

**WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION
2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 8/28/2009, Milpitas CA**

Attendees: Mike Boyles (President), C.J. Ralph (1st VP), Howard Browers (2nd VP), Walter Sakai (Editor), Renée Cormier (Secretary), Kay Loughman (at large), Andrea Wuenschel (at large)

Welcome, Board Member Updates - Mike

Approval of 2008 Meeting Minutes

CJ moved we approve minutes. Board approved. **ACTION ITEM: Walt will send Renée electronic files of his 2008 meeting handouts and Renée will add them to the notes.** Otherwise, 2008 notes are complete.

2009 Meeting Report (C.J.)

Estimated about 70-85 attendants. CJ thinks we will make about a \$1000 if all goes according to expectations with the meeting and auction. 20 papers and 6 posters scheduled. The Sobrato Center for Nonprofits is a nice venue for the meeting. Jill Bluso Demers (SFFBBO Executive Director) has been great.

Andrea thought we should advertize future meetings through universities. Kay would also like to do something to make sure people use the high-quality WBBA logo – as opposed to converting it to JPEG where it looks amateurish when printed. Renée suggested adding notes about the logo to our Annual Meeting planning notes as reminder to 1st VP planning the meeting.

Grants Program (Howard)

WBBA gave out 2 grants last year (each \$1000). Received 5 applications last year. One to a Portland State University grad student Amy Shipley and one to a biologist banding in Sinaloa, Mexico, Lydia Lozano. Lydia sent a thank you letter and photos. Jared Wolfe will set up the CD of photos as power point slide at tomorrow's banquet. Both were contacted about this meeting. Amy will shoot for next year's meeting for a presentation.

There are a low number of applicants this year (about 7 as of Aug 29 – 2 days before deadline). It was suggested we should explore options for better advertizing (e.g., Universities). WBBA grant is not on Birdnet which is where many grad students go to look at grant opportunities; we did advertize on The Ornithological Society of North America page (aka Ornjobs; <http://www.osnabirds.org/on/ornjobs.htm>). Renée sent link to birdnet <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/grants/> to Geoff. **ACTION ITEM: Grants committee will make sure to advertize on Birdnet next year** (once sent to BirdNet, it can stay on their site as an annual award, so should only need to be posted once). Recipients should be encouraged to present at a WBBA meeting and publish in NABB. Kristy Dybala, a grad student from UC Davis doing research at PRBO's Palomarin Field Station received a grant in 2007 and will be presenting at this year's meeting.

NABB Report (Walt)

USGS staff want to link articles published by their staff on their website. Kay thinks they could go to SORA and get the articles themselves. CJ said they don't need our permission to get their articles from SORA or to post them from their own website.

Some requested style changes were made to NABB this year (new font: Times New Roman and font size). Now discussions about what should be bold face, etc are happening. All citations will give the full journal names to avoid confusion. Walt is getting people to use the standardized bird names and codes for station reports. Looks more professional.

Ken Burton will review Pyle part II for NABB.

Walt handed out Annual report and email from USGS.

There were 10-15 more submissions for annual report. 10-15K birds submitted for report this year, but that's still a low percent of the number of master banders submitting their data.

NABB received one manuscript from a Mexican bander – can the article be written in Spanish? Are we restricted to English? In terms of Partners in Flight and encouraging partnerships and sharing information, how far do we want to go? Kay suggested that the abstract could be presented in English and Spanish, but put the article in English. Potential to put in Spanish online in future? Possibly. Board agreed that having the abstract in both languages would be great.

Walt has also been asked if someone could submit colored photos. Kay said it's been done before (Volume 26:3) where the authors got a grant to pay for the printing of pictures (WBBA didn't pay). It cost them \$2000 for 4 pages. Kay thinks this is in the fine print for rules about submitting to NABB. It was also discussed to post color photos online (like *Science*), but some follow-up including: where online? Who would post? Walt suggested whichever association was associated with it (WBBA, IBBA, EBBA) would do it.

Kay hopes that NABB is heading toward online publication. The print version is expensive to produce. CJ thought because our purposes are for banders to read the journal – he (and some others he's polled) would be more likely to read a hard copy.

