

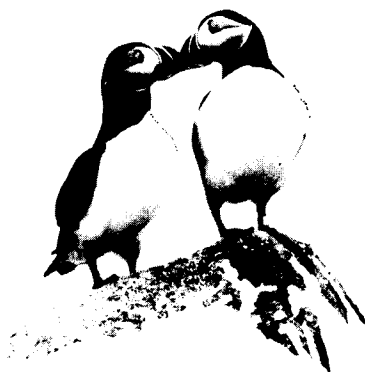
SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 19, NUMBER 3 * SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

NOVEMBER - 1988

meeting



NEXT MEETING: November 15, 1988

SPEAKER: Paul Butkereiit

TITLE: Alaska/Places and Images

From the primeval forest of Alaska's southeastern panhandle to majestic Denali National Park - a slide show emphasizing Alaska's unique natural history, conservation priorities and indian heritage.

President's message

I had the occasion to be at the athletic field of a local school at dusk, one day recently. While there I heard and then saw, in the distance, a flock of Canadian Geese as they flew under a low, threatening, overcast sky. They were followed by a second and third flock. Later I heard a Killdeer call from an adjoining field. At that time I couldn't help but wonder how many other people are aware of their surrounding environment.

Last year, in May, S.S.A.S. in conjunction with Nassau County Department of Parks held a Family Nature Festival at Cow Meadow Park to encourage the residents of Nassau County to become aware of their local environment. The day was fun filled, informative, and satisfying. This coming May S.S.A.S. would like to hold a second Festival with Nassau County. A committee is now being formed to organize it and volunteers are needed. I urge you to volunteer so that others will become aware of the geese and killdeer and other things that contribute to a healthy environment. (Call Ann McIntyre, 379-2206 or Lois Schlegel, 822-1546)

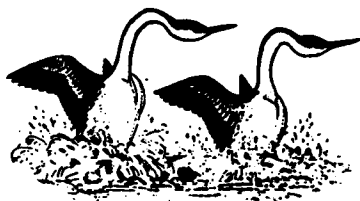
In the September issue of the Skimmer I also asked for volunteers as we were looking for help in publishing the Skimmer. Numerous people responded, and Gayle Wertz agreed to be the Editor. Many thanks to all of you who answered that call.

One final note that may be of interest to you. Last year a record was kept of the birds seen on our birdwalks. That list will be displayed at this month's meeting.

Volunteer for this year's Festival -- it's fun.

Joe Grupp, President

WHEEE-----



EDUCATION

Rose Ermidis

The following receive Audubon Adventures. Is your school or community included? If you would like to let them know about this great publication for children in grades three through six, please see me at the general meetings or bird walks or drop me a note if you cannot find me at home when you phone.

- Belmont Elementary School in North Babylon Baldwin P.L.
- Cub Scout Pack 546 in Baldwin
- Bay View Avenue School in Baldwin
- Bayview Avenue School in Freeport Freeport P.L.
- Atkinson School in Freeport
- Cub Scouts in South Farmingdale
- St. Anne's School in Garden City
- East Meadow Cub Scouts
- Franklin School in Hempstead
- Half Hollow Hills P.L. in Dix Hills
- Lawrence County Day School in Hewlett P.S. 30 in Queens, Jamaica
- Woodland Jr. High School in East Meadow
- West End School in Lynbrook
- Albany Avenue School in Lindenhurst
- Gallow School in Island Trees
- Abbey Lane School in Levittown
- Friends Academy in Locust Valley
- Fairfield School in Massapequa
- Massapequa Park Teacher Trainer
- Cure of Ars in Merrick
- Old Mill Road School in North Merrick
- Birch School in Merrick Merrick P.L.
- Nesconset Elementary School in Nesconset
- School #8 in Oceanside
- Rosedale Nature Leader
- Waverly Park School in East Rockaway
- Shaw Avenue School in Valley Stream
- Mowell Road School in Valley Stream
- Seaman Neck School in Seaford
- Wantagh School in Wantagh



Osprey.

