Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
8:15 P.M.
FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Our guest speaker this month is South Shore Audubon member Porgy Smith. Last year Porgy was the recipient of the chapter's scholarship to the Audubon Camp in Maine. The subject of her program is "Audubon Camps." Please join us for this very interesting and informative evening.

Next meeting: February 14
Membership Participation
Bring 5-10 of your favorite slides.

ZOO TRIP

Saturday, January 14, is the date of South Shore Audubon's trip to the Bronx Zoo. It will feature a guided tour of the Fabulous World of Birds and Aquatic Birds and more.

We will meet at 11 A.M. in the Educational Building. Enter the Zoo at Rainey Gate on Fordham Road and park in the Fountain Circle Parking Area.

Bring lunch or buy it in the cafeteria.

We go rain or shine!

For further information, call Marion Friedlander evenings at 249-4628.

BIRD SEED SAVINGS DAY

JANUARY 29
See Page 3
How to be a FOZ

After eleven weeks of an intensive training course, given by the Educational Department of the New York Zoological Society, I have become a FOZ or Friend of the Zoo. What is a FOZ? She or he is a guide-docent-liason between the public and the Bronx Zoo. FOZs work as interpreters in the Children’s Zoo, guide school children and discuss with them educational and environmental themes such as endangered species, predators and prey and adaptation. The Zoo also sponsors a program called "Outreach," where the FOZ takes some tractable animals to visit nursing homes, children's shelters and hospitals. Another activity of FOZs is a slide program presented to organizations and small groups, providing a brief armchair visit to the Zoo.

Getting involved in the program means a commitment of two years of volunteer service, one day a week. During these past eleven weeks of training, I spent many long hours with my head in books reading about mammals, primates, birds, reptiles, endangered species, habitats, predators, prey, ecology and the workings of the Zoo inside and out. The library and the reference librarian and I became very good friends. I took home reviews of each lecture plus a vocabulary list to be answered and defined in a zoological sense — eg; "crepuscular." Mr. Webster and I became very close. Many a night the midnight oil burned on and on as I sat deeply involved in the learning process and the excitement of the varied subject matter.

Each Wednesday I would look forward to the morning tour of the animals and the buildings. These tours were led by the Curator or Associate Curators, all well-known in their field. You can imagine how good this made us feel -- these people were giving their time, sharing their knowledge, answering our questions and making us feel a part of their world.

In the afternoon we attended lectures given by the teachers and staff of the Education Department of the New York Zoological Society. Can you imagine learning about reptiles in three hours? Well, they did a good job with us, what with our take-home reviews and mind-boggling questions that were handed in the following week to be corrected, expanded upon and returned.

Thanks to the New York Zoological Society, I have become more knowledgeable and sensitive to the fact that the Zoo is much more than a recreational facility and an educational institution. It engages in the study of zoology, conducts many research projects involving the preservation and rearing of endangered species, runs propagation programs and is involved in conservation programs all over the world.

Anyone who loves animals and people and has an interest in conservation plus the desire to learn will find being a FOZ a most rewarding experience.

For more information about this volunteer program, call Carole Ferster, chairman of the volunteer program of the Educational Department of the New York Zoological Society (212) 220-5141.

EVELYN BLUME

If you spot red sea gulls with red or yellow streamers on their legs sometime during the next few months, don’t call your eye doctor. Instead, contact Rene Bollengier, wildlife biologist at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, box 1518, Federal Building, Concord, N.H. 03301, or call collect (603) 225-9621.

According to a recent article in Newsday, biologists in Concord, N.H. released 300 of the dyed, streamer-bedecked birds in an attempt to study their habits. They hope to find ways to eliminate some of the problems the gulls cause at airports and landfills.
Bird Seed Savings Day

Sunday January 29, 1983
Tackapausha Museum
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

The museum is located on Washington Ave. in Seaford, and lies about ½ mile south of Sunrise Highway just north of Merrick Rd. Pre-ordering greatly aids us in determining the amount of seed needed, an order form is enclosed for your use. All pre-orders must be received by January 18. Please make checks payable to the South Shore Audubon Society. Mail check and order form to Paul T. Butkereit, 268 Wallace Street, Freeport, N.Y. 11520.

