

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 8 - SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MAY - 1989

Next Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, May 9, 1989
 TIME: 8:00 P.M.
 PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library
 Merrick Road & Grove Street, Freeport
 SPEAKER: Carole Neidich Ryder
 TOPIC: The Cow Meadow Miracle



President's Message

BROOKSIDE PRESERVE

On Tuesday, April 11, 1989, in a ceremony attended by County Executive Thomas Gulotta, other county officials and officers of South Shore Audubon Society, the management agreement between the county and our chapter was finalized and Brookside Preserve became a reality. Committees have been established to develop a management plan and volunteers will be needed. The management of a preserve is a milestone in the history of our chapter and affords the membership with the opportunity to participate in the preservation of the environment.

BIRDATHON

May 13, 1989, the day of our Birdathon is quickly approaching. If you cannot participate by becoming a team member I urge you to consider obtaining sponsors or at least become a sponsor yourself. Proceeds go to National's efforts to protect the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge, to T. R. and Scully Sanctuaries and to our own chapter's projects. If each of our members would participate our earnings from the Birdathon could add significant support to these causes. Additional information can be found in this issue of the Skimmer.

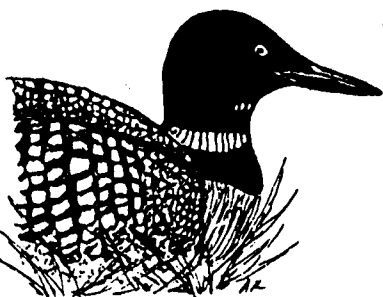
NORTHEAST REGIONAL ELECTION

At our May meeting we will hold an election for the Northeast Regional Representation to the National Board of Directors. This position insures chapter representation on the National Board. Two Audubon members are candidates. B. Bertram Cadbury from Maine and William D. Ross from Connecticut. We have sent both candidates a letter asking their positions on various questions. Their biographies and answers will be presented at the May meeting. Please attend be informed, and vote. Look for additional information in this issue of the Skimmer.

.....Joe Grupp, President

"Until he extends his circle of compassion to all living things, man will not himself find peace."

.....Albert Schweitzer.....



1989 South Shore Audubon

BIRDATHON

On May 13, 1989 (raindate May 20), the South Shore Audubon Society will take part in the world's largest competitive birdwatching event, the 1989 Audubon Birdathon, organized by the National Audubon Society. South Shore Auduboners will use their birding skills to raise money for South Shore Audubon's local programs here in Nassau as well as national environmental research, education and action programs.

National Audubon Society will award prizes to individuals and Audubon chapters for the most species counted and the most money raised. In addition, South Shore Audubon will award prizes to the South Shore Birdathoner who recruits the largest number of sponsors and the Birdathoner who collects the largest amount of money in pledges. Prizes will be awarded at the annual dinner in June.

South Shore Birdathons will be held on May 13, starting at the following locations:

Team 1: Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Leader: Elliott Kutner (486-7667). Start time: 8:00 A.M.

Team 2: West End #2, NE corner, Jones Beach. Leader: Paul Butkerei (623-0843). Start time: 7:00 A.M.

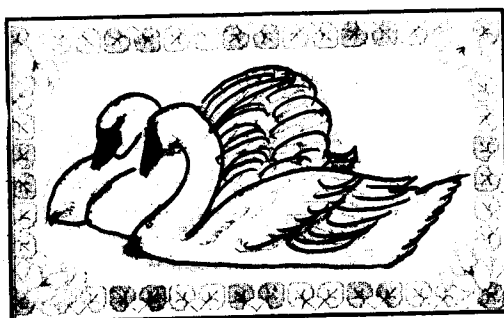
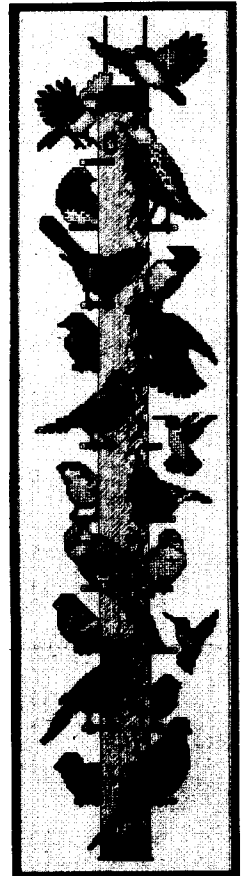
Team 3: Muttontown Preserve. Leaders: James Remsen (764-5168) and Joe Grupp (421-4208). Start time: to be announced probably 8:00 A.M.

