# OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 2 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

OCTOBER 1994

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole A. Adams

Some things are inevitable. Some things are only perceived so. In 1973, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act in response to strong support by Americans who insisted upon a means to protect endangered and threatened species from "inevitable" extinction. The Bald Eagle was just one of the hundreds of endangered species in the U.S.

Today our revered Bald Eagle soars in much larger numbers, enough to warrant removal from the federal Endangered Species List. The Bald Eagle may have recovered, but after two decades of existence the Endangered Species Act is in jeopardy of extinction along with other environmental laws. Unlike other worldwide concerns, environmental issues affect all of us. We breathe the air and drink the water.

There has never been a greater need for us to make phone calls, write letters, and demonstrate our support. National Audubon Society and 14 other conservation and environmental groups have joined hands to gain support for the strengthening of the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Where do you stand? Are you going to help make it happen, watch it happen, or wait and wonder?

SSAS directors and chairpersons are very busy "making it happen." They participate in South Shore Estuary Reserve committee meetings and fund-raising projects, assist in educating our youth in classroom settings and through Audubon Adventures projects and programs, attend and participate in regional and national conferences, and write letters as Armchair Activist volunteers.

In closing, my offer still holds for you to complete the following: "If I were President of SSAS, I would ..."

I hope to have the opportunity to hear your viewpoints on our bird walks and at our general meetings.

Attention Teachers: National Audubon's Library of Science and the Environment (a classroom library of videos, teacher's guides, field guides, etc.) will be awarded to the winner of a drawing to be held at the end of 1994. To enter, create a class or individual student poster with the theme

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, October 11, 1994

TIME: 8:00 p.m. ②

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKERS: Arthur & Elaine Morris
TOPIC: Birds As Art / Coast to Coast

Nationally noted nature photographer Arthur Morris will present a slide lecture featuring the best of over 5000 photographs taken on an over 33,000 mile cross-continental motor-home trip. We will travel with Artie and his wife Elaine as they visit most of the top birding spots in North America, including the Rio Grande Valley and High Island, Texas; southeastern Arizona; Point Pelee National Park, Ontario, Canada; San Diego and Monterey, California; Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming; Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, New York; Cape May, New Jersey; and Sanibel Island, Florida.

More than 1400 of Arthur Morris' images and 45 of his articles have appeared in the past five years in books and magazines, including *National Geographic*, *Natural History*, *Nature Photographer*, *PHOTOgraphic*, and numerous birding magazines. Join us!

PLEASE NOTE: Our November meeting has been postponed one week, because this year the second Tuesday is Election Day. We will meet on November 15th, same place, same time.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE
BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS

"Save Endangered Species" and send the poster(s) along with one cover letter to your Congressman; send the registration form to Audubon. For full details, write to Audubon Adventures, Endangered Species Project, 613 Riversville Road, Greenwich, CT 06831.

Attention Bumper Sticker Lovers: As advertised in the Summer issue of Audubon Activist, NAS has two newly created bumper stickers available for \$1 each. One resembles a license plate, reading "LICENSE-2-LIVE"; the other shows a Bald Eagle and the words "LOVE IT OR LOSE IT." Send your check to ESA Stickers, National Audubon Society, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

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# NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR HAWK BANDING ON FIRE ISLAND

Michael Sperling

In last month's Skimmer, I announced that SSAS had made arrangements to spend a Saturday morning joining Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary's hawk banding efforts — October 1st, beginning at 9 A.M. Our plans are still the same, except that Fire Island National Seashore's management won't let us park in their small off-limits dirt lot, so everyone will have to park in nearby Robert Moses State Park, which charges \$4 for the privilege (free if you arrive before 8 A.M.).

As mentioned last issue, the banding station can't accommodate the usual mob of South Shore Auduboners, so those of us awaiting turns in the station will take guided nature walks. To start the day, all of us will see a banding & release demonstration in the dirt lot parking area, starring a bird caught just prior to our arrival.