All proceeds from the seed sale go to the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. Volunteers will be needed on the sale day to take orders and help unload seed. If you want to Help please call 623-0843 and ask for Paul.

Please find my order below: I have enclosed a check for $_________.

My name is ____________________________
My address is ____________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________
My Telephone Nr. is ____________________________ Member? Yes ____ No ____

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity ordered</th>
<th>Description of Wild Bird Feed</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25 lb bag BSSD Sunflower Seed Blend</td>
<td>7.75</td>
<td></td>
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<td>50 lb bag BSSD Sunflower Seed Blend</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25 lb bag BSSD Regular Wild Bird Feed</td>
<td>5.25</td>
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<td></td>
<td>50 lb bag BSSD Regular Wild Bird Feed</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>40 lb bag BSSD Special Wild Bird Feed no corn</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25 lb ECONOMY MIX</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25 lb bag Cracked Corn</td>
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<td>50 lb bag Cracked Corn</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 lb bag BSSD Peanut Bits and Pieces</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 lb bag BSSD Safflower Seed</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 lb bag BSSD Niger (Thistle) Seed</td>
<td>13.75</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28 oz Maine Manna Suet Cake</td>
<td>3.25</td>
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</table>

Total Amount Due: ________
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Every year the South Shore Audubon Society offers scholarships to Audubon camps. Last year we awarded two: the Peter Kutner Scholarship and the South Shore Audubon Scholarship.

Peter Kutner was an outstanding young man who died tragically in an automobile accident. The Kutner family has donated a scholarship in Peter's name.

Keith Welge, the recipient of the Peter Kutner Scholarship, spent a week at the Greenwich Audubon Camp. Keith is an Eagle Scout who still spends time taking scouts on nature walks. He is presently attending the Industrial Labor Relations College at Cornell University.

South Shore Audubon has benefitted greatly from Foryg Smith's attendance at the Maine Audubon Camp. The ideas she picked up at camp are being used by her as our Education Chairperson. Foryg teaches in the Oceanside School District.

We Need Your Help

Unfortunately, these scholarships are expensive. This year two weeks at an Audubon camp will cost $585.00. We need your help! To help cover these expenses we have set up a scholarship fund. If you wish to contribute, please send your gift to: South Shore Audubon Society, P.O. Box 31, Freeport, N.Y. 11520.

The rules and instructions for applying are in this issue of the Skimmer. If you have an interest in wildlife, natural history and the environment, I urge you to read the rules and apply for a scholarship.

TOM TORMA

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Ed. note: Some time ago the rising cost of first-class postage forced us to start mailing the Skimmer at the non-profit bulk rate. Sometimes bulk mail is not handled with the same loving care and efficiency as first-class mail. Oddly enough, the Skimmer has been received on time near the Suffolk County border, while it has been late in places very close to where it was mailed. The Island Park Post Office is not to blame. They send our mail out very promptly. If it goes astray, it does so somewhere else along the line.

Please note that the general meeting is always on the second Tuesday of the month (except on rare occasions when a legal holiday falls on this day). The date of the next meeting is always mentioned somewhere. Please mark it on your calendar or save your Skimmer just in case.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 10 Bronx Zoo Trip
February 11 Seal Walk
February 14 Monthly Meeting

Membership Participation—Bring 5-10 of your favorite slides.
BIRD STUDY COURSE

The South Shore Audubon Society is sponsoring a series of four one hour programs entitled "Introduction to the Birds" at the Baldwin Public Library, Grand Avenue and Prospect Street, on Wednesday evenings, March 7, 14, 21, and 28, 1984 at 8:00 PM. This course is designed for those who wish to have a better understanding of what differentiates birds from other classes of animals. Both physical characteristics (evolution, morphology, and anatomy) and behavioral characteristics (ability to fly, courtship, feeding behavior, nest construction) as well as aids to the identification of the birds will be discussed. The programs will be conducted by Jerry Bernstein, Vice President of the South Shore Audubon Society. There are no charges for this course. For information, call 516 623-8255.

