

SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 21, NUMBER 8 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MAY 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One in a Million

Joan Butkerei

The associations I've made through South Shore Audubon have come to make me realize how unusually worthy of respect people in the community are. There is one singularly quiet man who has been a source of great joy and unflinching support for many years. Although I've known him 20 years, there have only been two, or so, dozen occasions in which I've actually shared his time. Those occasions have had great influence. He has a lifelong interest in birds and has brought his view of the natural world to Audubon chapters throughout Long Island. Although he appears to be a shy man, his wry humor and eye for beauty make his programs even more entertaining. He is an invaluable resource, has been all over this continent with his camera, and has had the respect and friendship of some of the most renowned people in the Audubon arena, from the late Edwin Waite Teale to John Bull at the American Museum of Natural History. There is never a trace of snobbery, and I believe he values all lovers of nature equally. Each and every time I have asked him for something, whether it was information, or physical participation, as in our successful efforts to save what was left of the Hempstead Plains, he has come forth with more than I had ever asked for. It was through his eyes I first viewed a Cardinal flower or saw a family of Barn Owls, and from his calling, the first time I ever heard a sparrow referred to as an LBJ (little brown job). Long Island got a bonus when World War II brought him and his wife from Ohio to Mitchell Field, where he was stationed. Adrian Dignan is one in a million.



NEXT MEETING

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, May 12, 1992
TIME: 8:00 PM
PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library
Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.
SPEAKER: Tom Torma
TOPIC: Aliens on the Planet

Last year, SSAS sent Tom, who is one of our directors, to the ecological workshop run by National Audubon in Connecticut. Tom will present an audiovisual slide program about the earth's ecology.

Mr. John Norbeck
Director of Operations
Jones Beach State Park

April 12, 1992

Dear Mr. Norbeck,

With regard to our telephone conversation on April 8th, this letter is to confirm that the approximately \$3000 raised during our Greening of Long Island campaign will be used to purchase red cedar, Douglas fir, Hollywood juniper, and American holly to be planted at Jones Beach this spring. This is South Shore Audubon's Earth Day gift to the great treasure that is Jones Beach State Park, and will help to replace some of the thousands of trees lost in the blight that has affected the Japanese black pines. We understand that New York State's budgetary crisis is affecting the ability to purchase trees. At a price of \$35 to \$50 per tree, we will be able to plant close to a hundred 4 to 6 foot trees. We realize this is only a start, but we will continue with our efforts. South Shore Audubon Society's Greening of Long Island project, initiated two years ago by Mr. Elliott Kutner, is a ten year commitment to restore as many trees as possible. I am happy that our fundraising efforts will be able to help the Park's environment.

Sincerely,
Joan Butkerei, President

NOMINATIONS FOR 1992-1993 OFFICERS

Elliott Kutner

At South Shore Audubon Society's general meeting on May 12th, officers will be elected for our next fiscal year. All members attending that meeting may nominate candidates from the floor and vote. The SSAS Nominating Committee [Elliott Kutner (Chairman), William Hollweg, and Nora Lourenco] has recommended the following candidates:

President — James Remsen, Jr.
Vice President — Mark Phillips
Treasurer — George Popkin
Recording Secretary — Louise Hillen
Corresponding Secretary — Doris Pirodsky
Honorary Corresponding Secretary — Ruth Grossman
Director (to 6/95) — Paul Devendittis
Director (to 6/95) — Bruno Leporati

SCHOLARSHIPS

Evelyn Blume

Jessamyn Anne McIntyre will be our Youth Scholarship person going to Maine. She is 10 years old and is looking forward to the Audubon camp in Maine, plus bringing back to her school, friends, and SSAS all that she learns.

Dolores Rogers is our adult recipient of the scholarship to Maine. Dolores has been an active member of our chapter and is involved in many committees and preserve projects. Her enthusiasm is contagious and she has brought many people into SSAS.

We are looking ahead to next year and the scholarship drive to send an adult and a student, with no cost to the individual except for transportation; qualifications will be discussed in the *Skimmer* soon.

EGRETS

Tom Torma

During a hot muggy July morning, having spent several hours huddled under mosquito netting that serves as a makeshift blind, I found myself counting mosquitos instead of birds. It is times like this when I begin to wonder why I took up bird photography. Suddenly, a Snowy Egret lands right next to me, followed by another Snowy Egret and a Great Egret. A Little Blue Heron strolled by as I joyfully recorded their images on film. The hours of my discomfort were soon forgotten.

