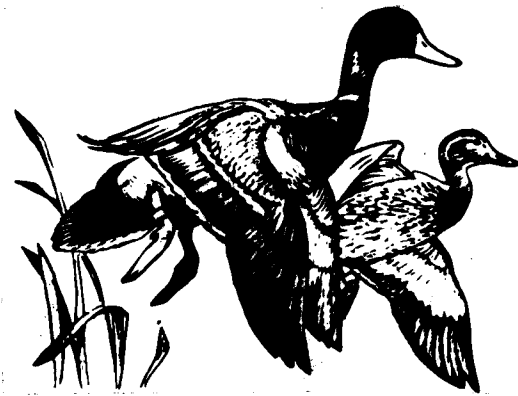


SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Newsletter



VOLUME 4, No. 4

December 1973

NEXT MEETING -- DECEMBER 11th

In December another good bird slide program is in store for us. Entitled "Birds of East Africa", our speakers will be Dick Schloss of the Baldwin Bird Club; and Manny Levine of the Linnaean Society. Come out and enjoy it.

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The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, December 4th, at the Freeport Library.

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Our Wildlife Film series will take a respite over the holidays. The next program, entitled "Scandinavian Saga", narrated by John D. Bulger, will be February 8th. As we reported in November, no more tickets are being sold.

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ART AND CRAFT SHOW: This is definitely going to be held. Jack Fischer has had sufficient expressions of interest to go ahead. No other details as yet. SO---start working. Any nature-related subject.

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Transportation
to meetings? Call ---



Alvin Friedman	-	RO.4-9069
Frank Bear	-	223-2246
Asa Starkweather	-	LY 9-5824
Jack Fischer	-	RO 4-6529
Ray Ward	-	PY 6-0115

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following letter, sent to Senators Javits and Buckley; and to Representative Lent, summarizes the steps I feel should be taken to combat the energy crisis. Some may strike our readers as rather drastic, but the situation is critical and, if we do not go far enough now, ultimate action may be far more severe.

"November 12, 1973

"The energy crisis, predicted over a decade ago, is now here. Although prompt action is vital to provide America's essential needs, it is equally vital not to abandon the hard-won environmental gains of recent years.

"Restrictions on the use of high-sulfur oil and coal should be eased only as much as absolutely necessary. Strip mining should be permitted only where the land can be completely restored, and the major emphasis placed on deep pit mining. Less than 5% of our coal reserves can be strip mined.

"Immediate emphasis must be placed on conserving fuel and power, and a prompt end put to our profligate waste. Every effort must be made to reduce automobile travel to the greatest possible degree. A crash program should be promptly initiated to upgrade and subsidize mass transit and to provide the rapid, efficient, comfortable and cheap public transportation available in Europe. Heavy taxes, perhaps up to 50¢/gallon, should be put on gasoline. A graduated excise tax should be placed on high-fuel-consumption cars, up to 100% or more for the seven-miles-per gallon monsters. Tolls should be placed on all highways and bridges leading into major urban areas. Funds provided by these measures should be funneled into mass transit.

"Airline flights should be sharply curtailed. It is ridiculous and wasteful to have thirty or more flights per day between two points, most of them less than one quarter full.

"Electric rates should be graduated upward in place of the present quantity discounts. Office buildings should be required to turn out lights when employees leave.

"The use of huge limousines by our public officials should be eliminated, and travel by small cars substituted. Sacrifices must be made by all Americans, and our leaders must take the lead. A crash program must be instituted to find alternate, non-polluting fuels and sources of power.

"What will it benefit us to have all the power we desire if thereby we irremediably poison our air and water and destroy the earth's most beautiful nation.

"Thank you for your attention to this matter."

Sincerely,
Albert H. Lemke, President
South Shore Audubon Society

From the President - continued

In response to my plea, the following people have volunteered to attend urgent environmental hearings:

Patriaia Davis
Frank Hanan

Frank Perunke
Sol Weinstock

Lawrence Welitz
Wendy Zeh

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to these concerned members for their willingness to devote their time to make this a cleaner, better nation in which to live.

Al Lenke, President

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INSTITUTE OF DESERT ECOLOGY:

The Tucson Audubon Society, in cooperation with the University of Arizona, announces that registration is open for the 4th Annual Spring Institute of Desert Ecology, to be held on two consecutive week-ends: May 3, 4, 5, and 10, 11, 12, 1974.

The program will provide first hand experience with nature, with emphasis on ecological relationships, through an integrated sequence of morning and afternoon field trips conducted by a distinguished faculty from the University of Arizona and Arizona State University. Mr. William N. Goodall, whose experience includes Regional Representative, Camp Director, and Convention Manager for the National Audubon Society, will be the director. Extension credit (graduate and undergraduate) is available from the University of Arizona for the Institute.

The Institute will be held at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch, located at the feet of the Rincon Mountains in the desert east of Tucson, in an area rich in plant and animal life. The enrollment fee is \$60.00 with lodging and meals extra. The Institute has been given a special rate of \$116.40 for the two week-ends (four nights and fourteen meals). For those staying at the Ranch for the Interim Period as well, the rates are \$251.40 (nine nights and twenty-eight meals). Enrollment is limited to 60; therefore it is wise to register early.

