

Nov. 14, 1968

A meeting of the Board of Directors of SMRAS, Inc. was held on November 14, 1968 at the home of Mrs. Carol Coggeshall. Members present were Messrs. Lincoln, Osborn, Nettleton, Lober, Kayser, Holmes and Messiah, and Mesdames Holmes, Anderson, Smith, Curnen, Coggeshall and Koste.

President Lincoln presented the branch charter from National Audubon covering the Sawmill River branch through May 31, 1970.

Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand as of October 31 of \$3317.02. Balance in the Sanctuary Fund is \$4215.92. Arrangements for compensation and benefits have now been made for the naturalist.

Kaye Anderson has contacted Mrs. Benjamin, head librarian at Pleasantville Library for the nature exhibit at which we should show some of our brochures.

Unfinished old business: Mrs. Holmes reported that the stationery and cards Jackie Coyle had will be sold at meetings by Mrs. Osborn. Mr. Mahan has received a gift membership in the society. Kaye Anderson asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Mrs. Curtiss from the President for the coffee given at Gedney Brook. Mr. Osborn told us his sketches for the patches have disappeared and he would have to work up some new ones. Mr. Lincoln said the directory is now at the printers.

Conservation Report

Mrs. Coggeshall announced the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County is sponsoring an educational meeting on thermal pollution on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 A. M. to 12 noon at the Little Theatre, County Center, White Plains.

The Federated Conservationists also is holding an open board meeting in Room 614 County Office Building, White Plains, at 8 P.M. for board members, 8:30 for others, on November 18. Any group wishing to report on any related matter is invited to do so.

Mrs. Coggeshall mentioned that Mary Forsyth is representing us in getting a New Castle group started for the Conservation Advisory Councils and wondered if there were some way to push this in our area.

Motion was made by Let Holmes and seconded by Catherine Holmes to authorize the Conservation Committee to appoint one of its members as our official representative to the Federated Conservationists of Westchester.

Motion was made by Catherine Holmes, seconded by Willis Messiah to take out a membership in the name of one of the members of the Conservation Committee for the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs and to make a contribution in the amount of \$25.00 for the year.

Program: Mr. Nettleton mentioned a change in the program for the Christmas Tea. Mr. Quickmyre, Northeast field representative for National Audubon will come and put on a program for us. Mr. Lincoln announced the various programs the Sutherlands could make available for our paid meeting in March, which were "Where Land Meets Sea", "Adventures in Birding", and "Glamour Birds of the Everglades". After discussion it was decided to have "Where Land Meets Sea" and the Sutherlands will be advised as to our decision.

Mr. Lincoln brought up the request from Mrs. Buchanan for us to join them for a dinner meeting at the White Plains Presbyterian Church in January. We have the option of joining them for dinner at their church on a bring-a-dish plus \$1.00 contribution basis, and the program will be at Westlake.

Field trips: Stan Lincoln noted that only five people turned out for the Hawk Mountain field trip. He had had a call from Mr. Schweitzer and the Christmas bird count would be held on December 22.

Membership: Mr. Holmes announced a membership of 418. Mr. Lincoln suggested we follow up on new members with some sort of get-acquainted tea from some of our old members.

Junior Audubon: Mrs. Curnen stated she has not received her material, and Mr. Holmes said there had been a change of organization and she should contact National.

Sanctuary Director's report attached, as is report from Kaye Anderson. Kaye had spent some time cleaning up the cabin at Brinton Brook. Mrs. Laire had contributed most of the birds' nests there and Leon Nettleton will ask her whether she wants them back now that she is moving away. Kaye will go to the Ossining High School to meet with Miss Brooks to see what their club can do to help. She also plans to work on some of the labeling for plants and trees this winter.

Gedney Brook: Dave Kayser mentioned he has a friend who is an excellent photographer and would take some pictures at Gedney which we might use in our future shelter there.

Mr. Moore had been approached by Mr. Behonek of the Pleasantville Music Theatre to see if our society wanted to sponsor a showing of "Amahl and the Night Visitors". After discussion it was decided we did not want to get involved in this type operation at the present time.

Regarding the problem in mailing, Miss Kenney's machine has been replaced by a new one but the group there has agreed to do our addressing at no charge. The committee handling this problem consists of Leon Nettleton, Thelma Smith, Miss Reiter, Miss Kenny, Mr. Lincoln and Mrs. Holmes.

Mr. Lincoln asked for suggestions for a new member of the Board and will make this a matter of business at the next meeting.

A tea in honor of Mrs. Laire had been given by Mrs. Holmes prior to her moving to Massachusetts.

