

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 14 - SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MARCH - 1990

President's Message

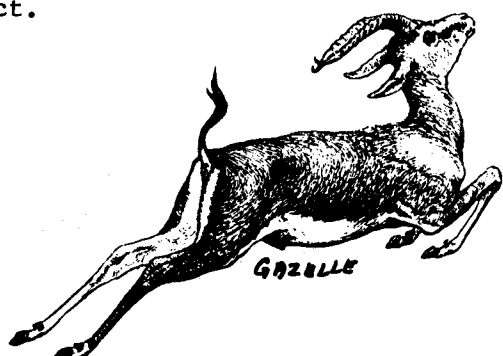
.....Joseph Grupp

As we proceed through the remainder of winter and the spring of the year, there is a full calendar of events at South Shore Audubon Society. On April 7, Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary has invited all members of South Shore Audubon Society to meet at the Sanctuary at 1:00 P.M., at which time the Sanctuary will honor the memory of Jane Herod, a deceased member of S.S.A.S., and dedicate the new aviary that South Shore Audubon Society financially supported and helped to build.

The calendar for the remainder of the year appears as follows:

- March 3 N.Y.State Audubon Council Meeting at Albany, New York
- March 10 Twin Lakes Clean-Up
- March 24 Bronx Zoo Trip
- April 7 T. R. Sanctuary
- April 22 Earth Day at Tackapausha Museum
- May 5-7 National Audubon Society's Northeast Regional Conference at Lake George, New York
- May 12 Birdathon
- May 20 Cow Meadow Environmental Festival
- June 2 L.I. Council Meeting at Scully Sanctuary

The above calendar does not include our regularly scheduled meetings, birdwalks, annual dinner, etc. If you have any questions in regard to any event don't hesitate to contact me. Watch the Skimmer for information on our tree planting project.



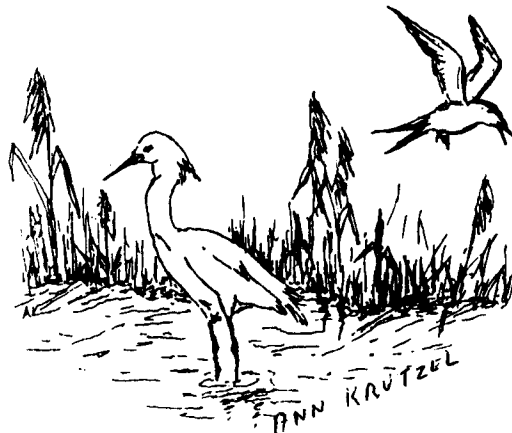
GAZELLE

Next Meeting

.....Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 1990
TIME: 8:00 P.M.
PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library
Merrick Road & Ocean Avenue
Freeport, New York

Another very special slide-program is planned. Come out and enjoy another wonderful meeting with Audubon.



ANN KRUTZEL

Bird Walks

.....Elliott Kutner

All walks start at 9:30 A.M. and no walks if it rains or snows or temperatures are below 25°. Any questions? Call Elliott at 486-7667.

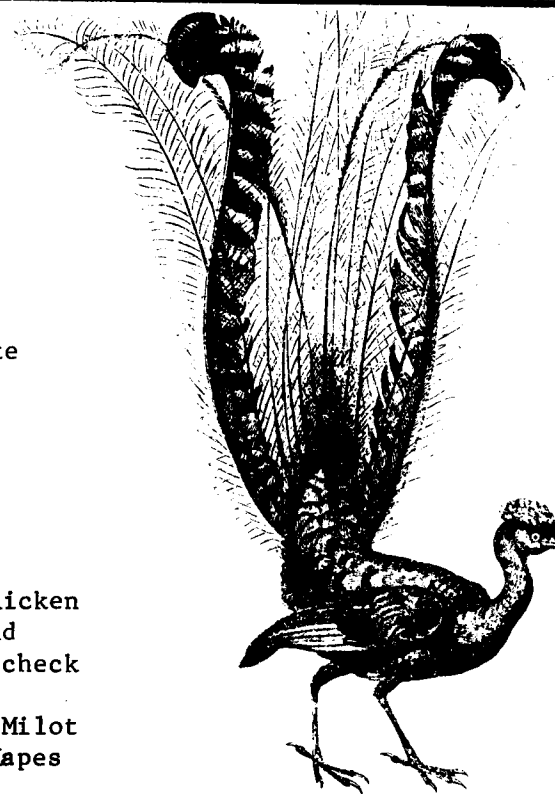
- Mar. 3 Hempstead Lake State Park Peninsula Boulevard parking
- Mar. 10 Twin Lakes Preserve, Wantagh
- Mar. 17 Zachs Bay-Pkg.Fld.#4 northeast corner
- Mar. 24 West End #2-northeast corner
- Mar. 31 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to New Members

