PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

James Remsen, Jr.

Although it's been several months since you last received an issue of the *Skimmer*, environmental news has continued to be made in New York and throughout the country. This past July, South Shore Audubon representatives, including myself, Carole Adams, Doreen Remsen, and Michael Sperling, attended National Audubon's Northeast Regional Conference in Silver Bay, NY, on the western shore of Lake George. Here, in the Adirondack Park, where the battle over land use is probably the fiercest in the state, Audubon delegates from New York and New England met to discuss local and national concerns. The following are some highlights from the Conference, updated here and there with additional late-breaking details.

**Environmental Trust Fund Passes State Legislature.** Enthusiasm among Audubon staff seemed high, as only days before the Regional Conference, the Legislature passed the Environmental Trust Fund that it had failed to enact for three years. This will allow the state to fund land protection, recycling programs, and other environmental projects. The legislation as currently written, however, is not as strong a fund as Audubon had advocated; it will generate a maximum of $100 million a year (Audubon had pushed for about $200 million) and contains a provision that allows local governments to veto the purchase of any piece of land not currently on the state's high-priority list. Also, there are questions about the dependability of the funding source; ironically, a substantial portion of the funds may have to be generated by the state selling off some of its current land holdings.

**Clinton Administration Unveils Ancient Forest Plan.** Brock Evans, National Audubon's Vice President for National Issues, discussed the Clinton Administration's recently publicized plan to resolve the conflict in the Pacific Northwest over logging on public lands and its impact on ancient forest ecosystems. While praising the President for attacking this issue rather than trying to avoid it, Evans made clear that the Clinton Administration's plan contains serious environmental flaws and needs to be strengthened.

NEXT MEETING

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, September 14, 1993
TIME: 8:00 P.M.
PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library
        Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKER: Don Riepe
TOPIC: Wonders of Big Bend National Park

This slide show will feature the flora and fauna of the deserts and mountains of this 800,000 acre park, Guadalupe Mountains National Park (also in Texas), and New Mexico's Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Our speaker is the director of the NY chapter of the American Littoral Society, a board member of NYC Audubon Society, and the director of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

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Since the Conference adjourned, I have received further details on this plan. In brief, its strengths are: it will set up forest reserves in environmentally sensitive regions of the Northwest; it lays the groundwork for creating a viable old growth ecosystem; it incorporates scientific data; and it upholds existing environmental laws. Its weaknesses are: there is no guarantee that the forest reserves will be set aside in perpetuity; it leaves loopholes that the Forest Service may use to harvest trees in an environmentally damaging manner; it doesn't protect roadless areas, it doesn't provide strong enough assurance that old-growth dependent species will remain viable; and it provides for a timber harvest that is still above sustainable levels.

By the time you read this, the public comment period on this plan should be under way. If you are interested, you can obtain a copy of the plan and make comments on it (the final draft may contain additional strengths and weaknesses not mentioned here). In any case, I urge you to write to President Clinton and tell him that you want an ancient forest policy
that will protect this ecosystem by implementing sustainable timber harvests and safeguarding all old-growth wildlife. For a copy of the plan, write to: U.S. Forest Service, Interagency SEIS Team, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208. To comment, write to: President William J. Clinton, The White House, Washington, DC 20500, or call the White House Public Comment Line weekdays between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M. at (202) 456-1111.

Restoration of the Everglades to Become National Issue. Human intervention in the Everglades ecosystem in southern Florida has reduced it to a shadow of its former self. National Audubon will soon be asking all chapters to advocate policies that will help bring the Everglades closer to what it once was — a thriving wetland habitat under minimum human manipulation. Stay tuned for more details on this.

Other Issues. Space doesn’t permit me to discuss the many other issues covered at the Conference, including Long Island Sound, wetlands, and endangered species. If you want to hear more, feel free to speak to me at any chapter function. And don’t forget to get involved. South Shore Audubon needs you!

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OYSTERCATCHER

Tom Torma

Whenever I see an American Oystercatcher, I cannot help but laugh. For some reason, its long red bill reminds me of a big odd-looking cigar. Its black and white plumage, yellow eyes, and orange eye ring create a clownish appearance. Their bouncy reptilian walk completes the comic look. Simply put, this bird is just plain funny.

