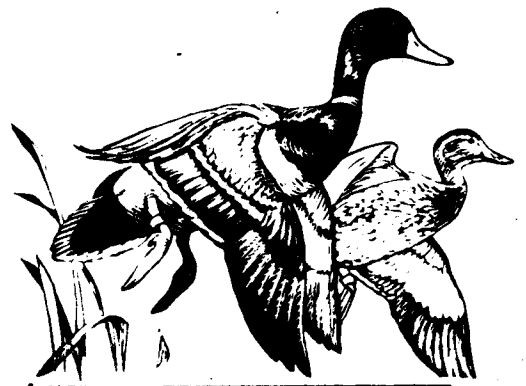


SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Newsletter



VOLUME 5, No. 9

MAY 1975

- NEXT MEETING -

South Shore Audubon is very proud and fortunate this month to be able to have Mr. Trevor Gunton as speaker and guest at our May meeting - on the 13th. Mr. Gunton is the Development Officer for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The R.S.P.B. is England's counterpart to the National Audubon Society. Mr. Gunton is touring the United States and has agreed to present a program for our Audubon Chapter. His program will be on European birdwatching Spectaculars. Let's all come out and make his visit to the United States, and to our Chapter, a most welcome and enjoyable one.

This month, too, is election of officers for the coming year. The slate will be presented at the meeting by Asa Starkweather, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Members of this committee are Dorothy Lovering and Marge Fischer. The Nominating Committee firmly believes that we need competition and a scattering, at least, of new faces. If you will volunteer for a job; or, if you will put a name in nomination, call or write one of the committee members before the meeting; or, come to the meeting prepared to do so at the meeting. Remember - there is more satisfaction in becoming involved.

Board Meeting this month will be May 6th.

- ANNUAL DINNER MEETING -

June 10 - Cocktails 7:00 P.M.
Dinner 7:30 P.M.

Crystal Ball Room
Al Dowd's Steak House

- Holiday Inn -

173 Sunrise Highway, Rockville Centre

(This is located on the western end of Rockville Centre,
between Village and Centre Aves., north side of Sunrise
and one block south of the L.I.R.R. overpass)

Menu: Sliced Top Sirloin -
Complete dinner, no choices

Price \$7.50
Includes gratuities

Program: Stephan Kress, whose subject will be "Bird Islands of the North Atlantic". Mr. Kress has a wide reputation and his pictures will be both unusual and spectacular.

Make checks payable to South Shore Audubon; and mail to Alvin Friedman, 3275 Cceanside Road, Cceanside, N.Y. #11572; or give to him or to Mike Smiles at the meeting. We must guarantee 75 people, so come out and support our annual dinner and program, as well as good food and a good time.

I would like at this time to thank everyone who helped to make the recent Coheleach Membership Drive so successful. Thanks go not only to those who joined, but also to those who brought in new members and to those who helped publicize the drive by distributing posters and brochures.

While the Coheleach print giveaway is over with, I would like to remind members that the Whittel Grant Membership Drive run by National Audubon is still continuing until the end of June. Briefly, this Whittel Grant awards \$1,000. and \$500. (1st and 2nd place finishers) to the chapters that have either the highest numerical increase of the highest percent increase during the first six months of 1975. Awards will be given in each category. Since our chapter is so large (over 1000 members now), we do not have much chance in the "percent increase" category. However, as of this writing our chapter is in third place for the "highest numerical increase" for our Northeast region. In actual numbers we are only six new members from being in first place and only one new member from second place. Obviously, we have an excellent chance of winning an award. Therefore, in the two months remaining, please keep trying to bring in new members. Each new membership could make the difference of \$500. or \$1,000. for our chapter!

To all our new members, I sincerely thank you for joining and welcome you to our organization. All our officers and committee chairmen hope you will actively participate in our activities and, possibly, help in the actual running of these activities. We are active in many areas - monthly meetings, weekly bird walks, special educational programs, scholarship offerings, sanctuary management, conservation meetings, monthly newsletter, etc. Many of the people involved in these activities are desperately in need of assistance. Most of our committees are one-man committees where new blood is most welcome and needed.

Below is a brief list of some areas where help would be appreciated. Please help! Notify me or any of our Board Members if you could give a hand in any of these areas.

