

**WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION
2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 9/5/2008 – BOISE IDAHO**

Attendees: John Alexander (President), Mike Boyles (1st VP), C.J. Ralph (2nd VP), Gina Barton (Treasurer), Walter Sakai (Editor), Ken Burton (Membership), Renée Cormier (At Large; acting Secretary) Howard Browers (At Large), Kay Loughman (at large), Andrea Wuenschel (guest), Mark Osokow (guest)

Welcome – John Alexander

Review agenda

Secretary Topics

- Approve 2007 Meeting Minutes – motion to approve 2007 minutes as updated by Ken (Nov. 10, 2007). **2007 meeting minutes accepted unanimously.**
- Document archives – Renée scanned all past meeting minutes that are being stored at Palomarin (Appendix A), but some years are missing. Ken has some meeting minutes (likely most of the recent minutes – 1997-2007 - missing from Palo). Some of the older information in storage in the archives with Cooper Society. Cooper probably wouldn't take the rest. Kay says if WBBA wants to have News from the Bird Banders scanned, the Editor's archival material – currently in her possession - contains complete backset of News from the Bird Banders, and also Western Bird Bander. CJ would like very much to have NBB and WBB scanned. Budgets/minutes are scanned. Rest is in secretary's possession. John: Is it worth keeping all of that correspondence? Kay: Someone may want to sort through to put together for 100-year anniversary. PRBO will continue to store. Ken: is it worth have a historian? Howard Cogswell and Kay have been historians for WBBA. If we thought it was a good idea to have a historian – we may pursue in future (going to bring up at a business meetings). **CJ moved that we resurrect the position of historian (who would report to the board) – accepted unanimously by board.**
- FTP update (should we continue to pursue this?). John: Google Apps has an easy to use system to store files. Another option is to store on the web (could be hidden on web). **Task: Kay, John, Renée will stay in touch and figure out storage for WBBA documents.**
- **Task for all: send Renée digital copies of reports if you handed out hard copies at this meeting.**

NABB Report – Walt

- Passed out NABB report.
- Have not been receiving many submissions – what is being received has not been well written. Not difficult to get reviewers. But, don't always get good reviews.
- Difficult to get annual reports (e.g., summaries) from banding stations. Do we want to encourage members to provide reports? Kay would rather see updates from banding stations when people are inspired to send them (as opposed to the eastern stations style of quarterly reports). Gina, Kay, and others suggested

sending more regular reminders to banders (with due dates) to increase submissions. John will encourage people to submit stuff to NABB at the business meeting (done).

- John said that it's been brought up to him as an idea to perhaps make NABB more professional (both the look and the content). Walt agreed that the font and look of NABB is a bit amateurish – and we would have to convince layout person and that could be difficult. Kay thought that NABB isn't getting the quality of work it should and that it's difficult to break the cycle – perhaps by changing the appearance it would encourage a better quality submission. We could do the P.R. in changing the look and at the same time we could enlist more articles. **Task: John is going to put Walt in touch with Tom Gardali** (who made the original suggestion).
- Walt passed out the draft annual report of birds banded for 2007, and requested that anyone who sees typos report them to him.
- Walt passed out breakdown of years/masters/% master banders
- Fewer reports now than in the past. More master banders reporting big numbers.

Archiving NABB

- Not sure when vols: 26-30 of NABB will be available on SORA – but they have been sent to Blair Wolf.
- As of early spring, NABB is only journal that has shown interest in having additional volumes archived.
- Kay is working on trying to get existing records easier to search. This is low priority for Blair (at SORA) – he's suggested using advanced search in Google (Google Scholar). This works well only when exact wording is used. "News, Notes, Comments" section not easily searchable right now. Gina recommended continuing to search via Google b/c they are always updating their programs. In general, SORA not easy to search – better to use Google, and *then* go to SORA.

Web Page Report – Kay

- Transition for Kay was rocky last fall (to the website), but now things are going smoothly. Gary had spam problems – eventually it was worked out and maybe not a real WBBA website problem.
- WestHost has been website host. Subscription expires in Oct 2008 – renewal = \$169.80 to renew (for 2 years). Our domain name expires in Oct 2010.
- Photo Gallery – Because the photo gallery was getting spam comments on web, Kay closed and deleted the Gallery program in November and transferred the pictures to J-album, a program which runs on Kay's computer, and does not allow public access. All photos should go first to Ken so he can approve that correct handling techniques being used.

