

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOL. 8, NO. 3

NOVEMBER 1977

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1977
8:15 P.M., FREEPORT LIBRARY

Our Guest Speakers Will Be:
Alan and Estelle Ruppert of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary in Oyster Bay

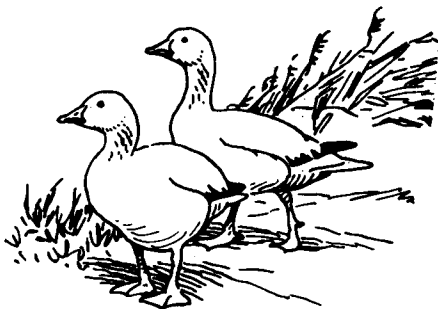
The Rupperts will present a colorful slide show entitled "T.R. Revisited" plus live surprises! Don't miss it!

(Remember, our November meeting is being held on the 3rd Tuesday in November because of Election Day.)

DECEMBER MEETING REMINDER:

Our December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, and our Guest Speaker will be Richard Rhindress, Audubon's Northeast Reg. Director, who will present an Audubon film on Alaska.

SSAS NOVEMBER MEETING-----NOVEMBER 15th
SSAS DECEMBER MEETING-----DECEMBER 13th



SSAS has car insignia decals and cloth patches showing a Skimmer in flight on sale at all the meetings and birdwalks. Patches are \$2.00 and decals are 50¢.

SSAS EDUCATION PROGRAM

We are pleased to report to you that our Education Program has been very active this past year. In the school year 1976-77, Elliott Kutner gave a film program tailored to elementary school level and interest. He gave this program to 7,000 children this past school year. It will continue into this year.

Asa Starkweather ran a slide program on birds. He was able to reach 95 classes in the year 1976-77.

Along with the pilot program run by Elaine Butkerei (Education Chairperson) and Gloria Kaplan in the Freeport School System, we are charting an even more active role in sensitizing our youth to a greater appreciation of their environment. This pilot program will be put into book form and distributed by our Chapter to all school systems in our area.



AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM SERIES

Tom Sterling "Footloose in Newfoundland"
Tuesday, December 6, 1977
Hempstead Town Pavillion, Town Hall Plaza
8:15 P.M.

For tickets write to the Town of Hempstead, Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Recreational Office, 50 Clinton St., Hempstead, N.Y. 11550. Be sure to enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

The next meeting of the Photography Club will be on Sunday, November 20, at 10:00 a.m. at the northeast corner of West End at Jones Beach, Pkg. Fld. #2. Rain date - Nov. 27, same time, same place.

Al Lemke, Chairman

ENERGY CONSERVATION - A MUST

This editorial taken from the Nov. 14 issue of Newsday suggests that the only hope of achieving a comprehensive National Energy Policy lies with the ability of the President to arouse the public. Since a National Energy Policy, which contains a strong segment on energy conservation has long been sought after by the National Audubon Society, it may well be in our best interests to aid the President in the task of persuading the Senate to follow the House in establishing a sound energy policy. As Audubon members we can aid in the following ways: 1) Send a letter of support for a SOUND ENERGY POLICY directly to the President. 2) Write or telegram our Senators urging them to carefully evaluate the need to deal rationally with dwindling energy resources. Keep in mind that an average of 40 years has been historically needed for the country to change from one energy source to another. Without energy conservation it seems unlikely that oil and gas will be capable of going the distance without extensive assistance from nuclear sources. 3) Lastly and probably most importantly, we can engage our friends and associates in conversations on the subject. Getting the public to think about all sides of the issue is essential. Motivating the public enough to change the mind of the Senate is too difficult and too important to allow the President to do alone.

Following is a reprint of the Newsday editorial of Nov. 14:

SELLING THE ENERGY PROGRAM

When President Carter sent his energy package to Congress last April, he appeared on national television three times in as many days to sell his program. The polls showed an immediate increase in public understanding of the nation's dilemma, and that undoubtedly had a lot to do with the quick passage of Carter's proposals by the House.

Six months have passed, the country survived the summer without gas queues or rationing, and nobody seems to remember the natural gas shortages of last winter. So

now the Senate is close to tossing out the entire package.

