







**SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR YOU...  
AND SSAS TOO!**

*Therese Lucas*

**114642331928682**

*Kerry Da Silva*

Effective through November 30th, the **Nature's Museum Store** in Bellmore is offering a 10% discount to South Shore Audubon Society members on all items purchased in their store or online. Just enter the code "SSAS" when you order online or mention South Shore Audubon Society when you make your purchase at the store. During this time, 10% of the proceeds will come back to SSAS; anytime after November 30th that you shop in their store and mention South Shore Audubon Society or shop online ([www.naturesmuseumstore.com](http://www.naturesmuseumstore.com)) and use the SSAS code, our chapter will always receive the 10% donation from the store. We are pleased that the Nature's Museum Store is supporting the environmental and conservation efforts of SSAS through this fundraiser.

The store, located at 2400 Merrick Road, Bellmore (south side, just west of Newbridge Road), carries a beautiful assortment of jewelry and giftware. Their products include museum and nature reproductions, small sculptures, and tabletop products. They are the producers of Erté "Art to Wear" jewelry. These limited edition pieces are made of 14k gold and sterling silver. Items in all areas are available in a wide range of price points. They also buy gold, silver, and diamonds, and offer expert jewelry repair.

Their studio is attached to the store and tours of the manufacturing facility are available. Free tours are given Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 11 A.M., 1 P.M., and 3 P.M. Call 781-6872 to schedule a tour. Store hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 A.M. - 6 P.M. and Sunday 11 A.M. - 5 P.M. The web site displays are excellent should you choose to shop online or you can use the site as a preliminary experience before visiting the store. When shopping in the store, free gift wrapping and shipping are available. When shopping online, gift wrapping is \$2.25 and shipping is free.

**ENVIRONMENTAL LITERATURE LIST**

Last year, Dr. Christine Moseley at the University of Texas at San Antonio, in collaboration with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, put together a downloadable 82-page list of literature readings with annotations for all levels that align to Project WILD activities. Project WILD (Wildlife in Learning Design), introduced in 1983, is one of the most widely used conservation and environmental education programs among educators of children in kindergarten through high school. The list, organized by 122 topics, is at the web site of the North American Association for Environmental Education: [www.naaee.org/photos/news-images/gettingwildaboutenvliterature.doc](http://www.naaee.org/photos/news-images/gettingwildaboutenvliterature.doc).



SSAS is now represented as a "page" on **Facebook!** "Like" us, and tell your friends about it too. It's a great way to stay connected and keep up on all of our events and news!

*Editor's note:* We thank Kerry for creating our Facebook page. I'm responsible for this article's title; even if you're not already a Facebook member, you can view our main pages at [www.facebook.com/pages/South-Shore-Audubon-Society/114642331928682](http://www.facebook.com/pages/South-Shore-Audubon-Society/114642331928682).

**BIRD WALKS**

*Steve Schellenger*

All walks start at 9:30 A.M.; no walk if it's raining. Any questions? Call Steve at 987-8103. Directions and summaries may be found at [ssaudubon.org](http://ssaudubon.org).

- Oct. 24 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- Oct. 31 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner\*
- Nov. 7 Hempstead Lake State Park (Southern State Parkway Exit 18 south, Field #3)
- Nov. 14 Point Lookout Town Park, S.E. corner (and Lido Preserve afterwards)
- Nov. 21 Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
- Nov. 28 Mill Pond Park (Wantagh/Bellmore, north side of Merrick Rd.)
- Dec. 5 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

\*Note: State budget cuts have closed Jones Beach's West End during toll season except for birding and fishing. Show your binoculars or field guide at the booth for access.

**REMINDER - NATURE WALK AT HEMPSTEAD PLAINS**

On **Saturday, October 23**, SSAS will be having a special field trip, led by Betsy Gulotta, to view the flora and fauna of the Hempstead Plains. We will meet at 9:30 A.M. for a walk that we expect will end at around 11.

*Directions.* Take the Meadowbrook State Parkway to Exit M4 (also used for Hempstead Turnpike/Nassau Coliseum). Continue on the exit road to Charles Lindbergh Blvd. west. Go a short distance on the boulevard to the first exit on the right, which is for Nassau Community College's East Campus parking lots. At the first intersection (Perimeter Road intersecting itself), you'll see a sign and parking for Hempstead Plains.


