

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL. 6, NO. 8

APRIL 1976

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 13TH, FREEPORT LIBRARY, 8:15 P.M.

PROGRAM: "It Began With Birds"

SPEAKER: Mr. Richard Rhindress, Northeast Regional Representative,
National Audubon Society

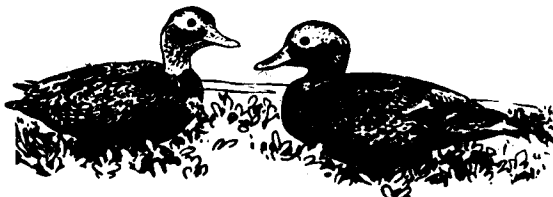
Mr. Richard Rhindress will be showing a movie on the history of the Audubon movement entitled, "It Began With Birds". He will also discuss the programs and activities of National Audubon. All of the pamphlets, brochures, educational aids, etc. published by National Audubon will be available at this meeting. So, if you ever wondered about the history of National Audubon and where your dues are going, this is the meeting for you.

You may recall that Mr. Rhindress was to have been our January speaker but was forced to cancel due to illness. I hope you will all come to our April meeting and give Mr. Rhindress a warm welcome.

MAY ELECTIONS

Following is the slate of new officers to be voted on at our May meetings:

<u>NOMINATIONS:</u>	President	Elliot Kutner
	Vice-President	Paul Butkerei
	Treasurer	Jack Fischer
	Recording Secretary	Richard Bullenkamp
	Corresponding Secretary	Ruth Grossman
	Directors	Bruce Phillips
		Mike Smiles





PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Last month, as many of you are aware, the general meeting was cancelled due to the inclement weather. This was the first time ever a meeting had to be cancelled due to weather. I do hope that not too many of our members were inconvenienced by this last minute cancellation. I realize that some people may feel annoyed after driving to a meeting in poor weather only to find the trip was in vain. However, I also hope you realize it is physically impossible to notify everybody of the cancellation. In situations like this, the Freeport Library is notified of the cancellation and WGBB radio also will broadcast the cancellation announcement. So in the future if there is any doubt about a meeting taking place due to poor weather, please call the Library or listen to WGBB. It may save an unnecessary trip.

I would also like to thank everyone who responded to our questionnaire concerning their newsletter preference. We had an excellent response (over 85 replies) with many making additional suggestions. It is most gratifying to know there is this interest and concern in the newsletter and in the organization in general. The Board of Directors will be meeting shortly to discuss the newsletter situation and will weigh your opinions and comments very seriously. Again, thank you very much for your responses and letting us know what you are thinking.

Mike Smiles, President

JUNE DINNER MEETING

This year our June Dinner Meeting will be held at Carl Hoppl's Valley Stream Park Inn, 130 W. Merrick Rd., Valley Stream. The date is TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 8TH - Please mark the date on your calendar now! The price is \$8.75. The dinner includes: fruit cup, soup, salad, top sirloin of beef, baked potato, string beans and parfait. There will be an open bar. Drinks not included. Please mail your check to:

Alvin Friedman
3275 Oceanside Road
Oceanside, New York 11572

As last year, no tickets will be issued. Alvin will keep a list of those who have sent in their checks. Why not be an early bird and send in your check today!!



BALD EAGLES RETURNING.....

A survey of Mason Neck in Fairfax County, Va., and other major roosting sites in the Washington, D.C., area has found a significant increase in eagle nests high in the tall pine trees that the birds favor. There were also more eggs in individual nests, indicating increased fertility. Experts think the resurgence may be due to less pesticide pollution in the Chesapeake Bay waters where the eagles feed.

(Newsday, Mar. '76)

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CONSERVATION NEWS

Once again, environmentalists are faced with the task of getting a strip mining bill signed into law. This year bill HR 9725 addresses itself to many of the criticisms of last year's vetoed bill HR 25. The concessions and explanations were made in an attempt to allow representatives who voted either against the original bill, or who changed their vote to uphold the veto, to switch their position. HR 9725 should be acted upon by Congress during the week of March 15, although it could be delayed. It will be important for those of us who live in Norman F. Lent's district to pay strict attention to his vote, since he is one of the representatives who originally voted for HR 25 and later sided with President Ford to uphold the veto.

If this bill has not been acted upon by the time the newsletter reaches you, please write or wire your congressman immediately asking for his support of HR 9725. If the bill has been acted upon and passed, and a presidential veto is either threatened or taken place, then wire your representative urging him to stand firm behind HR 9725. Hopefully, the bill will pass through Congress with better than a 2/3 majority and the President will sign the bill, not wanting to risk a veto override.

Matagorda Island, off Texas, has long been the major wintering range of the endangered whooping crane. The General Services Administration, the federal agency in charge of handling transfers of land between agencies, is stalling on a request to transfer a large tract of land on the island from Air Force control to the Fish & Wildlife Service. It is felt that the GSA is giving serious consideration to a request by Texas, which is seeking a large tract for recreational purposes. National Audubon believes that the Fish & Wildlife Service is less susceptible to developmental pressures than is the state. Letters should be sent to Jack Eckherd, Administrator, GSA, 18th and F Streets, Washington, D.C. 20405. Some background information is available in the March 1976 issue of Audubon.

