

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 43, NUMBER 6 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MARCH 2013

NEXT MEETING

John Gagliano

DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2013
TIME: 7:30 P.M.
PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library
 144 W. Merrick Rd. (at S. Ocean Ave.)
SPEAKER: Frank Hurley
TOPIC: Amazing Honeybees

At our next meeting, guest speaker Frank Hurley will discuss honeybees and will share the following with us:


- ☞ a complete beehive, including frames showing various stages of honey production, a queen excluder, and bee escapes
- ☞ an “observation” beehive with glass walls and a colony of live honeybees
- ☞ a beekeeper’s outfit, including mask, gloves, smoker, and other tools
- ☞ combs of honey, right from the hive, and samples of beeswax to touch and smell
- ☞ a honey extractor to show how honey is removed from the comb

Frank is a naturalist at the Muttontown Preserve and has been involved in the work and preservation of Muttontown for many years. He also leads walks through the 550 acres of this beautiful Nassau County Preserve, helping to educate Boy Scouts and school groups via several nature programs. Join us!

Pre-Meeting Book Discussion. Starting with our March meeting, R. U. Abyrdar II (aka Paul Stessel) will be leading 7 P.M. discussions of the book that he reviewed in the previous month’s *Skimmer*. His first book will be *Life List: A Woman’s Quest for the World’s Most Amazing Birds* by Olivia Gentile, which tells Phoebe Snetsinger’s controversial story. So, read the book (if you haven’t already), arrive a half-hour early on our meeting nights, and join Paul in the room beyond our snack tables.

Parking Lots. In addition to the parking lot adjacent to the library, there’s a lightly used, well-lit, and fairly close municipal lot on the east side of S. Ocean Ave., on the near

(south) side of the future gas station that borders Sunrise Highway.

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 IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE
 BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS.
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 SHADE-GROWN COFFEE PROTECTS RAINFORESTS!
 ◆◆◆◆◆

SSAS Mission Statement — *The mission of South Shore Audubon Society is to promote environmental education; conduct research pertaining to local bird populations, wildlife, and habitat; and preserve and restore our environment, through responsible activism, for the benefit of both people and wildlife.*

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE Hurricane Sandy’s New Inlets

Jim Brown

In an earlier column I discussed Hurricane Sandy in relation to the issue of global warming and human responses to the whole complex issue of climate change. The superstorm that ravaged Long Island has brought this problem concretely home to us in a way that prior discussion of the issue had been unable to do. In this month’s column I will discuss some of the storm’s physical impacts — and possible responses to them — on several Important Bird Areas along the South Shore of Long Island.

The communities and environment of Fire Island were greatly impacted by Sandy. Many homes were lost on this barrier island. Debris removal is still ongoing. Three breaches (inlets) were created in the wake of the storm. The two outside the Fire Island Wilderness Area were immediately artificially closed according to the Island’s Breach Contingency Plan adopted in 1997. The remaining breach is located at Old Inlet, a mile and a half west of the Park’s Visitor’s Center at Smith Point. It is still open, though

the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are considering artificially closing that breach as well. The 1997 Plan permits the artificial closing of any breach in the Fire Island National Seashore Wilderness Area if the breach does not close naturally after a 45–60 day monitoring period.

The topography of Fire Island has been altered by Sandy. The new, still-existing breach has had, however, a positive impact on the Great South Bay. The nascent inlet has permitted the Bay to flush itself of many of the contaminants and much of the pollution released by the storm. The increased salinity of the Great South Bay due to the new inlet is a positive for aquatic plants and wildlife. Shoals created in the Bay are beneficial to supporting eelgrass, an important aquatic plant that has been on the decline. Because of these positive impacts, the South Shore Audubon Society and other environmental groups have responded by insisting that the breach at Old Inlet be kept open and monitored further. The impact of the new inlet should be evaluated as to all its effects on both the Great South Bay and the Wilderness Area.

