

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 24TH ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

LAKE MOHONK, N.Y.

JUNE 4-6, 1971

The 24th Annual Meeting of the FNYSSBC was held at the Mohonk Mountain House, Lake Mohonk, New Paltz, N.Y. with the John Burroughs Natural History Society as host. The Council Meeting was called to order at 9:10 A.M. June 5, by the president, Dr. Edgar M. Reilly, Jr. The roll call was answered by delegates from 25 clubs and a quorum was declared.

A motion made by Mr. Joseph Taylor and seconded by Mr. Stephen Dempsey to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous council meeting as they had been published in the October, 1970, issue of the *Kingbird* was passed unanimously.

The treasurer, Mr. James P. Karp, presented his report for the calendar year 1970 as follows:

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC. TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 12/31/70 AND FOR THE THEN ENDED YEAR

Income

Dues, Individual		
Annual	\$1880.00	
Sustaining	90.00	
Supporting	170.00	
Life	300.00	
Student	21.00	\$2561.00
Dues, Club		702.00
Subscriptions		25.00
Unclassified Income		160.75
Interest Income		268.87
Miscellaneous Income		9.04
		<u>\$3726.66</u>

Expenses

Kingbird	\$3360.53	
Annual Meeting	102.68	
Membership Maintenance	151.78	
Conservation	21.23	
Affiliation Dues	50.00	
Miscellaneous Fund	109.65	
Hawk Fund (Reimbursement Expense)		3864.20
Net Loss		<u>\$ 137.54</u>

Cash Reconciliation, 12/31/70

Checking Account, 1/1/70	\$3706.77	
Savings Account	5245.00	
Net Loss	(137.54)	<u>\$8814.23</u>

Mr. Karp reported that there are 467 individual members of the Federation, 30 Life Members, and 35 clubs which are members. He estimated on the basis of the amounts paid by clubs that they are represented by about 4680 individuals.

He also presented a breakdown of income and expenses through Apr 30, 1971, showing an ending cash balance of \$9176.86.

Mr. Karp presented the budget for 1972 with following estimated sources of income and projected expenses:

Income		Expenses	
Individual memberships	\$2700	Kingbird	\$3400
Club dues	750	Annual Meeting	200
Subscriptions	250	Membership Maintenance	150
Interest	280	Conservation	100
Miscellaneous Income	20	Affiliation Dues	50
	<u>\$4000</u>	Miscellaneous Expenses	<u>100</u>
			\$4000

Mr. Taylor questioned whether the *Kingbird* figure included mailing costs. Mr. Walton Sabin asked if the postal increase would affect the cost of mailing it. He mentioned that there was a 2nd class non-profit organization rate which was cheaper than the present 2nd class postage rate. This was to be investigated.

Mrs. Lillian Stoner presented the report of the Auditing Committee which consisted of herself and Mrs. Dorothy McIlroy. They had checked the books for 1970 and approved the treasurer's report as presented.

The corresponding secretary, Miss Elizabeth Feldhusen, made no report.

Dr. Reilly presented the report of the Membership Committee in the absence of Mrs. Ruth Williams, chairman. Her report noted 34 new individual members, 5 life members, 2 supporting and 1 sustaining members. These were accepted into the Federation.

Mr. Warren Lloyd presented the report of Dr. Neil Moon on a new membership category at \$25.00 which he called patron. Mrs. Stoner reminded the Council that a patron category at \$500 already existed. Mr. Allan Klonick wondered, in view of the net loss last year, whether we were covering expenses with the \$5.00 membership. Mrs. Janet Greenfield stated she was unaware of the existence of individual memberships.

During the discussion which ensued the following suggestions were made: Miss Feldhusen that a membership table be set up at the Annual Meeting so that individuals could join; Dr. Frederick Dittrich that the dues be increased from \$5.00 to \$6.00; Dr. Gerhard Leubner that a concerted campaign be waged for new members; Mr. Robert Arbib that an application be sent to each person in the member clubs. Mrs. McIlroy pointed out the hazards of raising the dues and the delays involved, while Mr. Kenneth Niven pointed out that the campaign for new members and increased printing costs might result in a stand-off financially.

