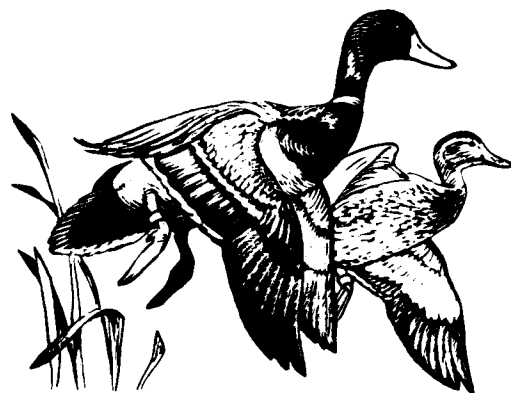


# SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

## Newsletter



VOLUME 3, No. 8

MAY 1973

- NEXT MEETING -

TUESDAY, MAY 8th - FREEPORT LIBRARY

The subject for this month's meeting will be bird banding. LeRoy Wilcox of Speonk will talk on "45 Years of Banding Birds on Long Island", and his talk will be accompanied by slides. Mr. Wilcox is a director of the Moriches Bay Audubon Society and a bird watcher for 50 years. It should be both interesting and informative.

### WELCOME

### NEW

### MEMBERS

Mr. Samuel Kahn  
Mr. and Mrs. John Morton  
Mr. Dan Pasaric  
Miriam F. Storz



Have you made reservations for our ANNUAL DINNER??

June 12th is the date - Coral House Restaurant in Baldwin, the place. A full course meal will be served, choice of top sirloin of beef or shrimp stuffed with crab meat. A meeting and special program will follow.

Our guest will be Mr. Don Eckelberry, who needs no introduction. SO, come one, come all. Tickets are \$7.00 payable in advance, and include all gratuities. If you did not get your tickets at the April meeting, please contact

. . . Charles Keller 'Phone 889-0340 . . .



FROM THE PRESIDENT

At a meeting of the presidents of the Long Island Audubon Chapters held in Selden on March 10th, each chapter was assigned a topic of prime environmental importance to Long Island on which to write a "white paper" for the edification of all chapters. Covered will be such subjects as transportation, pesticides, ground water, beach erosion, and preservation of unique areas (wetlands, uplands, parks, sanctuaries, etc.) I volunteered to cover what I feel is the most pressing issue facing our region - one which poses our most serious threat - oil and the energy crisis. Any suggestions including technical data, publication, and ideas in general (including alternatives to environmentally damaging projects) will be greatly appreciated.

In line with the growing menace of off-shore drilling, a committee is being set up, under the sponsorship of the Great South Bay Audubon Society. Volunteers are urgently needed who can give of their time in an emergency to treat oil-soaked birds. Anyone who is willing to participate in this life-saving, humanitarian work, please contact me and I will pass your name on.

Off-shore drilling is extremely likely, very possibly within the next year. The sale of leases has brought in some \$2-1/2 billion to the Federal Government in recent years. Since these funds help to reduce the budget deficit - they are treated as negative expenditures - Pres. Nixon is all for it. Gov. Rockefeller has also supported off-shore drilling, Standard Oil of New Jersey - now Exxon Corp. - was founded by a Rockefeller and the family still has extensive holdings in Exxon. And the petroleum industry - a major contributor to election campaigns - is naturally strongly in favor.

We will do all we can to fight this ugly menace to our beaches, wetlands, and shore and water birds. But if we fail-and the opposition line-up is overwhelming - we must prepare to do all we can to save our birds.

The petroleum industry has published a free booklet on the treatment of oil-soaked birds. For your copy write: Operation Rescue, Oil Petroleum Institute, 1801 K Street, Washington, D. C. 20006.

In line with threats to our South Shore, Newsday recently published the results of a survey on the far-from-dead Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge, showing that support for the project varied inversely with the distance from its approaches. Apparently most South Shore residents feel they will not be affected. Nothing could be further from the truth. The principal reason for building the bridge is to funnel a large portion of interstate truck traffic out of New York City and through Long Island. Plans have already been made for a major truck artery through the South Shore, either by making Sunrise Highway a two-deck, fourteen lane highway, or the construction of a new multi-lane route through our wetlands, or both. This is not conjecture - the Dep't. of Transportation has confirmed it. Gov. Rockefeller accepted a wetlands bill this year (after a 1972 veto) only after a proviso was written in specifically granting the State the right of eminent domain over these regions.