The key to taking good egret pictures is the understanding of light. Early morning light is warm and soft. The low angle of the sun creates shadows that bring out the details of the birds. Bright overcast days with a white sky produce a soft

pleasant light with no harsh shadows or glare. A high bright sun has lots of glare, small but harsh shadows, and high contrast, and the results are washed out pictures with little detail. When photographing egrets on bright sunny days, the light reflecting off the egrets' white feathers can fool your light meter. I lower my exposure at least one f-stop. For insurance, bracket your pictures: take several pictures at half f-stop intervals above and below your original exposure.

We are lucky to have egrets or any bird to photograph. Back in the late 1800's and early 1900's, the millinery trade hired hunters that slaughtered sparrows, flycatchers, warblers, and even crows. The birds were killed for their feathers, wings, and even the whole mounted bird, to decorate fashionable women's hats. The egrets were particularly vulnerable due to their desirable long dorsal plumage that appears during breeding seasons. These graceful plumes, called aigrettes, brought the egrets to the edge of extinction. Only strong laws, vigorous enforcement, and a change in women's fashion saved these birds from annihilation.

Long Island played a role in this macabre history. According to the book *Gunners Paradise* written by E. Jane Townsend, the largest millinery factory was located in Wantagh, right here in Nassau County. The William L. Wilson Company employed 50 people and hired gunners that roamed from Cape Cod to Florida, hunting birds. Many of the gunners were Long Island baymen, who made more money hunting for feathers than from oystering or fishing. In 1901, the Wilson plant burned down, with a complete loss of inventory. Included in the inventory were 10,000 stuffed gulls; 20,000 wings of various birds; and 10,000 bird heads ranging from "beautifully plumaged southern birds to the ordinary Long Island crow."

Today we look back at market hunting with disapproval. We ask ourselves: How could anyone kill magnificent birds for profit? How could anyone wear feathers or wings of a bird for adornment? We should not be so hasty to criticize past generations. Think how future generations might look back at us. At the end of the 20th century, people still abuse the earth's natural resources. Fuels are still being wasted on inefficient equipment. We are still destroying forests, and polluting water and air. People do not recycle enough. Whales are still being hunted. Elephants are still killed for their ivory. People still adorn themselves with fur. Things have not changed that much.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marion Yavarkovsky

Welcome! This is a wonderful time of the year to join SSAS. Weekly bird walks, the May 9th Birdathon, monthly meetings, and the June dinner are all very exciting spring events. Join us!

[For information on joining the South Shore Audubon Society, please call our Membership Chairperson, Marion Yavarkovsky, at 379-2090. The best time to call is after 4 PM, Monday through Friday.]

Baldwin	Vincent J. Hodgins, Michael C. Keane, Brian Walsh
Bellmore	Wilma A. Bellucci, Rose M. Fenimore, Mr. Scott A. Greifenberger, Mr. Scott Jones, Mr. Anthony V. Montesano
Bethpage	Miss Pamela J. Wissmann
Cedarhurst	Mrs. Andrea Damm, Kathleen Treacy
East Meadow	Richard Heneks, Nancy Rosenbaum, Daniel Scheiman, Avner Tobias, R. Westphal
East Rockaway	Allan Morgenstern
Elmont	Mr. Donald Basedow, Miss Nancy Chebuske, Mrs. Kathy Perrotto
Farmingdale	Joe Lepera, Shawm Qureshi
Floral Park	Mr. William J. Corbett, Jacqueline Heifetz, Karen Ujlaky
Franklin Square	Mr. Thomas Fusto, Betty V. Yzquierdo
Freeport	Mrs. Marjorie DiGregorio, Dennis Gargiulo, Henry W. Nelson, Mrs. Mildred Thayer
Garden City	Veronica Stegman
Hempstead	Ms. Janet Collura, Mr. E. Richard Rimmels, Mr. James Stell
Hicksville	Virginia Perry
Levittown	Paula Abisognio, Mr. Neil P. Ball, Miss Anna M. Cupani, Fran Haberland
Long Beach	Mr. & Mrs. Jay Alper, D. Litton, Herbert Schlanger
Lynbrook	R. P. Michielini
Malverne	Arlene Kaye, Linda J. Unbekant
Massapequa	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Golinski, Mr. Eric Kastens, Susan Raab, Joyce Reibel
Massapequa Park	Gloria Kunen, Mrs. E. Lynskey, Ms. Anmarie Sloan
Merrick	Joan Filderman
Oceanside	Mr. Sheldon Goldstein, Michael Schoenfeld

