of Council. The long-standing requirement of the membership voting on new membership applications was formally discontinued—anyone willing to pay dues was welcomed automatically to membership. The Vice-President would serve as Program Chairman for annual meetings. These major policy changes were approved by Council after a lengthy discussion. These changes were voted at the May 1988 meeting in Woodstock, Vermont, with 34 affirmative, none opposing and a single abstention. The by-laws now were consistent with the Association's membership in OSNA.

Beginning with volume 57 in 1986, Edward H. Burt, Jr. became the editor of *Journal of Field Ornithology*. He instituted many changes in the journal, including an emphasis on short papers to ensure rapid turnaround time, publication of Spanish abstracts, titles, and tables of contents. He eliminated notes so that all articles would have Spanish abstracts and titles, and in 1986 deleted "Formerly BIRD-BANDING" from the journal's cover. These changes laid the groundwork for developing ties between the Association and Latin American ornithology that have become a hallmark of the Association in recent years. A new cover format retained the Common Tern design which had symbolized the Association for nearly 50 years. Horizontal lines of different widths near the bottom of the cover symbolized different band sizes and emphasized the bird banding roots of the journal.

The Bergstrom research awards had become an important part of the Association, making small grants available to student, amateur, and professional ornithologists. The total amounts awarded rose from \$550 in 1975 to \$2500 in 1984 and 1985.

The Association had no formal archives and the papers of the organization were scattered among the various officers. The possibility of a formal archival arrangement was discussed. Vice-President Davis initiated negotiations in 1987 with the Smithsonian Institution Archives to become the official repository for Association documents. By May 1987 the formal proposal had been submitted to the Smithsonian Institution and accepted.

At the January 1987 Council meeting, Kathleen Anderson proposed that AFO join the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) (now American Bird Conservancy of BirdLife International), and Council voted to have President Kricher apply for institutional membership. By 1988 AFO was a voting member of the ICBP. At the same meeting there was a discussion of the possibility of AFO publishing the Winter Bird Population Study (WBPS) and Breeding Bird Census (BBC), formerly published by the National Audubon Society. The consensus was that outside funding would be required. In May 1987, with the strong support of incoming President William E. Davis, Jr., it was voted by Council to publish the censuses if outside funding could be found. In 1988 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to fund publication of the surveys for five years as a supplement to the *Journal of Field Ornithology* under the responsibility of Editor Burt.

President Davis, in his January, 1988 report to Council, stated that his major concern was the precarious financial situation of the organization. This concern was echoed in the Council meeting by Treasurer Sutcliffe. Deficits totaling more than \$65,000 between 1985 and 1987 had severely eroded the working capital, and the added preliminary expenses incurred in joining OSNA threatened a further erosion of capital. Without the proceeds from the mist-net business, the deficit would have been substantially more. The situation was bad enough in 1988 that the Bergstrom research awards were reduced to a paltry \$500 total. To increase membership, a new Membership Committee was named, and a new brochure was drafted. President Davis, with Council approval appointed an Investment Committee and a Long Range Planning Committee. Council meeting minutes are replete with discussion of how to achieve financial stability. Brian Harrington, who ran the mist-net business, articulated his and the Council's concern that income from the sale of mist nets was being used to balance the books each year rather than using the income to build endowment. In 1990, the dues were raised to \$21 for individual membership.

A need to articulate the goals of the organization emerged from the financial discussions. The consensus that developed from the January 1989

Council meeting was that the Association of Field Ornithologists should encourage investigation of all aspects of field ornithology with an emphasis on the Western Hemisphere, publish a first-rate journal, promote scientific investigations through publications and meeting presentations, enhance communication and cooperation between amateur and professional ornithologists, and promote bird conservation. These lofty goals encompassed the broadened professional perspective consistent with membership in OSNA and the need to establish a niche for the Association in ornithology while maintaining its historically strong ties with the amateur ornithological community.

The annual Report submitted by President Davis at the April 1989 meeting in Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire, highlighted the changes that had occurred in the Association over the preceding five years, and noted that the Association would be electing a new president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, and that a new editor for the journal and a new chairman for the Research Committee (which selects the recipients of the Bergstrom awards) would be soon selected. Sarah (Sally) Laughlin had served the Association as secretary since 1976, and Scott Sutcliffe as treasurer had brought order out of chaos in the financial records. The upheavals within the organization during the preceding five years had been substantial and it appeared that it was time for a period of consolidation.