At his press conference yesterday, Carter accepted part of the blame-for not lobbying sufficiently in the Senate. The oil companies obviously didn't make the same misjudgment, and Carter came down hard on them yesterday, in effect accusing the industry of seeking to profit from the country's "moral equivalent of war."

He's right on that, of course, but the oil lobby's intensive effort still doesn't fully explain what happened in the Senate.

Many Senators-and much of the public-remain unconvinced that conservation is the best answer to the nation's increasing dependence on imported fuel. The oil companies contend they can produce all that is needed if given enough financial "incentive." And wouldn't that be a lot easier than asking Americans to alter their lifestyles, as the conservation programs sought by Carter would require?

Indeed it would be easier-if there were, in fact, an infinite supply of oil and gas. But there isn't, and the United States, which already has to import half its oil, will be the first of the major producers to run out of domestic reserves.

Carter still may be able to salvage his program on the Senate floor or in the House-Senate conference committee. But the source of his problem isn't really Capitol Hill.

What's sidetracking his program is complacency in the country at large. So his priority now is to take his case to the public, just as he did last spring.

Yesterday's news conference was a good start; a fireside chat or two would be an appropriate next step. It's hard to believe Americans would not respond to straight talk from the President-even senators listen to straight talk from the public.

Paul Butkerei, Conservation

B I R D
F E E D E R
S U R V E Y
S E P T . - O C T . C O U N T



MOURNING DOVE	68
DOWNY WOODPECKER	10
BLUE JAY	51
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	5
TUFTED TITMOUSE	6
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	1
MOCKINGBIRD	17
STARLING	78
HOUSE SPARROW	260
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	19
HAIRY WOODPECKER	0
COMMON GRACKLE	236
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD	9
CARDINAL	39
EVENING GROSBEAK	1
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	26
HOUSE FINCH	55
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	7
TOWHEE	5
SLATE-COLORED JUNCO	4
TREE SPARROW	0
SONG SPARROW	7
FOX SPARROW	3
PURPLE FINCH	12
YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER	3
BROWN THRASHER	1
REDSTART	5
PINE WARBLER	2
ROBIN	4
BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER	2
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER	1
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	1
CATBIRD	1
WHITE CROWNED SPARROW	1

B I R D F E E D E R S U R V E Y
N O V E M B E R

Please keep a log of the following birds at your feeders - by the month. The Skimmer deadline is the 15th of each month. Send your computations to our editor, Pat Davis, 7 Myers Avenue, Hicksville, N.Y. 11801.

MOURNING DOVE	_____
DOWNY WOODPECKER	_____
BLUE JAY	_____
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	_____
TUFTED TITMOUSE	_____
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	_____
MOCKINGBIRD	_____
STARLING	_____
HOUSE SPARROW	_____
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	_____
HAIRY WOODPECKER	_____
COMMON GRACKLE	_____
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD	_____
CARDINAL	_____
EVENING GROSBEAK	_____
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	_____
HOUSE FINCH	_____
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	_____
TOWHEE	_____
SLATE-COLORED JUNCO	_____
TREE SPARROW	_____
SONG SPARROW	_____
FOX SPARROW	_____
PURPLE FINCH	_____
YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER	_____
BROWN THRASHER	_____
REDSTART	_____
PINE WARBLER	_____
ROBIN	_____
BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER	_____
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER	_____
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	_____
CATBIRD	_____
WHITE CROWNED SPARROW	_____

Dear Folks:

As you can see, we have added several birds to our listing. Thanks to all of you who mailed in your count. Please keep sending them in. I need the next one by Oct. 15.

Pat Davis, Editor

H A P P Y

T H A N K S G I V I N G



**PROPOSED TANKER STANDARDS STILL CONTROVERSIAL:
PUBLIC SUPPORT NEEDED**

**BIRD SEED SAVINGS DAY
NOVEMBER 5**

On March 16 President Carter directed that the Coast Guard establish new construction and equipment standards for all oil tankers. The Coast Guard complied with his request and published proposed standards in mid-May. The proposed regulations are very good, endorsing most of the points that environmental groups had worked hard to attain over the last several years.

