OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 18, No. 6 – SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MARCH 1988

BUILT-IN BURNOUT PROTECTION Peter A.A.Berle President, National Audubon Society

Most Audubon activists would rather be birding than testifying, writing letters to Congress, or dissecting a forest management plan. A fascination for nature is what got most of us into this conservation business. And it is that same appreciation for things wild and free that drives us to protect what is left of the natural world. But sometimes environmental activism can be tiresome and frustrating. It seems that government agencies can be corrupted overnight but improved only by increments. After an exhausting fight to get a law passed, we find it equally difficult to get it enforced, than ammended, then reauthorized. While we are protecting one wetland, developers gobble up another. Once the other side seals their victory with concrete and chainsaws, they have won forever. We have to win again and again.

But we have the advantage. We can step outside, into any piece of nature, during any season, and be recharged. That is our secret, our burnout protection. We find motivation and spiritual sustenance in the sound of fast water, the appearance of fox tracks on a stark, snowcovered hillside, or a sunrise over a city skyline. It is important that we remember to take time to savor the essence of nature's gifts with the innocence of detachment.

Put on your skis and take a long glide through the forest without thinking about the bond act, if passed, will buy mor public land. As you walk along the beach, count the shorebirdss and ignore the for-sale signs. Watch the cardinals at your feeder without thinking about the non-game bill. Sometimes it is useful to leave our environmentalism at home so that we can make solid connections with the primal world. If we begin to let every outdoor experience remind us of that which threatens it, we are in danger of becoming as narrow-minded as those who look at a marsh and only see real estate.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAMS

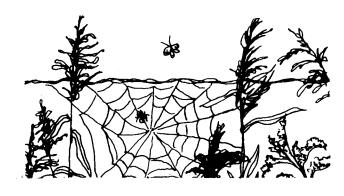
Len Gordon, Program Chairperson 223-1365

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1988, 8:00 P.M.
FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Merrick Road and Grove Street, Freeport, N.Y.

Subject: "Will You Walk Into My Parlor"

Speaker: Hank Meier

Mr. Meier will present a slide and discussion program relating to the life cycle of spiders and how flies are preditors and pollinators.



TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1988, 8:00 P.M. FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY Merrick Road and Grove Street, Freeport, N.Y.

Subject: Nuisance Wildlife and Protected Animals Speaker: Diane Goetz, Volunteers for Wildlife

A slide and discussion program about nuisance wildlife and protected animals.



Chiara Nuzzo, Alan Bromberg, Joan Butkereit, Cong. Norman Lent, Paul Butkereit, Ann McIntyre

CONSERVATION REPORT Joan Butkereit, Chairperson 623-0823

On January 29, Chiara Nuzzo, Alan Bromberg, Joan Butkereit, Paul Butkereit, and Ann McIntyre met with Congressman Norman Lent to urge him to support H.R.3054, the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1987, and H.R. 2666, Acid Rain Legislation. Cong. Lent is the ranking minority leader on the House energy and Commerce Committee through which these bills will have to pass. The following, outlines the points covered at our meeting:

POINTS WE AGREE ON

- 1. Cong. Lent appreciates that the passage of a clean air bill is a difficult task, and that cleaning up up our air of urban smog, toxic chemicals, and acid rain is a costly undertaking.
- 2. Cong. Lent acknowledges South Shore Audubon as a responsible conservation organization and understands our concerns.
- 3. Cong. Lent has supported acid rain legislation in previous years.
- 4. Cong. Lent understands that air pollution which affects our region is often generated in other states, as well as in New York.

POINTS WE DISAGREE ON

- 1. Congressman Lent has not supported H.R. 3054 or H.R. 2666 because he feels that the economic sanctions that would occur are too costly and that the bills would not pass Congress. We believe that the costs of living with air pollution far outweigh the costs of cleaning it up.
- 2. We believe that the standards for acceptable air are very low, and that the health problems resulting from exposure to air pollution are reflected in high health care costs and exorbitant health insurance rates, as well as suffering for many.
- 3. We believe that Cong. Lent should support a strong clean air bill that includes acid rain, and air toxics legislation.
- 4. We support the passage of a bill that has standards that will better our environment, and methods for achieving compliance.





