President's Message

GOOD NEWS!!

Shortly before writing this message and after a snowfall of about five inches, I was standing on cross country skis near the wooded border of a local park. A small, mixed, flock of birds held my attention. Two Downy Woodpeckers worked the bark on an overhead branch, then flew to another and then another. Chickadees moved on almost as fast as they settled on a branch, and a pair of Tufted Titmice entered and left an old gnarled hole before moving on with the others. The park was almost pristine in its blanket of snow. Although it was surrounded by the homes and businesses of suburbia, the park allowed me to witness a natural scene while providing the necessary habitat for the wildlife I observed.

Since the last issue of the Skimmer a number of events have taken place that will help to insure similar scenes for future generations by providing means of protection for some of our remaining vacant land. First, under the leadership of County Executive Thomas S. Gulotta, the Nassau County Board of Supervisors has passed the Perpetual Preservation Bill, which will help to protect valuable wild habitat. Second, the Board of Directors of South Shore Audubon Society has approved an agreement with Nassau County that gives us (S.S.A.S.) the right to manage the Brookside Preserve property as a nature preserve. Third, the County has succeeded in protecting a piece of land east of the Marriott Hotel that the Marriott Corporation had sought to develop. This land has on it assemblages of plants and wildlife that once dominated the Hempstead Plains. South Shore Audubon Society has been working to protect both parcels of land.

More good news! Our annual appeal for contributions is off to a good start. As of January 1, 1989 we have received $1,238.00. Thank you for your support. Your generosity supports your Chapter’s works.

A reception was held recently to introduce National’s new Regional Vice President, David Miller, at the Audubon Center in Greenwich, Conn. David has been appointed to the New York State Give-A-Gift to Wildlife Advisory Board, is interested in the water quality of bodies of water such as Long Island Sound, and is open to suggestions from chapters in forming plans, priorities and policies. He has established an office in the Albany area close to the Capitol.

Natural scenes such as I had witnessed cannot be taken for granted in our intensely developed suburban area. Government, organizations such as ours, and individual citizens must work together to ensure their continuance. Together we have just taken a step forward in protecting suitable habitat for wildlife and assuring a quality of life for future generations....Joe Grupp
We're getting ready for our second
Cow Meadow Family Nature Festival
Sunday, June 4, 1989
11:00 am to 5:00 pm
at Cow Meadow Park and Preserve, South Main Street, Freeport

LAST YEAR WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!
Working with Nassau County we: * cleaned
up and reconstructed a nature path, * built an
8ft. viewing tower, * put up a pre-built
osprey nesting platform, * planted trees, *
placed swallow nest boxes in the marsh and
around 2 small ponds and more!

On May 15th, we celebrated with a family
festival to say, "Come look what's here - this
beautiful land with birds, animals, and ponds -
all yours to enjoy"! Now one to two thousand
more people know that Cow Meadow Park and
Preserve exists; a place for reflection,
relaxation and education. People are learning
the need for undeveloped places such as this.

The festival is educational as well as fun,
with dozens of organizations there to share
their message of what's going on around us
that is environmentally important. Our purpose
is to make the public aware of some of the
natural wonders close at hand and the threat
so close behind them.

As a South Shore Audubon Group, we have
an impact on society. The festival is a vital
way for us to express our concerns to the
community.

The day is fun, exciting, entertaining and educational for both children and adults!

* Slide and film shows
* Art displays
* Craftspeople
* Live owl show
* Games
* Balloons
* Refreshments
* Face painting
* Photocontests
* Entertainment
* Educational tables and programs

And More ........! ! !

Your Help Is Needed
* On the day of the festival. * The months before to prepare for the festival.
* And we ask you to save your nature magazines. Bring them to the festival
and share or trade them at our Nature Magazine Exchange. For more details
contact Anne McIntyre (516-379-2206) or Lois Schlegel (516-822-1546).

CURRENT TREASURERS REPORT By Lennox Gordon

Total funds on hand are $19,183.00, includes $3,897.00 from
the December 1987 Special Fund Drive.

In addition to our current operating expenses we have disbursed
the following: Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary - $1,000.00; Vol-
unteers for Wildlife - $100.00; New York Zoological Society -
$100.00; Nature Conservancy - $100.00; Scully Sanctuary -
$675.00.

The $2,400.00 profit from November bird seed sale has been given
to Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary.

