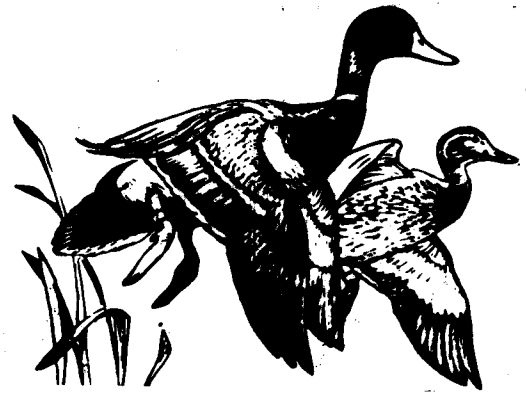


SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Newsletter



VOLUME 5, No. 2

OCTOBER 1974

NEXT MEETING - OCTOBER 8

Our October meeting will be on the 8th. The subject will be the Galapagos Islands. Horthy Block will give a talk and slide show on her trip to those islands.

The Board Meeting in October will be on the 1st. As usual, it will be at 8:15 P.M. at the Freeport Library.

- COMING EVENTS -

We have two events of interest coming up in the fall and more are promised.

GARVIES POINT FIELD TRIP: Our second educational field trip and the first for this year will be at Garvies Point in Glen Cove on October 19th. This is a Saturday and the trip is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. It will include the geology of Long Island and beach geology, as well as a visit to the Museum which is well known for its exhibits of Indian life on Long Island.

Directions: These directions may sound complicated and it is confusing once one gets to Glen Cove; A map will be on display at the meeting for anyone wanting to clarify it in their mind. However: Take Glen Cove Road (Exit #39 on the L.I.E.) north. This merges with Cedar Swamp Road just north of Glen Head Rd. crossing and coincides with Cedar Swamp Road for a short distance, then swings off at a fork and becomes Route #107, which almost immediately turns to the left into Glen Cove Ave. Jog left on Glen Cove Ave. and almost immediately right on Charles St. Directional signs start a short distance in on Charles St. Continue on Charles to Ellwood Place, to Landing Road, left again to Germane, left again to McLoughlin, right a few feet to Barry Drive which leads to the entrance to Garvies Point.

For further information, call Linda Schlotterhausen at 516-561-0247.

AUDUBON FILM SERIES: We are having a film series this year, but jointly with the Town of Hempstead, who is funding it. We are off to a slow start, but the second film will be November 13th at the Hempstead Town Hall. The subject will be Lion at World's End. There is no admission and we would like to fill our 250 seats. Please come and bring your friends. More in next Newsletter. Alvin Friedman in charge.

- FROM THE PRESIDENT -

I would like to thank everyone who has responded to my appeal last month for "Hot-line Letter Writers". It is most gratifying to know there are some people willing to put effort into keeping our organization effective and viable. However, we can still use more volunteers for this emergency letter hot-line. So, if you have been putting off dropping me a post card, please do it now before an emergency does develop.

I also want to thank those people who are keeping a strong vigilance on the few natural areas remaining on western Long Island. We at South Shore Audubon appreciate your concern in writing us and keeping us informed of what is happening. One such letter was received concerning the Jamaica Bay Bird Sanctuary, which was then investigated by our Vice-President, Elliot Kutner. His investigation resulted in his writing the following letter to the New York Times and concerned parties. (See N.Y. Times issue of September 13, p. 41 for article by Gerald Gold. Ed.)

"Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge appears to be caught in one of life's common ironies. It seems to be on the verge of destruction at the hands of its protector, The Interior Department.

"Twenty years ago, Herb Johnson had the imagination, foresight and desire to create a wildlife sanctuary out of a garbage dump along the shores of Jamaica Bay. Through careful planning and hard work, Herb and a handful of men planted trees and shrubs that provided food and cover for wildlife. The planting supports over 150 species of birds through nesting and migration each year. They created nesting sites for birds that were disappearing from this locale and from the face of this earth. It is to their credit that Jamaica Bay stands as a most unique wilderness area. There are 645 species of birds that nest and breed north of the Mexican border. Jamaica Bay has been host to 310 species! It is world renowned among bird watchers and conservationists. The B.B.C. has regular programming about the background and wildlife at Jamaica Bay.

"Each spring, under the auspices of the city's Park, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Administration, Jamaica Bay played host to bus loads of tenement-oriented kids. They were made aware of the natural world around them, through guided nature walks along the shore of the giant fresh water pond.