Chiara Nuzzo, Alan Bromberg, Joan Butkereit, Cong. Norman Lent, Paul Butkereit, Ann McIntyre

CONSERVATION REPORT Joan Butkereit, Chairperson 623-0823

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FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN REPORT

Last month South Shore Audubon Society Special Account increased by \$220.00 from 12 contributors, bringing the total funds collected to \$3772. Again we thank you for your support, and remind those of you who have not contributed to the SSAS Special Account, that it is not too late.

Our grateful thanks also goes to an anonomous donor for the generous donation of \$500.00 targeted towards Audubon Adventures or our annual college student scholarship.

BINOCULARS

SPECIAL PURCHASE SALE

Discontinued Bushnell Explorer II, 7 x 35, Extra Wide Angle Binocular. Formerly sold by SSA for \$142.00 (List Price \$235.95), we can now offer a limited quantity at \$75.00. Call Bill Herzog at 516-791-7886 (7:00 to 9:00 P.M.)

MEMBERSHIP
Marion Yavarkovsky, Chairperson.....379-2090

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

South Shore Audubon welcomes its newest members. We hope you will join us at our monthly meetings, weekly bird walks and special events. Try us! You'll like us!

Copiaque P.C. Schreiner

East Meadow . . . Charles Hertz, Miss Theresa Monranaro

Farmingdale . . . Mr. & Mrs R.V. Mochwar

Floral Park.....John E. Starace
Freeport.....Christopher J. Wilson
Garden City....James E. Pratt
Hempstead....Robert Hafner

Hicksville. Ms Eileen Gregorivic Levittown William Krick, Jr.

Merrick Mr. & Mrs. E. McGrath, Jr. Rockville Ctr . . . Ms June E. Kane, Mr. King

COW MEADOW FESTIVAL

IT'S COMING!!!

THE FESTIVAL IS ON ITS WAY

We NEED BODIES!
We NEED: HEADS — Filled With Ideas
We NEED: HANDS — To Write Letters & Make
Phone Calls

We NEED: LEGS - To Visit Sponsors and Participants

and whomever is left can show up at Cow Meadow Park, May 15th and join the fun!!!

Please contact: Lois Schlegel (822-1546)
Ann McIntyre (379-2206)

BRIGANTINE WILDLIFE PRESERVE TRIP SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1988
Evelyn Blume, Trip Chairperson 378-7122

Spring is on its way and so is our trip to Brigantine Wildlife Preserve on the New Jersey Shore.

For those who have been there and for all our newcomers, a visit to this wildlife preserve is an unforgettable experience. My most memorable experience of Brigantine was seeing Horsehoe Crabs coming to shore laying an abundant amount of eggs and Ruddy Turnstones, Black-Bellied Plovers, Dunlins, etc., all filling up so that they could continue to their nesting sites further north.

Please join us for this rewarding experience.

Date: Saturday, May 7, 1988 Time: 7;00 A.M. — 9:00 P.M. Transportation: Chartered Coach

Details to follow: Call Evelyn Blume 378-7122 after 6:00 P.M.



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON BRONX ZOO TRIP SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1988

VISIT WORLD OF BIRDS-JUNGLE WORLD HIMALAYAN PLAINS

If you are interested in going by bus, send check for \$8.00 (made payable to South Shore Audubon Society) to Evelyn Blume, 313 Smith Street, Merrick, N.Y. 11566. The bus will leave from Merrick Road Park at 9:00 A.M. and will leave the Bronx Zoo at 3:30 P.M. Please reserve space early, as the bus holds only 40 persons. For information, call Evelyn Blume (516-378-7122).

Those persons utilizing their own transportation, should meet at the seal exhibit, adjacent to the Education Building at 10:30 A.M.