.....Marion Yavarkovsky

We wish to welcome the following new members to our Chapter. Please join us at our monthly meetings, weekly birdwalks and many special events. Our many committees, covering a wide variety of subject areas, are available to you. We would like you to take advantage of them. Remember, the welcome mat is always out.

- Atlantic Beach.....Arnold S. Mintz
- Baldwin.....Dr. Diane Guerriere
- Bellmore.....E. Nagle
- Bethpage.....Anne Esenther, Ms. Beatrice Terry
- East Meadow.....Michael Gatz, Robert Thomson, Ken/Audrey Ricken
- East Rockaway.....Dr. Richard A. Freedman, Charles P. Berwind
- Farmingdale.....Peter Bookalam, Stanley Jacoby, Kathleen Scheck
- Floral Park.....Jonnie L. Floyd
- Franklin Square....Helen Kruger, Shirley L. Harman, David P. Milot
- Freeport.....Bruce Goldfeder, Joan F. Mallicoat, Beth Mapes
- Garden City.....Pamela Corteo, Mary A. Goess
- Hempstead.....Mr. Mrs. George Grella, Jr., Antonette Fisher, Ms. Cindy L. Karyuk
- Hicksville.....Jim Weaver, Gladys Gonzalez
- Lawrence.....Mr. Mrs. A. Biamonte
- Levittown.....Mrs. Leon Bennett
- Long Beach.....Mr. William J. Sheeron
- Malverne.....Grace Musumeci, Adam J. Pletz
- Massapequa.....A. D. Billings, Kathleen Blake, Evelyn Hertz, Stacey Merola
- Massapequa Park...Mr. Richard S. Walker
- Oceanside.....Maria Shuster, B. Ferguson
- Rockville Centre...Nancy Wettstein
- Syosset.....Meg Greenberg
- Valley Stream.....David Spiwak
- West Hempstead....Alvin Schneiderman
- Wantagh.....Stephen P. Hoffman, Mr. Mrs. Paul Irene, Mr. Thomas Lascalzo
- Woodmere.....Dolores Combs, David Shapiro



A Message from SHAKLEE

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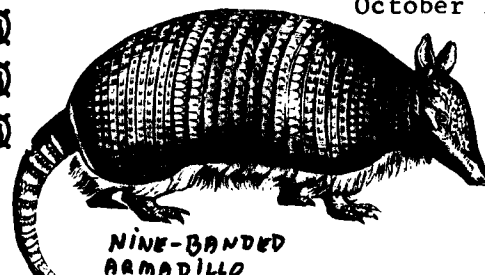
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ACCORDING TO A RECENT REPORT BY THE U. S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE, NEARLY SIXTY PERCENT OF THE NATION'S 452 WILDLIFE REFUGES ARE USED FOR PURPOSES THAT HARM WILDLIFE!!!! THE REPORT DOCUMENTED REFUGE LANDS BEING DRILLED FOR OIL AND GAS, TRACKED BY OFF-ROAD VEHICLES AND DENUED BY CATTLE AND SHEEP.