*Consolidation and growth*—The Pinkham Notch meeting was the last of the local, warm, and parochial meetings of the Association for some time to come. George Jonkel was retiring after 17 years as Chief of the U.S. Bird Banding Laboratory and had become a fixture at the meetings of the Association with his annual report to the membership. A resolution of appreciation was bestowed on George and a special band was placed on him by John Kricher after appropriate "wing chord" measurements were made. The meeting was typical of the small, informal, and friendly gatherings which had characterized the Association for much of its existence. In 1990 the annual meeting was a joint meeting with the Wilson Ornithological Society held in June at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts. With 163 registrants, it reflected the Association's new role as a partner in OSNA. The 1991 meeting was held at Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, in conjunction with the University's Clark Ornithology Symposium with a total of 260 registrants. The 1993 meeting was yet another joint meeting, this time with the American Birding Association, held at Connecticut College in New London.

Under the direction of President Peter Cannell, the Long-term Planning Committee and other committees were restructured to help the Association consolidate policies and deal with long-term financial problems. At the

May 1990 Council and Membership meetings financial concerns dominated. The Council minutes read, "MOTION: It was moved, seconded and voted that the highest priority be given to a new membership, subscriptions, and/or fund-raising drive to increase revenue beyond the break-even level and to begin to build up cash reserves for the journal." Once again in 1989 the mist-net proceeds were required to avoid a deficit. By 1991 the Membership Committee, chaired by Greg Butcher with the aid of Martha Steele and Janet Heywood, had produced a new brochure, constructed a display board to advertise the Association at ornithological meetings, and had sent questionnaires to non-renewers.

The Council voted to appoint two members to a joint committee of OSNA to explore the feasibility, organization, and possible functioning of an Ornithological Council that would introduce scientific ornithological information into public affairs. In November 1990 in Washington D.C., President Cannell and David Blockstein represented AFO in a meeting to discuss the creation of an Ornithological Council. In 1991 Council voted to support the intent of the Ornithological Council, but expressed concern over the possible financial implications.

The grip of financial crisis began to ease. The treasurer stewardships of Martha Vaughan, who instituted sound book-keeping methods, and George B. Mock further professionalized the conduct of the treasurer's office. The membership increase associated with the Association's joining OSNA resulted in the journal finishing in the black in 1991 for the first time in many years. The mist-net proceeds could now be added to general funds. The Council minutes of March 1991 reported that the Association had gained 521 new members in 1988, 463 in 1989, and 266 in 1990, bringing total memberships and subscriptions to 2551, but that the "OSNA joining bonus" had been used up as there were no further gains in 1991.

In the April 1992 Council meeting, with President Edward H. Burt, Jr. presiding (Fig. 11), joining the Ornithological Council was discussed again and although there was consensus regarding the desirability of a Council, there was no consensus on imposing a surcharge on Association members to support it. Council authorized Brian Harrington to computerize the mist-net business and implement its expansion. The financial benefits of increased membership were continuing to be felt and the income of the Association, including interest from investments, passed the \$100,000 mark, necessitating the inclusion of a review report by a professional accountant in the annual report submitted to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In August 1993, the Association was notified that it had become the beneficiary of a \$300,000 bequest from the estate of Charles Blake, a past President of the then Northeastern Bird-Banding Association. At the 1993 annual Council meeting at the Isles of Shoals Marine Lab,



Fig. 11. Left to right: John C. Kricher, Elissa M. Landre, Edward H. Burt, Jr., and William E. Davis, Jr., all presidents of AFO, 1998. Courtesy of Elissa Landre.

Appledore Island, Maine, with President Burt presiding, an endowment policy was adopted that included the treasurer maintaining all restricted money in a combined endowment fund. Much of the endowment money was invested in mutual funds. The other financial news was also good, with Mrs. Bergstrom donating \$1000 to the Bergstrom fund for the 14th consecutive year, and 27 % of authors paying full page charges to the journal. In 1993 the Association surpassed the Wilson Ornithological Society in total membership, making it the third largest OSNA society with a total membership hovering around 3000.