People wishing to participate should notify either the leader of their chosen team or the Birdathon chairpersons in advance of the event. The teams will move, at their discretion, from location to location throughout the day. Participants may leave at will. Members unable to attend on Birdathon Day should feel free to seek pledges and count whatever birds they see, wherever they happen to be that day and forward their pledges and bird lists to the Birdathon chairpersons.

We would like each member to be an active Birdathoner, a sponsor in his/her own right, and a recruiter of additional sponsors from both within and without the South Shore Audubon Society.

Sponsors will be expected to pledge the amount of their choice (suggestions 25¢, \$1, or other amount) per species identified by the Birdathoner and his/her team.

Birdathoners will be responsible for notifying sponsors after the Birdathon, collecting their checks (made payable to the South Shore Audubon Society), and forwarding them with their sponsor pledge form(s) to the Birdathon Chairpersons by May 31, 1989. Additional sponsor pledge forms and information will be available at meetings, birdwalks, or by calling either of the following: Arthur Atlas (223-2327 evenings only) 1542 Berkeley Avenue, Baldwin, N.Y. 11510 OR James Remsen, Jr. (764-5168 evenings only) 3264 Park Avenue, Oceanside, N.Y. 11572.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY, INC.
134 Cove Road, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771

(516) 922-3200
William Kolodnicki
Executive Director

May 6 - Saturday

The Nature Conservancy is sponsoring a workshop on Colonial Water-bird Protection. The workshop will take place at Uplands Farm in Cold Spring Harbor. For more information call 367-3225.

May 14 - Sunday (11:00 AM to 1:30 P.M.) regular fee

Beach program. Get your feet wet and come down and explore the beach at low tide. Meet some of the animals of the seashore.

June 3 - Saturday (5:00 PM to 7:00 PM)

Coctail Party at Sagamore Hill. The sanctuary is holding a Coctail Party to celebrate the end of its year and the contributions of our volunteers. Good cheer, entertainment and a beautiful evening are planned. Call the sanctuary for more information.

June 18 - Sunday (8:00 AM to 10:00 AM) regular fee

Sagamore Hill. A historic walk in the footsteps of T. Roosevelt.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

John D. Zarudsky

...for weekends and holidays at Nassau Beach and Lido Beach Town Park, to watch over Least Tern and Piping Plover nesting areas and distribute educational literature.

Have on hand a letter stating that you are a member of South Shore Audubon Society and what protection efforts are being carried out in conjunction with the Nature Conservatory and Town of Hempstead Department of Conservation and Waterways.

Contact person for colony location and further information: John D. Zarudsky (431-9200).

At entrance to each park, show letter at gate and if necessary have attendant contact the supervisor. Lido Town Park: Supervisor, Mr. R. DiVivo (431-6650). Nassau Beach: Supervisor, Mr. B. Piccinnini (889-5661).



BIRD WALKS

ELLIOTT KUTNER

All walks start at 9:30 A.M. and no walks if it rains, snows or temperatures are below 25°. Need more information? Call Elliott (486-7667).

- May 7 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- 14 West End #2, N.E. corner
- 21 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- June 4 Cow Meadow Festival Annual Walk!
- 11 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Be careful of ticks in the underbrush. If you brush against a plant and there are ticks on it, they will climb onto your clothing. Check each other before getting into your cars. They do bite and are difficult to remove. Be SURE to get the head out of your skin! If you do become sick, seek the advice of your doctor. Don't take a chance of becoming seriously ill. Thoroughly check your scalp, as ticks can easily hide in your hair and go unnoticed. Make certain your pets are tick-free as well. As you are petting them, feel for the ticks. Petting them is very beneficial for both of you anyway....cuts down on stress you know.

....but didja know....The Sun is 99.8% of the entire mass of our entire Solar System!!!!!!!

So now you know. Doesn't that just make your day?

"I am in favor of animal rights as well as human rights. That is the way of the whole human."

Abraham Lincoln

BIRDING ONE TO ONE

GAYLE WERTZ

A bit of Alaska right here on Long Island. John Zerudsky, Town of Hempstead Conservation, brought us an oiled Red Throat Loon, yesterday. His staff had worked on it, attempting to remove the oil from its beautiful feathers. We worked on it also. We tried to flush the injected oil from its insides with a carbon solution. Evidently the Loon had preened and injected more oil than it's liver could handle. The bird died last evening and as usual, it was a terrible and unnecessary waste of life. There was no large evidence of a major oil spill and possibly just one person dumped a quantity into a storm drain or canal to 'get rid of it'. People think their little bit can do no harm - well it does!!