Kay: We could get volumes 26-30 of NABB into SORA but it's not cheap. Kay is unhappy with access to what's already in SORA (e.g., it's missing News, Notes, Comments, and difficult to search). Kay is doing a lot of indexing: 762 lines of index entries for last 5 volumes – she sent this Princeton imaging, and to get that kind of details is \$600. The total cost for the 5 volumes is \$1002.03 excluding shipping. Our share of this would be just over \$300 – and that depends on IBBA and EBBA doing the same. BBL paid for first 25 volumes to be scanned. NABB Production Manager Bob Pantle has reported that his files are not suitable for use beyond his own computer, so we must use a professional company to scan and digitize the volumes. If he had it accessible online or on his computer, costs would be cheaper. **ACTION ITEM: Kay will send IBBA/EBBA a letter asking if they are willing to contribute.** CJ moved that we cover costs. Board approved.

Western Bird Bander and News from the Bird Banders:

Old copies are getting fragile. Kay suggested that she volunteers to scan and digitize them (with a scanner with searchable PDF software). It won't have as much search capability as SORA – you'd have to search each individual issue (or volume) to find what you are looking for. Alternatively, we could try to get a grant to put it through SORA to have better search capabilities – Kay's reluctant to send it to a commercial company because of risk of loss or damage. CJ thinks it's great for Kay to do this – some gems that are still being cited. We appreciate Kay's dedication to get this done and board decided the lower search capability and lower cost was the way to go. Kay wrote to Occidental College Library and Cal Academy (two libraries that have complete sets), and both are willing to scan three 1952 issues missing from WBBA's set. University of Colorado Library is also listed as having a complete back set; but this has not been verified.

NABC Report (CJ, on John's behalf)

Report from John Alexander (Appendix A). WBBA rep to NABC is an important platform to us. WBBA pays up to \$1000 for John and/or alternate (Jim Tietz) to go to NABC meeting. Next NABC meeting is in Tucson in March 2010. **ACTION ITEM: Mike will talk to John about how things are going with NABC for him and for Jim.**

Membership Report (Mike, on Ken's behalf)

Most new members since 1998 (Appendix B).

Life member funds go into the trust and usually are not spent on NABB. Although CJ says we can use the money to support NABB. The interest of their initial payment should pay for their journal.

Earlier in the week Ken had distributed by e-mail a list of people who didn't renew for 2009. Board members will give friendly reminders about renewing to people they know. Make sure to spread the word that members aren't just getting the journal – they are also supporting WBBA.

Kay – WBBA membership application is now printable PDF-form on the website.

Future Meeting Locations (All)

Howard: Eastern Washington – they just built a new building and have an education center with a conference room. Howard would want to make sure we could get the facility for no money before committing – he doesn't think it would accommodate a large group – there should be room for 50 people. Howard said the room is about the size of PRBO's conference room (which holds about 80). Campground near Snake River. Concern: their banding station burned last fall and it's not turning into a good fall banding station. 1-hour drive to nearest riparian banding site and camping at the banding site is probably not an option? Many meetings have had significant driving to field trips/banding, but we could think of creative ideas of how to make it work.

Andrea said that PSBO might be able to help the year after next. Andrea: lots of birds in beginning of August in Cascades.

Someone from Teton Science School volunteered to host in 2010 at last year's meeting – there would likely be lower attendance. Neat place. Mike will contact them to see if they are still interested.

- Kay – are there any southern spots we should try to have the meetings?
- We have had offers in the recent past from Arcata and Ashland
- **ACTION ITEM: Mike to firm up proposal from Howard and the Teton people to see what they can come up with for next year.**
- Over a weekend in Sept/October; try to get NABC certification
- Renée suggested having 2 years in California and one year outside of California (as opposed to having it every other year in California) since attendance is so much higher in California. CJ said we need place that can host (meeting space, banding site); and that we also want to do outreach to other members by having it out of California.
- Rocky Point could be another good place to have it (not that far from Seattle). Note added later: it is on a military base, and not really open to the public.
- Advertizing is important for attendance. Having certifications and workshops is good for attendance. Mary Beth Wright (Avinet) came because CJ called her – so that kind of thing makes a big difference.
- Planning early is important.

Board Nominations (all)

Ken's email asked if we'd all stick with our positions. No one said they didn't want to continue in their own position.