The British and French airlines have played a trump card in attempting to land the Concord at Kennedy Airport. Their threat to land at Kennedy with or without the permission of the Port Authority has accomplished exactly what they wanted. Ever since Secretary Coleman's decision, the Port Authority has been riding the fence, unwilling to declare whether to allow the SST landings. With increased public and legislative pressure pushing the Port Authority to make an anti SST decision, the airlines saw that the issue could only be resolved in the courts. Because of their threat to land, the airlines are now in court where they seem confident that a ruling will give the Federal Government jurisdiction over privately owned airports. (a ruling which could have SST landings here by mid-summer)

The killing of wolves in Alaska has temporarily been halted by two law suits filed by the Defenders of Wildlife and the Natural Resources Defense Council. Restraining orders have halted the shooting, and hopefully either proper settlement or legal action will keep the wolves alive until public pressure can sway the minds of the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. National Audubon has decided to withdraw from its study of wolf ecology with this department because some persons have falsely concluded that the Audubon Society study was related to the extermination program. Audubon has stated that their study would be hampered by the emotionally charged atmosphere, and the program that might have supplied valuable data for wiser wildlife policies in the future would have to be forsaken.

Paul Butkerei, Conservation

SKIMMER SHORTS



Each year since 1969 the National Wildlife Federation has evaluated the Environmental Quality of the U.S. in a yearly report. In this Bicentennial year, there is both good news and bad news as you will see.

- ...The U.S. Endangered Species list grew to 126 with the addition of six animals, including the American crocodile.
- ...Nearly 24,000 plants and animals are being considered for inclusion on the Endangered Species list.
- ...Approximately 1.2 million acres were converted from rural to urban use last year. Only 86,000 were added to our national refuges.
- ...We do have cleaner air but the program is behind schedule and 4,000 people died last year from air pollution.
- ...Four out of five major stationary sources of pollution in the U.S. are complying with laws, or are on abatement schedules to comply, to reduce pollution emissions.
- ...Twenty states report they need at least 40% more manpower to enforce air quality laws.
- ...Smog, which affects health, crops, and materials has been measured in high concentrations 50 miles or more from urban areas in the eastern third of the U.S.
- ...Americans still consume twice as much energy per capita as western Europeans.
- ...Recycling is lagging badly. Only about 7% of consumer and commercial waste is recycled.
- ...EPA issued 26,000 industrial permits for dumping limited wastes into waterways. Spot checks showed two out of three were in violation.

Limited space does not permit me to expand any further on this report but I think it points out one important fact: America must curb its appetite for development at any cost.

What We're Up Against -

"We must have an end to continued posturing in response to the latest changing environmental fad as defined for us by our children and the media."

Carl Bagge, National Coal Assoc.

(National Wildlife - Feb.-Mar. 1976)



BIRD WALKS 1976

FIELD TRIPS: The starting time for all bird walks is 9:30 A.M. There is no walk if it rains, snows, or the temperature is 25 degrees or below.

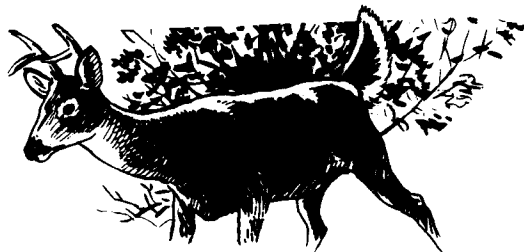
- APR. 4 - West End #2, N.W. corner
11 - West End #2, N.E. corner
18 - Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
25 - Oceanside Sanctuary
- MAY 2 - Tobay - J.F.K. Sanctuary
9 - Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
16 - West End #2, N.E. corner
23 - Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
30 - West End #2, N.E. corner
- JUN. 6 - ALL DAY CANOE TRIP ON NISSEQUOGE RIVER - BRING LUNCH -
FIRST RESERVATIONS HONORED - ROOM FOR 30 ONLY -
Charge - \$5.00 per person - call Frank Cooper 485-8173
- 13 - West End #2, N.E. corner - LAST WALK OF SEASON!



Elliot kutner, Birding

COMING EVENTS

- FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH - Friends of Alley Pond Park will sponsor the showing of the award-winning film - Baobob, Portrait of a Tree - the incredible story of the giant African tree, baobob, whose trunk and strange branches sustain the lives of innumerable insects, reptiles, birds, and mammals. It will be shown in the auditorium of the Children's Hospital, 74-03 Commonwealth Blvd, Bellrose, 8:00 P.M. Admission is free.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH- "Bird Hospital" - Demonstration by noted ornithologist Sally Ruppert on how to care for injured wild birds. Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary, 1:30 P.M.
- TUES., APRIL 13TH - Regular Meeting - "It Began With Birds" - Richard Rhindress, National Audubon Northeast Regional Representative, will show the movie, "It Began With Birds", tracing the history of the Audubon movement.



MAY NEWS DEADLINE APR. 10

--NEXT MEETING--
TUES., April 13th
8:15 P.M.
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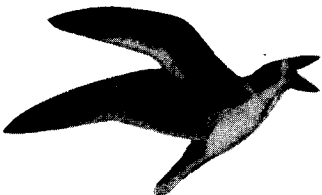


--SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY--

Officers - Committee Chairmen, 1975

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FIRST CLASS MAIL