Clinch River Breeder: Dead at Last?

Conservationists have prematurely celebrated the demise of the Clinch River Breeder Reactor before, so it's taking a while for the elation to surface. But, after a 56-to-40 vote in the Senate Oct. 26, rejecting a new financing scheme, it looks like the breeder has breathed its last. The termination of this shameless $4.2 billion boondoggle is a momentous victory for environmentalists and taxpayers' groups who have been fighting the project for a decade.

Breeder reactors are so named because, rather than using up uranium, they convert it to plutonium, which can be used again as a fuel or to make nuclear bombs. To some, breeders seemed like a winning idea back when uranium was thought to be scarce and demand for electricity limitless. The Clinch River project, near Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was supposed to be America's pilot breeder project. But research in other countries, particularly France, quickly eclipsed the Clinch River design. Uranium was found to be abundant. Electricity demand leveled. And fears about plutonium proliferation grew.

It soon became clear that environmentalists were right, that the billions of dollars necessary to build the Clinch River plant could be better spent on safe and proven technologies such as energy conservation.

But the amaranthine project survived challenge after challenge, mostly because of the political power and dexterity of Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr., in whose state the reactor would be built. In recent fights, Baker had the support of Energy Secretary Donald P. Hodel and President Reagan.

The government has already spent $1.7 billion on the breeder, but it has little to show for it except extensive plans and an excavated hole beside the Clinch River.

Wilderness Shows Little Oil and Gas Potential

Interior Department geologists recently confirmed what environmentalists have been saying all along: America's wilderness areas are NOT hiding a wealth of oil and gas. The U.S. Geological Survey released the results of a two-year-long analysis last week showing that only four percent of the 74 million acres protected as wilderness or under study as candidates for wilderness designations had high probability of containing petroleum wealth.

These findings run contrary to the persistent claims of outcast Interior Secretary James Watt and some other Reagan Administration officials that wilderness designations had "locked up" badly needed mineral supplies. Watt had attempted to open wilderness areas to mining and drilling but was prevented from doing so by environmentalists' lawsuits and resistance from Congress.

Audubon wilderness expert Brock Evans said that many wilderness boundaries were drawn specifically to exclude mineral-laden areas. "As often as not," Evans said, "the only way we can get wilderness status for an area is to prove that there is little potential for mineral development." Evans said that he hoped the new study would deflate some of the pressure to open the areas to mining, but that environmentalists' vigilance would have to continue.

Federal Regulations for National Forests. The ongoing development of management plans for national forests is dauntingly complicated, but if you don't speak up for people and wildlife, who will? The second edition of National Forest Planning, a conservationist's guide, can help you distinguish the forest from the trees. This updated handbook contains new information on forest regulations promulgated by the Reagan Administration. It will steer you through the public participation process. The free books are available through your regional office or Audubon's capital office: 645 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Washington DC 20003.
AUDUBON CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Two scholarships to Audubon camps are being offered this year. The deadline for application letters is April 1. Winners will be announced at the April general meeting. Send letters to:

South Shore Audubon Society
P.O. Box 31
Freeport, N.Y. 11520

Peter Kutner Scholarship
A scholarship for one week at the Greenwich Audubon Camp is being donated by the Kutner family in their son's name.