Directions. Southern State Parkway to Exit 40 (Robert Moses Causeway) south to the traffic circle at the end (in Robert Moses State Park). Go east (left) from the circle to Parking Lot #5 and park. From there, it's about 1/4 of a mile to the dirt lot: Walk east (toward the lighthouse) to the end of the paved road, and continue east along the dirt road. If you stay on the dirt road all the way, go past the ranger station and you'll arrive at the dirt parking lot. As a recommended alternative, there's a boardwalk that starts on the north side of the dirt road and leads to the lot; TRS Director Mary Richard advised me that there's also a boardwalk on the south side of the dirt road, but that leads to a nude beach.

Even though we no longer need a car count, Mary would like to know how many of us to expect, so please let SSAS know in advance that you're planning to participate. This Skimmer was scheduled to be mailed on September 19th; sign up at the 9/25 bird walk, send us a postcard, or call me after 8 P.M. at 541-0805 if you're interested.

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# FRIDAY BIRD WALKS AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

The Bronx's NY Botanical Garden is sponsoring free (with admission) 1-1/2 hour bird-watching expeditions at 1:30 p.m. on Fridays in September and October. The topics are as follows: Fall Warblers (9/23), Eagles (9/30), Hawk Migration (10/7), Sparrow Habitat (10/14), and Early Winter Birds (10/21 & 10/28). For further information, call (718) 817-8700.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Our Treasurer, George Popkin, has provided the following information as determined by our volunteer accountant, Jeffrey Liebowitz of Solomon, Schneider, Orenstein & Liebowitz.

Assets	
Ceneral Fund Checking	. \$22,080
General Fund Savings	356
◆ General Fund Money Market	7,419
✓ Income Receivable	1,036
♠ Investments — U.S. Treasury Strips	38,862
Total Assets as of 6/30/94	69,753
Receipts	
Audubon Adventures	350
♥ Birdathon	
Business Trips	-
✓ Dinner — Annual	
Ponations	
♥ Greening of Long Island	
National Audubon Society	
Sales — Birdseed	
Sales — Opticals	-
Skimmer Ads	
Skimmer Subscriptions	
State of NY Grant — Brookside Preserve	
✓ Interest Income	
✓ Miscellaneous Income	
Charity Raffles	
Total Receipts	
•	,
Disbursements	
Affiliates	
Bank Service Charge	
Brookside Preserve	
Conferences & Conventions	
Conservation	
Contributions	
◆ Dinner — Annual	
✓ Insurance	•
C Licenses	
Meetings — Speakers	806
National Audubon — Birdathon	
Office Expense	
Postage	
Printing/Mailing — Skimmer	
Purchases — Birdseed	
Purchases — Opticals	
Rent	
Repair & Maintenance	
Scholarships	
Stationery & Printing	
T. R. Sanctuary	
Travel	
Total Disbursements	
Net Decrease in Fund Balance	

#### SSAS VISITS TRS - NOVEMBER 5th

Michael Sperling

Last April, a few SSAS crazies (including yours truly) braved severe thunderstorm warnings and some torrential downpours and thoroughly enjoyed our chapter's first scheduled visit to National Audubon Society's oldest sanctuary. Starting at 10 A.M. on Saturday, November 5th, we will once again visit the interpretive center, learn about TRS's activities, eat lunch (bring your own), and — weather permitting — walk on the trails of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bird Sanctuary's 12 acres of heavily wooded habitat.

The TRS staff will give us up-close and personal introductions to many of the live animals that call TRS home, including a Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Turkey Vulture, Peregrine Falcon, red fox, a six-foot boa constrictor, and a huge Burmese python. The star of our first visit was Bobby the imprinted Harris' Hawk, who flew alongside and between us on the trail; his lunch was placed on a glove worn by a variety of SSAS members and as soon as the glove was raised, Bobby swooped in and landed.

The Sanctuary is located at 134 Cove Road in Oyster Bay, near President Roosevelt's grave and about a mile from Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. Take the Long Island Expressway to Exit 41 north, take Route 106 to the village of Oyster Bay, make a right turn on East Main Street, and go 1-1/2 miles; you will see signs for TRS parking. The parking lot is on your right, followed by the sanctuary's entrance.

