OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 3 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole A. Adams

Last month I expressed concern regarding the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. That concern is even stronger now than it was last month. Let me explain. I spent September 30th through October 2nd at the Canandaigua Inn on the lake in Canandaigua, New York. (For those of you asking "Where is Canandaigua?," look at a map of New York, find Syracuse, hang a left, pass Cayuga Lake and Seneca Lake, and if you pass Rochester you're up too high and you've gone too far.) The town of Canandaigua (population 10,700) sits on the site of the Seneca Indian village Kan-an-dar-gue, "the chosen spot." The lake itself is 15 miles long, averaging a mile wide and considered to be one of the most beautiful of the Finger Lakes. Personally, I wouldn't know. This was my first trip to the Finger Lakes region and the purpose of my trip was to represent South Shore Audubon Society at the Audubon Council of New York State's Fall Retreat.

Friday evening, I paid attention as Marilyn England from the Scully Science Center in Islip presented a fascinating program on National Audubon Society's Living Oceans Program. I learned about by-catch, by-kill, commercial extinction, gill nets, the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and so much more. Rather than try to repeat and possibly misquote Ms. England here, maybe we can arrange for her to present the Living Oceans Program at an SSAS meeting.

On Saturday morning I was out by 7 A.M., trekking around Lake Canandaigua, birding and learning. By 9 o'clock I was sitting and learning at the Finger Lakes Community College and being introduced to Suzanna Dwyer, NAS's new NYS Representative. Suzanna's primary focus will be pursuing Council priorities for NYS, which include Long Island Sound, Pine Barrens, Sterling Forest, and Allegheny Forest. She comes to Audubon with a degree in environmental studies, a wealth of people skills, and a dedication to environmental concerns which will be most beneficial in her tasks of assisting the Audubon Council in setting priorities,

NEXT MEETING

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, November 15, 1994

TIME: 8:00 P.M. ②

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKER: Tom Kezo

TOPIC: Bird Life, Tundra Flora, and Polar

Bears of the Churchill, Manitoba

Wilderness

Tom kezo's photo essay will bring us face to face with the nesting birds and tundra flora in June and the migrating polar bears in September.

Tom, a professional wildlife photographer, will discuss the characteristics that make this remote area of Canada well worth a visit.

He will end his presentation with some wonderful photos of our local birds.

PLEASE NOTE: Next month, we will resume our normal meeting schedule (second Tuesday of each month); this meeting was bumped by Election Day.

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

implementing specific conservation campaigns, and assisting in chapter effectiveness.

We welcomed Suzanna aboard and proceeded with the business of the NYS Council meeting and NAS updates. Discussion covered many topics, most of which you will be hearing much more about, like the Watchable Wildlife Program, Council dues, watershed protection, Endangered Species Act, Great Northern Forest photo book, Wildlife Diversity Funding initiative, Greener Greens, Northern Forests Spring Migratory Conference, CompuServe, the strategic planning process, and the Audubon Mentor program (NAS's Directory for Leadership Exchange).

After lunch in the cafeteria, it was back to sitting and learning. Connie Mahan, Ned Boyaljan, and Ellen Gibson (of National, New York City, and Buffalo Audubon Societies, respectively) led a workshop on the Armchair Activist program, which is where folks take real action by sending cards and letters to show support for the Endangered Species Act and other extremely important environmental campaigns [see last month's Skimmer for a sign-up form or call Betty Borowsky; it's free].

Two other workshops followed, "Improving Your Media Effectiveness" and "A Chapter Sanctuary - Acquisition, Management, Problems." The latter immediately made me think of Brookside Preserve and all the efforts and energy of our chapter members, especially Betsy Gulotta and the Brookside Preserve Committee.

With a full head and a sore seat, it was back to the Inn and time to get ready for dinner and the evening presentation by Jim Waltman on the "National Audubon Society Refuge Program." Jim showed us both the successes and failures of our system, but most of all his presentation stressed the importance of consistent support and team effort in getting a job done.

Sunday morning, it was time to pack up, check out, and head over to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. My visit started with an early bird walk on the Esker Brook Trail led by Bob Budliger (the Capital District Audubon Society's Elliott Kutner). In less than two hours, we handled touch-menots, picked up beechnuts and walnuts, heard Rusty Blackbird, and saw chickadees, Northern Parula Warbler, American Redstart, Rufous-sided Towhee, Downy Woodpecker,



flycatcher, and American Robin. Following an introduction to Montezuma NWR in the visitor's center by Manager Gene Hocutt, we went on an auto tour of the refuge led by Gene. Sightings included American Bittern (pictured), Great Blue Heron, Northern Shoveler, Canada Goose, American Wigeon, Common Pintail, cormorant, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Harrier, Wood Duck, Belted Kingfisher, and, of course, two Bald Eagles.