Conservation Magazine
October 1989



NINE-BANDED
ARMADILLO

Birding One To One

.....Gayle Wertz

Someone gave me an article from "Plain Truth Magazine" (3-90). It stated that although the Exxon Valdez spilled 10.8 million gallons of oil, about 37 times that amount of oil is dumped improperly in the United States every year!

U.S. automobiles and industries produce about 1.4 billion gallons of used oil annually. Some is used in other ways but approximately 400 million gallons are poured into our soil, sewers or landfill. Nearly half comes from car owners who change their own oil and dispose of it improperly. I hope you are not guilty of this.... Businesses do not recycle due to complex regulations and inexpensive brand new oil.

National Wildlife Federation reports that North American waterfowl populations, near an all time low, as the 1989 fall migration southward saw a flight of some 64 million ducks, down from 66 million in 1988. During the 1970s the average was 92 million. On their northward migration, before late-spring rains began replenishing drought-ravaged wetlands, the ducks faced a severe shortage of staging and breeding areas. The drought only worsened the situation that was already bad. Wetland destruction by farming and other interests continued in this country at a rate of some 300,000 acres a year. Despite the vaunted Swampbuster provisions of the 1985 U.S. Farm Act, a study released last year said wetland drainage in 1987 was the highest in 20 years.

In January the E.P.A. announced that it would permit no net loss of wetlands. If there was no alternative to destruction the party responsible would be required to restore a previously existing wetland or create a new one of equal value. President Bush established a task force to implement this policy.

Sincere thanks to the mysterious Auduboner who left that lovely bird figurine on my porch with the nice note. I certainly do collect all animal figurines (not surprised are you?) and this will go beautifully with my growing collection. Without your name, I cannot thank you in person. Much appreciated!

BABY ANIMAL/BIRD SEASON IS ARRIVING! Do I see a show of hands of people wishing to help, this year? You surely could show a real Audubon spirit (and the little critters are so, so, so cute!!) 798-4215 is the number to call if you would like to save some lives. It will be a most memorable experience for you

NOMINATIONS FOR 1990 - 1991 S.S.A.S.

President:	Joan Butkereiit
Vice President:	James Remsen
Treasurer:	Lennox Gordon
Recording Secretary:	Louise Hillen
Corresponding Secretary:	Ruth Grossman
Director:	Pat Davis
Director:	Tom Torma

WE URGE THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP TO ATTEND THE MAY MEETING, AT WHICH TIME THE ELECTIONS TO THESE OFFICES WILL BE HELD. WE WANT YOU TO MEET THE CANDIDATES AND CONVINCED YOURSELF THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REPRESENT YOUR VIEWS OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BEST SERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT.

Nominating Committee: Nora Laurencio, William Hollweg and Elliott Kutner.

AN ACT OF TRUST

Ocean drift nets take a grim toll as they stretch for miles across the open ocean, entangling whales and other sea mammals along with their intended catch of fish.

In the midst of this bleak story is a touching chapter set in the Arabian Sea, where a Navy helicopter spotted a female sperm whale hopelessly snarled in a drift net. The helicopter crew radioed for help, and the nearby guided-missile cruiser USS Truxton answered.