However, the tanker and oil industries have not been idle, and public comments have been running 10 to 1 against the proposed standards. The public record on these regulations is open until November 15, and you can help counter the pressure to weaken them. Letters are needed endorsing the regulations (42 Fed. Reg. 24868, 16 May 1977), pointing to the need for double bottoms for all new tankers, and inert gas systems, segregated ballast, improved emergency steering standards, and collision avoidance equipment for all tankers. Letters should be addressed to: Commandant (G-CMC/81), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, D.C. 20590.

(The above is reprinted from the Sierra Club Bulletin)



**BINOCULAR
SAVINGS**

SSAS is offering an outstanding opportunity to purchase Bushnell and Bausch & Lomb binoculars, scopes and tripods at a savings of 30 to 50%. These special prices are available when we order in groups of 12. If you wish further information, please call Asa Starkweather (LY 9-5824) or Joan Butkerei (LY 3-4554).

CAKES NEEDED

If you can volunteer to bake a cake or bring some baked goods to our monthly meeting, please call our Hospitality Chairperson, Miriam Raynor, RO 4-6204. Thank you.

Don't forget that Saturday, November 5th, is Bird Seed Savings Day for the South Shore Audubon Society. This special sale will be held at the Rockville Centre Recreation Building, which is located on Oceanside Rd., just north of Sunrise Hwy. For those of you who did not preorder, there will be plenty of extra seed available. We will have a great variety of seed, including Bird Seed Savings Day Jumbo Sunflower Seed, Regular Sunflower Seed, Shelled Sunflower Hearts, Bird Seed Savings Day Special Mix (a super quality blend of special seeds), Regular Wild Bird Seed, Maine Manna Suet/Seed Cakes, Peanut Hearts, and Thistle Seed. A beautiful variety of bird feeders, including Droll Yankee feeders can be purchased at discount prices. Bushnell binoculars will also be available at 30% to 50% off list prices. The hours of this special sale will be between 9 am and 4 pm, rain or shine. Rockville Centre runs a recycling station at this location every Saturday morning between the hours of 9 and 12. If you are planning to join us for this event in the morning, please feel free to bring down your old newspapers, glass, and aluminum for recycling. Below is more info. on the recycling center.

ROCKVILLE CENTER RECYCLING CENTER

Open every Saturday 9-12 noon.
The recycling center is located in the John A. Anderson Recreation Center on Oceanside Rd. just north of Sunrise Hwy. and RR underpass. Please sort material into four parcels:

- Clear Glass
- Amber and Colored Glass
- Aluminum Cans (foil, etc.)
- Steel Cans

Parking field of Recreation Center borders on the railroad so it should not be hard to find.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS OF SSAS!

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Susan Nussbom | Lawrence Butcher Jr. |
| Norman Pakurow | Linda Dudek |
| Edward Pohlig | A. Gottlieb |
| Jessica Radolf | Ruth Gurinsk |
| Hando A. Raha | David & Melanie Herzfeld |
| Mr.&Mrs. J. Reiners | Mr.&Mrs. H. Horn |
| Sonya Sarosy | William M. King |
| Kevin Schary | Amy Beth Kressel |
| Rodney W. Taft | Fred Labitzke |
| Joan D. Tracy | Lucille A. Loguercio |
| Kenneth Wetter | Mrs. Marian McPartland |
| Mr.&Mrs. J. Morton | |
| Harvey Brody | |
| Mary Ann Larkin | |
| Mrs. J. McKernan | |
| Susan Begelman | |





Alan Ruppert called, "Hello, Asa, I have another one. You're near Baldwin, aren't you?" "Yes."

"This is a call from New York. The lady says a Canadian Goose is caught between a wood fence and a barbed wire fence in her backyard. Her daughter is home. The number is 223-8481." "Alright, Alan, I'll see what I can do."

Alan calls me whenever he gets a bird problem on the south shore which is alright with me. He must get plenty on the north shore. The last call I got from Alan was a starling caught in its nest in Massapequa.

Most people with bird problems first call the Fire Dept.-no good-then the police-no good-then some sanctuary they know about. I imagine Tackapausha gets plenty of calls.

Now what to take? First, a blanket to immobilize the goose, if necessary; a wrecking bar in case the fence has to come apart; and a hammer to put it back again.

I called the number and spoke to the daughter who gave me directions. No trouble. I found the house and Carol, a charming and helpful 14 year old.

