

Editorial

Last year it was my pleasure to announce the formal recognition of the contributions of four past Regional Editors by the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. I am equally pleased to announce that two more persons have joined their ranks through their continuing contributions to *The Kingbird* and to the Federation, and am even happier that we can anticipate more of their efforts.

Robert Spahn has been the seasonal highlights editor since 1982, and before that was Region 2 editor from 1976 to 1982. When the Executive council had to decide whom to honor and whom not, Bob was the closest contributor who failed to qualify. Now over the past two years he has become the newest member of that elite group of individuals who have contributed at least 50 seasonal highlights or Regional reports. It is all the more notable that he did much of this while organizing the Region 2 Breeding Bird Atlas field work, a task I know from personal experience to be a full time job in itself! For his hard work on behalf of the Federation, he is now honored with his fellow editors.

When I assumed editorship of *The Kingbird*, Manny Levine assured me that I would find Connie Wilkins' assistance with the technical aspects of publishing *The Kingbird* invaluable. So it has been. She has taught me a lot. Tardy Regional reports and personal commitments may slow completion of a *Kingbird* issue, but once the material is in Connie's hands, I am as confident as was my predecessor that the preparation of our journal is in good hands. I am sure Max Wheat finds *New York Birders* equally well managed. Connie has been an important contributor to membership drives and a long-standing member of the Executive Committee. The Federation's recent offering of the Hawks field guide to its members at a substantial saving is another result of her many contributions to our organization.

Both of these worthy individuals will be formally honored at the 1988 annual meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. On behalf of the entire membership, I express our thanks to both of you now.

The Editor