Please see the report on page #3...................................
South Shore Audubon Society  
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements  
7/1/87 - 6/30/88  
Comparison with Budgets

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Summary of Receipts & Disbursements:

- Receipts: $53,800.53
- Disbursements: $41,440.69
- Difference: $12,359.84

Account balance at funds 7/1/87: $141,946.14
Cash balance: $23,588.94

Lena C. Brown, Treasurer 7/26/88
CONSERVATION

1989 should be a watershed year for conservation efforts worldwide. The general public is awakening to the monumental environmental blunders that threaten life as we know it. On a New Year's Day interview, writer Issac Asimov directed his resolution to the importance of worldwide conservation efforts. He feels that all territorial, political and power struggles, important as they may seem, are insignificant when compared to the assault on the earth. Mammoth problems resulting from spiraling human population growth, destruction of land and resources, pollution of air and water, and vast disruption of ecosystems worldwide, have staggering effects on the earth's ecological health. Time magazine's issue of January 2, 1989 is an example of the reaching out to general readers on these important issues. The place to begin on all issues is at home. Some of the decisions that must be made are tough ones that will cost money, take place over long periods of time and require lots of dedicated professional effort. Several opportunities are coming to the forefront. Congress will be involved in a heated debate involving the future of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. For anyone wishing to obtain more information, please contact Anne McIntyre at 379-2206. Another letter writing campaign at this time will certainly help. If we expect third world countries like Brazil to halt destruction of the world's heritage rainforest, shouldn't we also keep our commitments to preserve the only pristine Arctic ecosystem in the United States?

Nassau County's Perpetual Preservation Bill: Nassau County has recently passed a unique bill to preserve county owned ecologically significant land. This, along with the County initiative to purchase important properties as water recharge areas, will help to preserve our publically owned land resources for future generations. This is milestone legislation in our country, where such efforts have been thwarted by pressures of development. South Shore Audubon's Conservation Committee is thrilled!!

Original artwork by: Scott Devenish, Massapequa

EDUCATION

ROSE ERMDIS

The winner of the Class Essay Contest is........
"TREES CAN MITIGATE THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT"
Gregory Donimick, 4th Grade, Wantagh School

I've found a solution to the pollution!

We're cutting down trees
That is bad.
We're shedding carbon dioxide
That is sad.
   Trees suck carbon dioxide
   And give lots of oxygen,
   But we're chopping them down
   And that gets me as mad as a crow.
If we continue
On this path
All our coastal cities
Will take a permanent bath.
   Carbon dioxide
   Warms our Earth.
   We're overdoing it
   And this place will be like a hearth.
We're shedding too much carbon dioxide
   Also known as CO2
But it's really heating our atmosphere
And that's a big bugaboo.
   The North and South poles will melt
   With the heat we're generating
   So what I'm getting to is
   Our oceans levels will be elevating.
About that tree thing
I was talking about from the start
Trees provide oxygen
And birds and shade and art.
   There are some ideas I have
   From here on no more poem
   You might find some ridiculous
   But at least it's not soda foam.
1. Plant more trees
2. Stop cutting down trees
3. Walk and bike more
4. Be conservative with CO2
5. Move to Mars
6. Commit suicide
7. Use solar energy
8. Freeze the Earth, the CO2 will keep us warm
9. Don't use fossil fuel too much
10. Build 500,000' sea walls around the coast

As you can see, I have a wild imagination.
Oh, I have to plant some seedlings. Got to go.
Well, see you later.

SCHOLARSHIP

EVELYN BLUME

LAST CALL FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS
FEBRUARY 15 - 1989
CALL NOW: 378-7122  B U K K Y
Welcome - New Members
M. Yavarkovsky

We welcome our new members in 1989. We hope you will start the New Year right by becoming active participants in S.S.A.S. The monthly meetings, weekly birdwalks and special events are informative, friendly and fun.

Atlantic Beach.....J. C. Sabbath
Baldwin...........Mr. P. Sapir, Karen C. Friend
Bethpage..........Bob Neiko, Anne Esenther, Ms. Beatrice Terry
Cedarhurst.......Les Hoffman
East Meadow......Lydia Horowitz
East Rockaway....Kay Ferrand
Elmont...........Laurie Riggs, William Ranbazzo
Farmingdale.....Peter Bookalam
Floral Park.......Linda Price, Jonnie L. Floyd
Franklin Square..John Scott, Mrs. Ann Liebl, Shirley L. Harman
Freeport..........Jack-Donna Foley, Frances D. Kaplan
Garden City.......Susan Schleider, C. P. Knell Jr., June Edelmann, Mr. S. Z. Goldberg
Hempstead.........E. F. Bartell, Ms. Lynne Hoffelder, Jacqueline Coleman
Hewlett...........Lisa Spitzer
Hicksville........Kathy Cardillo
Island Park.......Mr. Eugene Singer
Lawrence..........Mrs. R. Chauncey
Levittown..........Eugene Wachsmuth, B. Rubinstein, Karen Stauber
Long Beach.........C. M. Murtha, Gail Pernice, Ms. Rhoda Lorand, L. Moderno, Lyle Rizzo
Lynbrook..........Geraldine Coney
Malverne..........D. Powell
Massapequa.......Helen Mackreth, Ms. Ann Mahon, Catherine Sobell
Massapequa Park...Christopher M. Conroy, Robert J. Louttit
Merrick...........Edgar Parker, T. Carr, Velma M. Pauley, Ms. C. A. Famibllet, Miss M. Wilson, Mrs. A. Muhlall, Maureen O'Callaghan