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Audubon Camp Scholarships	1500
Brookside Preserve	1000
College Scholarship	500
Conservation	750
Corresponding Secretary	150
Donations	
Education	2000
Holiday Wildlife Party	150
Insurance	800
Library Custodians	200
Library Donation	
Library Overtime	400
Membership	100
Miscellaneous	
National Audubon Conference Attendance	1500
Publicity	200
Refreshments at Meetings	300
	6500
Speakers	600
T. R. Sanctuary	1000
	19,550
(CBUDGET)	

#### 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 programs are open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required (except for the Festival). All program fees are required at the time of registration.

Sunday, October 2nd (8 A.M. to 10 A.M.) — Raptor Banding. If you can't make it to our free program for SSAS on October 1st, sign up for this one. Join us near the Fire Island Lighthouse to visit our research station and discover the beauty of raptor migration. We'll catch some birds; measure, study, and band them; and take a nature hike. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

Thursday, October 13th (7 P.M. to 9 P.M., adults) — Bats. Come and discover these maligned mammals, meet a live bat, take a night hike, learn about bat conservation. Find out about our local bats. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

Saturday & Sunday, October 22nd and 23rd (11 A.M. to 5 P.M.) — Annual Wildlife Festival at Planting Fields Arboretum in Oyster Bay. Some of the featured programs with live animals will be: the wonders of flight (with a trained owl, hawk, falcon, crow, and more), nocturnal animals (hedgehog, fox, skunk, owl, etc.), jewels of the rainforest (parrots, snakes, raptors, etc.), rare and beautiful endangered species (Peregrine Falcon, Golden Eagle, huge python, fruit bat, etc.), and native wildlife of Long Island. We'll have children's crafts, the TRS shop, nature walks, educational displays, an environmental organization fair, and much more. Children \$3, adults \$5; there's a parking fee at Planting Fields, but the setting is beautiful. Hope you can join us, we're looking forward to it!

Saturday, October 29th (7 P.M. to 9 P.M., children) — A Wild Halloween. Live nocturnal animals, games, night hikes, pumpkin decoration, and much more. An annual children's party here at TRS. Reserve early for this always popular nature bash. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.



"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"

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



Elliott Kutner

All walks start at 9:30 A.M. except Pelham Bay Park; no walk if it rains or snows or temperature is below 25°F. Any questions? Call Elliott at 486-7667.

Sept. 25	Tobay JFK Sanctuary
Oct. 2	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Oct. 9	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Oct. 16	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Oct. 23	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 30	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Nov. 6	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Nov. 13	Pelham Bay Park for Owls (pull over to
30	street on extreme right after going
	through Throgs Neck Bridge toll; meet at
75	9:00 a.m.)
Nov. 20	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Nov. 27	Hempstead Lake State Park (Penin. Blvd.)
Dec. 4	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Dec. 11	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Dec. 18	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Dec. 25	Season's Greetings — No Walk 💆
Jan. 1	Happy New Year — No Walk 🌡
Jan. 8	Pelham Bay Park for Owls (see 11/13)
Jan. 15	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Jan. 22	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Jan. 29	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Feb. 5	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
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#### \*\* WELCOME NEW MEMBERS \*\*

Marion Yavarkovsky

As you read this newsletter, we hope you will see that this is an active group of people interested in enjoying and preserving the environment. Please join us in our activities. Let's enjoy and work together.

