

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 1 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2007

NEXT MEETING

Enid Klein

DATE: Tuesday, September 11, 2007

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

144 W. Merrick Rd. (at 5. Ocean Ave.)

SPEAKER: Jennifer Plummer

TOPIC: Raptors – Predators of the Sky

Hawks, owls, and falcons deftly swoop through the air, eyes and ears alert for unsuspecting prey. Their unique design and deadly weapons make them some of the most beautiful yet formidable hunters. Join us to get an up-close and personal look at some of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center's resident birds of prey while gaining a greater understanding about their adaptations and habits. Can you name a raptor species that hunts in a pack? Come out on September 11 to see the answer.

Pre-Meeting Program on Birds. Starting at 7 P.M. each month, Scott Oglesby expands our birding horizons in the room beyond our coffee-break tables. Topic suggestions for future talks are welcome.

Parking Lots. In addition to the parking lot adjacent to the library, there's a lightly used, well-lit, and fairly close municipal lot on the east side of S. Ocean Ave., on the near (south) side of the Gulf station that borders Sunrise Highway. Also, SSAS has a verbal pledge from neighboring Citibank that cars will no longer be towed from their lot during our meetings, but we can't guarantee this.



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

OUR WEB SITE (incl. online store) www.ssaudubon.org

AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (800) 274-4201

DAMSELS AND DRAGONS

Theresa Perez

On **Saturday, September 15**, starting at 10 A.M. from our usual bird-walk parking lot, join South Shore Audubon Society on a two-hour hunt for flying predators at Massapequa Preserve. No, not hawks and falcons — this time we'll be on the lookout for something slightly smaller: dragonflies and damselflies.

They are among the most efficient hunters of the insect world, but many of you will also be amazed by their great beauty and elegance. Whether seeking the fast flying, sturdy dragonfly or the more delicate, flitting damsel, the Long Island species are among the most vibrantly colored. Couple that with sleek, streamlined, aerodynamic bodies, and you'll find that every centimeter of these beautiful creatures is specialized for the hunt... for food or for a mate. With a life span of a few days or a couple of months, they've got to work fast and furiously to ensure a next generation. Lucky for us, one of their favorite meals is the mosquito.

Although there are over 190 species documented in New York State, Nassau County is sorely understudied with under 35 species listed. We know there are more out there and need your help finding them. Learn how to identify these beautiful creatures both in hand and through binoculars while assisting in much-needed research. Bring an insect net if you've got one (I'll have three or four) and you'll likely have the opportunity for an up-close encounter with one of these amazing creatures.

Program is weather dependent; the rain date is the 22nd. If you have any questions, call my cell phone at 473-9341.

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.

★★ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ★★

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 automatically a valued member of this active and friendly chapter, so please come out to the next meeting at the Freeport Library from 7:30–9:30 P.M. on the second Tuesday of the month to hear what you can do to help preserve your local environment's health and viability, to hear about local issues that you can help to solve, and to see an interesting program.

Whether you are a beginning birder or someone with a large life list, you will enjoy our weekly Sunday bird walks led by Elliott Kutner. Check out the special events that are mentioned in this *Skimmer*. Attend them yourself, and bring your family and friends too.

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.

alongside us.	
Our new member	ers since the last Skimmer are:
Baldwin	Andrew J. Clarke, Trudy Hetzel, Sheila
	O'Leary, Linda Ramous
Bellmore	Mary D. Coleman, Anne DiRusso, Joan
	Leddy, Eric Rozansky
Bethpage	Dennis Fleury, Mary Anne Gaffney
East Meadow	Edward K. Horton, Marion L. Jeffers,
	Robert Kushner, Jennifer Plummer,
	Rose Squillace, Suella A. Waller
Elmont	Carol E. Frederickson, Dulcie Parris
Farmingdale	William Capitman, Nicole Dauenhauer
	George Dlugozima, Lester Hoffman,
	Margaret Terrano, Scott Trager,
	Gail Uhlenbusch
Franklin Square	J. Copley; James Feaster, Jr.; Rita Hoffman;
	Helen Ivey; Thomas Messineo; Frank C.
	Perunko, Jr.; Waltraud Stephan
Freeport	Theodora Bineares, Amy Gaddes,
	Nancy Karish, Demetra Tsimicalis,
	James R. Wentz
Garden City	Jesse Halperin, Bruce Mara, Donna
	Mc Coyd, Jim Pratt
Glen Oaks	Mark Michael Senyk
Hempstead	George H. Form, Jr.; Faye Nelson;
	John Senko
Hewlett	
Hicksville	Alice Debbie, Roslyn Kurkowski, Vicki &
	Martin Goldberger, Marie Grgas
	Barbara Barnett, Kristen Donovan
Levittown	Roger Coleman, Jon W. Crawford,
	Susan Goldstein, Richard Jurman,
	Joseph D. Rienti, Edward Rotker,
	Mrs. William H. Wagner
Long Beach	Lionel Jimenez, Arthur Leporin,
	Vincent McDonald, Lance Rosenberg,
T 1 1	John T. Schwarz
Lynbrook	Joseph Kennedy, Anita Starr, Patricia
	Sympson, Edward F. Vogric

