

**THANKS TO THE BIRDSEED, HALLOWEEN, AND
BROOKSIDE VOLUNTEERS**

We'd like to give recognition to the SSAS members who helped out at three of our recent special events. If your name's missing, please notify your editor!

➤ *At the birdseed sale at Tackapausha:* Alice Blaustein, Betty Borowsky, Joan & Paul Butkereiit, Joe Grupp, Mike Higgiston, Bill Hollweg, Therese Lucas, Wendy Murbach, Scott Oglesby, Chris Schmitt, Michael Sperling, and John Zarudsky.

➤ *At the Halloween Party for children at Tackapausha:* Alice Blaustein, Louise Leonard, Therese Lucas, Wendy Murbach, Doris Pirodsky, Chris Schmitt, and Michael Sperling.

➤ *At the fall cleanup at Brookside Preserve:* Betty Borowsky, Susan Brychcy, Joan & Paul Butkereiit, Betsy Gulotta, Judy Hoyer, Charlie Kiefer, Therese Lucas, Dan Marsh, Christine Marzigliano, Wendy Murbach, Lou Paolillo, George Peters, Doris Pirodsky, Laurie Raisher, Michael Sperling, and John Zarudsky. We'd also like to thank Danielle Reed, Jim Reed, and the Freeport Kiwanis Club's Greg Abbate and Pat Buckland.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Wendy Murbach

You are warmly invited to be an active participant in our vibrant all-volunteer organization, comprised of persons who, like you, care about the earth we live on, about our local environment, and about the creatures that live alongside us. Check out the events that are mentioned in this *Skimmer*. Attend them yourself, and bring your family and friends too.

Our new members this month are:

- East Rockaway Francis Mc Williams
- Elmont Sebastian DiMarco
- Floral Park Madeleine Bernard, J. C. O'Connell
- Hicksville S. Gottlieb
- Long Beach Josephine A. Marone
- Lynbrook J. E. Stark
- Malverne George Hosker, Marie Lauria
- Massapequa ? Lenz
- Massapequa Park Eva Romance
- Oceanside Sharon Chaplinsky
- Plainview Irwin S. Parness
- Rockville Centre Elizabeth Stack
- Seaford George Guarascio
- Stewart Manor Meredith A. Maher
- Valley Stream Gregg Manjorin
- West Hempstead J. Wesolek
- Woodmere Tatiana Savig



AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (800) 274-4201

DUCK SURVEY HELPERS WANTED

Since February of 1989, SSAS Duck Survey Chairperson Joe Grupp's team has spent five Saturdays every winter counting ducks in 28 locations from Valley Stream to Massapequa Park, with Paul Butkereiit's team doing the same at 10 locations in southwestern Nassau.

The data being collected provides essential and unprecedented information about the populations of every duck species wintering on our lakes and ponds.



Joe is looking for volunteers willing to spend a half day or full day viewing and learning about our waterfowl and where to find them. If you're interested, please call him at 481-4208. The surveys will resume on **December 8**, rain or shine; the second survey will be on **January 5**.

Seed - Feeders (516) 694-2180
Houses - Baths
Books - Gifts


FEED & SEED
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"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"

621 Fulton St. (Rt. 109), Farmingdale, NY 11735
Located between McDonald's & Dunkin' Donuts

MORTON TRIP REMINDER

Joanne Dei Prele

On **Saturday, December 1**, SSAS will meet at 10 A.M. at Morton National Wildlife Refuge, located on the peninsula of Jessups Neck in Noyack, which is just west of Sag Harbor (driving moderately, from Bethpage it takes me about 1-1/2 hours via Long Island Expressway to Sunrise Highway). Bring sunflower seeds or shelled peanuts if you want to feed the Black-capped Chickadees and Tufted Titmice out of your hand. We should also see many other species of birds who are attracted by all the free food and some others in the pond and bay. Heavy rain cancels.

Directions to Morton: Sunrise Highway (Route 27) eastbound (from LI Expressway take exit 70, County Road 111 and follow signs to 27 east). Route 27 will change from a highway to local roadway going through the towns. A few miles past Southampton College (and 17.1 miles from County Road 111), make a left at the County Road 52 intersection (the sign points left for North Sea and Noyack). Proceed 0.9 miles and turn left at a traffic light onto County Road 38. Go 1.4 miles and turn right onto Noyack Road (look for a small sign on right side of road, "5 Miles to Morton Wildlife Sanctuary"). The refuge entrance is on the left. There is a big brown sign right at the entrance.

There is limited parking so it would be advisable to arrange carpooling; you can call me if you need help (433-0739 evenings). There is no entrance fee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE If You Can't Beat Them, Buy Them

Tom Torma

Over the last five years, a trend has developed within the environmental community. The large non-government environmental organizations have opened a "dialogue" with corporate businesses. This has been described as "consensus building" and a "win-win" situation. This raises the question: Should environmental organizations be "sleeping with the enemy"?

Our world is changing rapidly, with increasingly larger and more powerful global corporations, fueled by trade liberalization and corporate institutions such as the World Trade Organization. The mainstream environmental organizations are caught in the middle between those who support the idea of working with these corporations and their powerful institutions, and those who believe the new corporate system should be dismantled.