I would imagine that oysters and other bivalves do not find that long red bill too humorous. The bill is really a chisel-like weapon, laterally compressed and designed to penetrate oysters, mussels, clams, and other gourmet creatures. Using the bill to cut the abductor muscle, the Oystercatcher gains access to a bivalve’s delectable flesh. Oystercatchers also eat limpets, sea urchins, and worms.

Life might seem pretty good for these birds — after all, they regularly dine on food that humans pay a small fortune for at restaurants — but this is not always the case. The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds reports a case where an Oystercatcher paid dearly for its meal. The bird had worked his bill into a large clam. A tug of war ensued. The Oystercatcher could not open the clam, and the clam would not let go. Finally, the tide came in and the bird drowned, with the clam still clamped to its bill.

When it comes to Oystercatchers, residents of Long Island’s South Shore are truly lucky. Though they’re considered uncommon, we get to see them regularly. My favorite location to see these birds is at the West End beach in Jones Beach State Park. They nest in small depressions in the sand. They can be easily seen in the spring, chasing each other and loudly uttering their call: “wheep, wheep, wheeop.”

These medium-sized shorebirds form small but spectacular flocks during fall migration. They can be seen at Jamaica Bay, sitting on a sandy beach or bar. The black and white birds gathered together, their red bills all pointed in one direction, is a sight hard to forget. Another good location to see Oystercatchers is on Bulls Island in South Carolina’s Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, during the winter when flocks of thousands gather in this favored spot. Don’t forget Sanibel Island in Florida, especially in spring when these birds nest there.

Oystercatchers are a challenge to photograph. They are wary and alert, and therefore are hard to approach. Fortunately, these birds are creatures of habit. They tend to stay in one area, and repeat the same behavior many times. Once I observed a bird who continually landed in one spot. It would then walk toward a small Piping Plover that appeared to be standing guard over its territory. The Plover would chase the Oystercatcher around, getting ever more aggressive as the intruder moved deeper into its space. Eventually, the Oystercatcher would be driven off, with the small Plover nipping at its tail. The Oystercatcher did not give up easily. He then flew around in a large circle and landed in the same location where I had originally observed him. The Oystercatcher would then move forward as before and the episode was repeated.

After observing the above behavior, I returned the next day with my blind. I set myself up near the spot where the Oystercatcher had been landing the day before. Sure enough, the bird returned, allowing me to take a decent picture of him. While I was walking along the beach one day, a pair of nervous Oystercatchers squawked at me with a shrill high-pitched call. I looked down at my feet and saw a small black fluffy ball hiding under a seaside goldenrod leaf. I quickly knelt down and took a couple of pictures of the baby Oystercatcher, and then rapidly walked away. As I moved away from the birds, I heard the adults calling. I looked back and saw baby bouncing up to its relieved parents. I chuckled to myself and could not help but think “some creatures are born comedians.”
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marion Yavarkovsky

We are happy to welcome all the members who joined our chapter since the printing of the June Skimmer. We would like to invite you to become active participants in our activities. Monthly meetings, weekly bird walks, trips, and special events are all for you. Please join us.

[For information on joining the South Shore Audubon Society, please call our Membership Chairperson, Marion Yavarkovsky, at 379-2090. The best time to call is after 4 P.M., Monday through Friday.]