ENVIRONMENTAL POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Rose Ermidis, Education Chairperson

Our Environmental Poster Contest has three winners! Each winner will receive a \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond. Fourth grade winner is Brian Gregory of the Wantagh School, in Wantagh. Fifth and Sixth grade winners attend P.S. 30 in Jamaica, Queens.

Acid Rain, the Ozone Layer, and Clean air was the theme of the contest. Brian's poster called for us to "Ban the Can." He drew a can of hairspray in an aerosol can to remind us that it has harmful effects upon the ozone layer. Joseph Riviers drew a lovely mountain scene with the caption "Clean Air Makes Things Beautiful." Nicole Gunn drew a powerful black and white picture showing black smoke coming from a smokestack causing "Killer Rain."

South Shore Audubon is grateful to Mrs. Roll in Wantagh and to Mrs. Kalish at P.S. 30 for their dedication to children and our environmental message. Our thanks to all teachers who used the literature sent along with the announcement of this contest. We feel sure that their classes are better informed now.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY MARCH NATURE PROGRAMS Bill Kolodnicki, Director......922-3200

Saturday, March 5, Oiled Waterfowl Workshop, 9:00 A.M. -1:00 P.M.,Long Beach Environmental Center

The sanctuary is sponsoring a workshop led by the Tri-State Wild Bird Rescue with funds provided from the former Coastwatch. Only 30 spaces are available for committed people. Call 922-3200 for information.

Friday, March 11, Owl Prowl, 7:30—9:00 P.M., Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay A night walk and introductory talk on owls. Call the sanctuary for a reservation.

Saturday, March 12, **Explore Our Wild World**, 1:00—1:45 P.M. and 2:30—3:15 P.M.

Location to be announced

Mr. Bill Fix will present a fascinating and special look at several wild animals which have had a hard time living with mankind. A spectacular wildlife demonstration featuring a live Bobcat, Iguana, Dragon, Snakes and more will provide an exciting introduction to these animal's remarkable adaptations.

Tuesday, March 15, Wildlife and Open Space Conf., 9:00 A.M., Sweet Hollow Hall, Melville, N.Y. The sanctuary is sponsoring a workshop for Land Use Planners and other Environmental Professionals. Call Bob Kent, Cooperative Extension, at 516-727-7850.

Friday, March 18, Owl Prowl, 7:30 P.M., Planting Fields Arboretum

The sanctuary is co-sponsoring an Owl Prowl with the Planting Fields staff at the arboretum. Call 922-3200 for information and reservations.

Sunday, March 27, Birds, 1:30-3:00 P.M. A program on birds and their adaptations will be provided for the family. Costumes, live birds and fun will all be a part of the recipe.

DIRECTIONS TO THE SANCTUARY

Take the Long Island Expressway to exit 41 North. Take Route 106 into the village of Oyster Bay. Make a right turn on East Main Street. Go 1-½ miles and you will see signs for the T.R. Sanctuary parking. The parking lot is on the right.

Bird-Feeding Tips from the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

	Chickadees, titmice, nuthatches	Finches	Cardinal, grosbeaks	Sparrows	Blackbirds	Jays	Wood- peckers	Orioles, tanagers	Humming- birds	Pigeons, doves	Quails,
Sunflower seed ¹	•	•	•	•	0	0					
Corn ²		0		0	•	•				•	•
Millet ³		0		0	0					0	0
Niger ⁴		•			-						
Suet ⁵	•					0	•	0			
Sugar water ⁶								0	•		
Fruits ⁷						0		•		-	

preferred

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR FEEDING BIRDS

- Bird's feeding habits vary by region, season, and among individual birds. Therefore you may find exceptions to the food preferences shown on the chart. Seeds listed are those that attract the greatest variety of birds.
- Feeding birds need not be a complicated or expensive process. Most bird species can be attracted simply by providing sunflower seed, either on the ground or in an inexpensive feeder. Even scraps of stale bread, cake, or doughnuts may attract birds. Be sure foods are not moldy or they may be harmful to birds.
- No evidence exists that birds depend on bird feeders for survival. Therefore, don't worry if you must stop feeding birds for awhile.
- Landscaping for birds is the best way to provide longterm needs. For example, consider planting berry bushes for fruit-eating birds, or perennial flowers for hummingbirds. Planting can be attractive to both you and the birds.