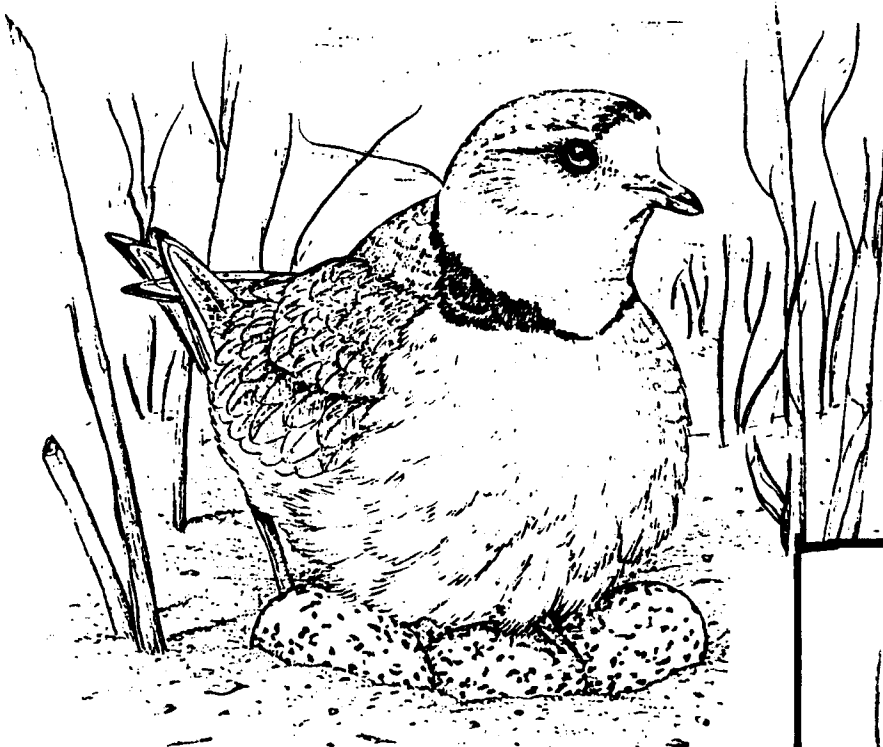


The ship pulled alongside the 60,000-pound whale and to keep the exhausted mammal from drowning, the crew lashed her to the hull.

One at a time several sailors crawled overboard to cut away the knotted ropes. After about an hour the whale was able to free herself. But to the crew's dismay, she pulled away before they had finished removing the net from her head and flukes. The commanding officer sent a small boat in pursuit - despite the fact that the whale could quickly submerge or speed out of reach.

To the astonishment of all, she stopped and waited for the boat's approach. Two Navy divers entered the water, and one actually straddled the whale as he worked to free her. The whale cooperated while the men pulled away the last of the netting. A somewhat misty-eyed crew then watched her slowly swim from view.

Ocean Realm
Science Digest-January 1990



YOU CAN HELP PROTECT THE PIPING PLOVER
by Brigitte Braff

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help prepare Silverpoint Nesting Site for the arrival of the Piping Plover, an endangered species along the Atlantic Coast. Meet at Silverpoint Beach Club in Atlantic Beach, Saturday, March 31, 1990 at 10:AM. Raindate, Saturday, April 7, 1990 at 10:AM. Work involves cleaning nest site area and surrounding beach area. Dress warmly (in layers) and bring work gloves.

For information/directions call.....
Brigitte Braff at 516-371-4779.



An arctic ground squirrel in Alaska emerges from its winter hibernation.

SUPERCOOL SQUIRRELS

Here's a thought to make the blood run cold: During the winter months, arctic ground squirrels temporarily chill their bodies to subfreezing temperatures without turning their blood into ice. The process is known as "supercooling," and these squirrels are the only mammals known to do it.

Biologist Brian Barnes of the University of Alaska in Fairbanks recorded the squirrels' core temperatures with implanted radio thermometers. The supercooling conditions lasted for three weeks before a rapid rise in body temperature aroused the squirrels for a short period. Their temperatures then lowered once again. This cycle repeated itself until the squirrels woke up in the spring.

The researchers searched for some sort of biological antifreeze in the squirrels' blood but found none. They have yet to deduce why the cooling occurs in cycles or how the squirrels manage to stay frozen for weeks at a time with no bodily harm. The answers might extend the time that donor organs could be preserved for transplants.

