

Newsletter

SOUTH SHORE
AUDUBON
SOCIETY



VOLUME 3, NO. 4

DECEMBER 12th, 1972

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th --- FREEPORT LIBRARY

In December, our program will change emphasis from the earthly to the astronomical. Astronomer Peter A. Leavens will show motion pictures of the July 10th eclipse of the sun. These pictures were taken on one of the Vanderbilt Planetarium's expeditions to Canada where the eclipse was total. In addition to this, Dr. Leavens will also show Nasa's dramatic new film "Exploration of the Planets".

At our November meeting, Arthur Singer's slides were magnificent and thoroughly enjoyed by all. They were taken in many places and the scenery in and around Monhegan and Bonaventure Islands was beautiful. His "Brown Pelicans", on display, was lovely.

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Does anyone need transportation to meetings? If so, please call one of the following nearest to you:

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Al Friedman | Oceanside | RO 4-9069 |
| Frank Bear | Baldwin | 223-2246 |
| Asa Starkweather | Malverne | LY 9-5824 |
| Jack Fisher | Oceanside | RO 4-6529 |
| Ray Ward | Levittown | PY 6-0115 |

Anyone willing and able to provide transportation? Call or write the Editor and your name will be added to the list.

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DEADLINE - - -

JANUARY NEWSLETTER - - -

DECEMBER 10th

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The election is over. We now have a new Congress, a new Legislature, and a new ball game. In the past two years several pieces of good legislation passed and became law, but much was defeated or died in committees or, especially at the state level, was vetoed.

The bills that did not become law will, for the most part, be resubmitted. So we still have much to do.

Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, president of National Audubon, summed it up very well in an address to the recent Northeast Regional Conference Workshop at Valley Forge; "When you are climbing a long trail up a mountain, plodding along step after step, and you pause to take a look ahead, it seems, for a very long part of the climb, as though the peak is as far away as ever. And then you look back - and see how the valley floor has fallen away beneath you - and you get a clearer perspective on what you have actually accomplished. It doesn't make the rest of the climb shorter, but it does encourage you to keep going!"

In recent years environmentalists have made great strides. We have defeated the SST, DDT has been virtually outlawed in the United States, the use of wildlife poisons has been banned on all public lands, legal protection has been extended to all birds of prey, construction has been halted on the Cross-Florida Barge Canal. All this has been done in the face of professional lobbies backed by well-organized interests controlling vast amounts of money. We now have governmental agencies such as the E.P.A. to watch over the environment, but they will need our support and encouragement to continue and strengthen their work.

The overwhelming acceptance of the Environmental Quality Bond Issue, after last year's resounding defeat of the poorly drafted Transportation Bond, clearly shows the public's acceptance, and knowledge, of our environmental needs. But we must continue our efforts to preserve what we have gained and win what still must be won. We must continue to educate the public and make our feelings known to our legislators. There is still a long hard climb ahead, but it will be well worth the effort. The vista from the peak of that mountain will be magnificent indeed!

Al Lemke



***** DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP *****

*** LEGISLATIVE ALERT ***

As you all know, Congress is now in adjournment and will not return to session until January. It is, therefore, probably best at this time to look back at the environmental record of the 92nd Congress. While there were no real solid gains for the environment, it is definitely felt that a few positive inroads and breakthroughs have been accomplished.

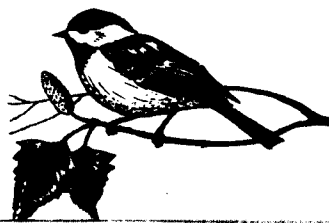
A few of the hopeful signs:

1. The broadest and most expensive water cleanup bill in history was passed by Congress, overriding President Nixon's veto;
2. Congress passed a bill establishing the principle of control over pesticides;
3. The House passed a bill setting regulations for the first time ever in strip mining. This bill, however, was stopped by the Senate, inaction and indecision;
4. This Congress saw the strongest effort ever made to divert monies from the Highway Trust Fund for mass transit. A compromise could not be reached in time and, thus, for the first time, Congress adjourned without appropriating any Highway Funds at all. Hopefully, this is at least a sign of new trends in the thinking of our elected legislators;
5. Rep. Wayne Aspinall's Public Lands Bill, so overwhelmingly opposed by environmentalists, was for all intents and purposes defeated in committee. This paves the way for new and better public land bills in the 93rd Congress;
6. A bill increasing the penalties for killing or molesting bald and golden eagles was passed. It also closed loopholes in the old law;
7. President Nixon vetoed the Flood Control Rivers and Harbors Act of 1972. This will stop many unnecessary and harmful dam, reservoir, and river channelization projects.

For further details of the above mentioned bills, I would recommend reading the National Outlook section of the latest Audubon magazine. They have a very good summary of the environmental issues of the 92nd Congress.