EDITOR: You must know how to type. An electric typewriter goes with the job and the present editor will be happy to break you in slowly.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY BOARD MEMBERS: There are three openings for individuals interested in helping out at the T.K. Roosevelt Sanctuary in Oyster Bay. Ideally, individuals with some business, government, fund-raising, legal, or educational contacts. Meetings are held about once a month.

PUBLICITY; Help the present chairman publicize events run by our Audubon Chapter..

EDUCATION: Help present chairman organize and develop events and programs for the benefit of our members and develop programs for local schools.

CONSERVATION: Help present chairman develop an awareness in our members of conservation and legislative issues. Also, attend hearings, organize letter-writing campaigns, and meet with governmental officials.

PROGRAM: Help present chairman find and plan programs for monthly meetings.

These are only a sample of areas where help is needed and would be appreciated. Please get involved!!! We need you!!!

Mike Smiles, President

◁ ————— COMING EVENTS ————— ▷

ARTS, CRAFTS AND HOBBY SHOW: As we told you last month, we have the day, May 18th, 1 to 5 P.M.; we have the place - Calvary Temple, Assembly of God, Joy Blvd., Baldwin. But we do want more exhibitors. CALL: Marge and Jack Fischer - Ro.4-6529.

FIELD TRIPS - Education Committee: Saturday - 10:00 A.M.

May 17 - Woodland Plants of Long Island - Muttontown Preserve, near Route #107 and #25A, Muttontown. This is last trip this spring. Call Linda Schlotterhausen for any information.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY - 1:30 P.M. at the Sanctuary

May 11 - Nature Photography. (This is Sunday afternoon, as usual.)

TAC (The Atlantic Coalition) - Hofstra University Law School - 8:00 P.M. Room #238

May 15 - Thursday. Public meeting.
Guest speaker: Dr. Allan Mytelka of the Interstate Sanitation Commission on land based alternatives to sewage ocean dumping.

June 19- Thursday. Business Meeting and Elections. If any members of South Shore Audubon would like to serve on the Board of The Atlantic Coalition, please attend this meeting and make your wishes known.

- NOTICE -

DO WE WANT A NEWSLETTER NEXT YEAR?

If so, we must have someone to take over for the September issue. June will be the last issue otherwise. The present editor has been doing this for 5 years, since we were originally organized, and besides needing a change, the Newsletter itself needs a facelifting.

The job is a relatively simple one. The mechanics can be learned in an hour or two. The rest is practice, and imagination. There can be a great deal of satisfaction in the job. It requires an ability to type; and, as has been said, an SCM electric typewriter goes with the job, as well as the necessary supplies, paper, etc. Currently, the Newsletter is done by photo-offset (of which I had never heard in the beginning!) and one must be able to deliver the copy to the printer and later pick up the worksheets and extra copies. A small number (24-36) hand labels must be done for those people on our mailing list temporarily.

Miriam E. Raynor, Editor

CONSERVATION - LEGISLATION

OFF-SHORE OIL LEASING

As you know, the Supreme Court rules that the U.S. has ownership rights over foreign commerce rather than the coastal states. This action removed an obstacle to the Interior Dept.'s tract nominations for exploratory oil drilling in the Atlantic. Continued opposition to hasty off-shore oil development by environmentalists should delay the actual leasing for at least a year.

DDT

EPA Administrator Russell E. Train has denied Louisiana's petition for emergency use of DDT. The state wanted to spray some 225 million pounds of DDT over 450,000 acres of cotton this summer to control infestation of the tobacco budworm. Train pointed out that the "use of DDT in Louisiana would likely result in widespread environmental contamination, and that the 1972 evidence that DDT exposes a cancer risk is still true today."

HR3067 Emergency Public Works Acceleration Act

HR3067, the Emergency Public Works Acceleration Act, would permit the elimination or reduction of various procedural requirements for highways, dams, and other public works projects, including mass transit. The bill, at this writing, would give federal agency heads authority to waive the National Environmental Protection Act's impact statement requirements and other procedural safeguards. Environmentalists contend that environmental laws need not be undermined for the sake of employment and are urging that HR 3067 be rewritten. Write: Committee Chairman Rep. Robert E. Jones (Ala.), House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20510.

