# OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 1996

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Carole A. Adams

Welcome Back! Can you believe it, we're kicking off the 1996-1997 season of the South Shore Audubon Society? Before talking about what's coming up, let me fill you in on what was. Just before our dinner, I had the honor and pleasure of attending the National Audubon Convention in Washington, D.C.. I did have company. Our champion Skimmer editor, Michael Sperling, joined me and was rewarded with a terrific door prize. Other winners that need mentioning are Ginny Fields, President of Great South Bay Audubon Society, and Herb Roth, Newsletter Editor of Lyman Langdon Audubon Society. The significance is that Ginny, a two-time winner, Michael, and Herb all won on the same night and within minutes of one another. The "Long Island Contingency," which included Alice DelBosco, President of Huntington Audubon Society, Marilyn England of the Living Oceans Program, and several others, made so much noise cheering that friends from a Connecticut chapter hollered "but you've still got D'Amato." Enough said on that point.

We attended several interesting and informative workshops, got a chance to network with other chapter people from around the country, and had the honor of hearing, meeting, and being photographed with Carol Browner, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator. Ms. Browner was dynamic, enthusiastic, and well-informed. I'm glad she's on our side.

While Michael, Ginny, Herb, Alice, and others headed for the Capitol steps and lobbying, I was on a plane headed for home with pounds of reading material. I had so much literature that Michael brought some back in the trunk of his car for me.

Our annual dinner at the Pompei Restaurant was wonderful as usual; good food and good company always make for a success. Officers were installed and we welcomed three new Directors to the Board: Annie McIntyre, Bill Hollweg, and Jim Hartnett. Steve Goldberg will continue on the Board, joining Sandy Brenner in program-

### **NEXT MEETING**

Sandy Brenner & Steve Goldberg

DATE: Tuesday, September 10, 1996

TIME: 8:00 P.M. ② (Letter of the Month at 7:30)
PLACE: Freegort Memodal Library

Freeport Memorial Library
 Merrick Rd. & S. Ocean Ave.

SPEAKER: Steven G. Goldberg
TOPIC: The Wildlife of Bolswana

Join us on a photographic safari through the Okavango Delta region of Botswana in southern Africa. We will be treated to intimate views of the often colorful and exotic birds, mammals, and scenery of this seasonally flooded wetland abutting the Kalahari Desert. Okavango is one of the last strongholds for African wildlife, appearing the way most of the continent did fifty years ago.

Steve Goldberg, an active member of SSAS, is an avid bird-watcher and nature photographer whose work has won awards in local competitions. Steve appeared on a special bird photography edition of Cablevision's "Family Pet."

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE

BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS

ming, and Lisa Borbee has agreed to continue her support and participation in chapter activities. Bruno Leporati finally got to share his slides with us — thank you so very much, Bruno. A very sincere thank you to the staff of the Pompei.

We closed June and the 1995–1996 season by hosting the Long Island Audubon Council meeting at Cow Meadow Preserve in Freeport. Jeff Wells, New York Important Bird Areas Coordinator, presented a very informative slide program. As a result, Long Island chapters will be joining hands in providing Jeff with much needed information on Important Bird Areas of Long Island. Nancy Fiske, National Audubon's new Field Membership Director, joined some of us later in the day and responded reassuringly to a

number of membership questions and concerns. It's a real positive experience working with both Jeff and Nancy. All in all, the meeting was considered successful, with a Planning Committee agreeing to meet at T.R. Sanctuary on September 5th to discuss joint representation at upcoming events on Long Island.

That leads me to "where do we go from here." A recent update report from Norm Shapiro, the NAS Board member elected by the Northeast Region's chapters, closed with the message "makes no difference where the hole is, we're all in the same boat." I sort of agree with Norm. We all have a lot of work ahead of us (fun, too!). SSAS priorities include increasing membership, increasing Armchair Activist participation, increasing Audubon Adventures classroom enrollment, and increasing educational programs to community organizations. Improvements in these areas will certainly do a lot to plug up some "holes in the boat." If you have ANY suggestions or ideas, please let us know. Your input, as always, is vital and valued.

The fall meeting of the Audubon Council of New York State is scheduled for September 27–29 at the Bear Mountain Lodge along the Hudson. The invited keynote speaker is Governor George Pataki (now, that should be interesting). As of this writing, yours truly, your Vice President, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor will be attending. I will report on meeting events next month.