It is baby-birdie-time again and I am pleading for assistance caring for these tiny creatures. We cannot take-in baby garden birds as we will soon be overrun with young waterfowl. Please, if you can feed on a half-hour schedule and will be home all day until July....call!!!! Some of you wonderful Auduboners have offered your help in my rescue endeavors. Don't think I have forgotten you...I will call you and you'll plead for me to stop. All calls are immediate emergencies and sometimes I don't have a chance to phone you; but I will.

It is tree-spraying time again and let me remind you how hazardous this is to birds in trees and bushes. Please think twice about this and try other methods. We get so many calls of bird dying of pesticide poisoning and it is an agonizing way to go.

Do you know that rat poison kills far more animals than rats? Other mammals and birds die from it as well. We are poisoning our areas with these lethal chemicals. They seep into the lakes, ponds and streams as well. A Falcon or Hawk, eating a poisoned mouse, etc. can become ill and die. Is this what we want? This winter has been home for two Goshawks in the city. They've eaten Pigeons and rats. Will they survive? We'll see. Do any of you have cats that go outdoors and catch mice and birds? Do you know if pesticides have been placed in your areas? Let's reconsider the effects of these forms of rodent control. While the target species is doing well, other species have been severely damaged. Rats live on garbage, so isn't it easy to see the solution? Keep our parks, neighborhoods and properties clean of litter. Talk to neighbors about this. We all have to take responsibility for this.

CONSERVATION REPORT

In Washington D. C., Congress is considering a proposal that would cripple fundraising activities of nonprofit organizations and charities.

The House Ways and Means Oversight Subcommittee, on which local Congressmen Raymond McGrath and Tom Downey sit, is discussing changes to the U.B.I.T. (unrelated Business Income tax) laws that would severely cripple the education and conservation efforts of organizations such as South Shore Audubon. For example: profits derived from our two BIRD SEED SALES would be subject to 30% (approximate) income tax, even though these profits have been turned over, in entirety, to the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary for their continued operation. Most all fundraising techniques, except collecting outright donations, would be subject to this taxation. All of this is occurring at a time in our nation's history when volunteer, non-profit groups are being heavily relied upon to provide services to the community (President Bush's 1,000 points of light). We at South Shore Audubon believe that our services are important assets to our community. We are actively engaged in protecting environmentally sensitive land, our education chairperson has provided many Long Island classrooms with environmental education resources, we financially support sanctuary projects that are trying to save tern colonies on Long Island, we provide scholarships to National Audubon ecology and ornithology camps and college students, etc... Please write these two Congressmen, and President Bush, and tell them that this proposed TAX is aimed at the very volunteer network that he supports! P.S. Both of these Congressmen have been receptive and helpful to our requests in the past, and should be thanked for their helpfulness in past issues.

and

Addresses: Congressman Ray McGrath
203 Rockaway Ave
Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580

Congressman Tom Downey
4 Udall Rd
West Islip, N.Y. 11795

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C.

SPRING BIRD FACTS JUST FOR YOU

Canada Geese - You will find their nests on the ground, at waters edge. Of course you will not be able to get too close, as the parents are extremely territorial now and will attack you. The nest is constructed of grasses and is lined with feathers. There are usually 4 to 6 eggs laid. The female incubates the eggs for 28 days. She has one brood per year. Survival rate is good. As the chicks hatch, they can swim and eat on their own. The family stays together (the parents mate for life). Adult Geese molt once a year, in August. At that time none of the family can fly and they are quite vulnerable to boaters, predators and people wanting to harm them. By late summer, the molt is complete in the adults and the young Goslings have their full plumage. Now all can fly to avoid danger. To tell the pair apart, when together, you will note that the male is slightly larger and the 'honk' is deeper and can sound like a snore at times. He is more aggressive.

