

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Kingbird Index Committee: Every ten years an Index of the contents of *The Kingbird* has been prepared and published. The indexer for Volumes 1–10 was Guy Bartlett. Volumes 11–20 were indexed by the team of Dorothy W. McIlroy and Mildred Comar; McIlroy also prepared the Index for Volumes 21–30. The most recent Index, for Volumes 31–40, was prepared by the team of James Clinton and Donald A. Windsor.

County Listing: This activity, initiated by Berna Lincoln in 1992, is intended not only to stimulate more interest in birding, but especially to encourage birders to better appreciate New York's diverse birding habitats. It also has the potential of promoting the development of county checklists. It has so far attracted more than 100 participants to report the number of different species they have seen in each of the state's 62 counties and 10 *Kingbird* reporting regions. The reports are printed annually in *New York Birders*.

Patches: Led by Donald Windsor's drive and energies, the Federation now makes available two attractively designed patches for those birders who have

identified more than 200 and more than 300 species in New York State. Windsor recently reported that there are 150 holders of the 200 patch; so far only 29 have secured the newer 300 patch.

Federation Web Page: Thanks to Barbara Butler and Kevin McGowan, the Federation is inaugurating its own web site on the Internet. The access address is <http://birds.cornell.edu/fnysbc/>

Atlas 2000: At the conclusion of the 1988 Annual Meeting, the three Rochester host clubs contributed their excess proceeds from that meeting to carry on the breeding bird atlas tradition. Augmented by a bequest from Gordon Meade's estate and other gifts in his memory, the fund has been accumulating for 10 years. It is designated to support an update of the Breeding Bird Atlas early in the next century. Preliminary planning is already underway.

Speakers' Bureau: Attempted once in earlier years, and reestablished in 1997, this program has already enrolled a number of our members. The listing, published periodically in a brochure and sent to all Member Clubs, should prove helpful as the clubs plan their annual programs. The 1998 brochure includes 33 speakers, up from 16 in the first printing.

Library Sponsorship: In late 1997 an appeal was made to Member Clubs and individuals, suggesting they might adopt a library and provide it a gift subscription to *The Kingbird*. The Federation is making a discounted, multiple year subscription available for this purpose. Early results are encouraging, and it is hoped that many additional subscriptions will result. *The Kingbird's* record of the state's birdlife is a basic and important reference that should be more widely available. As Valerie Freer, our president, enumerated in the original announcement, the state has a large number of college and university libraries, as well as local libraries, museums and nature centers that might be considered for adoption.