Baldwin .................. ? Fazzolare
Cedarhurst ................ Thomas Agro,
                        Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lapp, Jr.
Copiague .................. Diane L. Buchanan,
                        Christine R. Thompson
East Meadow ................ G. Louie, Catherine A. Raynor
East Rockaway ............. Martin Ruane, Shirley A. Sabbeth
Elmont ....................... J. Brewer, Joanne Fusco, Mr.
                        Richard S. Smith, Jean Tague
                        Vomvas, Ms. Karyn D. Webb
Farmingdale ................. Adolph Breusa, Tyler Meadows,
                        Mr. & Mrs. R. V. Mochwart
Floral Park .................. Alice Connor, Mr. Fred Dongler,
                        Sr., Thomas E. Maroney,
                        Mr. Alfred D. Marten,
                        Ms. Priscilla Rittstever
Franklin Square ............. Mrs. A. Pehnke
Freeport ..................... Karen & Clarence Crawford,
                        Patricia W. Dina, Ms. Nancy
                        Jackson, Sal Morriello,
                        Mrs. Camilla Wier
Garden City .................. Susan Di Russo, Henry Diewitz,
                        Charles R. Gonzalez,
                        Mr. & Mrs. Russell L. Mill,
                        Alfred Peck, Jr.,
                        Mrs. D. K. Veitch
Hempstead ................... Lisa Donovan
Hewlett ..................... Ramsey Fakhouri, Mr. J. Friedman
Hicksville .................... Mr. Michael J. Boyle,
                        Kathy Cardillo, ? Laichenho,
                        Mrs. Irene Zalewski
Lawrence ..................... Ms. Elana Rauch
Levittown ..................... David Antos, Thomas Condy,
                        Mr. Miguel A. De Luca, John
                        Geisler, Mr. & Mrs. William H
                        Keller, Mr. Dennis J. Varley
Lindenhurst ................. Edward Reilly
Little Neck .................. Michael Shlman
Long Beach .................. Anita Bandel, Mr. H. Burkhardt,
                        Oscar Peretz
Lynbrook ..................... Lillian Levitt, Mrs. Donna M.
                        Mc Govern, Teresa C. Steinis
Malverne ..................... Ken Yoshiya
Massapequa .................. Ms. Ingrid DeMilo, Mr. Edward
                        Furstman, Mrs. Lorraine
                        George, William P. Meyer
Massapequa Park .......... Ellen Schusterman
Merrick ..................... Mr. Arnold J. Ellenson, Mr. Jaima
                        Olson, Mr. R. Santangelo
Mineola ....................... Stephen Solomon
Oceanside ................... Herb Boucher, Master Joseph A.
                        Fama, Ms. Susan B. Grant,
                        Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Stewart
Point Lookout ................ Carol Wagner
Rockville Centre ............. Bernice & Stanley Bloth, Marilyn
                        Firendman, Mr. John J. Fischer,
                        Dr. William S. Friend,
                        Mr. Gerard M. Silverman
Seaford ...................... Angela Buskirk
Uniondale ..................... Patricia Garel
Valley Stream ................ Ms. Mary Carolyn Bishop, Mr.
                        Thom Duffy, Mr. Timothy P.
                        Healy, Edith S. Herbert
Wantagh ...................... Theo Cieslewicz, Mrs. Stacy
                        Clausen, K. Fuhrman, Ms. Lois
                        G. Golda, Heather Rubinstein
West Hempstead ............. Ms. Henrietta Calandrino, Burton
                        Nusbacher, Mr. Edward A.
                        Pichler, June F. Stamatas
Woodmere .................... Aldan Boretz

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RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070
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WILDLIFE POISONING HOTLINE (800) 356-0560
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AUDUBON HOTLINE (202) 547-9017
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BRONX ZOO TRIP POSTPONED

At our annual dinner in June, a bus trip planned for October 2nd was announced, with details to appear in this Skimmer. Please watch future newsletters for a new zoo date.

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Seed – Feeders
Houses – Baths
Books – Gifts
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FEED & SEED BARN
WILD BIRD CENTER
"NEW YORK’S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"
621 Fulton St. (Rt. 109), Farmingdale, NY 11735
Located between McDonald’s & Dunkin’ Donuts
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(516) 694-2180
TENTH AUDUBON ADVENTURES
SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM
Carole A. Adams

Audubon Adventures, the youth education program of the National Audubon Society, is for elementary school classes and other groups of children in grades 3-6. Developed and written by professional educators with a special interest in environmental education, Audubon Adventures is issued on a bimonthly basis and the subscription period coincides with the school year. An enrolled class receives Audubon Adventures newspaper for children (32 copies per subscription), the companion Leader’s Guide of background information and activity ideas for the teacher, classroom certificates, and individual student membership cards. The class subscription fee for chapters remains at $30 per class; however, it will be necessary to increase the subscription fee a year from now for the 1994-1995 school year (the last increase was in 1989). SSAS usually pays for two-thirds of the cost; we request a $10 contribution per class/group, if possible.

Audubon Adventures curriculum topics for the 1993-1994 school year will include wildflowers, animal communication, marine mammals, snakes, songbirds, water, and — in April (time for the annual Audubon Month poster) — endangered species.

Audubon Adventures is in use in over 17,000 classrooms across the United States, with an enrollment of more than 50,000 groups! Educators and scout leaders in the South Shore Audubon area interested in enrollment should contact Carole A. Adams, Education Chairperson, at 731-4425.

Audubon All Species Day. It is well known that children have an abounding interest in protecting wildlife. The National Audubon Society has expanded its campaign to protect endangered species to include the energy and enthusiasm of these young people. Audubon All Species Day is an opportunity for children to dress in costume this Halloween as their favorite endangered species. It’s their chance to make a positive statement about the importance of preserving biological diversity.