—Science

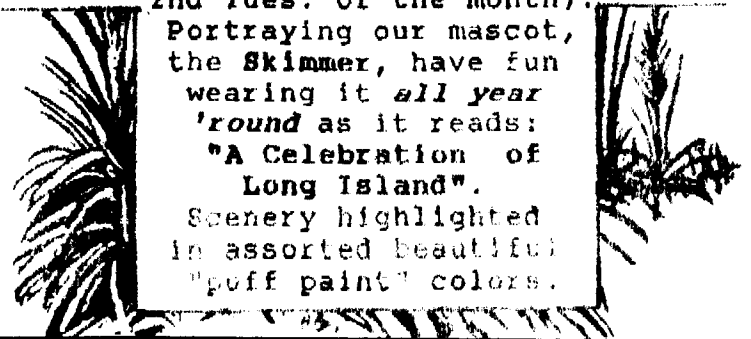


FAMILY NATURE FESTIVAL "TEE SHIRTS" \$6
available at SSAS's General Meeting (every 2nd Tues. of the month).

Portraying our mascot, the Skimmer, have fun wearing it *all year 'round* as it reads:

"A Celebration of Long Island".

Scenery highlighted in assorted beautiful "puff paint" colors.

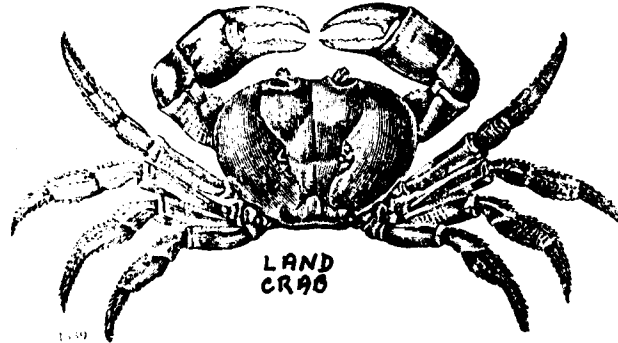


BROOKSIDE PRESERVE

CLEAN-UP MARCH 23rd

Tiny fern fiddleheads push up out of the ground. Pungent skunk cabbage poke themselves up through the marsh. Fragrant Lily-of-the-Valley and Canada Mayflower begin to carpet the forest floor. Common Flickers hammer the trees overhead, and brilliant Cardinals call out to their mates.

Spring arrives at the Brookside Preserve. It is time to get our "home" in order. Join us for our Spring Clean-Up at the Preserve on Sunday, March 25, at 1:30 P.M. Location: Brookside Avenue (north of Sunrise Highway) in Freeport. Dress appropriately - wear boots - we are a wetland! For more information, call Betsy Gulotta - 546-8841.



LOW FLOW PLUMBING FIXTURES

by Lennox Gordon

Effective January 1, 1991 the maximum flow for sink, lavatory faucets, shower heads and urinals cannot exceed 2.5 gallons per minute. The maximum flow for water closets (toilets) cannot exceed a maximum flow of 1.6 gallons per minute.

The Senate Bill #3581C was introduced by Sen. Owen Johnson, 23-24 Argyle Square, Babylon, N.Y. 11702. The Assembly Bill was introduced by Rep. A. Henchey and others. Addresses not available at this time.

Existing installations are not effected.

WATER ISSUES

New York State Senator Caesar Trunzo has issued a special 4 page report on water issues dated December 1989. This report covers efforts to protect Long Island water, water legislation highlights for 1989, education programs, poster and model contest, education activities, water filters, wetlands, septic systems and Edgewood demolition. Phone: 516-360-6206 for education activities.

AUDUBON ACTIVIST - January/February 1990
by Lennox Gordon

Hot Line: (202-547-9017)
For more information on the following, call (516-223-1365)

Immediate action is necessary on:

- Tongas National Forest S346
- Bottle Bill HR586
- Gray Wolf HR2786
- Oil Spill HR3394

- Proposed Eagle downlisting
- Ban on elephant ivory trade
- Endangered Red Squirrel
- Oil field waste ponds

Ancient forests of Pacific North West

Signed Into Law:

- North American Wetland Conservation Act
- Everglades National Park Protection and Conservation Act

- Eagle Habitat - 10550 acres in Mongap River Valley acquired for \$15 million, provided by 1986 Environmental Quality Bond Act.

