

FIFTH ANNUAL FEDERATION MEETING

Schenectady — May 24 and 25, 1952

Twenty-five clubs distributed through New York State, representing approximately 3,000 members, now belong to the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Miss Audrey L. Wrede, membership committee chairman, reported at the Fifth Annual Council Meeting of the Federation, held at the Edison Club, Schenectady, May 24, 1952.

The following new clubs were voted into the Federation:

Bedford Audubon Society (Bedford, N. Y.)
Naturalists' Club (Binghamton, Endicott, Johnson City)
Onondaga Audubon Society (Syracuse)
Staten Island Bird and Nature Club
Sullivan County Audubon Society

More than 50 applications for individual membership were also accepted.

Sixteen organizations, with 24 delegates, answered the roll call of member clubs when President Eugene Eisenmann called the meeting to order at 9:50 a. m. Incidentally, total registration of members and guests for the general meeting and dinner was 161. All officers and committee chairmen registered, and all committees met Friday or early Saturday.

New Membership Classes

Unanimous adoption was given the amendment to Chapter 1, Section 6, of the By-Laws. It was previously sanctioned by two-thirds vote of member clubs. The amendment reads:

"There shall be six classes of Individual Members whose rights and privileges shall be the same except for a difference in dues: Annual Members, dues \$2 per year; Sustaining Members, \$5 per year; Supporting Members, dues \$10 per year; Life Members, dues \$100 payable at one time; Patrons, dues \$500 payable at one time; Founders, dues \$1,000 payable at one time. For those classes of members paying annual dues, such dues shall be payable on March 1st of each year, except in the year of election to membership, when such dues shall be payable one month after notice of election."

Conservation Liaison

An engineer has been appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Works to act as liaison officer between the Department and a committee representing the State Conservation Council, Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Federation of Garden Clubs, Izaak Walton League, and others.

H. Everest Clements, 1116 Sibley Tower Building, Rochester, was appointed to represent the Federation on this committee. Clubs with local problems having to do with the State Department of Public Works should contact Mr. Clements to present their case to the committee.

Samuel Madison, Conservation Committee chairman, presented the committee report and urged the clubs to follow through on Conservation Bulletins with letters to Albany. His report on legislative matters showed real progress.

The Bald Eagle has been given partial protection in Alaska. A resolution was adopted commending Oscar Chapman, Secretary of the Interior, for this order, while expressing hope full protection will be forthcoming.

Howard Cleaves described the destruction of Staten Island ponds which are being used as garbage dumps by the New York City Sanitary Commission. The council passed a motion opposing such dumps. A like resolution was adopted concerning a similar situation near Buffalo.

State Book Needed

There is need for a new State Bird Book, it was reported by the committee which has been studying this subject. The present thinking of the committee is that several editors should handle different phases of the work, such as ecological data, migration, breeding-bird data, etc. Subcommittees were named to undertake studies of: (1) a basis for regional division of the state; (2) methods of reporting, and standards of censorship, of reports; and (3) the mechanics of handling the material and contacting the clubs. Each member club was asked to name a representative to serve as a contact for this committee, which is headed by Dr. Gordon M. Meade, Trudeau Sanatorium, Trudeau, N. Y.

Success of *The Kingbird* depends on individual memberships in the Federation, Allan Klonick, editor, pointed out in a report read at the meeting by President Eisenmann. Discussion of the content and format disclosed general satisfaction in the present plan of publication. Contribution of articles, including those of popular interest, was sought.

A Baedeker of Birding Areas in New York State was urged by Miss Hazel Ellis, Publications and Research Committee chairman. Local clubs were asked to submit maps and check-lists for their own territories; seven clubs reported progress on this subject. Miss Ellis also urged delegates to arrange for copies of club publications to be mailed to her.

Officers Elected

The slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee was unanimously elected for 1953:

President — Eugene Eisenmann, the Linnaean Society of New York.

Vice Pres. — Harold D. Mitchell, Buffalo Ornithological Society.

Corr. Sec. — Miss Louise Helfer, Watkins-Montour Bird Club.

Rec. Sec. — Mrs. Frances Irving, Rockland Audubon Societp.

Treasurer — Mrs. William G. English, Sassafras Bird Club.

Miss Hazel Ellis, Robert Arbib, Jr., and Dr. Neil Moon were elected to the nominating committee; the Council unanimously recommended that the committee govern its selections entirely on the basis of ability, without regard to club or district representation.

Winston W. Brockner and Guy Bartlett were named auditors. The "where and when" for the next annual meeting will be decided later by the Federation officers. The Council meeting was adjourned at 1 p. m.

ALBERT FUDGE, Recording Secretary

CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT BEAR MOUNTAIN PARK

MAY 23-24, 1953

Host: ROCKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY