

# SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



## MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14  
FREEPORT LIBRARY  
8:15 P.M.



GUEST SPEAKER: Al Lemke  
"South by Southwest"

South Shore Audubon's own Al Lemke will be presenting a program based on his visits to several national parks and monuments. His articles on this trip appeared in the Skimmer last season.

Mr. Lemke will be showing pictures of the magnificent scenery, the varied vegetation and some of the wildlife he encountered. Please join us for this fascinating program.

PLEASE NOTE: Our November meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 5. Our guest speaker will be Frank Reiser of the Nassau Community College Biology Department with a program on the Spiders of Long Island.

## Bird Seed Savings

Sunday, November 2 - 9:30 A.M.-4 P.M.  
Tackapausha Museum



All proceeds go to the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. Volunteers will be needed on the sale day. If you would like to help, please call 593-4554 or 623-0843.

See page 5 for details.

## SALT MARSH ENDANGERED!

A public hearing on the proposed land fill of 103.2 acres of salt marsh in Lido Beach will be held on October 7. The hearing is set for 10 A.M. at the Long Beach City Hall, 1 West Chester Street, Long Beach.

Any members who are available at that hour this coming Tuesday are urged to attend. Asa Starkweather will be going as South Shore Audubon's representative. We should like to have as many people as possible present to support our position. See page 3 for details.

## Whale Watch Boat Trip



Sunday, October 26

SSAS is sponsoring an exciting opportunity to see whales, dolphins and pelagic birds. The 90' Jigger II leaves Montauk at 10 A.M., returning about 4:30 P.M. Experienced marine biologists will share their knowledge.

\$20.00 adults - \$15.00 children  
Reservations must be made and paid by Oct. 17. For further information call 593-4554 or 623-0843. Those already signed up, please make checks payable to South Shore Audubon and mail to Paul Butkerei, 268 Wallace Street, Freeport, N.Y. 11520.

# West Coast for the Birds

Asa Starkweather

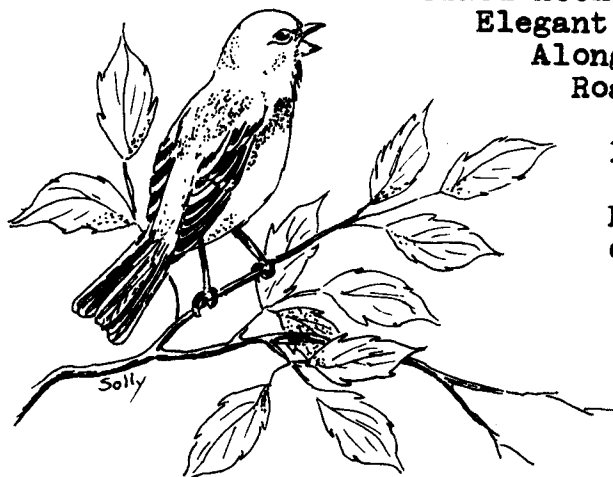
We arrived in San Diego on July third for a visit with Alvin and Laura Friedman. For those of you who are new to South Shore, Alvin and Laura Friedman started SSAS. He was our first president and he asked me to extend his and Laura's best wishes to all!

They were determined to show us every bird to be seen in the San Diego area. We went birding at LaJolla and Point Loma where the Navy has an extensive training ground for seals and sea lions.

At LaJolla: Pelagic Cormorant, White-winged Scoter, California Gull, Western Gull, Herman's Gull, Ravens, Tri-coloured Blackbird and Brewer's Blackbird.

In a wetland's area: Cinnamon Teal, California Quail, Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, Cliff Swallow, Forster's Tern, Elegant Tern, Western Kingbird and Black Phoebe.

Along the highway, perched on a fence was a Road Runner.



In the Point Loma parking lot: a Wren! (Al didn't see it.), Sag's Phoebe, Willow Flycatcher, Dusky Flycatcher, Western Flycatcher, Scrub Jay, Stellar Jays (the common jay - no Blue Jays), more Brewer's Blackbirds (the common blackbird), Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee (western race) and Brown Towhee (Pacific race).

Around Al's condo: Anna's Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird and the Black-chinned Hummingbird.

Al and Laura took us to the San Diego Zoo Wild Animal Park at night. That's the best time to go. All the animals are awake. One takes an electric car with a guide around the park. He has a floodlight to turn on at appropriate times. It's spectacular! One dividend was a Barn Owl on a fence looking at us. As we looked at it, the owl spread its wings and drifted away.

After the trip, Al took us to a pond where wild birds have come for a free handout just as birds come to your feeder. There, wide awake because they are night feeders, were a Black-bellied Tree Duck and a Fulvous Tree Duck!

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Eleanor Glaser frequently dittos poems for the children in her class. Recently, she came across one she thought our members might enjoy:

## Any Bird

by Ilo Orleans

I haven't a palace,  
I haven't a throne,  
There isn't a thing  
In the world I own.

I bathe in the bird bath,  
I perch on the trees;  
I come and go  
Whenever I please.

But everyone's garden  
Is open and free  
There's always a crumb  
Or a worm there for me.

I fly where I will,  
By woodland or sea,  
The whole world is mine;  
I'm rich as can be!



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Note: We extend our thanks to Long Beach artist Gloria Solly for the beautiful drawing accompanying Asa's article.

# SALT MARSH

Thomas Torma

Below is the text of the statement I sent to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation expressing our position on the matter of the Lido wetlands:

Our organization is opposed to the development of 103.2 acres of wetlands, north of Gerry Avenue and Channel Road in Lido Beach. The reasons for our position are as follows:

The public notice describes the area to be filled as uplands, tidal wetlands, and lands under water. This area is also called a Salt Marsh, and is of great economic, environmental, and recreational value.

A salt marsh is a valuable source of food for many forms of life. It is widely reported that a salt marsh produces between five to ten times the food value of an equivalent acreage of wheat. Many of our commercial and sport fish rely on this nourishment in order to survive. Many of these fish need the marsh in order to breed. The loss of our wetlands would be detrimental to Long Island's large commercial fish industry. Many tourists are attracted to our area for sport fishing, thus boosting the local economy.

Clams, mussels, crabs, and other crustaceans also need salt marshes. One of Long Island's major industries, the shellfish industry, could be jeopardized if we continue to lose marshlands.

Salt marshes help maintain water quality. The plants act as a filtering system, removing impurities. Our tidal wetlands are so valuable to our water quality that the Long Island 208 Water Quality Management Plan recommends the following for southern Nassau County;

New landfills should be permitted under current New York State policy provided the site is landward of the primary coastal zone and the depth to groundwater is sufficient to ensure an adequate unsaturated zone below the bottom of the landfill. (The primary coastal zone extends landward for 1,000' or to the 10' elevation, whichever includes the greater distance from the shoreline or from any stream flowing into marine waters.)

Obviously, this proposed project falls within the primary coastal zone, and the landfill should not be permitted under these recommendations.

Many forms of wildlife use the wetlands. These include raccoon, fox and muskrat. The marshland also attracts many types of birds. In the summer many birds nest in the marsh. Herons and egrets also feed there. In the winter the marsh provides protection for waterfowl and other types of birds.

Real estate interests have long filled our wetlands seeking profit. These landfills have benefitted a few people, but have been detrimental to the majority of our society. We can no longer afford to lose any more of our

wetlands. For this reason the state has passed laws protecting our wetlands, and water quality. While profit is a great motivator in our society, the seeking of profit is not without risks. The laws of this state should not be set aside so a small number of people can gain financially. The state should not bail out those who have failed to gain profit. This proposed project is asking the state to do just that.

## AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM/LECTURE SERIES

In cooperation with the South Shore Audubon Society, the Town of Hempstead will continue its informative Audubon Wildlife Film/Lecture Series.

October 15 — Tom Sperling "Superior Land of the Woodland Drummer"

November 5 — Kent Durden "Gifts of an Eagle"

December 16 — Charles Hotchkiss "Wilderness Trails"

January 28 — Frank Heimans "What Have You Done To My Country"

All Performances will be at 8:15 pm. in the Town Hall Pavilion, Hempstead. Admission - free - but tickets are necessary.

For tickets, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope, specifying date, program and number of tickets desired to:

Audubon Lecture Series  
Hempstead Recreation Division  
200 N. Franklin Street  
Hempstead, NY 11550



## HORIZONS II

We will hold our Environmental Fair, Horizons II, on Sunday, November 16, 1980, 1-5 P.M. at Adelphi University's Ruth S. Harley University Center in Garden City.

Please contact Pat Davis at 822-6189 if you would like to display your arts and crafts or if you can help with the displays and programs.

# A NORTHERN EXPERIENCE

Lynne and Mort Silver

Once before we had the pleasure of reporting our birding trip to Arizona under the aegis of North East Birding (now called Wings). This July we again joined a group of fifteen led by the well-known and experienced ornithologist Davis Finch to a more rarefied and unusual region for a most rewarding birding experience.

Churchill, Manitoba is about 59° N on the west coast of Hudson Bay, Canada. It is a unique community located above the tree line in a transitionzone between boreal forest and tundra. The area offers a diversified avifauna, most recognized as migrants through the New York area, but now seen in breeding plumage, nesting and with hatchlings. The birds, being less secretive when feeding or protecting their young, afford a viewing opportunity seldom matched anywhere. With proper technique and respect for the birds, one could get pictures even with a Brownie camera.

We birded every day from dawn 'til dawn as the sun never set. We slogged over the spongy tundra, clambered over the rounded Precambrian rocks and glacial debris - some days frozen by the chill winds off Hudson Bay and other times baked by the ever present sun. However, the stark beauty of the surroundings more than compensated for any bodily inconvenience. Tiny wild flowers, in profusion and all colors, grew everywhere. Stunted trees dotting the landscape harbored birds of every variety. We stood just a few feet from Whimbrels, Hudsonian Godwits, Snow Geese, Sandhill Cranes, Willow Ptarmigan, Smith's Lapland and Chestnut-collared Longspurs. There were Hoary and Common Redpolls, Harris LeContes and Baird Sparrows, Arctic Terns, Loons and shorebirds ad infinitum. Our days were filled with beauty and novelty.

A trip to Churchill always includes a canoe trip to view the Beluga or White whales feeding in the Bay. We were amply rewarded as whole families of whales approached the canoes, diving beneath the boats and tantalizing the photographers with impossible close-ups.

Our viewing luck continued, for one day we saw a massive Polar Bear moving through the forest. We kept a safe distance in order to avoid a serious confrontation, but we did capture him on film. This magnificent animal is the undisputed king around here and no one challenges him on his territory.

A most unusual sighting we keep for the last to perhaps whet the appetite of any of our South Shore friends who might consider this trip. We saw and photographed a Ross' Gull nesting among the tundra pools. A "good bird," small and white with a black necklace and showing a rosy breast hue in flight. Nature's gift to us - a rare and beautiful sight.

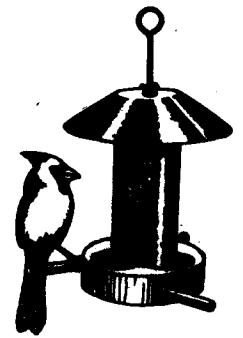
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Our new Hospitality Chairman, taking over from Miriam Raynor, is Roz Stein. Many thanks to Miriam for the fine job she has done, and thanks to Roz for volunteering her efforts. If you can bring cake, cookies, etc. to a meeting, please get in touch with one of the following:

Roz Stein 223-0608  
Miriam Raynor 364-6204  
Ruth Grossman Fr 8-8809

P.S. Please remember to bring your own non-disposable cups to meetings.

# BIRD SEED SAVINGS DAY



Sunday November 2, 1980  
 Tackapausha Museum  
 9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Tackapausha Museum is located on Washington Ave. in Seaford and lies about 1/2 mile south of Sunrise Highway just north of Merrick Rd. Pre-ordering greatly aids us in determining the amount of seed needed, an order form is enclosed for your use. All pre-orders must be in by October 21.

All proceeds from the seed sale go to the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. Volunteers will be needed on the sale day. If you want to help, please call 593-4554 or 623-0843.

## Pre-ordering Suggested

### BIRD SEED ORDER FORM

Quantity	Description	Price	Total
_____	50 lb. bag Sunflower Seed	@ \$14.75	_____
_____	25 lb. bag Sunflower Seed	@ \$ 7.50	_____
_____	50 lb. bag Regular Wild Bird Seed	@ \$ 9.40	_____
_____	25 lb. bag Regular Wild Bird Seed	@ \$ 4.80	_____
_____	40 lb. bag Special Seed 30% Sunflower	@ \$10.50	_____
_____	20 lb. bag Special Seed " "	@ \$ 5.50	_____
_____	50 lb. bag Economy Mix Food Store Blend	\$8.50	_____
_____	50 lb. bag Cracked Corn	@ \$ 7.75	_____
_____	25 lb. bag Cracked Corn	@ \$ 4.00	_____
_____	10 lb. bag Sunflower Hearts	@ \$ 6.55	_____
_____	10 lb. bag Peanut Bits	@ \$ 6.10	_____
_____	10 lb. bag Safflower Seed	@ \$ 6.10	_____
_____	10 lb. bag Thistle Seed	@ \$12.00	_____

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

check enclosed

MY NAME IS \_\_\_\_\_

MY ADDRESS IS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

All orders must be recieved by October 21. Please make checks payable to the South Shore Audubon Society. Mail check and order form to: Paul T. Butkereiit, 268 Wallace St., Freeport, N.Y. 11520.

## FIELD TRIPS

Starting time - 9:30 A.M.

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

- OCT.        5 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge  
            12 Tobay, J.F.K. Sanctuary  
            19 West End #2, N.E. corner  
            26 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- NOV.        2 Zach's Bay, Pkg. Fld. #4  
                    N.E. corner  
            9 Tobay, J.F.K. Sanctuary  
            16 West End #2, N.W. corner  
            23 Pelham Bay-meet at Throg's  
                    Neck Bridge toll-9:00 A.M.

## OFFICERS

P. Davis-President 822-6189  
7 Meyers Ave., Hicksville 11801  
T. Torma-Vice-Pres. 223-7947  
921 Van Buren St., Baldwin 11510  
E. Kutner-Birding IV 6-7667  
461 Dunster Ct., W.Hempstead 11552  
T. Stoltz-Membership LY 3-4554  
10 Lincoln Pl., Lynbrook 11563  
A. Orens-Editor 431-9537  
282 Greenway Rd., Lido Beach 11561

RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS  
(212) 832-6523

NOVEMBER NEWS DEADLINE  
OCTOBER 13

**BINOCULAR SAVINGS** are available through the club. Save 30% to 50% on Bushnell and Bausch and Lomb binoculars and scopes. See us at meetings and birdwalks or call the committee members listed:  
Barbara Tancredi 11 A.M.-1 P.M. 775-1790  
Bill Herzog 7 P.M.-9 P.M. 791-7886  
Asa Starkweather 599-5824  
Joan Butkerei 593-4554



**SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**P.O. BOX 31**  
**FREEPORT, N.Y. 11520**



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**