

Newsletter

SOUTH SHORE
AUDUBON
SOCIETY



VOLUME 3, NO. 5

JANUARY ~~1972~~ 1973

NEXT MEETING

.....

.....

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9th

FREEPORT LIBRARY

We will begin the New Year on January 9th with a purposeful note - a speaker from Lilco to discuss that company's environmental policy. The subject should be pertinent to several of the issues listed in this month's "Legislative Alert", issues which will be coming up in Congress when it convenes this month. Regardless of the weather, let's have a good crowd out with questions for discussion by the speaker.

.....
In December it rained as usual on the night of our meeting. Nevertheless we had a good crowd to hear Mr. Peter Leavens, an astronomer from the Vanderbilt Planetarium talk about solar eclipses, and to see his pictures of the expedition he led last summer to view the solar eclipse. Mr. Leavens recommended very highly their current sky program which will continue to March. For those who may be interested, the schedule of shows is listed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

.....

Does anyone need transportation to meetings?
If so, please call one of the following
nearest to you:

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Al Friedman | Oceanside | RO 4-9069 |
| Frank Bear | Baldwin | 223-2246 |
| Asa Starkweather | Malverne | LY 9-5824 |
| Jack Fisher | Oceanside | RO 4-6529 |
| Ray Ward | Levittown | PY 6-0115 |

Anyone willing and able to provide transportation? Call or write the Editor and your name will be added to the list.

.....

DEADLINE - - - FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER - - - JANUARY 10th.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Anyone who has attempted to drive between Nassau County and New York City during a "rush hour" knows what it is like. Traffic on the major arteries, and generally side streets as well, slows vehicular movement down to a "crawl hour". Since cars engaging in stop-go driving emit far more pollutants than those moving at normal cruising speeds, these traffic jams poison our air as well as our nerves.

The experience of the last two decades on Long Island proves that building additional roads is not the solution - on the contrary, the more roads we build the more crowded each one becomes. The only answer to this growing problem is to get more cars off the road, and this can only be done by a major upgrading and subsidization of mass transit facilities.

Several attempts have been made in Congress to release a portion of the Highway Trust Fund for mass transit. Last year the attempt was almost successful, but was narrowly blocked by the highway lobby. However, one result of the battle was that no funds were appropriated for highway construction. It is virtually certain that the issue will be one of the first items on the Congressional agenda. So letters should be sent to our senators and representatives as soon as possible. The addresses:

Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510 and
House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515.

An even more serious threat to Nassau County is posed by the proposed Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge. The bridge would not only result in serious silting of Long Island Sound but would funnel a far heavier volume of traffic through Nassau County, South Shore as well as North Shore. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the New York State Dep't. of Transportation are conducting a public hearing Monday, Jan. 15, at C.W. Post College, Brookville, at 10 AM and 7 PM. Anyone who can attend and make a statement in opposition should by all means do so. If you cannot attend, a letter sent to the Department of Transportation, 325 West Main Street, Babylon, N.Y. 11702 will be included in the hearing results.

I sincerely hope all our members had a most enjoyable holiday season. Now that 1973 is here, let's start the New Year right by striking a blow for the conservation movement!.

Al Lemke

* * * * * We missed our President at the December meeting -
he was laid low with the Flu. Mike Smiles took
over ably. * * * * *



***** DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP *****

----- LEGISLATIVE ALERT -----

The 93rd Congress will be returning to work this month. There are many conservation issues that were defeated or never resolved in the 92nd Congress that will be coming up again this year. PLEASE REMEMBER that the future of the environment rests not with the few conservationists working in Washington but with the millions of concerned and committed citizens throughout the country who can and will make their voices heard on conservation issues. When the people's concern for a problem is shown to be great, there is a better opportunity the processes of our government will be made to serve the public interest.

Some of the issues that will be coming up again and to keep an eye out for are highway trust monies for mass transit, public land-use policy and planning, national energy policy, predator control reform, strip-mining control, and endangered species protection. Of course, many other conservation-oriented issues not now foreseen will become new problems.

For those concerned citizens who cannot find time to sit down and write their congressman, there is a much easier way to express your feelings to him. You can send a Western Union public opinion message via your telephone. The cost is \$1.25 for 15 words and you charge it to your phone. The number is 800 - 243-8080.