Mallard Ducks - Their nests are nearly everywhere. We have found them under bushes, on people's property. Nests are of grasses. There are between 6 and 10 eggs. Ducks usually do not defend their nests but will desert them. If the eggs are unprotected too long, they will chill and the chicks inside will die. Do not disturb sitting ducks. She incubates the eggs by herself for 23 days. She can have several broods per year. Mallard duckling survival rate is poor. They can swim at birth and usually when the female takes them into open water, the male (drake) Mallards attempt to mate with her again. I have seen the males kill off an entire brood just to get to the female. They do not mate for life so she has no protector. This is a most upsetting scene to witness and if the ducklings can be caught and protected until she returns from being chased, she will come back to them. Ducklings seem to be at the bottom of the 'pecking order' and are killed by other Ducks, Geese, Swans and Seagulls. Their mothers have an awesome job. Sexing adult Mallards is easy as the male has all the coloring. They molt during the summer also and for a time the male is colorless. This is called the 'eclipse' plumage.

I will try to include further information on other bird-types in future Skimmer issues, as space permits. I hope this will help you to understand our wildlife family better.

Gayle Wertz



Get Top-Notch Experience at Audubon Sanctuaries

The National Audubon Society offers students and recent graduates an opportunity to gain training and experience in sanctuary management, while providing Audubon with much needed help.

Internships, usually for three-month periods, are available throughout the year at sanctuaries from coast to coast. They are an ideal way to learn about diverse ecosystems and develop outdoor skills.

Interns do everything from leading nature walks to running visitor centers; from collecting biological data for the sanctuary monitoring program to original ecological research; and from manual labor to building displays. Other program benefits include:

- Career-enhancing, hands-on experience in all phases of wildlife sanctuary work
- Valuable references and a stronger resume
- College credit (by arrangement)
- Personal instruction
- Free housing, utilities, and uniforms
- Eligibility for scholarships to attend an Audubon Ecology Camp.

The Sanctuary Department also offers a variety of volunteer positions at several sanctuaries. For more information on internships and volunteer opportunities, write:

National Audubon Society
Sanctuary Department
93 West Cornwall Road
Sharon, Conn. 06069

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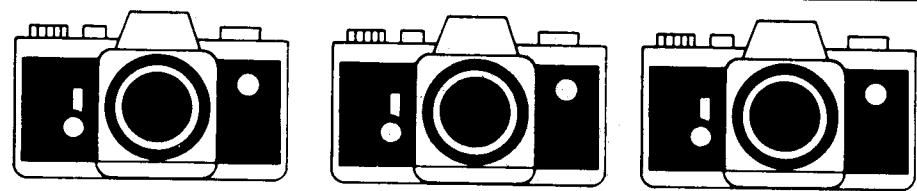


Photo Contest

FINAL REMINDER!!!! Deadline for entries in the Nature Photo Contest at Cow Meadow Park is Saturday, May 20, 1989. Photographers may submit one black and white and/or one color photo. Photo sizes 8" X 10" to 11" X 14" (unframed) will be accepted; photos must be mounted on cardboard backing not to exceed 16" X 20".

Entry forms are available at the May S.S.A.S. meeting, at Cow Meadow Park, and at Tackapausha Museum. Photos will be exhibited at the Cow Meadow Family Nature Festival on Sunday, June 4, 1989. Questions? Contact Judy Hoyer, Photo Contest Chairperson, at 516-775-0159 between 7:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M.

CLEAN UP TIME AT COW MEADOW PRESERVE

MAY 6, 1989
9:00 A.M.



It's that time of year again, to clean up Cow Meadow Preserve in preparation for our second annual Family Nature Festival at Cow Meadow Park. Meet at the Preserve, located at South Main Street in Freeport. Bring rakes and long poles with sharp points for piercing litter.

Come on out, all those of you who helped last year, and those of you who wish to become involved -- everyone is welcome. The County will be there to help, as usual. Information? Call Betsy Gulotta (546-8841)

Summer Employment Opportunities

National Audubon Society announces the following exciting positions for chapter members and others:

Instructors: Qualified individuals with teaching experience in a wide range of natural science subjects and ecological disciplines can become a part of the prestigious staff at one of Audubon's camps and workshops. The programs run for eight weeks from late June to late August at our sites in Connecticut, Maine, and Wyoming. The positions include a starting salary of \$1,300 plus room and board.

Student Assistants: College-age students interested in a summer filled with learning opportunities, hard work, and comraderie in beautiful surroundings should consider joining the staff at the Camp in Maine or the Audubon Ecology Workshop in Connecticut. Students assist in the kitchen or with maintenance. In return they are provided with an opportunity to participate in the programs throughout the summer, room and board, and a salary of from \$600 to \$1,170, depending on the position and camp season.

