

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL. 8, NO. 10

JUNE 1978

JUNE DINNER MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 12

Our June Dinner Meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, at the Arbor Inn, 35 Woods Avenue, Rockville Centre. During the cocktail hour, hot and cold d'oeuvres will be served. The main course is a roast beef dinner. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Please make your check out to the South Shore Audubon Society and mail it to:

Mr. Elliott Kutner
461 Dunster Court
West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552

Our guest speaker at the June Dinner Meeting will be Mr. Bill Robinson. Mr. Robinson graduated from the State University of New York with a B.S. and Master's in Biology. He taught Biology at Ulster Community College and does research regarding birds of prey. He has successfully bred three different varieties in captivity and developed a special trap to capture hawks alive and unharmed which appeared in Wildlife Management Magazine. He has written articles and photographed hawks in Europe and the U.S. and has appeared on television with his trained birds. He was the sole photographer on the Coronet film entitled, "Birds That Hunt" and was named by New York State to the first N.Y.S. Falconry Board and is now president of the Falconry Club. He is also director of the New Palz Peregrine Foundation which is responsible for breeding the peregrine in the Hudson Valley.

Mr. Robinson will show a color film and have some surprises! Please join us for this very, very special evening.

REMEMBER THE DATE, JUNE 12, 7:00 P.M.,
ARBOR INN, 35 WOODS AVE., ROCKVILLE CENTRE

South Shore Audubon presented "A Birdseye View of Long Island" on Sunday, April 30. This event was a coming together of naturalists, artists, craftsmen, teachers, and ecology-minded Audubon members to celebrate the special qualities of life that are enhanced by nature appreciation. There was a good turnout of approximately 500 people. We would like to extend our special thanks to all members who helped to create this event with their participation and displays. We would also like to acknowledge the behind the scenes efforts of Harry Aland, Sol Weinstock, Mary May, Jean Brennan and Florence Scanlon, and to extend our appreciation to the firm of Lockwood, Kessler & Bartlett for the aerial photos of L.I., Chuck Bassett of the Nature Conservancy and Fred Soviero of Panfield Nurseries.

The winners of the South Shore Audubon Photo Competition are as follows:

Best in Show
Mary Lou Perry

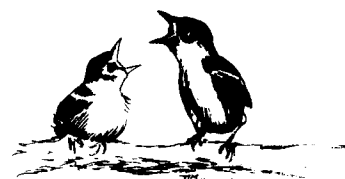
First Place
Fred Doery
Donald Dragon
Linda Schlotterhausen

Second Place
Mannie Berman
Donald Dragon
Stan Ziminski

Third Place
Allan Carb D.V.M.
Fred Doery
Al Lemke

Honorable Mention

Mannie Berman
Thomas Boegel (2 winning entries)
Jack Pangburn
Dr. T. Shemella
Dr. Sy Weinstein



(continued)

The winners were picked from over 100 entries in three separate categories.

South Shore Audubon wishes to extend its thanks to Paul England and Hugh Rodgers of the Department of Fine Arts, Hofstra University and to Adrian Dignan for participating as judges of this event.

Joan Butkereiit
Carol Ann Tymann

CANOE TRIP ON THE NISSEQUOGUE RIVE-JUNE 18

Please note that the canoe trip is changed from June 11 to June 18. The change provides us with better tides, permitting navigation of most of the river.

DETAILS OF TRIP

TIME: Meet at Nassau Coliseum, Hempstead Turnpike entrance at 7:00 A.M. on June 18.

TRANSPORTATION: We will have to form a car pool at the Coliseum, since only a limited number of cars are permitted in the Smithtown Park where we will put in our canoes.

EQUIPMENT: Canoe, paddles, life jackets, are provided. Bring lunch, binoculars, waterproof cushion, mosquito repellent, towel and swimming suit if you want to swim after the trip.

LENGTH OF TRIP: Approximately 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Swimming is permitted at the beach where we will end our trip, if you really want to make a day of it.

RESERVATIONS: Preference will be given to those who wish to go on the trip in the following order of priority:

1. those who have not gone on any of our past canoe trips,
 2. those on the waiting list from last year who did not have the opportunity of going on the Carmens River trip,
 3. those who have been on prior trips.
- There is room for 45 persons, with 3 people in a canoe. **COST:** \$8.00 per person. Please make checks out to South Shore Audubon Society.

WHO TO CONTACT: Francis Cooper, 481-8359, M-F after 5 P.M.

You must call to make a reservation. After calling, your reservation will be confirmed upon receipt of your check. All reservations must be confirmed at least two weeks prior to the date of trip or they will be cancelled.