Membership Report – Ken

- More than usual new members the past 2 years. Still had miniscule decline in active memberships. All other categories neutral or positive (Appendix B).
- ½ of the people who didn't renew were only members for a year.
- Students are included in active memberships (difference of \$5/year).

- KBO gives memberships to interns at the end of the year (good idea for other organizations).
- Dues and Surcharges: Ken suggested putting surcharge on Canadian memberships (and maybe more for those outside Can, U.S., Mex). International postage rates have gone up. 15% of our membership are Canadians. Ken sent out suggested structure. Ken also suggested adding a “sustaining membership” option to all classes (it costs 2x as much and is just for members who want to support WBBA – they don’t get more). If we didn’t lose additional members, it would account for about \$250/year. **Task: Ken will come up with something or we’ll revisit.**
- See treasurer’s report below for more discussion on increasing member dues to international members.

NABC Report – John

- Update – John passed out abbreviated meeting notes from NABC meeting in Erie, Pennsylvania (Appendix C).
- New committee: Training Committee (working very closely with international committee). 3 main things: 1) Norm put together Waterfowl certification workshops, 2) Trinidad and El Salvador training workshops upcoming, 3) another round of revisions for certification materials – John is chair of that committee. CJ got federal specimen permit that allows sanctioned NABC stations to borrow or house specimens for certifications.
- Not enough certifications. Having certifications at WBBA meetings would probably increase attendance. John A. is happy to step up and do this at next year’s meeting. WBBA’s Alternate did not attend because it was an expensive meeting.
- Ken: Species Accounts: education committee was to develop photographic companions to the Pyle Guide. Ken has done about 8 and one other has been done. The hang-up is with the council’s editorial committee. Once 10 are on the website, we would open it up for the banding community – and solicit contributions/accounts from other banders – once they have a suite of images.
- John motivated on training workshop. John would like to stay on and represent WBBA at NABC. Jim Tietz is the alternate. CJ moved we reappoint Jim as representative (Jim is on Farallones for annual meetings).

WBBA Grants – Geoff (not at meeting, so John presented this information):

- Low number of applications. Geoff’s working on it. Extend proposal deadline to the end of next week (John will announce this Saturday at the members meeting). **Task: 2nd VP should work with Geoff as stated in WBBA bylaws – thus CJ is a member of the grants committee (for 2008, it will be Howard).**

TASK for all: make sure that all of the tasks you do as a board member are encompassed by the bylaws on the web. If they are not there, make additions/clarifications and send to the Secretary. **Task: Renée will compile and send to the group.**

2008 Meeting – Mike and Greg

- Greg: Budget – difficult at this point, but here are rough numbers: we were committed to 64 rooms (80 room nights) at 89/night – now we only have 55 rooms (4895 out of 5600ish). 2800 for food. 444 for meeting rooms. 813 for bbq. Guests need to cover 9700 to break even. Looks like we're close based on registration fees. Transportation costs and other were covered by about \$1500 donations to cover costs. Low attendance made things difficult. 35 registered (some not yet registered b/c some coming tomorrow).
- Donations are great – we should try to do that at future meetings too.