Should an environmental organization take money from corporate interests? Many environmental groups do take money. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Nature Conservancy take corporate finance. Others such as Greenpeace do not. What is the proper approach for an environmental organization? A few examples might shed some light on the problem.



The National Audubon Society listed 157 corporate donors in a *New York Times* advertisement. The corporations listed included BP Alaska (Exploration), Chevron, General Electric, Phillips Petroleum, Exxon, Westvaco — Timberlands Division, and IMC-Agrico. These contributions can create an appearance of, or even an actual, conflict of interest. But National Audubon is not alone.

The Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) has links to the mining giant BHP, which has a long record of environmentally damaging projects, especially in Papua New Guinea. In fact, the relationship between the ACF and BHP became so close that the ruling council had to pass a resolution on corporate engagement. They created rules that allowed more transparency of their decision-making process. They feared the relationship would have a negative impact in the community and risk the ACF's goals.

The World Wildlife Fund also has problems. According to an article in the *BBC Wildlife Magazine* entitled "Sleeping With the Enemy," they have also been accused of improving the environmental image of environmentally damaging projects. One case involves the discovery of oil by Chevron in Papua New Guinea. In the early 1990s, the WWF joined with Chevron to mitigate the environmental impacts of oil development. They claimed this was better than just walking away. No matter what WWF thought, it appears that Chevron had other ideas. Leaked Chevron documents revealed the company planned to

use the WWF as a "buffer" against both "environmentally damaging activities in the region and against international environmental criticism."

Many environmental organizations think they work with the corporate world. They think they can be a positive force for change, bringing green thinking to the corporate board rooms. They describe themselves as being pragmatic or sensible. Many critics argue that environmental organizations should not take money from corporations, nor allow themselves to be used as an extension of a corporate public relations department. They should never be a front for devious corporate practices.

BIRDSEED STILL AVAILABLE

A variety of surplus birdseed from our October 21 sale is still available. Please call Paul Butkerei at 599-0395 for details. Our next sale will occur next October.

MAGAZINES WANTED!

SSAS's supply of magazines to give out to potential members at various events is dwindling, so please bring any unneeded copies of *Audubon* and birding magazines to our general meetings or walks. At the walks, please give them to our environmental festivals coordinator, Therese Lucas.

RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070



Explore the coast
with the

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY (Sat., Dec. 8). Join ALS members for a wild, informal party at a new location — the Ryan Visitor Center on Floyd Bennett Field. This is the historic control tower building just off Flatbush Avenue before the Marine Parkway Bridge. Cost: \$35 (still!) includes food, drink (beer & wine), great door prizes, an "Ugly Auction," and the infamous "Don Diego Flamenco Dance Company." Meet 3 P.M. for a brisk beach/dune hike or 5 P.M. at the Ryan Center for the party. Call Don.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BEACH WALK (Jan. 1). A long-standing tradition is to hike the beaches in NY and NJ to start off the New Year. Meet 10 A.M. at one of the following locations: Fort Tilden, Breezy Point (free champagne, coffee & cookies); West End 2 parking lot at Jones Beach; or Sandy Hook, NJ. Free. Call Don.

MONTAUK WINTER WEEKEND (Jan. 11-13). Visit the eastern tip of Long Island during quiet time and peak winter birding. See thousands of waterfowl, including loons, mergansers, eiders, scoters, and goldeneye, as well as lots of seals. Cost: \$275 includes 2 nights at the luxurious Manor House (heated pool, Jacuzzi, spacious lobby), 5 meals, 5 guided hikes, 2 evening programs, and star watch. Call Don.

For information and free field trip brochure,
call/write Don Riepe, (718) 634-6467, donriep@aol.com,
28 West 9th Road, Broad Channel, NY 11693

2001-2002 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Dolores Rogers, Welcoming	599-1224
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Christine Schmitt, Education	887-7713
Diane Singer, Publicity (5 to 8 P.M.)	561-6118
Michael Sperling, <i>Skimmer</i> Editor	541-0805
Jonathan Staller, Hospitality Chairperson	482-7963

**BECOME A MEMBER OF SSAS
Think Globally, but Join Locally!**

Option 1. You can help SSAS survive NAS's major dues share cutbacks by joining Audubon through us for the same price that it costs if you join through NAS (we get a first-year bonus for recruiting you). If you'd like to become a member of National Audubon and your all-volunteer local chapter, please mail the following form and your check payable to **National Audubon Society** to us at South Shore Audubon Society, P.O. Box 31, Freeport, NY 11520-0031. The special rate for the first year is \$20 per household; \$15 for students and seniors. Gift memberships help too; we will ask that non-local recipients be assigned to their own local chapter if you prefer.

Option 2. You can subscribe to the *Skimmer* for a year by sending \$10 payable to **South Shore Audubon Society** to us at the address above.



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

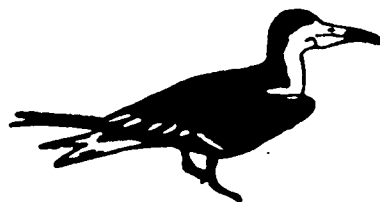
E-MAIL: _____

Chapter Code R15 7XCH (South Shore Audubon Society)



**South Shore Audubon Society
P.O. Box 31
Freeport, NY 11520-0031**

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Americans Committed to Conservation



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