Other Sandy-created breaches have occurred in the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. As Long Island birders well know, Jamaica Bay is one of the most important bird areas in the country. Its combination of freshwater and saltwater habitats is home or resting place for numerous bird species. Our Audubon chapter has frequent bird walks in the Refuge, as do many other groups. The breaches affecting the East Pond of the Refuge were closed, but the large breach between Jamaica Bay and the West Pond remains open. The West Pond has changed from being a freshwater pond to becoming an extension of the Bay. The new breach at Jamaica Bay, which now cuts off the path around the West Pond, is having a negative impact on the numbers of freshwater waterfowl species normally found in the pond. Migratory species such as Ruddy Ducks, Hooded Mergansers (pictured), scaups, and Canvasbacks, which depend on fresh water for drinking and for required food organisms, are particularly harmed. Saltwater is now, due to the breach and exposure to tidal inundation, also impacting the gardens surrounding the pond, further affecting habitat and species diversity. Whereas it might make sense in the case of Fire Island to leave open a breach and let nature follow its course, it might be best in the case of Jamaica Bay to close one.



Hopefully the responses ultimately chosen to the challenges presented by Hurricane Sandy with respect to these breaches will be environmentally sound and further the goals of habitat and wildlife conservation. In the case of the “new” inlet at “Old Inlet,” we are dealing with the wilderness of Fire Island and an important Bay we hope to help heal environmentally and economically. Both Fire Island (east of the lighthouse) and the Great South Bay are Important Bird Areas. The West Pond at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge — the Jamaica Bay Complex is also an

IBA — is an artificial pond, created under the aegis of Robert Moses in the 1950s. Both the more-natural habitat of Fire Island/Great South Bay and the more artificial one of the West Pond of Jamaica Bay deserve our studied and forceful commitment.



*** WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ***

Wendy Murbach

One of the wonderful perks that you get from an Audubon membership is the chance to be a part of your local Audubon chapter, South Shore Audubon Society.

You are automatically a valued member of this active and friendly chapter, so please come out to the next meeting at the Freeport Library from 7:30–9:30 P.M. on the second Tuesday of the month to hear what you can do to help preserve your local environment’s health and viability, to hear about local issues that you can help to solve, and to see an interesting program.

Whether you are a beginning birder or someone with a large life list, you will enjoy our weekly Sunday bird walks. Check out the special events that are mentioned in this *Skimmer*. Attend them yourself, and bring your family and friends too.

You are warmly invited to be an active participant in this vibrant all-volunteer organization comprised of persons who, like you, care about the earth we live on, about our local environment, and about the creatures that live alongside us.

Our new members since the last *Skimmer* are:

- Baldwin..... Robert Burns, Sara Handwerker, Emil E. Hoefler
- Bellmore Joseph T. Gibbons
- Cedarhurst Chaim Brill
- East Meadow Alene V. Mazzota Bushey, Elaine Meranus, Kurt Meyerheinrich
- East Rockaway Walter Bakanau
- Farmingdale Emma Carpenter, Doreen Soto
- Franklin Square Francine Fortin
- Garden City Mark F. Dalton, Adam & Pamela Mirabella, Prof. Kathryn Stanley Podwall
- Hicksville Teresa Dorney
- Long Beach Stanley Pilinko
- Malverne Susan Bedell-Hennessy, Susan Wilcox
- Massapequa Susan Cheesman
- Merrick Irene Costello, Mark Goldberg, Mike Schurade, Frank C. Wedl
- Rockville Centre Anthony Iovino
- Wantagh Geraldine Carbone, Ms. Erika Pokoradi



BOOKS FOR BIRDERS

R. U. Abyrdar II

This month's book is *Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder* by Kenn Kaufman. If Phoebe's was the obsession of growing older, Kenn's is about the utter freedom of youth! The author is today almost revered as one of North America's top ornithologists. He began his quest at the tender age of 16 and did his "Big Year" at the "experienced" age of 19. This occurred in the distant past of 1973. The Afterword is worth a look after you've read the book, because Kenn discusses the changes in birding since his youth. His take on the evolution of birding since 1973 is quite telling. But more about this wonderful book: While his classmates went back to school, he dropped out, an honors student mind you, and embarked on his great adventure! Young birders can only dream of doing this: take a full year and chase winged creatures from one end of the North American continent to the other.