Dr. Reilly asked for an expression of opinion from the delegates as to whether the dues should be raised. The majority favored this. Dr. Reilly then asked Dr. Dittrich to chair a committee to study the *Kingbird* costs and the feasibility of raising the dues. (Secretary's note—Mr. Taylor and Dr. James Tate have been named to the committee by Dr. Dittrich.) Dr. Leubner wondered if there was a breakdown as to the cost of printing the *Kingbird* per member. Dr. Dittrich who is circulation manager for the *Kingbird*, replied that the normal run has been 700 copies which has provided extra copies and the cost has been about \$800 an issue. Mrs. Stoner expressed the opinion that a raise in dues would result in a loss in membership. The secretary was instructed to obtain membership lists from clubs in order that a membership campaign might be waged.

Mr. Taylor presented his report as editor of the *Kingbird*. He stated that in the interest of getting the *Kingbird* out on time, he had in January extended the deadline 10 days, but that the deadline was firm. If reports have not been received by the

deadline, they would not be published in that issue or any future issue. He asked the help of the delegates in seeing that the regional editors submit their reports on time. He also said that extenuating circumstances would be considered.

He reminded delegates of the series he has been publishing on Nature Preserves belonging to member clubs and asked that clubs submit these reports voluntarily. He also restated his belief that the regional reports were too detailed.

The president thanked Mr. Taylor for the job he had done and reaffirmed his belief in the need for a firm deadline. Mr. Richard Sloss stated his feelings that editor should have the right to tailor the publication as he saw fit. Dr. Reilly reminded him of the opposition to that position expressed at last year's Council Meeting and said he felt the editor was forced to comply with the members' feelings.

Mr. Arbib, chairman of the Publications and Research Committee and also the new editor of *American Birds* (formerly *Audubon Field Notes*), stated he had been unable to hold a meeting the previous night, but would attempt to have one before the end of the summer. He said he felt the membership should be circularized as to ways to increase readership of the *Kingbird* and membership in the Federation. He emphasized concentrating on increasing the membership rather than raising the dues. He also felt more emphasis should be placed in the *Kingbird* on research projects which clubs are engaged in, such as breeding bird and population censuses. He would like to see each club submit a short report on cooperative field work being done by it. He felt a positive program is needed since we have been reaching only about 5% of the potential membership. Mr. Stanley Quickmire, field representative for National Audubon, announced that there are 18,000 Audubon members in New York State alone.

Mr. John Bull, editor of the State Bird Book, reported that the manuscript would be finished by late summer of 1971.

Mrs. Alice Ulrich, chairman of the Bulletin Exchange Committee, stated that some clubs didn't receive the requests for exchange information. She reminded the delegates that she should have the name of the person in charge of each club's publication. She was given the names of Mrs. Carol Tveekrem, Moriches Bay Audubon Society, 6 Shore Rd. Patchogue 11172; Mr. Albert Bell, Lyman Landgon Audubon Society, 120 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff 11579, and Mrs. Kathryn Wilson, Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, 577 Main St, Oneonta 13820. It was stated that the Keuka Park Conservation Club had no bulletin.

Dr. Dittrich reported on the groups with which the *Kingbird* is exchanged, such as the Eastern Bird Banding Association, New Jersey State Museum, etc., (Secretary's note: see page 115 of the May, 1970 issue of *Kingbird* for the complete list) and suggested that we exchange bulletins with the Rogers Environmental Education Center at Sherburne. These bulletins have been kept at Mr. Taylor's home for a certain period of time and some have been passed on to the Laboratory of Ornithology. The exchange was approved.

Mrs. Mona Boch suggested posting a sheet on the Federation bulletin board for interclub exchange of bulletins and publications. The president asked her to do this.

