

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 2 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2003

NEXT MEETING

Enid Klein

DATE: Tuesday, October 14, 2003

TIME: 7:30 p.m. ②

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

144 W. Merrick Rd. (at S. Ocean Ave.)

SPEAKER: Mickey Maxwell Cohen

TOPIC: A Naturalist Views the Galapagos Islands

The Galapagos Islands possess an untamed beauty and enchantment, giving one the feeling of being on another planet. Although mere specks in the Pacific Ocean, these volcanic islands have emerged as one of the most significant biological wonders on earth—little changed since Charles Darwin's historic visit in 1835. Join Mickey Maxwell Cohen as he takes us on a slide-illustrated tour of Darwin's islands and introduces us to endemic marine iguanas, giant land tortoises, cacti that grow tall as trees, and, of course, the incredible birds of the Galapagos Islands.

Mickey, a recognized Galapagos expert, has been leading tours to the archipelago since 1984, and has lectured extensively on the evolution of the endemic plants and animals of the islands. He was an instructor at the New School for Social Research for 17 years, teaching a course on "The Galapagos Experience" and a variety of courses in biology, natural history, and oceanography. He chaired Beach Channel High School's Department of Science & Oceanography and is the Past-President of the New York State Marine Education Association. He has been honored for excellence in his profession by the National Association of Biology Teachers, The New York Biology Teachers Association, the New York City Audubon Society, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and was an American Littoral Society Trustee for 23 years and a Steward for Bayswater Point State Park. Join us!

Pre-Meeting Bird ID Class at 7:00. Arrive early & join Scott Oglesby as he helps us expand our birding horizons.

Please Mark Your Calendars! Because the library will be closed on Veterans' Day, our November meeting has been scheduled for **Monday, November 10.**

OUR ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

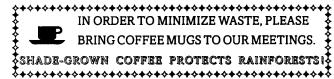
Therese Lucas

Abracadabra! Would you like to have a magical Halloween? Then bring a child to the South Shore Audubon Halloween Party on **Saturday**, **October 18**, from 1 to 3 P.M. at Tackapausha Museum and Preserve in Seaford (see the birdseed form for directions). Magic Bob will be our special guest. Nature crafts and refreshments will be provided for the children before the show. There will also be a display table of interest to adults.

Volunteers are needed at our tables; please call me at 631-225-6377 if you can help out.

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

CONSERVATION EDUCATION REPORT Day Camp 2003

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Belty Borowsky

Each year, our chapter provides a week of day camp at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary in Oyster Bay (TR) to

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financially disadvantaged youngsters in our area. This year, children from the East Meadow School District were selected to attend. We rotate selected schools so that all the districts in our area will have an opportunity to participate. We try to choose children who are between 10 and 12 years old, although we have sent children a bit younger or older as well. Since we began the program five years ago, 95 children from 22 schools in 9 districts in our catchment area have been sent to camp.

We work with school administrations to select eligible children and to facilitate interactions with the children's families. Many parents have never given a thought to the environment or to conservation, never mind to the South Shore Audubon Society. So we rely on the school administrators and teachers to establish our credibility with the parents. This year, we especially thank Dr. Margaret Laska, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services at the East Meadow School District, for her very gracious assistance at all steps of the way. With her help, 20 children attended camp this year.

We are very grateful to the staff at TR as well. First, thank you to Trish Pelkowski, the Director of TR Sanctuary, for her continued support of this program. And thanks to Karl Brummert, Director of Education, who basically arranged the whole camp's schedule that last week to accommodate our children, and to all the staff who worked with us (Mike, Theresa, Isabel, and Chrissy — and I hope I haven't forgotten anyone else!), even switching their plans to make sure our children could go to the beach and do some seining. This was the first time most of them had ever done

anything like this. We are impressed with the Sanctuary's day camp programs, which incorporate environmental themes into their games and other activities.

And I certainly don't want to forget to acknowledge and thank our chaperones — Wendy Murbach, Alice Blaustein, Erica Wolosoff, and especially Chris Schmitt, who made sure things ran smoothly on the bus and throughout the day.

But it's the children who are the real stars. They are very bright, and really quite brave, going off with unknown people to an unknown place—and, once there, acclimating to a very different kind of environment than they have ever been exposed to. All of us who accompany the children to the camp are delighted to get to know them and talk a little with them, and to share their joy in the experience. The kids really love it.

