

**MINUTES OF THE 30th ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
ALBANY, NEW YORK
September 30th - October 1st, 1977**

The 30th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc. was held at the New York State Museum, Albany, N.Y. with the Alan DeVoe Bird Club and the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club as co-hosts. At 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30th, the meeting was called to order by President Richard A. Sloss, who introduced Noel Fritzinger, Assistant Commissioner of Museums for New York State. Mr. Fritzinger welcomed the Council of Delegates with a resume of the basic changes in the State Museum, pointing out that the former 75-year-old building featured natural resources of the State, whereas the new complex adds human activity to the natural, and thus presents the interaction of nature and man. He praised Edgar Reilly for his work as curator and his dedication.

The roll call of delegates was answered by 22 Member Clubs constituting a quorum for the transaction of business. The Delegates waived the reading of the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting, accepting them as presented in the Winter, 1977 issue of *The Kingbird*.

Myrna Hemmerick, Membership Chairman, presented the report of the Membership Committee. Membership was at an all time high with a total of 601 paid memberships as follows:

Annual Membership	414	Student Membership	36
Family Membership	85	Life Membership	48
Supporting Membership	12	Partial Life Membership	6

Myrna Hemmerick pointed out that the 17% growth in membership attests to the success of Gordon Meade's intensive and effective campaign. Gordon Meade later requested a membership roster from each club, to aid in the continuation of this drive. The reapplication for membership by the Great South Bay Audubon Society was unanimously approved by the delegates and with this election the total number of Member Clubs became 41.

The Treasurer, Stephen Dempsey, presented his reports for the calendar year 1976 and through September 29, 1977. His reports for the preceding calendar year are presented herewith:

**FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 12/31/76 AND FOR THE THEN ENDED YEAR**

Cash on Hand 12/31/75

Checking Account	\$ 1,665.16
Savings Accounts	9,049.78
Net Gain in 1976	<u>310.13</u>
	\$11,025.07

Cash on Hand 12/31/76

Checking Account	\$ 1,636.08
Savings Accounts	<u>9,388.99</u>
	\$11,025.07

Income, 1976

<u>Dues</u>			
Annual - 1976 - Renewal - 294	\$ 2,352.00		
New 43	344.00		
New ½ year - 11	44.00		
1977 - Renewal - 9	72.00		
New 10	<u>80.00</u>	\$ 2,892.00	
Family - 1976 - Renewal - 45	\$ 450.00		
New 5	50.00		
New ½ year - 6	30.00		
1977 - New 8	<u>80.00</u>	610.00	
Supporting - 1976 - Renewal - 17	\$ 255.00		
New ½ year - 1	<u>7.50</u>	262.50	
Student - 1976 - Renewal - 15	\$ 45.00		
New 17	51.00		
1977 - New 4	<u>12.00</u>	108.00	
Life - Complete - 2	\$ 300.00		
Partial 6	<u>200.00</u>	500.00	
Clubs - 1976 - Renewal - 40	\$ 1,231.20		
New 1	<u>6.75</u>	<u>1,237.95</u>	
Total - Dues		\$ 5,610.45	
<u>OTHER</u>			
Contributions		\$ 1,030.68	
Lillian C. Stoner Award for 1975		75.00	
Pelagic Trip - 6/12	\$ 976.00		
9/25	832.00		
11/27	<u>752.00</u>	\$ 2,560.00	
Subscriptions - 1976 - 15	\$ 135.00		
1977 - 37	<u>333.00</u>	468.00	
Index to <i>Kingbird</i>		17.00	
Back Issues of <i>Kingbird</i>		31.50	
Sale of Feeders		133.64	
Sale of Decals		10.50	
Supplement to <i>Birds of New York State</i>		510.35	
Refund of Deposit on 1976 Annual Meeting Banquet		250.00	
Interest on Savings Account		<u>608.59</u>	
Total - Other		\$ 5,895.26	
Grand Total		\$11,305.71	

EXPENSES, 1976

<i>Kingbird</i>	\$ 4,419.41
<i>New York Birders</i>	536.67
Supplement to <i>Birds of New York State</i>	1,305.60
Membership Brochure	563.65
Purchase of Decals	164.38
Purchase of Feeders	39.42
Index to <i>Kingbird</i>	1,033.84
Membership	149.21

Dues Notices		\$ 84.19
Miscellaneous		316.55
Annual Meeting		227.01
Conservation		25.00
Dues		50.00
Pelagic Trip - 6/12	\$ 799.97	
9/25	683.34	
11/27	<u>597.34</u>	<u>2,080.65</u>
Total		\$10,995.58
Net Gain		\$ 310.13

Submitted by: Stephen B. Dempsey, Treasurer 6/13/77

Books and accounts examined and found in good order

Irving Cantor, Auditor 6/21/77

Herbert H. Roth, Auditor 7/18/77

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
LILLIAN C. STONER STUDENT EXPENSE FUND
TREASURER'S REPORT OF THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1976