Mr. Robert Wolk asked if the Federation receives a complimentary copy of the *Conservationist*. Dr. Dittrich replied that the state pays for a subscription to the *Kingbird*.

Mr. Jerome Kerner reminded the Council that he had wanted to do an article on the Federation for the *Conservationist* and had requested that club patches and emblems be sent to him. Only a few clubs had responded, so he repeated his request. His address is Hastings Dr., Grahamsville 12740.

In the absence of Sally Hoyt Spofford, there was no report of the Bibliography Committee.

The report of the 1971 Waterfowl Count as submitted by Chairman John Mitchell was announced by Mr. Taylor. It will be published in a future issue of the *Kingbird*. The reports for 1968-70 have not been received. Mr. Dempsey asked if information

about the dates of the count could not be made available earlier. Mrs. McIlroy said it had been previously published in the October issue of the *Kingbird*. Mr. Edward Treacy of Region 9 also reported that region had run into trouble because the date had not been known early enough. The president reminded the council that the date has had to be coordinated with the aerial survey taken by the state. Mr. Taylor said he would try to have the date published in the July issue of the *Kingbird*.

Mr. Sloss reported for the By-Laws Committee and reminded delegates that they had approved the proposed changes last year. The changes had been circularized to the member clubs with the clubs being asked to instruct their delegates as to approval or disapproval. Mr. Sloss then read the following proposed amendments:

Article II, Section 2, subsection (a)

(1) Insert immediately after the words "---fifteen cents per each---" the word "regular".

(2) Insert immediately after the words "---except that the minimum dues shall be five dollars--" the words "---and the maximum dues one hundred dollars." In its amended form this subsection shall read:

(a) The annual dues of member clubs shall be an amount equal to fifteen cents per each regular dues paying member of such club, except that the minimum dues shall be five dollars and the maximum dues one hundred dollars, 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 has been served upon the member club.

Article IV, Section 1. Council of Delegates

Delete the second sentence of this section and substitute the following:

"Members of the council of delegates shall be selected by Member Clubs on the following basis:

<u>Number of Regular Dues Paying Members</u>	<u>Authorized Number of Delegates</u>
1-100	1
101-200	2
201-500	3
501-700	4
701-900	5
Over 900	6

In its amended form this section shall read:

The council of delegates shall be the governing body of the Federation. Members of the council of delegates shall be selected by Member Clubs on the following basis:

<u>Number of Regular Dues Paying Members</u>	<u>Authorized Number of Delegates</u>
1-100	1
101-200	2
201-500	3
501-700	4
701-900	5
Over 900	6

Member Clubs may send alternate delegates to such meetings in the event the regular delegates is unable to attend. Such delegates shall have and exercise all the rights, powers and privileges ordinarily exercised by members of a membership

corporation at annual and special meetings. Individual members shall not have or exercise any such rights, powers and privileges.

Mr. Sloss reminded the delegates that $\frac{2}{3}$ of the clubs must approve the changes. On a show of hands 29 delegates approved, 0 disapproved. He will now circularize the individual clubs for their decisions. Delegates were urged to have their clubs act promptly on this.

The Hawk Nesting Program which Mr. Saltford had reported on at the Conservation Meeting was discussed further. Dr. Reilly suggested that in the future news releases might be sent out on Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology stationery. He stated that he would contact the *Conservationist* for an article. The council was reminded that the program now covers any hawk, not just the Red-tailed.

Dr. James Tate of the Laboratory suggested that the Federation look into the possibilities of involving the active participants in the Cornell Hawk Research Project in Tompkins County where 80-100 nests have been under observation. Dr. Dittrich moved and Mr. Dempsey seconded the motion that the Hawk Nesting Program be coordinated with the Cornell program. Mr. Saltford stated there was no concern on the part of the donor to restrict the awards to Red-tails. The purpose of his gift was to educate people to the value of the birds. He reiterated the fact that the award was now \$10.00 to the owner of the land on which the successful nest was found and \$5.00 to the verifying club. Dr. Tate suggested that Dr. Cade be approached to work out details for next year. Dr. Reilly volunteered to work on details. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Greenfield stated that a landowner had turned back money to the Cortland Club.

