OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 8 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MAY 1996

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Carole A. Adams

It's that time of the year again — Birdathon time, that is. Please use reasonable caution at this time of the year. If you find yourself listening to birdsong tapes and actually reading your field guides, it's too late. You have obviously been exposed to a "Birdathon carrier." The good side is that you are among friends, lots and lots of friends. This virtually transmittable contagion generally starts appearing in late March and early April. One of the first signs that you've been afflicted is recognizing your desire to join a Birdathon Team. This is most frequently followed by thoughts of how many sponsors you can sign up and how many species you could expect to see in one day.

All kidding aside, the Birdathon is one of the more spectacular events of the year. Nationwide, Audubon chapters are setting up their Birdathon teams and getting ready to do some creative fund-raising for local and national environmental causes. Although Birdathoning is not new, I still hear remarks like "I'm not really good at identifying birds" or "I don't know one bird call from another." Birdathoning is not a competition among birding experts. In fact, the "competition" is all in the spirit of good fun. On my first Birdathon, I learned how to identify four warblers I had never seen before, and discovered that I could drop out when I'd had enough and that teams actually tell one another where special sightings are. So much for the "competition." Everyone can be part of the Birdathon on May 10-11. Count your birds at home or at your favorite birding spot, join one of the existing teams, or start your own team. Get your pledge forms and off you go. This year there will be an informal gathering of Birdathoners at the Old Country Buffet on Hempstead Turnpike in Levittown. Whether you participate or not, plan on joining us in this eat-and-brag fest; check with Jim Remsen, Doreen Remsen, or me for further details.

This year, the Birdathon coincides with the Fourth International Migratory Bird Day. This continent-wide event is a celebration of the return of neotropical migratory birds to their North American breeding grounds. What better way to cele-

NEXT MEETING

Sandy Brenner

DATE: Tuesday, May 14, 1996

TIME: 8:00 P.M. ② (Letter of the Month 7:30)

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKERS: Susan Smith plus Mary Richard
TOPIC: The Songbirds Are Disappearing -

The Songbirds Are Disappearing — Migratory Bird Conservation in

Central Mexico

Susan Smith, the President of the Mexican Audubon Society, will present an entertaining slide program of her work in Mexico and will describe the continuing efforts of her chapter. Mary Richard, the Director of Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary, will describe the problems migratory birds face and the program TRS conducts in Mexico.

The Sociedad Audubon de México is a National Audubon chapter that is very active in conservation programs in its home state of Guanajuato. Susan Smith has spearheaded efforts to preserve important riparian and montane habitats for disappearing songbirds, is very active in population control efforts in Mexico, and began the partnership between TRS and The Ecological Foundation of Guanajuato which led to an important census being conducted and local environmental education programs.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE

BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS

brate than to actually experience the neotropical migration firsthand? Come celebrate; join us in the Birdathon (see last month's *Skimmer* for Birdathon details).

Before closing, a quick reminder: Our Annual Dinner at the Pompei Restaurant in West Hempstead is set for Tuesday, June 12th (our regular meeting night). Mark your calendar and fill out the reservation form on page 7. I look forward to your calls and seeing you out there on our weekly bird walks and at our monthly meetings. Again, thank you for taking the time to read the *Skimmer*.

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** WELCOME NEW MEMBERS **

Marion Yavarkovsky

We are happy to welcome the newest additions to the South Shore Audubon "family." Our family values include a concern and love for our natural environment. We hope you will join us in our quest for beauty and knowledge. Our weekly bird walks and monthly meetings are for you. Join the family!

[For information on SSAS membership, please call our Membership Chairperson, Marion, at 379-2090. The best time to call is after 4 P.M., Monday through Friday.]