He was on his own, at 19, with but a few dollars and an outstretched thumb (remember those days?). He was armed only with a pair of binoculars, a notebook, and the tolerance of his understanding parents. Kaufman set out to capture the record for most species spotted in a single year — a Big Year! But he was only 19!! The story of his adventures during his Big Year are what make this book so fascinating. Not only does he talk about his feathered friends, but he relates tales of some of the characters he meets along the way. Hitchhiking can be a dangerous business.

His great adventure took him from Puget Sound to the Florida Keys and the Dry Tortugas in the Gulf of Mexico. More adventures followed — from North Dakota to Alaska, from Alaska to Maine, from Maine to Mazatlán in Mexico, and from Arizona to New Jersey! Whew! All along the way, he hitchhiked, worked day jobs to pay for his trip, ate cat food to save money, and kept on trekking. This book is the memoir of his trek. He is a natural writer with a flair that draws the reader into his stories. It is a must read for any birder. I empathized with his desire to experience the American wilderness through the lens of a pair of binoculars.

The book was written many years after these adventures took place; it is an autobiography and a travelogue as well as a "where-to" guide to finding birds. It is also about a specific time in the evolution of bird-watching into something more competitive called birding. It wasn't about e-mails and phone calls in the middle of the night to alert you about rare birds; in 1973 you were on your own! He met many characters on his quest, both birders and others whom you'll meet if you read this book. I left out an awful lot of information that makes this book the must-read birder tome that it is.


Today the author would tell you that there is more to birding than just finding birds. For one, conservation

ranks very high on his list; without natural habitat being protected, we would not have many birds to see, hear, and enjoy. So, read this book and put a smile on your face!

Editor's Note: See the announcement about our new monthly book discussions on the first page.

BROOKSIDE PRESERVE SPRING CLEANUP AND INVASIVES REMOVAL

On **Sunday, April 14**, starting at 1 P.M., SSAS will have its spring cleanup at Brookside Preserve, rain or shine. Brookside is a 20-acre freshwater wetland, woodland, and upland area owned by Nassau County that was rescued from oblivion and is managed by SSAS; the adjacent Brooklyn Water Works property, which was purchased by the County last year, is in the process of being formally added to it. PDF files of the trail guide and freshwater wetland guide for children that we published can be downloaded from ssaudubon.org.

The Preserve is located on the Freeport-Baldwin border, along Milburn Creek; park at the main entrance on Brookside Avenue just  north of Sunrise Highway (turn north at the traffic light that's just east of Freeport High School). Please bring gloves, rakes or clippers if possible, and friends of all ages.

NATIVE SEEDLINGS SALE

The Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District, located in Jericho, is sponsoring a "Post-Sandy Tree and Shrub Seedling Bulk Buying Program." The following is some of the information on their Web site:

A total of 17 varieties of native trees and shrubs are being offered for sale. These plants are seedlings or transplants up to 24 inches in height and are sold in bundles of 10 for between \$12 and \$25 per bundle. A complete list, plant descriptions, and order form can be obtained from www.nassauswcd.org or by sending an e-mail request to nassauswcd2@optonline.net. Orders may be submitted up until **March 10**. Quantities are limited and may be subject to substitution. There are no refunds for orders not picked up. Orders must be picked up on Friday, April 19, from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. or Saturday, April 20, from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

The species descriptions on the Web site identify these eight as attractive to wildlife: balsam fir, American mountain ash, nannyberry, arrowwood, elderberry, red osier dogwood, highbush blueberry, and butterfly bush.

RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070

LIKE US! <http://facebook.com/SSAudubon>

VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE (516) 674-0982

OURE-LIST http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ssas_list



All walks start at 9:30 A.M.; no walk if it rains or snows or temperature is below 25°F. Any questions? Call Steve at 987-8103. Directions and summaries may be found at ssaadubon.org.

- Feb. 24 Massapequa Lake*
- Mar. 3 Point Lookout Town Park, S.E. corner
- Mar. 10 Hempstead Lake State Park (Southern State Parkway Exit 18 south, Field #3)
- Mar. 17 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
- Mar. 24 Mill Pond Park (Wantagh/Bellmore, north side of Merrick Rd.)
- Mar. 31 Alley Pond Park (76th Ave. parking lot)
- Apr. 7 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

*For Massapequa Lake (the southern end of Massapequa Preserve), use street parking on westbound side of Merrick Road, west of Lake Shore Blvd.