[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 Mr. Jonathan D. Azar,
Ms. Trudi Elarde, Alice Grant,
Mary M. Malcolm
Bellmore Ms. Claudine A. Calabro,
Chip Goldsmith, Brian Knoth,
Anthony Mirenda,
Joseph E. Saracino
East Meadow Michael M. Marino,
Ms. Vera Mattinsky
Elmont Alex J. Shelton, Mrs. Brenda
Walker, Mark Wisniewski
Farmingdale C. DeLalio, Mary New,
H. Rubenacker

Floral Park Mrs. J. Wyrtzen
Franklin Square Mr. & Mrs. Paul Henry
Freeport Joanne Meyrowitz, J. Mujahid,
Ms. Debra D. Newman
Garden City Jean Owen
Hempstead Tony Noboa
Hicksville Mr. Thomas Rea, Irving Weinryb
Lawrence Nancy E. Hillery
Levittown Mrs. R. McGlinchey
Long Beach Mr. Don Axelrod, Irving Leiner,
Thomas Mc Walters
Lynbrook Mrs. Ruth M. Conroy
Massapequa Mr. Joseph M. Galvin, Catherine
E. King, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene
Kleine, Marilyn Lehrfeld,
Richard Shor, Karen Staniewski
Massapequa Park Mrs. Mildred Baumler, A. March
Merrick Mr. Ludovic N. DeRolland,
Michael Sankovsky
Oceanside Joanne Rayches
Plainview Warren Strittmatter
Point Lookout Jeff Rudell, M.D.
Seaford Sue Fleischmann,
Mr. Steven Koenigsberg,
Mrs. Cynthia L. Spallone
Valley Stream Mr. R. W. Benedict, Edward
Burns, Mary B. Jacovides,
Mr. Ronald Kemperle,
S. Pitakmongkolkul
Wantagh Harvey Brody
West Hempstead Evelyn Port,
Mrs. Barbara S. Travins
Woodmere Mr. Peter Gampel,
Mrs. Jordan Levin
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#### WHERE'D VOLUME 24 GO?

Michael Sperling

At one or more points in SSAS history, we've had problems counting newsletter volumes. Past president Jim Remsen suggested at our last board meeting that we skip from Volume 24, Number 1 last issue to Volume 25, Number 2, which I've done — we're sure this is our 25th year!

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RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070
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WILDLIFE POISONING HOTLINE (800) 356-0560
*********
AUDUBON ACTIONLINE (202) 547-9009
*********
AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (800) 274-4201
*********

#### **CONSERVATION REPORT**

Betty Borowsky

Employee Commuter Option Plans Mandated for Nassau County. Although not as bad as in other places in the world, or even in the United States, air in our area is often polluted. The problem is generally worse in the summer months, when air temperature inversions may occur and when ozone levels can be unacceptably high. You can often see a dark haze over New York City from Long Island, but Nassau County has its own as well. If you take a boat ride off the Island for a few miles and look back, you will see a brownish pall lying over the land. The first time I saw that, I was really surprised, because it was a very clear day and I had not been aware of any air pollution while on the land.

In order to help alleviate air pollution in our area, the 1990 amendments to the federal Clean Air Act mandate that the total number of cars currently used for commuting in Nassau County (as well as in other counties in the New York metropolitan area) must be decreased by 25%. Specifically, all organizations with 100 or more employees must prepare a plan (the Employee Commute Option Compliance Plan) which shows either that their APO is currently at the targeted rate, or that that figure will be attained by 1996. (Briefly, the APO is the total number of individuals who come to work in automobiles divided by the total number of automobiles used. The target APO, calculated by New York State, is different for each county; for Nassau it's about 1.4.)

The first step in creating a plan is to calculate the current APO for the organization. This is done by having each employee indicate how they came to work during a particular week. If the organization's current APO is lower than the target, then a plan to increase it must be presented. However, if the current APO meets the targeted figure, the plan will simply indicate that no change is necessary.

There are lots of ways to increase APOs (which means reduce the number of cars used during commuting hours), but on Long Island the most direct method is to encourage the use of car pools. Businesses have used a variety of incentives for this, including allowing free parking for car or van pools, guaranteeing the availability of a company van or car pool should an employee have to stay late at work, and encouraging banks and other services to locate a branch at the work site.

Another avenue which should be encouraged for Nassau is an improvement in the public transportation system. Although buses are widely available, routes are not always convenient and buses are often infrequent.