Clean Air Act Amendment - S1630

- Oppose all weakening amendments.

Bird Watching in Merrick

Bird-watching has caught on! More and more Americans are joining the ranks of serious birders, becoming followers that watch birds regularly, use a field guide, keep lists and identify species.

In the spring, billions of birds burst into the sky and even a backyard birder is drawn to admire the beauty of these tiny creatures.

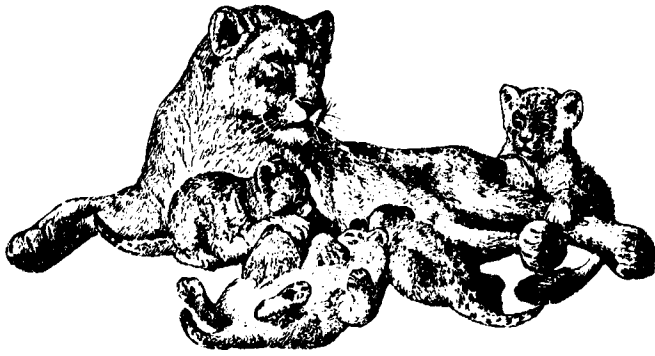
Professional birder Elliot Kutner will present a program on Thursday, **March 22 at 8 PM to show**

that "there is still wild life in Merrick!"

Mr. Kutner is a founding father of the South Shore Audubon Society. As a field trip leader, he is the inspiration for bird-watchers to get to know their local area, appreciate the wildlife in it and protect it. He has lectured in local schools, on a volunteer basis, for many years, educating the young to the beauty around them.

A color film and commentary, "Notes from a Bird-Watcher's Log: Merrick," plus a question period are planned. Refreshments will be served.

March 22, 1990
8:00 P.M.
Merrick Library
Merrick Avenue
(Between Merrick Rd. & Sunrise)



BRONX ZOO SAFARI - MARCH 24, 1990, SATURDAY
by Evelyn Blume

The bus will leave at 9:00 A.M. at Merrick Golf Course Parking lot and leave Bronx Zoo at 3:00 P.M. We will visit the new Zoo Center where the Elephants, Rhino and Tapir live, and learn why and how endangered they are and what we can do. The Bronx Zoo is the largest urban zoo in North America. We will visit the World of Birds, Aquatic Bird House and Jungle World. Get your hiking shoes ready and plan for an adventuresous day at the zoo. The bust cost will be \$12.00 per person. Call Evelyn Blume after 7:00 P.M. at 378-7122 if interested.

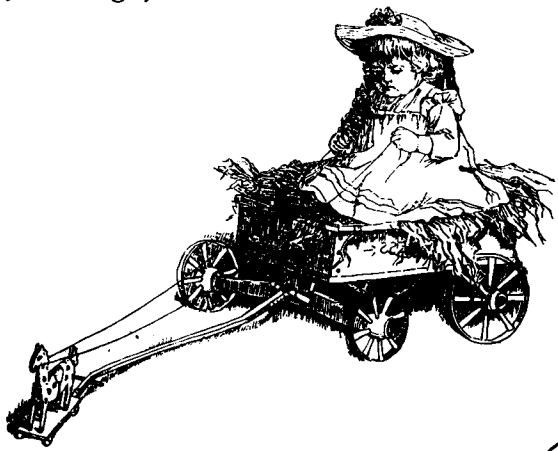
TOP-RATED SPRING EVENT

**BRING BAGS AND STICKS! GET READY FOR A
SPRING CLEAN-UP AT TWIN LAKES PRESERVE ON
SATURDAY, MARCH 10th at 9:30 A.M.**

Meet in School Parking Lot. This site is one of the beautiful preserves that South Shore Audubon Society had made a committment to keep clean for our Birdwalking pleasure, and health of our wildlife!

A vigorous way to Welcome Spring! Come on down - because we need you! Refreshments will be served.