Enough for now. Be sure to check out September's program — this is one you won't want to miss. Looking forward to seeing you out on our weekly bird walks and at our monthly meetings. Most of all, hoping to hear some of your ideas for the future direction of South Shore Audubon. Thanks again for reading the *Skimmer*.

### 

Jim Remsen & Doreen Remsen

Despite constantly changing weather forecasts, rain was kind enough to hold off until one hour after our ninth annual Birdathon ended. What a day! Birds and birders were out in force!

It's time once again for our annual thank you to all those who helped make another Birdathon very successful for South Shore Audubon. Last year's record species totals were shattered, with 155 for the Butkereit team and 147 for the Grupp–Remsen team. The Kutner–Adams team finished with 119 species. Regardless of team totals, however, the real winners of this event were the environment and South Shore Audubon, both of whom will benefit from the funds raised. We thank all of these team leaders and participants for lending their time and expertise to our fund-raising efforts.

Special thanks are also due to Irving Kleiman, who conducted the Birdathon on his own and submitted a list of 82 species and a pledge. As of this writing, we have not yet compiled the chapter list of all species seen (we hope

to put it in an upcoming issue), but if any other observer saw a Merlin and a Least Flycatcher, we are not aware of it. According to our records, this was the only "independent" Birdathon conducted this year, but if we are somehow overlooking someone, please accept our apologies and send us a list of what you saw on the big day!

This year, our chapter grossed just over \$3000 in Birdathon profits, an excellent total that will not only help us here at South Shore but will also help four National Audubon programs voted on by our Board of Directors: Important Bird Areas, Population, New York State Field Office, and Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. Fifty percent of the net Birdathon profits was divided evenly among these four causes; the remainder is in our treasury, for our chapter's use.

Prizes were awarded to our chapter's top fund-raisers and sponsor recruiters at the June dinner. These were Leonard Chipkin and Laia Schacter, first place; and Ken and Karen Wenzel, second place. Thanks are due also to all of our participants who brought in pledges and the sponsors who gave the money. We hope to make the tenth annual Birdathon next year a very special event for everyone, and we will be calling on all interested members, regular Birdathon participants, and team leaders to cooperate in these endeavors. We hope you'll be willing to join in.

Finally, we wish to extend thanks to a group of people who perhaps have been overlooked — the participants and donors who make our monthly raffles a success. As regular meeting attendees know, the Birdathon Committee has been conducting raffles at our monthly meetings. The income from these raffles supplements our share of the Birdathon profits. When we ran out of items to raffle a few years ago, members began donating items and now the raffles are running on 100% donated prizes, everything from good-quality used books to birdseed, table lamps, and birdhouses. Some handmade goods have also been offered. Speakers at our meetings have offered their own

works, such as photographic prints and books. We thank all of you who have generously given prizes or bought raffle tickets. Your response allows the Birdathon spirit to continue all year long!

### 

To my friends at South Shore Audubon: Thank you so much for naming the environmental studies scholarship in Jerry's memory. I wanted to get up and thank you all at the dinner, but I was crying too much. I am most grateful.

### 1996 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Belsy Gulotta

This year, the \$500 Jerry Bishop Environmental Scholarship has been awarded to Ann Marie Pozzini of Wantagh. Ann Marie is a graduate of Nassau Community College and is planning to study biology and resource management at Queens College in the fall.

Ann Marie volunteers for The Nature Conservancy at the Hempstead Plains and helps protect the Piping Plovers at Jones Beach. In June, she is going [went, we hope] to Wyoming to volunteer at a Nature Conservancy preserve, doing bird and wildflower inventories. She is excited about attending Queens College as a full-time student and is grateful for the scholarship to help pay for her tuition.

Congratulations, Ann Marie, and good luck in your academic endeavors.

## 

Marion Yavarkovsku

Since our last *Skimmer*, 112 new members have joined us. We welcome you and hope to see you at our monthly meetings, weekly bird walks, and special events. These are for you, so please join us.

