

RIVER
SAW MILL/AUDUBON CHAPTER MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 1969

The Board of Director's meeting of the Saw Mill River Audubon Chapter was held at the home of the Ridgeway's on September 11th, 1969. Presiding was President Stanley Lincoln, and attending were Mesdames Dorothy Kinaman, Kaye Anderson, Carol Coggeshall, Jackie Coyle, Mary Curnen, Jean Weiss; Mr. and Mrs. Willis Messiah, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Holmes, Miss Thelma Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ridgeway; and Messrs. William Osborn, Leon Nettleton, Allan Powell, Stanley Wecker & Dave Kayser,

Mrs. Jean Weiss, Treasurer read the reports for the months of July 1969 and August 1969 respectively; both were approved as read and placed on file. Kaye Koste's illness explains the omission of minutes.

The new Program Chairman Dr. Stanley Wecker was introduced; and new editor of the Newsletter Jackie Coyle announced. Mr. Eric Haas's resignation as Brinton Brook Chairman was noted--with the Ridgeway's becoming co-chairmen in his place.

Field Trip Chairman Kayser reported on the Block Island Sept. 27-28th field trip with 2 1/2 cars signed up to date. The Scarsdale Club have asked if they could join with us on this trip.

Program Chairman Dr. Wecker discussed the arrangements for the pancake supper to be held in conjunction with Mr. and Mrs. Powell's lecture on the making of Maple Syrup, with their award winning film.

Sanctuary Director Nettleton reported on the Newsletter Advisory Committee meeting held August 21st in Pleasantville. The committee recommended the bulletin be issued eight to nine times a year in an effort to bring the news up to date. Jackie Coyle, the new editor had investigated methods of having it reproduced, indicating that offset held precedence over multi-lith. For a 4 page newsletter, the cost would be from \$48.-\$50. per issue. She also requested items for the newsletter from members of the Chapter. It was suggested that someone be appointed to secure a report on all field trips for the newsletter. Information on field trips or special events could be placed in the newsletter thus eliminating cards to be mailed. When the information was not available in time for the newsletter to be received by members, cards would be sent as usual.

At the conclusion of the discussion, motion was suggested by President Lincoln that the October newsletter be prepared two weeks in advance of the meeting, using a stencil for mimeographing the newsletter. This would be a pilot venture, giving the committee an opportunity to decide on the practicability of this method of reproduction. Motion was presented by Mrs. D. Kinaman, seconded by Bob Ridgeway, and carried.

In connection with the Annual Bulletin and Directory now in the hands of our members, Leon Nettleton announced this was made possible through the efforts of our Secretary Kaye Koste; and the assistance of Miss Magdalena Reiter and Nolmes. He further reported on the Historian, Mr. Youmans, having left the area. President Lincoln requested that a check on the files be made to learn where the records are kept.

In response to a request for volunteers willing to guide school and youth groups on nature trails in our sanctuaries, Kaye Anderson reported those attending the introductory gatherings included: Mrs. Charles Little, Mrs. L. B. Whittaker, Mrs. Allan R. Powell, and Mrs. Nathan Epstein. Mrs. Ridgeway then indicated she would continue to assist as in the past - especially at Brinton Brook.

Our Naturalist Kaye Anderson reported she would like additional copies of the Brinton Brook maps--that ^{w e secure} a Bulletin Board for Gedney Brook, with a book for registration (which might be helpful for the membership committee). ^{A new book was provided at Brinton Brook.} She also mentioned that she had been successful in eliminating one of the snapping turtles at the Brinton pond--they are a threat to young duck and waterfowl.---Dr. Pruyn has worked very hard on the dam at Gedney Brook--- Her first Children's Course will be held at Brinton Brook, Saturday morning, September 20th.

President Lincoln announced the Ecology Class will begin on next Monday evening at Pleasantville High School 8:15-10:15PM with instructor Dr. Wecker.

The present status of Brinton Brook in regard to the request for zoning variance by local builder Bastys was discussed. Mr. George Porter of National Audubon had been apprised of the situation. Our deed gives us the right to drive from Route 9A to the Sanctuary. Mrs. Brinton keeps the road in reasonable repair. It appears that Con Edison may be placing cable on our property; and it seems advisable that we check boundary lines. The parking lot at Brinton is in poor condition. Plans for Annual Field Day and a visit to Mrs. Brinton with the possible date of October 19th suggested. Mrs. Ridgeway offered to visit Mrs. Brinton to confirm the date.

At Gedney Brook, President Lincoln recommended the Gedney Brook Sanctuary committee work on an Annual Field Day trip, where we must patrol at least once a year the section where our waiver was requested ~~withheld~~. This would publicize the Sanctuary, express ~~and withheld~~ appreciation and Mrs. Pruyn and cover the required legal trek each year. Our attorney, Mr. Robert Brisson, is working on the Gedney Brook tax problem, so that we will be exempt from taxes.

The Thurber Sanctuary owned by Nature Conservancy was discussed. Nature Conservancy have not responded to our letters, and there have been no response to our appeals to the various government agencies who might remedy the health problem of the open ditch within the Sanctuary.

Chairman of the Chernick Sanctuary, William Osborn reported he had obtained scaffolding planks and posts, and installed same at a cost of \$8.37. These could serve as a sample of what might be done there to improve the Sanctuary.

Membership Chairman, Lester Holmes, reported there are now 474 members in our Chapter. President Lincoln reminded the Board of his challenge to double the membership at the annual meeting.

Scholarships Chairman, Grace Messiah, reported that one scholarship camper could not attend, Mrs. Harriet C. Arrant. Mrs. Mary Curnen reported on her experience at the Audubon Camp of Wisconsin. Like all Audubon Campers, she was enthusiastic about the instructors, and those attending the camp as students. Jeff and Peter Spendelow attended with their parents the Audubon Camp of Maine. They wrote letters of appreciation as did their parents of their unforgettable experiences at the Camp. Jeff so impressed the staff that he was asked to be a field assistant for the balance of the season, which he accepted.

Conservation Chairman, Carol Coggeshall reported that the Hudson River Expressway delay was encouraging. There is to be a hearing on Gregory Pond near Peekskill and a road proposed to go near the glacial ponds, marsh and wooded swamp of 60 acres on September 18th by the

Department of Transportation. Mr. Nettleton moved that Saw Mill River Audubon Chapter authorize ^{David Sive, of City of Peekskill} their attorney to make a statement against this proposed road. Seconded by Mr. Osborn and carried.

Saw Mill River Audubon Chapter have been requested to sponsor the Audubon Wildlife Films.

William Osborn reported the emblems ordered have not been received.

The October Board of Directors meeting will be held at the home of Kaye Anderson; and the November meeting at the residence of Carol Coggeshall.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 P.M..

Respectfully submitted,

Beatrice M. S. Kirkman
Secretary pro-tem.