ENDANGERED SPECIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT JONES BEACH

Marilyn Hametz

Saturday, March 23 — Help put up symbolic fencing around Piping Plover and Least Tern nesting areas, starting at 9 A.M.

Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 — Help protect the birds during the Memorial Day weekend Air Show.

If you're interested, contact the Theodore Roosevelt Nature Center at 780-3295.

NEW YORK STATE BUDGET

Sean Mahar, Audubon New York's Director of Government Relations and Communications, testified before the Joint Legislative Hearings on the New York State Budget on February 4. His complete testimony is posted at <http://ny.audubon.org> (search for "Mahar budget" to easily find it); excerpts regarding Audubon NY's priorities appear below.

Support New York Works – Investing in State Parks and DEC Infrastructure. For starters, we commend the Governor for proposing another significant investment in the New York Works initiative to address the infrastructure needs facing our State Parks and Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) facilities. By continuing this capital funding and putting New Yorkers to work upgrading these aging facilities now, the state will be saving money in the long run, as the longer we wait to undertake projects to restore our environment, the problems only get worse and more costly to fix, decreasing the state's economic return.

Maintain Environmental Agency Budgets and Staff. In addition to New York Works funding, we greatly

appreciate that the Governor's proposed budget has once again maintained staffing and operating budgets at our environmental state agencies. With management and stewardship responsibilities for the majority of the State's open space and natural resources, the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP); the DEC; the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC); and the Department of Agriculture and Markets (DAM) are on the front lines of enhancing opportunities for our residents and visitors to enjoy New York's outdoors and biodiversity. The past budget cuts endured by these agencies have left them barely able to meet their mandated activities and safeguard our environment, and we look forward to working with the Governor and Legislature on a long-term strategy to reinvest in these agencies, and ensure they have the necessary resources and staff.

Support Increased Funding for the Environmental Protection Fund. Another way the Governor is proposing to capitalize on the economic recovery potential of environmental investments is by increasing the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), the state's primary source of spending on environmental capital projects. As we celebrate the EPF's 20th anniversary, we strongly urge your support of his proposed \$153 million EPF appropriation, and his efforts to protect the Fund's integrity by not "sweeping" funds for non-environmental purposes or offloading programs traditionally funded in other portions of the budget. This strong proposal begins to rebuild the EPF and address the growing backlog of projects across the state.

Supporting the Clean Energy Economy. The Governor's focus on spurring the transition to a clean energy economy, though investments and expansion of the NY-Sun Initiative; the Cleaner, Greener Communities Program; and development of a \$1 billion Green Bank program, are essential to the future recovery of the state, and will help consumers and municipalities bring new renewable energy onto the grid and curb our reliance on fossil fuels.

Expand and Promote Voluntary Conservation Funding Programs. Currently, the state has enacted a number of voluntary conservation funding mechanisms, such as the Habitat Access Stamp, Bluebird Open Space Conservation License Plate, and the Return a Gift to Wildlife program. However, there are currently no concerted efforts by the state to promote any of these opportunities, and many state residents don't even know they exist. We strongly urge the Legislature to work with Governor Cuomo to develop an initiative to promote these programs and expand the places residents can purchase the Habitat Access Stamp, to bring in additional voluntary revenues to the state.



NASSAU COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HOTLINE 571-6306

NATURE TALES FROM A WANDERER
One Bird Made the Day

Joe Grupp

Winter cold enveloped me as I began my walk in the wooded park area between Peninsula Blvd. and Hempstead Lake. The sky was clear, its blue color faded a bit by a slight haze. I considered it a good sign, as that type of haze usually accompanies warming weather and the temperature the past few days had never gone above freezing.

My thoughts of weather shifted to birds, or really the lack of them, not long into my walk. I had heard and glimpsed a Blue Jay as I entered the park but it was quite a while before I came upon another species, a small flock of White-throated Sparrows coming and going from a tangle of shrubs and vines to feed among the trail's edge grasses. Shortly after that observation, I spotted a single American Robin that flew to a low branch of a tree, perhaps to remind me that there will be a spring even as I know that some American Robins do winter in the local woodlands. Later, a work crew clearing downed trees unknowingly flushed three House Finches and a Fox Sparrow that posed for me while I observed. An hour into my two-and-a-half-hour walk, I had logged only five species of birds.