It is too soon to know how effective this initiative will be in reducing air pollution in our county. We are a suburban area and, in addition to traveling to work, we rely on our automobiles to accomplish all the chores that city dwellers can get done within a few blocks. Also, we are used to driving to work alone. However, carpooling has a lot of up sides. I carpooled to Queens for many years, and I actually enjoyed it. For one thing, I didn't have to drive every day, and I arrived at work much less stressed. Sometimes I read the paper and sometimes I chatted with the others during the commute — much more pleasant activities than concentrating on traffic. I didn't have to worry about parking every day and I didn't have to pay for a parking space myself. I saved money on car expenses.

In any case, it is encouraging that we are finally taking steps to reduce air pollution. We do not want to live in a place in which we are forced to advise children to stay indoors on certain days when the air is so polluted that it will be detrimental to their health.

The South Shore Audubon Society's Armchair Activist Club. Join SSAS's Armchair Activist Club and help promote environmental and conservation issues! About every other month, participants receive a letter which describes an environmental issue of current concern. These letters are prepared by members of all participating Audubon chapters on a rotating basis. Therefore, some of the issues will be of national importance, while others may be applicable at the state or local level. Each letter will provide the background of the issue, describe relevant legislation pending, and list its legislative sponsors or opponents, as appropriate. The mailing will provide you with a sample letter which you can send as is, although, of course, you can write whatever you wish.

Membership is free! Just fill in the coupon below and mail it to Armchair Activist Program of the Conservation Committee, 17 Amherst Court, Rockville Centre, NY 11570, or call/fax 764-3596 for more information.

For more information about our chapter's activities, feel free to call any member of the Board (listed on the back of every *Skimmer*); and for further information about the Armchair Activist or conservation issues, don't hesitate to call the Conservation Chairperson.

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The most recent former *Skimmer* editor, Gayle Wertz, is an incredibly busy licensed wildlife rehabilitator who lives in Massapequa. If you have any large cages to donate to a worthy cause, please call her at 798-4215.

Name			You can be an
Street			
City	State	Zip	Armchair Activist

## 1993 NYS ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

Michael Sperling

The Albany-based Environmental Planning Lobby's annual Voters' Guide rates New York's State Senators and Assembly members on the basis of their votes on legislation that reached the floor of at least one house of our legislature. In the February through April Skimmers, I started reprinting the EPL's descriptions of the bills that counted in the last guide. New SSAS members have missed the 3 tree, 2 tree, and most of the 1 tree bills; however, you do get to see all the anti-environment bills (call me after 8:00 P.M. if you'd like to receive the back issues). The ratings are as follows: 1 tree if the bill would be beneficial to some aspect of NY's environment, 1 stack if it would be detrimental to the cause of environmental protection in NY, 2 stacks if it would do substantial harm to NY's environment, and 3 stacks if it would likely result in major or lasting harm to NY's environment.

Here's a recap of the first three installments: Seven 3 tree bills passed the Assembly last year, three of which also passed the Senate and were signed into law (the other four bills died in the Senate). Eleven 2 tree bills passed the Assembly, two of which became law (the other nine died in the Senate). Four 2 tree bills passed the Senate; of the two not counted above, one became law by being incorporated in another bill and the other wasn't introduced in the Assembly. So far, nine 1 tree bills have been covered — all nine passed the Assembly; six died in the Senate, two passed the Senate but were vetoed by the Governor, and one passed the Senate and was signed into law by Governor Cuomo. Here's the rest:

Motor Oil Recycling . By facilitating the collection of motor oil throughout New York, the state has already prevented thousands of gallons of motor oil from being unnecessarily discharged into the environment. This bill ensures that service stations provide non-customers with the opportunity to recycle their used motor oil. S4086 (Johnson, R-Babylon) passed the Senate but was not sponsored in the Assembly.

"2A" Waste Sites . The Environmental Planning Lobby has repeatedly urged the Legislature to establish a schedule for the expeditious classification of inactive hazardous waste sites. This bill requires the Department of Environmental Conservation to classify all sites that are currently listed as "2A" sites within 12 months after the bill becomes effective, and requires all "2A" sites listed thereafter to be classified within 18 months. "2A" is DEC's own category used for sites lacking the sufficient data for proper classification. \$1094 (Daly, R-Lockport) passed the Senate but was not sponsored in the Assembly.