Treasurer Report – Gina

- Distributed proposed 2007/2008 budget report (Appendix D).
- Biggest issue that we under-budgeted for NABB. WBBA is \$3000 in the red overall. This is through March of 2008 (last fiscal year). Fiscal year = April 1- March 31. **TASK: Gina - create 2009/2010 budget early next year – this should be approved before fiscal year starts.** John proposed that a few of us get together to look at last year's budget to determine this year's budget (even though this year is well under way). Also proposed that we budget for the annual meeting to break even – and not budget for profit.
- NABB costs (in the budget) may vary from year to year depending on the number of issues (b/c the number may vary within a fiscal year).
 - Average number of issues per year is four.
 - Bills from NABB are incomprehensible. We get 2 bills per issue. Costs divided among WBBA, EBBA, and IBBA. Based on number of members and number of pages that each group submits (it's complicated).
 - **Task: Gina will put together a budget and board can approve via email. John and Ken will help.**
 - Gina would like a standard report (e.g., in quickbooks) to submit. So each year, the Treasurer knows the important information to include.
- Ken: feels we've been adding to our expenses the past couple of years. CJ: We should compare across the past 3-4 years and see where we should make adjustments....and include this in the Treasurer's report. If we already have a budget for the fiscal year when we're at the meeting, we can make adjustments (if we have the actual current expenses).
- Some made the point that we have a lot of money sitting in an account (~25K).
- Postal surcharges: Ken – did not propose a surcharge for Can and Mex memberships. Ken posed what we should do for memberships beyond (we charge \$5 per year surcharge to international members, but it costs \$25/year). Ken moved that we double the surcharge from \$5-\$10 per year (for internationals outside Can and Mex). CJ: this will be a barrier to communicating WBBA message. We should raise money in other ways (would rather see it cheaper for internationals, rather than more expensive). Ken agrees with CJ. Increase in revenues will be inconsequential. Another option would be to increase WBBA U.S. memberships. IBBA doesn't charge extra for international. **All opposed the motion to increase fees to international members.** We want to keep these members. AOU and Cooper charge a reduced rate to international members.

Future Meetings – Mike

- Things to consider when planning the meeting: When we talk about where to have the meeting, we should think about what we want to provide. Tough to fill rooms for a group hotel rate. John: we should have the molt limit workshop and NABC certification. Lots of discussion of past meetings (banding stations, field housing, hotel options, etc.). But here in Boise, we have a lot of perks at the Grove Hotel where we're actually saving money (e.g., not renting cars, free wireless, etc.). We should send out meeting details to members earlier before a meeting (early info with schedule – not necessarily abstracts).
- 2009: BSOL's future is uncertain. This is where we planned to have the meeting. Gina will look into to SFBBBO hosting in San Jose instead.
- 2010 and beyond – Howard hosting in WA in 2010.
- John will announce at membership meeting that we are looking for other suggestions for meeting locations.

Nominating Committee Report – Ken

Updated Board Nominations for 2008/2009

- Mike Boyles – President
- CJ Ralph – 1st VP
- Howard Browers – 2nd VP
- Gina Barton – Treasurer
- Renée Cormier – Secretary
- Ken Burton - Membership
- Walt Sakai – NABB Editor
- John Alexander – Past President
- Kay Loughman – At large
- Andrea Wuenschel – At large
- One more open at-large. Jessica Griffiths agreed, but will be a grad student soon and not associated with VWS – may not be able to attend meetings.
- John likes the option of having an open space in case someone we want comes along – we're not hurting for board members.
- **Ken's slate accepted unanimously by board.**
- New nominating committee for next year (should be 3 people):
 - Ken is happy to keep doing it.
 - **Task for all: Need 2 volunteers for nominating committee**

Member Business Meeting - John

John reviewed what he'll be talking about at meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

APPENDIX A: Inventory of WBBA documents stored at PRBO's Palomarin Field Station (Bollinas, CA)

SCANNED – stored on PRBO server

- Annual Board/Council Meeting minutes
 - 1949
 - 1953-1969
 - 1973-1982
 - 1984-1994
 - 1996
- Northern Chapter of WBBA Meeting minutes (multiple meetings in 1965)

NOT SCANNED

- Point Reyes Bird Observatory announced to WBBA members (letter 1965)
- A history of the PRBO: The First 10 years
- PRBO: A Perspective: A naturalist's holiday in Bollinas (1983)
- News from the Bird Banders 1936 – 1951 issued quarterly by the WBBA – (see board meeting minutes – already archived).
- **LOTS** of WBBA correspondence
- WBBA meeting brochures and agendas
- NABB correspondence
- Thank you letters (WBBA)
- Photos (from 2 annual meetings)
- NABB Microfilm (1976 – 1980)
- Treasurer reports (some were scanned with the corresponding year's minutes when they were filed together)
- Completed receipt booklets (for member dues)
- Letterhead/WBBA envelopes with return address
- WBBA member lists (only for a handful of years)

APPENDIX B: Membership Report (Submitted by Ken Burton – membership).