Thus, we in southern Nassau must be just as concerned as residents of Bayville or Rye, for we will be just as inundated as they.

Al Lemke  
President

LEGISLATIVE ALERT

The final environmental impact statement of the Department of the Interior's proposed Oil Shale Leasing Program on western public lands may be released as early as May 1st. Approval is scheduled to come 30 days after release of the statement, but in the opinion of many environmental organizations, private lands provide a viable alternative to the program's needs and there are serious environmental costs --- wildlife, wildlife habitat, water resources, land uses --- that have not adequately been considered.

The Natural Resources Defense Council wrote to Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of several environmental organizations, including National Audubon, urging a 90-day period before program implementation begins, with comments receivable from the public for the first 60 days. We charge that 30 days is insufficient for complete exercise of the review process required under the National Environmental Policy Act. We request further study of a major alternative to the program that was not adequately discussed in the draft statement; development of the excellent oil shale resources that exist on private lands.

Interior Under-Secretary John C. Whitaker replied to the Council saying that its proposal was being "considered". Your letters to Secretary Morton, Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. #20240, are needed. The Administration must understand the necessity of a go-slow attitude on developing a major energy resource which will have untold effects on other resources of great value to the public.

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As most of you have read, the Supreme Court in a surprise early move, upheld the decision of a U.S. District Court of Appeals barring the issuance of a government permit for construction of the 789-mile trans-Alaska pipeline. The District Court had ruled that the pipeline project violated the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 by requesting a right-of-way on public lands up to 54 feet. The scene now shifts to Congress. Eight bills have been introduced which are aimed at getting the pipeline through as fast as possible. Conservationists in Washington are urging Congressmen not to hurry through legislation just to avoid further delays on pipeline construction. You may want to urge your Congressman to do something.

Mike Smiles,  
Vice-President,  
Chairman, Legislation/Conservation

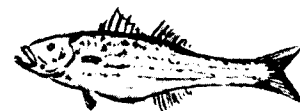
# conservation news

## Virginia Barrier Islands Purchased by Conservancy.

The Nature Conservancy has purchased Hog, Smith, Ship Shoal and Myrtle Islands off Virginia's Eastern Shore just north of Hampton Roads.

The islands had been targeted for gross over-development by commercial interests - - - more cottage colonies, less wildlife habitat!

Conservationists battled for years to convince the state to acquire the islands for a park, and finally won. The islands are among the dozen barrier islands between Assateague and Hampton Roads proposed for preservation with national seashore status by the Interior Department in its recent publication 'Islands of America'. The islands and the extensive marshes on their mainland sides have high value as fish and wildlife habitat.



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## Citizen Protest Saves Kilmer Forest

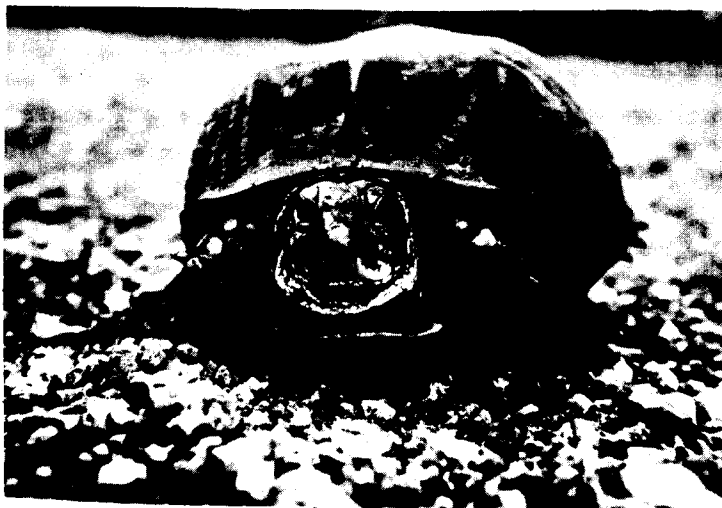
It was another victory for conservationists when the U.S. Forest Service announced that a scenic highway under construction in North Carolina and Tennessee will not go through the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. This magnificent forest was set aside in 1936 as a living memorial to the young poet killed in World War I. The 3800 acre watershed was selected as one of the finest of the then-remaining virgin stands of timber in the East.

Although conservationists are glad to know that the memorial will remain as it was intended, some wonder why it was necessary to mount an all-out campaign to stop the violation in the first place. It clearly demonstrates that whatever is saved will owe its salvation to an alert, active citizenry, always on guard.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Spending to produce waste:

A U.S. Department of Agriculture study has found that nearly nine cents of each dollar spent on U. S. farm-grown foods goes solely for its packaging, little of which can be recycled.



