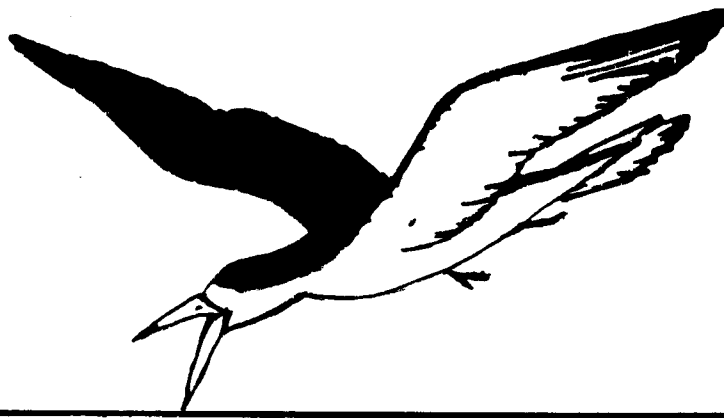


SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 17 - SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

JUNE - JULY - AUGUST - 1990

President's Message

.....Joseph Grupp

To the observer of the natural world the passage of time can be detected without the use of a calendar. A look at the stars in the sky finds Orion anchored in the winter and Hercules and Bootes during summer months. Egrets on our marshes after a long winter signals the arrival of spring. They will nest, raise their young and head south, not to be found in our area during the winter months. Each year has its cycle defined by both the calendar and by many natural ways. Two such cycles have marked two years on the calendar since I assumed the presidency of South Shore Audubon Society and my term is now complete.

The most obvious reflection of the past two years is that the strength of South Shore Audubon Society lies in our individual committees, their chairpersons and members, and the elected Officers and Directors. They have volunteered to do a job, accepted the responsibility and with dedication, determination, and good cheer have spent countless hours effectively serving the Audubon Cause. Our strength also lies in our general membership who support the Audubon Cause by writing letters, signing petitions, attending meetings, birdwalks, and special events. Our organization is one of people working together in a common cause. My personal thanks to each of you for your support over the last two years. Your efforts help to insure that many of the natural cycles will continue and add to our quality of life.

Reminder: Listen To The Sound Campaign citizen's hearing to be held on Thursday, June 21, 7:30 - 10:00 P.M., at Garvies Point Preserve in Glen Cove.

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER

TUESDAY - JUNE 12, 1990

Our annual dinner will take place at the Pompei Restaurant, 401 Hempstead Avenue, West Hempstead, N.Y. As usual, the June dinner is held in place of the regular June meeting.

This is our TWENTIETH anniversary party and we hope to have all our past presidents at this gala, plus some surprises! It will be an evening to remember!!

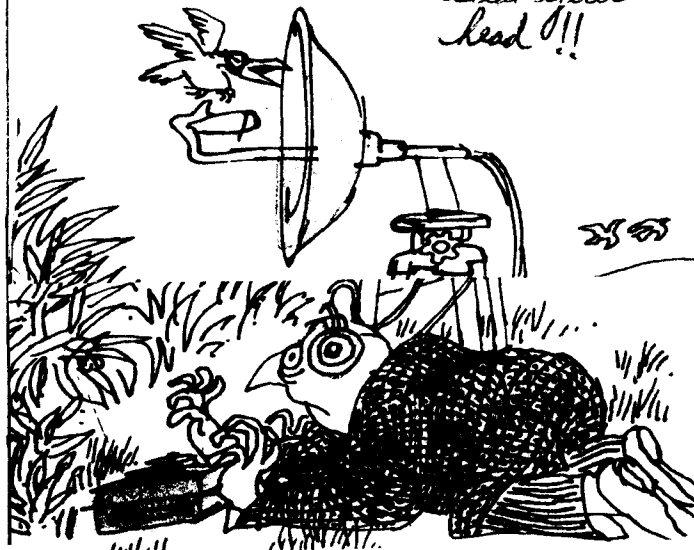
Bird Walks

.....Elliott Kutner

All walks start at 9:30 A.M. and no walks if it rains or snows or temperatures are below 25°. Any questions = 486-7667.

