

year, maintains a wildlife response unit for emergencies, provides educational programs, cares for and rehabilitates injured wildlife, and is responsible for hand-raising and returning to the wild the more than 600 orphaned birds they welcome each year.

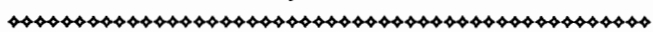
After meeting Andy from BEAKS and hearing about the work they do, I toured Talbot Island, where 7-foot bluffs have eroded to the point of undermining trees, which now lay out on the beach. Brown Pelican, Osprey, Kingfisher, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, and Turkey Vultures were abundant in the marshes.

Although my trip down to Florida was really to visit family, not a day passed that I wasn't checking the skies, the trees, the marshes, and offshore. That's what happens to birders over time.

It was this incredible need to keep birding that caused me to delay my trip home for a visit to Bombay Hook NWR in Delaware. Large numbers of Snow Geese setting down and taking off around sunset created a most spectacular show. The sound and activity cause you to stand in awe no matter how many times you see it happen.

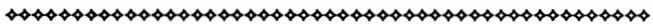
As the sun set and darkness wrapped up the evening, I was ready to echo the words of Dorothy, "there's no place like home."

Happy Holidays to everyone. Hope to see you out on our winter searches for Snowy Owls.



🦋 HOLIDAY WILDLIFE PARTY 🦋

The annual holiday party and workshop for children that is sponsored by SSAS will take place at Tackapausha Museum in Seaford from 1 to 3 P.M. on Saturday, December 17th. **Volunteers are needed** to serve refreshments, direct traffic, help with workshop projects, etc. Children will turn pine cones into bird feeders using birdseed and peanut butter, string popcorn and cranberries for the birds, and enjoy Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary's live bird program. Admission to the museum is \$1 for adults and children over age 12, 50¢ for children ages 5-12, and free for younger kids when accompanied by an adult. To volunteer, call SSAS President Carole Adams at 731-4425.



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**🦋 TREE PLANTING A SUCCESS 🦋
🦋 AT BROOKSIDE PRESERVE 🦋**

Betsy Gulotta

On October 16th, a small but hardy group of volunteers spent a beautiful Sunday afternoon at Brookside Preserve, digging large holes, dragging heavy balled trees and shrubs, planting the trees and shrubs in the field and woods, and hauling water in buckets from Milburn Creek to water their thirsty roots.

In addition to the generous donations of trees and shrubs received from Atlantic Nursery in Freeport and Steven Dubner Landscaping in Dix Hills (reported in last month's *Skimmer*), we also received assistance from Jay Pitti, owner of Merrick House and Gardens, who acquired additional donations from Bissett Nursery Corporation in Holtsville. Jay helped in receiving and delivering 3 American holly, 1 flowering dogwood, 3 inkberry, 5 viburnum, and 10 swamp azalea shrubs. These trees and shrubs will provide cover, shade, and fruit for the birds, which is particularly important in the upcoming cold winter months. As soon as they were in place, a fall warbler indicated his approval and appreciation by landing on one, then another. His presence was our reward as well.

Brookside Preserve is located on the border between Freeport and Baldwin. A marked entrance exists on Brookside Avenue just north of the Long Island Rail Road and the Brooklyn Water Works building. Now that a pedestrian bridge over Milburn Creek, and approximately 500 feet of boardwalk path over the fragile swampy trails along the creek, have been installed (constructed by SSAS member Dick Packert), new trails can be opened up on the west (Baldwin) side. Three additional entrance points at Felix Court, Jayne Place, and Milburn Court on the Baldwin side will lead into these new trails.

A **Brookside Preserve Committee** is currently working on the last phases of a project involving a New York State grant of \$34,000 awarded to SSAS for the management and development of Brookside Preserve. To date, we have developed trails, constructed the bridge and boardwalk paths, removed heavy and unsightly debris, provided erosion control along the Creek, cleared and planted the field as a wildflower meadow, installed a fence along the south border, purchased biomonitoring materials for scientific testing, prepared and printed three educational publications, and started production of an educational promotional video, in addition to regular cleanups and the current planting project.

In the first 5 years of our management agreement with Nassau County, we have been grateful for the cooperation of the County and its Parks Department. It has given us the opportunity to do what we do best — protect the natural environment and share with others the joys and rewards that come with an understanding and appreciation of natural habitats on Long Island. Our reward was evident in the appearance of that first little bird who visited our newly planted shrubs on October 16th.