And don't forget the pending legislation we told you about in April -

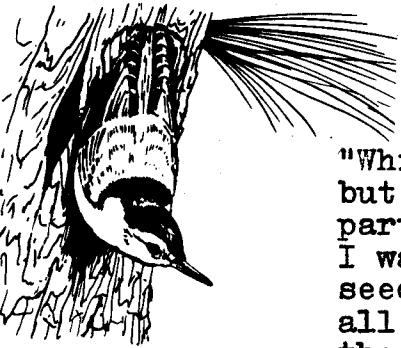
1 - The Oyster Bay-Rye Bridge - even though the Department of the Interior has ruled that the bridge is illegal because it will pass over a wildlife refuge the deed to which stipulates that it is to be a refuge forever, legislators are already making efforts to circumvent this ruling. And, of course, Governor Rockefeller is backing the construction.

Write to: Senator Walter Langley, Chairman, Corporations, Authorities, and Public Utilities Committee, Capitol Building, Albany, N. Y. #12224, asking support of the Marino Bill - S-1; and

Assemblyman Robert Kelly, Chairman, Authorities and Commissions, Capitol Building, Albany, N.Y. #12224, asking support for A-167, the Landes Bill.

\*\*\* LETTERS DO COUNT \*\*\*

Complaints about air polluters may be telephoned to the Nassau County Bureau of Air Pollution Control, from 9:A.M. to 4:45 P.M. Monday through Friday. Telephone - 535-3232.



(Condensed from an article by Irston R. Barnes,  
L.I. Press)

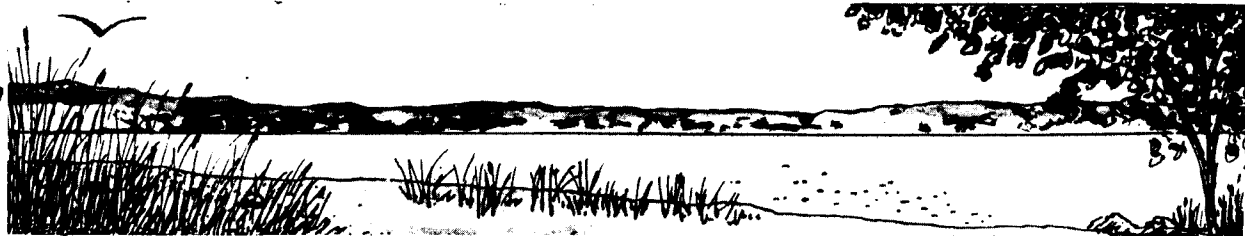
"White-breasted nuthatches are with us much of the winter, but they come to the feeding tray infrequently and then they partake of our sunflower seeds quite sparingly. Therefore, I was quite surprised to find them storing the sunflower seeds, as industriously as any chipmunk or squirrel... Of all our tree-foraging birds, none is the complete acrobat that the nuthatch is. It does not have to come down trees head-first. It climbs upward or around the trunk as gracefully as an over-bird walks on the ground. There is none of the hitching of the woodpecker or creeper, and there is no use of the tail to brace itself.

The name is as unusual as the bird. Some of the old bird books will tell you that the name is derived from the nuthatch habit of wedging nuts (probably beechnuts) in a crevice in the bark and then 'hatching them with repeated strokes of the bill'. But who ever heard of 'hatching' a nut? ... An old English bird book gives the same explanation of the nuthatch habit: wedging the nut then hacking at it with the bill. And it explains that 'nuthatch' is a corruption of 'nut-hack'!...

Nuthatches are not only acrobats; they are also personalities. They are almost as good at people-watching as bird-watchers are in observing them. They are calm, droll birds that accept close inspection without being disturbed. Indeed, they can with patience be trained to come to the hand for seeds."

(Thanks to Jean Suss for sending us this article)

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Jack Fisher, announces that Franklin Bear (to succeed himself) and Linda Schlotterhausen (new) will be candidates for election to serve 3-year terms as directors of South Shore.



BULLETIN from MALVERNE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL, INC.

A guided hike through the Sunken Forest of Fire Island will take place on Saturday May 19th, sponsored by the Malverne Environmental Council.

Pat Crossland, National Sea Front Ranger, will be the guide through this national preserve. It was almost destroyed a number of years ago when a developer proposed to subdivide it into lots for cottages. The Sunken Forest Preserve, Inc. was organized with contributions, and the central part was saved to be kept in its natural state. Eventually, the property was given to the Federal Government.