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

Atlantic Beach	Rebecca Barnett
Baldwin	Daniel Amelkin, Jay L. Beller, Mr.
	Richard S. Carbonaro, Ms. Eileen
	F. Sperl, Louise D. Turchiano
Bayville	Martha Gonzalez-Prats
Bellmore	Lisa Zaid
Bethpage	Jon Fradua, Susan Helldorfer,
	Deborah Jones, Herbert Smith
East Meadow	Mr. Edward G. Dolan,
	Deborah Harnett
East Rockaway	Joseph Ambrosio,
•	Dolores Antonacci
Elmont	Mrs. Tina Castelluzzo,
	Sebastian DiMarco
Farmingdale	Linda & William Bundrick, Ms.
_	Laura Genga, Lucille Robertson,
	Donald Salvia, Mrs. Frank Valenti
Floral Park	Ms. Jean Ann Bilka, Miss Dora E.
	Cardenas, Debby Frankola,
	M. Maquine, Maureen Rube
Franklin Square	Mrs. Frank Erikson, Lynne Lustig,
•	Elizabeth Wollner
Freeport	Ms. Susan J. Bodgen,
•	Vera M. Fusco
Garden City	Ms. Selma H. Cohen, Adele Eggers,
· , •	Dr. Michael Mesbah,
	Ms. Diane Veitch Hope
	· F ·

Hempstead		
Hewlett	Michael Levin, M. Schamroth, Adrienne Sperling	
Hicksville	Ms. Alice Furman, Benj C.	
	Klimkowski, Bill Lauto	
Levittown	Mr. Dave Abrams, Robert M.	
	Loeschner, G. Weber, Lisa Wolf	
Long Beach	Kurt Charles, Adele Grodsky,	
	Mr. Timothy Hughes,	
	Nancy Lizza, C. Moreno	
Lynbrook	Mary Hurley, Taralynn O'Brien,	
	Mr. Earle B. Robinson,	
Malverne	Mrs. Lori Roth	
	7	
wassapequa	Marian Brown; Mr. Ralph P. Connors; E. Jack Harris, M.D.;	
グト	C. King; Kevin A. Streeseman;	
$\mathcal{L}$	Mrs. E. Vaeth	
Massanegua Park	Ms. Margaret T. Koehler,	
massapequa i aik	Ms. Elizabeth Mulligan,	
	Mrs. Joan R. Ripley,	
- <del></del>	Mrs. Elizabeth Smith	
Merrick	Joyce Becker; Roberta Garfield;	
Carrell Control	Francis H. Ilroy; Deborah	
$Q^{\omega}$ 3	Liebling, Ph.D.; Andrea Lobasco;	
gung	Catherine Staino	
Oceanside	C. Hall, Theodore K. Milberg,	
	Scott Miller, Donald O'Connor,	
	Diana & William Ringh,	
	Ms. Rosalie Rothenstein, Mr.	
	Lloyd J. Williams, Alan Winkler,	
427	Mrs. Alison Moyer Wolin, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Zippin	
Plainview	Ms. Janet Astore, Edith Bushman,	
	Bernard Grand	
Rockville Centre	Mark Chudnow, Maureen Ditata,	
	Meryl Krouss	
Roosevelt		
	Mr. Paul M. Finker, Mrs. Jan	
	Rosner, Mr. Francis Sielaff	
	Robert V. Henry, John Novotny	
Valley Stream	Sylvia Berkowitz, Barry Herzner,	
OS IS	William Jacobsen, Ms. Louise	
	Mahoney, Leah Prawda,	
TAX	Mr. George B. Schwartz	
Wantagh	Ms. Joy Grand; Jerald Jewell; Michael Keufterian:	
െ	S. Nestampower; Norman	
	Petigrow, M.D.; Kim Spano	
West Hempstead		
······································	Mrs. Edith M. Slade	
Woodmere	F. X. Dawson, Sammy Stolzar	
**********************************		
AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (800) 274-4201		
*************		

### 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 Society. The following programs are open to the public. Space is limited and registration is required for programs at TRS. All program fees are required at the time of registration.

Sunday, September 1st (10 A.M. to 4 P.M.) — Whale & Seabird Watch. A fund-raiser for TRS's Project Wild Trek, in conjunction with the Seatuck Foundation and Sam Sadove's Puffin Consulting. Individuals \$75, couples \$125.

Sunday, September 15th (8 to 9:30 A.M.) — Fall Nature Walk at Hoffman Center, Muttontown. Free.