On my eight hour drive home under a most fantastic blue sky with great puffy white clouds, I had ample opportunity to reflect on my weekend and SSAS. We are a hard-working chapter and our members should be proud of our accomplishments. I look forward to the months ahead, planning our 25th Anniversary celebration and meeting new people on our many bird walks. Speaking of bird walks folks are still talking about the walk of September 25th. If the rather large turnout was a result of the "power of the press," then a round of applause please for Steve Parks, Staff Writer of Newsday.

In closing, I thank the too many to name who offered suggestions and ideas. All are taken seriously and considered carefully. For everybody else, the challenge still holds: "If I were President of SSAS, I would ..." I hope to see you on our bird walks and at our meetings.



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.

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
	street on extreme right after going through
0.0	Throgs Neck Bridge toll; meet at 9:00 A.M.;
	take Clearview Expressway to bridge if
	scheduled construction has closed the Cros
75	Island Parkway ramp)
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

INFORMATION ON AUDUBON SANCTUARIES

^^^^^^^^^

Michael Sperling

Last fall, National Audubon compiled a 30-page booklet entitled "Publications of the National Audubon Society." For \$2 (postage and handling), I recently obtained a copy from National Audubon Society, Conservation Information, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003. Included in the extensive list of mostly inexpensive and free publications on all sorts of subjects are 14 on sanctuaries.

One of those is a free partial listing of NAS sanctuaries; since this small pamphlet from 1991 (titled "Wildlife Sanctuaries") was listed as being in limited supply, you can ask me for a photocopy or try writing to the Sanctuary Department (see below).

Another publication listed is the "Audubon Sanctuary Directory," which I just bought for another \$2 from the NAS Sanctuary Department, 93 West Cornwall Road, Sharon, CT 06069. The Directory includes 61 pages of brief listings of sanctuaries owned and/or managed by NAS or its chapters and was published in late 1990. Under New York, under SSAS, you'll find Brookside Preserve. The listings provide all or most of the following information: the sanctuary's location, year established, number of wetland acres and total acres, ownership, access, purpose, basic description, basic added features (trails, brochures, etc.), special programs, and how to get further information.

NEW LIFE AT BROOKSIDE PRESERVE

Betsy Gulotta

Dozens of native fruit-bearing trees and shrubs were planted for the birds at Brookside Preserve by South Shore Audubon Society members and volunteers on Sunday, October 16, 1994, as part of the fall workshop and cleanup organized by SSAS, managers of the county-owned preserve on Brookside Avenue in Freeport. [Editor's note: If we rained out, disregard the preceding and join us on the rain date, October 30th! This Skimmer was scheduled to be mailed on the 17th.]

The plants were generously donated by Atlantic Nursery & Garden Shop in Freeport (winterberry shrubs), Steven Dubner Landscaping in Dix Hills (lowbush blueberry shrubs), and some of our members. As part of our management program, SSAS plans to reintroduce into the preserve native plants such as these, which will provide food and cover for the birds and wildlife.

Brookside Preserve is a 20-acre freshwater wetland, woodland, and upland field area which SSAS rescued from developers in 1989. We received a grant from the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, with the help of State Senator Norman Levy, to protect, preserve, manage, and develop the preserve into an outdoor environmental educational facility. Trails and trail markers have been installed, a bridge and boardwalk paths have been constructed over the wetland areas, and brochures and trail guide booklets have been published. Guided tours are available for schools and community groups.

A Brookside Preserve Committee oversees the activities at the preserve. Anyone interested is welcome to participate. Volunteers are always needed to help with our projects and to be guides for groups visiting the preserve. Committee meetings are generally held on the fourth Tuesday of a month at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrick Library Wing. Call me at 546-8841 for information about activities, upcoming meetings, and guided tours.