Old Bethpage......Louis Dimeglio
Plainview..........Alicia Zalka
Seaforth..........Jeanmarie Colouhoun
Uniondale..........Christopher E. Stein
Valley Stream......T. F. Stone, Mr. Robert rowsell, Herbert Fenton, DDS, S. Ferranti, Ms. Maureen Kuehnell
West Hempstead.....Donna Pfundheller, Kune F. Stamatas, Alvin Schneiderman
Wantagh...........Milton Klein, Fred Sica, Diana Hall, D. E. Wares, Gil Steinman
Woodmere..........Michael Pinneran, Seymour Jeffries

Bird Walks
Elliott Kutner

---

Christmas is now past, but here is a thought for next year--------

Buy a live tree
for the Christmas season
You'll be doing this
for a very good reason.
To charm you
To please you
In your decorated home.
When planted out back
It will never be alone.
For doing this yearly
Will add to the pleasure.
Of making your yard a haven
Of Christmas memories treasured.

By Lois Schlegel
South Shore Audubon managerial agreement with a parcel of county land known as Brookside approximately twenty acres freshwater wetlands, is of the old Brooklyn bordering on Brookside.

South Shore Audubon County share the common protecting the few remaining and flora that inhabit S.S.A.S. was instrumental save part of the Brookside approximately one year and a half this same piece of reclaimed land and the adjacent area become the Society's first nature preserve.

As stated in the managing agreement, S.S.A.S. shall have the right to develop, operate, and manage the Preserve as a nature sanctuary. Activities, all of which will be open to the public, may include clean-ups, nature walks, study of fauna and flora, educational programs, and much more. The ideas and imagination of our members will expand the opportunities ahead of us.

By engaging ourselves in this type of relationship, we have furthered the ultimate Audubon Cause: we have insured the preservation forever wild of a beautiful and natural piece of land which otherwise could be lost at any time to developers.

The committee which worked on the negotiations for this project for over a year deserve a great deal of credit. Thank you Joe Grupp, Joan and Paul Butkerett, Elliott Kutner, Art Charney, Brune Leporati and Irving Singer for your tireless efforts. We are also grateful for the wonderful cooperation of the Nassau County Executive, Tom Gulotta, and the Director of the Division of Museum Services, Ed Smits, who negotiated the contract with us.

**AN UNUSUAL EXCURSION - THE RAINFORESTS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Sponsored by: Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary Inc. of Oyster Bay, New York

When: July 2 - July 12, 1989

11 Memorable Days

Where: The Internationally Renowned

Asa Wright Nature Center

Situated in the Northern

Montane Trinidad Rainforest

and the Kariwak Village of Tobago

*Highland Rainforest *Picnics
*Beaches *Boat Trips
*Lowland Rainforest *Great Meals
*Littie Tobago Island *Afternoon Tea/
*425 Recorded Bird Species Rum Punch
*Savannas *Coral Reefs
*Southern Migrants *Swamps
*Southern Cross

Field trips guided by professional naturalist from Trinidad.

Pre-departure lecture on Rainforest Ecology.

Cost is $1,109.00, includes all meals, transfers, lodging (double occupancy rate). Additionally air fare from JFK will be about $350.00 roundtrip. All arrangements for travel, lodging and meals will be made for you. Single Supplement-$190.

Reservations: $50.00 deposit required **BY FEBRUARY 15, 1989. This trip is strictly limited to plan early.

Call or write: Bill Kolodnicki or Travis MacClendon, c/o T.R. Sanctuary 136 Cove Road, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771 or 516-922-3200 = T.R. Sanctuary, or 516-754-0329, Travis' home.
January 22, 1989, Sunday, 1:00-2:00 P.M.
Program: "World of Birds"
Caleb-Smith Park, Smithtown
Cost: $40.00 Audubon Members
     $50.00 Non-Audubon Members
Call: 265-1050

February 1, 15; March 1, 15, 29; April 5
Wednesday evening, 7:30 - 9:00 P.M.
Program: "Short Course in Ornithology"
Call: 922-3200
Saturday, April 15, all day field trip

February 18 and February 25, Saturdays
Program: "Maple Syruping" family program
Cost: $1.00 Audubon Members
     $2.00 Non-Audubon Members
Call: 922-3200
The sap should be flowing on Long Island. Join us and learn how to get your backyard sugaring off the ground. Demonstration on how to tap and boil down sap to syrup.