I slowed my pace and periodically stopped and scanned the surroundings, taking time to see if I could locate more birds. I did log a few more, one by one and a distance apart from one another. A Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, and Northern Mockingbird all made my unimpressive list. My walk was far from exciting as I worked my way along, but at least that slightly hazy blue sky was a good indicator of a rising temperature as a few muddy spots became evident on the surface of the trail.

Well into the stretch of trail that would take me back to my car, and in spite of there being no one around, I unintentionally said out loud, "Holy mackerel!" (pictured).



Out of the corner of my eye I had spotted, to my left front, a large brown bird with a white head and tail. I was amazed and excited as through my binoculars I followed a Bald Eagle as it flew at just about treetop level, following the near shoreline of Hempstead Lake. It was close enough that I could see its yellow eye and would like to think that eye saw me when the bird turned its head slightly my way. I followed the bird until it disappeared behind the many leafless branches of the trees. That Bald Eagle sure made my day!

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25TH ANNUAL WATERFOWL SURVEY

The remaining dates for SSAS's 2012–2013 Waterfowl Survey are Saturdays, **February 23** and **March 23**, rain or shine. Volunteers are welcome to join us in the surveys. If you are interested in spending a full or half day visiting up to 28 locations from Valley Stream to Massapequa Park, call Joe Grupp at 481-4208.

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EARLY SPRING MIGRANTS AT JAMAICA BAY (Sat., March 30, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.). Guide: Don Riepe. Meet at Refuge Visitor Center. Hike around East and West Ponds and gardens to look for osprey, ibis, egrets, oystercatchers, phoebes, and other migrants. Contact Don to register. Limited to 25. Free.
SPRING MIGRATION WORKSHOP AT JAMAICA BAY (Sun., April 28, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.). Guides: Don Riepe, Tod Winston. Meet at Refuge Visitor Center for slide presentation on spring migration, followed by hike around ponds and uplands. Contact Don to register. Limited to 25. Free.
STERLING FOREST WARBLERS, NY (Sat., May 4, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.). Guides: Don & Tod. Explore woodland & pond habitat of 20,000-acre preserve. Look for nesting warblers (incl. golden-winged, cerulean, hooded, prairie, and blue-winged), wildflowers, reptiles & amphibians. Transport by van/ carpool. Limited to 16. Cost: \$70. Call NYC Audubon, (212) 691-7483.
JAMAICA BAY SUNSET CRUISES (Sat., May 25 and Sun., June 23, 5–8 P.M.). Meet at Pier 2 in Sheephead Bay. Enjoy narrated cruise aboard 100-foot "Golden Sunshine." Visit backwater marshes near JFK Airport & learn about 13,000-acre Wildlife Refuge. See nesting peregrine falcons, ospreys, egrets, shorebirds & waterfowl. Cost: \$55 incl. refreshments.

For information and free field trip brochure, call/write Don Riepe, (917) 371-8577, donriepe@gmail.com, 28 West 9th Road, Broad Channel, NY 11693; www.alsnyc.org.

THE UNTOLD STORY ABOUT A FAMILY THAT I KNOW

Jonathan Staller

It was 2 years ago and in the early spring as I recall. I had just finished working at a house in Kings Point. The back of the house faces the Long Island Sound. Next door is a mansion that is more like an estate. The property must be 15 acres wide, like a giant rectangle, with cottages of all shapes and sizes scattered throughout.

I was going back to my car and noticed a landscaper on a mobile lawn mower, cutting one of the great lawns on the estate. I said to myself, "that man will be here all day long at the rate that he's going." All of a sudden, an orange-reddish, doglike animal ran across my view. All excited and knowing what it was right away, I grabbed my video camera out of the car and turned it on. I jumped off a 6-foot tall brick wall that separated the two properties and ran in the direction where I thought it went. There were hydrangea bushes neatly placed, separating the lawn and where I was standing. I turned around, looking to see whose property I was running through, and to my surprise it was another customer of mine (actually she lives in a cottage on the estate). Then I saw the animal looking at me with its tongue out. It sat down and I moved in to get a closer look. It's all documented on YouTube, as I made three videos of that red fox.