"An aware citizenry defeated the plans to expand J.F.K. International Airport. They fought and won the battle against those interests who would continue to pollute Jamaica Bay. This twenty-year fight for preservation resulted in this priceless gift of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge to the country and to the world from the citizens of this metropolitan area.

"I spend a good deal of my time at the sanctuary. As a matter of fact, I consider it my second home. I fear for its survival. It is unkempt. The shrubbery is untrimmed. The grass areas in both gardens are uncut, to the point of being impassable.

"The original intent was to create and maintain a wildlife sanctuary within city limits. The program to implement this idea remains fairly simple -- this precious piece of land needs **TENDER LOVING CARE!**

continued next page -

From the President - cont.

"Herb Johnson and his splendid staff never lost sight of the value of Jamaica Bay to birds and man. Before it is too late, I want to alert those of you who know and love this place and the entire community, to the dangerous situation that exists at the sanctuary. The loss of this property through a deliberate change in policy or simple neglect would be tragic.

"We recommend the start of a dialogue between those individuals most knowledgeable with Jamaica Bay including Herb Johnson and representatives from local Audubon chapters and the governing body of Gateway National Park. This dialogue should produce a list of the problems, short and long run, faced by this sanctuary.

"The development of a program to solve these problems and sustain the original policy and concept JAMAICA BAY IS A WILDLIFE REFUGE.

"Formation of a watchdog committee to keep the area well-kept, properly policed and accessible to a grateful community. Please send any communication on this matter to the address you find below. Please, do not wait. We need as many voices and hands as we can possibly muster in this very important cause.

Elliott R. Kutner
Vice-Pres., Field-Trip Director
South Shore Audubon Society."

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

Since election day is drawing near, I thought it might be interesting to present the environmental voting records for the last 3 years of Long Island's Representatives. This data was obtained from the League of Conservation Voters, which tabulated the votes of Congressmen on important Conservation bills ranging from nuclear safety, transportation, public land management, etc. Hopefully, this gives a representative view of where Congressmen stand on a broad range of environment issues. A perfect environmental score would be 100.

District #	Representative	1973;	1972;	1971	Comment (my own)
1	Pike	84	92	87	Excellent
2	Grover	43	38	20	Improving?
3	Roncallo	39	-	-	First Time starter
4	Lent	48	65	64	What happened?
5	Wydler	48	65	54	Middle of pack
6	Wolff	84	92	76	Excellent

Obviously, there are many other issues to consider in deciding to vote or not vote for an individual. You may, though, like to consider these environmental records if you are one of those undecided voters. Also, remember, we have no environmental record to consider for the challengers of these incumbents. So one doesn't know necessarily if he is jumping from the frying pan into the fire.

For those of you who live in the 5th N.Y. State Senatorial District (mainly Town of Dyster Bay), I would like to mention that a very good friend of South Shore Audubon and of conservation in general, Mr. Donald Cotten, is running for State Senator.

continued next page -

From The President - cont.

I am Also pleased to announce that your Board of Directors has decided to award a full tuition scholarship to the 1975 summer Audubon Workshop in Maine. This workshop is for a two-week period beginning July 13. All interested individuals should write care of your president indicating why you would like to attend this workshop. A committee will then select an individual when all letters have been received.

Mike Smiles
President

NEW - FROM NATIONAL AUDUBON
International Ecology Workshops -

National Audubon Society has established a new department, the International Ecology Workshops. This department, based in Harwinton, Connecticut, will be headed by J. Stanley Quickmire, Jr. who was formerly Director-Naturalists of the Sharon Audubon Center and later first Northeast Field Representative. He is not new to this field.

We are listing here the fall trips for which there is still time to join and others will be listed in later issues.

November 9 -
(2 weeks) - MEXICO - Primarily birding in one of the richest areas in the Americas.

November 30 - TRINIDAD AND VENEZUELA - In Trinidad: Asa Wright Nature Center - oil bird caves. Simla Research Station. Caroni Swamp; scarlet ibis. In Venezuela: El Avila National Park - sea ti mountains.

For information, write National Audubon Society
International Ecology Workshop
Harwinton, Connecticut #06790

1975 trips: January - AMAZON - Peru and Colombia - Repeat of 1974 trip.
Jan. 12 - GUATEMALA - Mainly to the highlands. Visit Tikal,
(2 wks) cloud forest birds, wild flowers, geology. Hiking at
6,000 ft. Local leader Anne LaBastille, ecologist.
February - 2 trips - INDIA; EAST AFRICA.
March - BAHAMA ISLANDS.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR INJURED BIRDS: -

A. & A. Veterinary Hospital, 414 Franklin Ave., Franklin Square
Tel. GE. 7-2222 - Free care for any wild bird.

Mrs. Arlene Thomas, Author of "Bird Ambulance" - Tel. 212 - HO.8-2330.

