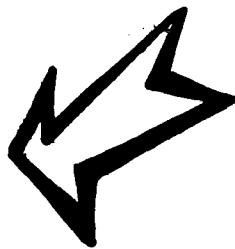


NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Newsletter

**SOUTH SHORE
AUDUBON
SOCIETY**



VOLUME 2, NO. 1

FEB. - MAR. 1972

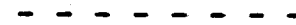
WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW MEMBERS!

We hope you will come to the meetings, as many of you have, and join in our other activities.



NEXT MEETING!

Our next meeting will be on February 8th at the Freeport Memorial Library, corner Merrick Road and Ocean Avenue, Freeport. A representative from the Department of Public Works will discuss the projected out-fall pipe in Wantagh. Here is the opportunity to get another point of view aired on this controversial subject.



The March meeting, on the 14th, will have as a speaker Morris Carl Jacobson, on Sea Shells. Mr. Jacobson is an authority on shells of the New York City area and has published on this subject; and has had articles in the Audubon Magazine.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
101 LEXINGTON AVENUE
MALVERNE, N.Y. 11565



Our January meeting had a very good turnout in spite of the weather. The movie on the Bald Eagle, while sobering and perhaps depressing, was also beautiful and informative. It seems unbelievable that we could allow this bird to come so close to possible extinction.

Your Editor remembers the sad old eagle which sat on a branch in front of his tent in the Everglades. The Everglades has many elderly birds who, like their human counterparts, spend their declining years in Florida. But, to your Editor, this old bird seemed so poignantly to typify the decline of a species.



CONSERVATION NEWS

Some Battles Won:

The Alaska Native Claims Legislation is in a joint Senate-House conference, but both bills contain a provision to create a joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to conduct a detailed study of all public lands in Alaska to determine their suitability for inclusion in, or establishment as, new areas of the National Park system or the National Wildlife Refuge system.

From the Society for Animal Protective Legislation we can report that Congress has recently passed a bill providing a criminal penalty of \$5,000 and imprisonment up to one year for shooting at or harassing animals, birds and fish from aircraft. A pilot taking up hunters to shoot at or harass animals or birds can lose his flying license.

Many years ago, about fifteen years before I knew there was a sky and birds flying in it, I translated a poem from the French for a French class assignment. Not only have I forgotten the French, but, alas, the author as well. It went like this:

Evenings, by the fire, I often thought
Of some bird in the woods whom death had
 caught
During dreary winter, it's days so sad,
The poor, abandoned nests, so ill-clad,
Swing in the wind, under an iron-grey sky;
Alas, why is it birds must die?

But, when once again returns the time of
 violets,
We shall not find their bones so delicate,
On the fields of April, where we shall run
 and play,
Do birds, sensing death, hide away?

Lawrence Wolitz

Have you a friend or neighbor who would like to join Audubon and our Chapter? Call GE.2 - 5750 and tell Bert Lindner.

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

**ALVIN FRIEDMAN, PRESIDENT
3275 OCEANSIDE ROAD, OCEANSIDE**

**ASA L. STARKWEATHER, EDITOR
101 LEXINGTON AVENUE, MALVERNE**

**MIRIAM E. RAYNOR, ASST. EDITOR
127 MORRIS AVENUE, ROCKVILLE CENTER**

If you spot a man off the Queens-Midtown Expressway around 78th Street, filling up a bushel with lopsided apples, that's me. If you see a chap in an old brown suit roaming along Morningstar Road in Staten Island identifying herbs, flowers and ferns and scaring rabbits out of bushes, that's also me. To watch a squirrel run up one's own tree or to come across a fig bush, to see a turtle maybe 50 years old - these pay me well for the rising taxes and never-ending assessments our city politicians cook up.

My purchases are handpicked way in advance. The booklet making the offerings reaches me far before the date of the sale, and I occupy many weekends scouting out suitable, heretofore unwanted properties. Neither cockleburs, ragweed, sumac or poison ivy stay me from my appointed rounds.

The kick a fellow gets when hearing his own crickets, pays for all the trouble of fence costs and insurance costs. This jump of mine from flower pot to apple tree bears witness to the fact that it doesn't cost much for an apartment-living guy to get a share of the good environment!

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

We need volunteers in the Rockville Centre-Oceanside area to help with stamping and mailing. Our mailing list is now 450! Can you spare a minute?

Telephone: Miriam E. Raynor, Ro. 4-6204

Some Battles Yet to be Fought:

As stated by Mr. Overgaard of Rep. Leat's office, the following legislation is in House Committees and requires our support:

HR 11214 - to prohibit the export of domestically extracted crude oil. Banking and Currency Committee, Hon. Wright Patman, Chairman.