BIRD OF THE MONTH

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE

Parus Atricapillus



CHART FOOTNOTES

- 1. Black oilseed preferred but striped seed eaten readily.
- 2. Cracked corn for finches and sparrows; dried whole-kernel corn for jays, doves, quails, and pheasants.
- 3. White millet highly preferred over red millet.
- 4. Seed of choice for small finches such as gold-finches, siskins, and redpolls. Also known as thistle.
- 5. Do not feed suet when outside temperature is above 70°F as suet may become rancid and harmful to birds.
- 6. Mix at no less than 4 parts water to 1 part sugar. Empty and thoroughly clean feeded at least weekly to prevent growth of mold, which may harm birds.
- 7. Raisins, currants, sliced apples, oranges, and bananas. Fruits may also attract mockingbirds, robins, bluebirds, and waxwings, especially during winter.

A small (51/4"), very active and common bird; a frequent visitor to bird feeders. It is doubtful if any bird is proportionately more useful to man than this little member of the titmouse family, for it is a great feeder on insects. Even during winter more than one-half of its food consists of insects and their eggs. It has been estimated that one chickadee may eat over one hundred thousand eggs of the canker worm within twenty five days. The adults have a black bib and cap, large white cheeks, plain gray upperparts, whitish underparts; tinge of rust on flanks and sides. The nest is in holes in trees, old stumps, and situations of similar character. It is composed of grasses, moss, feathers, and other soft material. From 5 to 9 eggs are laid, speckled chiefly at the larger end with brown.

o readily eaten

MIGRATION TABLE

This migration table should be used as a guide in determining the approximate date for the appearance of migrating bird species. Only spring arrivals are included as they are considered of greatest interest to the average migration watcher. No species common and widespread during the year or more numerous during the winter is included in the table. Space is provided after each of the species for entering your own date of first sighting.

Late February — Feb. 21-28	Canada Goose		
Early March — March 1-10	Pied Billed Grebe	.Wood Duck	.Killdeer
Mid-March — March 11-20	Black Crowned Night Heron Turkey Vulture	.Gannet	Snow Goose
Late March — March 21-31	Double Crested Cormorant Laughing Gull	.Osprey	.Greater Yellowlegs
Early April — April 1-10	Great Blue Heron Blue-Winged Teal. Pectoral Sandpiper. Hermit Thrush Rufus-Sided Towhee Swamp Sparrow	.American Egret	.American Bittern
Mid April – April 11-20	Snowy Egret	.Green Heron	.Louisiana Waterthrush
Late April — April 21-30	Little Blue Heron Black-Bellied Plover Solitary Sandpiper Semipalmated Plover Bank Swallow Brown Thrasher Worm-Eating Warbler Yellow Warbler Grasshopper Sparrow	.Common Moorhen	Semipalmated Sandpiper. Spotted Sandpiper. Dunlin. Chimney Swift House Wren Black & White Warbler Northern Parula Prairie Warbler.
Early May — May 1-10	Least Bittern	.Ruddy Turnstone	.Willet
Mid-May — May 11-20	Red Knot	.Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	.Roseate Tern
Late May — May 21-31	Sooty Shearwater	.Willow Flycatcher	.Black Tern

TRANSPLANTED PUFFINS RETURN TO MAINE'S SEAL ISLAND

The effort to restore Atlantic Puffins to Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge off the coast of Maine had its first important success this summer with the sighting of two three-year-old puffins that had been transplanted as chicks to the island in 1984. Until the 1850s, Seal Island was the largest puffin colony off mid-coast Maine. But by 1887, fishermen who captured adult puffins for food wiped out the colony.

