

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 8 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MAY 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

James Remsen, Jr.

South Shore Audubon is operating in high gear these days, as are the birds of North America, with spring migration in full force. Here are a few news items from our chapter and its various committees.

I received a letter from Maxwell Wheat, one of our members and a standout poet and writer, discussing the heavy usage of Freeport's Cow Meadow Preserve and environs by members of the Spanish-speaking community, as well as the need to make such a place accessible to them. South Shore Audubon's Board of Directors thinks it would be great if we could have a committee to explore the possibility of initiating an outreach to this community. The Board feels this committee should be chaired by someone fluent in English and Spanish. If you, or someone you know, is interested in working on this, please call me at 764-5168 (evenings) or send a note to our post office box.

Second, our annual Greening of Long Island fund-raiser is in full swing, under the very capable direction of Fundraising Chairperson Marge Jaeger. This is our annual appeal for funds to plant trees on Long Island, usually along the barrier beach at Jones Beach State Park. All members should have received the appeal by now (unless this is your first or second Skimmer), and for those of you who have responded already, I thank you. The rest of you should know that it is certainly not too late to participate. Just mail your check (payable to South Shore Audubon Society) to our post office box and designate that it is for the fund-raising appeal.

Third, our Birdathon is fast approaching! (Saturday, May 14th is the day, and May 21st is the rain date.) You can help our environment by getting people to pledge a certain amount of money for each species of bird you see on that day, or just sponsor yourself! Then join one of our teams (or bird on your own), collect your pledges, and mail the pledges to our Birdathon Chairperson, Doreen Remsen. If you have questions, call Doreen or myself; our numbers are on the back of this newsletter. If you want full details on the Birdathon, see last month's *Skimmer*.

NEXT MEETING

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, May 10, 1994

TIME: 8:00 p.m. ②

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKER: Kevin T. Karlson

TOPIC: Alaska and the Birds of the Arctic

Coastal Tundra

Join us for a marvelous slide program that includes southern Alaska's Kenai Peninsula and highlights the birds and wildlife of northern Alaska's Prudhoe Bay. In 1992 and 1993, this month's speaker worked as a wildlife biologist, studying birds in the Arctic. He is a published writer & photographer and has generously agreed to visit us from his native New Jersey, where he is the secretary of a bird records committee.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE

BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS

Last but not least, congratulations to Youth Representative John Staropoli on winning a \$1000 college scholarship in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search. John was one of three Long Islanders out of the forty students who placed in the finals of this prestigious competition. I believe he is only typical, however, of the high-caliber individuals attracted to active service in the chapter. Join them (we're all volunteers), become involved, and discover what real satisfaction comes from being an active member. Besides, they're all nice people, really!

AX WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AX

Marion Yavarkovsky

We are happy to have had another banner month -106new members. SSAS welcomes you to our wonderful organization. Please read this newsletter and find out what we are all about. We are certain you will find some activity that you would like to join. Hope to see you soon.

[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 P.M., Monday through Friday.]

Baldwin	Miss B. Bracciodieta, ? Thomas
Bellmore	Mr. Paul Bromberg, Barbara S.
	Bunting, Lydia Chispell,
	Mr. Ullman Rosenfield,
	Mrs. Astrid Spina
Bethpage	Richard Ehli, Joan Gannam, Mary
	Greco, Susan Helldorfer, James M.
	Sivilli, Sydney & Florence Weiss
East Meadow	Cheryl Engles, Michael Gatz, Mrs.
	Billie Hyman, Nancy Rosenbaum
East Rockaway	Mrs. Elaine Campbell,
	Robert Kienzle
Elmont	Mrs. F. Lawrence, Reva Marcellin,
	Linda L. Zook
Farmingdale	Mr. & Mrs. John N. Ahlsen, Ralph
	V. Buffalino Jr., Elizabeth
	Grudzinski, George Rivera,
	Mrs. Frank Valenti
Floral Park	Michael Bilka, Mrs. Howard T.
	Peaceman
Freeport	Mrs. Camille Bini, Mrs. Ruth L.
	Maynes, Mrs. Claire Mc Bride,
	Mr. John L. Warren, Mr. Nelson J.
	Woodruff
Garden City	John J. Cruise, A. DeCaprariis,
	Suzanne & Ron Hedgepeth,
	Dr. C. Liebmann
Hicksville	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Blaha, Muriel L.
	Jones, Mrs. Reindalda Nelson,
	Sister E. Peters, Mrs. Olga
	Peterson, E. Toovell Profsky,
	Solomon Schechter School Library,
	Melanie Seery, Mrs. Gordon W.
	Van Sise
Island Park	
Lawrence	Arthur Jacob, Dr. & Mrs. Michael
	Werner
Levittown	Robert P. Anderson, Mr. Gregory P.
	Catanzaro, Mrs. Jessie G. Collins,
	Mrs. John D. Cullen, Nancy Frame,
	Mr. R. Juhren, Robert M.
	Kernahan, Sharon Papp,
	Marcia Sherman