By the September 1994 joint meeting with the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs in Rosendale, New York, with President Greg Butcher presiding, most of the Council business dealt with national business. The Association was contributing \$200 a year to be a member of the Ornithological Council, and negotiations were progressing with



ABSEARCH to produce an ornithological data base from the 'OSNA societies' journals. Peter Cannell reported on the merger of the North American and Pan American sections of the ICBP to form the American Bird Conservancy, the lead organization for BirdLife International in the United States, and negotiations were underway to strengthen the relationship between the Association and Partners in Flight, a non-profit organization that coordinates governmental and non-governmental avian conservation projects in the Western Hemisphere. A Conservation Committee under the direction of Lise Hanners was formulating goals for the committee and the Association, and Ken Rosenberg was chairman of the Latin American Research Committee. The focus of the Association was continuing to broaden in the national and international arenas, with a particular focus on Latin America.

At the March 1995 Council meeting, the Council endorsed the inclusion of the Colonial Waterbird Society and the Raptor Research Foundation as members of OSNA. The annual meeting was in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and featured the International Conference and Training Workshop on Conservation and Ecology of Grassland Birds, co-hosted with the Sutton Avian Research Center. The growing cosmopolitan nature of the Association was underscored by the decision to hold the 1996 Annual Meeting as a joint venture with the Georgia Ornithological Society at Jekyll Island, Georgia, and the 1997 meeting as a joint meeting with the American Birding Association and Costa Rican Ornithological Association in San Jose, Costa Rica. Elissa M. Landre became the first woman president of the Association of Field Ornithologists following her many years of involvement as secretary, treasurer, and councillor (Fig. 11). Membership reached over 3100 and C. Ray Chandler had begun the transition to replace Ken Yasukawa who was stepping down as editor of *JFO* at the end of 1995. The idea of publishing a newsletter for the association received much attention, and ultimately funding was authorized for up to four issues of *AFO Afield* in 1996, with Diane L. Tessaglia as editor. The resolution to appoint two individuals to represent the Association in the proposed North American Banding Council generated much discussion and eventually was approved. The computer age arrived with the discussion of developing a home page on the World-Wide Web.

In 1996 the Bergstrom awards had \$3000 allocated, there were proposals to fund partially the publication of a grassland symposium volume, a discussion was held in Council about the Association publishing a bibliographic record of Caribbean ornithology, and questions were raised about the possibility of subsidizing travel for councilors to Association Council meetings. It appeared that the recent economic gains of the Association were stimulating a spending environment that brought something of a

backlash from some of the more conservative members. There was also concern about the Association's future goals and direction, and a substantial part of the March 1996 Council meeting was dedicated to goal-related discussions. At the October 1996 annual meeting in Georgia, it was decided to propose a change in the By-laws that would enlarge the Council by four members.

At the March 1997 Council meeting President Landre disclosed that three councilors had been elected to second consecutive terms in violation of the By-laws. To comply with the by-laws the three councilors resigned from the Council and then were reappointed to fill the remainder of their terms by President Landre. A discussion of By-laws changes followed and it was voted to propose to the membership a By-laws change that would restrict a councilor's term to three years but allow for election to two consecutive terms, and the number of councilors would be raised from 12 to 15. It was announced that the 1998 annual meeting would be held in St. Louis in conjunction with the other five OSNA societies. James Lowe decided to step down as editor of Resident Bird Counts (RBC) which led to indeterminate discussion about the future of the Association's publication of the Breeding Bird Census and Winter Bird Population Study of RBC. George Mock proposed, and after much discussion Council approved, to establish an AFO Council-Restricted endowment Fund of \$150,000, with the details of goals and administration of the fund to be decided later. Considerable discussion focused on potential publication projects by the Association, and a Publications Committee was appointed by President Landre consisting of Ray Chandler, editor of *JFO*, and past Presidents Cannell and Davis. Council also voted that past presidents receive notice of meetings and copies of meeting minutes, with the goal of increasing the involvement of past presidents in the current organizational structure.

The 1997 meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, was a gala affair which celebrated the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Association. It was the first international meeting held by the Association and symbolized the international scope and perspective, with an emphasis on Latin America, that the Association had achieved. The first Alexander F. Skutch Award for excellence in field studies was presented by Skutch himself to F. Gary Stiles of Bogota, Colombia. More than 350 people registered for the meeting. President Landre passed the reins of office to Charles D. Duncan, and Jerome A. Jackson was elected vice-president.