But, we need a Treasurer: Kay: someone with some stability in their lives – who won't be leaving soon. Lot's of change to paperwork, thus, good to have continuity. Someone associated with a Bird Observatory/Institution (doesn't have to be employee – could be a volunteer). Criteria is that they need to be able to come to the meeting (no term limits for Treasurer). Get the word out to our membership, and to bird observatories (Talk to principals at Bird Observatories). Bird Banders (LaMNA mailing list with 1300 stations). Could advertize in NABB. Ken and Kay have check signing authority now. **ACTION ITEM:** Nominating team will ask Bird Observatory people. Annoucement at WBBA business meeting tomorrow (and tonight at BBQ). Renée think about PRBO nominations. CJ will ask Wade Leitner's wife, Pat who is a CPA.

Addendum: Pat Leitner agreed to become WBBA's Treasurer, and at a brief noon meeting on Saturday, the Board approved her nomination.

Treasurer's Report / WBBA Budget (all)

See Appendix C.

Annual meeting has been the thing that varies the most year to year.

Haven't solicited contributions from members in a few years. CJ suggests president sending out a personal letter to request donations from members for a specific thing (e.g., for scholarships).

ACTION ITEM: Michael will draft a letter and send to board

Kay: savings have gone down from \$9K to \$4.6K in past 3 years (although we think this is because scholarships are coming out of savings). Lower budget is not about expenses – we need to increase income (e.g., by sending letters for contribution).

ACTION ITEM: All Board members will engage young biologists and interns from bird observatories to come to WBBA meetings.

CJ moved to increase annual meeting income to \$1500 and contributions to \$1000 to approve the budget. All in favor.

APPENDIX A: NABC Report submitted by John Alexander and presented by C.J. Ralph to the board on John's behalf.

As for NABC, and my role as the WBBA representative, I remain very active.

I attended one day of the 2-day NABC meeting held in February in Florida.

I have continued to work with the NABC leadership to help assure we have and support an active NABC Chair

Certification and Evaluation

I had served for many years as chair of the Certification Committee - in charge of improving the certification process and related experience, handling appeals, and providing materials and guidance for certification sessions. At the last NABC Meeting I stepped down to co-Chair this committee, in support of Ian Ausprey who has taken over that role. Ian is a former KBO Crew Leader, was certified as a trainer during a western certification session and has participated as a trainer in additional western certifications.

In the last year we implemented major improvements to the bander certification materials, with good participation from committees. The many associated documents more clearly articulate the process and are more consistent among each other. They are however still a work in progress. The next major improvements are to focus on improving the Trainer Certification procedure and we have been asked to develop a procedure for holding international certification.

Several western certifications have been held since the Boise WBBA meeting, though I do not have all of the details as I am not as involved in this aspect of detailed NABC activities. Within the last year I believe the following certifications happened: KBO/RSL certification last fall, PRBO certification last fall, one or two certifications in Arizona, the 1st international certification in El Salvador. By the time this meeting happens, PRBO generously met my request to host a WBBA Meeting associated certification, and I believe they have planned additional evaluations this season. KBO/RSL will hold our end of year evaluations as well.

Workshops Committee

In stepping down from the Certification Committee I have turned my focus to chairing the Workshops Committee, working closely with the NABC's International Committee. This aspect of NABC is now taking off. NABC has been involved in several NABC-based training programs in the west, including NABC focused internships at KBO/RSL/HBBO and PRBO. I believe IBP is using NABC materials to some extent, and they certainly follow NABC standards. KBO/RSL hosted a NABC-based workshop this summer and Puget Sound Bird observatory had one scheduled for this summer.

With support from this committee NABC has been associated with international trainings and/or certifications in Chile, El Salvador, the Bahamas (to a minor extent as this workshop focused on count based methods), and Trinidad. An additional workshop is being planned for Peru.

Our goal is to continue building on these international opportunities, and to begin to develop a more formal NABC training curricula.

Other Activities

From NABCs participation in the Western Hemisphere Banding Network and other international activities, opportunities continue to emerge. I was invited to talk at the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds Conference, securing funds for data archiving.

I am hoping CJ and Ken can brief the board on the Data Management Committee and the Education Committee independently. Working with NPS Park Flight we are now working on a 2 interpretive piece that relates to NABC.

I would love to keep representing WBBA on the council. The minimum support I receive keeps me engaged and active, and I believe I continue to serve the Council in advancing aspects of our agenda.