The next day, I went to my friend/customer's cottage and told her what I saw. She loved my story and then asked me, "Would you like to see the *den*?" The den was actually an uprooted tree; a rather large one I might add. The den was under the roots. Scattered around the opening were Canada Goose feathers, a tin can, and the bones of a small mammal. The fox that I saw was heading to the den, but I stood in its path and it couldn't make it there. I wrote an article in the local newspaper afterwards about the fox and open space.

Two weeks ago (early January), I was driving past two wooded areas across the street from each other when I saw two foxes trot across the street from one to the other. The wooded area on the right is owned by the park district, and the left side is owned by the public schools and has trails in it. The foxes went up a trail. I pulled over and got out of the car with one watching me as I watched them. When they disappeared into the brush, I went onto the trail to see what I could find. I noticed the heavy odor of musk along the trail.

Four days after that, I saw another fox run across a street in another area not far from the other sightings. Yesterday I was at a customer's home, waiting for them to open the back door. Being not far from where the estate is, I thought to myself, "If I was a fox, where would I be now?" There it came — up the path and it didn't even see me. I watched it mark the first tree it came to. Then it went into another yard, marked its territory again, and disappeared into the woods.

The next day, I picked up my 7-year-old daughter Jacqueline from school and took her to the cottage where my friend lives. I told her about the four fox sightings I'd had in the last 3 weeks. She told us that the mother fox has had a successful litter the last 2 years; five kits were born



last year and three were born the previous year. She then told us that the mother was in the den with the babies and she never comes out until the kits are old enough, which is late March or early April. Her children from last year hunt for her and leave her food by the entrance of the den. Then I asked my friend if Jacqueline and I could see the den.

Jacqueline that night was so amazed at what she saw and experienced that she actually made a report on the red fox and brought it to school the next day. The teachers were so proud of her, as were her mom and dad. A part of my family got familiar with another family, and that's the untold story about a red fox. To be continued...

SSAS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP TIME

Betsy Gulotta

Thanks again to the much-appreciated support of long-time member Evelyn Bishop, South Shore Audubon Society is offering two \$750 Jerry Bishop Environmental Scholarships this spring to college juniors, seniors, or graduate students who are continuing their studies toward a degree in an area of biological or environmental science, such as wildlife management, forestry, animal behavior, ecology, marine biology, oceanography, mammalogy, or ornithology. Our annual college scholarship program began in 1994 and was named in memory of Jerry two years later. For information, call Betsy Gulotta at 546-8841 or send e-mail to betsy.gulotta@ncc.edu. Applications are due by **April 30**. Please help us spread the word.

BIRDBANDING PROGRAM AT TACKAPAUSHA

Steve Schellenger

SSAS is sponsoring a two-part birdbanding program at Tackapausha Museum and Preserve, open to one and all.

Part One. Chapter member Lorraine Bondi-Goldsmith, a licensed birdbander, will be giving a one-hour presentation at Tackapausha Museum on **Saturday, March 16**, starting at 11 A.M.

Part Two. Lorraine will do some actual birdbanding at Tackapausha Preserve on **Saturday, April 20** in the early morning (time will be announced at the March 16 presentation).

Admission fees, as usual, are \$3 for adults and \$2 for children ages 5 to 12.

OUR WEB SITE (incl. online store) www.ssaudubon.org

SSAS BACKYARD BIRD SURVEY

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.

To participate, simply record the birds that you see in your yard, neighborhood, or at your feeder; the date, time, and the number or approximate number of each species; and fill in the table provided below. If you have more recordings than lines in the table, please attach an additional piece of paper to the table and submit the additional recordings in the same manner. 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. Additional survey sheets are available at SSAS events.

Please do not hesitate to submit your observations, even if you have been able to make only very few. WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Dates: From _____ to _____							
Date	Time	Species	No.	Date	Time	Species	No.
Submitted by: _____				Address: _____ Phone number: _____			
Please send to: Mr. J. Grupp, Research Chairperson 660 Edgemere Ave., Uniondale NY 11553 or E-mail: Birdstudyjoeg02@aol.com							

