

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 18, No. 9 – SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

JUNE 1988

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Betsy Gulotta

This is my last opportunity to communicate to South Shore Audubon Society members in the form of a President's Message. As my term comes to an end, I look, not backward, but forward to a bright future for SSAS, with the new administration containing fresh new ideas and untapped energy. Along with the continued dedication and interest that SSAS members have demonstrated these past two years, SSAS will move boldly ahead to meet future challenges and accomplish much more towards its goals of conservation and wildlife protection.

I must also commend the hard work of the Officers, Board of Directors, and Chairpeople, who have really been the backbone of SSAS and made the organization operate successfully. It has been truly heartwarming to work with these people, all of whom give 100% from their hearts, as totally dedicated volunteers for the Audubon Cause.

Our conservation efforts have saved local fresh water and marine wetlands, our educational programs have reached over 1500 children and adults, we will have completed our first Birdathon and an impressive environmental festival, and through our fund raising efforts, we have over \$4300 more in our budget to continue these kinds of programs.

The accomplishments of SSAS have been significant, and have required more hours and planning that can be imagined. The efforts of the Board together with the cooperation of the general membership has made these accomplishments possible.

And so I wish to thank each and every one of you who has helped in your own way to make SSAS a success. I look forward to working along with you in the future, as we continue to support the Audubon Cause.

SSAS OFFICERS FOR 1988/1989

The elected officers of South Shore Audubon for 1988/1989 are as follows:

Joseph Grupp President
Joan Butkereiit. Vice President
Lennox Gordon. Treasurer
Louise Halpin Recording Secretary

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT WINS SSAS ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP

A \$500 scholarship is being awarded to a Nassau Community College 1988 graduating student, Deirdre McLaughlin, of Floral Park. Deirdre, who is studying environmental resource management, is planning to attend S.U.N.Y. College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse next fall. She stated in her scholarship application.

"While in High School, I discovered that there was a way I could combine a love of the outdoors and interest in science. I could combine these two interests through a career in forestry. Since then, I have talked with rangers, professors, and graduates from the College of environmental Science and Forestry. Their advice has helped me to decide on environmental resource management as an area of concentration. Since then, all of my work at Nassau Community College has been dedicated to achieving my goal of a career in forestry. Nassau my first step; the College of Environmental Science and Forestry is second. This scholarship will help me come closer to my goal."

SSAS congratulates Deirdre for winning this scholarship, and wishes her good luck in her future academic endeavors in the environmental field.

MEMBERSHIP

Marion Yavarkovsky, Chairperson 379-2090

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members. We hope you will take part in our many activities and become active members in our Chapter.

- Atlantic Beach . . .Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Rush
- BaldwinWilliam Keller, Mrs Adrienne Gathman
- BethpageAda Giannacco, Elaine Fass
- E. MeadowMs Donna Baldwin, Edward Dolan,
Linda Okin
- ElmontElizabeth Zapp
- Floral ParkHeda Zweig, Ms Patricia Tweedy, Diane
Paul, Mrs. Alfina Broekman, Marc Fitton
- FreeportBettye Gomes
- Garden CityDorothy Schuh, Ron Theim
- HewlettMrs. Lois Riggs
- HicksvilleSusan Padernacht, Guy Sessions
- Island ParkDaniel Forzano
- LevittownRobert Loeschner, Charles Mouton,
Mrs. Helen Muller.
- Long BeachStephen Power, Ms. Sue Kasper,
M. Berger
- MalverneSanto Tomassello
- MassapequaMrs. Clifford Oglesby, R. Dalessio,
Anthony Catania
- Massapequa Pk . .Walter Scheff
- MerrickMary Rosenbluth
- PlainviewJud Newborn
- Rockville Ctr . . .Don Jacobs, Milton Holtzman
Frederick Gunn, S. Leicher
- SeafordMr. Dave Hove
- UniondaleElaine Roth
- Valley Stream . . .Mike Lang
- WantaghAnn Bruce, John Kelly, Keith Sherrow

STREAM ENHANCEMENT/GROUNDWATER PROGRAM

"...What has happened to the stream in our backyard?...As a child I always remember that it was full of water and flowed smoothly"...Comments such as these have been heard quite frequently in Nassau's South Shore communities where many freshwater streams have literally "dried" up in the past decades. Now, under a novel program announced by Nassau County Executive Thomas S. Gulotta, the County is attempting to augment the flow of stream water, while at the same time recharging the area's groundwater supply, through a process called "mounding."