Wednesday, September 18th (7 to 9 P.M., adults) — Owl Prowl. Learn about owl identification and natural history with live owls in the hand and then hike with us to find wild ones. TRS members \$5, nonmembers \$7.

Weekend of September 21–22 (11 A.M. to 5 P.M.) — Annual Wildlife Festival at Planting Fields Arboretum. Crafts, face painting, nature walks, activities, environmental organizations (including SSAS), vendors, food, and lots of animals live and in the hand — including falcon and Andean Condor flying demonstrations. \$5 per person, \$15 per family, plus parking.

Friday, September 27th Through Sunday, September 29th (6 to 8 P.M., 8 A.M. to 2 P.M., and 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.) — Migratory Bird Workshop for Teachers and Other Adults. This workshop will teach you about migratory birds and how to teach others about them. We'll be doing songbird and hawk banding, and teachers can earn one in-service credit. Total cost \$10.

Saturday, September 28th (9 A.M. to 12 P.M., ages 12 and up) — Nissequogue River Canoe Trip. TRS members \$25, nonmembers \$27.

Saturday, October 5, 12 & 19 (9 A.M. to 2 P.M.) — Pine Barrens Workshop for Teachers and Other Adults. \$10.

ment, 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.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### **SSAS MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES**

Mandy Neet

Each year, our President submits a Chapter Recertification Report to National Audubon that includes a list of member activities throughout our communities. If you have presented a program or volunteered as a representative of SSAS, let me know. Corner me at the general meeting or on the bird walks! Or call me at home (798-0335). Make sure that you and the chapter get credit for your activities.

Here's the list of activities for the year ending June 30, 1996. (Editor's note: I shortened this list drastically by omitting our own general meetings and all the special events that were plugged in previous *Skimmers*.)

National Park Service Presentation: Betty Borowsky, 9/3/95

Audubon Council of New York State Fall Retreat: Carole Adams (selected 9/29 as member of the council's nominating committee), 9/29/95–10/1/95

Display at Island Park Library: Jonathan Staller, 10/95–11/95

Baldwin High School Tour Arranged by Marion Yavarkovsky: Betsy Gulotta, 11/2/95

New Vision School Tour for Steve Hoffman: Betsy Gulotta, 11/3/95

*New Vision School Tour for Nancy LaRocca:* Betsy Gulotta, 11/14/95

Baldwin High School Tour for Tim Morsch: Betsy Gulotta, 11/16/95

South Nassau Christmas Bird Count: Carole Adams and Paul Butkereit, 12/30/95

Duck Survey: Carole Adams, Paul Butkereit, Joe Grupp, Marge Jaeger, Annie McIntyre, Jim Remsen, Dolores Rogers, and Mary Jane Russell, 1/6/96 and other dates

Owl Pellet Hunt for Schoolchildren: Jonathan Staller, 2/13/96

Brookside Preserve Cleanup with Girl Scout Troop 2307: Betsy Gulotta, 3/30/96

SSAS Earth Day Tables at Eisenhower Park: Jonathan Staller and many helpers, 4/20/96

Earth Day Lobby Day in Albany: Dolores Rogers and Michael Sperling, 4/22/96

Slide Presentation for Lyman Langdon Audubon Society: Steve Goldberg, 4/23/96

Brookside Preserve Tour and Cleanup with Cub Pack 546: Betsy Gulotta, 5/4/96

Nassau Community College Biological Survey and Study: Betsy Gulotta, 5/6/96 and 5/10/96

Brownie Troop 2088 Program with Jennifer Larossa: Betsy Gulotta, 5/15/96

Arbor Day at Planting Fields Arboretum: Carole Adams, Nancy Frame, and Diane Singer, 5/96

If you participated in any of the activities listed, and your name is not included, please give me a call so I can add you to the list.

### **CONSERVATION REPORT**

Belty Borowsky

Every now and then I am reminded of how important environmental education is. I think it's especially important to educate the young, and I think the best education involves making sure the kids spend time outdoors, not just showing them videos or making animal puppets. There are probably very few youngsters who do not enjoy camping, or fishing, or swimming, or beachcombing — who do not get excited when they encounter toads or chipmunks, or seashells, or starfish. I really think these

things make an indelible and beneficial impression on children at the time when they are most impressionable. In my experience, when people are exposed to the outdoors for the first time when they



are older, they tend to focus on things like how buggy it is, how hot or cold, and how muddy or sandy they get. All true, perhaps, but the rest of us tend to overlook these things in order to enjoy the pleasures of undeveloped areas.