HR 11215 - to eliminate, over a ten-year period, the oil import quota. Ways and Means Committee, Hon. Wilbur D. Mills, Chairman.

HR 11135 or HR 11689 - National Marine Mineral Resources Trust Act - to establish, in the Department of the Interior, an Advisory Committee on the Marine Environment, appointed by the Secretary with the concurrence of the Council on Environmental Quality, comprised of eleven members qualified by training and experience to advise the Interior Secretary in the management and protection of the marine environment. Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, Hon. Edward A. Garmatz, Chairman. These two bills appear to be virtually identical.

The first of these two bills should help to remove the oil industry's claims of an oil shortage. Besides, the import quota adds 4¢ to 6¢ to each gallon of gasoline. While the Committee on the Marine Environment will be only advisory, it is a step in the right direction.

For all Representatives, write to:
House Office Building, Washington, D.C. #20515.

Also, write to the Hon. Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of the Interior, requesting him not to grant leases permitting oil drilling off the Atlantic coast.

In response to a letter urging strong water pollution, as passed in the Senate, Rep. John Wydler replied, "I, too, am for a strong water pollution legislation and have voted for it in the past. I want a bill that would be effec-

tive, but also possible of attainment". (Emphasis added).

"Know Your Enemy" - Sun Oil Co. is offering a free booklet "Energy Gap", detailing the alleged fuel shortage. Write to Sunoco-grams, 1608 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. #19103. If you have a Sunoco credit card, give the number.

Al. Lenke
Conservation Chairman



A BILLION
"SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT"
INDUSTRY

I have just received an environmental advertisement and plea for donations on which the return envelope had a box noting "For \$5,000. check here". This was a group devoted to saving the wilderness. Their mailing piece used about 6 sheets of paper. They offer for sale note-paper and a magazine to raise funds. How heavily are they contributing to the interests of the logging and paper industries by doing this? (The same could be asked of the National Audubon Society).

Now, as a member of the National Audubon Society and other environmental groups, I recognize the need to disseminate information and raise funds. What I am concerned about is that we are becoming exact counterparts of the expansion-consumption economy, and the population explosion that we are trying to stop. Increasing numbers of organizations are competing for ever larger memberships and donations, competing for a share of the environmental dollar, converting landscape into tons of literature.

ON BUYING "COUNTRY" IN THE CITY

I am moved by the article on surplus property sales ("Little Guy" Plays a Growing Role at Auctions of City Property" - Oct. 24) to tell of my own experience. I am neither a member of Big Thicket, American Heritage, or any other scenic preservation group. But in my own way, I reap a dividend of satisfaction by buying up odd-sized surplus vacant properties at the city real estate public auctions.

Lots such as 10' by 128' and 14' by 80', and 23' by 62' appear to prevail. They are in Queens, Staten Island and the Bronx. I make sure only that there is a tree or two plus an abundance of foliage and bush. When I am lucky enough to garner a row of unattended hedges or an old grapevine, I am particularly happy.

The birds seem to recognize my places, and should you see a jay bird in Corona or a brown thrush in the Bronx near Boston Road, the chances are that they are singing on one of my properties. "Let nature take over" is my maxim and these tiny bits of land costing me anywhere from \$25.00 to \$300.00 - some lying between two tenements, a few on the corners of deadend streets - are good excuses for getting me out of crowded Forest Hills.

I own a small parcel off busy Queens Blvd. in Elmhurst not far from Macy's and it is a fenced-in oasis for a medley of swallows and starlings rendered safe from the neighborhood cats.

I purchased a plot on 185th Street near 54th Avenue in Fresh Meadows just big enough for a tent or two. It is across the way from a row of neat one-family homes. A little wilderness, it is choked with scrub and weed, but there are vines and climbing plants. With the help of a wildflower book, I counted mustard, laurel and wild tobacco.

What Should Long Island do
With Its Sewage?

On June 29th EDF filed a petition with the Federal Water Quality Office (FWQO) asking for a comprehensive environmental impact statement on the approximately 30 sewage treatment plants now planned or under construction on Long Island.

Long Island depends solely on ground water for drinking and other purposes and over the past 25 years ground water levels have severely declined. If numerous large sewage treatment plants pump their effluents into the Atlantic Ocean or Long Island Sound, the water table will drop further, permitting intrusion of saline ocean water; ponds will dry up and stream flow will decline, thereby increasing the salinity of the bays and estuaries. This will damage shellfish, spawning ocean fish, and waterfowl.