Transportation is very important to this program. It takes about a half-hour to travel from our area to the camp in Oyster Bay by car — there is no public transportation. Adults in these families either have no car or must be at work, so they just can't take their children to the camp or pick them up. For the first four years of the program, the Old Navy Company provided a completely free school bus and driver. This year, however, the company was unable to continue its bus program and our chapter picked

up the additional expense of the bus. This was a blow, but, at least for this year, it was not a problem, because we had a reserve from donations over the past few years earmarked for scholarships.

It takes a lot of work (I estimate that I made about 200 telephone calls, and sent out over 70 letters this year), and

now, some little bit of money to conduct this

program (especially important since we will soon lose the dues share we had been receiving from the National office (see discussion of this important issue elsewhere in the newsletter). We look forward to many more years of conducting this program, but we are going to have to get creative about obtaining funds to support it. We always need more people to help — if you have any suggestions or advice, if you have any time to work with us — please give me a call or drop me an e-mail message (bborow@earthlink.net). We count on the membership of SSAS for their support in many ways.

This is truly a worthwhile effort. We are certain that this experience is not only fun for the children now, but will have tremendous rewards for the rest of their lives because of their heightened enjoyment of open spaces and wildlife. And we believe it will strengthen the conservation movement in the future. Children who are exposed to the outdoors will not need any convincing to want to preserve it. They will have that understanding in their hearts.



Elliott Kutner

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

Sep. 28	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 5	Tobay JFK Sanctuary*
Oct. 12	Norman J. Levy Park and Preserve
Oct. 19	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 26	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Nov. 2	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Nov 9	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner

*Directions to John F. Kennedy Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary: From the Jones Beach traffic circle, drive east about four miles (to just west of the Suffolk County line) and enter the Tobay Beach parking lot, which is on the north side of Ocean Parkway. Turn left as soon as you enter that lot and follow the narrow road about 1/2 mile to the Sanctuary's parking lot. Note that a free permit is supposed to be used to park in the Sanctuary's lot; it's available weekdays at Oyster Bay Town Hall South, 977 Hicksville Rd., Massapequa (just south of Jerusalem Ave.) or you can call 797-4110 (the Division of Beaches of Tobay's Parks Department) for an application.

RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070

THE SEEDS OF CHANGE

Doreen Remsen with Wendy Murbach

Change... For most of us, change is something we'd rather not think about, rather not face. Yet life, all life, is about change. We at South Shore marvel at the changing of the seasons. On our walks and on our solo rambles, we look for the beauty and variety in the trees, plants, birds, and wildlife that change brings. Who has not been struck by the brilliance of a Scarlet Tanager in full summer plumage or the soft verdant greens of the woodlands in spring? The flaming colors of maples, oaks, and birches in the fall; the kettles of hawks on the move; and the crisp cold quiet of the dunes in winter... Our lives would be the poorer without these changes.

Thirty-three years ago, various individuals from different families "flocked" to the home of Alvin Friedman in Oceanside. They were a diverse group, yet they had a common purpose in mind. They wanted to share their love of the environment and educate others in the south shore communities they represented that our environment, and all environments, were worth protecting, worth fighting for. The seed they planted took hold and a new family was born — the family of South Shore Audubon.

As an organization and a family, we have been through many changes. Sometimes we handled them well, sometimes not. We have learned from them all and they have made us who we are today.

This year we are facing a period of transition and change. Unless there is a dramatic turn of events at the national level, our portion of dues share that we have received from National Audubon will be gone with the start of our fiscal year, July 1, 2004. This is a sizable part of our income, one that we have relied on to cover operating expenses vital to our organization. The board of South Shore Audubon recognized that we need to be proactive and asked for volunteers to serve on the Finance Committee. The purpose of this committee is to take a hard look at our finances, list our income and expenses accurately, and redesign our bookkeeping and budget formats so our financial standing is clear at a glance. This is very different from what we have been comfortable with in the past. The committee met several times over the summer and has begun the process. We recognize that our whole family needs to be involved in this, our family finances, and it is our intention to share our work with all of you, and encourage you to share your thoughts with us and join us.

Closely linked with changing our handling of the organization's finances is the need for long-range planning. In order to adapt and grow, as all life does, we need new ideas, new projects that will insure a steady growth of new members and also will produce a steady, dependable income stream. The Long Range Planning Committee will be a vital partner with the Finance Committee.

To me (Doreen), one of the most frightening sentences any member of any organization can utter is: "But we have always done it that way." With that mindset, there can be no change. No new directions, no new ideas, no new friends... that is not the South Shore family I have grown to know and love. To quote a member of the Finance Committee, "We can do this!"