NAS is organizing three primary events in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and St. Louis. Audubon chapters and volunteers are encouraged to participate in this project by organizing events in their communities. Anyone — parents, educators, scout leaders, community leaders — can contribute to the success of this program by organizing school or neighborhood events.

A national contest will recognize innovation and creativity for any child who chooses to participate. The contest will reward both individuals and groups in such categories as “Best Costume,” “Best Endangered Plant Costume,” “Best Habitat Presentation,” and “Best Community Outreach.” Prizes for children and adult leaders range from an Audubon endangered species t-shirt to a scholarship to an Audubon Ecology Camp or Workshop.

Brochures providing additional information and registration instructions will be mailed to Audubon Adventures enrollees and will be available at your local library, or contact me at 731-4425.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY
134 Cove Road
Oyster Bay, NY 11771
(516) 922-3200

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bird Sanctuary is owned by the National Audubon Society and operated by the Community and three local Audubon chapters, including South Shore Audubon. The following programs are open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required. All program fees are required at the time of registration.

Saturday, September 11th (10 A.M. to 12 P.M., ages 12 to adults) — Bird-watching for Beginners. Bring your binoculars and learn how to use them! We will go over basics of equipment, field guides, clothing, etc., and will spend some time on our woodland trails and at a local marine area. TRS members $4, nonmembers $6.

Tuesday, September 14th (7:30 to 9:30 P.M., Grade 3 to adults) — Owl Prowl. Come and participate as we attempt to call in wild owls on a night walk. Prior to the walk, you'll see our permanently injured owls close up and will learn their natural history. There will be another Owl Prowl on October 27th. TRS members $5, nonmembers $7.

Saturday, September 25th (1 to 3 P.M., ages 8 to 14) — Habitat Safari. This program introduces students to habitats and the requirements for survival. We will explore woodland, pond, and marine habitats and will meet some of their inhabitants. Active games, hands-on nature. Dress accordingly. TRS members $4, nonmembers $6.

Monday, October 3rd (8 to 10 A.M., ages 12 to adults) — Migratory Birds / Raptor Banding. Come to Fire Island National Seashore; meet at the lighthouse ranger station. Join the hawk watch, learn about migration, and see banded raptors up close. TRS members $5, nonmembers $7.

Saturday and Sunday, October 9th and 10th (1 P.M. Sat. to 3 P.M. Sun., family) — Fire Island Camping / Watch Hill. See migrating raptors, the ubiquitous white-tailed deer, and this scenic beach area at its most beautiful. We will bird-watch, explore bay and ocean beaches, have a marshland walk, and include some nighttime activities as well. Please register as soon as possible to ensure a spot on this trip; cost to be determined.

Saturday and Sunday, October 23rd and 24th (11 A.M.) — Annual TRS Wildlife Festival. Come to Planting Fields Arboretum to see live wildlife and learn about their lives. This will be the biggest and best festival yet, featuring an environmental fair, wildlife shows, crafts, food, and fun. Adults $4, children $2.50.
The first definition of \textit{conservation} in the dictionary is "the preservation from loss, injury, decay, or waste." Of course, at Audubon, we generally use it to refer to the preservation of environmental and natural resources. Conservation efforts by the federal government are embodied in the national Endangered Species Act, whose objective is to identify species in danger of extinction. The idea behind this law is that for every species there is a numerical threshold below which the species will become extinct. The legislation empowered the government to classify species whose numbers appeared to be low as "threatened" and then "endangered," allowing monies to be allocated to efforts to increase their numbers.

These efforts have sometimes been of heroic proportions. For example, we know the personal history of almost every Whooping Crane that nests in the United States, and we have actively assisted in increasing their numbers by such acts as removing eggs from their nests and allowing foster mothers (Sandhill Cranes) to incubate them to hatching, then releasing the chicks into the wild. The Whooping Crane has been one of our successes, and their numbers, although still small, are increasing.

While we are delighted with this success, we need to look into the future for a minute. The underlying cause for the reduction in this species (and many of the other endangered species) is loss of habitat. Much of the ancient freshwater wetlands that the Whooping Crane nested in has been converted to farmland, and even if the land ceased to be farmed and was allowed to lie fallow, it is unlikely that it would revert to its original state. If we continue to reduce these wetlands, all our efforts to save the Whooping Crane will be for nothing.