ACROSS

- 5 Throat region of a bird.
- 6 See #11-Across.
- 9 Owl family.
- 11 Bird of the family Ardeidae distinguished by a slender black bill and yellow feet (#11 and #6-Across combined).
- 12 Bird specimens on which the original scientific descriptions are based.
- 13 Cheek region of a bird.
- 15 Neck vertebrae of a bird.
- 16 White border on rear of wings and a dark mantle distinguish this gull.
- 17 Mimic thrush.
- 20 This state's bird is the blue hen.
- 22 Size of an eastern bluebird (inches).
- 23 Species "On Golden Pond" (plural).
- 25 Mature bird.
- 26 Feather group.
- 27 A bird's first feathers: _____ down.
- 28 Horny bill tips.

14 Corvidae family member.

18 A perch.

19 "Winter finches" subject to irruptions southward.

20 White-winged scoter: *Melanitta* _____ (formerly).

21 A hummingbird is named after this bird collector.

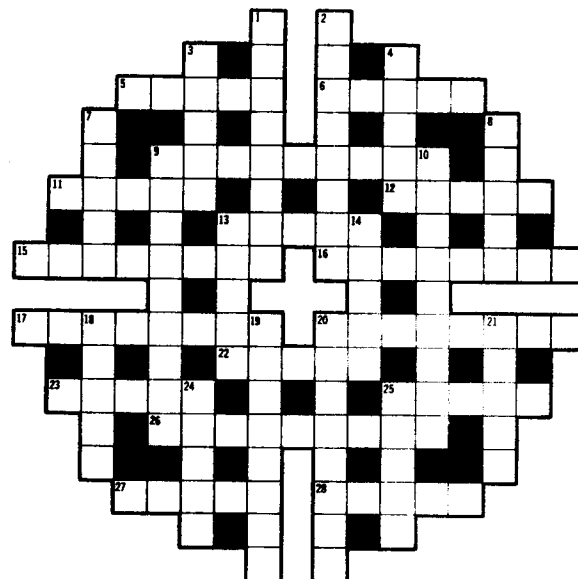
24 An oriole is named after this U.S. military figure.

25 Marsh hen (2 words).

Solution to BWD puzzle may be found elsewhere in this issue.

DOWN

- 1 Crested, thick-billed finch.
- 2 Pigments are responsible for the _____ coloration of feathers.
- 3 Coot color: _____ gray.
- 4 A kind of auk, owl, and cormorant.
- 7 Mangrove cuckoo: *Coccyzus* _____.
- 8 Baer's pochard: *Aythya* _____.
- 9 A kind of hawk, thrush, and warbler.
- 10 "Lachrymal" and "Harderian" refer to birds' _____ (2 words).
- 13 Usually the more colorful.



What Tree, What Thicket?

The winged feathers of species by the hundred harbor secrets:

what tree. what thicket.
 which grass. which ground
 what cliff. what coast
 which ledge. which latitude
 will better shield the nest
 and warm the magic of the egg
 until the young are born.
 A wisdom in their breasts
 as certain as the seasons
 assures their beauty,
 their survival.

—Darrell H. Barte
 Wichita, Kansas

BIRDING, ONE TO ONE

Gayle Wertz

Monofilament fishing line strikes again! This time it was a Canada Goose. I received a call from Brady Park personnel, here in Massapequa. The lady told of a Canada Goose that had the line around its wings and was unable to fly. They had made numerous phone calls to many animal-oriented persons, for three days and received no help. Finally they reached me and my son, Craig, and I went to the lake. Sure enough the Goose was in the middle of the lake. It seems that the line, tightly wrapped around its body, had snagged on a rooted, hogged-down tree stump. This bird had not eaten in three days, while everyone watched, helplessly.

Unable to get to the Goose, we returned home where my husband, Dick, and Craig put a small boat on the car and rushed back. It was nearly dark and it was difficult to see, as there are no lights at the lake. They finally reached the terrified Goose and cut it loose of the stump. They brought it home and upon close inspection, we discovered much monofilament line around one wing, also around the other wing, with a fishhook embedded in the wing joint, and the horror of seeing more line down into the throat! That meant a hook was well into the throat, crop or stomach.