What brings this up is the following: In July I was at Bay Park on a beautiful Sunday. I was in full bird-watching regalia (binoculars, book, etc.) when a man approached me and asked whether I was involved in "animal groups." I said I was a member of the Audubon Society, if that's what he meant, and he said "What's that?" (not an auspicious beginning, right?). I said it was an environmental conservation group that enjoyed bird-watching and other outdoor activities. He said "That's the kind of group I mean." He then said "I want to express an opinion, which I want you to pass on."

To make a long story short, it appears that this gentleman was annoyed about efforts to protect animals, and felt that this was at the expense of people. What started this thinking was that he had had to look very carefully for a spot without goose droppings in the grass so he could lay in the sun and enjoy the day. He felt that environmentalists were the cause of his discomfort.

Now, I think we've all had unhappy encounters with goose droppings left in surprising places lately. Actually,

there are some programs being developed to keep them under control (including having dogs patrol an area, or a trial program in which geese are hunted and then distributed to the indigent for food) and, truly, I think most of us would be sympathetic to some humane control program. However, his solution to this was to

make sure that "animals" be kept in one confined place, and allow humans to occupy and develop everything else. I responded that he was taking a very short view indeed and that he wouldn't have Bay Park to put his blanket in at all if it wasn't for people who fight to maintain open

spaces. I said, "Look around you. Over there are many huge oil tanks; beyond that is the Oceanside landfill, recently closed in response to environmental activism. If we weren't out there pushing for the environmental agenda, the spot where we're standing would be somebody's house. In order to get to the shore, you would have to have that person's permission, or maybe this would be the site of a factory polluting the water."

Completely ignoring that one, he pressed his case by saying that 75% of human diseases are caused by animals. Specifically, that syphilis came from animals. I said, "Look here. That is ridiculous. The three leading causes of death are heart disease, cancer, and stroke, none of which are caused by pathogens at all, never mind originating from animals." (Some cancers may have viral origins, of course, but that's splitting hairs.)

I should say that this gentleman seemed like a perfectly decent person, certainly not confrontational or irrational, just ignorant. So, finally, I said that he should join the South Shore Audubon Society, and learn more about conservation and environmental issues and get his facts straight. He said he didn't want to, that he had no time for that. (You see, by the time people are adults, it's too late.) He did want me to convey his message, however.

Well, you heard it.

# DISCOUNT ON NATURE COMPANY MERCHANDISE FOR MEMBERS

**\*** 

Carole A. Adams

National Audubon Society is pleased to announce a new benefit of Audubon membership. The Nature Company, a retail chain specializing in books, clothing, and gifts with an outdoors theme, now offers members of the National Audubon Society a 10% discount on purchases.

Members need only to show their membership card to be eligible for the discount. Nearby stores are in Roosevelt Field, Walt Whitman Mall, Stony Brook Village, and lower Manhattan.

# 

Michael Sperling

On Sunday, October 27th and again on January 26th, South Shore Audubon will hold its biannual birdseed sales, selling a trailer-load of all sorts of wild birdseed, plus some bird feeders, in Tackapausha's parking lot in Seaford. Due to the sale of the BSSD program to yet another company, our perpetual Bird Seed Savings Day leader, Paul Butkereit, is shopping for a supplier who's willing to accept returns of unsold seed. The order form for the October 27th sale will appear in next month's newsletter; preorders are always encouraged and may be required this time — the October Skimmer should be in your mail-box during the third or fourth week of September.

### ATTENTION TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND TROOP LEADERS

Suzanne Lancer

Part of the mission of South Shore Audubon Society is to promote environmental education. To fulfill this goal, South Shore Audubon Society sponsors, by paying full or partial costs, subscriptions to the *Audubon Adventures* program.

The Audubon Adventures is the youth education program of the National Audubon Society, geared to elemen-

tary school classes and other children's groups grades 3 through 6. A subscription consists of 32 copies of a bimonthly newspaper and a Leader's Guide for each issue. The Leader's Guide has background information and activity ideas

related to the featured topic of the newspaper. Samples of the newspaper or Leader's Guide are available.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to enroll your group in the *Audubon Adventures* program. Please call me if you want to enroll or if you have ANY questions — Suzanne Lancer, Education Chairperson, (516) 536-6574, between 7 and 9 P.M.