Malverne Sandra L. Crosby

Massapequa	Angelo DiMartino, Martin Farrell, Lorraine Kirsten, Carol Langton, Ruth Owsinski, Marcia A. Perry, Karin Piotroski, Richard Poitras, Rosemary Schroeder, ? Schultz, James M. Thompson
Massapequa Park	Rosemary Goeller
	Charles Anatra, Karen Callaghan, Rosemarie Drazka, Rosanne P. Ebner, J. Fennessey, Lynne Gorman, Daniel Greenberg, Stephen Lustig, Ed Rubinfeld
Oceanside	Eileen Batycki, Karen Davis, Anita Goldbort, Maria Goldman, Rita Levinsohn, Thomas Marchi, Alan Rothstein, ? Smith
Old Bethpage	Sharon Messinger
	Harvey Schaffler, ? Silverwater
Rockville Centre	Judith Boisselle, Aida Cino, Michael J. Ferguson, Edward Koerber, Andrew Mrakovcich, Jean E. Whitehead
Seaford	Cathleen D. Dey, Sanjay Hathiramani, Sandra Marchesiello, Mary Tippin, Mary Westermann
Stewart Manor	Thomas Buckley, Edward A. Gillespie, Barbara Hosmer, Caroline Rechner
Valley Stream	Anna Borzuchowska, Muriel D. Currie, Jay
	Cutler, Sam Galowitz, Melvin J. Kushel, Dorothy Malfa, Doris J. Myers, Irene Nelsen, Jeff Roth, John Socolick, M. Sydney
Wantagh	Edna M. Bronzino, Robert P. Graff, Eugene Paraszczuk, Kevin Toscano, Nora Urback-Hunziger
West Hempstead	Ellen Brodell, Dr. Eugenia Hackshaw, Anthony Marinello
Woodmere	Michael Schrier
**********	**********************

A LETTER FROM OUR MAINE CAMPER

Editor's note: Brian McAlister, Jr. sent us the following letter after attending a camp run by Maine Audubon Society. He was the recipient of a scholarship funded jointly by our chapter and National Audubon Society.

Thank you and the members of South Shore Audubon for offering me the chance to go to Hog Island and attend the Coastal Maine Bird Program, July 24–30, 2007.

I enjoyed the program and learned a lot about birds and Maine. There were 13 young people in the program, 10 boys and 3 girls, from many different states in the USA. We had a lot of fun together, and with our two counselors and the other instructors. The food was good and there was plenty of it for all of us.

We took many trips to see different birds; the longest was to Acadia National Park, when we had to get up at 4 A.M. I saw a peregrine falcon attack a turkey vulture, four starlings chase an eagle from their nest, and an osprey chase an eagle. We also visited Puffin Island.

I accumulated 104 bird identifications out of the total possible of 109, pretty good for a beginning birder.

Hog Island is a beautiful place, set in the ocean. I would like to return someday to study marine life too.

Yours truly, Brian McAlister.

MEMORIES OF SSAS'S 36TH ANNUAL DINNER

Therese Lucas

My first recollection is everyone swarming around the lines of tables, in the middle of the room for Super Raffle items and along the pond wall for Chinese Auction items. We had everything from a signed limited-edition Robert Bateman drawing to Museum of Modern Art tickets to dinner at Outback Steakhouse and on to an autographed book by Scott Weidensaul.

Toby Tobias was playing his guitar in the background, accompanied by Steve Blatt on bass. Birdathon participants had their annual raffle and the 50–50 Drawing stubs filled the bowl to overflowing.

None of this would have been possible without the generous donations of those listed below.

Imagine what we'll have for the 37th! Hope to see you there!