Baldwin	Mary & Tom Burke, Lawrence
	Clegg, Nicholas Cuccio,
6	Ms. Coletta Klein, Kenneth
	Lofaro, Florence Thompson,
₽	Mr. Thomas Weber
Bellmore	Judith Gerber
Brooklyn	
Deer Park	
East Meadow	Antonio Remollino
	Mrs. Janet Gibbs, Lynn Lyons
Farmingdale	. Ioannis Goutzounis,
2	Paul Lemenille,
	Mr. Francis D. Mulcahy
Floral Park	. Mr. Richard Fuchs
Franklin Square	
Garden City	. Joan M. Kane
Hempstead	. Mrs. Walter Ganzi, C. E. Michael
	Andrew Tatom
Hewlett	. Fred Lamon,
	Mrs. Evelyn Zwerling
Hicksville	. Donna Naggy, Marion Skinner
	. Mr. & Mrs. Stanley S. Cir
Levittown	. Ray Heuser, Jr.;
	Ernest & Elva Orlandini
Long Beach	. Tom Krebs,
8	Ms. Marlene Zaslavsky
Lynbrook	. Mrs. Anita Sullivan
	. Mr. James Livingston
	. Sally Glendenning, Mr. Earl
	Gorby, Mr. Alan Guinn,
	Sharon M. Schwarz
Oceanside	. Joseph Sheridan
	. Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Friedman,
	Mrs. Anna T. Pericas
Seaford	. Teresa Johnston
Uniondale	
Valley Stream	
Wantagh	. Ann Marie Pozzini
Woodmere	

THE GLOBE CLUB

Kathy Chapman

It's Tuesday afternoon. For the past several months, instead of going home after school, a group of 5th and 6th grade students have gathered together at Oaks School #3 in Oceanside. They have been learning how to identify trees, measure their circumference and height, and take scientific measurements involving atmosphere and climate, hydrology, and water chemistry. These members of the GLOBE Club have been training to take scientifically sound measurements in anticipation of the day that they will return to Brookside Preserve, where they will perform these experiments and study the biology and geology unique to the preserve.

Because of a generous grant from South Shore Audubon Society (which manages the County-owned preserve), the students were able to select this beautiful and natural location as a study site. They began their investigations in mid-November, when they were given a guided tour of Brookside.

GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is an international science and environmental education partnership initiated by Vice President Al Gore. GLOBE students hope to contribute to a better understanding of the planet by making regular environmental observations at thousands of locations around the world and sharing their information via the Internet. Their data is combined with input from other GLOBE schools around the world and with other science sources, such as satellite imagery, to create dynamic, online images of the Earth. All students will be able to map the precise location of the study areas using a global positioning system (GPS) receiver. The GPS unit is accurate to within 15 meters, an accuracy essential to the scientists who will be using the student-produced data in research projects.

Any person with a World Wide Web-capable connection to the Internet can view the image maps generated by GLOBE student data. Just link up to GLOBE at http://www.globe.gov.

[Editor's Note: Kathy Chapman, an Oaks School teacher, is the GLOBE Club's leader.]

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Carole A. Adams

Congratulations to the Audubon camp scholarship recipients. William Werner of Seaford was honored with the Youth Camp Scholarship and South Shore Audubon's very own Diane Singer was honored with the Adult Camp Scholarship. On behalf of SSAS, I congratulate them both and look forward to hearing about their Maine camp experiences. Many thanks to those of you who sent in scholarship applications. The Education Committee looks forward to considering your applications for next year. If only we could send everybody!

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

Sunday, May 5th (1 to 3 P.M., adults) — Wildlife Landscaping. Learn how you can provide important wildlife habitat on your own property. You can have your own bird sanctuary. TRS members \$7, nonmembers \$9.

Saturday, May 11th (1 to 2:30 P.M., family) — Pond Ecology. Equipped with dip nets and magnifiers, you will become a pond explorer searching a nearby pond for interesting critters. You'll even meet some pond creatures that live at the Sanctuary. TRS members \$3, nonmembers \$5.

Sunday, May 12th (8 to 10 A.M., family) — Mother's Day Nature Hike. Does your mom like the outdoors? Why not take her on an informative but fun nature walk? TRS members \$4, nonmembers \$6.