The following are requirements for the scholarship:
1. The winner should be a teacher, counselor or a student preparing for a child-oriented career. The Kutner family wants the winner to use the material and the spirit of the Audubon experience directly in lessons or programs for students at any level.
2. The winner will be chosen by a committee made up of the President, Vice-president and one other person selected by the President.
3. The winner will be required to read two pieces written by Peter Kutner. These pieces will give the winner some insight into Peter's character.
4. The winner will be expected to honor the request that in his or her first presentation, he or she will introduce the program with the words, "This is part of Peter's work."
5. The choice of a winner will be made from letters written by the contestants. Letters should contain autobiographical information and include reasons for going to camp based on future use of the experience. An interview may be required by the selection committee.

The South Shore Audubon Society considers it a privilege to be able to offer the Peter Kutner Scholarship.

South Shore Audubon Scholarship
South Shore Audubon is offering a scholarship to an Audubon camp. The following rules apply:
1. The winner should be someone who will take advantage of an Audubon experience in pursuit of a career or avocation.
2. The winner will be chosen by a committee made up of the President, Vice-president and one other person chosen by the President.
3. The winner will be chosen from letters written by contestants. Letters should be autobiographical and include reasons for going to camp based on future use of the experience. An interview may be required.
4. The winner will be expected either to present a program at the South Shore Audubon Society or to write an article for the South Shore Skimmer based on his or her experiences at camp.

Scholarship Fund
The South Shore Audubon Society annually offers a scholarship to an Audubon camp in the hope that the winners will share their knowledge of the environment and spread the conservation message so essential to our survival on this planet.

Unfortunately, the cost of sending someone to camp is constantly rising. This year, two weeks at an Audubon camp will cost $585.00 and we are asking for your help. We have set up a scholarship fund. If you would like to contribute, please send your gift to the South Shore Audubon Society, P.O. Box 31, Freeport, N.Y. 11520. For further information, contact Tom Torma.
BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

Schultz Road
Manorville, Long Island, New York

THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE NEW YORK STATE BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT
IN THE MARINE REGION

Gilbert S. Reymer
Regional Coordinator

One of the goals of the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas project was achieved in the Marine Region during the 1983 breeding season. All 281 blocks have been surveyed and some data obtained from each. However, a much more difficult goal remains for the final year, to obtain good coverage in every block.

Previous articles in this series of annual reports (Linnaean News-Letter 35, No. 1, pl-3, March, 1981; 36, No. 3, pl-3, May, 1982 and 37, No. 1, pl-2, March, 1983) have reported year-to-year progress and a review shows that this progress has been both substantial and sustained. In the 1980 season, 115 blocks were covered. The number grew to 212 after 1981, 259 after 1982 and to all 281 after 1983 due to special effort in directing observers to uncovered blocks. No other region in the state has reached this level. Region 9 to our north has reached about 97% coverage with the aid of "block-busting" teams of paid observers. The Adirondack Region has reached about 90% also because of extensive block-busting efforts. The other seven regions have less than 90% of their blocks surveyed although all made excellent progress in 1983.

During the past season, nearly all previously involved observers continued their efforts although a few dropped out, were unable to add to their previous totals or failed to submit reports. However, a number of new observers were recruited so that the volunteer force remained constant or even increased a bit. Reports have been received from 244 blocks so far this year although some of these were merely casual observations in blocks that were not being covered by an assigned observer. With a few unfortunate exceptions, nearly every active birder in the region has participated in the project. It is hoped that all those who have helped up to now will continue and that additional observers will volunteer to help make the project a great success in its final year.

Because this report is also being distributed to all bird clubs in the region for use in their News-Letters, it is expected that there will be some readers who are not familiar with the project. The following brief summary is given for their information.

(cont. on p. 8)
The five-year Atlas project is sponsored by the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs and other cooperating organizations and was designed to map the distribution of all breeding species in the state. The project was planned and is directed by an Atlas Committee chaired by Dr. Gordon Meade. A Regional Coordinator was appointed for each of the state's ten regions with the duties of finding and assigning observers, distributing materials and editing the data. The state was divided into over 5000 5x5 km blocks (about 3x3 miles). The goal is to survey each block separately as completely as possible. Over 280 blocks are in the Marine Region which includes New York City, southern Westchester and Long Island.