This is why the government has begun to broaden its scope from focusing on preserving individual species to focusing on preserving habitats. This has many salutary benefits. First, if one preserves the habitat, one preserves \textit{all} the indigenous species — you get more for your money. It also preserves the environment for aesthetic reasons. In many cases, it also preserves natural resources which humans need to survive. One example close to home is the preservation of the pine barrens in Suffolk County. We would mourn the loss of this area because of its beauty, but, in addition, its loss would reduce the rate at which Long Island's underground aquifers are replenished. Aquifers are the sole source of fresh water for most of Long Island, and they can only be recharged by rainwater that passes through the porous soil. With development, we have paved over a great deal of Long Island, and rainwater is diverted from the aquifers, landing on roads and flowing into sewers, to wind up in the bays and ocean around the Island.

We know that habitat, or ecosystem, preservation cannot alone prevent the reduction in numbers of a given species. For example, in some places, endemic species have been greatly threatened or eliminated by the introduction of alien, competing species; the starling, goldfish, zebra mussel, water hyacinth, and others have replaced native species in many locations. Nevertheless, the new focus on habitat, rather than merely species, is a much more sensible approach to conservation than we have seen in the past, and I look forward to additional federal support for this effort.

\textbf{“BAG LADY” NEWS}
\textit{El Glaser}

Those of you who are complacent or slow to act, please be forewarned! I just took a tally and I have only 25 canvas bags left, so if you feel that this offer is forever, it is not. Once these bags are sold, that is it. So, if having a good, sturdy, canvas bag with the South Shore Audubon logo on it — a bag that will enable you to cut back on the use of plastic bags at the supermarket, etc. — is of some consequence to you, then I suggest you act real soon.

At $5 a bag, they're really a good buy. I get to the meetings and walks when I can, but you can call me at 561-9118 to order direct. I hope to hear from you. Thanks.

\textbf{COSTA RICA — BIRDING & NATURAL HISTORY}
\textit{South Shore Audubon Trip, 1/22/94-2/1/94}

South Shore Audubon Society, under the guidance of Osprey Tours, Inc., would like to introduce you to the natural history of Central America. We can think of no better way than to travel to the Switzerland of Latin America, Costa Rica. Costa Rica is relatively small (the size of West Virginia and only 0.03% of the world’s surface), yet it is home to almost 5% of the planet’s plant and animal species!

Osprey Tours and SSAS will visit seven different habitats with a myriad of habitat-specific birds, plants, amphibians, reptiles, insects, and mammals. These habitats will include the subtropical moist forest of Braulio Carrillo National Park; the rainforest of La Selva, including the Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS) Biological Research Station; the forest river habitat of Cano Negro National Refuge; the famous Monteverde Cloud Forest; the active Arenal volcano; and the mangrove estuary, beaches, and tropical dry forest of Playa Grande.

Join us! We will be traveling with two tour directors who have been visiting Costa Rica since the inception of ecotourism, as well as with a bilingual Costa Rican naturalist/guide. Of the 830 bird species seen in Costa Rica, we hope to spot over 150 species during our stay. Lodging will range from elegant rustic to excellent. The food will vary from fine dining to typical Costa Rican fare.

The price per person, based on ten participants, from Miami and including a $100 contribution to SSAS is $2105. Single supplement is $282. For a copy of the full itinerary and further information, call SSAS’s Betsy Gulotta at 546-8841 or write or call Osprey Tours, Inc., Box 832, West Tisbury, MA 02575; phone number (508) 645-9049.
All walks start at 9:30 A.M.; no walk if it rains or snows or temperature is below 25°F. Any questions? Call Elliott at 486-7667.

Aug. 29  Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sept. 5  Labor Day Weekend — No Walk
Sept. 12 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Sept. 19 Zach’s Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Sept. 26 Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Oct. 3  Zach’s Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Oct. 10 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Oct. 17 Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Oct. 24 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 31 Hempstead Lake State Park (Pen. Blvd.)
Nov. 7  Tobay JFK Sanctuary
Nov. 14 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Nov. 21 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Nov. 28 Pelham Bay Park for Owls (pull over to street on extreme right after going through Throgs Neck Bridge toll; meet at 9:00 A.M.)