**Enrollment Deadline** to receive the full subscription is **October 11th**.



CAPE MAY HAWK WATCH (Sept. 27-29) Cost: \$195 covers beachfront motel, Saturday lunch and dinner, slide shows, and some cherrystone clams. See migrating hawks and hawk banding demo. Call (908) 291-0055.

SUNKEN FOREST FIRE ISLAND (Sat. Oct. 5) Hike the boardwalk trail, dunes, and beach during peak fall hawk migration. Bring lunch. Cost: \$15 includes ferry.

BRUNCH ON THE BAY (Sat. Oct. 19, 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.) A three-hour ecology tour observed by the support of the sup

A three-hour ecology tour of Jamaica Bay on the new Dorothy B VIII. See egrets, herons, ibis, oystercatchers, and hawks. Enjoy salads, homemade muffins, bread, and butter. Cost: \$25.

ASSATEAGUE FALL WEEKEND (Nov. 7-10) Visit Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. See wild ponies, Sika deer, Delmarva fox squirrels, Bald Eagles, and river otter. Cost: \$225 includes 3 nights motel, safari ride, "all-you-can-eat" seafood buffet, and guides.

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

### **AUDUBON ADVISORY**

[Editor's Note: The following is most of the latest issue of Audubon Advisory, a free weekly publication from the Washington, D.C. office that provides legislative updates on Audubon campaigns and programs. To receive the Audubon Advisory electronically via Audubon's read-only Audubon-News listsery, send an e-mail message to "majordomo@igc.apc.org" with a blank subject line and the text "subscribe audubon-news"; to receive it via fax, fax your unattended fax number to 800-609-7787. In addition to, or instead of, the Advisory, SSAS members are encouraged to join the free Armchair Activist program: you'll receive a monthly letter in your regular mailbox about a critical federal or New York State issue, accompanied by a sample letter and a request that you contact an elected official regarding that issue. To sign up, please call Betty Borowsky or Mary Jane Russell (see back page). or send us a postcard.]

This issue of the *Audubon Advisory* summarizes the status of key legislation as Congress goes into recess from August 3rd until September 3rd. Publication of the *Advisory* will resume when Congress is back in session.

Human Population and Wildlife. On Friday, July 26th, the Senate passed its version of the FY97 [1997 Fiscal Year] Foreign Operations Appropriations bill by a vote of 93 to 7. The Senate version of the bill would restore \$410 million earmarked for population assistance, provide \$35 million for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and eliminate the House-passed restrictions on international family planning. As of this printing, a meeting date between House and Senate conferees has not been set.

Opponents of international family planning programs are expected to challenge the Senate committee-approved provisions. Contact your Senators and urge them to oppose any modification of the provisions of H.R. 3540 that would decrease funding for population assistance. Remind them that population assistance funds family planning, not abortion, and that additional restrictions will serve only to increase the incidence of abortion in developing nations by limiting access to family planning.

National Wildlife Refuges. The Omnibus Parks Bill, a huge piece of legislation that is openly hostile not only to National Parks but also to National Wildlife Refuges, has been stalled in conference committee. As a result of a united stance by the conservation community against the bill and a veto threat by President Clinton, Congress has apparently realized that the bill cannot pass in its current form and has begun disassembling it. Four provisions from the Omnibus Parks Bill have been separated from it and sent to the Senate floor. Two Senators have since put holds on these provisions: Boxer (D-CA), because the bill does not include her provision to preserve the Presidio of San Francisco, and Murkowski (R-AK), because the bill does not include the Alaska land giveaways.

Forests. The Senate 1997 Interior Appropriations bill, H.R. 3662, may contain many amendments impacting forest habitat. The most recent compromise language on S. 391, Senator Craig's (R-ID) bogus forest health logging bill, may emerge as such an amendment. Audubon opposes the compromise, which prioritizes and subsidizes harmful public forest logging at the expense of public oversight and all other forest values. Senator Murkowski (R-AK) is likely to offer an amendment to override Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman's recent directive to the Forest Service which attempts to limit the worst abuses of the Lawless Salvage Rider. [Mr. Glickman was a featured speaker at National Audubon's Convention in June.1

Senator Stevens (R-AK) has prepared amendments which undermine the public involvement process for management of America's largest National Forest, the Tongass in Alaska. We are pursuing sponsors for an amendment to eliminate funding for the Lawless Salvage Rider.