Old Bethpage	Steven Spiegel, W. Tillotson
Plainview	Charles S. Bobelis, Todd Zolla
Point Lookout	W. D. Hagemen
Rockville Centre	Toni Ehrlein, Peter Levy
Seaford	Dorothy Mussorfiti
Valley Stream	Mimi Eckel, Mr. John Tancredi
Wantagh	Mr. Richard Costleigh, Randy Evans, Marianne D. Gesualdi, Ms. Kim Swarhout
West Hempstead	Alex Berger

THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY

134 Cove Road
Oyster Bay, NY 11771
(516) 922-3200

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bird Sanctuary is owned by the National Audubon Society and operated by the Community and three local Audubon chapters, including South Shore Audubon. The following program is open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required. All program fees are required at the time of registration.

Friday, May 15th (7 PM to 9 PM, adults) — Caring for Our Feathered Friends. Join us for a slide show and discussion about the proper procedures for caring for injured birds. Each person will learn first aid techniques and will meet one of our permanently injured birds of prey. Program fee \$3 for TRS members, \$5 for nonmembers.

Memorial Day Weekend — TRS Fundraisers at Tackapausha Museum & Preserve. A wine and cheese party with speakers will be held on Friday, May 22nd, from 7 to 10 PM; admission is \$10. On Saturday and Sunday, from 11 AM to 4 PM, there will be programs on reptiles and birds of prey; nature walks; and wildlife learning booths with exhibits on animal tracks, owl pellets, marine life, plants, etc. Admission on Saturday and Sunday will be \$3 for children and \$5 for adults. Tackapausha is located on Washington Avenue in Seaford, just north of Merrick Road.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mark Phillips

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is presently experiencing a serious manpower shortage. Budgetary constraints are such that existing positions that are vacant may not be refilled. Expansion of the workforce is apparently out of the question. For effective law enforcement to be maintained or improved, additional funding for special agent and wildlife inspector positions must be provided as soon as possible. Please address your comments, stressing this point and that such positions should be filled by highly qualified individuals, to: Ronald Lambertson, Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, One Gateway Center, Newton Corner, MA 02158.

BIRD WALK REPORT

Betty Borowsky

About 50 people went on the bird walk on May 19, 1991 at Jones Beach West End #2. Not too many species were seen, but we hardly noticed it, since our main goal was to view the nesting Piping Plovers, listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act, and to see whether the Least Terns, listed as an endangered species, had begun building their nests on the dunes. We were successful; Piping Plovers were on their nests, the terns had begun their mating behavior, and the activities of both species were easily observed. [Editor's note: This article was omitted from last June's *Skimmer* due to space limitations; it appears now in the hope that many of you will join us at West End #2 on our May 10th and 24th bird walks.]

In addition to the nesting plovers and terns, we saw a flock of shorebirds which must have contained over 400 birds. Although there were at least two species in the flock, they acted in concert; when some flew to another site, the others followed. Most of the birds were Semipalmated Plovers and Sanderlings. The Sanderlings were molting; some had already acquired their summer, reddish-brown color, while some were still in their winter grays.

Further along the dunes, we saw the Least Terns beginning their nesting activities. They had not yet built their nests, but were pair-bonding prior to mating. One bird brought a small silverside fish to another — presumably a male making his offering to a female. The recipient of the fish was in a small depression it had built, perhaps the beginnings of a nest.

The most interesting part of this walk was watching the plovers. It is quite remarkable to see this bird on its nest. Rather it is remarkable how *difficult* it is to see this bird on its nest. The plover's coloration is identical to the surrounding sand, and one needs a sharp eye to pick it out from its background. The bird nests in the open sand; it's no wonder that it's threatened. While we were there, we saw many persons come to the beach for a picnic or to sunbathe. Even the most well-intentioned people would have walked on the nests. Not only were the birds camouflaged, but the eggs were too — large and speckled with Desert Storm colors. The eggs are especially vulnerable, since they lay exposed, and the female's principal means of defending them is to run away from the eggs. The idea is to turn the predator's attention from the eggs to the female, and lure the predator away from the eggs. I was told that the female often behaves as if it has a broken wing to trick the predator away from the nest area.

All of this display serves for nothing if a person coming to the beach has his or her mind on swimming or sunbathing. Such a person would probably not pay much attention to the bird's shenanigans, and would continue along, inadvertently trampling the exposed eggs underfoot.