The Finance Committee members are George Peters, Scott Oglesby, Joe Grupp, Wendy Murbach, Doreen Remsen, and Jim Remsen.

Wendy Murbach

One of the wonderful perks that you get from an Audubon membership is the chance to be a part of your local Audubon chapter, South Shore Audubon Society.

You are warmly invited to be an active participant in this vibrant all-volunteer organization comprised of persons who, like you, care about the earth we live on, about our local environment, and about the creatures that live alongside us.

Our new members since last month's Skimmer are:

Seed - Feeders Houses - Baths Books - Gifts (516) 694-2180



"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"

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

AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (800) 274-4201

Michael Sperling

In early September, SSAS's board voted to join Take Back Audubon (www.smbas.org/tba), whose goal is to steer National Audubon Society's undemocratic Board of Directors away from recent policies that have put the future of all-volunteer chapters, including ours, in peril.

In order for TBA to succeed, we need your help! There will be a proxy in the next *Skimmer* that we will urge you to return *instead* of the one you'll be receiving from NAS. The TBA proxy will support a slate of grassroots candidates for NAS's Board of Directors, plus five resolutions to restore chapter funding and influence.

NATURE TALES FROM A WANDERER A Sunday Morning Bird Walk and a Wilson's Phalarope

Joe Grupp

If you were on the bird walk at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge with South Shore Audubon Society on September 7, 2003, you saw it, a Wilson's Phalarope. A mostly clear sky, bright sun, comfortable temperature, and no haze made the day a great day to be out. With good lighting for observations, the day was about as good a day as one gets for birding. The Wilson's Phalarope was at the west & end of West Pond, in company with two yellowlegs, in shallow water, near shore. In our area this species is one that appears infrequently and was listed on the Rare Bird Alert when I checked the alert the next day. Longtime bird walk participants do not remember seeing it on the SSAS walks over the last few years, but have in the past. The phalaropes are an interesting group of birds, perhaps more interesting because we do not see them often.

The genus Phalaropus is comprised of three species, the Red Phalarope, the Red-necked Phalarope, and the Wilson's Phalarope. The Red and Red-necked have large lobes of membrane on their toes that aid them in swimming. The Wilson's has a membrane that extends only a short distance from the toes and lacks the lobed structure, making the feet less suitable for swimming but also more suitable for walking. This allows the bird to efficiently forage both onshore and in the water. The Red and Rednecked Phalaropes are birds of the open ocean in all but the breeding season, while the Wilson's is a bird of the shallow pools of the interior of North America during breeding season, migrating to Central and South America through the interior of the continent, with a few moving along the coast.

Our bird was doing what is characteristic of phalaropes while feeding in water. It was swimming in tight circles, spinning, and probing the water with its bill at times. This procedure stirs the water and attracts small aquatic organisms on which the bird feeds. There is a report on record that a "Wilson's Phalarope has been seen spinning at sixty revolutions per minute, spearing the water with the bill each time." That's once each second. Our bird was not spinning that fast, but was putting on a good show. We were not lucky enough to see the bird forage on the shore.

In the phalaropes' world, the role of the sexes is reversed. The female is the larger, more colorful of the sexes at breeding time and solicits the male. The male develops a brood patch, incubates the eggs, and cares for the young. The brood patch is an area of skin in the abdominal area that has lost feathers, developed numerous surface blood vessels, and provides heat to the eggs when the bird settles on them to incubate.

The Wilson's Phalarope had to be the highlight of our bird walk, even as we spotted a few warblers that were migrating through. To use the phrase that our bird walk leader, Elliott Kutner, frequently uses when we have an excellent observation, "That was a good bird!"

One of the facets that make birding interesting is that when you go into the field either alone or with a group, you never know if what you are going to observe is something you have observed many times before, or something you have seldom or never observed. All are invited to take the Sunday morning bird walks with SSAS. Try it and who knows what you may see; even if it is a quiet day, you can swap a story or two with other birders.

Note on the quote: The spinning quote above is from John K. Terres, The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds (New York): Alfred A. Knopf, 1980.

OUR E-LIST http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ssas_list

SSAS BACKYARD BIRD SURVEY

The Research Committee is conducting a study to document the bird species found in the SSAS geographical area and to make some estimates as to their numbers. We request input from anyone that feeds and/or observes birds in their yard or neighborhood. If you would like to participate, we would greatly appreciate it.