Sunday, May 19th (9 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., family) — International Migratory Bird Day. TRS will present migratory bird programs and regular bird programs. Free.



Explore the coast with the

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

FIRE ISLAND ECOLOGY (Mon.-Wed., June 10-12) ALS members join AMC members at their bayside lodge in Atlantique. Cost: \$20.00/night + \$10.00 ferry. Call AMC (212) 603-9896 for info and reservations.

MONTAUK SUMMER WEEKEND (June 14-16) 2 nights at Montauk Manor house, 5 meals, 5 hikes, 2 evening programs. Cost: \$245 per person. Call Don.

ICELAND (June 18–30) A 12 day spectacular tour of this volcanic wonderland. See Europe's largest glacier and most powerful waterfall. Bathe in thermal pools. Visit the world's largest seabird cliff with 2 million nesting razorbills, puffins, and murres. Cost: \$2585 includes airfare, lodging, meals, guides, van rentals, ferries. Leaders: Don Riepe and Rob Villani. Call Don for reservations.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS (July 11-20) Spend 10 days in this naturalist's paradise. Enjoy closeup views of tame wildlife. Swim with sea lions and marine iguanas and follow the trail of Charles Darwin. Leaders: Mickey Cohen and Don Riepe. Call Mickey for info and free brochure at (718) 471-2166.

For information and free brochure contact: Don Riepe 28 West 9th Road Broad Channel, NY 11693 (718) 634-6467

HATS OFF TO BROOKSIDE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS

Betsy Gulotta

Perhaps it was the lovely spring weather that brought so many people out on Saturday, March 30th, or just the urge to begin spring cleaning. Regardless, Brookside Preserve's spring cleanup was one of the most successful we have ever had.

Armed with garbage bags, rakes, shovels, gloves, and boots, over 30 participants cleared trails, unclogged Milburn Creek, dragged out heavy metal debris, and filled at least 60 garbage bags in less than three hours.

The Brookside Preserve Committee wishes to thank all those who helped make the day successful — teens from the Baldwin Recreation Association, employees from the Red Lobster of Baldwin, members of the Blue Marble Club of Baldwin High School, GLOBE project students from Oceanside's Oaks School #3, students from Old Westbury School of the Holy Child's Save What's Left Environmental Club, neighbors of the Preserve, and the many SSAS members who volunteered to help that day. We are also grateful to the Nassau County Department of Recreation and Parks, who helped remove all the garbage after we collected it.

[Note: The Brookside Preserve Committee's next nighttime meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, **April 23rd** in Merrick; call Betsy at 546-8841 if you'd like to help us manage this 20-acre preserve, which straddles the Freeport-Baldwin border.]

BRIGANTINE TRIP IS SOLD OUT

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Diane Singer already has a waiting list for our June 1st bus trip to the Brigantine Division of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in southern New Jersey. If you've signed up and discover that you'll be unable to join us, please call Diane so that your seat can be reassigned.

SSAS Mission Statement — The mission of South Shore Audubon Society is to promote environmental education, and preserve and restore our environment, through responsible activism, for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

SSAS Post Office Statement — South Shore Skimmer is published monthly from September through December and February through June by South Shore Audubon Society, P.O. Box 31, Freeport, NY 11520-0031.



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

A word from your editor about Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge: Because it's part of the Department of Interior's Gateway National Recreation Area, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge will be closed in the event of another partial shutdown of the federal government (the latest Continuing Resolution passed by Congress provides funding until April 24th). Call us prior to the walk day for information on the substitute walk location. JBWR is located on Cross Bay Boulevard (take Belt Parkway Exit 17 south for 3-1/2 miles and turn right at the traffic light; walks start in the parking lot).