Abby's Parkside Nursery & Florist, Wantagh Flora Allen Applebee's, Bellmore Art Corner Ltd., Levittown Atlantic Nursery, Freeport Avis Lube, Farmingdale Robert Bateman Birds & Blooms Jim & Gail Brown Cafe Symposio, Bellmore Clancy's Wine & Spirits, Bellmore Cold Stone Creamery, Bellmore Country Cupboard, Farmingdale Friendly's, Massapequa Gino's Pizzeria, Farmingdale Betsy Gulotta Gurney's, Montauk Hicks Nurseries, Westbury Jupiter's Unisex Salon Inc., Wantagh Kevin Karlson Karma Studio, Merrick Library Cafe, Farmingdale LI Picture Frame, Massapequa Therese Lucas Marjé Salon, Merrick Christine Marzigliano Matty's Toys, Merrick Paul Mc Cain, Woodcarver Milo's Pizzeria & Ristorante, Merrick Montauk Manor Museum of Modern Art, Manhattan Olive Garden, Massapequa Outback Steakhouse, Merrick Panera Bread, East Meadow Roman Nails, Rockville Centre Maureen & Paul Rube Oren Sherman, Painter Stackpole Publishing Starkie Brothers Garden Center, Inc., Farmingdale Petie Szabo Scott Weidensaul Wild Bird Feed Barn, Farmingdale WMF, Farmingdale

Bill & Nancy Youngfert

FLEA MARKET WRAP-UP

Maureen Rube

Whoever said, "It's hard to find good help" certainly was not familiar with the members of South Shore Audubon Society. With the good help of many members and their friends, our flea market on June 2 raised \$1185 for our environmental day camp scholarship program.

For this enormously successful day, we are thankful to all who helped. First, in response to our requests for donations to the flea market, we had an outpouring of contributions from members as well as from their friends. So, first I would like to thank: Flora Allen, Gloria Berkowitz, Muriel Cook, Kristin Donovan, Joe Fili, Marilyn Hametz, Diane Kaladjian, Kathy & Ed Kilduff, Frank & Maureen Kirchoff, Anita & Irv Kleiman, Joe Landesberg, Margaret Limongelli, Therese Lucas, Frances McCarthy, Mary Ellen & Kevin Morris, Dawn Nolan, Marianne & George Peters, Rebekka & David Pickman, Laurie Raisher, Joan Ripley, Paul & Maureen Rube, Mary Jane & Cliff Russell, Irene Schwartz, Ed Sperling, Michael Sperling, Rosemary Styne, Louise Tinebra, Dr. & Mrs. Vallury, Eileen & Steve Walk, and Nancy & Bill Youngfert.

This response was truly overwhelming in volume and that required a great deal of help again to organize, price, display, and sell the items. For this help, I must thank again both members and their friends who joined us on June 2, including: Joe Fili, Joe Landesberg, Therese Lucas, Marianne & George Peters, Rebekka & David Pickman, Ed Sperling, and Michael Sperling.

Next, I want to thank our Flea Market Committee, consisting of Marianne and George Peters, Nancy and Bill Youngfert, and my husband, Paul. They worked on the many steps involved in making this day the enormous success it was — planning, picking up items, preparing for setup, selling, and finally, making all the leftover things "go away."

Finally, I must thank Nancy and Bill Youngfert for graciously opening their home to us for the day, which made it much more comfortable for everyone.

Our very successful Flea Market has certainly proved that one man's junk is another's treasure. So, save your unwanted items — there just may be another Flea Market next year!

Seed - Feeders
Houses - Baths
Books - Gifts

WILD BIRD FEED

WILD BIRD CENTER

"NEW YORK'S LARGEST WILD BIRD SPECIALTY STORE"
621 Fulton St. (Rt. 109), Farmingdale, NY 11735
Located between McDonald's & Dunkin' Donuts

AUDUBON'S ENERGY SAVING TIPS Easy Ways to Beat the Heat But Still Be Green

Editor's note: The following comes from the Audubon At Home website (www.audubon.org/bird/at_home/).

Use Window Shades: Keep them drawn on the sides of the house that get direct sun and use shades that are opaque, not translucent. Some manufacturers make double-sided shades which are reflective (white) on one side and heat absorbing (dark) on the other side — that can be reversed with the seasons.

Install Ceiling Fans: According to the U.S. Department of Energy, effective circulation can make you feel up to 8 degrees cooler and reduce air conditioning bills by up to 40%. Ceiling fan/light



combination units that have earned the Energy Star rating are about 50% more efficient than conventional fan/light units. This can save you \$15-\$20 per year on utility bills.