(Directions: Sunrise Highway to Old Mill Road north, or Southern State to Exit 278, Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh)



Scholarship

..... Evelyn Blume

DEADLINE - MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1990

South Shore Audubon, once again is making possible two scholarships for 1990. One to be awarded to a youth and the other scholarship to an adult.

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Scholarship II will be awarded to a candidate who is an active member of S.S.A.S. and will serve on one or more Chapter Committees.

Scholarship IV is a youth scholarship and will be awarded to a young person recommended by an active S.S.A.S. member.

The adult scholarship will be at the Audubon Camp in Connecticut - Introductory Field Ecology, July 1 - 7 or July 8 - 14. The youth scholarship will be at Audubon Camp in Maine - Youth Ecology, August 16 - 26. Ages 10 - 14. Please submit to Evelyn Blume, 313 Smith Street, Merrick, N.Y. 11566 or call 378-7122 after 7:PM.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

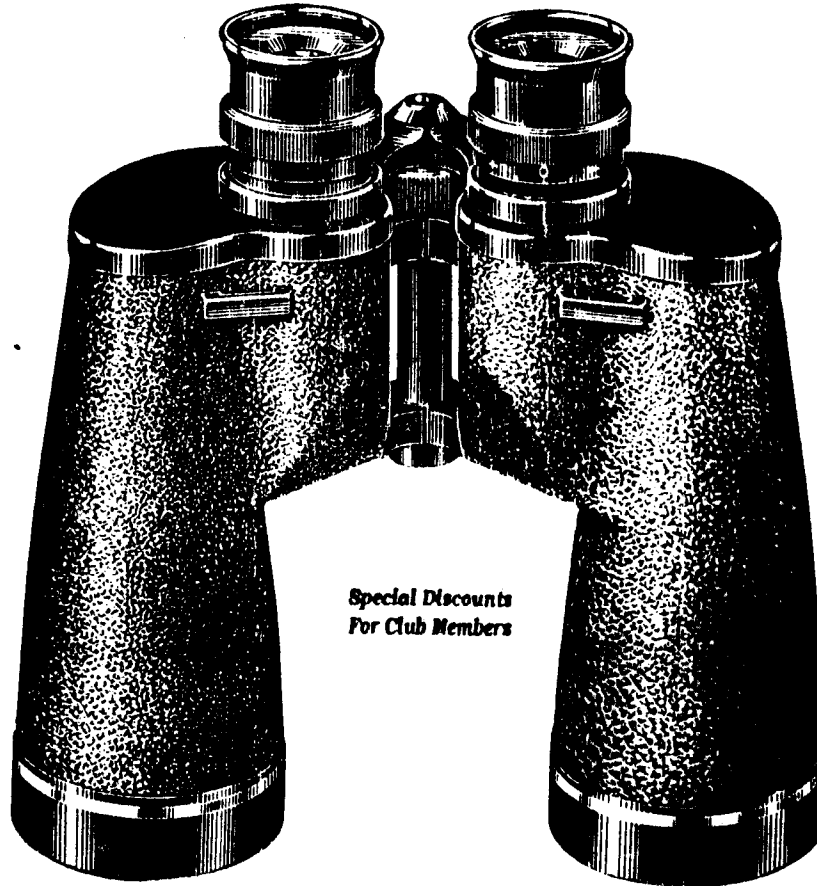
by Betsy Gulotta

In keeping with the goals of Audubon to further education of young people about wildlife protection and conservation of our natural resources, S.S.A.S. offers a \$500 scholarship to a college student who is persueing an academic career in an environmental field.

The scholarship is available to college juniors, seniors and graduate students at Hofstra, Adelphi, and C. W. Post Universities, and to graduating students from Nassau Community College, who plan to further their environmental studies in an institution of higher learning, in areas such as ecology, wildlife management, forestry, mammalogy, orinthology, animal behavior, etc.