Surveys are conducted by volunteer observers assigned to each block and are conducted throughout the breeding season. Breeding evidence is grouped into three categories, possible, probable and confirmed, depending on the strength of the evidence. For instance, one observation of a potential breeding species in suitable habitat during its breeding season is possible, continued presence is probable and finding of a nest or young is confirmed evidence. Each species only needs to be confirmed once in each block and numbers are not counted but every effort is made to add species and upgrade breeding criteria for species not confirmed. The same block can be worked in succeeding years with the aim of confirming all species present. Instruction books, maps and data forms are supplied to the participants who range from inexperienced birders to veteran observers and professional ornithologists. At the end of a season, data are collected by the Regional Coordinators, checked and sent to the DEC for key-punching and incorporation into a computer data base. Each year's results are added to those of earlier years and periodic analyses are made including mapping of ranges by computer. The final product will be a New York State Breeding Bird Atlas, a book with distribution maps for every species.

The highlight of the 1983 season was the discovery of nesting Peregrines under two New York City bridges, an event well publicized elsewhere. Another new regional breeding species was the Yellow-rumped Warbler which has never before been known to nest on Long Island or elsewhere in the New York City area. However, a pair carrying food for young was found in late June in a patch of woods in central Long Island. A third species, long overdue, was added to the Atlas list when the Red-headed Woodpecker was confirmed in Connetquot State Park.

A range extension of the Double-crested Cormorant was documented with the discovery of a colony nesting in a former heronry near the southern tip of Gardiner's Island. The only previous New York State coastal breeding location was on Fisher's Island near the Connecticut coast where a colony has existed for some years. Second and third breeding locations for the Prothonotary Warbler were discovered in the Belmont State Park area on the south shore of Long Island. The only previously known location was near Smithtown on the north shore. Long Island's first Atlas period Barred Owl was found but was only seen once and could only be classified as possible. In addition the Black Rail was raised from possible to probable when several observers heard one calling over a several week period.

The Region Ten species list now stands at 186 with 165 confirmed. However, a number of previously breeding species and a number of species recorded at least several times during Atlas surveys have not been confirmed. Observers should be alert for them and make every effort to confirm them if found. This list includes Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks, Pintail, King Rail, Black Rail, Barred and Long-eared Owls, Alder and Least Flycatchers, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green and Canada Warblers, Summer Tanager and White-throated Sparrow.

(cont. on p. 9)
At the end of 1983, 158 or 56% of the blocks had good coverage, 105 or 37% had fair coverage and 18 or 6% had only poor coverage. In 1984, emphasis will be placed on intensive coverage of the more poorly covered blocks. These are scattered throughout Long Island (all blocks in Westchester and Staten Island have good or fair coverage) and volunteers to take the responsibility for upgrading these blocks are especially needed. However, considerable work is also needed in the fair blocks which lack either enough species or enough confirmations to be rated good. Even observers in most well covered blocks can add many confirmations and a few additional species.

Cooperation has been outstanding so far and is greatly appreciated by your Regional Coordinator, the Atlas Committee and all involved with the project. However, another year of effort lies ahead. In the early spring, meetings will again be held throughout the region to review results, assign or reassign blocks and distribute supplies. All participants and potential participants are urged to attend one of these meetings thus relieving your Regional Coordinator of the time-consuming task of trying to contact many observers individually. Announcements of meetings will be sent to current participants. Dates and locations can also be learned from your local bird club or by contacting the writer. Please help to recruit additional qualified observers. It is still not too late to be a part of the most exciting and rewarding project ever undertaken in the history of New York State ornithology. Let's make a final effort to obtain complete documentation for all breeding species in our region.

**Brown Pelican Soars.** Not all environmental news is bad news. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that the eastern brown pelican has made such a hearty comeback that the agency is recommending removing the bucket-billed bird from the endangered species list in some states.