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| June 3 | Jamaica Bay |
| June 10 | Jamaica Bay |
| Aug. 12 | Jamaica Bay |
| Aug. 19 | Jamaica Bay |
| Aug. 26 | Jamaica Bay |

*Join Elliott
on the Bird
Walks and
clean your
head!!!*



1990 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

by Betsy Gulotta

This year the South Shore Audubon Society College Scholarship of \$500.00 is being awarded to Robert Renzetti, a student graduating from Nassau Community College in May, 1990. Robert, a resident of Levittown, plans to enter S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook in the fall and study environmental education.

Robert maintained an outstanding academic record at N.C.C., having achieved a cumulative average of 3.8, while taking several difficult science courses. In addition, he participated in a variety of extra-curricular activities, spent a summer as an intern-naturalist at Muttontown Preserve, and worked part time in the Biology Department at N.C.C. as a laboratory aide.

In his application, Robert stated, "I am an advocate of Environmentalism - not as a cliché, but as a virtue towards Nature. My long term interests rest in the choice to be an Environmental Educator; with emphasis on Ecology and Human-Impact oriented Biology. It is my firm belief that the world is in need of prospective individuals who have chosen their fate (so to speak) to live and to die for causes greater than themselves. To me the impetus to counter anthropocentric delusion and global destruction is such a cause, and I have dedicated myself to project such an image on to the populace and political spectra of our Planet."

On behalf of S.S.A.S., I wish to extend my sincere congratulations to Robert for his outstanding achievements and ambitious career goals in the field of environmental education.

LONG ISLAND SOUND HEARING - UPDATE

by Lois Bartow Schlegel

The citizen's hearing for the "Listen To The Sound" campaign is Thursday, June 21 at Garvies Point Preserve, 8:00 to 10:00 PM (please note time has been changed from previously stated).

This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of the clean up and restoration of Long Island Sound. What problems still await solution to protect your area of the Sound or its watershed? What are your hopes and vision for the Sound's future? You may: 1) attend to observe, 2) make a statement - you may speak for only 5 minutes, but may supplement what you say in writing and other documentation, 3) bring just a written statement. Doing one or all three, would make a vital impact, as this is a citizen's hearing, and is directed to us. Thankfully, we are given the opportunity to give our views and concerns to affect decisions of this body of water that embraces our home. Citizen input is not limited to age. Concerns and testimony would be most helpful from students and classes, too.

If you are not able to attend the hearing, please consider 4) sending a written statement to be on the record, by June 28th, to: Jane Moffet, Listen To The Sound, National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 313, Cos Cob, Ct. 06807-0313.

Directions to Garvies Point Preserve.... From the L.I.E., Exit 39N, go 5.2 miles on Glen Cove Road, bearing left at the fork, to end (firehouse). Turn left for one block, then right at traffic light, to end. Turn left. Just after road curves to the right, turn left on McLoughlin St. Near its end, turn left on Barry Drive. Look for the entrance.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

....for watching over Common Tern, Least Tern and Piping Plover nesting areas. Contact the Long Island Chapter of the Nature Conservancy or Town of Hempstead for the Lido Beach area. Call John Zarudsky at 431-9200 between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

You are extremely needed for this endeavor.

Thank you, S.S.A.S. members and committee-people for all your help with this "Skimmer" since October 1988. You have been wonderful and it has been a fantastic experience for me. Thanks Ann Segel for all your "running to the printer." It is time for some 'new ink'now and fresh ideas. I have met some exceptional people.

Gayle Mertz



COOPERATION---A POTENT WEAPON

by Elliott Kutner

"Clean Air"

We would like to compliment the county for it's support in South Shore's ten year program known as "The Greening of Long Island."

Let's back up a bit. At our February board meeting, it was proposed that we set a goal of planting 1,000,000 trees on Long Island by the year 2000. This extensive planting would be our contribution towards the reduction of carbon in the air caused by our excessive auto exhaust and smokestack waste. It is known as Global Warming and it is bad!!