For complete details, write Tucson Audubon Institute of Desert Ecology, Dept. F, P.O. Box #17253, Tucson, Arizona #85731.

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AND MORE BIRDING AREAS:

From Marge Fischer comes the following: One of the "finest places" in the New York metropolitan area to observe birds is on the 240-acre grounds of the New York Botanical Garden. In any season of the year, a tremendous variety of birds can be seen. Recently these have included Blackburnian warblers, falcons, American Goldfinch and saw-whet owls. Recently a colony of Papagale parrots (said to have escaped from cages at Kennedy Airport) had taken up residence in some of the trees. New York birders are invited to come up with their binoculars and have a look.

The information came in the form of a "letter to the Editor" and was written by George B. Bookman, Director of Public Affairs, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx.

- LEGISLATIVE REPORT -

Most people, including environmentalists, are very concerned and upset (and rightly so!) with our present energy crisis and fuel shortage. While this is a very serious problem, there are, however, other issues that environmentalists must continue to fight. Some of these issues can be related indirectly to, while others are completely independent of, the present energy crisis. Many of the issues continue to be fought in Washington, and we, therefore, must continue to let our elected representatives know our feelings.

With the energy crisis in full swing, an important issue will be strip-mining regulations for coal. Due to the gas and oil shortage, coal is going to be in greater demand, with the resulting need for more and more efforts in coal mining. The Senate recently passed a strip-mining bill, #S. 425, which would require certain reclamation measures after strip-mining, and would also allow citizen suits to aid in enforcement. Meanwhile the House is working on a strip-mining bill (no number yet), which hopefully will be stronger than the Senate version. These efforts to regulate strip-mining deserve your support before the coal companies use the present fuel crisis as an excuse to destroy more natural areas with unregulated strip-mining practices.

As you all probably know the Alaskan pipeline bill has passed Congress and will probably be signed by President Nixon by the time you read this. You may be curious to know, though, that all Long Island congressmen, Senators and Representatives, voted on the conservation side during the original battles against the pipeline.

A bill on predator control, H.R. #11266, has become most unacceptable to environmentalists. This bill is still in the House Committee of Merchant Marine and Fisheries, of which a Long Island congressman, Rep. James Grover, is a member. You should write Rep. Grover and your own representative urging defeat of this bill unless the following changes are made:

- 1 - Predator killing programs should be run by game and fish departments and not by State agricultural agencies.
- 2 - Strict control of the M-44 set gun with its scented bait and cyanide cartridges.
- 3 - Reduce the general funds for Federal and State killing programs.
- 4 - Strict compliance with regulations set up by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in defining and regulating chemical toxicants. The predator control bill would allow use of cyanide, compound 1080, strychnine, and thallium, which are now banned by the EPA.

Two bills, S. 2435 and H.R. 10138, have been introduced in congress that would direct the EPA to permit the use of DDT under certain conditions. Another bill, H.R. 9391, would by law put DDT back on the market. These bills are before the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture and should be defeated, if not in the committee, then on the floor of congress.

Some members have requested names and addresses of congressmen. Therefore, WRITE: Honorable Representatives in our area:
House Office Buildings
Washington, D.C. #20515
N. Lent, A. Roncallo, J. Grover,
J. Wydler, and L. Wolff

Senator
Senate Office Buildings
Washington, D.C. #20510

Senators are J. Javits, J. Buckley

Mike Smiles, Vice-President
and Chairman, Legislation

-- FROM THE BIRDING FRONT --



Schedule of Bird Walks -
Fall and Winter

-- All walks start at 10:00 A.M. unless otherwise noted. No walk if it rains, snows, or the temperature is 25 degrees or below. --

DECEMBER:

- 2 - Cedar Beach - off Ocean Parkway east of Jones Beach and Gilgo
- 9 - Pelham Bay - Meet 9:00 A.M. - at the Toll Plaza after going through toll booth at Throggs Neck Bridge - extreme right lane.
- 25 - Jamaica Bay - off Cross Bay Blvd. south of Belt Parkway
- 23 - J. F. Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay Beach) - east of Jones Beach and Gilgo north side of Ocean Blvd.
- 30 - Zaehs Bay - Parking Field #4

JANUARY:

- 6 - Jones Beach - West End Parking Field #2
- 13 - Gilgo Beach - Channel side parking
- 20 - Cedar Beach
- 27 - Short Beach - Park near Coast Guard Station

FEBRUARY:

- 3 - Pelham Bay - Meet 9:00 A.M. - extreme right land after going through toll booth of Throggs Neck Bridge.
- 10 - J. F. Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay Beach) - east of Jones Beach and Gilgo north side of Ocean Blvd.
- 17 - Jamaica Bay - off Cross Bay Blvd. south of Belt Parkway.
- 24 - Jones Beach - West End Parking Field #2

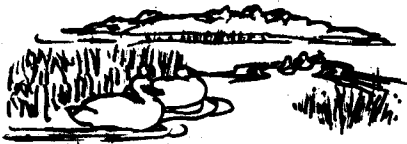
Elliott Kutner, Birding Chairman

The island we call home is a bird-watcher's paradise. Our field trips this year have been as fruitful as any we've had in the past. On one day we saw well over sixty (60) different species. Not only has our count been high but the "good Birds" have been in our sights. We have seen Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Common Gallenule, American Bittern, Clapper Rail in the high-light department.