Respectfully Submitted

John D. Alexander, MS
Executive Director

Appendix B: WBBA Membership as of March 31, 2009, report submitted by Ken Burton

<u>Class</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>
Active	148	147	0%
Life	45	41	+10%
Institutional	24	24	0%
Nonsubscribing	15	15	0%
Sustaining	18	13	+38%
Honorary	0	0	0%
Total	250	240	+ 4%

New members, FY 2008-2009: 42
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 Fiscal 2008 Treasurer Report
Prepared on 08/05/2009 by Gina Barton

Table 1. Fiscal Report (2008-2009) – Actual vs. Budget & Assets by Year

Table 2. Fiscal Report (2008-2009) – Actuals & Assets by Year

Table 3. Proposed Budget for Fiscal (2009-2010)

Table 4. Mid Fiscal Report (2009-2010) – Actuals vs. Budget & Assets Year to Date

Things to Note:

- Wells Fargo charges \$5 per any Canadian check processed, regardless if in US Dollars.
- I wired money to a grant recipient in Mexico due to complications in sending the check. We absorbed the cost of the charge, but perhaps it should be subtracted from the grant amount?

Table 1. Fiscal Report (2008-2009) - Actual vs. Budget & Assets by Year

Version 1.3; Updated: 08/05/2009

Category Description	4/1/2008 - 3/31/2009			
	Actual		Budget	Difference
Income				
Back Issues		75.00	10.00	65.00
Interest: Banking	5.17		15.00	0.00
Interest: Premium Yield	33.44		43.00	0.00
<i>Total Interest</i>		38.61	58.00	-19.39
Contributions		25.00	10.00	15.00
Annual Meeting		0.00	15945.00	-15945.00
Membership: Life	1200.33		300.00	0.00
Membership: Regular	4562.33		4000.00	0.00
<i>Total Membership</i>		5762.66	4300.00	1462.66
Total Income		5901.27	20323.00	-14421.73
Expenses				
Bank Fee*		35.00	30.00	-5.00
Grants		2000.00	2000.00	0.00
Annual Meeting		320.62	15060.00	14739.38
NABC Travel Expenses		1000.00	1000.00	0.00
Office		0.00	10.00	10.00
Phone		0.00	5.00	5.00
Postage		0.00	55.00	55.00
Supplies		28.19	8.00	-20.19
Taxes		0.00	20.00	20.00
NABB: Camera Ready Charges	377.33	4 issues	400.00	0.00
NABB: Other	3919.76	4 issues	4100.00	0.00
<i>Total NABB</i>		4297.09	4500.00	202.91
Web Page		169.80	169.80	0.00
Total Expenses		7850.70	22857.80	15007.10
TOTAL: Income-Expenses		-1949.43	-2534.80	585.37
Assets				
Balance on 3/31/2009				
Cash and Bank Accounts				
Burton's Cash Account		169.84		
Checking-1904115748		204.90		
Savings-8312014817		4680.19		
Premium Yield-1904503446		17875.36		
Total Assets		22930.29		

*Bank Fees encompassed \$15 of charges for processing Canadian checks and \$20 to wire money to grant recipient in Mexico

Table 2. Fiscal Report (2008-2009) - Actuals & Assets by Year

Version 1.3; Updated: 08/05/2009

Category Description	Fiscal 2008-2009		Fiscal 2007-2008		Fiscal 2006-2007		Average	Stdev	
Income									
Back Issues		75.00		5.00		35.00		38.33	35.12
Interest: Banking	5.17		16.04		101.53		40.91		60.45
Interest: Premium Yield	33.44		562.43		287.39		294.42		194.48
Total Interest		38.61		578.47		388.92		335.33	273.89
Contributions		25.00		15.00		10.00		16.67	7.64
Annual Meeting		0.00		844.25		3586.00		1476.75	1874.80
Membership: Life	1200.33		300.00		600.00		700.11		212.13
Membership: Regular	4562.33		4102.31		4662.23		4442.29		395.92
Total Membership		5762.66		4402.31		5262.23		5142.40	688.05
Total Income		5901.27		5845.03		9282.15		7009.48	
Expenses									
Bank Fee*		35.00		22.10		0.00		19.03	17.70
Grants		2000.00		1500.00		1540.00		1680.00	277.85
Annual Meeting		320.62		108.13		2434.52		954.42	1286.20
NABC Travel Expenses		1000.00		1000.00		417.00		805.67	336.60
Office		0.00		5.92		20.05		8.66	10.30
Phone		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00
Postage		0.00		52.72		40.30		31.01	27.56
Supplies		28.19		0.00		16.60		14.93	14.17
Taxes		0.00		20.00		20.00		13.33	11.55
NABB: Camera Ready Charges	377.33	<i>4 issues</i>	382.00	<i>4 issues</i>	476.25	<i>4 issues</i>	411.86		66.64
NABB: Other	3919.76	<i>4 issues</i>	5630.66	<i>5 issues</i>	2825.55	<i>3 issues</i>	4125.32		1983.51
Total NABB		4297.09		6012.66		3301.80		4537.18	1371.29
Web Page		169.80		185.00		0.00		118.27	102.70
Total Expenses		7850.70		8906.53		7790.27		8182.50	
Assets									
		Fiscal 2008-2009		Fiscal 2007-2008		Fiscal 2006-2007			
Cash and Bank Accounts									
Burton's Cash Account		169.84		92.66		111.30			
Checking-1904115748		204.90		79.84		580.00			
Savings-8312014817		4680.19		6234.20		9600.00			
Premium Yield-1904503446		17875.36		18642.35		17780.00			
Total Assets		22930.29		25049.05		28071.30			