Look for Energy Star Air Conditioners: Find the right size for your home with Consumer Reports' A/C calculator and choose an energy-efficient model using their Green Ratings. Clean the air conditioner filters monthly during seasons of heavy use. Consider a model with energy-saving features such as a programmable thermostat, a fan, and a sleep mode. For every degree you raise the temperature on the unit's thermostat setting, you can cut your cooling bills by about 3 percent.

Try Reflective Roofs: We know that dark materials tend to absorb more heat from the sun and lighter materials reflect it - hence the popularity of light-colored summer clothing. Using this principle, roofs can be designed to reflect sunlight, keeping the inside of the house cooler in summer and reducing the amount of air conditioning needed. White metal and cement tile roofs reflect 66 to 77 percent of the sun's energy. This type of roofing, on an average-size 1,770 square foot home, saves approximately \$128 or 23 percent annually in cooling costs.

Consider More Attic Insulation: Attic ventilation is important for drawing in cooler air and increasing air circulation. Optimally, attic insulation should have an r-value — a heat-flow resistance — of 38. Most houses have 8-inch fiberglass batting in the attic. Another 7 to 10 inches is needed to reach r-38. Cellulose is an easy way to achieve the additional r-value. Cellulose insulation is made from pulped paper and can be blown into spaces as powder or as a damp spray which becomes formfitting when dry.

Plant Some Trees: If you live in a house, planting trees on the south and west sides of your home will provide enough shade in the summer (and wind blockage in the winter) to save you between \$100 and \$250 in energy costs annually, says a U.S. Department of Energy estimate. Opt for deciduous trees, which shade in summer and allow light and radiant heat to pass through in winter.

SSAS CONGRATULATES ITS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Marilyn Hamelz

College Students. Shawn Billerman of North Massapegua and Kathryn Rube of Floral Park are the latest recipients of the Jerry Bishop Environmental Scholarships awarded annually by the South Shore Audubon Society.

Kate, a graduate student at the University of Maryland at College Park, is pursuing a master's degree in Community Planning and wants to work to create sustainable healthy communities.

Shawn, a junior at Cornell University, is majoring in Biological Sciences (Ecology and Evolution) and is studying Barn Swallows and Tree Swallows.

The Jerry Bishop Environmental Scholarships are awarded, through the continuing support of South Shore Audubon Society member Evelyn Bishop, to college juniors, seniors, or graduate students who are continuing their studies toward a degree in an area of biological or environmental science.

High School Students. Thanks to the previously unreported efforts of Joe Landesberg, SSAS presented scholarship awards to three graduating seniors interested in working with the environment. Michele Matthews from Baldwin Senior High School, Thomas Mackey from Rockville Centre South Side High School, and Steven Wisnowski from Freeport High School received the awards at their schools' June award ceremonies.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE We're Looking for a Committee Chairperson

Michael Sperling

Long-time members of SSAS may remember our Greening of Long Island program, which resulted in many plantings for wildlife at quite a few public parks and preserves in our area, especially Jones Beach. In later years, though, we were frustrated when, due to staff cutbacks and managerial indifference, new plantings went unwatered while older plantings were victims of mowers and construction projects.

We have some remaining Greening funds that were intended for a place that keeps delaying their use, so we would like to use them to start an alternative Greening program at schools and/or parking lots. If you are interested in chairing this effort, please contact me at mssperling@optonline.net or 221-3921 (evenings).

>+ >+ >+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+>+
RARE BIRD ALERT (212) 979-3070
\$ +\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+\$+
VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE (631) 423-0982
<u></u>



Elliatt Kutner

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

Aug. 26	Norman J. Levy Park and Preserve			
Sep. 2	Labor Day Weekend — No Walk			
Sep. 9	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)			
Sep. 16	Marine Nature Study Area (Oceanside)			
Sep. 23	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge			
Sep. 30	Norman J. Levy Park and Preserve			
Oct. 7	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)			

(516) 887-1541 Fax: (516) 887-1553				

ARTHUR C. SNOW

Certified Public Accountant

29 Broadway, Suite 200 Lynbrook, New York 11563-2520 e-mail: ACSnowCPA@verizon.net

After SSAS's dragonfly walk, you can be a volunteer at the 22nd Annual New York State Beach Cleanup, which is organized in New York by the American Littoral Society and is part of the International Coastal Cleanup of The Ocean Conservancy.

When: September 15, 2007

Where: At over 300 beaches, rivers, streams, wetlands, and lakes statewide. For the most up-to-date listing, visit www.alsnyc.org. Contact the site captain for the meeting time.

