

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS 37th ANNUAL MEETING

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc. was held Friday, 7 September, and Saturday, 8 September 1984, in Ithaca. The Cayuga Bird Club was host.

The Council of Delegates meeting, chaired by Charles Smith, President, was convened at 2:45 p.m., 7 September. Twenty-four member clubs answered the roll call. The minutes of the 36th Annual Meeting were accepted as published in *The Kingbird*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 2.

The Membership Report, showing 694 individual members and 36 club members at this time, was distributed, accepted and filed. Myrna Hemmerick, Chairman of the Committee since 1972, was recognized for her service. At the Annual Dinner on 8 September, it was announced that individual membership had then passed 700, for the first time in the organization's history.

The Treasurer's Report for the calendar year 1983 was distributed by William Vaughan, Treasurer, accepted and filed. A delegate's suggestion that a "Family Life Membership" category be established was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Auditing Committee, Allan Klonick and Harold Smith, reported the books of the Federation for 1983 in good order. Their report was accepted and filed.

The Waterfowl Count report, printed in *The Kingbird*, was summarized by Walton Sabin who announced 1985 dates of 12 to 20 January.

The Kingbird is currently lacking Regional Editors for Regions 1 and 8, Emanuel Levine, Co-Editor reported. If volunteers are not found, those Regional Reports may be missing from the next issue for the first time. *The Kingbird* Co-Editors were recognized for their long and professional service.

The Editor of *New York Birders*, Max Wheat, asked for suggestions for a change in format of that publication. He would like to use more reprints from club newsletters. Connie Wilkins was recognized for her contribution to this publication.

The John J. Elliott Award goes to George Maxwell and Gerald Smith for their article, "Reproductive Success of Island Nesting Ring-billed Gulls and Common Terns in the St. Lawrence River," *The Kingbird*, Vol. XXXIII, No. 1.

The Lillian C. Stoner Award was presented to David Kraus, nominated by The Linnaean Society of New York, and to Christine Brothers, nominated by the Rochester Birding Association.

The New York State Avian Records Committee report, to be printed in full in *The Kingbird*, was summarized by Paul DeBenedictis, Chairman. The official state list is now 427. The Committee hopes to prepare

a state checklist, by Region, for publication. The files of NYSARC repose in Charles Smith's office at the Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell.

The Nominating Committee, Morgan Jones, chairman, Stephen Dempsey and William Lee, proposed the incumbent officers, Charles Smith, President; Harriet Marsi, Vice President; William Vaughan, Treasurer; Constance Wilkins, Corresponding Secretary; Berna Weissman, Recording Secretary, be elected for a second year. The Council voted unanimous approval.

President Smith proposed that the 1984-1985 Nominating Committee consist of Morgan Jones, Chairman, Stephen Dempsey and William Lee and that the 1984-1985 Auditing Committee consist of Allan Klonick and Harold Smith. The Council voted unanimous approval.

The Breeding Bird Atlas Project Treasurer's report was distributed by Richard Sloss, accepted and filed.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned at 3:50 p.m., to reconvene 8 September at 10 a.m., Charles Smith, presiding.

The Conservation Committee, Karen Slotnick, Chairman, presented the following resolution, which was passed unanimously:

WHEREAS, The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs (FNYSBC) is committed to the preservation and protection of threatened and endangered species of birds and their habitats in New York State, and WHEREAS "The Essential Habitats Bill" (A 9030) adds definitions of "essential" habitat and "activity" and new subdivisions to the section of law which provide procedure for the designation by DEC of essential habitats of threatened and endangered species and requirement for DEC approval of management plans prepared in connection with activities which are likely to result in the destruction or adverse modification of essential habitat, therefore, be it: RESOLVED, that the FNYSBC, assembled at its Annual Meeting at Ithaca, NY, on 8 September 1984, supports "The Essential Habitats Bill," and be it further RESOLVED, that the FNYSBC strongly urges the New York State Assembly and Senate to enact this legislation.

The Breeding Bird Atlas Project's Chairman, Gordon Meade, reported on the clarification of roles of the agencies involved and on tentative plans for 1985 field work. Dr. Robert Andrie has been appointed Editor of the Atlas, Janet Carroll, Assistant Editor. Ms. Carroll gave an update on 1984 field results.

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Henry Williams addressed the Delegates about where the DEC stands on our interests. He hopes this will establish a tradition of such annual reports. He promised a Department commitment to funding as necessary until the Atlas Project is completed.

The National Audubon Society's NY State Representative, Ron Dodson, gave an overview of his office's activities.

The following resolution was presented by Mary Ann Sunderlin and passed unanimously:

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and in particular the Non-Game Section headed by Eugene McCaffrey, has provided support, encouragement and advice for the Breeding Bird Atlas from the initiation of the project, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Henry Williams has shown consistent interest and support for the Atlas, and

WHEREAS, the DEC has provided indispensable help for the operation of the Atlas by the assignment of the indefatigable and capable Janet Carroll as Atlas Coordinator, with the expert back-up services of Robert Miller, and

WHEREAS, the DEC has designed and built a portable display case portraying the purpose and results of the Atlas, and has shown the display at important meetings, and

WHEREAS, the DEC has provided a place at the Wildlife Resources Center at Delmar for meetings of the Atlas Coordinator and Steering Committee and has provided the services of the DEC computer unit to analyze and store Atlas data, to construct computer-composed print-outs of the state, and graphic maps of the block coverage and species ranges, and

WHEREAS, the DEC has provided funds from the "Return a Gift to Wildlife" income tax contribution for intensive surveying, or blockbusting, of remote areas, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs extends its wholehearted thanks to the Department of Environmental Conservation for its monumental contribution to the Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

At the Dinner that evening, the following resolution was read and unanimously approved:

WHEREAS, the 37th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs has been held at Ithaca, NY, 7, 8 and 9 September 1984, and

WHEREAS, the Cayuga Bird Club has been the host club and, as such, has planned and provided an excellent program of papers, workshops, field trips and associated activities, and

WHEREAS, the members of the Cayuga Bird Club have devoted much effort for many months on behalf of the delegates and members at this convention, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs extends its sincere thanks and deepest appreciation to the Cayuga Bird Club for making possible such an outstandingly successful Annual Meeting.

Berna Weissman, Recording Secretary