Interested persons should send their resumes to **Philip Schaeffer, Executive Director, National Environmental Education Center, National Audubon Society, 613 Riversville Road, Greenwich, Conn. 06831.**

Those selected for consideration will receive a detailed job description and application form.

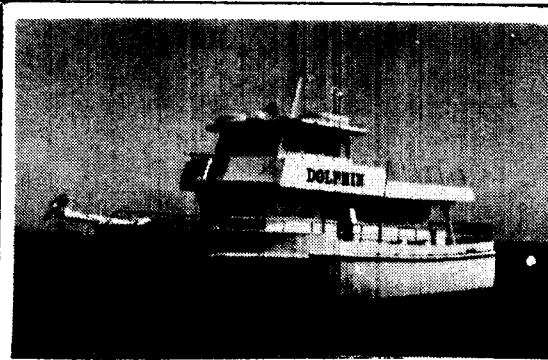


Housework
CAUSES WARTS!

A GREAT DAY ON THE BAY

Join us to cruise and birdwatch in luxurious comfort aboard a 60foot charter boat. It is our annual BOAT AND BIRD trip. The boat has a large raised sun deck, perfect for viewing and relaxing.

Also available for your convenience are indoor booths and tables, microwave oven and men's and women's rest rooms.



To make your reservations, send a check for \$30.00 per person made out to South Shore Audubon Society.

Mail to: Alan Bromberg

3409 Fairway Road

Oceanside, N.Y. 11572

(516-764-7523)

Place: The Dolphin

Freeport Boatmen's Assoc.

540 Guy Lombardo Avenue

Freeport, N.Y. 11520

Date: Sunday, August 13, 1989

Time: 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Cost: \$30.00 per person

Space is limited. Make your reservations early!!!!

Audubon Narrators

The National Audubon Society has been fortunate to have the support of celebrity narrators who generously contribute their time and effort:

Jane Alexander, Peter Benchley, Johnny Carson, Richard Chamberlain, Richard Crenna, John Heard, Leonard Nimoy, Robert Redford, Cliff Robertson, Martin Sheen, Loretta Swit and Dennis Weaver.

HELP WANTED !

- Great learning opportunity - no experience
- or knowledge necessary. Flexible hours - put
- in as much or as little as you desire.
- Rewards UNLIMITED!!! Join the conservation
- committee: call Joan Butkerei - 623-0843

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

M. YAVARKOVSKY



A warm, spring welcome to the following new members to S.S.A.S. We hope you will all become actively involved in our varied and most interesting activities.

- Atlantic Beach.....Richard Cohen, Helen Iannotta
 Bellmore.....Linda J. Andersen, Jeannette Green
 Bethpage.....Tom Rodney, Ms. Linda Colucci
 Cedarhurst.....Keith Hutner
 East Meadow.....Robert Mast, Ms. Wendy Murbach
 East Rockaway.....Arthur Curtis, Beatrice Robbins, Mr. Craig M. Zacker
 Elmont.....Agusta M. Damelio
 Farmingdale.....Brian Landau, Ufuk Ozturk, Mildred Krawcheck,
 Floral Park.....Pepi Friedman, Patricia DelFranco, Eleanor O'Connell, Oscar Solano,
 Ms. Helen C. Goulimis
 Freeport.....Gregory Stair, Robert Hall, Pat Verni,
 Garden City S.....Nancy Hayes, Ms. Helen Kantor, W. Lockwood
 Hempstead.....Clemon Pratt, Dolores Wiczkowski, Marcia Primerano, Ms. Mary L. Tobacoff
 Hicksville.....Maryanne Fiorello
 Levittown.....Rob Renzetti, Lea Baynon, Nancy L. Coon, Teresa Samluk
 Long Beach.....Larry Karpen
 Lynbrook.....Lisa Henn
 Malverne.....Barbara Latham
 Massapequa.....Edward L. Phippard, Charles Finucane, Linda Fiordillo, Mr. J. Jiritano,
 Diane Leone, Ian Sandman, Mrs. Barbara Spanskie, Mr. Peter Sprague,
 Diane Wolfson
 Massapequa Park....Chris/Carolyn Kerwin
 Merrick.....Evelyn/Jay Joseph, Patricia Daum, Mrs. Ruth Johnson, Iris Lynn, M. Mandel
 Mt. Sinai.....Peter Dermody
 North Merrick.....Helen Schieffer
 Oceanside.....Joseph Lancer, Mr. Al. Larsen
 Plainview.....Margaret R. Carey
 Rockville Centre...Ms. Lillian Reyer
 Seaford.....Mrs. Paul Palomino, Thomas J. Ficker
 Uniondale.....Ms. Francis H. Cooper
 Valley Stream.....Dr. Anthony F. Alario, Gloria R. Brenner, Ms. Marian Coles, Eric Fabiano,
 Mr. Frank Ferrara, Mr. Lee Schreiber
 West Hempstead....Mr. Edward A. Pichler
 Wantagh.....David M. Carey, Mr. Fred Sanicola, Mr. Peter J. Yosan