To avoid this, plovers are actively protected, mostly by volunteers. Fencing is erected around each nest; the volunteers station themselves nearby, making sure that no one

breaches the fence. The volunteers also take notes on the birds' behaviors. This volunteer effort is coordinated by South Shore Audubon Society and the Nature Conservancy.

A comment on the volunteers who are watching the plovers: to a casual observer it looks mighty ridiculous for two people to spend hours watching one of the least interesting looking birds in the book doing not much more than blending into the background, but the truth is that the volunteers' efforts permit both plovers and people, who both have rights, to have their fair share of the beach.

JAMES BAY HYDROPOWER UPDATE

Michael Sperling

On March 16th, the New York State Assembly, by a vote of 122 to 17, passed a bill introduced by Energy Committee Chairman William B. Hoyt of Buffalo that would require an exhaustive environmental review before NY could finalize its \$19 billion contract to buy electricity from Hydro-Quebec. According to the New York Times, Hydro-Quebec plans to flood an area the size of New Jersey and dam parts of 20 wild rivers; they quoted Hoyt as saying that this would be "an environmental, human rights, and economic disaster." South Shore Audubon Society has been very active in opposing the James Bay II project and in urging Governor Cuomo to cancel the contract.

In late March, before the NY Senate considered the bill (where its fate was uncertain), Governor Cuomo cancelled the contract, citing economic reasons. Under the original 1989 terms of the contract, he had until November of last year to cancel the deal without penalty; that deadline had been extended by one year due to vehement opposition from many environmental groups and the native Cree Indians. Without New York's money and commitment to buy the electricity, it is unlikely that Hydro-Quebec can afford to go ahead with the project. The cancellation of the contract is a huge victory for the environmental movement, but we paid a price — Assemblyman Hoyt, who had led the Legislature in opposing the project, died from a heart attack two days before Cuomo's announcement.

BIRD WALKS

Elliott Kutner

All walks start at 9:30 AM; no walk if it rains. Any questions? Call Elliott at 486-7667.

May 3	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
May 10	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
May 17	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
May 24	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
May 31	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
June 7	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
June 14	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

CONSERVATION REPORT

Lois Bartow Schlegel

Your Letters Made the Difference. Another victory for the environment! The threat to seven of our Long Island wildlife refuges has ceased, as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that *they will not be sold* and will remain in the federal system. The scare was from the Department of the Interior's audit assessment of national wildlife refuges, which claimed that seven of Long Island's eight refuges were underutilized and do not contribute to the mission of the refuge system.

The reason for the swift decision not to sell, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife, is that *officials were inundated with letters from Long Islanders in defense of those invaluable sites*. Those were *your* letters! Issues don't usually get cleaned up so quickly and overtly as this one did, but here's a good indicator of the potency of putting pen to paper, or mouth to phone! Congratulate yourselves for making a difference.

What Now? Did any of you get a response from your letters? Interestingly, having written to six officials (my Congressional Representative, Senators, Dept. of the Interior, etc.) in January, I received only *one* reply, from Rep. Norman Lent. He, thankfully, was in favor of preserving these sites. He was written a thank you letter. *Just as important as writing your initial letter, it is vital to thank those who have supported your concerns*. No one I've talked to has received a reply other than from Mr. Lent. I am particularly interested in the Dept. of the Interior's response, if any. I'd appreciate copies of any responses sent to SSAS, or call me at 822-1546.

Meanwhile, bill H.R. 1573 has been introduced to make sure these lands are perpetually free from commercial development. The sponsors are Hochbrueckner, Downey, Mrazek, McGrath, Scheuer, and Lent (for a copy of this bill, call one of their offices). At this writing I don't have all my questions answered about it, but you may like to get a hold of a copy and write to support it or suggest amendments.

A Word From Conservation Co-Chairperson Annie F. McIntyre. I'd like to apologize to all *Skimmer* readers. In my frenzy to get my Conservation Report to our ever-so-patient editor, I made a relatively LARGE error. When encouraging you all to get involved and write about the bill that threatens to abolish the Adirondack Park Agency, I labeled the bill as an Assembly bill, when it is in fact a Senate bill (S6543). For those of you who did write, I'd appreciate it if you let me know what kind of response you received. Again, my sincere apologies.

RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 832-6523

WILDLIFE POISONING HOTLINE (800) 356-0560

AUDUBON HOTLINE (202) 547-9017

1991 NYS ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

Michael Sperling

The Environmental Planning Lobby, founded in 1969, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan alliance of individuals and over 100 organizations; they are New York State's only full-time environmental lobby. EPL's Board of Directors includes the National Audubon Society's Northeast Regional Vice President, David Miller. Last year, EPL supported 26 bills that managed to reach the floor of at least the Assembly or Senate, while opposing 8 bills that reached at least one floor. Their 1991 Voters' Guide discusses all of these bills, lists the voting records of every member of New York's Legislature, and contains other information. EPL's address is 353 Hamilton St., Albany, NY 12210.

Before I reprint their comments about some of these bills, it is important to note that, in EPL's opinion, "it would be difficult to overstate this year's (1991) level of indifference to the state's environmental condition displayed by most of New York's legislators. NYS faces a number of serious environmental problems. Increasing amounts of solid waste threaten to bust the budget and capacity of most municipal landfills; the drinking water quality of a majority of state residents faces further decline from contaminating runoff and mushrooming subdivisions in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds and on Long Island; NY continues to use more imported fossil fuel than any other state; ongoing loss of habitat strains species diversity; vehicle miles traveled rapidly increase as more areas in the state fail to attain minimally acceptable federal air quality standards; the rate of development in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks threatens to fragment some of our last remaining wilderness areas; and an epidemic of illegal dumping and environmental lawlessness strains the fabric of an already over-stressed state enforcement capacity. Despite this daunting array of pressing environmental issues facing NY, the vast majority of rank and file legislators and their leaders showed very little interest in seriously addressing them. The total lack of response to any of these issues presents only two possibilities, each disturbing. Either the Legislature does not understand the importance of these matters, or it has decided the problems are not worth its attention... In the past, NY's Legislature at least seemed to understand the need to discuss the issues."

The average statewide score for the 24 bills that did reach the Assembly floor was 83, with a range of 78 to 92 for the eleven Assemblymen whose districts are at least partly in Nassau County: Healey (83), Yevoli (79, now Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor), Parola (92), Frisa (84), DiNapoli (92), Balboni (88), Hill (88), O'Shea (92), Weisenberg (92), Becker (78), and Madison (92, no longer in office). The average Senate score for the 19 bills that reached the floor was 79, with scores of either 74 or 79 for the six Senators whose districts are partly or solely in our county. Four of the six (Marino, Hannon, Levy, and Skelos) voted identically on all of these bills, with Tully and Padavan voting differently (better) on just one of the 19 bills. Statewide, Assembly

Democrats got scores ranging from 67 to 92, while Republican scores ranged from 45 to 92; Senate Republicans got scores ranging from 58 to 83, while Democratic scores ranged from 72 to 95. According to EPL: "State politics in Albany is leadership driven. Three men — Governor Mario Cuomo, Speaker of the Assembly Mel Miller [Editor's note: Mr. Miller was forced to resign this year], and Senate Majority Leader Ralph Marino — dictate the agenda and ultimate passage of significant bills. The remaining Senators and Assembly members are for the most part reduced to, as described in the New York Times earlier this year [1991], 'extras on the set of Ben Hur.' Because rules in both houses allow the leaders to completely control the bills which reach the floor for a vote, the minority members in each house — Democrats in the Senate and Republicans in the Assembly — can only engage in debate over bills whose outcome has already been ordained. Under this iron-fisted approach to democracy, when the leaders are indifferent or hostile toward environmental measures, achievement is doomed."

The following bills passed at least the Assembly or Senate last year; you can still write to your Assemblyman (NYS Assembly, Albany, NY 12248) and State Senator (NYS Senate, Albany, NY 12247) regarding any bill not yet passed by both houses — the good bills need help in order to clear the second hurdle. Due to space limitations, this article will be continued in a future *Skimmer*. The bill descriptions are taken from EPL's 1991 Voters' Guide.

Renewable Energy. This bill requires electric or gas utilities to financially assist residential and agricultural customers who install solar, wind, biogas, fuel cell, or geothermal equipment. The measure would help to lessen significantly New York's dependence on foreign fuel sources and increase reliance on environmentally sound, renewable energy resources. A5181-A (introduced by Hoyt) passed the Assembly but was not sponsored in the Senate.

Promote DSM Programs. Demand-side management, or DSM, is a fancy name for energy efficiency. DSM programs include the provision of more efficient light bulbs and refrigerators to utility customers, who save money on their energy bills and free up power that the utility can sell to other customers. This bill allows the Public Service Commission to order utilities to implement such programs. A5559-A (Hoyt) passed the Assembly but had no Senate sponsor.