Mr. Lincoln asked each committee chairman to submit an input for the budget committee and also prepare a checklist for future committee members.

The next meeting will be at the home of Kay Koste. With thanks to Mrs. Coggeshall for her hospitality, meeting adjourned at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Koste
Recording Secretary

- 1 Mrs. Anderson is busy and very successful in carrying out our planned objectives at the Gedney Brook Sanctuary, her second monthly report herewith.
- 2 Conservation Officer Mahan reportedly has begun his annual stint of having Britton Brook Sanctuary patrolled during hunting season. At the last Directors' meeting, I believe we agreed unanimously to confer on him an SMRAS membership in appreciation for services.
- 3 I am asking Sanctuary Chairmen & Co-Chairmen for their ^{re}actions on holding meetings of this group as needed in order to discuss problems, policies and needed actions. A questionnaire on that topic is being distributed tonight.
- 4 Atty. Robert Brisson, our legal Counsel, was thanked by letter for his advice on details of hiring a Naturalist, and invited to bill us for this and previous services. Did he respond, Madam Treasurer?
- 5 My thanks to Director James Leber and congratulations to Mrs. Anderson and Peter Spindel for compilation and duplication of the attractive and informational new Gedney Brook Sanctuary trail maps, copy herewith to each Director.

Leon Nettleton

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

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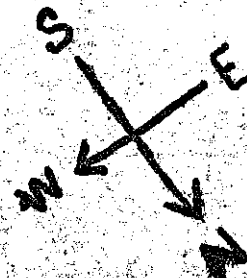
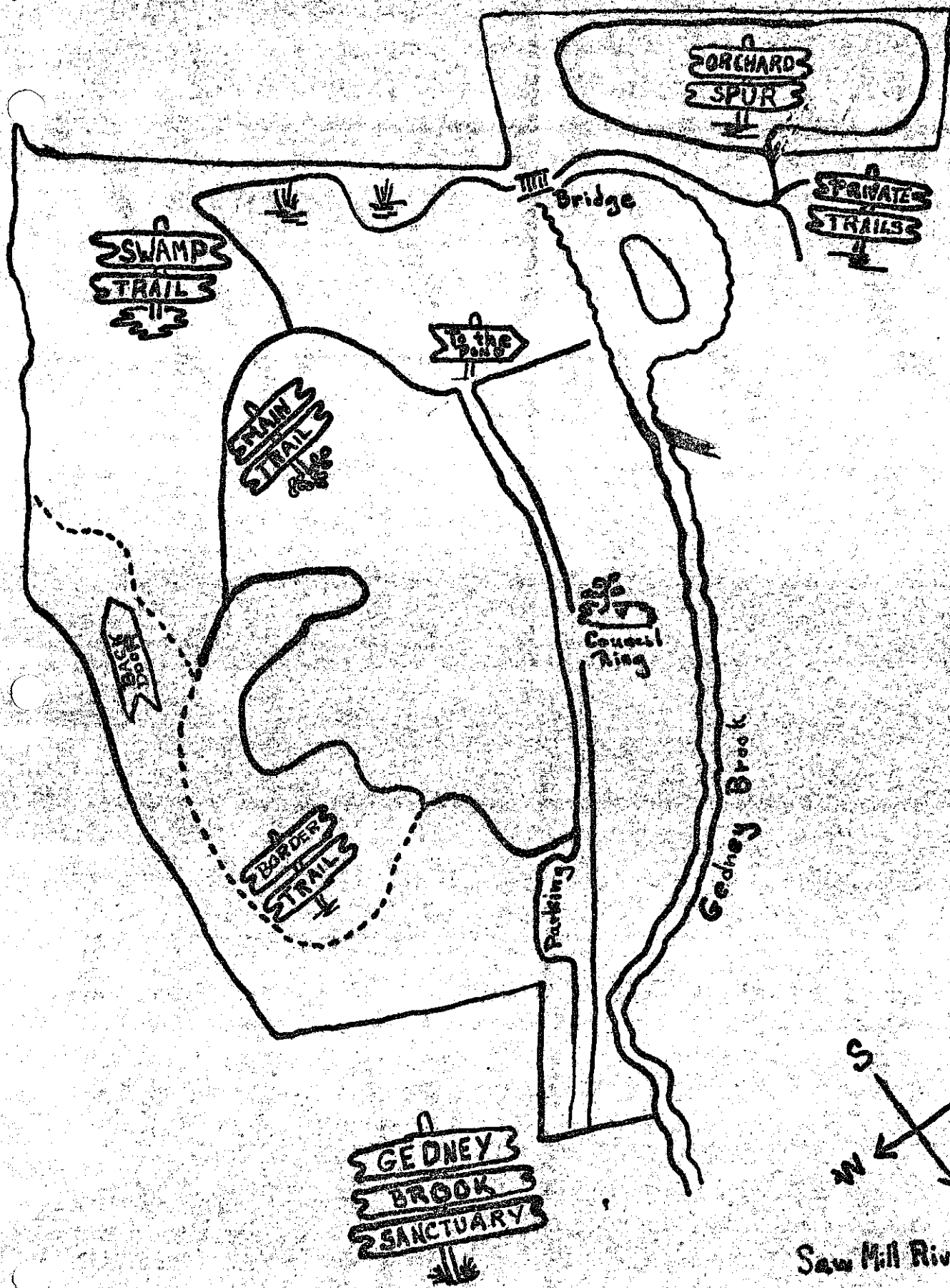
- 1 Dr. Bobrowsky of Bronx Zoo is booked for Nov. 22 meeting at Westlake H.S., to be accompanied by live specimens for talk on "Bronx Zoo Reptiles".
- 2 Meeting place costs are rising. Latest bill from Pleasantville Middle School unexpectedly included \$15 charge for use of cafeteria in addition to custodial services, a total of more than \$30, our biggest bill yet. I have asked President Stan to protest the charge since a) we were not warned in advance, b) we are a non profit-making group not charging for that meeting. Upon inquiry I also learned that there will be a \$20 charge at the same school for our later meeting there in the gymnasium.
- 3 Possible less expensive meeting places we could consider, all with handicaps as to size and arranging chairs, might be the Mt. Pleasant Library, Pleasantville Recreation Dept. (the "old library"), and local churches. Your committee probably will consider some of these alternatives in 1969-70 plans. Other suggestions welcomed.
- 4 Christmas Tea plans: Mrs. Buchanan, coordinator; speaker, Stanley Quickuire of Greenwich, Conn., our area representative from NAS, who will speak without charge on "Audubon Sanctuaries in America".
- 5 March paid meeting now organized with Mr. & Mrs. Futherland as speakers. Brochure to be reported tonight mentioning available programs from which Board may choose. Minor notes: audience complaints about talkative youngsters should be referred at once to a co-Chairman.