WILDLIFE RANGE TRANSFERS:

A few months ago, Sec. of Interior Morton approved transfer of three Alaska wildlife ranges from the Fish and Wildlife Service to the Bureau of Land Management, a decision opposed by Audubon. Audubon VP Callison believes that Kenai National Moose Refuge is next to be transferred to BLM. In a letter to Morton, Callison asked: "Is this all really stage setting for similar action affecting the Arctic National Wildlife Range in order that pipelines may be driven more readily through that great wildlife and wilderness reservation and its minerals exploited without consideration of wildlife and wilderness values? The currently proposed route for an Alaska/Trans-Canadian gas pipeline would cut across the Arctic Range. Support Audubon's stand by writing Sec. Morton, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

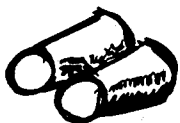
Recently while visiting St. John's Pond at Cold Spring Harbor I spotted a Canada goose with a portion of a clear plastic ring from a 6-pak container looped around its neck. If the ring is tight enough on the bird's neck, he will be unable to eat and will die of starvation. These plastic 6-pak container holders are made from polyethylene plastic and are non-biodegradable. That is, they do not break up in the environment. I see more and more of these on the beach, traps for

birds and adding to the litter. Efforts to pass legislation against the non-returnable bottle and can should also take care of these horrible devices. Please keep writing your representatives concerning the "bottle bills" and add a line or two about these awful plastic 6-pak holders. Make them aware of what careless disposal of such devices is doing to our wildlife.

STRIP-MINING

Strip-mining control legislation was passed 84-13 by the Senate and 333-86 by the House March 12 and 18 respectively with sufficient majority to over-ride a Presidential veto if it materialized.

Let your
Chairman, Conservation



- BIRDS - BIRDING - FIELD TRIPS -

FIELD TRIPS: - As usual, bird walks start at 10:00 A.M. unless otherwise stated, and there is no walk if it rains - and we hope it is no longer necessary to add 'if it snows, or the temperature is 25 degrees or below'!

MAY - 4 - West End Parking Field #2, N.W. Corner
11 - Jamaica Bay
18 - Tobay Beach
25 - No trip - Memorial Day weekend

JUNE - 8 - Pelagic Boat trip. Meet 7:30 A.M. at Freeport Boatmen's Association dock, 540 South Grove St., Freeport.
15 - Jamaica Bay
22 - Jones Beach Fishing Pier

SUMMER HOLIDAY TRIPS :

AUGUST 24 - Jamaica Bay
31 - No walk. Labor Day holiday weekend

SEPTEMBER 7 - Parking Field #4, Zachs Bay

PLEASE NOTE: KEEP the above schedule. You will not get another Newsletter with it in!

Elliott Kutner,
Chairman, Birding.

CAN AND WILL YOU HELP IN RESCUE EFFORTS
TO SAVE OILED WATER FOWL? HERE'S HOW!



Marianne Weinstock has been actively interested in the training sessions offered at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary; and has represented our Chapter well. At the last meeting she outlined ways in which each of us could also help. Here's her message to us:

"The Waterfowl Rescue Team held a meeting on March 23rd at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary to organize various committees. Questionnaires are in the process of being sent out to volunteers with questions on skills and availability. People who have not yet volunteered but are planning to should drop a note with address and 'phone no. to W. Schultz, 59 Mist Lane, Westbury, #11590.

In the meantime, those of you who have absorbent rags, old hair-dryers, old raincoats, old playpens, rubber gloves, dog dishes, galvanized or plastic tubs and anything else which might help in enclosing, washing, drying and feeding oiled ducks, please hold on to them. As yet, we have no storage space but will be needing things like these. Ducks in raincoats and rubber gloves? No, they're to protect the volunteers!"

Marianne Weinstock

AND, From our members - two long overdue letters; being included even though a little late. We think you will enjoy them; and we do appreciate the time and interest of members who send us things like this.

Florida - A Birder's Paradise: One morning in the smelly cattle acreage of central Florida we intruded upon families of Avocets. In Audubon's own sanctuary, Corkscrew Swamp, we spied upon the magnificent Pileated Woodpecker, disturbed the sleep of a pair of Barred Owls and invaded the hideout of flocks of Wood Storks - huge birds nesting and gabbing high in the treetops. In Loxahatchie we saw the Everglades Kite (perhaps for the last time), while among the condominiums of Palm Beach ~~we~~ scattered Wilsons Plovers, feeding along with the rich.