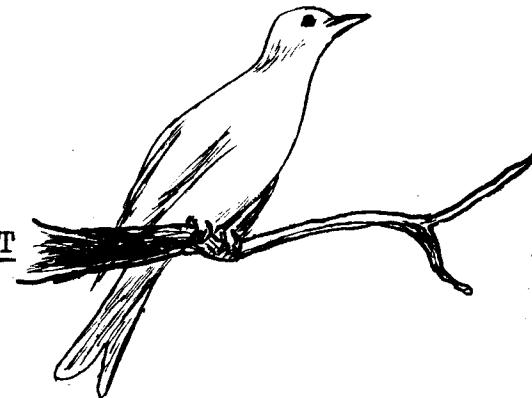
EDF asserted that FWQO uses its control of federal funds to favor conventional secondary treatment plants. This policy discourages more advanced methods that produce an effluent pure enough to recharge the water table. Recharge avoids depletion of the ground water supply.

On August 4 FWQO replied favorably to EDF's petition, and on September 17 a conference in Washington considered the content of the impact statement. EDF recommended that new plants be able to adopt advanced technology that would permit the recharge of effluents as this technology becomes available. (Some experts say it is already available.) FWQO will prepare a draft impact statement by December and will condition future construction grants on cooperative water management planning for both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The case is handled by attorney John Hellegers with scientific support provided by Dr. Nils Erickson.

It behooves everyone concerned for the future of the earth, to work cooperatively, not competitively, to minimize the duplication of effort and consumption of materials; to seek solutions and make them work in ways which do not negate themselves by violating the very principles we support.

Fred Davidson

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP



FROM THE BIRDING FRONT

We have had a most extraordinary season of field trips. I am gratified by the fact that we are just about averaging 25 people per trip. I congratulate them on being a splendid, hearty group.

Our stated goal was to haunt the barrier beach in search of Owl. On our very first attempt on December 5th, and again on December 12 at West End we saw three Snowy Owl! They are magnificent birds, standing 20" to 24" tall with a wing span of about 6 ft. Those unforgettable eyes are yellow amber. Also, may I ask all of the members who took pictures of the Snowy to bring them to the next field trip and to the very next general meeting.

This past Sunday we mistook a banding mark for a wounded bird. We went en masse to State Police Headquarters to report this massacre with the proper amount of indignation. Relax, folks, it is a banding emblem! On the beach, we saw two - three thousand Sanderling and a flock of about ten Snow Bunting with white wings flashing.

Field Trip Schedule -

- January 30 - Short Beach, West End Parking #2
Lunch
- February 6 - Jones Inlet - Parking Field #4
- 13 - West End, Parking Field #2
- 20 - Jamaica Bay (Cross Bay Blvd.)
- 27 - J.F.Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay)
Lunch
- March 5 - Zach's Bay, Parking Field #4
- 12 - Tobay Beach - Tobay Parking lot on
bay side
- 19 - J.F. Kennedy Sanctuary - Lunch
- 26 - West End, Parking Field #2
- April 2 - Jones Inlet, Parking Field #4
- 9 - Coast Guard Station
West End Parking Field #2
- 16 - Tobay Beach, Tobay Parking Field,
Lunch Bay side
- 23 - J. F. Kennedy Sanctuary
- 30 - Open
- May 7 - Jamaica Bay
- 14 - Quogue - MEET 9:00 A.M., Gas station
center island, So.State
Parkway, Exit 27
- 21 - Jamaica Bay

Take a chance with us - we guarantee good company and a good time!

Elliott Kutner
Chairman Birds, and Field Trips
Tel. Iv.6 - 7667

COMMON CAUSE

"Common Cause", as many may know, is a relatively new organization started by John W. Gardner, former Secretary of HEW. Its sole purpose is to restore to the people a significant measure of determination in running the government. It seeks to do this in at least two ways - by lobbying in Washington to create an effective addition to the powerful interest lobbies (Mr. Gardner is himself a registered lobbyist); and by supportive write-in campaigns to the legislators in Washington, and local speech-making, both of these last efforts by the membership.

The issues which Common Cause espouses are decided by ballot among its fast growing membership. After the issues are decided, the governing board makes plans as to how best to approach the drive. Methods are passed on to the members who wage their own local drives. Mr. Gardner reports an amazing and growing interest among the membership, as well as tremendous satisfaction from accomplishment. The local speechmaking is made among service and business organizations.

Mr. Gardner was interviewed on TV - Channel 13 - on January 7th by Elizabeth Drew. He plans to be very active in the coming election campaign and one of the 4-5 major issues which he feels important is the environmental issue - where he believes we have not even begun to move.

Mr. Gardner's known pessimism in relation to our present directions stems from the bureaucracy in government and the power of large interests.

"Common Cause" sounds to me like a good bandwagon to get on!

M. E. Raynor