Simply record the birds that you see in your yard, neighborhood, or at your feeder; the date, time, and the number or approximate number of each species; and fill in a table like the one below. At the end of each month, please mail or e-mail your record to me at the appropriate address listed below, or hand it to me at our monthly meeting. Full-page survey sheets are available at SSAS events.

Please do not hesitate to submit your observations, even if you have been able to make only very few. WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Please mail your data to Mr. J. Grupp, Research Chairperson, 660 Edgemere Ave., Uniondale NY 11553 or e-mail Birdstudyjoeg02@aol.com.

Submitted by:				
Addre	ess:			
Phone	number:			
Date	Time	Species	No	
-				



AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

JAMAICA BAY SUNSET CRUISES (Sun., Sep. 28 & Sat., Oct. 4). Meet at 4 P.M. Pier 6 Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn for a 3-hour guided tour of the marshes and backwaters of the Jamaica Bay Refuge. Cost: \$35 includes guides, wine, cheese, fruit, and snacks. Contact Don.

FIRE ISLAND FALL HIKE (Sun., Oct. 12). Meet at 9:15 A.M. at Sayville Ferry for a hike through the "sunken forest" during raptor and monarch migration. Cost: \$20 incl. ferry & guides. Bring lunch, binoculars. Call Steve Finn: 631-821-2160 (eves). ASSATEAGUE FALL WEEKEND (Nov. 6-9). Visit Chincoteague Wildlife Refuge and Assateague National Seashore. See wild ponies, Snow Geese (thousands), Bald Eagle, River Otter, Sika Deer, and lots more wildlife in a beautiful setting. Cost: \$295 includes 3 nights at Refuge Motor Inn, guided hikes, boat tour of marshes, evening slide programs, star watch, and Saturday night dinner.

FLORIDA EVERGLADES (Feb. 28 - Mar. 7). Visit north & south sections of Everglades National Park, Big Cypress Preserve, Sanibel Island/Ding Darling Refuge, Loxahatchee Refuge, Butterfly World. Closeup views of Florida's best birds, as well as American crocodile, alligators, etc.

ICELAND (June 18-30, 2004). Contact Don for details.

For information and free field trip brochure, call/write Don Riepe, (718) 318-9344, donriepe@aol.com, 28 West 9th Road, Broad Channel, NY 11693; www.alsnyc.org

NASSAU COUNTY POLLUTION HOTLINE 739-6666

BIRD FOOD BASICS

Editor's note: The following is excerpted from "Bird Food and Feeder Basics: What You Need to Know to Get Started" by Bill Thompson III and comes from the January/February 2003 issue of Bird Watcher's Digest.

Just like people, birds have certain food preferences. The good news for you is that people have been feeding birds for many decades, so you get the benefit of all that trial-and-error experimentation. These days, we, the birdfeeding public, already know what foods birds prefer. At the feeders this means seeds.

But which seeds are the best? In a nutshell, sunflower seed. So if you are just starting out in feeding, I suggest you buy some black-oil sunflower seed. Following are the best kinds of seed, in descending order of popularity.

Black-oil Sunflower. Gray- or white-striped sunflower seed used to be the king of the bird foods. Now it's black-



oil sunflower seed. Smaller than gray-striped sunflower seed, with a thin, all-black, papery shell, black-oil seed can be cracked by sparrows, juncos, and even smallbilled goldfinches. It's a better buy, too, because 70 percent of

each seed is meat, compared with only 57 percent for striped sunflower. Its high oil and fat content helps birds get through cold winter nights. Black-oil sunflower seed is the heart of any feeding program because it's accepted by the greatest variety of birds. You can feed it out of hanging feeders, in hoppers, on tables, or scattered on the ground — preferably all of the above.

Sunflower Hearts. If I were to pick only one food to offer at my feeding station, it would be sunflower hearts. Yes, they are expensive, but a bag of sunflower hearts (no shells, just the meat of the seed) lasts more than three times as long as a bag of seeds with shells. Not only that, every species that comes to my feeding station will eat them. Being hulless, hearts are accessible to weaker-billed birds like siskins, redpolls, and Carolina wrens. Goldfinches love them.

Compared with seeds with hulls, hearts are relatively free of waste and of the messy shells that pile up to smother grass and rot decks. The only drawback is that the hearts should not be exposed to wet weather; thus, they should be fed only from feeders. They rot quickly when damp. On dry days, it's fine to spread a handful on the bird table, but otherwise, stick to weatherproof feeders. You'll be surprised how little it takes to feed a lot of birds.