Dec. 5  Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Dec. 12 Zach’s Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Dec. 19 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Dec. 26 Happy Holidays — No Walk
Jan. 2  Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Jan. 9  Zach’s Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Jan. 16 Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Jan. 23 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Jan. 30 Pelham Bay Park for Owls (9:00 A.M.)
Feb. 6  Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Feb. 13 Zach’s Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Feb. 20 Hempstead Lake State Park (Pen. Blvd.)
Feb. 27 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

*THE REVISED ABCs OF WASTE DISPOSAL*

Michael Sperling

The following list appeared in the Summer 1993 Bulletin, the newsletter published by our neighbors to the north, Lyman Langdon Audubon Society. Their editor evidently literally cut it out from somewhere, but I have no idea where. In any case, some of these are brilliant, no?

NIMBY  Not In My Back Yard
NIMFYE Not In My Front Yard Either
PIBTY Put It In Their Back Yard
PISEBY Put It In Someone Else’s Back Yard
NIMEY Not In My Election Year
NIMTOO Not In My Term Of Office
LULU Locally Unavailable Land Use
NOPE Not On Planet Earth
BANANA Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anyone

SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY RESERVE ACT

Michael Sperling

After a delay that caused concern that he was considering a pocket veto (and led to a flood of mid-summer phone calls to his Executive Chamber), Governor Cuomo signed into law a bill that was supported by the Long Island Audubon Council and promoted at SSAS meetings by our newly retired Conservation Legislation Chairperson, Annie McIntyre. Her successor, Betty Borowsky, informed me that the Governor had signed the bill. The following originally appeared (prior to the legislation’s approval) in the July/August Sandpiper, the newsletter of our eastern neighbors, Great South Bay Audubon Society. [Just in case you’re wondering why there’s no summertime issue of the Skimmer: we publish nine 8-page newsletters per year, while they publish six 12-page ones, so we’re even.]

The new law creates a council, made up of state and local government representatives and private citizens, that will establish a South Shore Estuary Reserve. The council will prepare a management plan and make recommendations to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural, recreational, economic, and educational resources of the estuary. State and local governments can incorporate this plan into policy, laws, or regulations.

The South Shore Estuary is comprised of the connected bays, wetlands, and tidal streams and rivers located between the mainland of Long Island and the coastal barrier beaches. The health of the estuary is of critical importance to the well-being of Long Island's economy and environment, as it provides crucial habitat and breeding grounds for a variety of marine wildlife, including shellfish, finfish, and waterfowl. The South Shore Estuary salt marshes and wetlands provide a natural barrier against wind and flood damage from severe storms. The waters of the estuary provide important recreational and commercial fishing and shellfishing opportunities as well. Tourists are drawn in large numbers for recreational fishing and boating opportunities, while the estuary also supports an ongoing commercial seafood industry.

The water quality of the South Shore Estuary has been rapidly declining, primarily due to point and nonpoint source pollution and wetland destruction. It is the only remaining major body of coastal water surrounding Long Island not covered under a comprehensive management/ restoration plan. Long Island Sound, Peconic Bay, and New York Harbor have been designated as “estuaries of national significance” and are included in the National Estuary Program (NEP). The NEP provides federal assistance and guidance for estuary restoration and protection planning.

The South Shore Estuary Reserve Act initiates the process of developing a comprehensive management/ restoration plan for the estuary while simultaneously preparing a nomination document for inclusion in the National Estuary Program.
The museum is located on Washington Avenue in Seaford and lies about 1/2 mile south of Sunrise Highway, just north of Merrick Road. Preordering greatly aids us in determining the amount of seed needed; an order form appears below for your use. Please keep this upper portion as a reminder of the sale date. All preorders should be received by OCTOBER 12th. Please make checks payable to the South Shore Audubon Society. Mail check and order form to Paul T. Butkerait, 268 Wallace St., Freeport, NY 11520.

Once again we are offering three types of sunflower seed: black oil seed, large white striped seed, and a blend of the two consisting of 60% oil and 40% striped. We will also be offering a 10% reduction on Bird Feeders. Help will be needed on the sale date to take orders and to aid in unloading seed. If you wish to volunteer, call (516) 623-0843 late evenings and ask for Paul. Our next sale will be JANUARY 30, 1994.

My name is ____________________________

My address is __________________________

City ______________________ State ______ Zip ______

Telephone __________________________ S.S.A.S. Member? Yes ___ No ___

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<td>10 lb Thistle Seed (Niger)</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Manna Suet Cakes</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All blends and mixes are based on current research

TOTAL AMOUNT: __________
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