Long Beach Mr. Eugene Colon, Michael		
Fiederlein, Mr. Leon M. Pollack,		
Lawrence Shorten		
Malverne Mr. Roger Coleman		
Massapequa Janet Buddine, Ms. Anne M. Burke,		
Ms. Susan Burke, Mr. Russell		
Esposito, M. Glasgow, Sue Hough,		
Jacqueline Thomas		
Massapequa Park Frederick E. Bieber Jr., Frances Guy		
& Harry Volz, Mrs. Joan		
Kristensen, Francine Schembri,		
David R. Strub		
Merrick Mr. Albert Gaynor, Henry Kessin,		
Mr. Jeffrey Schwartz, Mr. Peter W		
Steinmaker, James P. Swiader		
New Hyde Park Peg & Walt Dilts		
Oceanside Jayne Wallace, Leon Weber,		
Kenneth Wolfe		
Plainview Ruth Costa, Greta Jacob, Sven &		
Patricia Lossmann, Mr. Robert		
Reahl, Lorraine Salamone,		
Ms. Susan Silverman,		
Mr. Curtis Sloan		
Rockville Centre Flora Humes, Marjorie A. Tietjen		
Seaford Edward W. Speidell		
Uniondale Hsiow-Yeng Chen, Ms. Brenda K.		
Markert, Jean Morris, Mr. Joseph		
Ryan		
Valley Stream Mr. Lester Goldstein, ? Laudanos,		
Ms. Blossom Stein,		
Mr. John Tanacredi		
Wantagh Vincent Giovanniello, Helen E.		
Rivadue, Diane Tully		

S BIRD WALKS S		
Elliott Kutner		

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

Apr. 24	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
May 1	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
May 8	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
May 15	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
May 22	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
May 29	Memorial Day Weekend - No Walk
June 5	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
June 12	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
	Summer Vacation
Aug. 14	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Aug. 21	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Aug. 28	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Sep. 4	Labor Day Weekend — No Walk
Sep. 11	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Sep. 18	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Sep. 25	Tobay JFK Sanctuary

A SPRING VOICE

Emilie Petersen

A lovely spring day
I was quietly sitting
In our nest
In a pine tree
Keeping our little ones
Warm and safe
Dad on a nearby branch
Resting from hunting tasks
Suddenly a great crowd arrived
Looking up at us with glee
Pointing out our wondrous golden crowns

Pointing out our wondrous golden crowns
Black and white faces
Jeather tufts
At the back of our heads
Obviously admiring Dad and me
Called us "Yellow-crowned Night Herons"
Not a bad label

Too polite to stare at these aliens
I noted they had hands, eyes, legs and feet
Of great proportions
No feathers, no wings
Poor undeveloped Giants
Couldn't fly
All were the same
Close together
Reminded me of the cliche
"Birds of a feather, flock together"

BRIGANTINE TRIP

Our bus trip to southern New Jersey's Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge will take place on May 21st. We will be leaving from the Merrick Park Golf Course parking lot at 7 A.M. and will return at about 7 P.M. The Golf Course entrance is on the south side of Merrick Road, just east of the Meadowbrook Parkway. Bring a box lunch — we will provide refreshments for the ride back. If you haven't already signed up, a few seats may still be available (for \$21). Call Diane Singer at 561-6118 for information.