THE WORLD OF AUDUBON TV SPECIAL

National Audubon Society has requested that we help publicize the upcoming 10th Anniversary Special that celebrates a decade of partnership between Audubon Productions and Turner Broadcasting. Lauren Hutton and Richard Dean Anderson will host a highly entertaining and intelligent star-studded (including Andie MacDowell, Robert Redford, Michael Douglas, Mariel Hemingway, Darren Burrows, and Paul Newman) documentary featuring segments and updates on some of Audubon's most powerful and controversial films of the last decade. The program will include celebrity interviews, funny outtakes, and viewer letters and will air on cable's TBS SuperStation on November 20th at 9 p.m., 21st at 12 a.m., 26th at 10:05 a.m., and 28th at 2:35 a.m.

CAN WE SAVE STERLING FOREST?

Mary Jane Russell

Sterling Forest is a 17,500 acre undeveloped area straddling the New York – New Jersey border in nearby Orange County, NY. It is part of a critical biological corridor for migratory birds and wildlife, and a major watershed for 25% of New Jersey's residents. It also happens to be the largest wooded area in downstate New York.

At the present time, the forest is owned by a Swedish corporation which would like to develop the land into 13,000 residential units and 8,000,000 square feet of industrial and commercial space. Before development can begin, an environmental impact statement must be submitted to the authorities. This 4000 page statement will be published shortly. If you are interested in reviewing part or all of this tome, please call John Gebhards at (914) 294-3098. The corporation is also willing to sell its land for a fair price.

Since Sterling Forest is less than a two-hour car ride from Long Island, it is easily accessible to all of us. I feel that helping to save it from development will benefit us and future generations. New York State's Audubon Council supports the acquisition of Sterling Forest by use of federal and state funds, and opposes its development.

Two bills (H.R. 2741 and S. 1683) were introduced into the House of Representatives and Senate last year. They authorize \$17.5 million for the acquisition of Sterling Forest and its management as a reserve by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

These bills were scheduled for votes in October and hopefully will have passed by the time you read this. If so, be ready next year to write to our representatives when it is time for Congress to appropriate this \$17.5 million.

New York State is willing to provide \$15 million over three years to purchase land in Sterling Forest.

BINOCULARS, SCOPES, AND FIELD GUIDES

South Shore Audubon Society sells Bausch & Lomb binoculars and spotting scopes plus the Golden Guide to the Birds of North America at competitive prices, year-round. Bausch & Lomb's Natureview series of binoculars was specially designed for bird-watching and endorsed by National Audubon. If you're thinking about buying any of the above for yourself or as a splendid present for Christmas or Chanukah, please call Joe Lancer at 536-6574 between 7 P.M. and 9 P.M. or ask for him at our meetings and walks.

BRONX ZOO TRIP

Evelyn Blume and Diane Singer have arranged for South Shore Audubon Society to spend April 1, 1995 at the Bronx Zoo / Wildlife Conservation Park. We will be providing bus transportation for \$14, plus admission, and will be led on two tours by the park's docents. Further details will appear in future Skimmers.

44 WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 44

Marion Yavarkovsky

With the freshness of autumn comes a variety of activities in which we invite you to join. Please come to our monthly meetings, weekly bird walks, and special 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 P.M., Monday through Friday.]

Baldwin	Ms. Evelyn Konitsky, Yoav
	Margolin
Bellmore	Stacey Childs, Ms. E. Piller, Lorraine Wilber
Bethpage	
East Meadow	Mrs. Patricia D. Boehm, Doug
Last Micagow	Edelson, Barry Persky,
	Irene Schwartz
	Edith Mandel, Arthur L. Rack
Elmont	Debby Frankola, Mr. John P.
W	Gutzeit, Frances E. Kraus,
D	Florence Russo, Ms. Helen
	Santschi, Rich Siciliano,
	Michael Wieber,
74	Harriet Zimmerman
Farmingdale	Mr. Jorge Cermak, Mr. John
	Costello, Jay Mohr,
	Chris Spampinato
Floral Park	Mrs. F. H. Fletcher, Jr.
Freeport	Barbara Bodner, Victoria
F	Calcagno, Robert L. Gordon
Garden City	Benton A. Carlock, Jenny Ann
Caroca City	Edgren, Margaret Egan,
	John A. Garofalo
Glen Oaks	TOIM III GMOIMS
Hempstead	George W. Jones, David Kenchik,
	Edith New, Barbara
	Vaccaro-Luks
Hewlett	
Hicksville	Mr. Roland Horne, Anthony
	Schifano
Lawrence	J. Ketcham
Levittown	Mrs. Joan Kelly
Long Beach	Thomas L. Budelman, Mr. Joseph
	Deley, Mr. Sam Gussgott,
	Mr. Bernhard P. Klepper,
	Hilary Mac Donald,
	Marianne Snyder-Bauchet
Lynbrook	•
Malverne	
17104 TVINV	Mrs. Sharyn S. James
Massaneous	Jerry & Lori Axinn, Amelia
14TB00alvda	Fratianni, Mr. & Mrs. Paul
	-
	Golinski, Mr. Edward L.
	PRIRRATA