Mike Smiles

*

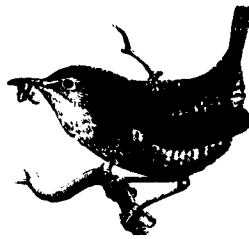
WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF SOUTH SHORE

*

Isabel Andrews
Eric B. Baker
Richard L. Kremer
L. J. Muller
Craig Small
Thomas R. Wikstrom
Mr. and Mrs. Myron Breakstone
Bernard J. Dillinger
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kazenoff
Lorraine Kogler
Rose Rizzo
Stanley Rosenbloom
Jamie Sandler
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Vyverberg
Liz Willis
Mr. and Mrs. F. Lindauer

Jerome Tierman
Fred Nelson
Howard C. Ris, Jr.
Marjorie M. Alnwick
Barbara Camp
Marvin Cohn
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Connally
Lester S. Hebbard, Jr.
Alexander C. Hobart
Robert M. Knudson
Michael Liben
John Montaperto
George M. Silver
Brian Tepper
Martin Vogel
Sidney Harris
Jeffrey S. Kelly

We think it appropriate to note that we are working on securing recycled paper for our Newsletter. We haven't been able to get it yet but we hope to soon.



FROM THE BIRDING FRONT

They are gone now and our color tones have changed. Gone are the Robin Reds, Parula Blue, Orange and White, Baltimore Black and Yellow, Tanager Red.

That long lovely trip, chasing sun and seed, has taken them to gardens with a spanish flavor. But the welcome is universal - sheer delight at the sight of their butterfly flight.

Our color tones reflect the cold and bitter days of ice and snow. We welcome the Grosbeak Browns and Yellows, Bunting Orange and White, bars and stripes of the Downy, Hairy and Owl. Subdued tones against a drab landscape of brown and gray.

The mood is not one of fear and death. It is rather, a familiar theme in a minor key.

The theme -- Life and Living
The key -- The need to endure

Until that special moment when ice gives birth to the flood of a new spring and our grays become shades of green, we too endure in the winter of our minds - remembering last spring's joy, longing for the glory of next spring's delight.

Elliott R. Kutner



On November 30th, your editors attended, at the Freeport Library, a lecture and slide show by Arline Thomas, author of "Bird Ambulance", a heart-warming book about her experiences in treating sick and injured wild birds and then returning them to the wild. She has a Federal and State Permit for this work, which she calls "Bird Salvage", and is a volunteer with the Manhattan-based-bird-saving-corps of the Audubon Society.

We thoroughly enjoyed the evening - it was informative and interesting - as well as the surprise ending!! Mrs. Thomas had 3 of her "patients" with her which she exhibited for all to see.

We were pleased to see several of our "South Shore" members at this meeting.



DO TAKE CARE OF OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS - KEEP THE BIRD-FEEDERS FULL AND GET OUT THE SUET. CUT-UP APPLE IS ALSO APPRECIATED.



COMING BIRD-WALKS

*****All bird walks start at 10:00 A.M. (unless otherwise stated). No walk if it rains, snows, or the temperature is 25 degrees or below.*****

- Jan. 7 Pelham Bay Park. (Meet at 9:30 A.M., Throggs Neck Bridge Toll Plaza, extreme right side after you pay toll.
- 14 Zach's Bay, Ocean Parkway, Parking Lot #4, north end.
- 21 Short Beach, Jones Beach West End - Parking Field #2.
- 28 Atlantic Beach
- Feb. 4 Gilgo Beach, end of the four lane section of Ocean Parkway, east of Jones Beach (bay side).
- 11 Jamaica Bay - Cross Bay Boulevard, south of Belt Parkway.
- 18 Pelham Bay Park (See Jan. 7 walk).
- 25 West End Jones Beach, Parking Field #2.
- Mar. 4 Coast Guard Station, Jones Beach Parking Field #2.
- 11 Tobay - J. F. Kennedy Sanctuary - east of Jones Beach on Ocean Parkway.
- 18 Jamaica Bay (See Feb. 11 walk).
- 25 Cedar Beach, east of Jones Beach on Ocean Parkway, past Gilgo, on the ocean side.

CAR POOLS:

At our last meeting, it was pointed out that on our bird walks to the more distant areas, we have had not only a goodly turn out of people but also long caravans of cars. Because of this we are suggesting car pools. If you are going, or want to go on a bird walk, 'phone one of the people listed in the front for transportation to meetings, and they will arrange transportation for bird-walks. Perhaps we can cut down on the number of cars by getting together.