Certainly the international meeting was a fitting tribute to the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Association, a regional bird-banding organization that had evolved into a broadly based international ornithological organization of more than 3000 members. The Association possessed a growing endowment and financial stability, and an international-



ly respected journal of field ornithology—factors that should make the Association of Field Ornithologists a major force in ornithology into the indefinite future.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank the following for commenting on earlier drafts of the manuscript: James Baird, Earl B. Baysinger, Elizabeth Bergstrom, Peter W. Bergstrom, Peter F. Cannell, George A. Clark, Jr., Brian Harrington, Charles E. Huntington, David W. Johnston, John C. Kricher, Elissa M. Landre, George B. Mock, James O. Seamans, Scott Sutcliffe, and Robert P. Yunick. Particularly helpful were letters of recollections sent me by George A. Clark, Jr., James O. Seamans, and Scott Sutcliffe. I also thank W. Russ McClain for providing minutes of recent Council and business meetings, Earl B. Baysinger for his comments on the "Great Journal Joining," James Baird who located the minutes of early Council meetings, and Elissa M. Landre who provided the recent archival materials without which this chapter could not have been written. I especially thank George B. Mock for interpreting the vagaries of early Treasurer's reports and making the compilation of figure 1 possible.

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Table 1. Officers and Councillors of the Association of Field Ornithologists (New England Bird-Banding Association, Northeastern Bird-Banding Association)

## OFFICERS AND COUNCILLORS

### President

Edward H. Forbush	1922
Charles W. Townsend	1923
Alfred O. Gross	1924-1925
Francis H. Allen	1926-1927
Francis Beach White	1928-1929
Laurence B. Fletcher	1930-1933
Frederick A. Saunders	1935-1940
Lawrence B. Chapman	1941-1947
Charles H. Blake	1948-1956
Edwin A. Mason	1956-1962
Charles E. Huntington	1962-1967
James Baird	1967-1971
John H. Kennard	1971-1973
James O. Seamans	1973-1978
Robert P. Yunick	1978-1981
George A. Clark, Jr.	1981-1984
John C. Kricher	1984-1987
William E. Davis, Jr.	1987-1989
Peter F. Cannell	1989-1991
Edward H. Burt, Jr.	1991-1993
Gregory S. Butcher	1993-1995
Elissa M. Landre	1995-1997
Charles D. Duncan	1997-1999
Jerome A. Jackson	1999-

### 1st Vice-President

Charles W. Townsend	1922
Winsor M. Tyler	1923
Charles L. Whittle	1924-1925

### 2nd Vice-President

James Mackaye	1922
Alfred O. Gross	1923
Henry S. Shaw, Jr.	1924-1925

### Vice-President

Francis Beach White	1926-1927; 1930-1946
Henry S. Shaw, Jr.	1926-1933
Charles L. Whittle	1926-1946
Harrison F. Lewis	1926-1954
Lawrence B. Fletcher	1928-1929; 1934-1953
Francis H. Allen	1928-1937
Donald McMillan	1929-1931
John B. May	1935-1940
James L. Peters	1938-1952
Wendell P. Smith	1941-1953
W. Elmer Ekblaw	1947
Alfred O. Gross	1947-1955
Oliver O. Austin, Jr.	1952-1956
C. Russell Mason	1954-1955
Mrs. B. M. Shaub	1954-1957
T. H. Foster	1955-1959; 1959-1960
J. Archibald Hagar	1955-1960
Richard M. Hinchman	1955-1958
Parker Reed	1956-1961
Mrs. J. R. Downs	1957-1959
Roland C. Clement	1958-1960
H. E. Harlow	1959-1960
L. M. Bartlett	1961-1964
James Baird	1964-1967
James O. Seamans	1967-1970
John H. Kennard	1970-1971
E. Alexander Bergstrom	1971-1973
Deborah Howard	1973
James B. Hallett	1973-1977
Robert P. Yunick	1977-1978
Mrs. F. David Lapham	1978-1980
George A. Clark, Jr.	1980-1981
Susan Roney Drennan	1981-1983
John C. Kricher	1983-1984
William E. Davis, Jr.	1984-1987
Peter F. Cannell	1987-1989
Edward H. Burt, Jr.	1989-1991
Gregory S. Butcher	1991-1993
Elissa M. Landre	1993-1995
Charles D. Duncan	1995-1997
Jerome A. Jackson	1997-1999
Scott Sutcliffe	1999-

**Secretary and Treasurer**

Lawrence B. Fletcher	1922
Charles B. Floyd	1928-1950
Richard M. Hinchman	1951-1954
Daniel P. Johnson	1954-1957
Roland C. Clement	1957-1958
Hugh E. Harlow	1958-1959

**Corresponding Secretary**

Lawrence B. Fletcher	1923-1927
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**Recording Secretary**

Alice B. Harrington	1922-?
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**Secretary**