The Omnibus Public Lands bill, H.R. 1296, contains some provisions that negatively impact forests. The bill would extend a 50-year-old exclusive logging contract on parts of the Tongass in order to maintain and subsidize an unsustainable logging industry in southern Alaska. It would also transfer tracts of the Tongass to Native American Corporations not subject to federal environmental laws. Similar corporations have completely ravaged the lands given to them. A third, opposed by local Audubon chapters, threatens the wilderness values of Boundary Waters Wilderness and Vovageurs National Park.

Agriculture. Conference on the appropriations for agriculture programs was completed July 30th, rushing to beat welfare so that agriculture will get credit for some \$300 million in savings. If welfare gets signed first, agriculture has to make cuts. The conference bill provides full funding for the Conservation Reserve Program, the new Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The Wetland Reserve Program is capped at 130,000 acres, but it constitutes a larger total than any previous year and additional acres are allowed with nonfederal funds. More permanent easements are also allowed. Funds were reduced for farmland protection and a conservation farm option, and funding for a new agriculture foundation was eliminated. Watch for implementing regulations, due out in the next two months.

**\* AUDUBON'S NY ACTIVIST HOTLINE (800) 414-ACTN NEW! TAPE-RECORDED UPDATES FROM ALBANY** AUDUBON ACTIONLINE (800) 659-2622 TAPE-RECORDED UPDATES FROM WASHINGTON, DC **\*** 



Elliatt Kutner

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

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
Sept. 29	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Oct. 6	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 13	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Oct. 20	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Oct. 27	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Nov. 3	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Nov. 10	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Nov. 17	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Nov. 24	Pelham Bay for Owls (pull over to street
	on extreme right after going through Throgs Neck Bridge toll; meet at 9:00
75	A.M.)

### **BRIGANTINE TRIP**

·**◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇**◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

Mary Jane Russell

After a slight delay due to engine difficulties, a busload of Auduboners headed for New Jersey's Brigantine Division of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge on June 1st. It was a beautiful day and the light breeze kept the mosquitoes at bay. We viewed many varieties of birds, including Ruddy Turnstones and Cattle Egret. Although we didn't see "a million shorebirds eating horseshoe crab eggs," several of us observed a Laughing

Gull seize my ice cream cone and raucously share it with his cronies. Within ten seconds, there was no evidence of ice cream or cone and the gulls returned to the roof to await the next unsuspecting ice cream eater!



"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"

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

### 1996-1997 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Carole A. Adams, President	731-4425
Betty Borowsky, Vice President & Conservation Legislation Chairperson	
Nancy Frame, Treasurer	520-9016
Christine Schmitt, Recording Secretary	887-7713
Doris Pirodsky, Corresponding Secretary & Historian	
James E. Hartnett, Director (6/99)	868-6528
William L. Hollweg, Director (6/99)	226-2519
Henry Levine, Director (6/98)	328-8736
Annie F. McIntyre, Director (6/98)	379-2206
Suzanne Lancer, Director (6/97) & Education Chairperson (7 to 9 P.M.)	536-6574
Jonathan Staller, Director (6/97) & Environmental Festivals Coordinator	822-5957
Sandy Brenner, Program Co-Chairperson	249-4919
Paul Butkereit, Bird Seed Savings Day	623-0843
Steven G. Goldberg, Program Co-Chairperson	798-0335
Joseph Grupp, Duck Survey	481-4208
Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve Committee Chairperson	
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
George Popkin, Financial Advisor (8 to 9 P.M.)	378-4467
Doreen Remsen, Birdathon Co-Chairperson	472-6830
James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon Co-Chairperson	764-5168
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming Committee Chairperson	599-1224
Mary Jane Russell, Armchair Activist Chairperson	766-7397
Diane Singer, Publicity (5 to 8 p.m.)	561-6118
Porgy Smith, Environmental Information Chairperson	887-2054
Marcia Specht, Hospitality Chairperson	
Michael Sperling, Skimmer Editor	
Marion Yavarkovsky, Membership Chairperson	379-2090
	2000

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

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Americans Committed to Conservation

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED





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