Huntington First Aid Station, Mrs. Sallie Ruppert, Director
Tel. 516-427-2639

- CONSERVATION - LEGISLATION -

We have a brand new Conservation Department in South Shore, headed by Pat Davis. She is most enthusiastic and is most anxious for people to serve on this committee. Says Pat: If you are interested in serving on this new committee, PLEASE don't hesitate to call immediately. ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME. Also, if you have any questions or need assistance in any way regarding conservation and the environment, call Pat. "If I don't know the answer, I'll find out"

And now for this month: H.R. #11500. Strip-Mining Control Legislation - This is environmentalist-backed and the House of Representatives voted in favor in September. It is now in conference and strong opposition is expected regarding the Senate's "Mansfield Amendment" (passed by the Senate last October). Letters written to the Senators on this committee is most important - Senator Buckley of New York. Let them know you support H.R. 11500. As Mike Smiles said in the Sept. Newsletter - "...the strongest weapon conservation groups have is the letters of people who are concerned."

Oil Pollution: Under the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972, the U.S. Coast Guard was considering a proposal that all new tankers and oil barges be built with double bottoms and segregated ballast tanks, as a safeguard against spills and deliberate dumping of ballast water. Now, the Coast Guard has decided to require these safeguards only on tankers of 70,000 tons or more, entirely exempting oil barges. National has taken a stand against this action and President Stahr has written to the Coast Guard protesting.

Exotic Species Importations: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently held hearings in Washington, D.C. on proposed regulations for injurious wildlife to control the widescale importation of exotic species into this country. The regulations should diminish the risk of importing vast numbers of exotic species to the U.S. for medical research, zoos, and pets (over 100 million fish are imported to the U.S. per year). Audubon supports strict regulations. More next month or when available.

AND SOME GOOD NEWS: Last month the Environmental Protection Agency banned further production of the two widely used pesticides, DIELDRIN AND ALDRIN, stating that very low dosages produce cancerous tumors in rats. Dieldrin (which breaks down into Aldrin) is found in 83% of all dairy products sampled, 96% of the meat, fish and poultry, and 88% of all garden fruits sampled, producing an "unacceptably high cancer risk" according to EPA.

Pat Davis, Chairman
Conservation Committee - 822-6189

And from Al Lemke: He has received a letter from the Seaway Importing Co. (see September Newsletter) saying that they no longer use wolf fur on the parkas.

Volunteers wanted in Lawrence area: - The Lawrence Environmental Action Corps needs volunteers badly to help with work in the local marsh and preserve. This is a program in part of high school students. If willing, please call:

Robert Bluck - 516-CE. 9-1337 or
Mitchell Horowitz - 212-GR. 1-1566

The continuing, mounting abuse of our marine environment has led to the birth of a new organization, The Atlantic Coalition. TAC is dedicated to the eradication of all forms of water pollution, whether from sewage, sludge, oil or whatever cause.

While conceived mainly as a coalition of environmental organizations, TAC welcomes all individuals and groups of any sort who share their concern with the ocean, bays, streams and other waters that affect so much of Long Island and its environment.

South Shore Audubon is one of the original supporting organizations, and I am a member of the original steering committee, or board of directors.

For the time being TAC is concentrating on the sludge problem. They have boating and skin-diving groups within their membership as well as a considerable cadre of people with scientific backgrounds, thus being able to draw on their expertise to gather bottom and beach samples and draw competent conclusions as to the nature and degree of pollution.

With continued support from concerned groups and individuals we may yet reverse the tide of degradation that is threatening to overwhelm our aquatic resources.

Al Lemke

PUBLICATIONS of interest to our members: -

MORaine AUDUBON SOCIETY has been publishing a series of environmental booklets, the second of which has recently been published. Its title, "Long Island Ground Water - An Environmental View", is a good overview of water problems of Long Island, in the opinion of our President, Mike Smiles. These pamphlets are available by writing to: Mr. John Black, President, Moraine Audubon Society, Box #61, Farmingville, New York #11738. (Note that the address is Farmingville and not Farmingdale - Ed.)

Long Island birds are the subject of two articles and a field note in the May 1974 issue of The Kingbird, the quarterly journal of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc.