However, the most amazing of our birding experiences occurred in Everglades National Park. Waking in the A.M. at Flamingo we strolled no more than 10 yards to the tidal mud flats and watched Yellow Crowned Night Herons fishing (later in the day these same flats attracted Marbled Godwits, Fosters Terns, Brown and White Pelicans, the Great White Heron et al). The palms nearby harbored warblers and woodpeckers in profusion.

Two miles east of Flamingo is Coots Bay, a small lake in a pristine state, populated by a harmonious representation of bird, animal and fish life. The fish were literally jumping out of the water exciting all sorts of birds. In one small cove we saw together, in but a 20 ft' field of view, Snowy Egret, White Ibis, Great Blue Heron, Common Egret, and a Louisiana Heron. Just a glance beyond this group disclosed the Little Blue Heron and a raucous Green Heron. (a complete page from Peterson's Guide).

To make the scene complete a Kingfisher, Anhinga, and Brown Pelican joined in the fishing. Adding color and interest we saw overhead Turkey Vultures and Roseated Spoonbills. As a final hurrah, two nesting Bald Eagles sat motionless on a dead tree at the far end of Coots Bay.

-----A Disney put-on - a staged picture -? Not so... This was Florida, a Birder's paradise.

Mort and Lynne Silver

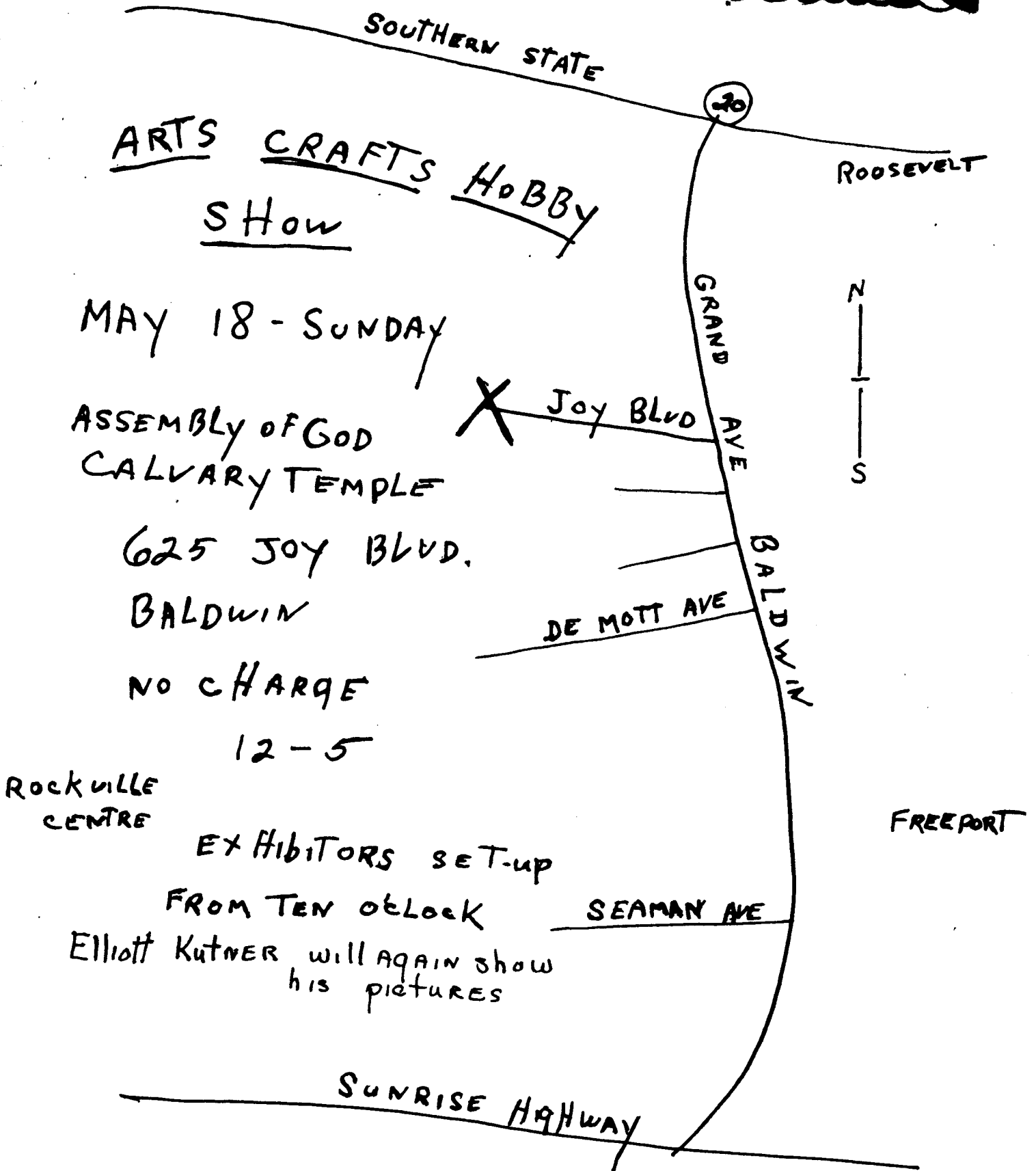
Unusual birds in one's yard: -- Each year, I can expect to see one unusual bird visiting my yard or my feeders. Some of the unusual, for me, have been the Evening Grosbeak, Red Breasted Brosbeak, Cedar Waxwing, Indigo Bunting, which I considered fascinatingly beautiful and even a South American Cardinal. Of course, the latter was probably an escapee. Though, I do understand that this has been introduced to the Hawaiian Islands and is becoming established. (Peterson: A Field Guide to Western Birds.)

