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New York State Ornithological Association, Inc.
62nd Annual Meeting
Savannah, New York
September 26, 2009

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc (NYSOA) was hosted by the NYSOA Board of Directors at the Montezuma Audubon Center, Savannah, NY on September 26, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Roll call of member clubs revealed 33 delegates from 21 clubs were in attendance and that a quorum was present.

President's Report by Bill Ostrander:

Bill introduced the NYSOA Board of Directors. With limited time for our afternoon meeting, Bill proceeded directly into the reports and elections.

Reports and Elections:

Bill Reeves gave the Treasurer's Report. He provided the Balance Sheet dated December 31, 2008, the Annual Report of the Treasurer for the Year Ended December 31, 2008, and the Auditing Committee Report. Bill pointed out that most of NYSOA's income came from the various categories of individual dues, and he encouraged people to upgrade their memberships.

Bill Ostrander thanked Phyllis Jones for her many years of service as Archivist. NYSOA will need a new Archivist to replace Phyllis.

Berna Lincoln gave the Membership Report. Berna is the Membership Manager, and Barbara Butler is the Circulation Manager. Berna reported 525 Individual Members, 51 Life Members, and 45 Clubs.

Bob Mauceli gave the Membership Committee report. Bob pointed out that most of the revenue comes from individual members. The Committee would like to recruit new individual members from NYSOA's member clubs. There are many advantages to membership in NYSOA, including two publications and an organization that provides a statewide voice for conservation.

Bill Ostrander began the Publications Report by announcing that *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State*, edited by Kevin J. McGowan and Kimberley Corwin, is out and successful. Shai Mitra reported that *The Kingbird* issues are almost caught up. The NYSARC report for 2007 will appear in the December 2009 issue, and the goal is to annually publish a NYSARC report in each December issue. Tim Baird asked that people please send him pieces for *New York Birders*. He reminded everyone that the newsletter is about the observations and experiences of New York State birders.

Shai Mitra gave the New York State Avian Records Committee (NYSARC) Report. They recently held their annual meeting. Jeanne Skelly will be stepping down as secretary of NYSARC after many years of service. Three committee members are currently serving terms that end on 12/31/09.

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Andy Mason described the *Kingbird* Scanning Project: Approximately sixty years of issues will soon be available on the NYSOA website with the ability to browse and do online keyword searches. Andy reports that half the issues have already been scanned and the rest should be finished by the middle of November.

Carena Pooth gave the Website Report. The primary focus this year has been on implementing search capability for the online archive of *The Kingbird*. Carena encouraged everyone to try it out by using the following link: www.nybirds.org/KBsearch.htm. When the *Kingbird* Scanning Project is completed, NYSOA plans to publicize this unique new resource for all who study New York birdlife.

Andy Mason presented the Conservation Committee Report. Andy provided a detailed written report of the Committee's activities during the past year. NYSOA adopted a Policy on Conservation Issues written by the Committee that offers guidelines on when NYSOA should become involved in particular conservation issues around the state. The Committee also provides conservation articles for the *New York Birders* quarterly newsletter.

Andy Mason awarded the following **Certificates of Appreciation** on behalf of NYSOA:

- To wildlife rehabilitators Bobby and Cathy Horvath for their dedication and untiring efforts on behalf of injured wildlife, particularly birds, in the New York metropolitan area.
- To D. Bruce Yolton for his dedicated service in promoting appreciation of raptors and other birds and birding in the New York metropolitan area.
- To Gerry Smith for his long and deep commitment to the birds and birders of New York State in many capacities, including primary counter at the Derby Hill Bird Observatory, Steward for The Nature Conservancy, and currently President of the Onondaga Audubon Society.
- To the staff at Fort Drum in New York's North Country, including Ray Rainbolt and Jeff Bolsinger, for their able assistance and cooperation to visiting birders, particularly in providing access to this secure site.
- To Marilyn Manning and neighbors on Tremper Ave., for hosting a Bullock's Oriole in Phoenicia, NY, and for their cooperation, hospitality, and able assistance to visiting birders.
- To Rene Van Schaack of the Greene Co. Industrial Development agency for facilitating use of the Greene Accelerator building in Coxsackie, NY for Annual Meetings of the NY State Avian Records Committee.

Carena Pooth gave the New York State Young Birders Club (NYSYBC) Report. The young birders went on many field trips around the state hosted by partner clubs over the past year and Carena reports they have two more trips left during the calendar year: Braddock Bay in October

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and Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch in November. The minimum membership age for NYSYBC was reduced from age 12 to age 10. The age range for membership is 10 to 19 years old. There are three types of membership: Youth, Supporting Adult, and Club partners. More members are needed in all three categories.

Jim Eckler, of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), provided the DEC Bureau of Wildlife Report compiled by John Ozard. Jim spent time describing how the land at Montezuma was being enhanced through the conversion of cornfields into wetlands. He also mentioned that the Montezuma Muckrace raises money for the Audubon Center.

Kathryn Schneider gave the Nominating Committee Report. Kathryn announced the following 2009-2010 slate of Officers/Directors for election:

Carena Pooth – President
Gail Kirch – Vice President
Andy Mason – Treasurer
Jeanine Smith – Corresponding Secretary
Joan Collins – Recording Secretary

Bob Adamo – Director (2011)
Jeremy Kirchman – Director (2011)
Bard Prentiss – Director (2011)
Bob Spahn – Director (2010)

Brenda Best made a motion to have the Secretary cast a ballot to elect the slate of Officers and Directors. Bob Grajewski seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Bill Ostrander announced the following names for election to the 2009-2010 Nominating Committee: Tim Baird, Jerry Lazarczyk, and Berna Lincoln. Stan Lincoln made a motion to elect the Nominating Committee. Brenda Best seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Bill Ostrander announced the following names for election to the 2009-2010 Auditing Committee: John Cairns, Irving Cantor, and Peter Capainolo. Berna Lincoln made a motion to elect the Auditing Committee. Barbara Butler seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Gerry Smith announced that Onondaga Audubon will host next year's Annual Meeting in mid-October.

Old Business:

None.

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New Business:

New club member: Andy Mason made a motion to accept Chestnut Ridge Hawkwatch, Bedford NY, as a new member club of NYSOA. Gerry Smith seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Kathryn Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carena Pooth seconded the motion. Bob Adamo thanked the following out-going board members for their years of service to NYSOA: Tim Baird, Bob Mauceli, Bill Ostrander, and Bill Reeves. The motion was then unanimously approved at 3:30 p.m.

The following awards were given out during lunch.

John J. Elliott Award:

For the best *Kingbird* article of the year: The New York State Avian Records Committee, Angus Wilson, Chair, for "Report of the New York State Avian Records Committee for 2004" and "Report of the New York State Avian Records Committee for 2005", *The Kingbird*, Vol. 58, No. 1, March 2008 and Vol. 58 No. 4, Dec. 2008.

Lillian C. Stoner Award:

Jenny E. Murtaugh, SUNY Cobleskill, for outstanding effort in avian research and academic achievement and leadership.

Gordon M. Meade Distinguished Service Award:

William B. Reeves for his dedication to this organization in a number of capacities, and most notably his long and exemplary service as Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Collins
Recording Secretary