Apr. 21	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
Apr. 28	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner	
May 5	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)	
May 12	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
May 19	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
May 26	Memorial Day Weekend — No Walk	
June 2	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
000	Summer Break	
Aug. 4	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
Aug. 11	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
Aug. 18	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
Aug. 25	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge	
Sept. 1	Labor Day Weekend — No Walk	
Sept. 8	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner	
Sept. 15	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)	
Sept. 22	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner	
+++++++	>+ >+	
AUDUBON'S NY ACTIVIST HOTLINE (800) 414-ACTN		
TAPE-RECORDED UPDATES FROM ALBANY		
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R	ARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070	
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WILDLI	FE POISONING HOTLINE (800) 356-0560	
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AUI	DUBON ACTIONLINE (800) 659-2622	
TAPE-RECC	ORDED UPDATES FROM WASHINGTON, DC	
++++++	>+ >+	

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SSAS IS VISITING THEODORE ROOSEVELT SANCTUARY

On Saturday, May 4th, from 9:30 A.M. until about 12:30 P.M., our chapter will visit TRS in order to watch their songbird banding station in action at a time when there should be plenty of migrating warblers and other songbirds. In the event of rain, an indoor live animal program will be substituted.

The Sanctuary is adjacent to President Roosevelt's grave (in Young's Memorial Cemetery) and about a mile from Sagamore Hill National Historical 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 at 134 Cove Road.

THE MIGRATING MONARCH

[Editor's Note: This article, written by Françoise Dubois, was given to me by SSAS's Dolores Rogers, who received it when she visited Mexico's Michoacán Reserve last February during a trip organized by Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Sociedad Audubon de México.]

The North American migration of the Monarch butterfly has fascinated scientists for decades. They first thought that the Monarch did not migrate at all, but rather hibernated under logs, laying its eggs or leaving caterpillars before it died during the long cold spells of northern winters. The "butterfly trees" of California were known, which offered protection to great numbers of butterflies from Mendocino County to southern California, but there remained a mystery as to where the eastern butterflies went, and it wasn't until 1974 that the location of its winter roosts was discovered in the central highlands of Mexico. The story of Professor Urquhart's relentless "Monarch butterfly hunt" is fascinating in itself. Here we will only discuss the questions most tourists ask and will try to answer them simply.

Where do the butterflies come from and when do they reach their final destination? In early November, Monarchs pour en masse into various groves of Oyamel (Abies religiosa) in the forests of central Mexico, principally Michoacán, coming from as far north as upper Ontario in Canada, as far east as New England, and as far west as the Rockies. More than 100 million Monarchs are said to reach their wintering grounds here in Michoacán each year. [Regarding the one-third loss of Monarchs (later reduced to 3%) reported in The New York Times following a freak snowstorm last winter, Dolores was told that the Monarchs were laying dormant in the snow and started fluttering and flying when it started to warm up — no significant loss!]

Is the American Monarch the only migratory butterfly? No. Among the very large butterfly order known as Lepidoptera, many species migrate. However, the Monarch's migration is more complex than most others and its migratory

pattern more often compared to birds' migration than to that of other insects. The Monarch butterfly is a species wide-spread throughout most of the world. It is considered a tropical insect and migrates from areas subjected to prolonged cold spells. In America, Australia, and New Zealand, the Monarch travels long distances to form vast wintering colonies.

What is the normal life cycle and breeding habits of a Monarch butterfly? It takes four or five generations of Monarch butterflies to complete one full migratory cycle. The "warm generations" live roughly one month, mating throughout their short lives as they slowly make their way north following the blooming of the milkweed. In contrast, the southward bound Monarch lives much longer — from six to nine months and sometimes up to one year — mating primarily from January to March.

The female lays each of her 600 eggs underneath a separate milkweed leaf. From egg to adult, the Monarch evolves through five stages. The larval, or molting, phases of the caterpillar take from three to five weeks, with the last caterpillar forming a beautiful chrysalis (the pupa) that looks like a blue-green colored Chinese lantern studded with gold nuggets. Ten days later, the chrysalis becomes transparent, revealing the butterfly's shape and colors. It hatches in about 80 seconds! The butterfly then pumps water into its crumpled wings, waits until they are dry, and a few hours later flies away as a splendid butterfly.