I called a wonderful, dedicated and extremely capable veterinarian in Syosset, for help. She was supposed to be leaving for the night but said she would wait for us to bring the Goose in for examination. Dick brought the Goose right up and she said she would X-ray it and call us later. When she did call, the results were that the hook was in the crop and locked solidly in. Dr. Brooke stayed on, and on her own time, skillfully did emergency surgery on this bird.

Late that night, Dr. Brooke called and said the surgery was more complicated by the fact that when she opened the crop, the hook was hooked around the wishbone. She had to make a larger incision to safely remove it. She also removed two additional exterior hooks from the other wing. That was a total of four fishhooks in one bird!

Because of the lack of food and the stress, the bird is extremely weak and anesthesia was a risk. As of this writing, the Goose is still in critical condition. It is on antibiotics and vitamin supplements but survival is questionable.

We have waterfowl with missing legs and feet, because of this line. What can be done about it? It has done so very much damage to so many

animals and birds, of all types. Even if we outlawed monofilament line right now, it is in our waters and a real threat to waterfowl for many years to come. It is transparent and they cannot see it when they pick for food. Once they are trapped by this menace, the more they attempt to free themselves, the tighter it becomes until they are crippled or die from its effects. Any suggestions?

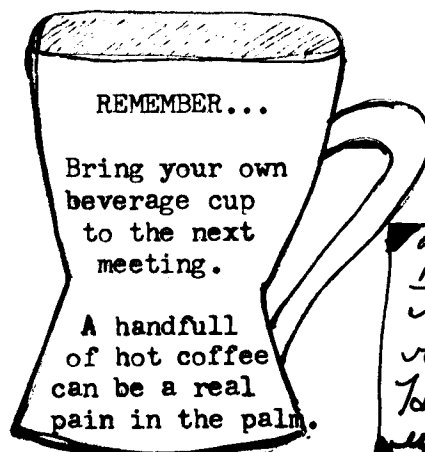
CORNELL UNIVERSITY LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY REPORT

George Appoldt

Last winter a few Feeder Watchers reported finding dead birds that were apparently killed by the fully engorged ticks on their heads. Because very little is known about ticks' alternate hosts (their usual victims are mammals), wildlife disease and tick experts in Ontario would like to have specimens of ticks from birds. If you find some we invite you to send them to us.

Here's what to do. Remove the tick gently, because the mouthparts (which are used by scientists to identify the tick) will pull off if you simply yank the tick off its victim. The best way to remove a tick is to twist it gently but persistently in one direction. The tick eventually will respond by retracting its mouthparts from the bird. Then pop the tick into a small bottle of rubbing alcohol, seal and pack it carefully, and send it with a letter giving your name and address, when and where you found the tick, and what species of bird it was on, to: Erica H. Dunn, FeederWatch Coordinator, Laboratory of Ornithology, 150 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14850.

Your contribution to an esoteric science will be appreciated!



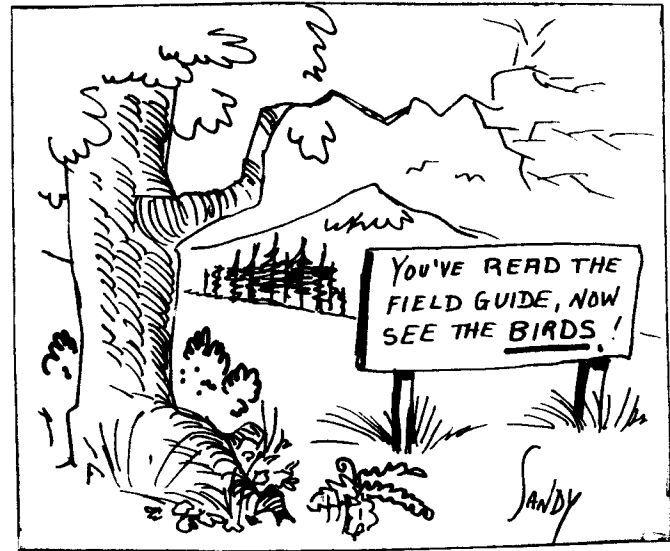
Needed: "Large" cages for recuperating birds. Hunting season is upon us again.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

by MARION YAVARKOVSKY

We at South Shore Audubon Society welcome our newest members. Our activities are for YOU! So come and join us.