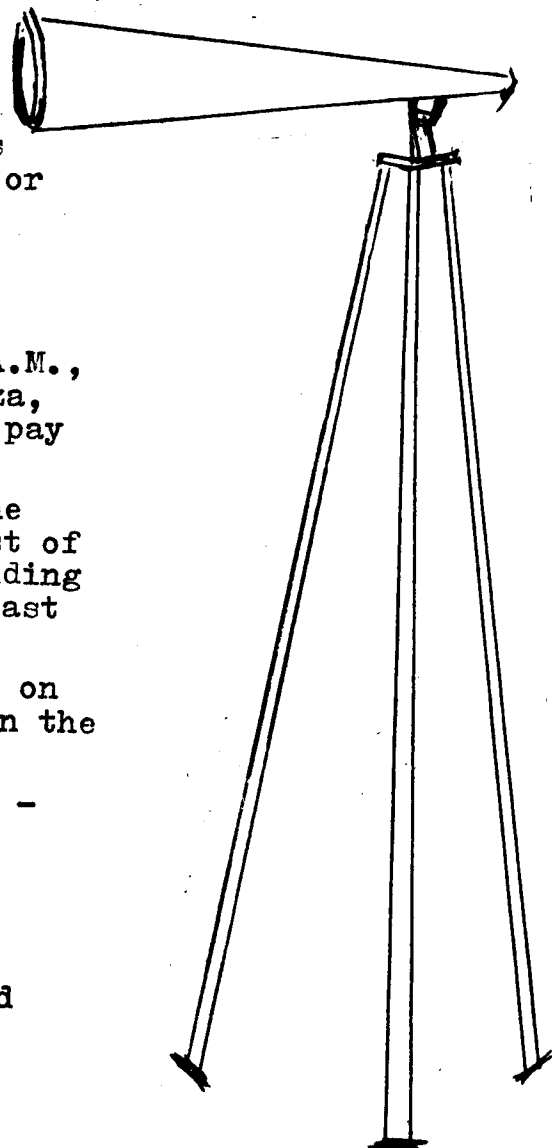
While there were many hopeful signs this year, there were also many defeats and disappointments. Many of these defeats and disappointments will again be coming up in the 93rd Congress. Next month in this column I will mention some of these problems and which issues bear careful watching, so we, as concerned citizens, can exert pressure as needed.

Mike Smiles



FROM THE BIRDING FRONT

*****All bird walks start at 10:00 A.M. (unless otherwise stated). No walk if it rains, snows, or the temperature is 25 degrees or below.*****



DECEMBER BIRD WALKS

- Dec. 3 Pelham Bay Park. (Meet at 9:30 A.M., Throggs Neck Bridge Toll Plaza, extreme right side after you pay toll.
- 10 Gilgo Beach, end of the four lane section of Ocean Parkway, east of Jones Beach. (There is a building there formerly used by the Coast Guard).
- 17 Cedar Beach, east of Jones Beach on Ocean Parkway, past Gilgo, on the ocean side.
- 31 Tobay - J. F. Kennedy Sanctuary - east of Jones Beach on Ocean Parkway.

JANUARY BIRD WALKS

- Jan. 7 (1973) Pelham Bay Park -- (See Dec. 3rd bird-walk).
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OF SPECIAL INTEREST

433 AUDUBON ORIGINALS GOING ON DISPLAY FOR THE FIRST TIME

On display are Audubon's 433 drawings of 489 species of birds that have been hung throughout the New York Historical Society's building at 170 Central Park West, at 77th Street.

The exhibition, which is free, will be open until February 1973, Tuesday through Friday and on Sunday from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M., and on Saturday from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

We hope all "South Shore" members will take advantage of this exhibition.

(Thanks to Ruth Goodman for bringing this to our attention.)

NOW THAT THE COLD WEATHER IS HERE, IT'S TIME TO FILL THE BIRD-FEEDERS, AND GET OUT THE SUET.



Dennis and Janet Chichester plan to move to Colorado this coming January. We at "South Shore" will miss them in more ways than one -- Colorado's gain, Long Island's loss. Our Good Wishes go with them. We hope they will keep in touch.



Now that "South Shore" is in its third year, we feel the time has come to give our Newsletter a name and would welcome suggestions from the membership. How about sending them in to us? We will print them in the following issues and later in the spring, we will have a discussion and vote. For a starter, the Editors offer the following:

The	CHAT	The	WARBLER
"	PIPIT	"	PUFFIN
"	GANNET	"	PETREL

Ecology is everybody's baby...

It's not just the concern of the fellow with the big smoke stack or the one polluting the stream, but everybody's job, to keep America beautiful.

Is everyone familiar with BIRD-ALERT? If you want to know what birds can be seen and where, call - 212-832-6523 and listen. An up-to-the minute taped message will give you all the latest information.

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
127 MORRIS AVENUE
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 12th
8:15 P.M.

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..... S E A S O N S G R E E T I N G S

..... Happy Holidays to All