The tour will begin at the Sailor's Haven Ferry Dock, Sayville. The ferry will begin loading at 9:30 A.M. When it leaves for Fire Island at ten o'clock, there will be no other ferry to follow, so be early. The cost of the ride is \$2. for each adult, \$1. per child, and there is a parking fee for use of the lot across the street. The tour itself is free. Bring lunch.

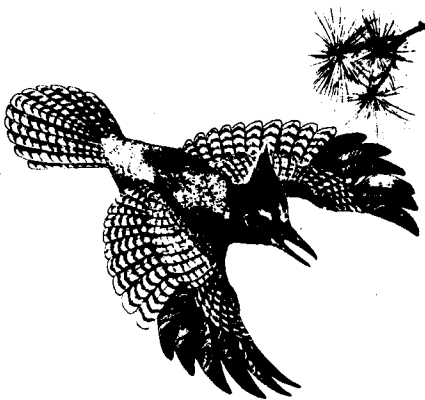
Car pools will be set up from MEC recycling center behind the Malverne Theater on Hempstead Ave., Malverne. For more information, call the MEC office at 887-3433.

FROM THE BIRDING FRONT:

Bird Walks - May

\*\*\*\*\*All walks start at 10:00 A.M. unless otherwise stated. No walk if it rains. \*\*\*\*\*

- May --- 6 Mill Neck (Oyster Bay)
- 13 Jamaica Bay - Cross Bay Blvd., south of Belt Parkway
- 20 John F. Kennedy Sanctuary (Tobay Beach) - Off Ocean Parkway east of Jones Beach. Bay side of parkway.



JUNE 10 --- Boat Trip. Plans have now been completed.

The boat will leave Freeport 7:30 A.M. Capacity 49 people. Reservations on a 1st come-1st served basis. Price \$10.00/person. Call Elliott Kutner for details.