My mailing address is: Mr. Francis Cooper
P. O. Box 232
Uniondale, N.Y.
11553

The Nissequogue is an easy river to canoe. If you plan to make an entire day of it, bring a **LARGE** lunch. Also pray for good weather and lots of birds! (In case of rain, the trip will be held on a subsequent date.)

Francis Cooper

Nature Preserve Dedication - June 4, 1978

The dedication ceremonies of the Blanche Ginsberg Nature Preserve will be held at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island - 38 Old Country Road, Garden City - On Sunday, June 4, at 11:00 A.M.

The Nature Preserve is being constructed on the grounds of the Society. My sons, Robert and Richard, have assisted me in raising the funds necessary to do this in memory of my wife, a dedicated conservationist. We hope that by doing this, we are not only keeping Blanche Ginsberg's spirit alive - but also adding, even in small measure, to the work that the Audubon Society has done through the years.

Jerry Ginsberg

(Mr. Ginsberg is an SSAS member.)

Blackwater Refuge Trip

SSAS member, John McNeil, is looking for members interested in taking a trip to the Blackwater Refuge in Maryland. This is not a walking trip, you would be observing the wildlife from your car as you drive along the trail. Many eagles nest in this area. If you are interested in making the trip, please contact John McNeil, 887-7596. Motel accommodations are also available.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mr. John Allison
M.H. Barnett
Mr. Leonard E. Coffin
Miss Justine Denquer
Mr. Philip H. Director
Mr. Todd Forte
M. Freidman
Jane Grosser
Mr. John A. Haymann Jr.
Patricia Jaye Hughes
Mr. Ken Kash
Pamela G. Mitchell
Mr. George P. Ray Jr.
Anthony Scardaville
Fred Thornley Family



"No one shows a child the sky."-African Proverb

CONSERVATION NEWS

This January's snow cover in North America was the greatest ever recorded by the National Environmental Satellite Service during its twelve year existence. A larger than usual number of snowfalls in heavily populated areas like New York City have caused environmental concern about a problem that involves dangers to health, vegetation, the natural ecological balance and automobiles. This problem remains long after the roads are cleared of ice and snow. The problem is the salt that is used to clean off the roads. The application of 10 million tons of salt this year to our roads was responsible for a lot of unnecessary pollution. Salt, from both road runoff and leaching out of stock piles, contaminates the local water supplies. When salt enters the water supply there is an increased health risk from hypertension. Street salts also have a deleterious impact on the ecosystem of water bodies, especially lakes. Salt run-off will sink to a lake's bottom, creating a heavier water layer which can prevent the annual thermal overturn necessary for a healthy ecosystem.

The problem dates back 30 years, when highway engineers decided to use salt in place of sand and cinders for ice control. In recent years, highway agencies have been guilty of spreading more salt than is needed. Long Island can serve as a good example. Nassau County uses 10.7 tons of salt each one mile lane of road, N.Y. State uses 7.4, Town of Hempstead 1.3, and the Town of Oyster Bay 0.9. Studies done by the Environmental Protection Agency have shown that a little salt does as much as a lot. To cope with this problem, EPA has produced a technical manual with the latest ideas on salt application. In addition, EPA's Research Division is developing chemical alternatives to salt for use in areas which are especially environmentally sensitive. So far, hydrophobic agents seem the most promising. One of these, a silicone residue, is sprayed on the road surface and upon curing prevents the ice from bonding to pavement. At present this product needs more work in extending its wearability. In the past, road salt piles were exposed to the elements and large amounts of dissolved sodium seeped into local ground water supplies. Recently this problem has been overcome due to educational efforts

by the EPA at the state and local levels to implement proper storage and handling procedures.

In financial terms, the spreading of salt is very costly. It is estimated that Americans spend 2 billion dollars annually to repair auto corrosion. An additional 150 million dollars is needed each year to repair highway damage, most of this for metal guard rails and metallic bridge decks. These costs, along with salt's environmental drawbacks make the search for a sensible alternative important. Until one is found though, the EPA is not seeking to ban salt as a de-icer. Salt is relatively inexpensive, and when applied properly is not necessarily harmful. The EPA is seeking to have salt utilized wisely and to have alternatives considered in environmentally sensitive areas.

If anyone is interested in serving on the Conservation Committee this coming year, please get in touch with me before this fall. Thank you.

Paul Butkereiit
Conservation Chairman



(Reprinted from the May 5, 1978 Audubon Leader)

"Spring being a hard act to follow, God created June." - Al Bernstein

Bird Rescue

I received a call from the Malverne Public Library. A sparrow was loose in the library.

It was a showery day which gave me an excuse to wear raincoat and hat. So up to the library I went. A male house sparrow was perched up in one corner.

The library has windows just under the roof and all around the room which makes excellent lighting but also makes a bird think that that is the way out.