Roland L. Sargent	1959-1962
Daniel P. Johnson	1962-1964
Joseph A. Hagar	1964-1968
Deborah V. Howard	1968-1979
Sarah B. Laughlin	1979-1989
Elissa M. Landre	1989-1992
Lisa C. Wahle	1992-1993
George Gale	1993-1996
W. Russ McClain	1996-1999

**Treasurer**

Charles B. Floyd	1923-1927
Elizabeth Downs	1959-1974
Lydia L. Kennard	1974-1976
Robert H. Shaw	1976-1978
Margaret Bon	1978-1980
Elissa M. Landre	1980-1982
Anthony J. Lauro	1982-1985
Scott Sutcliffe	1985-1989
Martha Vaughan	1989-1991
George B. Mock	1991-

**Assistant Treasurer**

Brian Harrington	1981-
Cindy Youngstrom	1981-1985
Elissa M. Landre	1982-1983
James Seamans	1982-1985

**Editor *Bull. NEBB*; *B-B*; *JFO***

Charles L. Whittle	1925-1939
James L. Peters	1939-1950
E. Alexander Bergstrom	1951-1971
David W. Johnston	1972-1980
Jerome A. Jackson	1980-1985
Edward H. Burt, Jr.	1986-1990
Ken Yasukawa	1991-1995
C. Ray Chandler	1996-

**Literature Review Editor**

*John B. May	1930-1933
Margaret M. Nice	1933-1942
Thomas T. McCabe (Associate Editor)	1936-1945
Donald S. Farner	1943-1952
Oliver L. Austin, Jr.	1952-1963
David W. Johnston	1964-1968
Jack P. Hailman	1965-1972
Bertram G. Murray, Jr.	1973-1978
Edward H. Burt, Jr.	1979-1985
Jerome A. Jackson	1986-1990
John A. Smallwood	1991-1994
Robert C. Beason	1994-1997
Danny J. Ingold	1997-

**Councillor**

John E. Thayer	1922
John C. Phillips	1922
William P. Wharton	1922
Aaron C. Bagg	1922-1923
Arthur C. Bent	1922-1923
Charles L. Whittle	1922-1923
Francis H. Allen	1923-1924



Frederick A. Saunders	1923-1924; 1925-1927; 1928-1930; 1945-1948
Ralph Lawson	1923-1924
Richard B. Harding	1924-1925
Wendall P. Smith	1924-1925
Winsor M. Tyler	1924-1925; 1928-1930; 1945-1948; 1948-1951; 1951-1954
Francis H. Allen	1925-1927
Frederick H. Kennard	1925-1927
Lewis McL. Terrill	1926-1928
Robie W. Tufts	1926-1928
Elsie M. Cooledge	1926- ?
Alfred O. Gross	1926
R. O. Montambault	1926-1928
Mrs. Horace C. Dunham	1927-1929
Richard B. Harding	1927-1929
John B. May	1927-1929
Wendell P. Smith	1928-1930
???	
Oliver L. Austin, Sr.	1945-1948; 1948-1951; 1951-1954
Richard L. Weaver	1946-1949
William P. Warton	1946-1949; 1949-1952; 1952-1955
Mrs. Kenneth Wetherbee	1947-1950; 1950-1953
Mrs. Charles L. Smith	1947-1950; 1950-1953
Oscar M. Root	1947-1950; 1950-1953; 1957-1960; 1960-1963
Benjamin M. Shaub	1948-1951; 1951-1954
C. Russell Mason	1949-1952; 1952-1955
Edwin A. Mason	1946-1949; 1949-1952 1954-1955
Mrs. James F. Nields, Jr.	1953
E. Alexander Bergstrom	1952-1955
G. E. Ramsdell	1955-1957
John H. Conkey	1953-1955; 1958-1960
G. Hapgood Parks	1953-1955
Parker C. Reed	1953-1955; 1961-1965; 1968-1972
J. Archibald Hagar	1954-1955; 1960-1964; 1970-1974