"It has become of increasing concern, both environmentally and aesthetically to observe the lack of streamflow in the picturesque streams which dot the suburban scenario in many of our South Shore communities," Gulotta said. "Our Department of Public Works is ready to embark on a federally

required program designed to restore water flow and levels in these streams. Such a program will not only be desirable aesthetically, but will also serve to recharge the precious groundwater system."

Under the mounding program, a series of "sand cones" or miniature recharge basins will be installed along the streams near their northern terminus. This will serve to "mound" or raise the water table at the stream's inception and allow water runoff entering the stream to flow slower and more evenly. This will, in turn, allow downstream areas to have more water flowing more consistently toward the South Shore bays and to maintain critical freshwater wetlands.

**ANNUAL DINNER
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 1988**

South Shore Audubon's Annual Dinner will take place at the Oceanside Country Club, Waukena Avenue and Skillman Avenue, Oceanside on Tuesday, June 14, 1988. As usual, the June dinner is held in place of the regular general meeting.

This year's dinner speaker will be Mr. Emil Willimetz. The program will be a slide show and talk on the Amazon Region and the Rain Forest of South America. Mr. Willimetz lived and worked in South America as a documentary film maker and has conducted tours through the area for many years.

The evening will begin at 7:00 P.M. with a cocktail hour. Drinks are \$2.25 at the open bar. For dinner there is a choice of:

- London Broil
- Roast Chicken
- Broiled Fish

The cost for the dinner is \$16.50 per person. To make a reservation, complete the form below and send it with a check made payable to **South Shore Audubon Society** to:

Alan Bromberg
3409 Fairway Road
Oceanside, New York 11572

Name

Address

Phone No.

Amount of Check No. of People

No. of each dinner: London Broil

 Chicken

 Fish

DANGERS OF INSECT SPRAYING ON NESTING BIRDS

By
Gayle Wertz

At this time of the year, people are having their trees and shrubs sprayed to control insects. We receive numerous calls during the spring and summer inquiring about the unexplained deaths or dying of garden birds. Imagine the featherless tiny baby birds, in their nests. As the men arrive to spray the area with their high-powered, far-reaching, deadly chemicals, the parent birds fly off in fright. The chemicals engulf the nests and saturate the helpless babies — whose skin absorbs these poisons. They have no way of ridding themselves of this slow death and succumb to a horrible death. The parents are helpless to save them and may be sprayed themselves. The chemicals attack the nervous system and birds fall to the ground with their little bodies shaking uncontrollably until they die, or are attacked by an animal or run over by a vehicle. We have been unsuccessful at saving any of these birds and it is heartbreaking, watching them die. They may also eat seeds, berries, bread and insects that have been contaminated by sprays.

Please consider other methods of pest control and alert your neighbors of these hazards. These chemicals are also dangerous to your pets and is absorbed into the skin (yours as well if you are in the way)! In can settle in outdoor water receptacles, birdbaths, your laundry, and if your windows are open... Check your library for books about natural pest control. Make your yard attractive to many species of birds as they eat many insects. Marigolds seem to repel some insects naturally.

We are still in need of people that will take baby birds into their home to raise and release. Even if you can rescue and transport injured birds to veterinarians, we need your help. Some veterinarians do not charge for wildlife and are excellent. We need birdcages and fishtanks for these birds. If you can help, please call 516-798-4215. Without your help, many will die. We can do only so much and there is so much to do!!

SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SEABIRD FALL MIGRATION BOAT TRIP JONES BEACH INLET AND BAY AREAS SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 7:30 AM — 3:30 PM

Cost \$30.00 per person. Make checks payable to SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY and mail to:

Mrs. Evelyn Blume
313 Smith Street
Merrick, New York 11566
516-378-7122 (After 6:00 P.M.)

REPORT ON TRIP TO EDWIN B. FORSYTHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE BRIGANTINE, NEW JERSEY

On May 7, 43 members of South Shore Audubon Society were treated to a wonderful day of birding at the refuge and dining at the Smithville Inn, all made possible through the efforts of Evelyn Blume, Trip Chairperson.

