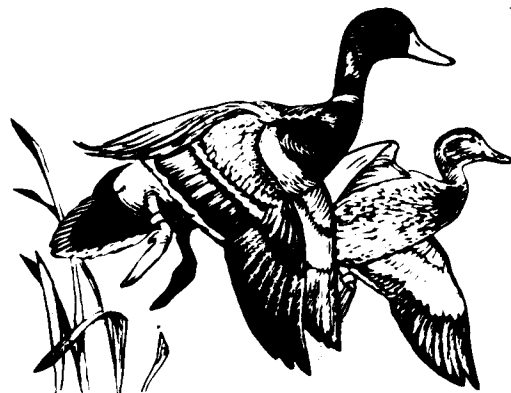


# SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

## Newsletter



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VOLUME 4, No. 9

JUNE 1974

### NEXT MEETING - JUNE 11 - ANNUAL DINNER

Our next and final meeting of the year will be our annual dinner meeting, again at Coral House Restaurant, Milburn Avenue, Baldwin. As last year, our program promises to be special. Newly elected officers will be installed; and Mr. Guy Coheleach, noted painter of wild life will be the speaker and, of course, it will be illustrated with slides. He will have with him some of his prints, one of which will be raffled off at a special free raffle. We will also have Mr. William Botwinik, Executive Director of the Nassau County Environmental Management Council! Dinner will be at 7:30 promptly. We hope you all have reserved your tickets.

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Both of our special programs in May were outstanding successes. We had such a large turnout at the Marine Nature Center in Oceanside that the next time we will have to divide the group.

The Art and Craft Show was a big success thanks to the efforts of Jack and Marge Fischer. The ability and diversity of our members' talents is truly impressive. A misunderstanding with the church left Elliott Kutner without an adequate room to show his pictures, but it did not matter. He set up shop in the kitchen and showed his wonderful moving pictures of birds to an enthusiastic "standing room only" group who left only between reels for coffee and our members homemade cakes and cookies. Jack and Marge Fischer should be very happy with the results and they deserve our genuine thanks.

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And a reminder about the Newsletter. This will be the last issue until September. Our first of the month mailing deadline makes it necessary for the news deadline for the September issue to be AUGUST 10. This is before we realize the summer is almost over. So, don't forget -  
News deadline for September issue - August 10th  
In the meantime, enjoy the summer.

The Editor

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From the President

Now, at the conclusion of our second presidential term, is the time for an assessment of the South Shore Audubon Society, an evaluation of what has been accomplished and what remains to be accomplished.

In only four years of existence we have become one of the largest Audubon chapters, with approximately 1,000 members. This could give us a formidable voice in the fight against the continuing abuse of our environment. We have already made a solid beginning. I have testified at about ten hearings on various conservation matters such as ground water recharge, a state transportation master plan, a state environmental master plan, offshore oil drilling, wetlands preservation, plastics, etc. In addition, letters have been written for inclusion in the hearing records on several other issues.

Numerous letters have been written by your president on a wide range of subjects, not all restricted to Long Island, for what affects our environment anywhere affects it everywhere. Our legislators at various levels know the South Shore Audubon Society. Recent meetings with Congressman Norman Lent and County Executive Ralph Caso and John Klein (described elsewhere in this newsletter) presented an opportunity to apprise these officials of our views face to face.

Due primarily to South Shore's intercession a plan to construct a swimming pool and tennis courts in a section of Hempstead Lake State Park, favored by birds as nesting areas, was dropped. We are presently engaged in an attempt to have the Town of Oyster Bay fence off a stretch of wetlands in John Burns Park in Massapequa which has been set aside as a wildlife sanctuary but has been subject to considerable trampling and vandalism.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our officers, directors and committee chairmen who have given so freely of their time and energy to make ours a successful organization, as well as to our members who have given shows and written letters in support of our principles. And I most earnestly urge one and all to join in these endeavors. Mankind has been granted guardianship, not lordship, over his environment, and we must hold it in trust and pass it on, as undefiled as humanly possible, to future generations, so that they too can learn of the beauties of our land and our birds and animals first hand, not just through our slides and movies.

Al Lemke

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FIFTY BIRDS OF TOWN AND CITY, a recent publication of the Government Printing Office, is described as a ready reference for birds seen most often in and around metropolitan areas. Brief descriptions accompany color illustrations by Fish and Wildlife Artist Bob Hines. Available at \$1.05 per copy for paperbound and \$4.00 for clothbound, from: Manager, Public Documents Distribution Center, 5801 Tabor Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. #19120 (Ask for #SN 2410-0332).