Pelican populations crashed 20 years ago mainly because of pesticides like DDT and endrin. The bird was listed as endangered throughout its range in 1970. Many birds were poisoned directly and all suffered reproductive problems due to heavy concentrations of pesticides. Since pesticide use has been controlled, several kinds of birds have rebounded.

The service proposes removing the pelicans from the endangered species list in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and elsewhere along the East Coast. The birds are still considered endangered in Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California, Mexico, and in Central and South America.

**Clippings Needed.** Some members clip articles about the National Audubon Society from their local papers and send them to the headquarters office in New York. The communications department finds these clippings extremely useful in gauging the effectiveness of Audubon media campaigns and in spotting publicity opportunities or issues that demand an Audubon response.

Dick Beamish, Audubon's director of communications, suggests that chapters could perform a valuable service by finding a volunteer clipper. Any articles that mention National Audubon or the local chapter are useful. Just scissor them out, mark them with the date and full name of the newspaper, and mail them, once a month or so, to Dick Beamish, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York NY 10022.
Dear Editor;

The following article was found in the forewords to an old pamphlet we own. It is called "Common Trees of New York." It was presented to the schools of N.Y. by the Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Trust and was dated 1927. The publisher was The American Tree Association, Washington, D.C.

EVERY BOY SHOULD KNOW TREES

Every regular Dad should want his boy to know trees; in order to help the boy, Dad must know the different varieties of trees; any book will help Dad to this information and should reflect itself in the boy if the Dad is, as he should be, a chum and companion to the boy.

Regular Dads teach their boys thru long walks in God's great out-of-doore laboratory, many of Nature's mysteries.

Trees, as forest cover for wild life; trees, as protectors of our hill-sides from erosion; trees, as retarders of the run-off from the rains; trees, as helping to keep our streams more even in their flow; trees, as keeping more water all the time in our streams. Therefore, more and better swimming holes, better skating, better fishing.

Let's be regular Dads and each year go into partnership with Sonny in planting trees on some idle acre. To the tomorrows, made better for the children of the tomorrows, by idle acres set to work growing trees for Sonny, is a part of my mission, for I want to be a regular Dad. How about you, Daddy?

John D. Clarke, President
New York State Forestry Association

My comment: Hey, all you regular Moms and daughters out there, are you going to take this sitting down?

Respectfully submitted,

Isadore Halpern
Long Beach, N.Y.
Dear Editor:

A new birder recently asked me to list birds I noted in our vicinity. I kept watch and prepared the list below, seen on Dec. 11, 1983.

(Note: Where no numbers appear, the count was too numerous to matter).

Back Yard and Nearby Streets

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>White-throated sparrow</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White-capped sparrow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox Sparrow (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Sparrow (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House finch</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold finch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starling</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rusty blackbird (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mocking bird (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columba livia (only 3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring-billed gull</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junco</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downy woodpecker (2m, 1f)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hairy woodpecker (1m)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow bird (1 pair)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red-winged black bird (2 pair)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicadee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardinal</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue jay</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>White-breasted nuthatch (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mourning dove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crow</td>
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Little Neck Bay (Cross Island Parkway)

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Canada goose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ring-billed gull</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-backed gull</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herring gull</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mallard</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black duck</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Greater Scaup</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesser Scaup</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bufflehead (1m, 2f)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Horned grebe (3)!!!</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>American coot (2)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ring-billed gull</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red-winged blackbird (1m)</td>
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</table>

Had I had more time I probably could have identified more birds at Little Neck Bay and Smith Pond.

For me the biggest thrill was the horned grebes, and the biggest surprise was the absence of tufted titmouse (I have not seen them for some time).

Sincerely

Murray S. laroff
Valley Stream, N.Y.
BIRD WALKS
No walk if it rains, snows or temperature is 25 degrees or below

Starting time - 9:30 A.M.

Jan. 8 West End #2, N.E. corner
15 Hempstead Lake State Park
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Meeting Jan. 10

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