621 Fulton St. (Rt. 109), Farmingdale, NY 11735
Located between McDonald's & Dunkin' Donuts

NOMINATIONS FOR 1994-1995 OFFICERS

Elliott Kutner

At South Shore Audubon Society's general meeting on May 10th, 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 Tom Torma] has recommended the following candidates:

President — Carole Adams
Vice President — Betty Borowsky
Treasurer — George Popkin
Recording Secretary — Louise Hillen
Corresponding Secretary — Doris Pirodsky
Director (to 6/97) — Lois Schlegel
Director (to 6/97) — Jonathan Staller

ENVIRONMENTAL QUOTATIONS

Michael Sperling

While I was having fun experiencing jury duty for the first time, I managed to read a few hundred entries in A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations, compiled by Barbara K. Rodes and Rice Odell (published by Simon & Schuster, copyright © 1992), which consists of brief snippets of wisdom and nonsense from all sorts of people. I'm planning on inserting my favorites in many Skimmers, starting here:



"Experimental evidence is strongly in favor of my argument that the chemical purity of the air is of no importance."

— L. Erskine Hill, quoted in *The New York Times*, September 22, 1912



"The Ford engineering staff, although mindful that automobile engines produce exhaust gases, feels these waste vapors are dissipated in the atmosphere quickly and do not present an air pollution problem." — Dan J. Chabek, Ford engineering spokesman, March 1953, quoted in Ralph Nader, Unsafe at Any Speed, 1965



"The law locks up both man and woman Who steals the goose from off the common, But lets the greater felon loose

Who steals the common from the goose"

Who steals the common from the goose."

— Anonymous, cited by Edward Potts Chevne

- Anonymous, cited by Edward Potts Cheyney, Social and Industrial History of England, 1901



"Suburbia is where the developer bulldozes out the trees, then names the streets after them." — Bill Vaughn, quoted in Jon Winokur, *The Portable Curmudgeon*, 1987

A WINTER'S TALE

Mort Silver

In the spring of '93, while birding in Alaska, my wife Lynne had the pleasure of sighting a Bohemian Waxwing in the vastness of Denali Park — a few minutes before midnight. I had opted to retire early that night and so missed the only sighting of this handsome bird during our trip. To this day, I have been unable to claim the Bohemian for my own list.

On March 13th, the Connecticut Rare Bird Alert reported the presence of a Bohemian among a flock of Cedar Waxwings (pictured) near Goshen, Connecticut.

Excited by the prospect of seeing this elusive and elegant bird, and as an antidote to the persistent grip of winter that



seemed destined to thwart my birding efforts, I rose early the next morning and drove more than 100 miles north to Goshen. Mile after mile, the winter chill deepened and my initial euphoric spirit began to sag.

Finally, I arrived at the area where the birds were last reported. I tramped the snow-covered back roads, listening intently ... but no Waxwings. Everywhere, in the tree groves, were Chickadees and Nuthatches, House Finches and Tufted Titmice. I was surrounded by avian motion — the woods were alive with birds. A flock

of yellow Evening Grosbeaks shared the tree limbs with families of Cardinals. What a welcome sight for one who lives in the world of concrete and jarring sounds.

I moved on to other forested areas, slogging through deep snow drifts and crossing rushing brooks swollen by the melting snow. I made contact with White-throated and Tree Sparrows, Juncos, and drumming Downy Woodpeckers. This was a winter wonderland ... but time was running short. I had to consider the long trip home to the asphalt jungle.

I made a last survey of an old abandoned farm, when suddenly a flash of electric blue caught my eye — an Eastern Bluebird was perched on a dry reed stalk, enjoying the meager sunlight. One can discount the woodchuck or even the Robin, but as the authentic harbinger of spring there is nothing like the sapphire sheen of the Bluebird. This was the perfect ending for my quest for the Bohemian Waxwing.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN 26,000,000 ACRES OF NEARBY FOREST?