Our happy birding is just part of this season's success. We have had a dramatic movement in our "people count" on Sunday mornings. The numbers would warm the heart of any self-respecting field trip director.

There is a weekend trip away in the planning stages for the spring. We will keep the membership posted as our plans progress in this area. Again, I invite one and all to join us on our weekly trips.

Elliott Kutner, Birding Chairman



THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY

Free winter guided nature walks to be offered.

The Education Committee of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary has decided to offer free winter nature walks during the upcoming winter months. These walks will be led by local naturalists explaining and discussing all aspects of nature. All walks will be on the first Sunday of the month, beginning in December and running through March, at 1:30 P.M. Large groups may make special arrangements by calling Mike Smiles at 293-7225. These walks will, of course, be held on the grounds of the Sanctuary at Oyster Bay.

Mike Smiles, Representative
South Shore Chapter

Directions: From Main St., Oyster Bay, turn right (east) and continue to Cove Road, which is quite a distance out of town. Look for a parking lot saying "Theodore Roosevelt Grave". The sanctuary is next door.



Garvies Point Museum and Preserve:

Barry Drive, Glen Cove, 11542
Telephone: 292-4205

Miss Kathryn Denston, Museum Instructor, Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, and also a member of South Shore, was good enough to let us know that most of the information about Garvies Point which we had in our November Newsletter was inaccurate. Later, she sent informational leaflets.

Garvies Point is a Museum and Preserve which is part of the Nassau County Museum program and is administered by this facility. The preserve consists of 72 acres of glacial moraine covered by forests, thickets, and meadows. There are about five miles of trails. This contains a large variety of trees, varied plant life, over 100 species of birds, and small mammals. The area is known for its geological formations and extensive multi-color clay deposits, once mined, are visible. The trails are numbered. NO COLLECTING IS PERMITTED.

The museum exhibits are devoted to regional geology and Indian archaeology; and an archaeological laboratory is visible through a glass wall from the exhibit hall.

The Museum is open daily from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. except the major holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. The Preserve is open daily 8 A.M. to Sunset. General admission is 25¢. School and College groups are encouraged.

MEMBERSHIP: If you give or have received a gift membership to National Audubon, please let the Editor know. Otherwise, you will not receive the Newsletter. National is very slow in getting us these names.

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NEWSLETTER: And this month we must regretfully report that our Assistant Editor, and efficient helper, Dorothy Lovering, will no longer have the time to give to the newsletter and is resigning. We will certainly miss her, and, especially her pictures, which brightened up our newsletters.

Anyone able timewise, and interested in taking her place?

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--USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS--

HELP..... HELP..... HELP..... and/or advice, for injured birds:

Our two contacts are: A. and A. Veterinary Hospital, 414 Franklin Ave., Franklin Square. Telephone GE.7-2222. Free care for any wild bird.

Mrs. Ariene Thomas, author of "Bird Ambulance", at 212-HO.8-2330, will give advice.

BIRD ALERT number: call 212-832-6523. An up-to-the-minute taped message will give you all the latest information.



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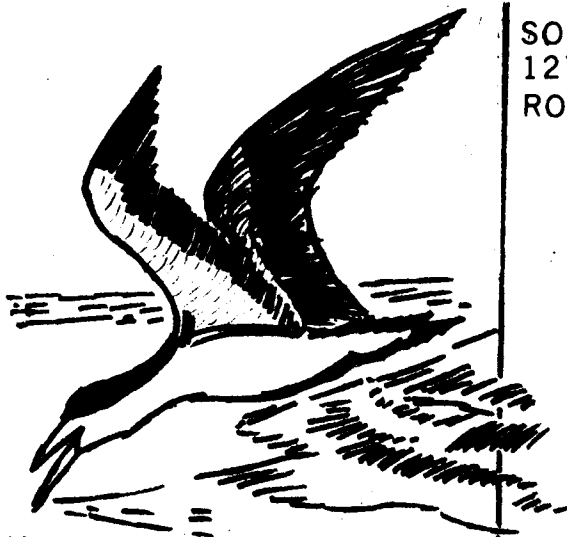
SOUTH SHORE CHAPTER, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Albert Lemke, President	-----	PE 5-1110
Michael Smiles, Vice-President		
Chairman, Conservation/Legislation	----	293 -7225
Jack Fischer, Treasurer	-----	RO 4-6529
Ray Ward, Membership	-----	PY 6-0115
Elliott Kutner, Chairman, Birding	-----	IV 6-7667
Miriam Raynor, Editor, Newsletter	-----	RO 4-6204

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NEWS DEADLINE - JANUARY NEWSLETTER - January 10th, or Meeting night.

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



--DECEMBER MEETING--

Tuesday, December 11th

Freeport Library

8:15 P.M.



FIRST CLASS MAIL



Seasons
greetings