Report on meeting with Congressman Lent re:  
Clean Air Energy Act:

Your president and representatives from five conservation organizations met with Congressman Norman Lent on April 20, 1974  
Re: Clean Air Act Amendments of 1974 and Emergency Energy Act

The major purpose of the meeting was to acquaint Congressman Lent with the feelings of the conservationists of Long Island about the amendments to the clean air act and the anti-environmental provisions of the emergency energy act. The meeting was scheduled to commence at 1:30 but was delayed ten minutes due to the tardiness of Mr. Lent. Since the congressman had an appointment to give blood at 2:15 the time was quite limited, inhibiting a full presentation of our case.

A good deal was accomplished, however, primarily a reminder to Mr. Lent, in this election year (a fact that was, of course, not mentioned), that there is an appreciable environmental movement in Nassau County which is opposed to the eradication of our hard-won gains of recent years.

We expressed our view that, while we are opposed to all the retrogressive measures of the two bills, we realize that it will be impossible to defeat the measures completely. We therefore concentrated on certain sections which we consider completely unacceptable, such as Sec. 201 of the Emergency Energy Act which suspends any stationary source fuel or emission limitations where a shortage of low sulfur fuel exists. Also unacceptable was an amendment to the Clean Air Act which would exempt coal conversion actions from environmental impact statements of NEPA. We also expressed our opposition to delays in the implementation of automobile emission standards, and raised the question of whether a one- or two-year delay now might not be repeated again and again, ad infinitum.

Congressman Lent's reaction, while guardedly favorable, was, as was to be expected, generally non-committal. He informed us that while a New York State Senator he authored, in 1966, the first Clean Air Act in America. He also stated that, in general, he has voted on the side of the conservationists, a fact which I, being in his district and quite familiar with his voting record (a point I made sure to mention) could confirm. He also authored one of the few good sections of the Emergency Energy Act providing incentives for car pools. He warned us that the acts would pass, but hopefully softened, and that rigid opposition thereto would be pointless and counter-productive. The only commitment he would make was to work for the complete separation of the clean air act from the energy act.

In conclusion, it may be stated that, while no great accomplishments can be recorded, Congressman Lent was shown that there is an organized environmental movement in Nassau County boasting many members. Since Mr. Lent's record is among the better ones on conservation measures (although by no means the best), the meeting did serve a worthwhile purpose and may yet bear some fruit, even if not a cornucopia.

Albert H. Lemke

Report on meeting with Caso and Klein  
re Offshore Oil Drillings:

Your president and vice president and representatives from three other conservation organizations met with County Executive Caso and Klein on April 22, 1974, regarding Offshore Oil Drilling:

County Executive Caso led off the proceedings with a brief outline of actions taken and planned by both counties to deal with the imminent threat of offshore oil drilling, followed by a statement by County Executive Klein outlining Suffolk's share.

Both counties are planning joint legal action as soon as any overt act is taken, such as the opening of lease sales by the Interior Department. Mr. Caso has entrusted the matter to the Nassau County Attorney, Mr. Jaspan, while Mr. Klein has retained the services of noted environmental lawyer Irving Like, recently of the Lloyd Harbor Study Group, to handle the matter for Suffolk. As a preliminary, a joint letter from Messrs. Caso and Klein was sent on April 22 to Secretary of the Interior Morton stating the opposition of the two counties and demanding further information.

Mr. Like informed us that the Interior Department must file a program assessment, since Interior is a trustee of the lands on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and must account and report publicly on any plans. As a second step, an environmental impact statement must be filed before any leases can be sold. If either, or both, of these steps is omitted court action will begin immediately. The next plan is to analyze and attack the environmental impact statement, when issued, point for point, utilizing a panel of experts therefor. As a sideline, we were informed that a case is now pending in Maine to establish that the offshore lands belong to the states and that the Federal Government cannot sell leases or rights for these lands. Mr. Jaspan confirmed these plans and stated that both counties are working together thereon.

Mr. Davies (Nassau-Suffolk Regional Planning Board) informed us that four bi-county studies have been initiated. One, a study of oilspill trajectories conducted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is complete. A study of the biological effects of spills is slated for completion June 1. The third, a study of circulation in the Mid-Atlantic Bight, will be finished November 1., and the fourth, just begun, is slated for submission March 1975 and covers the economic effects of offshore drilling. A study has been commissioned for Dr. Robert Engler to probe the Interior Department and its relationship with the oil industry.

Mr. Botwinik (Executive Director, Nassau County Environmental Management Council) stated that considerable space is devoted to the drilling problem in the soon-to-be-released environmental master plan for Nassau County.

In the question and answer period, I raised the question of what was being done to prohibit the building of refineries, terminals for pipelines, docking facilities, storage tanks, etc., which the oil companies will need to make offshore drilling feasible. Mr. Caso replied that this would have to be done through zoning, which power rests with the various towns. He stated, and Mr. Klein concurred, that sentiment against such construction is predominant in all the townships.