- Baldwin.....E. D. Branning
Diane Koenig
Mr. Steven Cohn
- Bellmore.....Mr. A. G. Marris
- Farmingdale....Jacuilyn D. Garry
- Floral Park....Mr. & Mrs. William Brook
J. Panzarella
- Franklin Sq....E. Redman
- Freeport.....Julie A. Montano
Gloria Yuin
John E. Davies
- Garden City S..Walter Jankowski
Rev. & Mrs. Karl Baehr
Mr. Geoffrey Tobias
Wally K. Weild
- Hempstead.....Pauline M. Bouchard
- Hicksville.....Claire Wawryck
Ms. Pamela Kunz
- Island Park....Joan Iaquinto
Mr. Dennis Bennett
Flora Marcus
- Long Beach....Ms. M. J. Duffy
- Lynbrook.....Stephen Braun
- Malverne.....Catherine A. Kreppein
Mr. Daniel P. Gibbons
- Massapequa....Louis Giordano
D. Loesch
Mr. George R. Ward
Frank Roach
Victoria A. Ralph
Mr. Steve Goldberg
David Shipsey
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mollan
- Merrick.....Markella L. Pahnos
- Rockville Cn...Mr. Richard I. Haas
- Seaford.....Debby Waldheim
Mr. W. Lojewski
Mr. Joseph LaScala
- Uniondale.....Mr. Frederick Landwer
- Valley Stream..Mrs. Annmarie K. Armstrong
Sylvia Kaplan
Ms. Mary DiCarlo
Mr. Paul E. Grupp
- Woodmere.....Fabienne Bain



HOW TO MAKE NESTING BOXES FOR 12 SPECIES OF BIRDS...

TABLE I
(A) Floor: 4 x 4 inches
(B) Floor to hole: 7 inches
(C) Entrance diameter (inches):

Bluebird	1 1/2
Nuthatch	1 3/8
Tree swallow	1 3/8
Downy woodpecker	1 1/4
Titmouse	1 1/4
House wren	1 1/8
Chickadee	1 1/8

TABLE II
(A) Floor: 6 x 6 inches
(B) Floor to hole: 9 inches
(C) Entrance diameter (inches):

Saw-whet owl	2 1/2
Red-bellied woodpecker	2 1/2
Red-headed woodpecker	2
Hairy woodpecker	1 5/8
Crested flycatcher	1 5/8

A weathered, unpainted box is the nearest thing to a natural site. You may, however, wish to protect the wood from rotting, especially if it is not made of decay-resistant cedar, redwood, or cypress. If paint is used, select a *light* shade of brown, green, or gray of exterior quality, and only cover the outside of the box.

One of the simplest and best ways of protecting the box is to paint it with raw linseed oil. Treat the box inside and out, and repeat the treatment until the wood is well-saturated. Pine boxes treated this way have lasted 20 years. The raw linseed oil reacts slowly with oxygen to form a tough, hard material that does not vaporize or harm the birds in any way. However, it may take a month to set up, after which there will be no odor. Do not use wood preservative on the inside of the

box where the birds might come in contact with it.

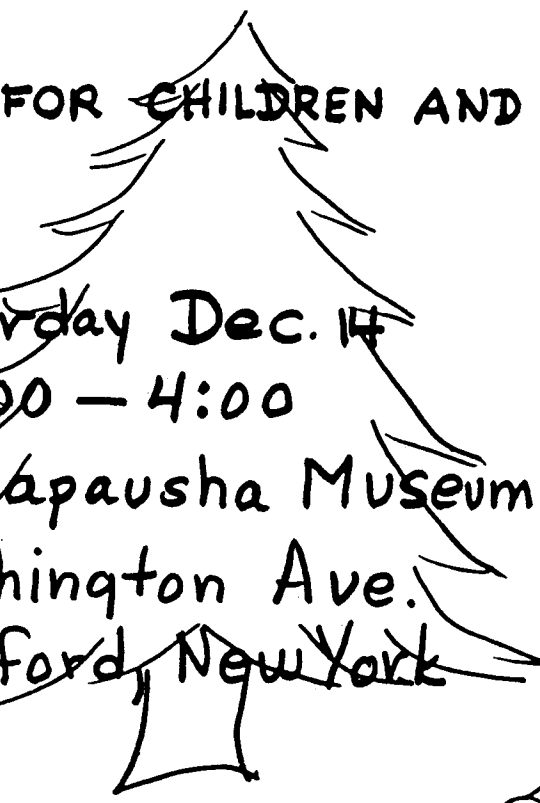
Placing the box: A properly constructed box must be put in the right location to make sure the birds will use it. Some species prefer an open, sunny location. For edge birds, never put the box in dense foliage or in the shade of a tree. If you are trying to attract bluebirds, open farmland is best, with scattered trees and brushy areas. There should be lots of open fields with grass or crops that are not too high; boxes should be mounted from three to five feet from the ground.