How do the Monarchs know where to migrate? Because the Monarch is too fragile to sustain the perils of traveling thousands of miles and because it does not live long enough to complete even one migration, the butterfly cannot benefit from the migrating route experience of its elders, as do birds and other migrating animals. Scientists agree that the Monarch performs a navigational feat, yet they don't agree fully on how it does so.

Its eye contains a device — the ocelo — which records the subtle changes in the angle of the sun. The ocelo may trigger the Monarch's decision to travel. Some naturalists feel that the butterfly "marks" its territory before leaving it, thus making it easier for the next generations to return. Others think that the magnetite particles inside the Monarch's body are responsible for the butterfly reacting to changes in the earth's magnetic field. The Michoacán region has a higher level of magnetic iron than the surrounding country, which could explain why this area was chosen as the wintering roost in the first place. For controlling flight orientation, the butterfly possesses at the base of its antennae a keenly sensitive instrument (the Johnston organ), a sort of compass with a time machine.

What does a Monarch look like? Do males differ from females? With a wingspan of 3 to 4 inches (7.6 to 10.2 centimeters), the Monarch is one of the largest in the Lepidoptera family. The male is larger than the female. Its wing veins are thinner and each hind leg bears a scent pouch. The male also has different markings on the back wings, called "alar" spots. Both male and female are bright mandarin

orange and black, with tawny or whitish specks on the upper side, while the underside is duller brown and tan.

milkweed? The Monarch's scientific name is Danainae.

meaning milkweed butterfly. While the butterfly eats nectar,

What do the Monarchs eat? What is their relationship to

the caterpillar's only food is milkweed (Asclepia). Milkweed contains a cardiac glycoside, cardenolide, a toxin which remains in the body of the mature butterfly during its entire life. This poisonous toxin is a built-in protection against predators. Among the 2000 species of milkweed in the world, about 100 are found in North America, with each species growing in a different region. Because the different milkweed species vary chemically from region to region, scientists can determine where a specific butterfly had its first milkweed meal, still chemically recorded in its body. Thus, they can know where any individual Monarch was born. (For example, the Texas milkweed examined in a butterfly body leaves a different pattern of spots than would an Alabama milkweed.)

What are their predators? To name but a few, the Monarch's natural predators are mice, birds, praying mantis, and spiders. Wind, rain- and hailstorms, cold temperatures, cars, drowning, etc., also kill millions of Monarchs. It is believed that one out of five dies of starvation each year. Of course, the greatest threats to the Monarch's survival are the use of pesticides and the growth of urban development, both of which destroy milkweed habitat. In addition, continuing deforestation reduces the roosting areas and, alas, even tourism is detrimental as it brings more and more traffic into the reserves and disrupts the Monarch's colonies. Sightseers are encouraged to stay on marked trails accompanied by a guide.

Since the Monarchs are tropical insects, why do they choose the mountains of central Mexico instead of a warmer place? It does seem paradoxical. However, the butterflies have found a perfect solution for survival. The mountain forests offer humidity and protection from the bitter cold. The temperatures are low enough to inhibit movement, breeding, and aging. In such a "semi-dormant" state, the butterfly saves precious energy. In the same way, when the low sun angle and cooler temperatures of autumn arrive, the Monarch stops mating to concentrate all its energy on eating. The nectar is transformed into lipids, needed for the long journey south and the winter months where food is scarce.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1996–1997 OFFICERS

At South Shore Audubon Society's general meeting on May 14th, 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, chaired by Dolores Rogers and including Jim and Doreen Remsen, has recommended the following candidates:

President — Carole Adams
Vice President — Betty Borowsky
Treasurer — Nancy Frame
Recording Secretary — Christine Schmitt
Corresponding Secretary — Doris Pirodsky
Director (to 6/99) — Jim Hartnett
Director (to 6/99) — Bill Hollweg



CONSERVATION REPORT Eagles in Connecticut

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Betty Borowsky

On March 9th, seven South Shore Auduboners braved a boat trip up the Connecticut River to see Bald Eagles. Yes, Bald Eagles.