Balance on Hand 1/1/76	\$ 1,089.61
Interest Earned - Year 1976	80.39
Less: Awards presented in 1975 and 1976	150.00
Balance on Hand 12/31/76	\$ 1,020.00

Submitted by: Stephen B. Dempsey, Treasurer 6/13/77

Books and accounts examined and found in good order

Irving Cantor, Auditor 6/21/77

Herbert H. Roth, Auditor 7/18/77

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
HAWK NESTING FUND
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1976

Balance on Hand 1/1/76	\$ 1,128.96
Interest earned - Year 1976	86.19
Balance on Hand 12/31/76	\$ 1,215.15

Submitted by: Stephen B. Dempsey, Treasurer 6/13/77

Books and accounts examined and found in good order

Irving Cantor, Auditor 6/21/77

Herbert H. Roth, Auditor 7/18/77

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.
JOHN J. ELLIOTT MEMORIAL FUND
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1976

Balance on Hand 1/1/76	\$ 1,054.96
Interest earned - Year 1976	82.20
Less: Awards presented in 1976	75.00
Balance on Hand 12/31/76	\$ 1,062.16

Submitted by Stephen B. Dempsey, Treasurer 6/13/77

Books and accounts examined and found in good order

Irving Cantor, Auditor 6/21/77

Herbert H. Roth, Auditor 7/18/77

Mr. Dempsey pointed out that as suggested at the Annual Meeting in 1976 the financial reports had been distributed in advance to all those Delegates whose names had been submitted to the Recording Secretary prior to the Annual Meeting, in order to allow study and the formulation of any questions. Mr. Dempsey asked the Delegates for any comments and since none was forthcoming, the reports were approved as submitted. Mr. Herbert Roth, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, read a report (at the Saturday morning session of the Delegate meeting) attesting to the fact that Mr. Irving Cantor and Mr. Herbert Roth had examined the books and accounts of the Federation and had found them to be in good order.

In the absence of Sally Hoyt Spofford, Bibliography Committee Chairman, President Sloss read her report. The bibliography of New York State ornithology covering articles and notes published in numerous journals during the year 1975 was compiled by the Committee and submitted to the Editors of *The Kingbird* for publication in the Fall, 1977, issue. Material for the bibliography of 1976 publications is being collected and information from any member relative thereto would be appreciated. Appreciation was expressed to the Chairman's Committee members, John Belknap, Allen Benton and Dr. Kenneth Parkes.

Walton Sabin, Chairman of the Waterfowl Census Committee, reported that the Waterfowl Census for 1976 would appear in the next issue of *The Kingbird* and the census taken for 1977 would appear in a subsequent issue of *The Kingbird*.

Robert Arbib, Chairman of the Publications & Research Committee, presented his report. He complimented Emanuel Levine and John Farrand, Jr., Co-Editors of *The Kingbird*, and Robert Smart for their fine work in maintaining and increasing the quality of the Federation's quarterly journal. He also paid recognition to the work done and the contributions made by the Regional Editors. Mr. Arbib then called the attention of the Delegates to the continued excellence of the quarterly newsletter of the Federation, *New York Birders*, under the able editorship of Max Wheat, assisted by Mary Ann Sunderlin, Gordon Meade, Albert Bell and Betty Perrigo. Susan Drennan's progress on the monumental *Where To Bird In New York State* was the next subject of Mr. Arbib's report. He advised the Delegates that 50 to 60 questionnaires had been received and that these are already being compiled to form a very creditable beginning for this project.

Mr. Arbib reported on the Federation's activities, under Edgar Reilly, for the 1977 summer resident survey. He also commented on the fact that Vermont is making a county by county atlas, 120 quadrants, of bird populations; West Virginia is doing a similar product, and a new book entitled *Breeding Birds of Great Britain* has recently been published giving an intensive survey of all breeding birds. He suggested that the next issue of *New York Birders* outline a proposal for a committee to revise the basic maps dividing New York State into regions and a plea for volunteers to work during May, June and July to compile the data on breeding birds more effectively than we have done in the past.

Richard Sloss read a report from Frederick Dittrich, Chairman of the Circulation Committee. As of September 23, 1977, *Kingbird* mailings: 594 individual memberships; 38 copies to Member Clubs; 48 subscriptions; 14 exchanges; 18 complimentary; 4 extras to Clubs; and 1 Post Office copy. Mr. Dittrich pointed out that this represents an increase of 101 for the current year.

Mary Ann Sunderlin advised the Delegates that Stanley Quickmeyer, member of the Federation and former Northeast Representative of the National Audubon Society, died in 1977. Stan attended many Annual Meetings of the Federation when he was active as National Audubon Society representative. William Lee called the Delegates' attention to the fact that approximately ten days before, Guy Bartlett had passed away; he was a founder of the Federation and of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club.

The Friday afternoon session of the Annual Meeting of Delegates was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Richard Sloss convened the Saturday morning session of the Council of Delegates at 9:15 am. A roll call of Delegates showed that 30 Member Clubs were represented. President Sloss asked Allen Benton to serve as parliamentarian for this session of the Annual Meeting.