Applications are available at the above-mentioned schools (Biology Departments), and through S.S.A.S., Betsy Gulotta, 546-8841. The deadline for applications is April 14, 1990. Recipients will be chosen by the S.S.A.S. scholarship committee.

BETTER LOOKING.



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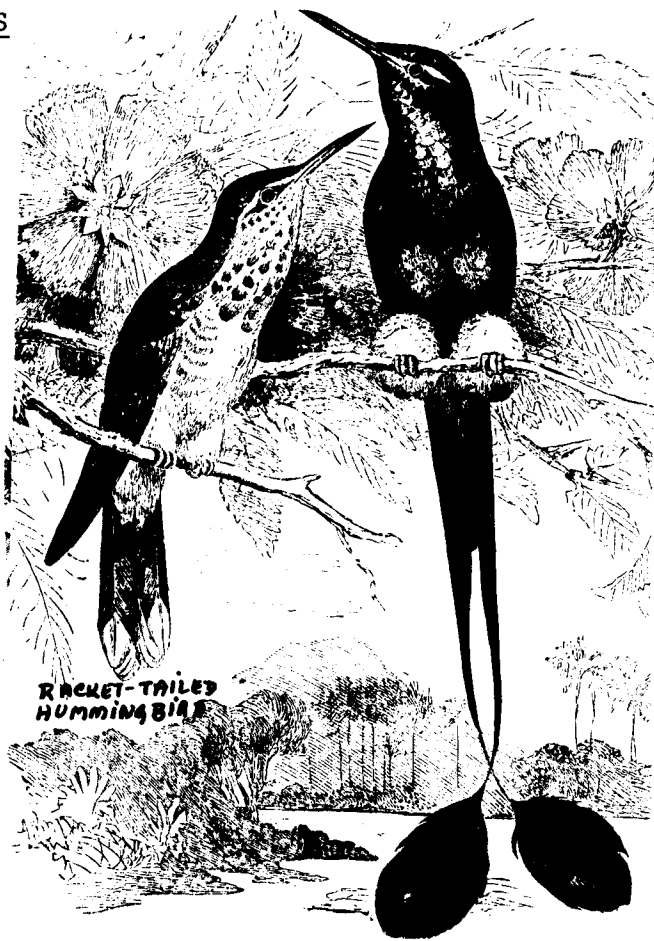
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 Lennox Gordon, Treasurer.....223-1365
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 Mark Phillips, Director (6-92).....431-0265
 Dolores Rogers, Director (6-92).....599-1224
 Arthur Charney, Director (6-91).....485-4611
 Ann McIntyre, Director (6-90).....379-2206
 Lois Schlegel,Direc./Cons.Co-Chair. (to8PM) (6-90)822-1546
 Irving Singer, Director (6-92).....561-6118
 Evelyn Blume, Scholarship Chairperson.....378-7122
 Paul Butkereiit, Birdseed Sales.....623-0843
 Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson.....249-4919
 Rose Ermides, Education Chairperson.....785-6028
 Josephine Rosato, Tee-Sweatshirt Sales.....541-5614
 Elliott Kutner, Birding Chairperson.....486-7667
 Diane Singer, Publicity Chairperson.....561-6118
 Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson.....379-2090
 James Remsen, Birdathon Chairperson.....764-5168
 John Staropoli, Youth Representative.....599-1569
 Bill Herzog, Binocular/Book Sales(7:-9:PM).....791-7886
 Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality Chairperson.....766-7397
 Frieda Malament, Holiday Parties.....795-5842
 Gayle Wertz, Editor/Wildlife Columnist.....798-4215



 RARE BIRD ALERT
 212-832-6523

 Wildlife Poisoning Hotline (1-800-356-0560)

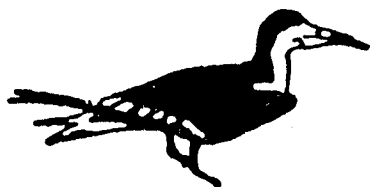
 AUDUBON HOTLINE
 202-547-9017



South Shore Audubon Society
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