The ten year goal would be achieved through a three pronged program:

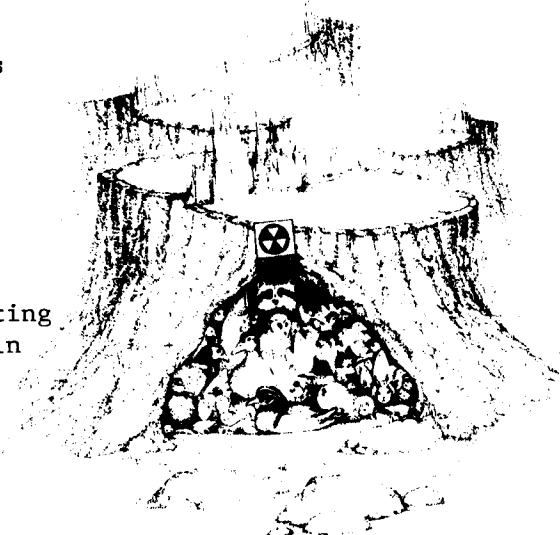
1) Take advantage of the State Department of Environmental Conservation school tree planting program. We would provide schools with applications requesting 50 trees per school from the state program. We would, upon request, send a speaker to a school to hold tree planting ceremonies, describing the value of trees - absorption of carbon and the emission of oxygen.

2) We would give away seedlings to every segment of our community from individuals, to all of our service organizations, churches, synagogues, the private business sector, the townships and finally our county. We needed seedlings! A call was made to the Weyerhaeuser Corp., Tacoma, Washington. We asked them for a donation of seedlings. Within two days we received a gift of 10,000 Eastern White Pine seedlings - the trigger was in place to complete Part 2! We were in business - our theme - "Plant a tree today for a breath of fresh air tomorrow."

3) We would set up a private endowment fund, soliciting monies from private individuals and corporate neighbors in order to buy trees and shrubs for specific projects. Our focus will be on holding the dune structure in place. The Japanese black pine are being destroyed by a beetle carrying a blue fungus. As we are funded, we will begin to replace the dying trees.

THAT IS OUR PROGRAM! Admittedly, it is ambitious. We took it to the county. They recognized the imagination, scope and ultimate environmental value of this endeavour to the quality of life here on Long Island. They accepted the job of sending a cover letter and an application to every school in the county, completing Part 1. The Park Department put together a full day of environmental programs, as witnessed by the thousands of our neighbors who showed up, for EARTH DAY 1990. The county sent letters to every segment of our community, inviting them to join the South Shore seedling give-away realizing this years quota for Part 2. Every last seedling is in the ground!!

In retrospect, I saw EARTH DAY 1990, in the context of a WEDDING ceremony. We dedicated ourselves to a recognition and respect for this precious EARTH we call home and pledged to live our lives sharing our human resources to the benefit of our natural resources so that by the year 2000 we will have earned a breath of fresh air and a glass of pure water.

"We all live downwind"

Editor

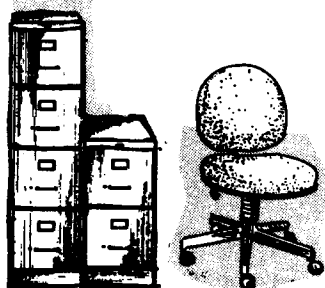
DESPERATE!!!! Editor needed for the Skimmer

by Joan Butkerei

Thank you, Gayle, for a job well done. We will miss your efforts in the Skimmer. The Skimmer has been beautiful.

Please call Joan, immediately, at 623-0843 if you are interested .

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experience
worth
looking
into!**



National Audubon Society

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER



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NEWS RELEASE

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT AUDUBON CAMPS

NATURAL HISTORY INSTRUCTORS

Audubon Camps are operated at sites in Maine, Connecticut and Wyoming by the National Audubon Society to provide adults with a relaxed educational setting in which to learn more about the natural world around them and the ways in which people are interacting with that world. Through the use of direct field study, lively lecture/demonstrations and discussions, the program strives to help participants develop 1) a stronger understanding of basic concepts of ecology, 2) an increased familiarity with the flora, fauna and physical environment, 3) an increased awareness and understanding of environmental problems, 4) a greater familiarity with references, resources and field study skills which will enable them to continue their studies on their own, and 5) a greater desire to put their knowledge and skills to work on environmental matters in their home communities.

Workshop participants range in age from 18 to 80 and in knowledge from those with little or no background to others with considerable field experience. Many are teachers or scout leaders who are interested in learning both background information and teaching techniques. The teaching program is designed to provide a balance between basic information for beginners and providing new information and/or teaching techniques for those with more experience.

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 or Workshops. The programs run for eight weeks from late June to late August and the positions include a starting salary of \$1,500 plus room and board, at our sites in Connecticut, Maine or Wyoming.

Interested persons should send their resume to:
Philip P. Schaeffer, Executive Director
National Environmental Education Center
National Audubon Society
613 Riversville Road
Greenwich, CT 06831

Qualified persons who are selected for consideration will receive a detailed job description and application form.

Audubon Center in Greenwich

Audubon Camps and Workshops
Audubon Fairchild Garden

Audubon Adventures
Audubon Ecology Workshop



Designated a National Environmental Study Area

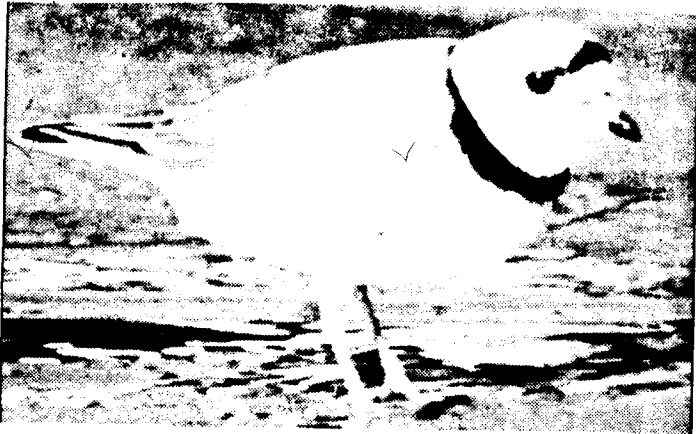
A MESSAGE FROM SHAKLEE

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Shaklee Distributors:
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Lois Schlegel : 822-1546

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SOMEONE IS WATCHING OVER THE PIPING PLOVER

A tip-of-the-wing to Mrs. Brigitte Braff for standing her ground to help the Piping Plover at Atlantic Beach!! Pebble Cove Home-owners 'groomed' the nesting area of this rare species and put up flags to keep the birds off their beach. Brigitte went to court with a marine life specialist, a wildlife biologist and a law enforcement officer and proved these people altered the nest area. This was in violation of state tidal wetlands laws. The Piping Plover breeds along the coast as far as Quebec. There are about 2,500 of them in the world including about 100 on Long Island. Nassau County Supreme Court Justice, John DiNoto ruled in favor of the bird and granted a temporary injunction prohibiting residents from disturbing these birds.

See, you say, "but I'm only one person." Well look what one dedicated, wonderful lady has done against an entire group of people!! Let us take note and get involved. We can change things. Good work, Brigitte!!

ABOUT SPRING AND TIME

by Elliott R. Kutner

How do we know they are here? Listen to the persistent call of the males feeding high in the trees. The buzzy notes of the Blackpoll are unmistakable; as is the pleading 'witchety' call of the Yellowthroat.

Watch the leaves in that bush by the stream! A quickening in this or that branch announces the presence of that perfection of color and motion bent on a moment at streamside; to ease a parched throat and wet a dry wing. They feint and dodge at imagined danger. Suddenly, they step out and down to bathe, in a very brief moment of leisure - just as quickly, they are gone. A Blue Jay pair has sealed a contract with tomorrow, Quiet and intent now, in touch by a whispering whistle, they share a secret all their own. Gone is the raucus call and bully's role at the feeder. They are busy in a spruce nearby, climbing their ladder to tomorrow.

It is quiet now except for the warblers moving North to fulfill a 3,000 mile promise.

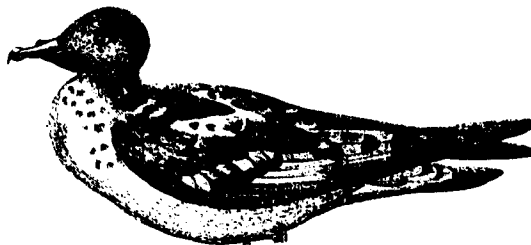
For our neighbor birds, the challenge has moved from the arena of claim and counter claim, to the hush of the nest, egg, chick and summer's fledgling.

But, it's SPRING! For one brief moment they pause, in the ultimate wisdom of instinct, to be refreshed by a cool pool, warmed by a friendly sun, to ruffle feathers wearied by travel - travel to that appointed place and task. And when another season is gone, they take up that wandering once more - home wherever night falls. The rythm of that clock marks the days of our lives.



*Welcome to
New Members*

.....Marion Yavarkovsky



Welcome, welcome. It is our pleasure to have such an extensive list of new members. From reading this newsletter you can see our interests are varied and our activities are many. Please join in and become active members.

- Baldwin.....Patricia Muldowney, Mary/Joseph Stanley, Mr/Mrs Joseph Carroll,
Nooney Rosenman, Margaret M. Schmitt, Eleanor Smith
- Bellmore.....Ms Clara P. Jordon, Charles Hughes, Ms Dorothy Solomon
- Bethpage.....Richard Sweeney, Joseph Creighton Jr.
- Cedarhurst.....J.J. Schoenfeld
- East Meadow.....Frank Indiviglio
- Elmont.....Anthony R. Belinfanti, Sarah Dunham, Helen Thomas
- Farmingdale.....Edward Kozlowski, Anthony Russo, Rosemarie Robedee, C. Sellet
- Floral Park.....Mrs Sally Ryder
- Freeport.....Joel Jay Flax
- Garden City.....Miss Pamela Belser, Kathi Daum
- Hempstead.....S. Cohen, Vivian Sherman
- Hicksville.....Ken Maas, E. Mendez
- Island Park.....Doug Fischer
- Lawrence.....Stuart Weinerman
- Levittown.....Mrs Janice L. Volz, Judie Finnegan
- Long Beach.....Milton G. Claman, Kathryn Chandross, Jeff/Jackie Malmud, Kent Cavender
Mr Mitchell A. Greebel
- Lynbrook.....Ms Lynn Meyer, Barbara Charlton, Delerich Family
- Massapequa.....Patricia Lociciro, Mr R. Auletta, Stacy Gledich
- Massapequa Park.....Arthur Johnson, Dale Whiting
- Merrick.....Pat Burns, Gweynn Caspers
- Oceanside.....K L Schwartzsidrane
- Old Bethpage.....Bari Sue Cohen, Adrienne Horowitz
- Rockville Centre.....Ms Regina Cushmore, Eileen Livingstone, Mr Gerard M. Silverman, A. Treulich
- Seaford.....Mr/Mrs Alan Druckman, Phyllis Zobler
- Uniondale.....Ms Egeria Berryman
- Valley Stream.....Ms Ann M. Cronin, John L. Lapierre, Mark Szer
- West Hempstead.....A Beasley, Donald Squicciarino
- Wantagh.....Ted Chereskin, Miss Lynn Jawitz, John M. Ryan

**Swampbuster Support
Needed For Farm Bill**

The National Wildlife Federation is urging people to write their members of Congress in support of strong conservation measures in the 1990 Farm Bill under consideration now on Capitol Hill.

It is especially important to voice support for Swampbuster, the wetlands protection provision that the Federation fears is in danger of being significantly weakened or eliminated from the law altogether. NWF favors strengthening Swampbuster to make it a violation for a farmer to drain a wetland, whether or not he plants a crop on the land.