Phippard

Massapequa Park Ms	s. Robin Donohue
Merrick Ev	an C. Dribbon, Jeanette Frank
Oakdale Ca	rol & Ken Kranz
	lliam Hogan, Elizabeth Lange,
M	Mr. C. Munch, Mr. Edward A.
I I	Popper, Mr. Steven C.
W LE S	Skullestad
Plainview M1	. Steven Corio,
I	Herbert Schneider
Rockville Centre Par	tricia P. Gallagher
Roosevelt Ed	ith Baylor, Ms. Shawn D.
N	Moody
Seaford V.	Beltrani, Mr. Stuart Gitlin,
F	Rich Siena
Valley Stream Mi	r. Robert E. Butcher; Mr.
-	Douglas L. Davidson; Richard J.
T I	Haas, Jr.; MaryLou Hart,
	Richard Praetorius, Myrna
	Schneiderman
Wantagh Flo	oyd Earl, Mrs. J. Krishner,
<u> </u>	Mr. Ford Q. Trojanowski
West Hempstead Mr	
•	•••••

THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE GAME, AGAIN

Michael Sperling

We mail over 1800 Skimmers per issue at subsidized nonprofit third class rates (now 10.3¢ or 11.6¢, depending on your zip code), so the postal system justifiably processes our newsletters when they have nothing better to do. All 38 newsletters I've edited prior to this one were mailed 21 or 22 days before our next general meeting (this one was scheduled for mailing 29 days before our delayed meeting). To date, no entire mailing has been delivered so late that the meeting was already history. However, certain local post offices need encouragement from us, since they repeatedly have problems delivering Skimmers in under 2 weeks. If you'd like to help us encourage your post office, please call me after 7:30 p.m. weeknights and let me know the date your Skimmer arrived.

The inspiration for this article is Floral Park's post office, which delivered at least one copy of the September issue 39 days after it was mailed; remarkably, they delivered the October issue before the September one! Floral Park feeds Elmont, which didn't do much better in September.

While I'm doing my seemingly annual post office column, here's a word about missing *Skimmers*. If you move or ask the post office to temporarily hold your mail, they will slowly send the newsletter back to the Freeport post office with a yellow label and charge SSAS 29¢ (if we didn't indicate "address correction requested" on the newsletter, they'd throw it away instead, since third class mail is not normally forwarded). If you'd like to receive every *Skimmer* and help SSAS, please contact us before you move or travel.

SSAS VISITS TRS - NOVEMBER 5th

On Saturday, November 5th, starting at 10 A.M., our chapter will pay a free visit to Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bird Sanctuary. Regardless of the weather conditions, we will tour the interpretive center, learn about the activities of National Audubon's oldest sanctuary, eat lunch (if you bring your own), and enjoy personal introductions to many of the live animals that star in TRS's educational programs (Redtailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Harris' Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Peregrine Falcon, red fox, boa constrictor, huge Burmese python, etc.). Unless the weather is even worse than it was when we first tried this last April, we will also walk on the trails through TRS's 12 acres of heavily wooded habitat.

TRS is located at 134 Cove Road in Oyster Bay, adjacent to 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 gravel parking lot is on your right, followed by the sanctuary's entrance.



"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE" 621 Fulton St. (Rt. 109), Farmingdale, NY 11735

Located between McDonald's & Dunkin' Donuts

DECOMPOSING LEAVES

[Editor's Note: The following comes from Field Notes, a question and answer series published by the Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Center in Paul Smiths, NY.]

How long does it take for all the leaves that fall in a forest to decompose?

Some leaves will disappear within a week; others will take up to three years to completely decompose.

The ratio of carbon to nitrogen in a leaf is the primary factor in decomposition. Bacteria, fungi, and other decomposers prefer eating parts of the leaf rich in nitrogen. Carbon-rich chemicals, such as cellulose, are far harder to digest and hence the decomposers save them for last. The lower the carbon-to-nitrogen ratio, the faster the leaf decomposes.