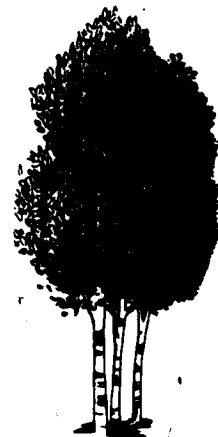
It is suggested that you bring a hot drink and/or light lunch on Pelham walks.



Is everyone familiar with BIRD-ALERT? If you want to know what birds can be seen and where, call - 212-832-6523 and listen. An up-to-the minute taped message will give you all the latest information.

SHRUBS TO ATTRACT WILDLIFE

Are you interested in adding wildlife attracting shrubs to your plantings or wish to plant some vacant plot you own? Through the State Department of Environmental Conservation we can get very small plants of the following:



- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Cranberry Viburnum (High Bush) | Bittersweet |
| Bush Honeysuckle | Multiflora Rose (not recommended by local Rep.) |
| Autumn Olive | Norway Spruce |
| Toringa Crabapple | |
| Austrian Pine | |

The cost is very nominal. Since it is assumed that no member wants 100 or 250 shrubs, we will accept your orders and make up the minimum requirements for the State order. Should only two members respond, the cost would be \$3.00 for 50 shrubs. If twenty persons order, the cost, depending on quantity, will be about 30 cents! You will be billed on delivery in March or April.

Remember, these are seedlings and need protection from rabbits and such until they grow up.

Call or write Asa Starkweather, 101 Lexington Avenue, Malverne. Or, for questions, telephone LY 9-5824.

Asa Starkweather



On January 6th, there will be a recycling of Christmas trees. Place: Behind the movie theatre in Malverne. They are cut up and can be taken home as mulch. Charge 25¢.

```

: : : : :      : : : : :      : : : : :      : : : : :      : : : : :      : : : : :
: : :         : : :         : : :         : : :         : : :         : : :
:              :              :              :              :              :

```

SCHEDULE OF SKY SHOWS AT VANDERBILT PLANETARIUM

Saturday, Sunday and Holidays. . 2:00, 3:30, 8:30 P.M.

Admission: Adults \$1.50
 Children \$1.00 (Under 7 not admitted).
 Young Peoples' Show. . .75¢ all seats. Adults must be accompanied by a child.

Christmas Bird Count

So, you have never been on a Christmas Bird Count? I was hooked. I was to be picked up on Friday, December 16, at four p.m. come rain or shine.

The 16th was rainy with gale winds but promptly at four Sy Stepenoff and three other birders were at my door. Off we went to Montauk arriving at 6:30, exceptional time considering the weather conditions.

After an enjoyable dinner at Gurney's Inn we went on to Sweeney's Motel. Upon our arrival we were given a note from Paul Buckley informing us that the trip to Gardiner's Island was cancelled due to the heavy rains and the 40 - 60 mile/hour winds.

We were off to bed by 10:00 p.m. Four thirty a.m. we struggled to get dressed: thermal underwear, heavy jacket, rain wear, insulated boots, face mask and scarf. The area we were assigned was the Point.

We headed for breakfast around five just to find the diner closed due to the weather. We had our instructional meeting at the White Elephant, then, off to the Point.

The Coast Guard Station had two red lights from the mast which meant gale warnings but the rain had stopped considerably.

We set the scopes up on the rocks behind the lighthouse. There were lots of Common Eider, Gannets, Herring Gulls, Bonnapart Gulls, Common Scooter, a few Loon and Horned Grebes but that was all. After two hours we started to walk to the coast line. Three cardinals and a few Myrtle Warblers excited us. By noon, after some heart-warming coffee and pancakes, we were back at the Point, but it was the same sparse birding. At one p.m. we started off to Hither Hills, Island Ranch and Army Base. We spotted a flock of Meadow Larks, one Killdere, a Red-Headed Duck, Starlings, a few Cow Birds, two Mallards and one Black Duck.

We met at the diner in Southampton at five for compiling. Our group had 45 species from the grand total of 99. This was considerably lower than the 127 species counted last year. The big loss was Gardiner's Island.

We were home by eleven p.m. knowing of a job well done and a promise to meet again next year at the same place but hopefully under better weather conditions.

Alvin Friedman

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
127 MORRIS AVENUE
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY
JANUARY 9th
8:15 P.M.

FREEPORT LIBRARY

FIRST CLASS MAIL