The Federation also wants stronger measures to protect erodible land and new provisions to reduce pesticide and fertilizer pollution in water supplies.

Write your lawmakers at the U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510 and the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

**Courts Get Tough
On Wetlands Violators**

A sentence handed down recently in a Pennsylvania wetlands case signals a trend toward heavier penalties for environmental crimes, say legal experts. In one of the stiffest sentences ever imposed for violating the wetlands protection section of the Clean Water Act, a federal judge fined John Pozsgai of Bucks County \$202,000, sentenced him to a minimum of 27 months in jail and ordered him to completely re-

store wetlands he had filled. An appeals court upheld the decision without comment.

Pozsgai, a truck mechanic who wanted to use the area to expand his business, had persisted in dumping demolition waste into 5 acres of wetlands. This was despite repeated warnings from the Environmental Protection Agency, cease-and-desist orders from the Army Corps of Engineers and even a temporary restraining order from the court.



INTERNATIONAL
WILDLIFE
MAY - JUNE 1990

Birding One To One

.....Gayle Wertz

WHY WE DO THE WORK WE DO. We received a phone call from a neighbor, that there was a nesting pair of Canada Geese at her dock, on the canal. The male had (you guessed it) monofilament line around one ankle and was unable to stand on the foot. We went to see what the situation required and saw that he was indeed in big trouble. The female was sitting on her five eggs. We made numerous attempts to capture him - so we could get the deadly line off the foot. Each time he would fly off, but return to protect his mate - they mate for life. Even with the knowledge that he could be captured and 'harmed by these humans', he faithfully returned to her side. We did not get him that night because she was becoming stressed. Two nights later, Dick went to the nest site and after several attempts, did catch the male. As he was removing him from the net....the foot snapped...the bone had been severed completely by the line and it was just hanging by the skin! Bleeding was profuse and Dick immediately bandaged the foot. Of course on a Saturday night no veterinarians are open so he drove the Goose all the way to Commack Emergency Clinic. The veterinarian on duty said he would do what he could but the bird lost a great deal of blood.

Sunday morning the hospital called and said the Goose made it through the night but the foot had to be amputated. Dick picked him up and transported him to our regular doctor, Dr. B. Brooke at Syosset Animal Hospital. She administered medications and kept him several days. We brought him home to a clean cage. We changed the dressing every other day for four weeks. Unpleasant but necessary. He was mourning for his mate and we were in constant contact with the property owner who said the female was still on the nest and having a very difficult time. Seagulls, Crows and Swans were attempting to steal her eggs. They constantly bothered her. By the fourth week they had succeeded in taking two eggs.

We received a frantic call telling us the three remaining eggs hatched and the Goslings were exposed in the nest! Our son, Craig, and I rushed to the site and tried to capture the female. We already had the Goslings in a safe carrier. Again, totally committed to her family, she returned over and over, to help her young. The male was at the nest, in a separate cage and they were in constant communication. It was a wonderfully, tearful experience. Dick arrived 2½ hours later and we managed to maneuver the family into a corner and catch the

female!! We brought them all home and placed them in a large, covered, heavily padded, dog-run. The greeting, as they were all released from their carriers was heart-stopping. All the head-bobbing and peeping and honking..... The family was reunited and all was well again.

The male is progressing very well and the terrible injury is healing nicely. As of this writing (May 14) everyone is fine. As soon as his stump toughens, probably another month or so, we will release the family into our canal so they can fulfill their destiny and rejoin their flock. We feed and clean them every day and they are never aggressive toward us and even let me kiss the Goslings now and then.

JUST ONE MORE GOOD STORY. Several days ago I noticed a female Mallard duck in our canal with just-hatched ducklings. In the world of the ducks, the males are not faithful and when the females are on their nests, as most are now (May), they will mate with any available female Mallard. Unfortunately, the females nearby have chicks and only want to care for them. The mating process is cruel, with several males attacking one female, in rapid succession. To 'encourage' her to mate, they kill the tiny chicks (and oftentimes drown the mother).

This was occurring right before my eyes!! She started with 12 ducklings and only 4 were left. The males were pulling her wings and tearing at her face and back, viciously. Our son, Craig, started up our small boat and after 20 minutes, I scooped up all 4 chicks, from the rough-water canal. When we got back into the yard the mother was waiting. Dick put the cage of babies in a large pen and the mother went in to see them. Caught her!! We released the babies in the enclosed pen and gave them bedding, food and water. She was so grateful that she snuggled down with the babies under wing and went to sleep. Safe at last.

Two days later, Tackapausha Preserve personnel had 8 Mallard chicks, whose mother was hit by a car. We placed them with our mother and she accepted them. Now she had 12 young!! Think it ends here? Two days after that, we got another call from Tackapausha and another Mallard had been run over and there were three remaining chicks. Why not? The "Mother of The Year Mallard" now has fifteen babies (I'll never complain of parenthood again) and is caring for all of them. Now, this is only the middle of May!! As you receive this Skimmer, can you just picture the scene here? By the end of June all the babies will be large enough to be released into the backyard. When they mature and can fly, they will fly out into the bay. They will then bring 'some friends home' and we will have fence-to-fence ducks. "So, what's one more!!"

T. R. Sanctuary

..... **Malcom Marum**

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY, INC.
134 Cove Road, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771
516-922-3200

Nature Programs for Members and the Public.
All programs at the Sanctuary except where noted.

Registration required. Please call us in advance, as space is limited. You may call as late as the day of the activity. Admission to programs is \$1.00 for TR Sanctuary and Audubon Society members and \$2.00 for non-members, unless otherwise stated.

Grounds open daily: 9:00AM-5:00PM

Nature Center open: 8:00AM-4:30PM Mon.-Thurs.
8:00AM-2:00PM Friday
1:00PM-4:30PM Weekends

- June 2** Origami: We'll be making beautiful folded paper models of animals from land, sea and air.
Saturday 1:-3:P.M.
Age 10-Adult \$4=members / \$6.75=non-members
- June 3** L.I. REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS: An introduction to our native species.
Sunday 1:-3:P.M.
Families \$4=members/\$6.75=non members
- June 10** CLEARWATER SAIL: Join us for a sail on the L.I.Sound aboard the sloop, Voyager. \$30=members/
Sunday 2:-5:P.M.
Families \$35=non-members
- June 17** ANNIVERSARY OF T.R.'S BIRD WALK:
Sunday Join us as we commemorate a walk taken by T.R. at Sagamore Hill.
8:-10:A.M.
Families \$4=members/\$6.75=non-members
- June 24** WILD EDIBLES: Learn about (and taste) some of the many foods offered by Mother Earth.
Sunday 1:-2:30P.M.
Families \$6=members/\$10=non-members

The Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary will happily arrange a special Nature Program and party for your child's birthday celebration. Please call us at 922-3200 for details/arrangements.



Artful Angler

The great blue, bulky black against the gray of evening, elevates a narrow head, extending his extraordinary beak. In stately stance he scans the sky, oblivious to the spot where stemlike legs support his double, pictured in the pool; doubly nonchalant until the strike as beak meets shadow beak unerringly, the water pierced by that exquisite blade without a ripple in the silver calm of evening silhouetting the great blue.

—Marian Gleason
Burlington, Vermont

TACKAPAUSA

Nassau County Department of Recreation & Parks
Washington Avenue, Seaford (516-785-2802)

Mid-Week Movie (4:00 P.M. Wednesdays)

- June 6 Seed Dispersal
13 Snakes
20 They Called the Island Long
27 Understanding Our Earth - Rocks and Minerals

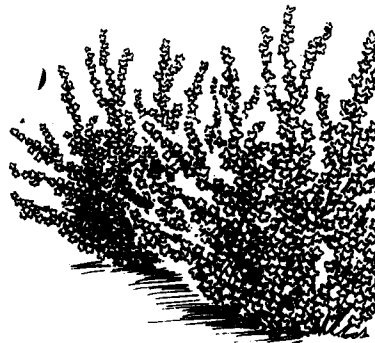
Natural History Cinema (11:30 A.M., 12:30P.M., 1:30P.M., 2:30P.M., 4:00P.M. (Saturdays and Sundays))