Kay Koste & Leon Nettleton, Co-Chair

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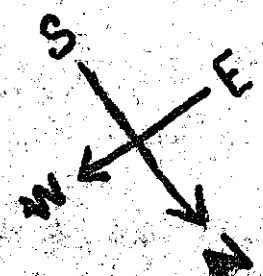
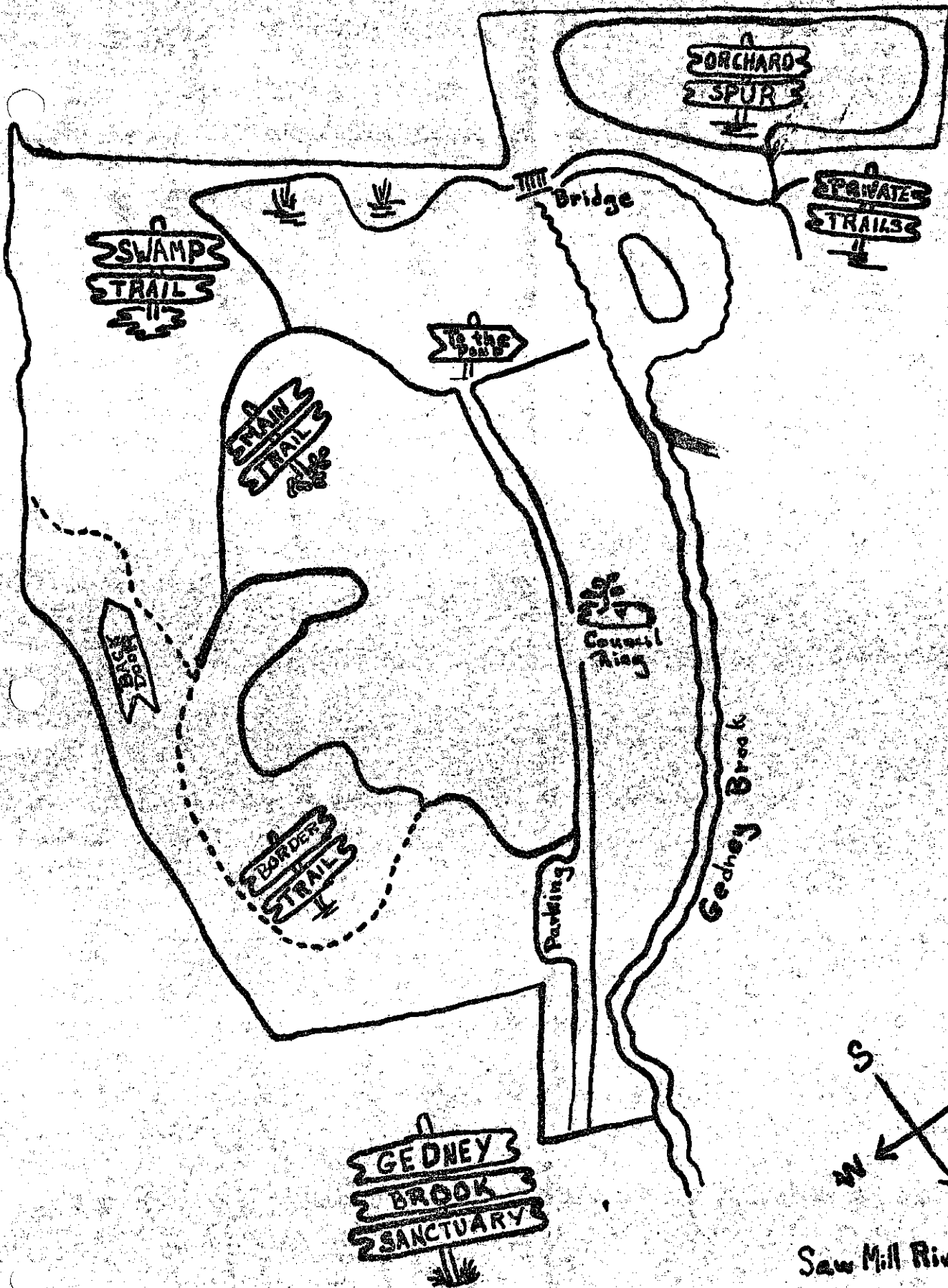
- 1 Gedney neighbors. Considerable time was spent compiling names and addresses and typing letters to the neighbors of Gedney Brook Sanctuary, in preparation for the coffee hour so kindly given for us by Mrs. Marshall Surtiss of Woodmill Road. 28 people were invited, 11 attended, including Mrs. Pruyn, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Nettleton and Mrs. Coggeshall of the Society gave me moral support.
- 2 Local interest. Interest seemed to be high and genuine. Mrs. Pekham, who lives on Mayberry Rd., said her son and friends were very familiar with the area and enthused about it, but concerned because they had been asked to leave on several occasions. I wonder whether some system of "identification badge" might be worked out for neighborhood children which they could be proud of as an indication that they have been indoctrinated in the purposes of the Sanctuary, and are considered eligible to be in it without adult supervision.
- 3 Future threats. Mrs. ^{Allison} Allison, who lives on the side adjoining Crystal Springs, is very concerned about the future of this property since the death of the former owner, and would welcome information about any progress being made by Open Space Action on retaining the land as open area.