Alders, sugar maple, and elm leaves often decompose within a year. Maples (other than sugar maple), certain oaks, aspens, beech, larch, and pines may take up to three years.

However, water speeds up the process and some studies suggest that some leaves falling into a stream take as little as a week to disappear. You might try conducting a little study by placing a few leaves in a chicken-wire type cage and placing them in a stream.

Most of the decomposition takes place during warm, moist months when decomposers are most active.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUOTATIONS

Michael Sperling

Here's the third installment of favorite entries from A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations, compiled by Barbara K. Rodes and Rice Odell (published by Simon & Schuster, copyright © 1992):

"The supreme reality of our time is . . . the vulnerability of our planet." — John F. Kennedy, speech, June 28, 1963

"Intense, incessant citizen pressure is the only thing that will save us. We must assume that we are surrounded by rapacious developers, callous industrialists, inept public agencies, and insensitive politicians, and our only salvation is in our own two hands." — Richard L. Ottinger, U.S. Representative, speech, Sarah Lawrence College, April 22, 1970 (Earth Day)

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. All program fees are required at the time of registration.

Sunday, November 6th (2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.) — Birds of Prey. See live birds of prey, including a flight demonstration. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

Sunday, November 13th (1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., children) — Mammals and Tracking. See our fox and other live mammals, make tracks, and take a walk in the Sanctuary to find tracks and other signs of mammals. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

Saturday, November 26th (2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., children) — Native Americans. Come and find out how the original inhabitants of Long Island lived. Make corn cakes and fire, use pump drills and bow drills, take a nature walk, and visit a wigwam. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

BIRDING MAGÍC IN ARIZONA

Steve Goldberg

A three day stay in Portal was the final leg of our eight day Southeast Arizona bird-watching and photography junket. Portal (population 60) lies in the eastern foothills of the mighty Chiricahua Mountains, a stone's throw from the New Mexico border. The wide range of habitat, from desert scrub to spruce forest, offers some of the most spectacular scenery and most incredible birding in the United States.

Arriving in Portal at 2 P.M. after a long drive, we spent the balance of the afternoon enthralled with numerous acrobatic Magnificent, Blue-throated, Rufous, Broad-tailed, and Calliope Hummingbirds coming to the feeder just outside our cabin. The next morning we drove the precipitously winding one-lane mountain road for a full day trek in Rustler Park (9000 feet). In evergreen forest and subalpine meadows, we checked off a marvelous array of high-elevation birds: Black-throated Gray, Grace's, Olive, Red-faced, and Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warblers; White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Pygmy Nuthatches; Steller's Jay; Yellow-eyed Junco; Mexican Chickadee; Western Bluebird; and tanager.

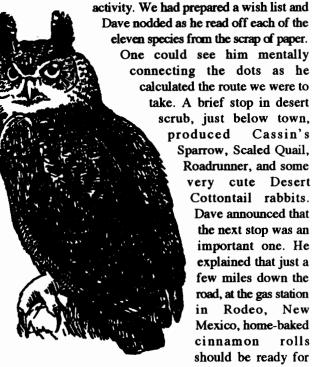
Before leaving New York, we had made arrangements to hire a highly recommended local birding guide, Dave Jasper, for two walks; the first for night birds. We met at the one and only Portal Store, a multifaceted grocery, restaurant, motel, and birding bulletin board, at 7:30 p.m., just as darkness was setting in. After some jovial introductions, we hopped into the car, Dave donning his 1,000,000 candlepower Q-Beam flashlight and tape recorder.

Less than twenty yards out of the parking lot, Dave called out to stop. There was eye shine just ahead, on the right side of the road. We killed the ignition and slowly rolled forward, a few feet at a time. On the gravel shoulder, mesmerized in the glare of the headlights, sat a nightjar, the Common Poorwill. Its richly patterned brown and black feathers seemed to be made of spun sugar. Its black glassy eye was as wide as the night. Once everyone had a satisfyingly long look, I slowly opened the driver's door and slid out, grabbing my camera, telephoto lens, and flash from the rear. Moving out from a camouflage of shadow, I got down to an infantrystyle belly crawl. Dave kept the bird pinned down with the light of the Q-Beam. At twelve feet, I was too close to focus and had to back up slightly. The gravel was crunching, my heart was racing, and the bird remained. Two seconds to focus; a click of the shutter, a whiz of the auto-winder, a seemingly endless 5 second "wheeeeeeer" of the flash recycling, and the bird was still there. I fired off three more frames over the next 60 seconds and backed away somewhat more gracefully. Wow, wow, wow. High five, yah-hoo, all right!