- June 2-3 Animal Homes
9-10 Baby Rabbit
16-17 Curious George
23-24 Ghost Talks
30-01 Let's Give Kitty A Bath

Tackapausha Presents (2:00 & 3:30P.M. (Saturdays and Sundays))

- June 2-3 Under A Log - Come and go into the preserve for a fascinating nature walk. This weekend we'll be looking under logs.
9-10 Predator and Prey - The anatomy, architecture and behavior of animals that kill and their role in nature will be discussed.
June 16-17 Giant Moths - Most people associate giant moths with tropical rain forests but Long Island has it's own share. This lecture will accompany the opening of our new Naturalist's Exhibit Corner on these huge insects.
23-24 Eastern Chipmunk - How is this industrious creature always preparing for tomorrow?
30-01 Beaks, Feet and Feathers - Birds are fantastic flying machines. They have special adaptations to fly, keep warm and procure food.

Houseplants At Work

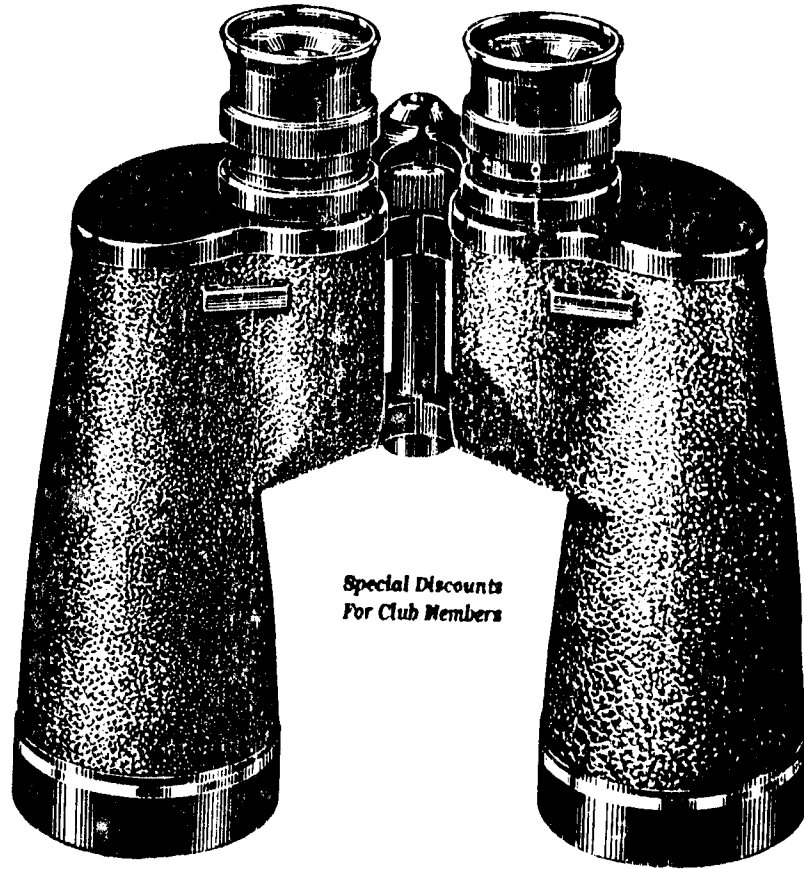


Want to fight indoor air pollution in your home? According to *National Wildlife* magazine, thousands of people may be poisoned in their homes each year by toxic substances such as carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide.

Luckily, houseplants, particularly spider plants, are excellent air cleaners.

So put some greenery in your home and breathe more easily.

BETTER LOOKING.



*Special Discounts
For Club Members*

When you want a close-up look at that rare and extraordinary bird, try using a pair of binoculars or a spotting scope. They can follow your bird and land you right on a teetering branch. Nestle you snugly in a bush. Or cozily place you in a nest. So fly by Berger Bros. when you want to look better. Because our outstanding selection will never become extinct.

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