Urban Forestry . Trees, shrubs, and other greenery are critical to maintaining New York City's livability by decreasing air pollution, reducing airborne carbon oxides, and cutting energy costs. This bill allows NYC residents to make a donation to a "Parks, Trees and Urban Forestry Fund" on

their city income tax returns. The money would be used for the planting of trees and shrubs, and park preservation and expansion within the city. S1887 (Velella, R-Yonkers) / A3263 (Glick, D-Manhattan) passed the Senate but was held in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

Catskill & Adirondack Signs i. Much too often, the beauty and integrity of New York's scenic areas are compromised by billboards, signs, and other advertisements. Current law allows the Catskill and Adirondack Parks to preserve much of their beautiful vistas. Both of these bills undermine existing regulations and allow businesses in the Catskill and Adirondack Parks to post up to four additional directional signs. S437 (Stafford, R-Plattsburgh) / A6412 (Ortloff, R-Plattsburgh) and S2287 (Cook, R-Delhi) both passed the Senate. The Adirondack bill was held in the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee; the Catskill bill did not have an Assembly sponsor.

93/94 LEV Vehicles i. This bill would have prevented New York State from requiring the sale of California low emission vehicles for the 1993/1994 model year. No single source is responsible for more air pollution than the automobile. The adoption of these standards is an important first step to achieve the objectives of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. S3487 (Johnson) / A6997 (Brodsky, D-Scarsdale) passed both houses but was recalled from the Governor's desk.

Pelham Bay i. Pelham Bay is an area that has been designated for recreational purposes under New York State's Public Trust Doctrine, but for the past 34 years a police firing range has violated this law by operating on park grounds. The bill allows the police firing range and bomb site to continue their operation on parklands in Pelham Bay. A8595 (Kaufman, D-Bronx) / S5982 (Rules Committee) passed both houses and was signed by the Governor.

Cadmium Exemption 1. In 1990, the Toxics in Packaging Law was established, requiring the reduction of certain heavy metals used in packaging products. Recently, a company which sells art supplies applied to DEC for an exemption to allow cadmium on the labels of their paints in order to allow a more accurate representation of color inside the container. The company had not received the exemption from DEC, so they turned to the Legislature, which chose to override DEC's authority and pass a bill granting the exemption. Cadmium is highly toxic and a suspected carcinogen. A7017 (Rappleyea, R-Norwich) / S5834 (Seward, R-Oneonta) passed both houses but was vetoed by the Governor.

Billboard Vegetation . New York State has rightly gained a national reputation for its longstanding commitment to preserving the scenic and environmental integrity of its state roadways. This bill represents a substantial reversal of New York's historic commitment by permitting the destruction of trees and plants to improve the visibility of billboards. A3999-B (Graber, D-West Seneca) / S2399-B (Stafford) passed both houses but was vetoed by the Governor.

Emission Offsets . The bill prevents taxation or confiscation of emission offsets obtained under the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. This bill represents unwarranted and potentially damaging interference with the state's attempt to reach attainment under the Clean Air Act. A8023-A (Schimminger, D-Kenmore) / S4720-A (Skelos, R-Rockville Centre) passed the Senate but was held in the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee.

Bear-Dog II. During last session, the Environmental Planning Lobby successfully lobbied the Governor's office to veto legislation which would have allowed the use of packs of dogs to hunt bear. Unfortunately, this year [1993] the Governor reversed his position on the issue, supporting a last minute amendment to allow the use of dogs to hunt and kill "nuisance" bears, and allow training seasons for dogs to chase any bear. A1032-E (Bragman, D-North Syracuse) / S720-E (Stafford) passed both houses and was signed by the Governor.

Striped Bass 1. The bill eliminates the Department of Environmental Conservation's authority to regulate the striped bass population in New York, and bans the commercial harvest or sale of the species. Passage of the legislation would achieve no natural resource protection purpose and would, in fact, severely impair New York's ability to implement sound resource management initiatives aimed at striped bass, a valuable commercial and recreational species. A3390 (Connelly, D-Staten Island) / S1961 (Johnson) passed the Senate but was held in the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee.