February 26, Sunday, 2:00 - 3:30 P.M.
Adult Program: "Wildlife of Trinidad"
Call: 922-3200
Get ready for a tropical delight. Make your mind up now to join our trip to Trinidad in July. Ian Lambie, President of Asa Wright Nature Center, will present a program on Oiled Birds, Sea Turtles, Hummingbirds and other wildlife found on Trinidad and Tobago. Come share in the beauty and understanding of the Rainforest.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday!!
We were plagued with calls of injured waterfowl, as usual. Animals in pain know of no holidays. We picked up a beautiful Canada Goose, whose both legs had been shattered by a hunter. The fantastic veterinarian that does so much surgery for these helpless birds, did her best to repair the "wrath of man." The Goose survived the surgery but later died. Possible cause: additional shot into the body organs and muscles. Will this useless slaughter ever end? Do these people need the meat that badly?

Mono-filament fishing line strikes again!
We received a Canada Goose that was very thin and not eating. We rushed it to the veterinarian and while undergoing treatment - it died. Upon opening the body to discover why, she found a huge clump of the fishing line in the stomach. The bird was unable to pass any food it had eaten and the food was spoiled and toxic.

Be careful of your suet-bag-feeders! A fellow-Auduboner brought us a gorgeous Woodpecker that had gotten itself entangled in the plastic bag suet feeder, on his tree. By the time we saw this pitiful bird, both legs had been broken and out of their sockets, due to tremendous struggling. This is the first time I have seen this type of injury. Something to think about.

When providing winter watering places, do not utilize metal water bowls (heated of course), as once the bird's feet get wet, they will adhere to the metal and disastrous results develop. Use plastic dog/cat dishes instead. We make a wooden frame, about 3" high, put a 1" rim around it and set the bowl in there. Then we place a 7½ watt bulb under it and string an outdoor electrical cord to a safe outlet. Even on below freezing days the birds have water. They come to our yard by the hundreds! We feed them daily as well.

Our small family of three is involved in all phases of animal work, both domestic and wild and cannot possibly handle all the calls for animals in distress. WE TRULY NEED YOUR HELP!!
We need people to capture and transport animals to veterinarians (they do not charge for wildlife) and people to foster recovering birds, geese, etc. We are also completely out of room; 65 animals presently in our home and yard. We desperately need large birdcages for these recuperating darlings. If you can help or need help (798-4215).

Please remember, when you call us for assistance, WE ARE NOT VETERINARIANS. Some people become annoyed when we tell them we cannot treat an injured bird. You must take it to a qualified veterinarian for surgery, X-rays, medication, etc. These veterinarians will then call us and we will rehabilitate whatever we can take at the time. DO NOT LET INJURED ANIMALS LIE THERE - HELP THEM.
1988-1989 Officers, Directors and Committee Chairpersons
Joseph Grupp, President ........................................ 481-4208
Joan Butkereit, Vice President & Conservation ........ 623-0843
Louise Hillen, Recording Secretary ....................... 546-6147
Lennox Gordon, Treasurer ..................................... 223-1365
Ruth Grossman, Corresponding Secretary ............... 378-8809
George Appoldt, Director ..................................... 678-4964
Arthur Atlas, Director ......................................... 223-2327
Arthur Charney, Director ...................................... 485-4611
Ann McIntyre, Director ........................................ 379-2206
Lois Schlegel, Director ....................................... 822-1546
Irving Singer, Director ......................................... 561-6118
Alan Bromberg, Trip Chairperson ......................... 764-7523
Evelyn Blume, Scholarship Chairperson ................. 378-7122
Paul Butkereit, Bird Seed Sales ......................... 623-0843
Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson ................. 249-4919
Rose Ermidas, Education Chairperson ................. 785-6028
Josephine Rosato, Tee-Sweatshirt Sales ............... 541-5614
Elliott Kutner, Birding Chairperson ..................... 486-7667
Diane Singer, Publicity Chairperson ..................... 561-6118
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson .... 379-2090
James Remsen, Youth Representative ................. 764-5168
Bill Herzog, Binocular & Book Sales (7-9 PM) ... 791-7886
Myrna Brier, Hospitality Chairperson ................. 764-7523
Frieda Malament, Holiday Parties ..................... 795-5842
Malcolm Marum, T.R. Representative ................. 752-0396
Gayle Wertz, Skimmer Editor & Columnist ......... 798-4215

RARE BIRD ALERT
AUDUBON HOTLINE
212-832-6523
202-547-9017

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

DATED MATERIAL