Fence posts or steel pipes make a good support. Predators, of course, can climb wooden posts or trees better than they can climb steel posts. A smooth metal pipe coated with grease is a very good way to discourage climbers. □

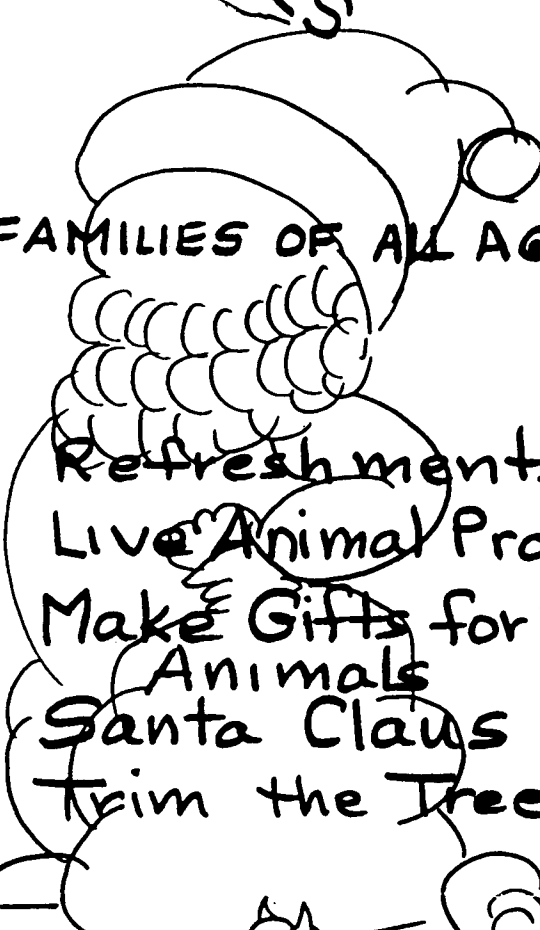


HOLIDAY PARTY AND WORKSHOP FOR THE ANIMALS

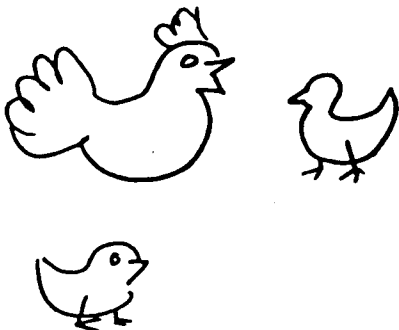
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF ALL AGES



Saturday Dec. 14
1:00 - 4:00
Tackapausha Museum
Washington Ave.
Seaford, New York



Refreshments
Live Animal Programs
Make Gifts for the
Animals
Santa Claus
Trim the Tree



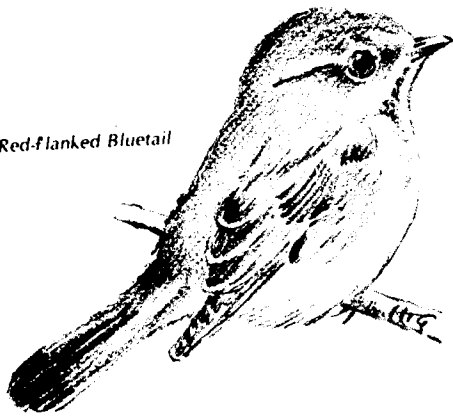
JOIN THE FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!