Raymond A. Paynter, Jr.	1954-1956; 1959-1962
Mrs. E. P. Cook	1955-1957
Elizabeth Downs	1955-1957; 1974-1978
Cora Wellman	1955-1956
Richard Hayes	1955-1956; 1958-1961
J. W. Stewart	1955-1958
James Baird	1955-1958; 1961-1964
L. M. Bartlett	1955-1958; 1965-1969
Oliver L. Austin, Jr.	1956-1959
William H. Drury, Jr.	1956-1959; 1961-1965; 1978-1982
Ernst Mayr	1956-1959
Charles E. Huntington	1957-1960; 1960-1963
W. G. Sheldon	1957-1960; 1960-1963
Richard M. Hinchman	1960-1961
D. P. Johnson	1958-1961
Richard J. Eaton	1959-1962
A. M. Bagg	1959-1962
T. H. Foster	1960-1964
H. E. Harlow	1960-1964
Marion A. MacDonald	1964-1965
Kathleen S. Anderson	1962-1966; 1969-1973; 1975-1979; 1984-1988
Angus Black	1962-1966
R. L. Sargent	1962-1966
John H. Kennard	1963-1967
Mrs. Jephtha Wade	1963-1967
W. O. Downs	1963-1967
Donald H. Wilkins	1964-1968
Kurt R. Groote	1964-1968
James O. Seamans	1964-1967; 1971-1975
Mrs. F. J. Beecher	1965-1969
Ruth A. Lof	1965-1969
Mrs. John Fiske	1966-1970; 1971-1975
James B. Hallett	1966-1970
F. Burton Whitman	1966-1970
David Doubleday	1967-1971
Gordon Johnson	1967-1971
R. F. MacLachlan	1967-1971
Roger W. Lawrence	1968-1972
Mrs. Glen Metcalf	1968-1972

Frederick Davis	1969-1973; 1973-1977; 1979-1983
Douglas L. Kraus	1969-1973
Gordon Loery	1970-1974
Mrs. Wallace W. Smyth	1970-1974
Mrs. Daniel J. Regan	1971-1974
Brian Harrington	1972-1976; 1980-1983; 1985-1989
Ian C. T. Nisbet	1972-1976
Cynthia Youngstrom	1972-1976
George A. Clark, Jr.	1973-1977; 1978-1982
Richard B. Farrar, Jr.	1973-1977
Robert E. Gobeil	1973-1975
Elizabeth Phinney	1975; 1975-1979
Gilbert F. Fernandez	1974-1978
Robert P. Yunick	1974-1978
Sarah B. Laughlin	1975-1979
Margaret Bon	1977-1978; 1980-1982
Robert H. Shaw	1978-1980
Susan R. Drennan	1976-1980; 1983-1987; 1988-1989
John P. Merrill	1976-1980
Valerie M. Freer	1977-1981; 1981-1985; 1989-1992; 1995-1999
Trevor Lloyd-Evans	1977-1981; 1981-1985
Scott Sutcliffe	1977-1981; 1981-1985
Elissa M. Landre	1978-1980; 1983-1987
Linda Leddy	1979-1983
Robert C. DeWire	1979-1983
David W. Johnston	1980-1984
Jo Kixmiller	1980-1984
Wayne R. Petersen	1980-1984; 1986-1990
Peter Cannell	1982-1986
Susan M. Smith	1982-1986
John C. Kricher	1982-1983
Milan G. Bull	1983-1986
Thomas Litwin	1983-1987
Helen Hays	1984-1988
Carol F. Smith	1984-1988
Fred C. Sibley	1985-1989
Carl Trichka	1985-1989
Robert A. Askins	1986-1990

Christopher C. Rimmer	1986-1990
Gregory Butcher	1987-1991
Elizabeth Mallory	1987-1991
John A. Shetterly	1987-1991
Frank B. Gill	1988-1992
Roger F. Pasquier	1988
Stanley E. Senner	1988-1990
Bruce M. Beehler	1989-1993
Erica H. Dunn	1989-1993
Julie Zickefoose	1989-1993
P. A. Buckley	1990-1994; 1994-1998
Debra Miller	1990-1994
Nathaniel Wheelwright	1990-1994
Alan Poole	1991-1995
Peter D. Vickery	1991-1995; 1995-1999
Joseph M. Wunderle, Jr.	1991-1995
Jonathan L. Atwood	1992-1992
Martha Steele	1990-1992; 1992-1996
David F. Westneat	1992-1996
Margaret C. Brittingham	1992-1996; 1996-1998
Jim Berry	1993-1997
Lise A. Hanners	1993-1997
Ken Rosenberg	1993-1997
Paul J. Baicich	1994-1998
Charles D. Duncan	1994-1998
Scott K. Robinson	1995-1999
Peter Stangel	1996-2000
James Herkert	1996-2000
Donald E. Kroodsma	1997-
Francisco Vilella	1997-
Elizabeth Brooks	1997-