Editor's Note: An issue of major concern to National Audubon Society is the future of the forest that spreads from upstate New York to Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. In the March Skimmer, I reprinted a brochure from Audubon's Northern Forest and Birds in the Balance campaigns that concentrated on the threat that future development poses to

the over 150 species of birds that breed in the area studied by the Northern Forest Lands Council. Until mid-May, you and I have a final opportunity to influence the recommendations made by this Council.

Below you will find an op-ed piece dated 3/18/94 sent to me by the four New York members of the NFLC, followed by the comments of the Northern Forest Alliance (consisting of 21 environmental groups, including big ones — National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, and Wilderness Society). If you have experienced first-hand the problems facing our Northern Forest, then your personal observations would be particularly interesting to the NFLC. For further information, contact David Miller, Northeast Regional Vice President, National Audubon Society, 1789 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203; phone (518) 869-9731. ALDA ALDA

On March 3, 1994, the Northern Forest Lands Council released its draft recommendations report, *Finding Common Ground*, for public review and comment. Interested people can receive a copy and provide feedback to the NFLC until May 16th.

In 1988, the Congress and governors of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont created the Northern Forest Lands Study and its companion Governors' Task Force, and then in 1990 their successor, the Northern Forest Lands Council. They were created out of concern for potential large scale changes in the traditional ownership patterns and uses which have characterized the Northern Forest for decades. Our report culminates several years of research and discussion about these potential changes and the effects of public policies on the region's forest lands.

We think these issues touch, in one way or another, everyone in the Northeast. The Northern Forest, encompassing 26 million acres in the northern parts of the four states, is the last vast area of continually forested land in the northeastern United States. It is inhabited by nearly a million people. This area is vital to us all as an environment which has supported — and can continue to support — a unique culture, jobs, and a natural landscape for recreational opportunities, a wide diversity of plants, wildlife, and ecosystems, and the trees for a strong timber economy.

But this will only continue into the future if we change certain public policies. These policies make it extremely difficult for the thousands of landowners of this predominantly privately owned landscape to keep it forested, unbroken, and available for the many uses it provides today.

Through its research, the Council learned that while there may be no immediate development crisis on large forest land tracts in the Northern Forest, some lands with the most sensitive environmental values — mostly along shorelines and with scenic views — have been sold as recreational and residential properties.

Most importantly, the Council also learned that the strong forces for change seen in the 1980s are still in place today, potentially affecting all forest lands in the region and beyond. The Council's research revealed layers of subtle but chronic pressures to change the uses and ownerships of the land in the region. These include:

* rising taxes, causing conversion of land from natural resource uses

* pressure for development of high-value areas near shorelines and scenic places

* jobs lost to competition from other regions and countries, and, thus, taken away from the north country

* incomplete knowledge of land management techniques to maintain or enhance biological diversity

* lack of funding and clear priority setting for public land and easement acquisition

* insufficient attention to and funding for public land management

* fear of losing public recreational opportunities and access to private lands

* loss of respect for the traditions of private ownership and uses of private land

* failure to consider forest land as a whole, as an integrated landscape

* increased polarization among forest user groups

These forces transcend property lines, county lines, and state boundaries. They affect large and small landowners, public land managers, mill workers, recreationists, residents, and visitors in the region. In the absence of thoughtful action, these forces will inevitably change the landscape of the Northern Forest — perhaps not immediately, but at some time in a way probably not desired by the people who live there or others who care about the Northern Forest. Thus, we have felt compelled to take the long view and anticipate the ramifications of these forces for change well into the future.

In many cases, such undesired change is unwittingly encouraged by public policy. The Council's draft recommendations, then, concentrate on changing public policy to provide ways for landowners, if they choose, to keep their land forested, undeveloped, and providing the multitude of public benefits which a large forested landscape can provide. In many cases, current policies do not give landowners the choice and they are being forced to change the ownership and use of their land.