Add Energy Alternatives to SEQRA. This bill adds the consideration of lower energy use alternatives to the existing provisions in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for any proposed action involving transportation or building construction. This legislation is a good first step towards identifying energy consumption as having serious environmental impacts and causing new transportation or construction proposals to consider energy efficient alternatives during the SEQRA environmental impact statement process. A6393 (Hoyt) / S3880 (Seward) passed the Assembly but was held in the Senate Rules Committee.

Polluter Compliance. Polluters often sign consent orders for cleanup without following through on their end, and the

Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has limited staff and resources to enforce these orders. Consequently, these industries are able to knowingly evade penalty for their environmentally destructive, illegal actions. This bill would allow DEC to require that polluters post a bond or other surety when issued a consent order or final determination, thereby insuring more adequate enforcement. A2837-A (Grannis) / S1834-A (Lack) passed the Assembly but was held in the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee.

Remedy State ECL Violations. This measure requires certain state agencies to report annually their own violations of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) and to develop plans in order to remedy those violations. Many state agencies have been in violation of the ECL for years, setting a poor example for private citizens and businesses. This bill will ensure better protection of the state's environment while helping state agencies comply with the law. A432-A (Brodsky, Hinchey) / S1451-A (Daly) passed both houses of the legislature. However, Governor Cuomo convinced the bill's sponsors to recall the bill at this time.

Strengthen Forest Preserve Protection. The forested lands of New York State represent a priceless resource recognized by the state as deserving the protection necessary to keep these lands forever wild. This bill strengthens existing enforcement laws to help ensure our forest lands are not exploited or damaged. A5722-A (Hinchey) / S3512-A (Johnson), introduced at the request of Attorney General Robert Abrams, passed the Assembly but was held in the Senate Rules Committee.

Environmental Trust Fund. With the defeat of the 21st Century Environmental Quality Bond Act, the state has no available funding for a number of critical environmental programs. This bill would have created an environmental trust fund to provide approximately \$90 million a year for preservation of endangered land resources, local recycling efforts, and sewage treatment facilities. The money would have been derived from the \$82 million in excise taxes on beer and soda containers, originally intended to finance the bond act, and an existing fee on motor oil. Although widely recognized as not providing enough funding for the many worthy purposes included in the proposal, the measure was necessary to address the most critical short-term environmental needs. A7613-A (Hinchey) passed the Assembly, but was held in the Senate Rules Committee.

Rainforest Protection. The world's rainforests are vanishing at an astonishing rate of over 50,000 acres every day. The logging of tropical forests is a foremost cause of our global loss of biodiversity, atmospheric imbalance, and the disruption of indigenous rainforest people and their unique cultures. This bill helps New York take a modest step toward protecting rainforests by prohibiting state and local governments from purchasing tropical forest hardwoods and hardwood products, such as furniture. A7476-A (Koppell) / S4998-A (Johnson) passed both houses and was signed into law by the Governor.

1991-1992 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Joan Butkerei, President	623-0843
James Remsen, Jr., Vice President, Bylaws Review Chairperson, & Birdathon Co-Chairperson ...	764-5168
Louise Hillen, Recording Secretary	546-6147
George Popkin, Treasurer (8 to 9 PM)	378-4467
Ruth Grossman, Corresponding Secretary	593-4554
Marge Jaeger, Director (6/94)	536-9166
Richard Packert, Director (6/94)	437-9683
Tom Torma, Director (6/93) & Fundraising Chairperson	223-7947
Mark Phillips, Director (6/92)	431-0265
Dolores Rogers, Director (6/92)	599-1224
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Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson	249-4919
Paul Butkerei, Bird Seed Savings Day	623-0843
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Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	481-4208
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Elliott Kutner, Birding / Field Trips Chairperson	486-7667
Joseph Lancer, Binocular / Book Sales (7 to 9 PM)	536-6574
Frieda Malament, Holiday Parties	795-5842
Annie F. McIntyre, Conservation Co-Chairperson	379-2206
Doris Pirodsky, Historian	378-1790
Doreen Remsen, Birdathon Co-Chairperson	472-6830
Josephine Rosato, T-Shirt / Sweatshirt Sales	541-5614
Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality Chairperson	766-7397
Lois Bartow Schlegel, Conservation Co-Chairperson (to 8:30 PM)	822-1546
Diane Singer, Publicity	561-6118
Michael Sperling, <i>Skimmer</i> Editor	541-0805
John Staropoli, Youth Representative	599-1569
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	379-2090

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A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Americans Committed to Conservation



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