Dr. Dittrich, circulation manager of the *Kingbird*, reported a slight drop in individual memberships and the withdrawal of five clubs from membership in the Federation. While general costs of the *Kingbird* had been discussed earlier, he estimated costs of publication at \$1.50 per copy per issue. Mrs. Greenfield asked if the envelope could be eliminated. Dr. Dittrich will check.

Mrs. Greenfield presented the report of the Nominating Committee for Chairman, Mr. Maxwell Wheat, Jr. Mr. Tom Davis moved acceptance of the slate and Mr. Allan Klonick moved the nominations be closed. The following slate was unanimously elected:

President—Mr. Kenneth D. Niven

Vice-President—Mrs. Mary Ann Sunderlin

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Elizabeth Feldhusen

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Myrna Hemmerick

Treasurer—Mr. Stephen Dempsey

Dr. Leubner reported on the activities of the Conservation Committee which has added two new members at large—Mr. Daniel Smiley and Dr. David Peakall. He reviewed the discussions at Friday nights Conservation Meeting relative to the importance of preserving the Bashakill Marsh, as well as attempts to amend the Harris-Mason Bill which had afforded protection to endangered species. He reviewed Dan Smiley's studies on the gypsy moth and reported Mr. Smiley's suggestions that members become active on town and county Conservation Commissions. He also reported on the work of the State Commission on Conservation Education. He noted that copies of a leaflet urging support for H. R. Bill 5821, which would extend protection to other birds of prey, had been distributed.

Dr. Leubner stated he would attempt to have a meeting in September of the Conservation Committee, club conservation chairmen, and any interested persons at the Rogers Environmental Education Center at Sherburne. He would also try to get out an issue of *Conservation Now*. He stated his feeling of the need for an active legislative action committee to coordinate programs for reacting to proposed legislation. He pointed out that the Eastman Kodak Co. has issued a pollution booklet which may be obtained by writing the company.

Mr. Arbib voiced his concern about overcentralizing action of this type in that it

minimized the impact of the numerous groups involved. He felt results have been more effective when large numbers of people have reacted to measures. Dr. Reilly felt there should be one person to disseminate information, however.

Mr. Kerner pointed out that the Environmental Lobby has maintained a telephone in Washington where information on the status of any bill before the House or Senate could be obtained. Dr. Reilly stated that a list of prefiled bills is available before the New York legislative session and suggested that this could be published in the *Kingbird* or *Conservation Now*. Mr. Arbib stressed the need for action on the local level and stated that conservationists should not be petitioners but decision makers. They should get into politics, serve on commissions and boards, and are particularly needed in the legislature. Dr. Reilly suggested that politically-minded conservationists should attend town board meetings where they could perhaps be consulted before decisions were made.

The Nominating Committee for 1972 was elected as follows, without opposition. Mr. Walter Benning, chairman, Miss Marada Johnson and Dr. Edgar Reilly, Jr. The Recording Secretary read the provisions in the By-laws relative to the Nominating Committee's duties.

Mr. Stoner suggested that persons be named to the Auditing Committee who belonged to the same club as the Treasurer. The election of the Auditing Committee was therefore tabled. Dr. Reilly will appoint the members.

Several announcements were made. Mr. Arbib announced an African Safari for 1972. Mr. Quickmire mentioned the exhibits and announced that the Audubon calendars and extra copies of Audubon magazine were free. Dr. Reilly stated that the translated Russian bird records would be played at the reception before the banquet. Dr. Tate announced that the Laboratory of Ornithology was producing cassettes for tape recorders.