We encourage you to get a copy of the report (it is even available through an online computer service if you have a personal computer and modem) and let us know what you think. We have built our draft recommendations on the thoughts, comments, and feelings of thousands of people and, once more, we ask that anyone with an interest in these issues comment on the draft recommendations from their point of view. We encourage people to obtain a copy by calling the NFLC office at (603) 224-6590 or by dropping a written request in the mail to the NFLC at 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord, NH 03301. A PA

The Northern Forest — A Legacy for the Next Generation. The great Northern Forest. The North Woods. The Big Woods. Home. By whatever name, it is a vast sweep of forest — twenty-six million acres of dense woodlands,

majestic mountains, rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands extending from New York's Adirondack Mountains across northern Vermont and New Hampshire to the tip of Maine. Home to one million people. A source of jobs for hundreds of thousands. A source of spiritual renewal and recreation for tens of millions. A refuge for over 250 species of wildlife. A natural treasure we hold in trust for future generations.

What kind of Northern Forest will we leave to our children and grandchildren?

The Northern Forest has provided sustenance for people for centuries, yet we are asking more and more of this forest. More trees for cutting. More places to build our vacation homes and drive our cars. Make no mistake: the Northern Forest is changing.

How we direct this change will determine whether the Northern Forest can continue to provide jobs, recreation, and natural beauty for all to enjoy. Managing change wisely requires that we set our sights not on next year, or the next ten years. It requires that we look ahead a generation and more.

The Northern Forest Lands Council has wrestled with the complex issues that confront the Northern Forest. It has struggled to balance the many interests at stake and has provided a foundation on which to build. Now we must take bold action to save the Northern Forest from the forces that threaten both its ecological health and the long-term economic future of the people who depend on it.

A Forest Threatened. Boom and bust economic cycles have periodically placed the Northern Forest under intense pressure. Huge tracts of Northern Forest land have been bought by speculators who saw a greater short-term return in housing lots than in management of the land for long-term, quality timber. Development on ecologically sensitive shorelines has destroyed wildlife habitat and limited the long tradition of public access that has been valued by hunters, hikers, snowmobilers, anglers, and boaters. Clearcutting and other activities have altered natural processes, caused soil erosion, degraded the timber stock, and scarred the landscape. The forest products industry in the region suffers from recession, global competition, and inadequate investment in aging mills. Taxation policies can discourage long-term stewardship of the land.

Short-sighted decisions have compromised the forest's future. We have taken for granted the forest's role as a filter for cleaning our water and air, as a storehouse for the variety of life that keeps the forest healthy.

If we are to bequeath to our children a Northern Forest that will support their families and refresh their spirits, we must restore what has been lost and regain our respect for what we now take for granted.

Guiding Principles. In making the recommendations that follow, we have been guided by a set of principles that are the foundation of our work to preserve the Northern Forest for future generations.

* We are stewards of a forest of extraordinary local, regional, national, and international value, and we must act to conserve it for future generations.

- * We must leave this land a better place than when we inherited it.
- * We must help sustain and restore natural systems over the long term, including the air, soil, water, and the full range of native plants and animals.
- * We must respect and build upon the history and culture of the Northern Forest and the connections between people and the land.
- * We believe people have a fundamental right to participate in decision making processes that affect them.
- * We must respect the rights of property owners while insisting upon the responsibility that all property owners have to the land and the communities of which they are a part.
- * We must work to foster partnerships and cooperation among local, state, and federal governments, and landowners and citizens.
- * We must recognize that the needs and problems of the Northern Forest states are not identical, but that the future of the Northern Forest depends on interstate cooperation. Our common interests are greater than our differences. Ecological systems and economies know no state boundaries.
- * In planning for the future of the Northern Forest, we must recognize that the economic and ecological health of the region are interdependent.

Recommendations. To ensure healthy, productive, managed private lands; permanently protect wild areas of exceptional public value; and strengthen local economies, we are making the following recommendations to the Northern Forest Lands Council. In some cases, these recommendations are consistent with the NFLC's draft recommendations. In other cases, our recommendations call for stronger action at the local, state, and federal levels. There are many other public policy changes that would contribute to a brighter future for the Northern Forest region. These are the most important. We emphasize that no single action will be able to meet the challenges facing the Northern Forest — a comprehensive approach is required.

We offer these recommendations as a starting point and expect to refine them as the public debate takes shape.