Who: Thousands of volunteers from local environmental groups, students, scouts, dive clubs, civic organizations, corporations, government agencies, and the general public. In 2006, over 10,000 New Yorkers came together to do something constructive for the environment, removing and documenting 272,000 pounds of debris at 321 sites.

Why: To compile data to devise strategies to combat pollution, to increase public participation in solving the problems of pollution, and to increase public appreciation of the coastal environment.

Litter is not only unsightly; it poses threats to wildlife. Birds become entangled in discarded fishing line and 6-pack ring holders; marine mammals ingest plastics that can obstruct their intestinal tracts.

Volunteers: Call the Beach Cleanup Hotline (1-800-449-0790) or visit www.alsnyc.org. For further information, contact Barbara Cohen, Beach Cleanup Coordinator, at 718-471-2166 or alsbeach@aol.com.

BROOKSIDE PRESERVE

After the *Skimmer* went on summer vacation, we had our spring cleanup at 20-acre Brookside Preserve. SSAS thanks the following for making our April 29 cleanup a success: Jim Brown, Andrea DeMarco, Charlie Fisenne, Joe Grupp, Betsy Gulotta, Rick Huhn, Sarah Huhn, Charlie Kiefer, Therese Lucas, Christine Marzigliano, Susan Pratt, Hilary Rosenthal, Steve Schellenger, and Rebecca Zubrovich. We also thank the Freeport Kiwanis Club's Greg Abbate, Pat Bockland, Ken Dash, and Jim Kawiakides for the cleanup they did on July 28.

Brookside, on the Freeport–Baldwin border just north of the LIRR, is owned by Nassau County and managed by SSAS. Our Brookside Committee expects to have a busy autumn and seeks new members; see the next *Skimmer* for details or give Betsy or George a call (please see back page for phone numbers).

^

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



JAMAICA BAY SUNSET CRUISES (Sun., Sept. 23 & Sat., Oct. 13, 4–7 P.M.). Meet in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn for a 3-hour narrated tour of the backwater marshes of the bay aboard the brand new 101-foot boat "Golden Sunshine." Learn about the history, ecology & wildlife of this 13,000-acre preserve. See egrets, herons, ibis, osprey, peregrine falcon, shorebirds, and waterfowl during peak migration time. Cost: \$45/person includes wine & cheese, fruit, drinks, snacks.

NYC AUDUBON HAWK WATCH (Sun., Sept. 30, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.). Meet at Bldg. 1 in Fort Tilden, Rockaway for a hike to the beach, dunes, and hawk watch platform during peak raptor migration time. Leader: Don Riepe. To reserve, call Don.

CHINCOTEAGUE/ASSATEAGUE FALL BIRDING (Nov. 1–4). An extended weekend at a great coastal preserve. See bald eagle, brown pelican, and many species of waterfowl plus wild horses, river otter, Sika deer, endangered Delmarva fox squirrel, and lots more. Cost: \$345 includes 3 nights at Refuge Motor Inn, guided hikes of refuge and national seashore, plus Saturday night "All-ya-can-eat" seafood dinner.

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

FRANKLIN MOUNTAIN, GOLDEN EAGLES, AND WIND POWER

Editor's long intro: The effect of windmills on birds has been a prominent topic at recent meetings of the Long Island Audubon Council. Last fall, all seven LI chapters (SSAS is the largest) endorsed the following statement, which was drafted by Huntington Audubon's conservation chairperson, Jerry Hannon: "Moved, that the Long Island Audubon Council adopt a position that discourages any support for the Long Island Wind Farm proposal until such time as the extensive studies of potential bird mortality, as recommended by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, demonstrate little or no harm, and that appropriate studies of other potential hazards, such as the effects upon marine mammals and fish, are similarly completed. We further note that supporting proposals, such as the Long Island Wind Farm, should not precede the completion of environmental studies, competently and objectively structured and executed, and that nonobjective support of such proposals by environmentalists can never be considered ecologically sound." LIPA and FPL Energy (which would build the 40-turbine Long Island Offshore Wind Park along our South Shore) have not done the studies recommended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but these may be required when the federal Minerals Management Service responds to the scoping comments submitted last summer.