A total of 65 different species of birds were seen including Carolina Chickadee, American Goldfinch, Ospreys, Peregrine Falcon, Caspian Terns, Gull Billed Terns, Whimbrels, Snow Geese, Dunlin in full breeding plumage, Great and Little Blue Herons, Great American and Snowy Egrets, Warblers, Red-throated Hummingbird, and various waterfowl and shorebirds. The meal at the Inn was delicious and SSAS members were given the royal treatment. Thanks again Evelyn for a memorable day.

For those interested in visiting the refuge, take the New Jersey Garden State Parkway to Exit 48. Go south on Route 9 to Oceanville and follow signs to refuge.

REPORT ON CONSERVATION EDUCATION DAY AT EISENHOWER PARK—MAY 18 Rose Ermidis, Education Chairperson . . . 785-6028

For the second year, South Shore Audubon Society participated in the Conservation Education Day at Eisenhower Park sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Association of Nassau County and Cornell University.

The theme of this year's event was "Wetlands." Approximately 1100 fifth-grade students and their teachers participated in this exciting educational event. South Shore's booth was well attended and special thanks is due to those volunteers who gave so much of their time and knowledge in making this event a great success. The volunteers were Arthur Atlas, Len Gordon, Evelyn and Fred Blume, Rose Ermidis, and Jerry Bernstein. Special thanks is also due to the DEC for supplying an abundant amount of literature and posters to satisfy the needs of the students and teachers. The DEC also made a special video tape to be used by SSAS at this event. The National Audubon Society also deserves a thank you for supplying us with literature.

SKIMMER EDITOR NEEDED
Call Joe Grupp
516 481-4208

BIRD WALKS

Elliot Kutner, Birding Chairperson 486-7667

All walks start at 9:30 A.M.
No walks if it rains, snows, or temperature
is 25° F or below.

June 5 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
12 Twin Lakes Preserve, Wantagh (Forest
Lake School Parking Lot, Mill Road)

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1988, 8:00 P.M.
FREEPORT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Merrick Road and Grove Street, Freeport, N.Y.

BINOCULARS AND SCOPES

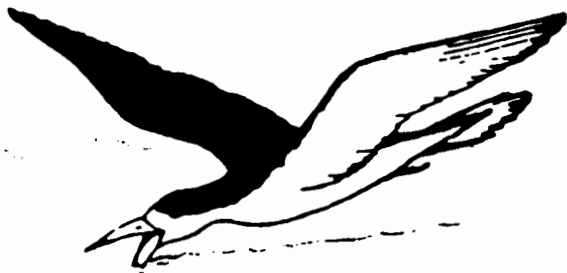
For 30% to 50% savings on Bushnell and Bausch
and Lomb binoculars and scopes, see Bill Herzog
at meetings and bird walks or call 791-7886
(7:00 P.M. — 9:00 P.M.)

RARE BIRD ALERT
212-832-6523

**1987-1988 SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON
OFFICERS, DIRECTORS,
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

- Betsy Gulotta, President 546-8841
- Joseph Grupp, Vice President 481-4208
- Louise Halpin, Recording Secretary 546-6147
- Malcolm Marum, Treasurer 752-0396
- Ruth Grossman, Corresponding Secretary 378-8809
- George Appoldt, Director 678-4964
- Arthur Atlas, Director 223-2327
- Ann McIntyre, Director 379-2206
- Lois Schlegel, Director 822-1546
- James Browne, Dir. & Preserve Chairperson 889-9330
- Evelyn Blume, Dir. & Trip Chairperson 378-7122
- Joan Butkerei, Conservation Chairperson 623-0843
- Paul Butkerei, Bird Seed Sales 623-0843
- Rose Ermidis, Education Chairperson 785-6028
- Elliot Kutner, Birding Chairperson 486-7667
- Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson 379-2090
- Jack McLoughlin, Publicity Chairperson 889-8092
- Len Gordon, Program Chairperson 223-1365
- James Remsen, Youth Representative 764-5168
- Bill Herzog, Binocular & Book Sales (7-9 P.M.) 791-7886
- Myrna Brier, Hospitality Chairperson 764-7523
- Frieda Malament, Holiday Parties 795-5842
- Jerry Bernstein, Skimmer Editor 623-8255

AUDUBON HOTLINE
202-547-9017



SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 31
Freeport, New York 11520

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