To encourage healthy, productive, private Northern Forest lands that provide good jobs for working people for generations to come and protect wildlife and the natural environment, we recommend:

① Forest Legacy Program. We support increased federal funding for the Forest Legacy Program, a program that supports the purchase of conservation easements on private lands. Funding for the program for the Northern Forest should be at least \$50 million per year.

@ Forest Management Practices. We strongly recommend that state governments, landowners, and timber industry groups strengthen the regulations and standards that govern forestry practices to ensure that: (a) trees are harvested in ways that sustain natural processes and mimic natural disturbances; (b) wildlife habitat, sensitive areas, and plant and animal species are identified and conserved; (c) excessive clearcutting and high-grading of the forest is eliminated; (d) scenic and recreational values are promoted; and (e) soil, air,

and water are protected for future use. These regulations and standards must be rigorously implemented.

③ Research and Education. Through a combination of state, federal, and private funds, we support creation of a regional Northern Forest Ecosystem Management Center for research and education. The Center's mission should be to improve scientific knowledge and public understanding of the complex Northern Forest ecosystem, to provide practical information for resource managers, and to provide a sound basis for public policy formulation in the future.

♠ Land Use Planning. Using existing state and local land use planning agencies, land use standards and regulations in the Northern Forest region should be strengthened to encourage forest land conservation by channeling development away from undeveloped forest regions and wildland areas and towards existing communities. Shoreline development standards should be strengthened to ensure public access and protect these most sensitive of natural systems.

To permanently protect wildland areas to assure that Northern Forest lands of special ecological and scenic significance are preserved for future generations, we recommend:

⑤ Land Conservation. Together, the state and federal governments should create a land conservation program to provide permanent protection for specific wildland areas in the Northern Forest. These "conservation areas" would serve many important purposes, including: (a) habitat protection for the variety of plant and animal species that is essential to the future health of the Northern Forest; (b) assured public access to Northern Forest lands for hunting, fishing, hiking, and other forms of outdoor recreation; (c) insurance against our lack of knowledge about the long-term consequences of human activities on the forest ecosystem; and (d) assurance that future generations will find forest lands of great natural beauty in this region.

As part of this program, the state and federal governments should work together to research critical regions of the Northern Forest. Based on scientific analysis, public input, and local involvement, areas with high concentrations of ecological, recreational, and scenic values should be identified. Lands of exceptional public value should be permanently protected through public ownership. Other conservation tools including conservation easements and landowner incentives should also be used as appropriate. Lands should be purchased from willing sellers only. This program will require state and federal funds for the public purchase of lands.

Based on initial research, the groups listed above [the Northern Forest Alliance] have identified ten areas with high concentrations of ecological, recreational, and scenic values. We recommend that the public consider these general areas for the creation of a system of protected lands in the Northern Forest. These areas are: the upper St. John Valley of northwestern Maine, greater Baxter State Park area of northcentral Maine, Down East Lakes region of eastern Maine, Boundary Mountains region of western Maine, Upper Androscoggin Valley including the Lake Umbagog and

Rangeley Lakes area of northern New Hampshire and western Maine, Connecticut River headwaters of northern New Hampshire, Nulhegan River area of northeastern Vermont, northern Green Mountains of Vermont, Tug Hill core area near the Adirondack Park in New York, and the unbroken forests in the Adirondack Park.

We urge that analysis concerning the protection of these areas begin as soon as possible.

To help promote stable jobs, strong local and regional economies, and vibrant communities, we recommend:

® Business Capital. We support creation and funding of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) throughout the Northern Forest region to provide capital for small businesses, and voluntary organizations, and to revitalize communities. (There are only a handful of CDFIs operating in the region now.) CDFIs are banks, credit unions, and other lenders that provide credit to small businesses that might not meet the requirements of traditional banks. In making loans, CDFIs emphasize the environmental and social impacts of the activity to be funded. Current federal legislation being considered by Congress would assist the development of CDFIs and we support such legislation.

® Rural Economic Development. We support programs to encourage rural economic development. For example, several U.S. Forest Service programs provide matching grants and economic assistance for small "forest dependent" communities, including the Rural Development Through Forestry program, the Economic Recovery program, and the Economic Diversification program, which provide funds to help develop local economic alternatives to rural communities.