Mixed Seed. Mixed seed, often generically referred to as "wild birdseed," is a vital addition to any feeding program. But not all mixes are created equal, and what is eagerly eaten in Arizona can go to waste in New York. A prime example is milo, a round, reddish seed that looks like a BB. You'll see it, along with wheat, oats, and even barley, in grocery-store mixes. In the East, milo and wheat are spurned by most birds except blackbirds and doves. In the West, however, quail, doves, towhees, and sparrows eagerly eat milo.

Millet. Millet is a main ingredient in most mixed birdseed. White proso millet is a little, round, shiny, creamcolored seed. It's a staple for most sparrows and juncos, as well as doves, Carolina wrens, thrashers, and cardinals.

Cracked Corn. Another common ingredient of good mixed seed is cracked corn, which is accepted by most birds after the sunflower and millet are gone. Cracked corn is the cheapest and best offering for quail, pheasants, and doves, but it is irresistible to blackbirds, cowbirds, grackles, and house sparrows. If you're inundated by these less desirable birds, you may want to stop offering corn.

The third ingredient of a good mix is our old buddy, black-oil sunflower seed. Peanut hearts, which are small, rather bitter byproducts of peanut processing, make birdseed mixes smell good (which is nice for us), boost the price (which is nice for retailers), and may appeal to chickadees, titmice, jays, and wrens. Peanut hearts are not vital because, in my experience, the sunflower always goes first anyway. This is not to devalue whole peanuts as a food — they can be great if offered in the right feeder.

Peanuts. In Europe, peanuts have been a staple of bird feeding for years. But peanuts have become popular for bird feeding in North America just in the past decade. Peanuts are a vital part of my feeding program. Woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, creepers, titmice, and wrens are among the birds favoring peanuts. The peanuts we use for bird feeding are rejects from the cocktail peanut trade. They are out of the shell and usually roasted, but not salted.

When offered in the shell, only crows, jays, and the occasional clever titmouse can really exploit them, because peanuts are just too big and cumbersome for most birds to crack open.

Better feed and birdseed stores, though, sell raw shelled peanuts in

area, you can buy the cheapest unsalted roasted cocktail peanuts (sold in cans or jars) at your grocery store.

bulk. If you can't find these in your

Offered in wire-mesh tube feeders, in mesh bags, or in hopper and platform feeders, peanuts are an incredibly popular food, especially in harsh winter weather. They offer a great high-protein boost to winter-weary birds and help insect eaters like wrens, woodpeckers, and sometimes even sapsuckers make it through.

Peanuts can be subject to mold in hot, wet weather. Check them often for signs of black mold or the darkening in color that can mean they've gone rancid. Offer only as many as the birds will eat in a few days in warmer weather.

Thistle/Niger/Nyjer. Niger, or thistle seed (now sometimes referred to by the commercial name of Nyjer), is imported from Africa and Asia. The seed is sterilized, so it won't germinate in North America.

Thistle seed requires a special feeder style, one that has small openings sized to accommodate the tiny seeds but still permit birds to gain access to the seed.

Thistle seed can be somewhat expensive and is subject to mold, especially in hot, damp weather. To avoid this, shake your feeders every time you fill them to be sure the seed is coming out of the ports properly. If the seed clumps, you may have to dump it out where the birds won't find it and wash and dry your feeder before refilling it. Fine-mesh nylon thistle "socks" are a cheap way to feed niger, and they let air circulate around the seed. If you don't mind paying a bit more per pound, thistle/niger seed will really attract finches and siskins to your feeders.

Safflower. Safflower is a white, shiny, conical seed that's gaining popularity among people who find that cardinals like it and some squirrels and grackles don't. The operative word in that statement is some. Lots of squirrels love safflower seed. Safflower seed is usually found in bulk at better feed stores. You can offer it in any feeder that dispenses sunflower seed or scatter it on the ground to attract cardinals (who aren't much for perching on tube feeders). Safflower seed is nice to offer, but not vital; any bird that will eat safflower will also take sunflower seed.

Other Bird Foods. There is a vast array of other foods you can offer birds besides birdseed. Here are a few of the most commonly offered items on the birds' smorgasbord.