WELCOME VOLUNTEERS!!!!

CALL: FRIEDA G. MALAMENT
795-5842

Sponsored by
South Shore Audubon Society
Tackapausha Museum

Red-flanked Bluetail



CONSERVATION COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

- Jean Butkereiit.....Chairperson/Land Preservation
- Lois Schlegel.....Water Resources
- Ann McIntyre.....Arctic National Wildlife
Refuge/Recycling
- Kevin Costello.....General Conservation
- Josephine Rosato.....Clean Air
- Chris Zacher.....N.Y. State Issues/Adirondack

ADIRONDACKS IN PERIL

Chris Zacher



New York State's largest and most unique wilderness area, the Adirondack Park, is being threatened by aggressive land speculators who see the potential for profit in the development of this region. Due to the development and subsequent decline of other northeastern wilderness areas, developers have descended

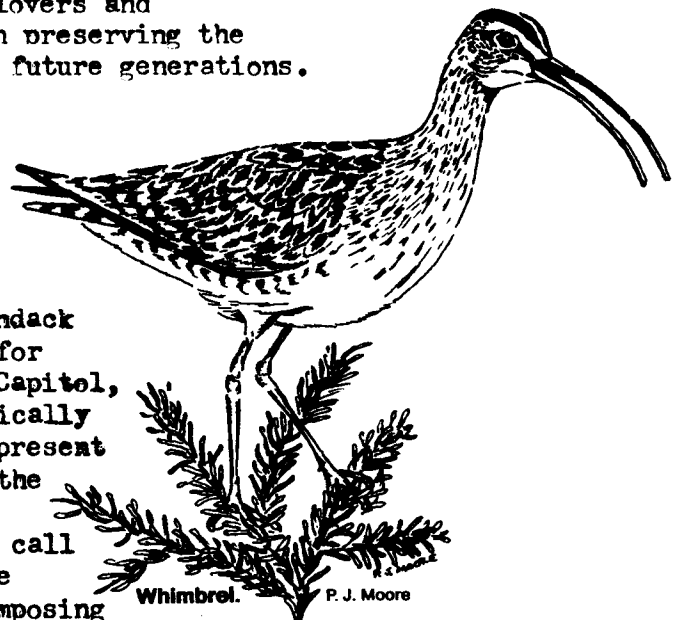
upon the Adirondack Park. Large tracts of backwoods forest and farmland are being bought, subdivided and sold at a tremendous speed.



The Adirondack Park is the last region of its size which remains relatively undisturbed in the Northeastern United States. Located in Northern New York State, it is the largest American Park outside of Alaska. The region is a patchwork of small hamlets, state owned lands designated "forever wild" and huge tracts of private land that have, for decades been used for foresting and farming. It is an incomparable natural resource which abounds with bird and animal life, rivers, lakes and forests.

Association (a governing association for park development) have doubled. Large tracts of land are being sold by paper companies who have utilized this property for foresting, to corporations whose interests are unclear. If this trend continues and stricter legislation regarding the park is not adopted, the natural beauty and wilderness status of the park will be permanently altered. As nature lovers and environmentalists, we should all be concerned with preserving the ecological integrity of this park for present and future generations.

WHAT YOU CAN DO - The Adirondack Council, a conservation group that deals with environmental concerns of the park, is calling for a one-year moratorium on all large scale development in the Adirondack Park. They are requesting a study to reassess present land use regulation and to identify measures that will insure that the Adirondack Park will retain its unique wilderness character for future generations. Write: Governor Cuomo, State Capitol, Albany, New York 12224. Urge the Governor specifically to (1) undertake the necessary study to reassess present land control legislation in the park (2) support the call for a one-year moratorium on all large scale developments in the park. You might also write or call your Senator and Assemblyman and urge them to take the lead during the next legislative session in imposing a one-year moratorium on all large scale development in the park (d.e.) projects of 250 or more acres involving three or more lots.