Continuing the show, Dave pulled out of his hat a Western Screech Owl, at some nonspecific coordinates in open desert, and managed to call the bird in to near petting range. Click...

click....click. This was followed by a Whiskered Screech Owl in sycamore forest which took nearly 30 minutes to get in view despite its continuous hooting in the trees directly overhead. The finale was a Great Horned Owl (pictured below), in plain view, sitting atop a telephone pole. Not bad for an hour and a half.

We began the second walk the following morning, at daybreak, since the desert heat quickly dissipates avian



sale and we could pick up some drinks for later. It seemed important to me.

During the rest of the morning we were taken to several excellent locations. One was a cattle watering hole, the only standing water in the area. This small cluster of ponds serves as a nursery for several thousand thumbnail-sized bullfrogs and as an oasis to bird life. We crossed Lark Sparrow off the list, had a brief look at a Sora, and Dave called a Vermilion Flycatcher in to close photographic range. Another site was the backyard of a private home (with permission) whose owners maintain a large number of seed and sugar water feeders. A tremendous assortment of birds came in during the short time we stayed: Abert's, Canyon, and Rufous-sided (Western race) Towhees; Curve-billed and Crissal Thrasher; Pyrrhuloxia; Hooded Orioles; and some six species of hummingbird, including the uncommon Lucifer's and Violetcrowned.

Dave had put us on ten of the eleven species on our list — and a whole lot more. At about noon we bid our farewells to Dave and Portal and began the drive back to Tucson for our flight home the next morning.

The final tally for the week was 140 species (80 life birds), several new friends, a growing appreciation of Southwestern cuisine, some wonderful memories, and lots of good bird photos. I sent Dave a print.

LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCORECARD

Michael Sperling

The League of Conservation Voters, based in Washington, D.C., describes itself as "the 24-year old bipartisan political arm of the conservation movement." Their Board of Directors includes one of National Audubon Society's Vice-Presidents, Brock Evans; anyone can join LCV and get a copy of their detailed scorecard that rates every member of Congress on the basis of their voting records. The most recent 52-page scorecard, excerpted here, was published last February and covered 1993's legislation.

Fourteen votes were considered in the Senate (on mining royalties, livestock grazing on public lands, using free markets to spur energy efficiency, protecting rivers and fish, nuclear pork-barrel spending, economic and employment impact statements, wetlands classification, and advanced solid rocket motor funding), plus four bill cosponsorships (supporting the Endangered Species Act, mining law reform, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge wilderness protection, and the California Desert Protection Act). The average score in the Senate was 46% correct, with Democrats averaging 70% and Republicans 16%. The following are the percentage scores for the Senators who are running for reelection or leaving office, plus the score for New York's Alfonse D'Amato, who we're scheduled to keep until at least 1998:

Dan Akaka (D-H1)	
Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)	
David Boren (D-OK, leaving 2 years early)	38
Richard Bryan (D-NV)	
Conrad Burns (R-MT)	6
Robert Byrd (D-WV)	69
John Chafee (R-RI)	69
Kent Conrad (D-ND)	44
Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY, staying)	19
John Danforth (R-MO)	6
Dennis DeConcini (D-AZ, leaving)	63
Dave Durenberger (R-MN, leaving)	31
Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)	63
Slade Gorton (R-WA)	13
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)	13
Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX, elected June '93)	0
James Jeffords (R-VT)	
James Jeffords (R-VT) Edward Kennedy (D-MA)	
	88
Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI)	88 75 75
Edward Kennedy (D-MA)	88 75 75
Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI)	88 75 75 100
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)	88 75 75 100
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT)	88 75 100 100
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) Trent Lott (R-MS)	88 75 100 100 6
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) Trent Lott (R-MS) Richard Lugar (R-IN)	88 75 100 100 6
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) Trent Lott (R-MS) Richard Lugar (R-IN) Connie Mack (R-FL)	88 75 100 100 6 6
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) Trent Lott (R-MS) Richard Lugar (R-IN) Connie Mack (R-FL) Harlan Mathews (D-TN, leaving)	88 75 100 100 6 6 6
Edward Kennedy (D-MA) Robert Kerrey (D-NE) Herbert Kohl (D-WI) Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) Trent Lott (R-MS) Richard Lugar (R-IN) Connie Mack (R-FL) Harlan Mathews (D-TN, leaving) Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH, leaving)	88 75 100 100 6 6 56 100