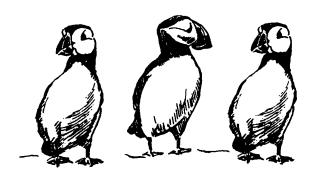
The Seal Island project began in 1984 as a cooperative program of the National Audubon Society, the Canadian Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Modeled after the successful earlier effort to restore puffins to Eastern Egg Rock in Muscongus Bay, the Seal Island Project has taken on the ambitious task of rearing and releasing 1000 transplanted puffin chicks over the six-year period 1984-1989. Scientists want to learn more about puffin survival and growth rates and the behavior associated with the formation and growth of colonies.

In 1984, 100 ten- to twenty-eight-day-old puffin chicks from Great Island, Newfoundland, were transplanted to Seal Island. They were reared in artificial burrows and fed a diet of silversides, placed in burrows by research assistants. After fledging from their nesting island, puffins spend the next two or three years at sea. The restoration project is based on the assumption that transplanted birds that survive will return to the Maine coast rather than their natal home in Newfoundland.

Every year since then, additional chicks have been reared and released at Seal Island. Todate, this project has successfully fledged 534 of 549 transplanted chicks, a success rate of 97 percent. The project will transplant 200 chicks each year in 1988 and 1989.

Perhaps the most important lesson learned at the previous restoration project at Eastern Egg Rock is that there is likely to be great variation from year to year in the number of puffins that return. After leaving their nesting islands, young puffins must find food on their own. Even in a natural colony, fledgling puffins are not fed by their parents and must rely on a mix of instinctive feeding behavior and learned fishing skills. It takes a great deal of luck, for young puffins to avoid predators and raging North Atlantic Storms., as well as human-created hazards such as oil slicks and fishing nets. Most young puffins probably die at sea their first winter.

Apparently, once every several years sea conditions



favor the survival of transplanted puffin fledglings. Because the odds for survival fluctuate so greatly, transplants must continue for many years.

Although the return visits of transplanted puffins to Seal Island are encouraging, establishment of a new colony is far from assured. The success of this project will ultimately depend on one or more years when 50 percent or more of the young return, providing the "critical mass" necessary for puffins to stay and breed.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ADULTS

South Shore Audubon Society is offering three scholarships for adult members. Each scholarship provides full payment of the registration fee for National Audubon Society's one week summer camp programs. The programs are in ornithology and ecology and take place in Greenwich, Conn., and Hog Island, Maine. The deadline for applying is March 20, 1988. Contact Joe Grupp, Scholarship Chairperson (481-4208) for further information or to apply.

RECYCLE YOUR NATURE MAGAZINES!



You don't need them, but they are too beautiful to throw away — well here's your chance! Empty your attic, find your basement floor again! Bring them to the Cow Meadow Environmental Festival and share them at our nature magazine exchange. Your spouse will thank you and so will we.

BIRD WALKS Elliot Kutner, Birding Chairperson 486-7667

All walks start at 9:30 A.M. No walks if it rains, snows or temperature is 25° F or below.

Feb. 28	Zach's Bay, Field No. 4, N.E. Corner
Mar. 6	West End No.2, N.E. Corner, Jones Beach
13	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
	J.F. Kennedy Sanctuary, Tobay
27	Zach's Bay, Field No.4, N.E. Corner
Apr. 3	West End No.2, N.E. Corner, Jones Beach

RARE BIRD ALERT 212-832-6523

BINOCULARS AND SCOPES

For 30% to 50% savings on Bushnell and Bausch and Lomb binoculars and scopes, see Bill Herzog at meetings and bird walks or call 791-7886 (7:00 P.M. — 9:00 P.M.)

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oury burnston, ordinate Luitor	. 423-6299

AUDUBON HOTLINE 202-547-9017

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY P.O. Box 31 Freeport, New York 11520

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MARION YAVARKOVSKY 26 W LOINES AV MERRICK NY 11566

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Americans Committed to Conservation