Whimbrel. P. J. Moore

INCOME TAX-CHARITY DEDUCTION

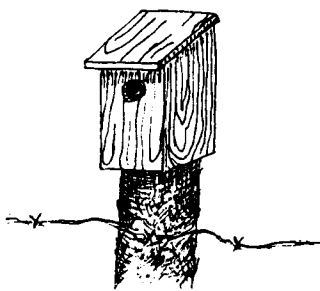
Lennox A. Gordon

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has been requested by the U. S. House Budget Committee to ask our assistance in informing patrons of charitable fund raising organizations as to which payments to the organization are income tax deductible.

A payment can qualify as an income tax deductible gift only to the extent that it is shown to exceed the fair market value of any consideration received in the form of privilege or other benefit.

Before solicitation the amounts of payments which are part gift and part purchase price should be determined and the amounts clearly stated.

Revenue ruling 67-246, I.R.S. Publication 1301 (6-88)



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Evelyn Blume

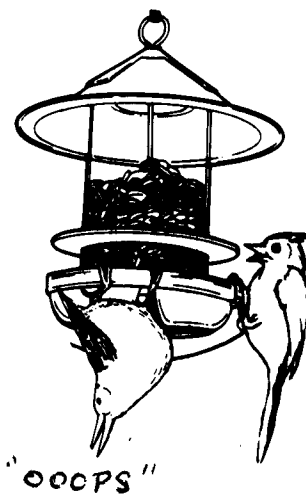
Want to enrich your life? Now is your chance to apply for a Scholarship being awarded by South Shore Audubon.

Scholarship III will be awarded to a candidate who is an active S.S.A.S. member involved in education in the Chapter Community, etc. and or is willing to serve on a Chapter Committee. If no candidate meets those requirements it will be awarded to a candidate who is active.

Scholarship IV is a youth scholarship and will be awarded to a young person recommended by an active S.S.A.S. member.

Both these Scholarships are at the Audubon Camp in Maine. Scholarship III is for Field Ecology for two weeks. Scholarship IV is at Youth Ecology Camp (ages 10 through 15).

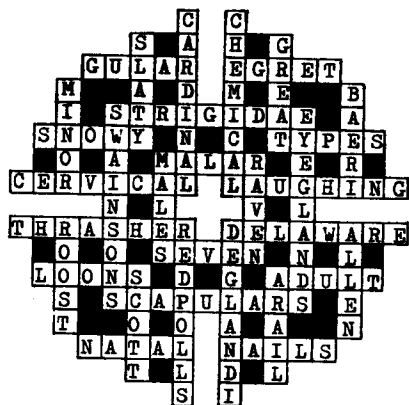
Anyone interested, please submit name to Evelyn Blume, 313 Smith Street, Merrick, New York 11566; call at 378-7122.



BIRD WALKS 1988 - 1989

ElMiot Kutner, Chairperson
(516) 486-7667

- November 20 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- 27 Pelham Bay Park (Meet on Service Road after going through Throg's Neck Bridge Toll Plaza, 9:00 A.M.)
- December 4 Mennstead Lake State Park (Peninsula Blvd. Pkg.)
- 11 Zach's Bay, Field No. 4, N.E. Corner
- 18 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (25th, No Walk)



1988-89 Officers, Directors and Committee Chairpersons

Joseph Grupp, President.....	481-4208
Joan Butkerei, Vice President & Conservation...	623-0843
Louise Halpin, Recording Secretary.....	546-6147
Lennox Gordon, Treasurer.....	223-1365
Ruth Grossman, Corresponding Secretary.....	378-8809
George Appoldt, Director.....	678-4964
Arthur Atlas, Director.....	223-2327
Arthur Charney, Director.....	485-4611
Ann McIntyre, Director.....	379-2206
Lois Schlegel, Director.....	822-1546
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Diane Singer, Publicity Chairperson.....	561-6118
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson.....	379-2090
James Remsen, Youth Representative.....	764-5168
Bill Herzog, Binocular & Book Sales(7:-9:PM)....	791-7886
Myrna Brier, Hospitality Chairperson.....	764-7523
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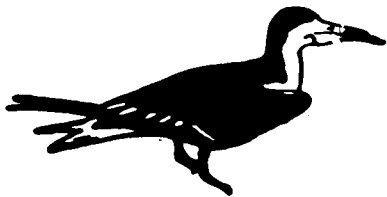


Mimi Hoppe Wolf

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