In answer to my question of whether New York State has been asked to join in the plans the reply was that, for the time being, the two counties were going it alone but would welcome any proffered assistance.

In conclusion, it is evident that both counties are sincere and adamant in their opposition to offshore drilling and are prepared to take any and all actions necessary to spare us from this threat. As stated, a good bit has already been done. The impression was gained that there is a good chance to prevent the drilling completely but, if not, at least to delay it a considerable time to permit technology to catch up and devise improved methods of spill prevention, localization and cleanup. With sufficient public opposition the oil companies will undoubtedly come up with better safeguards, as witness the far improved technology for the Alaska pipeline, delayed many years by the environmentalists.

Albert H. Lemke

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THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY NEWS: The last spring walk of the season will be on June 2 at the Sanctuary grounds at 1:30 P.M. For those who have not yet visited the Sanctuary, it is located on Cove Road in Oyster Bay.

A reminder about the summer educational program. The adult program will be held June 24-28 and is limited to 15 students. It is designed for outdoor educators of young children, grades K - 9, scout leaders, camp counsellors, etc. The cost is \$60.00. For further information, write: The Education Committee, T. R. Sanctuary P.O. Box #5, Oyster Bay, New York #11771

Plans for the children's program have been finalized. Three courses will be offered for children 8 years old and up. These courses include programs in Marine, Woodland and General Ecology. The cost is \$30.00 per student. The courses will run for 3 weeks in July, 3 days per week, beginning July 9th. For further information, write: The Education Committee, T. R. Sanctuary P.O. Box #5, Oyster Bay, New York #11771 for brochure.

Mike Smiles  
South Shore Representative

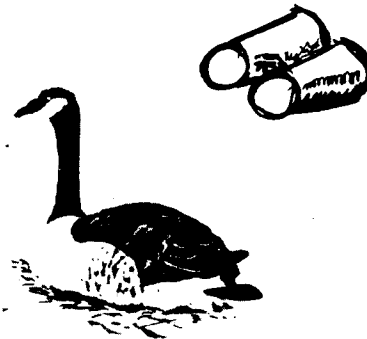
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SHORT WALKS ON LONG ISLAND - by Mr. and Mrs. Rod Albright. Mr. Albright describes his book as "Designed for all people who want to get out and see". It is a short book, 119 pages with maps and drawings, available in bookstores. It is published by Prescott Press but the price is unknown.

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FROM THE BIRDING FRONT:

The volume and variety of "good birds" that we have seen this season, lends substance to the hope that we are entering a new era of respect and understanding for our environment. We can bear witness to the fine work and efforts of all those citizen organizations that worry about this "most beautiful of all possible worlds".



Allow me a moment of reflection. In the fall of 1973, we hit an all-time high of sixty people on our walks. It did the world of birds no end of good! They were absolutely amazed and pleasantly surprised by that concentration of interest in their well-being and attempt at communication by species "Homo-Sapiens"!

Every bird is a "good bird"! But some of our special moments included the Snowy Owl, Snow Bunting, Shrike and literally thousands of Dunlin, Sanderling and Black-Bellied Plover on cold, dark, wintry walks. We saw 1500 Cormorant fly over us, right out of the ocean at West End. They came in V-shaped flights of 75-100 birds each. Ruddy Turnstone, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Towhee, made it to landfall before our eyes.

In early May we caught a glimpse of a Red-Headed Woodpecker at Tobay along with the arrival of Egrets, Ibis and Herons.

My dear friends, at this writing our world is exploding with color as Tanagers, Warblers, Thrushes, and Thrashers pass our way. Give yourselves some time each morning and evening to look up into your trees and shrubbery. It is a source of instant joy and pleasure in color and motion.

I hope you have a pleasant summer and I look forward to seeing you all on our next walk in September.

Elliott R. Kutner, Birding Chairman

Bird Walks for Early Fall:

- August 25 - Jamaica Bay
- September 1 - Labor Day. No Walk.
- 8 - Tobay Beach
- 15 - West End - Parking Field #2
- 22 - Zachs Bay - Parking Field #4
- 29 - Short Beach - West End - Parking Field #2
- October 6 - Jamaica Bay
- 13 - Fishing Wharf at Jones Beach
- 20 - West End Parking Field #2
- 27 - Tobay Beach
- November 3 - Cedar Beach
- 10 - Short Beach (West End Parking Field #2)
- 17 - Tobay Beach

Elliott R. Kutner  
Birding Chairman

# SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

HONORED GUESTS



MR.

GUY COHELEACH

NOTED PAINTER OF WILD LIFE !

MR.

WILLIAM BOTWINIK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NASSAU COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL !

## INSTALLATION

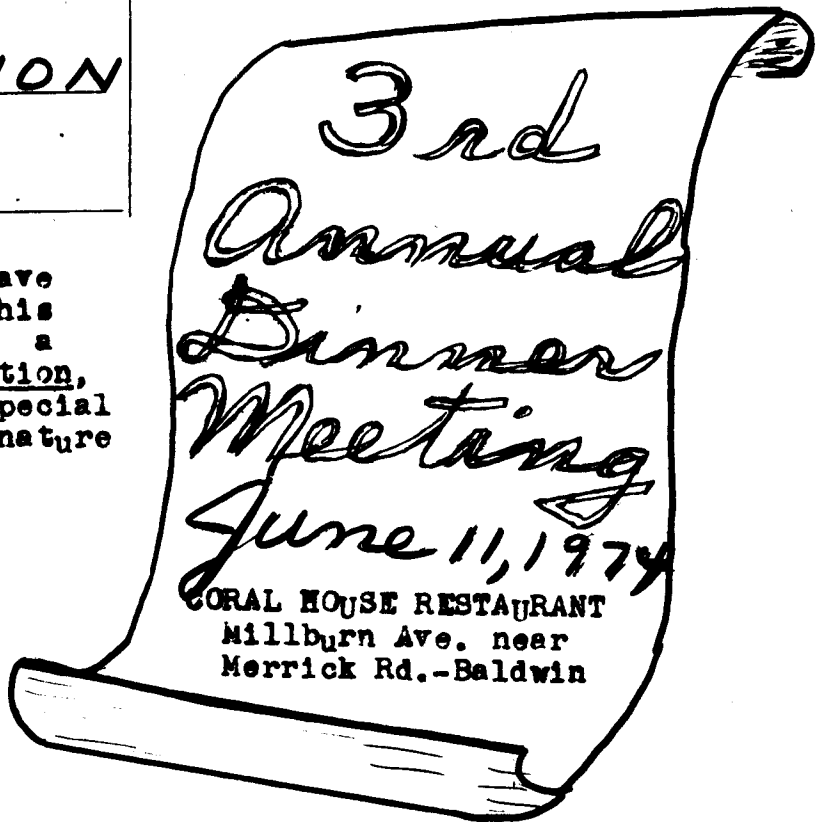
OF THE SOCIETY'S  
NEW OFFICERS !

NOTE: Mr. Coheleach will have with him some of his wonderful prints, a film, and in addition, there will be a special free raffle of a nature print.

**TIME:**

7:00 Cocktails and  
Get-acquainted time.  
7:30 Dinner - promptly.

Followed by a great  
Program !



Mail to:

C. Keller

179 Saratoga Blvd.

Island Park, N.Y. 11558

Reservation Deadline

June 5th

(#889-0340)

Tickets can also  
be purchased at  
the May meeting

Please send \_\_\_ tickets at \$8 each, (including all gratuities) for the 3rd Annual Dinner Meeting of the Society, on June 11th. Make checks payable to "South Shore Audubon Society."

Select Menu Choices

Soup: Cream of Chicken or Onion

Entree: Top Sirloin of Beef or

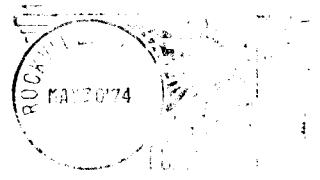
Stuffed Shrimp

Dessert: Parfait or Other

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

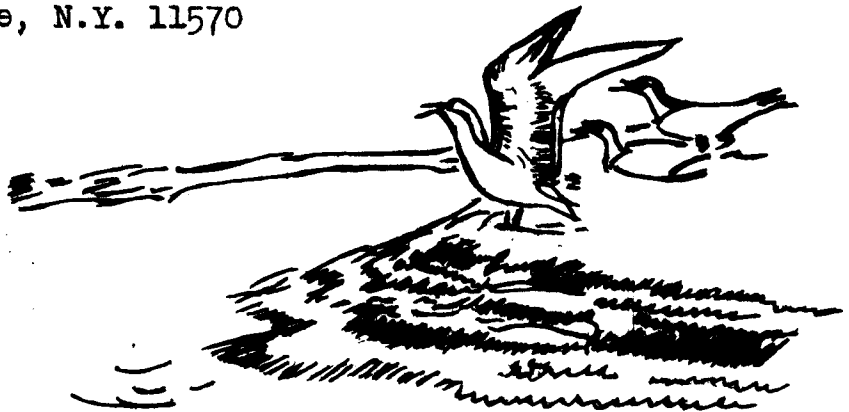
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Address

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Miriam E. Kaynor  
127 Morris Ave.  
Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570



-- ANNUAL DINNER --  
-- Tuesday, June 11th --  
-- CORAL HOUSE - BALDWIN --  
7:30 P. M.

Annual Dinner Meeting

Coral House

Baldwin

June 11