WBBA Membership as of March 31

<u>Class</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>Change</u>
Active	147	155	- 5%
Life	41	41	0%
Institutional	24	22	+ 9%
Nonsubscribing	15	13	+15%
Sustaining	13	11	+18%
Honorary	0	0	0%
Total	240	242	- 1%

New members, FY:

- 2007-2008: 36
- 2006-2007: 38
- 2005-2006: 15
- 2004-2005: 23
- 2003-2004: 20
- 2002-2003: 26
- 2001-2002: 20
- 2000-2001: 24
- 1999-2000: 22
- 1998-1999: 28

APPENDIX C:

**Western Bird Banding Association
2008 Board of Directors Meeting
September 5, 2008 – Boise Idaho
North American Banding Council Report
John D. Alexnader**

2008 Meeting

- 10-11 April 2008 at Tom Ridge Environmental Center, Erie, PA
- Meeting held during EBBA meeting
- Expensive travel – all budgeted funds used
- Tribute to Glen Woolfenden

Committee on Data Management formed

Publications

- Draft of the waterfowl manual to be published this year.
- Species accounts being produced
- Study Guide, Passerine Manual, Trainers Manual, Hummingbird Manual, and Shorebirds Manual to be made available on NABC website

Outreach

- Committee focusing on banders already involved in NABC to generate greater awareness of banding manuals, develop stronger ties to banders through member organizations, encourage more involvement, publishing in NABB, and encourage more web links

International

- NABC has participated in all three WHBBN meetings
- Developing the means to link interested NABC Trainers with international requests for training

Training and Education Committee

- CA BBO collection of photographs and specimens available
- NABC evaluation 'report card' adapted by BBO to help new banders understand skills that are needed for permitting
- Animal Care Training Module being developed to assist with navigate the permit and animal care systems in Canada and provide information on the ethical use of animals in research.
- Training and Education Committee split into two separate committees

Training Committee

- Alexander appointed as chair
- International and Training Committees to work very closely together

- Alexander spoke of the WHBBN priority of training new banders to meet expanded needs, and how that translates into a new emphasis for NABC on developing training programs
- Working on international training workshops in El Salvador and Trinidad
- Waterfowl training session put on this summer

Certification

- All available data on Banders and Trainers entered in the Access database (~325)
- Much information is missing
- Low response to recertification
- Trainers who have who have organized and participated in a number of sessions recognized: John Alexander, Tom Bartlett, Nick Bartok, Betsy Brooks, Mary Doscher, Audrey Heagy, Bob Mulvihill, David Okines, C John Ralph, Hannah Struthers, and Bob Yunick
- Waterfowl certification session planned for July
- Western certification sessions: 2007 fall KBMN Session; Tuscon spring session held; Raptor session at WBBA meeting; KBMN session planned for Arcata and Ashland

Evaluation

- Alexander remains chair – looking for replacement
- A proposal to develop an alternate means for experienced trainers to obtain NABC Trainer certification was rejected
- Evaluation application timelines revised - applications for evaluation session must be submitted no less than 60 days in advance; applications for individual evaluations must be submitted no less than 14 days in advance
- Evaluation paperwork procedures clarified
- There is a shortage of questions for written tests – please get involved
- A sample test to be made available on web
- Failing bander candidates who show overall proficiency, may be allowed to re-take only the failed sections during a later evaluation session or individual evaluation
- Applicants may apply and be tested for both Bander and Trainer level certification at the same session
- Requirement that NABC Trainers must have banding permit removed
- Trainers are encouraged to use their judgment to assist candidates for whom English is a second language
- Evaluation materials - another round of revisions underway

Skin collection permit - NABC has a federal permit, which allows trainers “NABC stations” member to possess skins

PIF McAllen

- NABC at meeting with booth

- Howes, Ralph, Alexander and North represented NABC in a WHBBN workshop on banding

APPENDIX D: Budget Submitted by Gina Barton (Treasurer).