Mr. Sloss expressed his distress at the small amount of time available to conduct Federation business. He suggested considering a 3-day meeting. He felt liason has been difficult in the past and that responsibilities have not been carried out. He suggested that all day Friday be devoted to business. He then moved that delegates approve extension of the Annual Meeting to 3 days in order to enable delegates to properly consider and act upon business of the Federation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor. During discussion the following suggestions were made: Mrs. Greenfield that a club underwrite some of a delegate's expense; Miss Margaret Rusk that time be used more efficiently and that a less expensive place be chosen; Mr. Davis that expenses be written off by an individual on his income tax; Mr. Arbib that the meeting start Friday noon with committee meetings in the afternoon; Mr. Kerner that places with camp site facilities be chosen; Mr. Wolk that University campuses after classes have ended be used for meetings. Mr. Sloss stressed that he felt the general meeting of the delegates was important and that it had been compressed into too short a time. He stated that the small standing committees should be able to communicate during the year. The motion was carried with two opposed.

Mr. Sloss also suggested that a delegate should serve as an active liason with the Federation for an entire year. He stated his intention of suggesting to the Linnaean Society that it set up a Federation Committee so that liason would be better. Mr. Wolk suggested that delegates should serve for the remainder of the year and communications should go to them. Mr. Taylor suggested that delegates be elected at the annual meeting of the individual club. Mr. Sloss suggested that present delegates serve until next annual meeting and that some attempt be made to preserve continuity. Mr. Wolk suggested listing names of delegates and their clubs in the *Kingbird*. The recording secretary was instructed to pass around a list to obtain this information.

The president announced that no invitations had been received for next year's annual meeting.

Mr. Quickmire reported on the El Dorado Beach project, which last year was still \$20,000 short of its goal. At that time he had offered the use of the Audubon mailing list. About 12,000 letters were sent and \$5,000.00 was raised within a very short time. Today the balance to be raised is down to \$5,000.

Dr. Reilly asked Mr. Wolk o chair and Mr. Niven, Mr. Sloss and Mr. Sabin to be on a Resolutions Committee to prepare a resolution thanking the host club

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 P.M. on the motion of Mr. Dempsey.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Sunderlin
Recording Secretary

Any club which was not represented at the Council Meeting may obtain a copy of the 1971 roster of officers, committee members and member clubs, by writing the secretary, Mrs. Mary Ann Sunderlin, 505 Bay Road, Webster. N.Y. 14850

The following is a list of clubs and their delegates represented at the annual meeting.

Alan Devoe Bird Club—Aden L. Gokay, Stony Kill Rd., Canaan 12029; Miss Mary Mickle, 42 Center St, Chatham 12037

Auburn Bird Club—Donald P. O'Brien, 9 Park Ave., Auburn 13021

Baldwin Bird Club—Stephen B. Dempsey, 533 Chestnut St., W. Hempstead 11552

Brooklyn Bird Club—Elizabeth Feldhusen, 891 Union St., Brooklyn 11215

Buffalo Audubon Society—Mrs. Wm. Pruss, 99 Parkside Ave., Hamburg 14075; Mrs. R. Wm. Rochester, 216 Highland Ave., Hamburg 14075

Buffalo Ornithological Soc.—Mrs. Alice Ulrich, 193 LaSalle Ave., Buffalo 14214; Miss Marie Wendling, 87 Garrison Rd., Williamsville

Burroughs Audubon Nature Club—Dr. Gerhard Leubner, 151 Upland Dr., Rochester 14617

Cayuga Bird Club—Dr. James Tate, R.D. #1, Freeville

Chemung Valley Audubon Soc.—Mrs. Albert W. Fudge, 326 Larchmont Rd., Elmira 14905

Cortland County Bird Club—Mrs. Janet Greenfield, R.D. #1, Carr Hill Rd., Cortland 13045

Eaton Ornithological Soc.—Walter Benning, R.D. #2, Clyde 14433

Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club—Edward Treacy, Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls 10928