Donald Riegle (D-MI, leaving)	75
Charles Robb (D-VA)	75
William Roth (R-DE)	31
Paul Sarbanes (D-MD)	88
Jim Sasser (D-TN)	50
Malcolm Wallop (R-WY, leaving)	6
Harris Wofford (D-PA)	

Fourteen votes (on timber giveaways, livestock grazing on public land, mining law reform, National Biological Survey, takings legislation, Everglades protection, blocking creation of a national wildlife refuge, nuclear pork-barrel spending, coal subsidies, wastewater cleanup, advanced solid rocket motor funding, hazardous waste cleanup, and global population funding) and six cosponsorships (on Endangered Species Act, Arctic NWR, California desert, takings, and wetlands destruction) were considered in the House of Representatives scores for 1993. The average score in the House was 55% correct, with Democrats averaging 71% and Republicans 32%. The New York contingent's scores, in order for Congressional Districts 1–31, were:

George Hochbrueckner (D-Coram)	7 0
Rick Lazio (R-Brightwaters)	65
Peter King (R-Seaford)	
David Levy (R-Baldwin, lost primary)	45
Gary Ackerman (D-Jamaica)	
Floyd Flake (D-Queens)	80
Thomas Manton (D-Sunnyside)	75
Jerrold Nadler (D-Manhattan)	100
Charles Schumer (D-Brooklyn)	75
Edolphus Towns (D-Brooklyn)	80
Major Owens (D-Brooklyn)	
Nydia Velazquez (D-Brooklyn)	80
Susan Molinari (R-Staten Island)	60
Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan)	95
Charles Rangel (D-Manhattan)	85
Jose Serrano (D-Bronx)	75
Eliot Engel (D-Bronx)	7 0
Nita Lowey (D-Harrison)	75
Hamilton Fish (R-Millbrook)	65
Benjamin Gilman (R-Middletown)	70
Michael McNulty (D-Green Island)	70
Gerald Solomon (R-Glens Falls)	2 0
Sherwood Boehlert (R-New Hartford)	75
John McHugh (R-Pierrepont Manor)	20
James Walsh (R-Syracuse)	40
Maurice Hinchey (D-Saugerties)	90
Bill Paxon (R-Williamsville)	20
Louise Slaughter (D-Fairport)	9 0
John LaFalce (D-Tonawanda)	
Jack Quinn (R-Hamburg)	
Amory Houghton (R-Corning)	20

1994-1995 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

100 1000 0.1.102.10, 2.1.120 0.1.0, 2.1.12 0.1.2.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.	
Carole A. Adams, President	
Betty Borowsky, Vice President & Conservation Legislation Chairperson	764-3 <i>5</i> 96
George Popkin, Treasurer (8 to 9 PM)	37 8-44 67
Louise Hillen, Recording Secretary	
Doris Pirodsky, Corresponding Secretary & Historian	378 -1 79 0
Suzanne Lancer, Director (6/97) & Education Chairperson (7 to 9 P.M.)	536-6574
Jonathan Staller, Director (6/97) & Environmental Festivals Coordinator	822-5957
Lisa Borbee, Director (6/96)	897-9589
Steven Goldberg, Director (6/96)	798 -0335
Paul Devendittis, Director (6/95)	489-0547
Bruno Leporati, Director (6/95)	735-4904
Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson	249-4919
Paul Butkereit, Bird Seed Savings Day	623-0843
Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	481-4208
Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve Committee Chairperson	546-884 1
Marge Jaeger, Fund-raising Chairperson	536-9166
Elliott Kutner, Birding / Field Trips Chairperson	486-7667
Joseph Lancer, Binocular / Book Sales (7 to 9 P.M.)	536-6574
Amanda Neet, On-Site Manager	798-0335
Richard Packert, Special Projects	437-9683
Doreen Remsen, Birdathon Co-Chairperson	472-6830
James Remsen, Jr., Past President & Birdathon Co-Chairperson	764-5168
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming Committee Chairperson	599 -1224
Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality Chairperson	766-7397
Diane Singer, Publicity	
Porgy Smith, Environmental Information Chairperson	
Michael Sperling, Skimmer Editor	541-0805
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	

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