Peanut Butter. Every feeder bird will eat peanut butter, especially woodpeckers, chickadees, and titmice. But it's not a food that you want to offer in great quantities, for two reasons. First of all, peanut butter is sticky and messy, so, like suet, it should be offered in a way that birds will not get it all over their feathers. Second, although it may be a myth that peanut butter sticks to the roof of a bird's bill, it's not inconceivable that a big wad of sticky PB could be difficult to swallow. For these reasons, we offer peanut butter in very small quantities when the weather is very cold. At other times of year, we offer peanut butter as an ingredient in our bird pudding.

You can make a simple peanut butter feeder by drilling shallow one-inch holes in a piece of scrap wood, filling them with peanut butter, and hanging it up near your feeders.

Gouge out a few toeholds underneath each hole to help the birds cling. If the food goes unrecognized, try sticking a few sunflower hearts in the peanut butter—the birds will soon get the idea.

Suet. Suet is the dense white fat that collects around beef kidneys and loins. You'll find it in grocery store meat counters. It's amazing how many different species eat suet. All the regular seed eaters — chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, woodpeckers — will eat it, as well as wrens, sapsuckers, warblers, orioles, catbirds, creepers, and others. A little suet goes a long way.

Suet Cakes. Many people take convenience a step farther and buy commercial suet cakes. Some of these blocks are great; some are not so great.

Avoid commercial blocks that have whole seed, like sunflower and millet seed, melted into them with the shells on. These slippery fat-covered seeds are difficult for birds to crack, so they may just be discarded.

If you buy cakes, buy those with easily edible ingredients like peanut hearts, sunflower hearts, chopped raisins, insect parts, or commeal.

In my experience, the fuss of rendering suet or the expense of buying suet cakes isn't justified by any greater enthusiasm on the part of the birds who eat it. They're just as happy with the meat-counter lumps. Suet cakes are convenient for humans more than anything else, which is why they are so popular.

Fruit. When I noticed yellow-bellied sapsuckers, robins, and pileated woodpeckers eating the last shriveled apples and pears in our orchard, I began offering halved apples impaled on short twigs of the dead branches we put up all around our feeder.

You can offer raisins and currants, but these need to be chopped up and soaked in hot water to soften them. Mockingbirds, catbirds, wrens, and thrashers appreciate these most, although bluebirds and other thrushes will sometimes take them, too.

Bill Thompson III is the editor of *Bird Watcher's Digest* and *Backyard Bird News*. He lives with his family on a farm near Whipple, Ohio.



WILD BIRD FEED SAVINGS DAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2003 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. Since there will be only a little extra for sale that day, preordering is greatly appreciated; an order form appears below for your use. Please keep this upper portion as a reminder of the sale date. All preorders must be received by OCTOBER 16. Please make checks payable to the South Shore Audubon Society. Mail check and order form to Paul Butkereit, 268 Wallace St., Freeport, NY 11520.

Help will be needed on the sale date to process orders and to aid in unloading seed. If you wish to volunteer, call (516) 593-4554 and ask for Paul. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL NOT HAVE A JANUARY SALE!

My name is				A.C.
My address is_		a children		
	City	State	Zip	
	Telephone	SSAS Member?	Yes	No
	E-Mail Address			
QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION		PRICE	TOTAL
	25 lb Black Oil Sunflower Seed		10.10	
	25 lb Striped Sunflower Seed		13.50	
	20 lb Premium Seed Mix		8.50	
	40 lb Premium Seed Mix		16.00	
	20 lb Special Mix (1/3 sunflower, no corn)		8.75	
	40 lb Special Mix		16.50	
	25 lb Cracked Corn		7.75	
	25 lb Peanut Hearts		29.00	
	5 lb Peanut Hearts		6.00	
***	25 lb Sunflower Chips		20.00	
	5 lb Sunflower Chips		4.30	
	5 lb Safflower Seed		3.25	
	8 lb Nyjer (Thistle) Seed		7.75	
	12 oz Suet Seed Cake		1.10	
	12 oz Peanut Butter Seed Cake		1.50	
	Single Cake Suet Basket		2.00	

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

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Americans Committed to Conservation

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Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve 546-8841
Elliott Kutner, Birding / Field Trips
Therese Lucas, Environmental Festivals 631-225-6377
Annie F. McIntyre, Educational Media 379-2206
Wendy Murbach, Membership 546-6303
James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming 599-1224
Mary Jane Russell, Armchair Activist
Marcia Specht, Publicity
Jonathan Staller, Hospitality
Jonathan Staner, mospitantly 402-7503

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