- 4 Dogs. With regard to the dogs in the area: the red setters seem to be the most annoying in that they are very ready to go along on any trips. Mrs. Curtiss feels sure that the owners (Lenihan and Pingpank) would be perfectly willing to confine them when a trip is planned, since they do this whenever anyone in the neighborhood is having an outdoor party in the summer.
- 5 Jr. Club? Much interest was expressed in the idea of a Junior Audubon Club, but no volunteers came forward to help Mr. Cox in leadership of one.
- 6 Field trips.
6/Oct. 27, I had the three morning sessions of kindergarten from the Douglas Grafflin School. For walks. The Assistant Principal, Mr. McGuire, came along, and he and all the teachers seemed pleased. The afternoon sessions were rained out three times, so on Nov. 8 I took some material to the school and gave them a nature talk inside. Also seemed well received.
- 7 Sub Scouts. Oct. 17 Mrs. Allison's Cub Scouts (5 boys) spent one and a half hours there with me; and Nov. 4 Mrs. Fisher's Brownies (20 girls) had an inside talk and then a 45-minute walk.
- 8 Brinton Brook. Nov. 6 Mrs. Coggeshall and I spent some time with Mrs. Brinton. She does not enthuse about many tour groups using Brinton, but does think some labeling of plants, etc., would be a very good idea.
- 9 Trail map. Jim Lober had copies of the Gedney Brook map (combined efforts of Peter S pondenlow and myself) run off, copy attached.
- 10 Time spent. In all 21 hours of time were spent, and approximately 130 children reached.

(Mrs.) Kay Anderson



Saw Mill River Audubon
Society Inc
October 1968

J. Spontelou
K. Anderson



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P. Spentlow
R. Anderson