® Property Taxes. We support fair and equitable taxation of all property. Taxation based on the current use to which land is put, rather than on the land's value if fully developed, will help landowners to keep their land as undeveloped forest land.

® Estate Taxes. We support changes to estate tax laws to encourage long-term stewardship of land and assist property owners to hold on to their land. Estate taxes can force heirs to sell land they have inherited to pay the taxes. This can discourage long-term stewardship, and encourage sale and development in inappropriate areas. Reductions in estate taxes must be linked to commitments to land stewardship and conservation that protect important public values.

To continue a productive public dialogue and build a commitment to action, we recommend:

¹ Public Forum. Finally, we recommend that the Northern Forest Lands Council include in its final recommendation to Congress and the four Northern Forest states the creation of a mechanism, or an entity, that will continue to facilitate the process it has begun. Rational resolution of the complex issues at stake will require that the search for common ground continue after the Council dissolves later this year. The Council has performed a vital public service. It has been the forum for discussion and debate about the future of the Northern Forest. This important work must continue.

QUICKIES

Michael Sperling

Audubon Open House. On April 30th, National Audubon's state-of-the-art environmentally sound head-quarters in Greenwich Village, Manhattan will be open to chapter members nationwide for tours. If you're interested, call me at 541-0805 after 7:30 P.M. for details.

Audubon Armchair Activist. SSAS recently joined the Letter of the Month Club, which provides you with information and sample letters regarding important legislation. The last two issues covered were the National Biological Survey bill and California Desert Protection Act. To sign up, just send us a postcard or call Betty Borowsky at 764-3596. Her Conservation Committee meets monthly in Rockville Centre, usually on the third Wednesday night; call for details.

× OUR ANNUAL DINNER ❖

Diane Singer & Shirley Kutner

This year's annual dinner will once again be held at the Pompei Restaurant in West Hempstead; it will cost just \$20 per person and will include entertainment by (and optional dancing, with or without a partner, to) a nostalgic one-man band. The date is Tuesday, June 14th; come enjoy dinner with your fellow SSAS members. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30. T

Please fill out the form below and send it, along with a check payable to *South Shore Audubon Society*, to Diane Singer, 118 Kent Road, Valley Stream, NY 11580.

~ 	•
NAME:	_
ADDRESS:	
AMOUNT OF CHECK:	
NUMBER OF PEOPLE:	_
NUMBER OF EACH MENU CHOICE:	
Filet of Sole Dijon	_
Chicken Marsala	_
Eggplant Rollatini	_
Roast Beef	_
or, if you prefer:	
Broiled Chicken	_
Broiled Fish	_
×	•

1993-1994 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

	764 5160
James Remsen, Jr., President	/64-5168
Michael Sperling, Vice President and Skimmer Editor	
George Popkin, Treasurer (8 to 9 PM)	
Louise Hillen, Recording Secretary	546-6147
Doris Pirodsky, Corresponding Secretary & Historian	378-1790
Carole A. Adams, Director (6/96) & Education Chairperson	731-4425
Steven Goldberg, Director (6/96)	
Paul Devendittis, Director (6/95)	489-0547
Bruno Leporati, Director (6/95)	
Marge Jaeger, Director (6/94) & Fund-raising Chairperson	
Richard Packert, Director (6/94)	
Betty Borowsky, Conservation Legislation Chairperson	
Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson	
Paul Butkereit, Bird Seed Savings Day	
Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	
Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve Committee Chairperson	
Elliott Kutner, Birding / Field Trips Chairperson	
Joseph Lancer, Binocular / Book Sales (7 to 9 PM)	
Doreen Remsen, Birdathon Chairperson	472-6830
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming Committee Chairperson	
Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality Chairperson	766-7397
Diane Singer, Publicity	
Porgy Smith, Environmental Information Chairperson	
Jonathan Staller, Environmental Festivals Coordinator	
John Staropoli, Youth Representative	
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	
The same of the sa	2.2 2020

South Shore Audubon Society P.O. Box 31 Freeport, NY 11520-0031

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Americans Committed to Conservation



U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 1181 NONPROFIT Freeport, NY

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