But in 1974, the unusual was, in a sense, the usual. It was a Grackle. As it moved around the yard, I noticed a flash of white. When it came to the feeder at the window, I could see that one of the tail feathers, on the left side, was pure white. When it hopped or flew about, it's tail would spread and another white feather appeared on the right side. When this happened, it appeared to have two white stripes lengthwise on its tail. Then it was a strikingly unusual Grackle and my unusual bird of the year.

Stanley W. Ziminsky

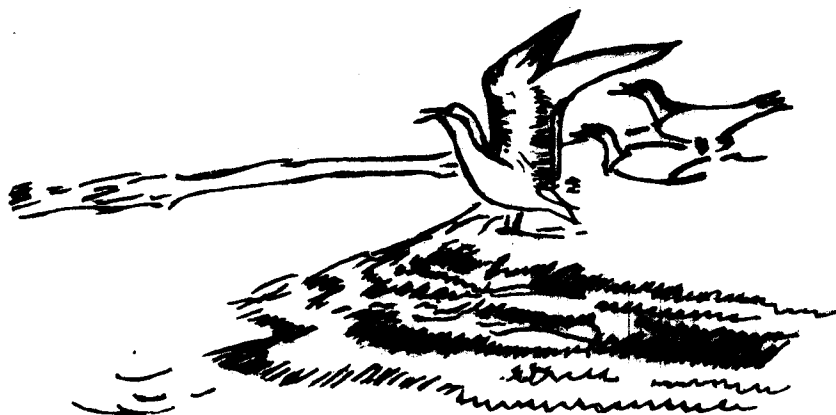
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Coffee and Cake will be served.

-- NEXT MEETING --
-- Tuesday, May 13th --
-- Freeport Library --
-- 8:15 P.M. --



-- SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY --

Officers - Committee Chairmen, 1974-75

Michael Smiles, President	- 1279 Melville Rd., Farmingdale, N.Y. #11735 - Tel. 293-7225
Elliott Kutner, Vice-President	- 461 Dunster Court, West Hempstead, N.Y. #11552 - Tel. IV.6 - 7667
Patricia Davis, Conservation	- 7 Myers Ave., Hicksville, N.Y. #11801 Tel. 822-6189
Dorothy Lovering, Membership	- 45 Oakmont Ave., Hempstead, N.Y. #11550 Tel. 485-9826
Miriam E. Raynor, Editor	- 127 Morris Ave., Rockville Centre, N.Y. #11570 - Tel. R0.4-6204

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

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