A bird will always fly toward light. So, if you have a trapped bird, darken the room and leave one window open and normally the bird will fly to the light and go out.

The windows were all around the library with no curtains except on the south side and no way to darken the room.

I asked for a window pole to open the windows. It was not to be found but I did find a long stick and a step ladder. I went up the step ladder and tried to throw my hat over the bird. He flew to the other end of the room. I waved the stick at him and he flew to the other end. Waved the stick again and he flew to the other end by the step ladder. This time he was too tired to fly so I covered him with my hat. Then I reached underneath and grabbed him. Down the ladder, over to the door and threw - and away he flew.

A call came in from Mrs. Kluth who had a mourning dove with a broken wing in a box.

My car wouldn't start but Mrs. Kluth was only three blocks away so I walked over and collected the dove in box. It was a very small box, just dove size, and I took it home. Then, I placed it in a large box with water and wild bird seed.

Next day, I put it back into the small box and took it to A & A Veterinary on Franklin Avenue in Franklin Square. This place deserves your support if you believe in wild bird repair. They took the dove, gave me a referral card, and said I could call the next day. I called and they said it was a dislocated wing and that it had been set and taped. I offered to take it back for its recuperation period but they said no problem.

Asa Starkweather

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your help this year with the newsletter. So many of you sent me such nice articles and letters with your Bird Feeder Surveys. A special thanks to Asa Starkweather and Paul Butkerei for their monthly columns. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing and hearing from you in Sept. -Pat Davis

BIRD FEEDER SURVEY COUNT - JUNE 1978

MOURNING DOVE	<u>40</u>
DOWNY WOODPECKER	<u>10</u>
BLUE JAY	<u>26</u>
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	<u>4</u>
TUFTED TITMOUSE	<u>2</u>
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	<u>2</u>
MOCKINGBIRD	<u>17</u>
STARLING	<u>56</u>
ROBIN	<u>25</u>
HOUSE SPARROW	<u>98</u>
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	<u>31</u>
HAIKY WOODPECKER	<u>1</u>
COMMON GRACKLE	<u>35</u>
BR. HEADED COWBIRD	<u>7</u>
CARDINAL	<u>15</u>
EVENING GROSBEAK	<u>9</u>
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	<u>23</u>
HOUSE FINCH	<u>62</u>
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	<u>15</u>
SL. COLORED JUNCO	<u>6</u>
TREE SPARROW	<u>2</u>
FOX SPARROW	<u>3</u>
PURPLE FINCH	<u>7</u>
YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER	<u>1</u>
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	<u>2</u>
BLACK & WHITE WARBLER	<u>3</u>
TOWHEE	<u>11</u>
BROWN CREEPER	<u>1</u>
INDIGO BUNTING	<u>3</u>
BROWN THRASHER	<u>2</u>

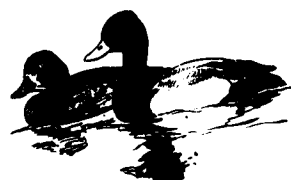
Bernice Taplitz of Island Park sighted 2 Baltimore Orioles this month plus a possible Blue Goose-at this printing we did not have confirmation but feel it may be a young Blue off course. More about this in our September issue. Also, Christine Hartmann sighted the very rare Blue Grosbeak in Bay Park, Miriam Raynor of Rockville Centre had an Eastern Kingbird. Did you know.....

A bird can focus its eyes more quickly than any other living creature.

Many small rodents live out their lives without ever straying more than 20 feet from their place of birth.

The chemical that gives the skunk his malodorous reputation is called ethanethiol, a substance so pungent that less than one-trillion of an ounce can be detected by the human nose.

(The above was sent in by Maureen Gustafson of Hicksville from her local newspaper.)



THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY
SUMMER ECOLOGY PROGRAM 1978

For Children
Kindergarten-2nd Grade

Curious George Goes to the Sanctuary

Exploring the world of plants, reptiles, birds, mammals and the beaches through fun activities aimed at instilling a love of the life around us and respect for our fellow creatures. Sampling natural foods, observing snakes and turtles, discovering animal tracks and the how of bird nest construction are a sample of the activities in store for participants.

Fee: \$25 July 17-21 9:00-11:30&1:00-3:00

Hop, Jump and Fly! - More Ecology Fun

Featuring a creative series of "hands-on" experience that is designed to increase your child's environmental knowledge and sensitivity. Frogs, earthworms, a chicken, moths, spiders and a rotten log are but a few of our friends used in the program to awaken interest, love and respect for all living things. By acting out the life cycles of our wildlife friends we can better understand our niche in nature.