President Sloss reviewed the activities and progress of the Federation for the past year. He told the Delegates of the time and effort contributed by the Officers of the corporation and the ten members at large who, together with the Officers, comprise the Executive Committee. This Committee met three times during the year and was responsible for many of the programs and projects carried on by the Federation. He also advised the meeting that communication between the Federation and its Member Clubs has improved, with the growing number of Federation representatives appointed by the Member Clubs. He urged Delegates to those clubs which had not yet appointed a Federation representative to do so. The President dwelt briefly on what he felt was one area in the Federation's activities which certainly could be improved, conservation. He urged continuing efforts to reestablish an aborted cooperative conservation program with the Northeast Representative of the National Audubon Society and the appointment of an effective Conservation Committee.

The President reviewed the history of the proposed New York State Avian Records Committee, first suggested in 1975 at the Annual Meeting in Oneonta, New York. He advised the Delegates that since the last Annual Meeting at Hempstead a new committee chaired by Edgar Reilly and consisting of Robert Andrie, Paul DeBenedictis, Allen Benton, John Farrand, Jr., Robert Spahn and William Vaughan had completed proposed bylaws and reviewed them with the Executive Committee of the Federation in March. These proposed bylaws were sent to all Member Clubs in the spring for the purpose of review, criticism and Delegate instruction with respect to rejection or acceptance at this Annual Meeting. Mr. Sloss called upon Edgar Reilly, Chairman of the NYSARC Committee, to take the chair and review the bylaws with the Delegates. Dr. Reilly presided over a detailed analysis of the bylaws, during which period amendments were proposed and either adopted or rejected. Upon motion made by Paul DeBenedictis, the Council for Delegates unanimously approved the adoption of the bylaws as submitted, and further amended by the Delegates, thus establishing New York State's first Avian Records Committee under the auspices of the Federation. Said bylaws will be reproduced in their final form and sent to each Member Club.

The President then called upon the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Gordon Meade, to present the slate of Officers for the coming year, 1977-1978. Dr. Meade presented the following slate: President—Stephen B. Dempsey, Vice-President—Alice D. Jones, Recording Secretary—Dee DeSimone, Corresponding Secretary—Martin Borko, Treasurer—John Forness. Since no other nominations were received, the President moved that one vote be cast to elect the slate presented by the Nominating Committee and the Delegates seconded and unanimously carried this motion. Mr. Sloss then turned over the gavel to the incoming President, Stephen Dempsey.

Mr. Dempsey pointed out that there were two elective committees upon which the Delegates must act. He called for nominations for a Nominating Committee and the following were elected: Allen Benton, Chairman; Richard Sloss and Ronald LaForce. He then asked for nominations to serve as an Auditing Committee and the following members were nominated and elected: Irving Cantor and Donald Clark.

President Dempsey asked Gordon Meade to draw up a resolution, to be read at the annual dinner, thanking the host clubs.

Martin Borko asked the Delegates to consider passing a resolution placing the Federation in opposition to the use of Endrin for control of the Pine Vole in the orchards in the Hudson River Valley. After due discussion the Delegates adopted this resolution.

Gordon Meade announced that the next Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Genesee Ornithological Society, the Burroughs Audubon Nature Club and the Rochester Birding Association in Rochester on September 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1978.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Lona T. Coates
Recording Secretary

At the Annual Banquet on Saturday evening the following noteworthy actions were taken:

Martin Borko presented the resolution that had been adopted at the Delegates Meeting as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs is opposed to the use of Endrin to control the Pine Vole in New York State, as it poses a threat to avian predatory species and more particularly to the attempted reintroduction of the endangered Peregrine Falcon.

A resolution of appreciation to the Alan DeVoe Bird Club and the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club was presented by Gordon Meade as follows: WHEREAS, the Alan DeVoe Bird Club and the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club have been joint hosts for the 30th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs in the setting of the magnificent New York State Museum in Albany, N.Y. on September 30th, October 1st and 2nd, 1977, and

WHEREAS, all the Clubs and members of the Federation wish to express their thanks for the careful planning and smooth execution of the unusually fine program, and now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Federation hereby expresses its sincere appreciation to each member of the local committees who made this all possible, and to the members and Officers of the host clubs for their warm hospitality at this milestone meeting marking the Federation's third decade. This resolution was adopted by acclamation of those present at the banquet on October 1, 1977.

Outgoing President Richard A. Sloss presented the Lillian Stoner Award to Ms. Jean Schiller of New York Mills, N.Y., a member of the Kirkland Bird Club. Richard Sloss also announced that Thomas J. Rauber had been selected by the Committee as the winner of the John J. Elliott Memorial Award for his article in Volume 26, No. 3, Summer Issue of *The Kingbird*, entitled: "Notes on a New York Nest of the Bald Eagle." Honorable mention went to Gilbert S. Raynor for his article in *The Kingbird*, Volume 26, No. 4, Fall Issue, entitled: "Decrease in Breeding Brown Thrashers and Rufous-sided Towhees on Central Long Island."