Proposed WBBA Fiscal 2007-2008 Budget Report

Category Description	4/1/2007 - 3/31/2008		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME			
Back Issues	5	37.5	-32.5
Banking Interest	578.47	354.46	224.01
Contributions	15	15	0
Annual Meeting	844.25	1793	-948.75
TOTAL Membership	4402.31	5056.12	-653.81
TOTAL INCOME	5,845.03	7,256.08	-1411.05
EXPENSES			
Grants	1500	1520	20
Annual Meeting	108.13	1217.26	1109.13
NABC Travel Expenses (2006-2007)	1000	1,000	0
Office	5.92	32.53	26.61
Phone		5	5
Postage	52.72	50.15	-2.57
Supplies		10.8	10.8
Bank Fee	22.1		-22.1
Taxes	20	10	-10
WBBA NABB	6,012.66	3,910.90	-2101.76
Web Page	185	183.75	-1.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,906.53	7,940.39	-966.14
	-		
OVERALL TOTAL	3,061.50	-684.31	-2377.19

Balance as of 7/31/2008

Assets

Cash and Bank Accounts

Burton's Cash Account	92.66	As of 3/31/2008
Checking-1904115748	204.18	
Savings-4020420	6416.92	
Premium Yield-1904503446	18951.65	
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	25665.41	
Total Assets	25665.41	
Liabilities	0.00	
Overall Total	25665.41	

Proposed WBBA Fiscal 2007 Budget Report

Category Description	4/1/2007 - 3/31/2008		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
INCOME			
Back Issues	5	37.5	-32.5
Banking Interest	578.47	354.46	224.01
Contributions	15	15	0
Annual Meeting			
Registration + Food	700	1517.5	-817.5
Molt Limits Workshop			
Auction/Raffle	144.25	275.5	-131.25
<i>TOTAL Annual Meeting</i>	<i>844.25</i>	<i>1793</i>	<i>-948.75</i>
Regular Membership	4102.31	4456.12	-353.81
Life Membership	300	600	-300
<i>TOTAL Membership</i>	<i>4402.31</i>	<i>5056.12</i>	<i>-653.81</i>
TOTAL INCOME	5,845.03	7,256.08	-1411.05
EXPENSES			
Grants			
Grants - 2007	1500	1520	20
Annual Meeting			
Announcements	108.13		-108.13
Auction/Raffle			
Molt Limits Workshop			
<i>Annual Meeting Total</i>	<i>108.13</i>	<i>1217.26</i>	<i>1109.13</i>
NABC Travel Expenses			
NABC - 2006-2007	1000	1,000	0
Office	5.92	32.53	26.61
Phone		5	5
Postage	52.72	50.15	-2.57
Supplies		10.8	10.8
Bank Fee	22.1		-22.1
Taxes	20	10	-10
WBBA NABB			0
Other WBBA NABB	4185.02	3593.11	-591.91
Camera Ready Charges	1827.64	317.79	-1509.85
<i>TOTAL WBBA NABB</i>	<i>6,012.66</i>	<i>3,910.90</i>	<i>-2101.76</i>
Web Page	185	183.75	-1.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,906.53	7,940.39	-966.14
	-		
OVERALL TOTAL	3,061.50	-684.31	-2377.19

4/1/2007 - 3/31/2008	
Category Description	Budget
Income	
Back Issues	37.50
Banking Interest	104.21
Premium Yield Interest	250.26
Contributions	15.00
Meeting Income	1,517.50
Auction/Raffle	275.50
Regular Membership	4,456.12
Life Membership	600.00
Total Income	7,256.08
Expenses	
Grants	1,520.00
Annual Meeting	1,217.26
NABC Travel Expenses	1,000.00
Office	32.53
Phone	5.00
Postage	50.15
Supplies	10.80
Taxes	10.00
WBBA NABB	
Camera Ready Charges	317.79
Other WBBA NABB	3,593.11
Total WBBA NABB	3,910.90
Web Page	183.75
Total Expenses	7,940.39
Overall Total	-684.31

~Added values averaged from Table 2.

~Increased NABC travel to \$1,000 since we know this will

be the amount of this expense.

Proposed 2008-2009

4/1/2008 - 3/31/2009

Category Description	Budget
Income	
Back Issues	
Banking Interest	
Premium Yield Interest	
Contributions	
Meeting Income	
Auction/Raffle	
Regular Membership	
Life Membership	
Total Income	
Expenses	
Grants	
Annual Meeting	
NABC Travel Expenses	
Office	
Phone	
Postage	
Supplies	
Taxes	
WBBA NABB	
Camera Ready Charges	
Other WBBA NABB	
Total WBBA NABB	
Web Page	
Total Expenses	
Overall Total	

~Added values averaged from Table 2.

~Increased NABC travel to \$1,000 since we know this will

be the amount of this expense.