**SSAS TACKAPAUSHA PARTIES**

In case you're wondering: Due to unpredictable renovation work at Tackapausha Museum in Seaford, SSAS's annual wildlife-themed Halloween and December holiday parties for children will not take place this year.

**TAKE THE BIRD CHOW CHALLENGE**

Birds can have funny eating habits, just like we do. The Celebrate Urban Birds project at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology would like you to submit your observation of interesting or unusual bird feeding behavior for its Bird Chow Challenge contest. The deadline is November 1.

“Take a walk outside — you might see pigeons trying to snag a piece of pizza in the park or a flock of Cedar Waxwings scarfing up berries from a bush,” says project leader Karen Purcell. “Maybe a gull will steal your sandwich! Look for a horde of grackles going nuts at a feeder,

 or an American Robin tagging along after a farmer plowing his field.” Entries can be digital photos, artwork, or video — even a story or a poem. Just show or describe an avian food folly and e-mail your entry to urbanbirds@cornell.edu.

Prizes include bird feeders, nest boxes, sound CDs, guides, books, posters, and much more. Visit the Celebrate Urban Birds web site (www.birds.cornell.edu/celebration) for more information.

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**SSAS Post Office Statement** — *South Shore Skimmer* is published monthly from September through December and February through May by South Shore Audubon Society, P.O. Box 31, Freeport, NY 11520-0031.

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**“TRUMP ON THE OCEAN” – CALLS NEEDED!**

*Jim Brown*

You may be aware that a recent opinion of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York has given a victory to Donald Trump in his attempt to build his huge complex (restaurant, catering hall, souvenir shop) along the boardwalk of Jones Beach. Nevertheless, the Attorney General can appeal this latest ruling, and stop this project from going forward. As we’ve been writing in the *Skimmer* for three years, “Trump on the Ocean” is just too big for what is needed at Jones Beach — a simple boardwalk restaurant that can be enjoyed by all the people, not just the wealthy clientele that Mr. Trump is courting. Mr. Trump has not proven that a smaller, public-friendly restaurant would not be economically viable. The original Review Board (including an architect, a businessman, a fire prevention expert, and a Building Code expert) that denied his variance application was acting with the best interests of the public in mind.

I urge everyone who wants to preserve our beautiful and publicly owned Jones Beach to call the Attorney General’s Long Island office at 516-248-3302 or 516-248-3300. Urge Andrew Cuomo to appeal this most recent decision. Our State Park at Jones Beach was created for all of us, not just for the wealthy few!

**BACKYARD SURVEY DATA NEEDED!**

*Joe Grupp*

For several years, SSAS’s Research Committee has been conducting a study to document the bird species found in the SSAS area and to estimate their numbers. We greatly appreciate input from anyone that feeds and/or observes birds in their yard or neighborhood. Please do not hesitate to submit your observations, even if you make only very few.

Simply record the date, time, and the number or approximate number of each species. At the end of each month, please mail or e-mail your record to me at the appropriate address listed below, or hand it to me at our monthly meeting. Survey sheets are available at SSAS events and at ssaudubon.org or you can create your own.

Please mail your data to Mr. J. Grupp, Research Chairperson, 660 Edgemere Ave., Uniondale, NY 11553 or e-mail Birdstudyjoeg02@aol.com.

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**CHECKLIST OF NYS AMPHIBIANS, REPTILES, BIRDS, AND MAMMALS**

A 26-page New York State Department of Environmental Conservation checklist of vertebrates found in our state, updated this past April, can be downloaded from [www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife\\_pdf/vertchklist0410.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/vertchklist0410.pdf). It lists 32 species of amphibians, 39 species of reptiles, 375 species of birds, and 92 species of mammals, including their protection status under federal and state laws and regulations.

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**ADVERTISING IN THE SKIMMER**

*Michael Sperling*

We publish eight newsletters per year, with about 1700 copies per issue. Advertising helps pay for the cost of printing and mailing the *Skimmer*. A single-issue business card ad (or anything that size) costs \$30 or you can get a discount and pay South Shore Audubon Society \$200 for eight consecutive issues. Similarly, a quarter-page ad (such as that of the American Littoral Society) costs \$75 or eight for \$550. For details (some types of ads are prohibited under our mailing permit), please e-mail or call your editor at mssperling@optonline.net or 221-3921.