Table 3. Proposed Budget for Fiscal (2009-2010)**Version 1.1; Updated: 03/24/2009**

Category Description	4/1/2009 - 3/31/2010	
	Budget	
Income		
Back Issues		10.00
Interest: Banking	4.00	
Interest: Premium Yield	30.00	
<i>Total Interest</i>		34.00
Contributions		15.00
Annual Meeting		500.00
Membership: Life	300.00	
Membership: Regular	3900.00	
<i>Total Membership</i>		4200.00
Total Income		4759.00
Expenses		
Bank Fee*		15.00
Grants		2000.00
Annual Meeting		0.00
NABC Travel Expenses		1000.00
Office		12.00
Phone		0.00
Postage		50.00
Supplies		22.00
Taxes		0.00
NABB: Camera Ready Charges	400.00	
NABB: Other	4100.00	
<i>Total NABB</i>		4500.00
Web Page		0.00
Total Expenses		7599.00
TOTAL: Income-Expenses		-2840.00

**Table 4. Mid Fiscal Report (2009-2010) - Actuals vs Budget & Assets Year to Date
Version 1; Updated: 08/05/2009**

Category Description	04/01/2009 - 07/31/2009				
	Actual		Budget		Difference
Income					
Back Issues		0.00		10.00	-10.00
Interest: Banking	0.59		4.00		0.00
Interest: Premium Yield	2.99		30.00		0.00
Total Interest		3.58		34.00	-30.42
Contributions		40.00		15.00	25.00
Annual Meeting		0.00		500.00	-500.00
Membership: Life	0.00		300.00		0.00
Membership: Regular	1550.46		3900.00		0.00
Total Membership		1550.46		4200.00	-2649.54
Total Income		1594.04		4759.00	-3164.96
Expenses					
Bank Fee*		0.00		15.00	-15.00
Grants		0.00		2000.00	-2000.00
Annual Meeting		0.00		0.00	0.00
NABC Travel Expenses		596.97		1000.00	-403.03
Office		0.00		12.00	-12.00
Phone		0.00		0.00	0.00
Postage		0.00		50.00	-50.00
Supplies		0.00		22.00	-22.00
Taxes		0.00		0.00	0.00
NABB: Camera Ready Charges	29.67	<i>2 issues</i>	400.00		0.00
NABB: Other	623.38	<i>2 issues</i>	4100.00		0.00
Total NABB		653.05		4500.00	-3846.95
Web Page		0.00		0.00	0.00
Total Expenses		1250.02		7599.00	-6348.98
TOTAL: Income-Expenses		344.02		-2840.00	3184.02
Assets					
Balance on 07/31/2009					
Cash and Bank Accounts					
Burton's Cash Account					
Checking-1904115748		184.60			
Savings-8312014817		5087.27			
Premium Yield-1904503446		17879.11			
Total Assets		23150.98			

www.westernbirdbanding.org

Report to the WBBA Board, August 28, 2009

Our site is hosted by WestHost

Domain name expires October 10, 2010

Our hosting plan ("Starter", I think) is paid up through October 16, 2010

We pay for 25 GB space, and are currently using 17.4 MB

Actions in the last year:

1. Slightly rearranged the Home page to include a column on the right for links to announcements.
2. Converted the membership mail-in form to a PDF-FORM that can be filled in online.
3. Added pictures from the 2007 and 2008 Annual Meetings to our online Photo Gallery