

their breeding areas in August and September, observers should be especially alert for them then.

The House Finch has already surprised many ornithologists, notably Roger Peterson, by establishing itself at all in the East. It may yet surprise us still more, by further extending its range and giving the House Sparrow more competition. For those who would like to help it: the House Finch loves sunflower seed.

716 Guion Drive, Mamaroneck, N. Y.

## FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

Albany, May 11 - 13, 1962

The fifteenth annual meeting of the council of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc. was held in the Inn Towne Motor Hotel in Albany on May 12, 1962. Mr. John J. Elliott, President, called the meeting to order at 9:27 A. M. 31 delegates representing 22 clubs answered the roll call.

The minutes of the 1961 council meeting were read and approved.

Mrs. Dayton Stoner, Treasurer, read her report for the year 1961, which is summarized as follows:

|                                                     |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Balance in General Fund Jan. 1, 1961 .....          | \$ 606.69  |
| Receipts—Dues, interest on Savings Account, etc. -- | 1,885.53   |
|                                                     | <hr/>      |
|                                                     | \$2,492.22 |
| Expenses—Kingbird, etc. ....                        | \$2,308.72 |
| Balance in General Fund Dec. 31, 1961 .....         | 183.50     |
|                                                     | <hr/>      |
| Balance in savings account Jan. 1, 1961 .....       | \$ 900.00  |
| Receipts during 1961                                |            |
| Bequest — John P. Bruck .....                       | 1,000.00   |
| Life membership installments .....                  | 75.00      |
|                                                     | <hr/>      |
| Balance in savings account Dec. 31, 1961 .....      | \$1,975.00 |

Mrs. Stoner also presented an interim report for the period from Jan. 1, 1962 to May, 1962, showing a present general fund balance of \$1,323.21 and \$2,050.00 in the savings account. The reports were accepted.

Mrs. Stoner presented the expense budget for the year 1963 indicating total expenditures of \$2,360. This budget was approved.

Mrs. Stoner read a report that she had received to date a fund of \$160.00 contributed by Schenectady Bird Club members and friends and to be known as "The Nelle G. VanVorst Memorial Fund". This will be placed in the savings account.

It was voted to extend our thanks to the executors of the Estate of John P. Bruck for the generous gift of \$1,000.00.

## **The Kingbird**

Mrs. Alice E. Ulrich reported on her work as Editor of *The Kingbird*. She thanked all who had helped by contributing, for the answers to questionnaires sent to the clubs, for the articles, for the field notes, and Mr. Wheat for his conservation work. The next issue will be increased to 600 copies. She asked that articles for publication be kept coming in.

### **Membership**

Mrs. Eleanor L. Radke, membership chairman, reported the receipt of application for membership in the Federation from the Cortland County Bird Club, having an active membership of 57. On vote the Club was received. Also approved were 36 new individual members. She commended Mrs. Stoner for her work in getting sustaining, supporting and life memberships. The delegates were asked to emphasize all types of membership in their local clubs. Publication of a pamphlet concerning membership in the Federation is being prepared.

### **Conservation**

Mr. Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., conservation chairman, reported on the work that the committee had done, with the help of telegrams, letters and telephone calls, which resulted in the defeat in the State Senate of the proposed bill to permit shooting of the Great Horned Owl, and thanked all who had a part. We should be on the alert for another attempt to pass this bill again next year. The clubs had been requested for letters and telegrams to be included in the record of hearing on the Golden Eagle bill in the House sub-committee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation. Having passed in the House of Representatives in April, it is now before the Senate committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. We should keep our letters going to the Senate committee to have this bill reported out as soon as possible. Dr. Walter Spofford testified before the House committee hearings.

We should mobilize an effort to persuade our congressmen to support the Wilderness Bill which is now in a House sub-committee. It must be passed this year.

Local clubs having conservation problems should report them to the Federation conservation committee for Federation support.

Mr. Wheat suggested that the Federation join the New York State Conservation Council. After discussion it was voted that Mr. Wheat be appointed, with such other members of the conservation committee as he desires, to approach each member club and get the consensus of opinion after explaining the policies of the Conservation Council. The Federation will not join the Conservation Council, which would entail a dues expenditure of \$25.00, until approval is received from two-thirds of the member clubs.

A resolution that the Federation support legislation to remove the kingfisher from the list of unprotected birds of New York State was approved.

The Federation approved a resolution that it is opposed to any amendment to the forever wild clause in the State Constitution for the protection of the Forest Preserve.

### **Publications and Research**

Dr. Steven Eaton, chairman of the Publication and Research committee

requested that lists of breeding birds in each location that are on the danger list be sent to Mr. Maxwell Wheat.

### State Bird Book

Mr. Robert S. Arbib, Jr., Editor of the State Bird Book, reported that they are now close to the point where a full or part time editor is needed to put the book together in its final form. Also needed is some means of financing before publication. The Book will give the distribution of the birds of New York State and a sample write-up on the Loon will be included in a future issue of *The Kingbird*. Surveys of the breeding birds in your areas, taken this summer, would be very helpful.

The nominating committee, Mr. Richard A. Sloss, chairman, presented the following slate of officers for the year 1963, and they were on vote elected:

|                         |       |                                      |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| President               | ----- | Mr. John J. Elliott, Seaford         |
| Vice-President          | ----- | Mr. Robert S. Arbib, Jr., Mamaroneck |
| Corresponding Secretary | ----- | Mrs. Lillian C. Stoner, Albany       |
| Recording Secretary     | ----- | Mr. Watson B. Hastings, Dobbs Ferry  |
| Treasurer               | ----- | Mr. Kenneth D. Niven, Monticello     |

An auditing committee for 1963 was elected consisting of Mr. Guy Bartlett and Mr. Samuel R. Madison.

The following were elected as the nominating committee for the next annual meeting: Mr. Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., chairman, Mr. Albert Fudge and Mr. Walton B. Sabin.

A suggestion that the Federation take membership in the Natural History Society in Washington was after discussion tabled until next year. But in the mean time an informative article about the Society will be published in *The Kingbird*.

The tentative invitation presented by Miss Margaret Rusk to meet next year in Syracuse as the guests of the Onondaga Audubon Society was received with approval.

Thanks was extended to the two outgoing officers: Dr. Sally Hoyt, Corresponding Secretary and Mrs. Lillian Stoner, Treasurer; and to Mr. Harold Mitchell, Publications and Research chairman; Dr. Stephen Eaton, Bibliography; and Mr. Joseph Blake, Conservation chairman, for the excellent work done during the past year.

Mr. Harold Mitchell requested that someone volunteer to cooperate a state wide hawk count this fall, with a continuation next spring.

A special commendation of thanks was voted to the members of the local committee, incl. Dr. E. M. Reilly, Jr. for the papers session, and to the Alan Devoe Bird Club, the Greene County Bird Club and the Schenectady Bird Club for the excellent arrangements and planning for this meeting.—Watson B. Hastings, Recording Secretary.

#### **CORRIGENDUM:** (Vol. 12, No 1, p 10, line 23-24)

The diet includes ants, wasps, beetles, bugs, grasshoppers, crickets, moths, caterpillars, spiders etc., but hardly any wood-boring beetle larvae.

**CORRIGENDUM:** (Vol. 2, No 1, p 11, line 42-45) — The largest number of hairy woodpeckers are seen in the winter but several times as many downy woodpeckers are seen at that time. Only in the most densely wooded areas or in large forested tracts such as the Adirondacks does the hairy equal or surpass the downy in numbers.