THE HISTORY OF SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Michael Sperling

Our chapter's 25th birthday is rapidly approaching and your Board of Directors is making plans for a celebration. One way we'd like to observe our birthday is by documenting SSAS's adventures and achievements. Starting with this *Skimmer*, I will attempt to chronicle our history, using whatever information we can find. Because we're an all-volunteer organization whose records have been stored in 13 presidents' closets, we're missing a variety of newsletters, minutes, and who knows what. If you've kept any of our history in your closet and would like to lend it to me for photocopying, please call 541-0805 weeknights after 7:30 P.M.!

Our story begins at a Waldbaum's Supermarket on Long Beach Road in Oceanside (now the site of a T.J. Maxx), where in 1969 young Harlan Friedman, whose father would become the first SSAS president, had an encounter with the woman whose initials appear below the Black Skimmer drawing that decorates our newsletter; her husband would become our first vice president. Marge Fischer later typed out the story for posterity: "First, I must say that Harlan has grown up to be a fine young man, with a family and a career in banking, but as a boy he was incorrigible. As a playground and lunchroom aide in school #4 in Oceanside, I had occasion to know Harlan, not fondly, but too well. While shopping I ran into Harlan at Waldbaum's and he passed a rude remark, overheard by his father Al. Al made Harlan apologize; then, noticing that we were buying birdseed, and he was buying birdseed, without further ado, he asked, 'How would you like to start an Audubon club?'"

Alvin Friedman was already a member of National Audubon Society, so he asked NAS for information about forming a local chapter in his area, whose boundaries would be from the New York City line to the Cross Island Parkway, Jericho Turnpike to Old Country Road, to the Suffolk County line, to the Atlantic Ocean. NAS Northeast Field Representative Stanley Quickmire told him that 35 non-Audubon members were needed to form a new chapter.

In January 1970, a meeting was held at the Friedman home, but fewer than 35 nonmembers were present. However, Alvin had promises from family and friends that they would join, and on February 23rd a second meeting was held in his home. By then the membership requirement had been met and the first officers and committee chairpersons were elected: Alvin Friedman, President; Jack Fischer, Vice President; Audrey Roberts, Corresponding Secretary; Seymour Dashow, Treasurer; Richard Roberts, Field Trips; Gerald Gold, Bulletin Editor; Alfred Reinharz, Legal Advisor; Laura Friedman, Hospitality.

On April 17, 1970, another meeting was held at the Friedman home; a letter was drafted and sent to NAS, signed by Mr. Friedman and Mr. Fischer. It read: "In accordance with the requirements outlined in the National Audubon Society's 'information for chapter organizers,' we submit herewith our formal application for a provisional chapter

charter. A copy of our constitution and bylaws are enclosed, as is a list of our elected officers. We enclose also a description of and map showing the territory we propose to serve, together with copies of our proposed programs and activities. In addition, and also in accordance with National Audubon's requirements, we submit membership applications indicating names, addresses, zip codes, and types of membership."

A data sheet was filled out by Alvin Friedman and accompanied the letter. Besides the four officers mentioned above, it listed six committees and their chairmen: Alvin Friedman, Membership; Gerald Gold, Program; Alfred Reinharz, Conservation; Jack Fischer, Field Trip; Tommy Dominca, Publicity; and Seymour Dashow, Finance. It also listed current projects: "developing the Oceanside sanctuary; discouraging development of runway extensions from Kennedy Airport that interfere with the wetlands and the Jamaica Bay sanctuary, and supplying bird food to the existing sanctuaries."

National Audubon evidently rejected the April 17th application, since on May 24th Alvin Friedman sent them a second letter, reading: "Enclosed please find all the necessary forms for a provisional charter — 2 copies request for charter, 2 copies of committees formed and officers; 3 copies of the constitution; 3 copies of the paid membership (moneys forwarded to you prior to this letter by the treasurer); 3 copies of zip codes; 1 copy of map of area covered by S.S.A.S. Please process as soon as possible." National responded to this second letter on June 3rd, informing Mr. Friedman that "we have approved this application for provisional chapter status for the period of one year beginning June 1, 1970."

By June the first issue of the chapter newsletter had been published, listing June field trips. In August, a letter was sent to all NAS members in the South Shore Audubon territory, notifying them that SSAS existed. If these members were not affiliated with any other chapter, they would be welcomed.