Fee: \$25 July 24-28 9:00-11:30&1:00-2:30

3rd - 5th Grades

Ecology Safari on Long Island

Travel to a pristine pond in search of water loving plants and animals. Explore a deciduous forest, a rocky intertidal zone and a north shore stream. This program will provide your child with a broad exposure to 5 unique habitats on L.I. and emphasize their ecological importance.

Fee: \$25 July 17-21 9:00-11:30&1:00-3:30

Bats, Birds, Bees and Other Things That Fly

This program will focus on a variety of interesting animals that all have something in common - flight. Children will build paper airplanes to demonstrate principles of aerodynamics, learn how to care for sick and injured birds, observe live honey bees and study their life history, explore the life of flying mammals-bats and accompany leading Audubon field guides on a bird watching trip to the famous Tobay Bird Sanctuary.

Fee: \$25 July 24-28 9:00-11:30&1:00-3:30

Grades 5 - 8

Experience in Ornithology

A variety of field trips and projects designed to help participants delve into the world of birds. Activities will include: a bird banding demonstration, construction of bird houses, learning how to care for sick, injured and oiled birds, drawing

birds, bird call and much more.

Fee: \$45 July 31-Aug. 4 9:00-2:00

Grades 9 - 12

Marine Ecology Workshop

A program dealing with marine and estuarine ecology will take us to the following sites: dunes, salt marshes, beaches and the ocean. We will learn sampling techniques and use them to compare the diversity of organisms in polluted and non-polluted waters. An ocean overnight is planned where, for example, we hope to see and study the bioluminescent combe jelly. An ambitious program for motivated students.

Fee: \$45 August 7 - 11 9:00 - 2:00

For Adults

Adventures in Birding

This program will introduce students to L.I. birds, their life histories and birding "hot spots." One overnight field trip is planned which will introduce you to the whippoorwill and other summer night birds. Instructor: William Kolodnicki and other noted L.I. birders. Schedule: Monday-Sagamore Hill National Park, Tuesday-Caumsett State Park, Wednesday-Target Rock Refuge and Hobart Beach (tern colony), Thursday-Tobay Bird Sanctuary and overnight at Southhaven County Park, Friday-Southhaven County Park.

Fee: \$45 June 26 - 30 8:00-11:30

Project Approach to Ornithology

As the birder advances, questions about the life of birds become more sophisticated. This course will give students a deeper knowledge and appreciation of bird life. Visiting with amateur and professional ornithologists, we will have a chance to observe their various research projects. Schedule: Monday-The Role of National Audubon in Bird Research; Bluebird Project at Caumsett State Park, Tuesday-Great Gull Island Tern Project, Helen Hays of the American Museum of National History, Wednesday a.m. Caring for Sick and Injured Birds, p.m. 1:00-3:30 Urban Wildlife in Crisis-Fred Schlauch, Thursday-Waterfowl Rescue-Cleaning and Care of Oiled Birds, Friday-Bronx Zoo-Behind the Scenes Tour of the Bird House.

Fee: \$45 July 10 - 14 8:30-12:00 noon

Registration Fee is \$10-Balance Due on first day of program. If you are interested in attending any of these excellent programs, please call the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary at WA 2-3200.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If any of you would like to work at the T.R. Sanctuary this summer, please contact Pat Davis, 822-6189.

SEPT. NEWS DEADLINE AUG. 15

NEXT MEETING----TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1978, FREEPORT LIBRARY, 8:15 P.M.

FIELD TRIPS: Starting time - 9:30 A.M.

No walk if it rains, snows, or temperature is 25 degrees or below.

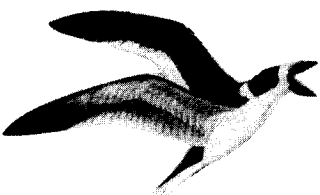
JUNE 4 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
18 Canoe Trip - Call Francis Cooper for
information - 485-8173
AUG. 20 Boat Trip - Great South Bay
27 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
SEPT.10 West End #2, N.W. corner
17 Tobay-J.F.K. Sanctuary
24 Short Beach, West End #2, N.E. corner
OCT. 1 Zach's Bay Pkg. Fld. #4
8 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
15 West End #2, N.W. corner
22 Tobay-J.F.K. Sanctuary
29 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
NOV. 5 Pelham Bay-Throg's Neck Bridge, right side of
toll booth at 9:00 A.M.

OFFICERS

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BINOCULAR SAVINGS: SSAS is offering an outstanding opportunity to purchase Bushnell and Bausch & Lomb binoculars, scopes and tripods at a savings of 30 to 50%. These special prices are available when we order in groups of 12. If you wish further information, please call Joan Butkerei (LY 3-4554) or Asa Starkweather (LY 9-5824).

**SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
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FREEPORT, N.Y. 11520**



FIRST CLASS MAIL