"Birds of the Connetquot" is an overall view of not only the birds, but the vegetation and scenery of this wild river area. The author is Mrs. Pat Santora, an active member of both the Huntington Audubon Society and the Baldwin Bird Club and a free-lance nature writer for the L.I. Press. It will be remembered that Pat spoke to South Shore last year on the Adirondack Park and its problems.

"Waterbird Colonies of Long Island", the other article, is the second of a two part series by Dr. Michael Gochfield, dealing with the tern and Black Skimmer colony by Wantagh Parkway. Dr. Gochfield is with the Dept. of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History.

Single copies of these articles are available for \$1.50 from Dr. Frederick C. Dittrich, 20 Drumlins Terrace, Syracuse, N.Y. #13224. A subscription is included in the membership, currently \$5.00, but which will probably be raised after October 21.

- FROM THE BIRDING FRONT -

Bird Walks - October, November

- October 6th - Jamaica Bay - Off Cross Bay Blvd.
13th - Fishing Wharf, Jones Beach
20th - West End, Jones Beach, Parking Field #2
27th - Tobay Beach
- November 3rd - Cedar Beach
10th - Short Beach, West End Parking Field #2)
17th - Tobay Beach

ALL WALKS START AT
10 A.M. - and, as
usual, NO WALK IF IT
RAINS, SNOWS, OR
THE TEMPERATURE
IS 25 DEGREES OR
BELOW.

Elliott R. Kutner, Chairman, Birding

- HOW TO -

This is the first in a new series of articles to our membership regarding the care, feeding and appreciation of birds at home.

HOW TO Feed birds through a winter season:- For those of you who have never taken on this responsibility, the rewards far outweigh the effort involved. One very important warning. Once you start on a feeding program, you must continue to feed, at least through this winter. Your feeding program will draw seed eaters, including Evening Grosbeak, Cardinal, Blue Jay, House Finch, Rose Breasted Grosbeak, Chickadee, Whitethroat Sparrow, Fox Sparrow and Junco. I have had Dickcissel at my feeding area. There are many commercial feeders on the market geared to accommodate every pocketbook. I've made a feeder out of a cat-pan suspended on a horizontal cord strung from the house to a nearby tree. Use sunflower seed, mixed bird seed, millet, or thistle.

There are vertical feeders available. My wife picks up meat fat from her butcher. I put the fat in the feeder and have enjoyed Oriole, Mockingbird, Woodpecker, Chickadee on the feeder. A very tasty morsel for your charges is suet (fat) dipped in peanut butter.

Sprinkle some seed on the ground. It will satisfy the House Sparrows, Mourning Doves and Scratching sparrows - Fox, Whitethroat, Whitecrown on migration.

Water can be kept open and liquid in the bird bath by using a thermostat.

The joy of red, blue, and yellow will be a daily experience for those of you who feed our most colorful neighbors.

Elliott Kutner, Vice President
Chairman, Birding

NOTE -- For those of you who have been picture taking at Jones Beach areas, it is now necessary to have a permit. Telephone the Long Island State Park Commission - 669-1000.

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
127 MORRIS AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570

FIRST CLASS MAIL

-- NEXT MEETING --
-- Tuesday, October 8th --
-- Freeport Library --
-- 8:15 P.M. --



-- SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY --

Officers - 1974-75

Michael Smiles, President	1279 Melville Rd., Farmingdale, N.Y. #11735	293-7225
Elliott Kutner, Vice President, Chairman Birding	461 Dunster Ct., West Hempstead, N.Y. #11552	IV.6-7667
Jack Fischer, Treasurer	204 Forest St., Oceanside, N.Y. #11572	RO.4-6529
Laura Friedman, Recording Secretary	3275 Oceanside Rd., Oceanside, N.Y. #11572	RO.4-9069
Ruth K. Grossman, Corresponding Secretary	27 Evans Ave., Freeport, N.Y. #11520	FR.8-8809
Irving Berlin, Chairman Publicity	64 W. Waukena Ave., Oceanside, N.Y. #11572	RO.4-7785
Patricia Davis, Chairman, Conservation	7 Myers Ave., Hicksville, N.Y. #11801	822-6189
Dorothy Lovering, Membership Chairman	45 Oakmont Ave., Hempstead, N.Y. #11550	485-9826
Clara Thrush, Program Chairman	22 Corncrib Lane, Levittown, N.Y. #11756	796-6169
Miriam E. Raynor, Editor, Newsletter	127 Morris Ave., Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570	RO.4-6204