The possibility that we might see these birds was a powerful attraction that day — it certainly wasn't the weather. I cannot speak for the rest of the crew, but personally I was hoping the trip would be canceled. The day before it was so windy that the building where I work was moaning — and I'd never heard that. I called the Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation, sort of hoping they would rethink the whole thing, but they said "Oh no, the captain says the boat is fine at winds of these speeds." Then the day dawned, and it was just as windy and, in addition, it was 11°F in Rockville Centre. I thought: OK, we'll get out there and they'll cancel, since if it's 11 degrees here, it's going to be entirely too cold to go out. But no, the trip was not canceled.

The boat left from Greenport, which is on the south shore of the tip of Long Island's North Fork. After we embarked, the boat went around the Fork and into Long Island Sound. When we entered the Sound, the boat was seriously tossed about and waves sprayed over the gunwales.

There was some serious seasickness. One of us swallowed ginger root pills, claiming they were protective. Not that I doubt that claim, but I have heard that rhinoceros horn has medicinal powers too. Once we entered the river, most passengers recovered enough to eat a great deal, I noticed — something I decided would *not* be a good idea for me until I landed back on shore.

The trip was led by John Turner, one of the most knowledgeable environmentalists on Long Island and an outspoken proponent of the protection of the Pine Barrens (and the speaker at our general meeting last month). John spotted the first eagle. Now, in my later years, I have come to acknowledge, and come to terms with, the fact that I am birding disabled. That is, if there are 20 people in the group, and someone sees a bird, I am the last one to spot it (if I spot it at

all). However, this bird you couldn't miss. It was immature, but the size and shape of it were truly unmistakable.

Well, we thought that was it — but we finally saw 27 eagles on the trip, including three birds with mature plumage; those with totally white heads and tails. They are really majestic. (Of course, it is possible that we actually saw half that number, since we counted birds as we traveled both up and down the river and the birds tend to remain in their own territories, but let's not quibble).

We saw a lot of other wonderful things as well: countless mergansers [Hooded Merganser is shown below], three species of scoter, Oldsquaw ducks, deer, and a harbor seal that had hauled itself out on an ice floe. It was a fantastic trip.

The whole idea that there are now eagles in Connecticut gives me tremendous satisfaction. Historically, our area had always been part of the eagles' winter home. Although they breed in the far north, they migrate here in the winter because their principal food is fish, and while the rivers freeze hard up north during the winter, they tend to remain open in our area throughout the year. However, for a long time there were no Bald Eagles, no Ospreys, and precious few other raptors here.

The return of the eagles is a testimony to the success of the conservation movement. It is a direct consequence of the ban on the use of DDT, the enforcement of the Endangered Species Act, and the active effort to preserve wildlife habitat. We need some tangible reinforcement like this from time to time to recharge our enthusiasm for the fight to preserve the environment. It is hard work to keep up our writing and phoning campaigns, and just trying to understand the consequences of new abstruse legislative initiatives or efforts to undermine legislation already in place is a major challenge. We came back from this trip recharged.

The trip also reminded me that we are living in one of the most beautiful places in the world. Long Island offers us unique and beautiful environments to enjoy. Where else can you find miles and miles of pure white sand beaches? Many square miles of unique pine barrens? Estuaries so rich in nutrients that there are too many Brant to count accurately?

We have had a very good 25 years. At this time of great threats to environmental laws, let us not rest on our laurels, but rise to the challenge. In truth, environmental conservation more than pays for itself, not only in terms of public health, but also in terms of quality of life. Let's keep up the pressure.