The house, as did every house on the block, backed onto property of an out-of-business heavy contractor whose land was surrounded by an eight-foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire. Naturally, every homeowner had put up a split cedar fence eight feet high to conceal the chain link fence. The space between the two fences varied from about two inches to twelve inches and right behind this house it was twelve inches. In that space was a very unhappy Canadian Goose!

How it got in there, I can't imagine, but there it was. I walked around the swimming pool that filled most of the backyard and peeked through the cracks. "Hiss" said the goose.

"Carol, how do you get to the other side?" "There's an entrance around the corner." Around the corner I went and there was the entrance guarded by a security company. "I'm from the Audubon Society and need to check a bird in there." Magic words - in I went and located the goose. It was in bad shape. It was so dry its swollen tongue kept its bill open, but it could still hiss.

There was no way to get through that chain link fence so I returned to Carol's backyard.

"Carol, I'm going to have to take down a section of this fence."

"My father will have a heart attack."

"Can't help it. You do want the goose out."

"Oh, yes, it's been in there since yesterday!"

I found a section that looked like it might come out. Using my wrecking bar I pulled the nails on one side and it came loose. Getting a rope from the car, I tied one end to the fence and we were ready. Carol pulled the rope and I picked up the section and pushed it back. I tied it to the pool ladder.

"Carol, you go into the house and I will go around to the other side and shoo the goose through." She did, and I did, but I could have saved the trip. As soon as that goose saw that pool it came right through and dove in. When I got back the goose had drunk its fill and was happily paddling in the pool in the shade of the diving board!

I shook the rope but it was caught in the fence. I stood on a stool and got it loose, but the whole section snapped back, broke loose and fell into the yard. I lifted it up and nailed it back in place but it had flattened a rose bush.

"My mother will have a heart attack," said Carol. "Carol, the goose is out and that's what you wanted, isn't it?"

"Yes, but now it is in the swimming pool!"

"You and your parents can cope with that. Lure it out with corn or get some friends, open your side gate and herd it out. But I can't get the goose out of the pool."

I gathered in my rope and tools and left, but I still wonder what happened to that goose. Maybe it's still in the pool, but I don't dare ask!

Asa Starkweather

A BIRD CALLED "SAPSUCKER"

The name is so absurd, I often think many people seriously doubt the existence of such a bird. But, they do exist, right here on Long Island. These odd birds are actually woodpeckers. They take their name by pecking into trees to draw out the sap. Insects come to the sticky stuff and these and the slightly fermented sap quickly become a meal for ol' "sappy."

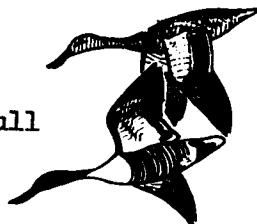
I saw several sapsuckers just today. They were giving some soft yelping noises and going up a willow tree by the Oceanside Library. They looked like their relatives, the Flickers, in flight. I don't care what anyone says-I like SAPSUCKERS!

James Remsen Jr.

BIRD WALKS-OCTOBER

October 2 West End - 25 people

Birds seen: house finch
female marsh hawk
loon
laughing gulls
sparrow hawk
of dunlin
imm. bl. backed gull
kingfisher
two skimmers
horned lark
mockingbird
snowy egret
little blue heron
cormorant



Oct. 16 West End #2 - 38 people

Birds seen: 1 bl.cr.night heron
1 wh.winged scoter
ruddy turnstone
3 fl.50ea. Canada geese
black backed gulls
marsh hawk
25 Bonaparte gulls
2 gr. bl. herons
sparrow hawks
horned larks
glaucous gull
cormorants 5fl.50 ea.
10 eastern meadowlarks
Amer. bittern
myrtle warbler
5 sl.colored juncos
sharp-shinned hawk
yellow-billed cuckoo
short-eared owl
flickers
red-breasted nuthatches



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FIELD TRIPS: starting time-9:30 a.m.
No walk if it rains, snows, or temperature
is 25 degrees or below.

NOV. 6-Tobay, JFK Sanctuary
13-West End #2, N.E. corner
20-Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
27-Zach's Bay, Pkg. Fld. #4, N.E.

DEC. 4-West End #2, N.E. corner
11-Pelham Bay-Meet at 9:00 at Toll
Booth Throg's Neck Bridge

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P.O. BOX 31
FREEPORT, N.Y. 11520



FIRST CLASS MAIL