Genesee Ornithological Soc.—Joseph W. Taylor, 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls 14472; Allan S. Klonick, 111 Rowland Pkwy, Rochester 14618; Warren Lloyd, 1756 Ridge Rd., Webster 14580

Great South Bay Audubon Soc.—Mrs. Mona Boch, 10 Bay 1st St., Islip 11751

Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club—Mr. and Mrs. Walton Sabin, 652 Kenwood Ave., Slingerlands 12159

Huntington Audubon Soc.—Mr. & Mrs. William B. Reeves, 107 Elberta Dr., E. Northport 11731; Anthony Lauro, 9 DeSoto Rd., Amityville 11701

John Burroughs Natural Hist. Soc.—Mrs. Edward Grady, R.D. #1, High Falls 12440

Linnaean Society of N.Y.—Richard A. Sloss, 1300 Seawave Dr., Hewlett Harbor 11557; Dr. Robert Wolk, Museum of Natural History, Seaford 11783; Thomas H. Davis, Jr., 8613 85th St., Woodhaven 13494

Lyman-Langdon Audubon Soc.—Albert Bell, Jr. 120 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff 11579

North Country Bird Club—Miss Marada Johnson, 173 Park Ave., Watertown 13601; Richard I. Brouse, 118 Phelps St., Watertown 13601

Oneida Bird Club—Mrs. Paul Paquette, 173 Skinner Rd., Oneida 13421

Onondaga Audubon Soc.—Miss Margaret Rusk, 242 W. Calthrop Ave., Syracuse 13205; Dr. Frederick Dittich, 20 Drumlins Terr., Syracuse 13224

Ralph T. Waterman Bird C.—Edward Briggs, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie 12601; Herbert Saltford, 6 West Winding, Poughkeepsie 12601

Schuyler County Bird Club—Mrs. R. Barrie Strath, Speedway, Odessa 14869

Sullivan County Audubon Soc.—Jerome Kerner, Hastings Dr., Grahamsville 12740

The Secretary regrets any omissions or errors and will gladly make corrections in a future issue.

The Resolution which was prepared by the Resolutions Committee and presented at the Annual Banquet was as follows:

WHEREAS the officers and members of the John Burroughs Natural History Society, Inc., have given generously of their time and effort to plan, organize and provide facilities for the 24th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, and

WHEREAS it is the desire of this Federation to record its appreciation by these minutes,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Federation expresses its recognition and gratitude to the John Burroughs Natural History Society for the fine work and hospitality responsible for the success of this annual meeting.

Resolutions Committee
Kenneth D. Niven
Walton B. Sabin
Robert G. Wolk, Chairman
5 June 1971
New Paltz, N.Y.

REPORT OF THE CIRCULATION MANAGER

The Federation Council at its last meeting approved the exchange of *The Kingbird* with the *Bulletin*, *Research Report* and *Investigation* publications of the New Jersey State Museum. The Curator of Natural History at that museum, Donald S. Heintzelman, has asked us to help him obtain certain back numbers as follows:

Volume I, II and III	— all
Volume IV	— nos., 1 and 2
Volume XI	— no. 1
Volume XVII	— no. 4
Volume XVIII	— no. 1
Volume XIX	— no. 4
Volume XX	— all

Anyone wishing to contribute these back numbers to the ornithological library of a state museum should get in touch with the Circulation Manager, Dr. Frederick C. Dittich, c/o The Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell, so that all offers may be coordinated and mailing expense saved.

The Kingbird's own inventory of back numbers is depleted in some issues, and we will be sending out a request for these in a subsequent issue, so that if you know of anyone who no longer has need for his or her *Kingbirds*, we ask that you get in touch with them so that when our list is complete we will readily be able to replenish our supply. We are already grateful to Mrs. Louise Van Acker of Lake Worth, Florida for the return of her 1961–1970 issues, and to Mrs. Dayton Stoner for bringing them to us.