On September 17, 1970, SSAS held its first meeting, at the Oceanside Public Library. Fifty-three people saw Herbert Johnson, the director of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, present slides and a talk about the development of the sanctuary. On the same evening, Alvin Friedman officially received the Provisional Chapter Charter from Stanley Quickmire. The framed Charter ends with *A Statement of Audubon Philosophy*:

"We believe in the wisdom of nature's design. We know that soil, water, plants, and wild creatures depend upon each other and are vital to human life. We recognize that each living thing links to many others in the chain of nature. We believe that persistent research into the intricate patterns of outdoor life will help to assure wise use of earth's abundance. We condemn no wild creature and work to assure that no living species shall be lost. We believe that every generation should be able to experience spiritual and physical refreshment in places where primitive nature is undisturbed. So we will be vigilant to protect wilderness areas, refuges, and parks, and to encourage good use of nature's storehouse of resources. We dedicate ourselves to the pleasant task of opening the eyes of young and old that all may come to enjoy the beauty of the outdoor world and to share in conserving its wonders forever."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Marion Yavarkovsky

We are happy to have so many new members. You are vital to the functioning of SSAS. Therefore, we hope to meet you all at our weekly bird walks and monthly meetings. 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 Mr. & Mrs. Gene Della Rocca
 Bayport George & Johanna Nichols
 Bellmore Ms. Sylvia Lebenger, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Solon
 Bethpage George Gerson (Bethpage High School), ? Gerson (John F. Kennedy J.H.S.), Sandy Kimball
 Cedarhurst Gary Kaplan
 East Meadow Mrs. Dorothy Charles, Marie Menichetti, Jack Schwartz
 East Rockaway Gary Stehr
 Elmont Nancy L. Nelson
 Farmingdale Richard J. Busch, Mr. William P. Effingham
 Floral Park George Dowd, Mr. William F. Greulich, Nora Hourigan, Miss Linda A. Realá, Susan Russo (Floral Park H.S.), Roslyn Siegel, Shen Lin Yang
 Franklin Square Mr. Charles Schaeffer, L. B. Speiser
 Freeport J. Bennetter, Jr.; Steve Bruno; Mr. & Mrs. Philip Haas
 Garden City Jeffrey Buchanan, Ralph Grimaldi, Mr. & Mrs. Leland M. Hair, M. Henderson
 Hackensack, NJ William P. Davis
 Hempstead Mr. R. W. Hare
 Island Park Miss Joy R. Acerra
 Levittown Jane Bliss, Mr. Raymond Connors, Isabella M. Lore, Barbara Olive
 Long Beach Calvin E. Fussman
 Lynbrook Denise Greco
 Massapequa ? Drew, Keith R. Gonsor, Betty Leong, Frank J. Nicosia
 Merrick L. Fallon (Camp Ave. School), Michael Shannon
 Mineola Jerome Birnbaum
 New York Barbara Winsey
 Oceanside Alfred Green, Mrs. Helyn G. Horn
 Old Bethpage Carol Kalbfeld
 Plainview Marcia Bass, Ms. Elizabeth Braglia, Mrs. Martha W. Peterson, Mr. Alan Ring
 Rockville Centre Anne Rothman
 Roslyn Heights Toni Panarelli



Seaford Patricia Brown, Susan Daubman, Teresa M. Doran, Mrs. Barbara Kolis Micio, Miss Leona Posa, Ms. Jeanne K. Strole
 Valley Stream Mrs. Allan Maltman, Ms. Sylvia Marks
 Wantagh Jacob M. Holtzman; Edward Waldron, Jr.
 West Hempstead Mrs. A. Leford



BIRD FEEDERS FOR SALE, TOO

On Bird Seed Savings Day (see page 7), a variety of bird feeders will be on sale. The following are descriptions of the Droll Yankees models, taken from various catalogs:

A-6 tube feeder, \$18; B-7 larger tube feeder, \$36. Exceptionally well made and immensely popular feeders. Six staggered perches give birds privacy and security. Thick, clear plastic has 360° seed display, while solid cast zinc seed ports control seed flow and prevent squirrels gnawing. A-6 is 16" long with 1 quart capacity; B-7 is 20" long and holds 2-3/4 quarts. No matter what seed you use, you can be assured of great results and variety with these feeders. **Seed tray for A-6, \$5; for B-7, \$6.**

TH-3 thistle tube feeder, \$22. This feeder is the most successful feeder around for attracting finches, siskins, or redpolls [in our area, House Finches and American Goldfinch are most likely]. It has 8 squirrel-proof openings which dispense only the small black thistle (Niger) seed. It is 16" long, 2-3/4" in diameter, and holds 1-1/2 pounds of seed to last a good long time. By adding the seed tray below the feeder, you can provide space for 4 or 5 more guests while saving spilled seed at the same time. Feeder hangs easily but can also be post mounted. **Seed tray for TH-3, \$5.**

Big Top, \$40. The Big Top is truly amazing. The perchers such as cardinals perform in the center ring, while the clingers like the chickadees do their trapeze act at the eight feed ports below. The huge dome with its free-spinning gripless top baffles the squirrels as well as protects birds and seed from rain and snow. The dome adjusts up and down the 15" hanger rod, allowing selectivity for larger or smaller birds. The hopper unhooks for ground-level filling. The dome is 15" in diameter by 7" high. The hopper itself is 10" wide by 5" deep and holds 3 quarts of seed.