NYC Watershed . New York City's water system, at one time one of the most renowned in the world, has measurably decreased in quality due to the by-products of development. This bill would accelerate that trend by eliminating the NYC Department of Environmental Protection's authority to protect their sources of drinking water in the Catskill and Delaware watersheds. S3558 (Cook) / A6013 (Rappleyea) passed the Senate but was held in the Assembly Health Committee.

Flawed Clean Air Proposal . Prior to passage of the clean air legislation which was signed into law, a significantly flawed proposal was carried in the Senate. Although the bill did contain a number of programs mandated by the federal Clean Air Act Amendments, the bill's passage and implementation would still not have prevented New York from violating the federal act. The bill failed to give state agencies the regulatory and financial resources necessary to comply with the federal law. S5900 (Johnson) passed the Senate but had no Assembly sponsor.

Senate Voting Chart. The average score for the entire State Senate was 66.3% correct in 1993 (ranging from 36% for Manhattan's frequently absent Paterson to 98% for Manhattan's Ohrenstein; Peekskill's Pataki, now running for Governor, scored a 64%, but as an Assemblyman in 1989 he was named EPL's Legislator of the Year). The average score for the 1992 State Senate was 61.6% (ranging from

33% for Bath's Kuhl to 100% for New Rochelle's Oppenheimer; Pataki wasn't in the Senate yet). The scores don't reflect all the Assembly-passed pro-environment bills that never even reached the Senate floor for a vote. Here are the 1993 & 1992 EPL percentages for Long Island's State Senators:

Hannon (R-Westbury): 57 & 56
Johnson (R-Babylon): 55 & 44
Lack (R-Hauppauge): 62 & 52
LaValle (R-Selden): 69 & 63
Levy (R-Freeport): 81 & 70
Marino (R-Oyster Bay): 54 & 44
Skelos (R-Rockville Centre): 55 & 52
Trunzo (R-Hauppauge): 55 & 44
Tully (R-Roslyn Heights): 60 & 63

Assembly Voting Chart. The average score for the entire Assembly was 81.9% in 1993 (ranging from 46% for West Islip's Barraga to 100% for Manhattan's Glick). The average score for the 1992 Assembly was 84.0% (ranging from 40% for Potsdam's O'Neil to 100% for the two locals listed below). Here are the 1993 & 1992 EPL percentages for Nassau's Assembly members:

Balboni (R-Garden City): 91 & 95
Becker (R-Lynbrook): 93 & 91
DiNapoli (D-Great Neck): 90 & 95
Ferrara (R-Westbury): 97 & not in office

Healey (R-Massapequa): 96 & 89 Hill (D-Hempstead): 89 & 98

Muscarella (R-Franklin Square): 97 & 96

O'Shea (R-Bellmore): 98 & 100

Parola (R-Levittown; now our Comptroller): 98 & 100

Sidikman (D-Plainview): 86 & 94 Weisenberg (D-Long Beach): 85 & 98

#### **GARDEN CITY BIRD SANCTUARY MEETINGS**

Efforts are under way to create a 5-acre sanctuary in Garden City. Meetings will be held at the public library, 60 Seventh St., at 7:30 p.m. on October 12th and November 2nd, coordinated by the Land Use Committee of the Village of Garden City Environmental Advisory Board. For further information, contact chairperson Robert M. Alvey at 326-1720.

#### **BIRD SEED SAVINGS DAY**

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Our first Bird Seed Savings Day in our 25th year is Sunday, October 23, 1994, from 9:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. at Tackapausha Museum in Seaford. All preorders should be sent to Paul Butkereit by October 11th (see last month's *Skimmer* for the seed order form and bird feeder price list or contact Paul or Michael Sperling to get copies). *HELP IS NEEDED* to take orders, sell bird feeders, and carry seed around the parking lot. Call Paul at 623-0843 to volunteer.

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