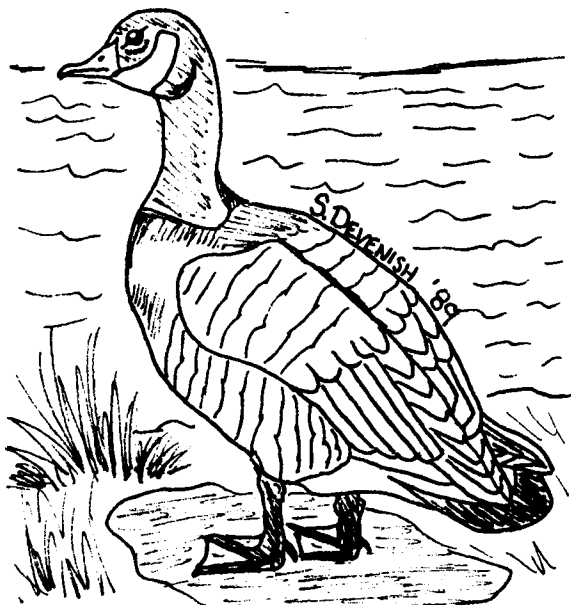
Sea Turtle TV Special

Sea Turtles: Ancient Nomads will premiere on PBS stations across the country this summer. The show tells the story of the plight of the sea turtles and one scientist's attempts to quell their shockingly high mortality rate. That scientist is Dr. Archie Carr, founder of the Tortuguero Research Center in Costa Rica, one of the first research centers dedicated to the study and protection of sea turtles.

Sea turtles are the single most exploited animal in the world, with seven species facing extinction. The population is being decimated by international demand for turtle shell, leather, meat and eggs, as well as by the loss of nesting beaches due to pollution and commercial development.

Another factor leading to the loss of sea turtles is accidental drowning in the nets of shrimp fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean. The Special shows how turtle excluder devices (TEDs) attached to shrimp nets allow sea turtles to escape with little inconvenience to shrimp fishermen.

This beautifully photographed Special is narrated by actress Jane Alexander. It is a must-see for all people interested in the conservation of endangered species. It was produced by Bob Nixon and Karen Kelly. *AUDUBON T.V. NEWS - 1989*



Annual Dinner A First!

POMPEI
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

401 HEMPSTEAD AVENUE
WEST HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11552
485-8620 486-9871

It is our first!!! There will be an International Flavor featured at this year's annual June meeting. Sorrento and the Isle of Capri will come alove for you at The Pompei Restaurant in West Hempstead.

We will have a celebrated speaker and exciting program to complete our special evening together on the shore of the Bay of Naples.

Please mark and save Tuesday evening, June 13, 1989, on your calendar. Join us by completing the reservation form and making out your check for \$16.50 per person. Make check payable to:

South Shore Audubon Society
Mail to: Shirley Kutner
461 Dunster Court
West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552

PLACE: POMPEI RESTAURANT
401 Hempstead Avenue
West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552

DATE: Tuesday, June 13, 1989

TIME: 6:45 Coctails
7:45 Dinner

COST: \$16.50 per person

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

AMOUNT OF CHECK _____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING _____

NUMBER OF EACH MENU CHOICE: _____ CHICKEN FRANZESE
 _____ FISH DIJON
 _____ EGGPLANT ROLLATENI

(broiled chicken, broiled fish available if you wish)

*"The love for all living creatures
is the most noble attribute
of man."
Charles Darwin*

FROM QUEENS: Long Island Expressway or Grand Central Parkway to Belt Parkway
Cross Island, continue straight until road forks, bear left and you will be on Southern
State Parkway - Exit 17 North - 1 Mile on Hempstead Avenue.