Tel.IV.6 - 7667

Elliott Kutner  
Chairman, Birding

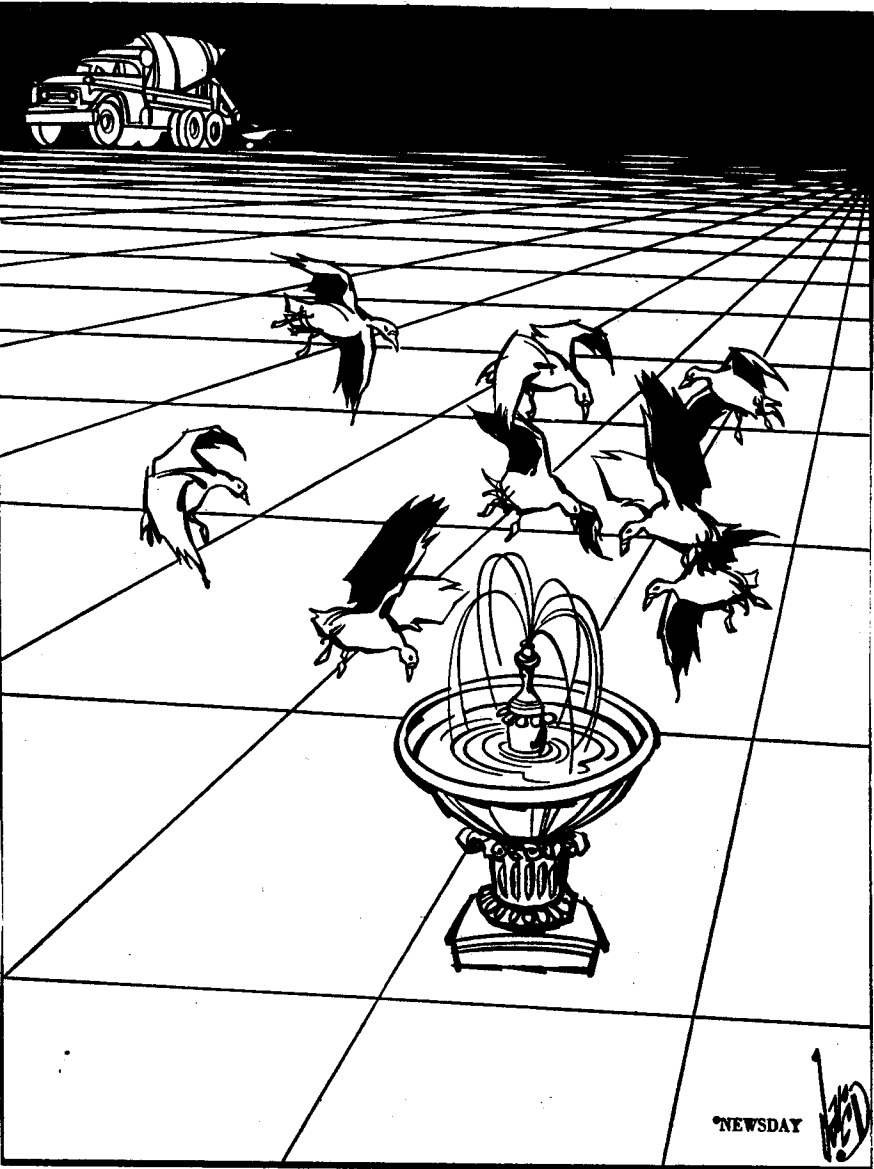


MOURNING DOVE

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DON'T FORGET the pending legislation to put the Mourning Dove on the game bird list. We have no more information at this time, but it would seem that in lieu of more specific information, one could always write to Senator Bernard C. Smith, Chairman, Conservation Committee, Capitol Building, Albany, N.Y. #12224.

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" Unlike man's chaotic civilized world, nature works. One ocean wave follows another, the geese come every fall, there is a sunset every night. The rhythms are dependable - nothing in civilization is so dependable. Man's inadequacy is shown by the fact that when he interferes with nature, he destroys its rhythms but substitutes no valid patterns of his own. As Joni Mitchell puts it:

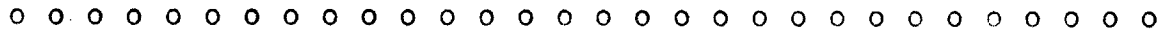
They paved paradise  
 And put up a parking lot  
 With a pink hotel, a boutique  
 And a swinging hot spot. . .

They took all the trees  
 And put them in a tree museum  
 And they charged all the people  
 A dollar and half just  
 to see 'em . . . ."

(By Joni Mitchell)

\*\*The Environmental Journal\*\*

'We'll retain as much of the wetlands as possible for the wildlife.'



It is also a good time for Audubon members to renew permits--  
 FREE OF CHARGE! Write to

JFK Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary (Tobay)

Superintendent of Beaches  
 Town of Oyster Bay, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771.

For

JAMAICA BAY WILDLIFE REFUGE

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs  
 City of New York  
 830 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

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AUDUBON WILD LIFE SERIES

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The first performance of Audubon Wild Life Series begins on Wednesday, October 17, 1973, at Bayview Avenue School, corner South Bayview Avenue and Merrick Road, Freeport.

William A. Anderson of McLean, Virginia, has produced an outstanding film which reveals the wisdom of nature's intricate balance in equipping animals to cope with their particular environment, in order to survive. Many of the animals in "Design For Survival" have never been filmed before, and Bill Anderson presents them in a never to be forgotten drama.

A lecturer accompanies each film. On Monday, November 26, 1973, the film will be Lyle Mass's "Mule Deer Country";

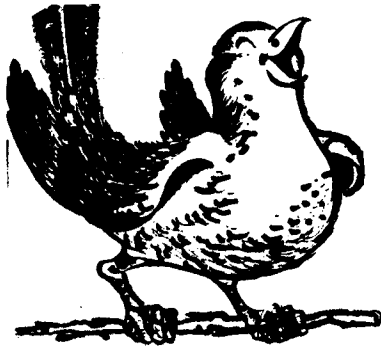
On Friday, February 8, 1974, the film will be John Bulger's "Scandinavian Saga";

On Tuesday, March 19, 1974, the film will be Greg McMillan's "The Living Jungle"; and

On Thursday, April 18, 1974, the film will be Howard Boyd's "Down Stream".

The cost for the series of five tickets is: \$6.00 for adults - \$3.00 for students.

Tickets will be available to members exclusively until May 15th, SO



## Be Among The Early Birds

After May 15th, tickets will go on sale to the general public. Since we have very limited seating, "Be Among The Early Birds" - don't be disappointed. Send your check today to Alvin Friedman, 3275 Oceanside Road, Oceanside, N.Y. 11572.

There are adequate facilities for parking in the rear of the school.

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

**NEXT MEETING**

TUESDAY EVENING

MAY 8th

8:15 P. M.

**FREEPORT LIBRARY**



FIRST CLASS MAIL