X-1 Seed Saver, \$14. Model X-1 consists of a dish 7" in diameter by 1-3/4" deep which can be filled with birdseed, suet, or table scraps. It is economical in the use of seed because the seeds dropped by the birds fall back into the dish, not on the ground. The cover above the dish is 10" in diameter and can be raised or lowered to adjust the distance between it and the dish. When this is reduced to about 1/2", only small birds such as chickadees and finches can enter. Feeder can be hung or post mounted.





**BIRD SEED SAVINGS DAY
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1995
TACKAPAUSHA MUSEUM
9:30 A.M. — 2:30 P.M.**



The museum is located on Washington Avenue in Seaford and lies about 1/2 mile south of Sunrise Highway, just north of Merrick Road. Preordering greatly aids us in determining the amount of seed needed; an order form appears below for your use. **Please keep this upper portion as a reminder of the sale date.** All preorders should be received by JANUARY 17th. **Please make checks payable to the South Shore Audubon Society. Mail check and order form to Paul T. Butkerei, 268 Wallace St., Freeport, NY 11520.**

Once again we are offering three types of sunflower seed: black oil seed, large white striped seed, and a blend of the two consisting of 60% oil and 40% striped. We will also be offering a variety of Bird Feeders. **Help will be needed** on the sale date to take orders and to aid in unloading seed. If you wish to volunteer, call (516) 623-0843 late evenings and ask for Paul. **Our next sale will be in OCTOBER 1995.**

My name is _____

My address is _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ S.S.A.S. Member? ____ Yes ____ No

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
	25 lb Black Oil Sunflower Seed	8.00	
	25 lb Striped Sunflower Seed	9.25	
	40 lb Blended Sunflower Seed	12.50	
	25 lb Regular Wild Bird Seed Mix (millet, cracked corn, sunflower, milo, wheat)	6.85	
	50 lb Regular Wild Bird Seed Mix	13.50	
	20 lb Special Mix (millet, sunflower, wheat, milo, peanut bits)	6.40	
	40 lb Special Mix	12.25	
	40 lb Premium Mix (millet, cracked corn, sunflower, safflower, peanut bits)	12.25	
	25 lb Cracked Corn	5.75	
	10 lb Sunflower Hearts	6.75	
	10 lb Safflower Seed	6.00	
	10 lb Peanut Bits	5.00	
	10 lb White Proso Millet	4.25	
	10 lb Thistle Seed (Niger)	8.00	
	Maine Manna Suet Bell	4.00	

All blends and mixes are based on current research

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

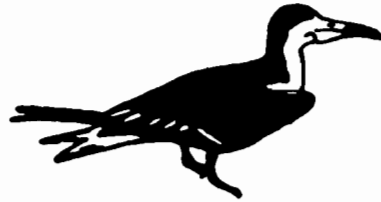
BIRD FEEDERS (no preorders, please): Droll Yankees A-6 tube feeder, \$18 ↖ Droll Yankees B-7 larger tube feeder, \$36 ↖ Droll Yankees TH-3 thistle tube feeder, \$22 ↖ Seed tray for A-6 and TH-3, \$5 ↖ Seed tray for B-7, \$6 ↖ Droll Yankees Big Top, \$40 ↖ Droll Yankees X-1 Seed Saver, \$14 ↖ Thistle stocking, \$2.50 ↖ Suet stocking, \$3.50 ↖ K-5 tube feeder, \$17 ↖ K-W5 sunflower window feeder, \$10 ↖ K-WT thistle window feeder, \$10 ↖ Suet basket, \$6.

1994-1995 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Carole A. Adams, President	731-4425
Betty Borowsky, Vice President & Conservation Legislation Chairperson	764-3596
George Popkin, Treasurer (8 to 9 PM)	378-4467
Louise Hillen, Recording Secretary	546-6147
Doris Pirodsky, Corresponding Secretary & Historian	378-1790
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 Loporati, Director (6/95)	735-4904
Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson	249-4919
Paul Butkerei, Bird Seed Savings Day	623-0843
Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	481-4208
Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve Committee Chairperson	546-8841
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, Special Events On-Site Coordinator	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	561-6118
Porgy Smith, Environmental Information Chairperson	887-2054
Michael Sperling, <i>Skimmer</i> Editor	541-0805
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	379-2090

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Freeport, NY 11520-0031

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