[Editor's Note: One way to keep up the pressure is to join Audubon's Armchair Activist program. You'll receive monthly information about a federal or state issue, plus a sample letter and a request that you send a letter to the appropriate government officials; call SSAS's Mary Jane Russell at 766-7397 to enroll — it's free.]



LAST YEAR'S BIRDATHON LIST

Due to popular demand, here are the 164 species that were spotted by SSAS's Birdathoners in 24 hours last May, as compiled by Jim Remsen. Last year's winning team saw a record 135 species in our area, while the other two main teams saw 134 and 103 species; a few of the species listed were only spotted upstate (Bobolink, Turkey Vulture, etc.). This year's Birdathoners are asked to jot down where they see species so that we can provide locations when we publish our next list.

Common Loon, Red-throated Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Tricolored Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Glossy Ibis, Mute Swan, Canada Goose, Brant, Mallard, American Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Bluewinged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Greater Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser

Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Osprey, Ring-necked Pheasant, Wild Turkey, Clapper Rail, American Oystercatcher, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Piping Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Willet, Spotted Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Short-billed Dowitcher, Red Knot, Sanderling, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Ringbilled Gull, Laughing Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's Tern, Common Tern, Roseate Tern, Little Tern, Black Skimmer

Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Monk Parakeet, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Screech Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher

Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird (pictured), Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Pewee, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow

Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Winter Wren, Carolina Wren, Marsh Wren, Northern Mockingbird, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Veery, Eastern Bluebird,

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, European Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-

throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Chestnutsided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, American Redstart

House Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Redwinged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Northern Oriole, Boattailed Grackle, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Northern Junco, American Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, and Song Sparrow

Shirley Kutner and Diane Singer have once again reserved the Banquet Room at Pompei Restaurant and Catering in West Hempstead for SSAS's annual dinner, to be held on **Tuesday**, **June 11th**. The price remains \$20 per person, which includes a cocktail hour with hot hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 and dinner at 7:30. Pompei's address is 401 Hempstead Avenue (take Southern State Parkway Exit 17 north).

Advance registration is required this year; please enclose the following form with your check payable to South Shore Audubon Society and mail them to Diane Singer, 118 Kent Road, Valley Stream, NY 11580. (On the menu below, arreganata means that bread crumbs and lemon have been added, and the fish has been oil-baked in an oven.)

NAME:	
ADDRI	SSS:
AMOU	NT OF CHECK:
NUMB	ER OF PEOPLE:
NUMB	ER OF EACH MENU CHOICE:
O M	Filet of Sole Arreganata
	Chicken Francese
	Eggplant Rollatini
	Roast Beef
or, if yo	ou prefer:
E	Broiled Chicken
	Broiled Sole

1995-1996 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

	•
Carole A. Adams, President	. 731-4425
Betty Borowsky, Vice President & Conservation Legislation Chairperson	. 764-3596
Nancy Frame, Treasurer	. 520-9016
Christine Schmitt, Recording Secretary	. 887-7713
Doris Pirodsky, Corresponding Secretary & Historian	. 378-1790
Evan C. Dribbon, Director (6/98)	. 826-3422
Henry Levine, Director (6/98)	. 328-8736
Suzanne Lancer, Director (6/97) & Education Chairperson (7 to 9 P.M.)	536-6574
Jonathan Staller, Director (6/97) & Environmental Festivals Coordinator	822-5957
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Steven Goldberg, Director (6/96)	798-0335
Sandy Brenner, Program Chairperson	249-4919
Paul Butkereit, Bird Seed Savings Day	623-0843
Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	481-4208
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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	283-3872
George Popkin, Financial Advisor (8 to 9 P.M.)	378-4467
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James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon Co-Chairperson	764_5168
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming Committee Chairperson	599-1224
Mary Jane Russell, Armchair Activist Chairperson & Hospitality Chairperson	766_7397
Diane Singer, Publicity (5 to 8 P.M.)	561-6118
Porgy Smith, Environmental Information Chairperson	887-2054
Michael Sperling, Skimmer Editor	541_0805
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	370 2000
	313-2030

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

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