In Audubon New York's "State and Federal Conservation Policy Resolutions 2007," which consists of resolutions proposed and approved by NY's chapters, the resolution on "Impacts of Towers and Other Structures on Birds" includes the following: "Resolved, that Audubon New York opposes wind power development on sites determined to be of high risk to bird populations, including: 1) sites of known local bird migration pathways or in areas where birds are highly concentrated during migration; 2) sites in habitats known to be important to state and federally listed bird species; 3) Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and Bird Conservation Areas (BCAs) identified for their importance to large numbers of migrants, either raptors or nocturnal migrants; and 4) IBAs and BCAs where construction of the turbines (i.e., the footprint) would significantly lower the habitat value of the site."

I received the following from Tom Salo, who is the president of Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society and the co-chair of their Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch:

The Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch in the northern Catskill Mountains is among the best places in the east to see Golden Eagles. Its reputation results from a team of dedicated volunteer hawk counters and cooperative eagles. We are actively working to maintain good levels of both counters and eagles.

Regularly, over 200 magnificent goldens pass the site during their migration south. If you've visited the hawkwatch on a good day, you've seen them flying 200 feet off the ground, using the updraft from the ridge to glide its length. This migratory behavior, where birds concentrate along ridges, is typical of Golden Eagles. Unfortunately, it puts the birds in the very same space that some developers have targeted for siting wind power projects.

At Franklin Mountain, we understand the threats posed by the burning of fossil fuels. We support properly sited wind projects. However, we are also concerned about impacts to birds and bats. As a species, Golden Eagle seems especially vulnerable to wind turbines. Some consider it "at the highest risk" for collisions. Avian Impact Assessments for proposed wind projects in the Golden Eagle migration corridor generally are inadequate.

As many as 60,000 wind turbines will be required to reach national energy goals. Many will be built along the ridges of New York and Pennsylvania. Some of those ridges — such as Franklin Mountain — attract raptors.

Knowing that more eastern goldens pass our site than anywhere else this far north, we feel a special responsibility to protect "our" birds. This isn't easy, since away from our site and a few others, almost nothing is known about how they migrate through New York. To learn more about this NYS endangered species so it can be protected, we have joined with several organizations studying Golden Eagles in Pennsylvania. We are working to expand their ongoing study of migration routes into New York.

The project involves trapping eagles and fitting them with transmitters that provide a wealth of data on the birds' locations and movements. The Global Positioning System (GPS) telemetry devices last 2 years or more. They provide 10 to 15 precise locations each day, including elevation. This will tell us where they roost, nest, and forage. This also provides the kind of precise information needed to develop migration models to help guide the safe siting of wind projects.

Part of the migration modeling involves recording data on each individual golden that passes the site. We are hoping to recruit some extra help to record this data during the peak golden migration.

The technology is expensive but ideally suited to this research. We urge anyone concerned about impacts to Golden Eagles to help support this important work. Please consider spending some time at Franklin Mountain — skilled hawk counters are always needed. For those who are not ready to count, we also need help spotting birds and collecting data. For more information, visit www.doas.us or write to DOAS Golden Eagle Research, P.O. Box 544, Oneonta, NY 13820.

Our collaborators at the National Aviary and Carnegie Museum of Natural History are already [August 7] tracking three eagles. We followed those birds north in the spring and hope to spot them if they pass Franklin Mountain this fall.

SSAS BACKYARD BIRD SURVEY

For several years, SSAS's Research Committee has been conducting a study to document the bird species found in the SSAS area and to estimate their numbers. We greatly appreciate input from anyone that feeds and/or observes birds in their yard or neighborhood.

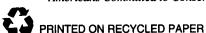
To participate, simply record the birds that you see in your yard, neighborhood, or at your feeder; the date, time, and the number or approximate number of each species; and fill in the table provided below. If you have more recordings than lines in the table, please attach an additional piece of paper to the table and submit the additional recordings in the same manner. 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. Additional 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!

<i>Dates:</i> From to							
Date	Time	Species	No.	Date	Time	Species	No.
				Submi	itted by:		
				Addre	ss:		
				Phone	number: _		
					e send to: N	fr. J. Grupp, Research Cha	airperson
					66	0 Edgemere Ave., Uniond or	ale NY 11553
ii						E-mail: Birdstudyjoeg020	@aol.com

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

A CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY Americans Committed to Conservation



DATED MATERIAL



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

2007-2008 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Michael Sperling, President & Skimmer Editor 221-3921
Wendy Murbach, Vice Pres. & Membership 546-6303
Laurie Luxner Raisher, Treasurer
Ruth Aptacker, Recording Secretary 791-1746
Alice Blaustein, Corresponding Secretary 221-1870
Joe Landesberg, Director (6/10) 536-4808
Theresa Perez, Director (6/10)795-7954
Marilyn Hametz, Director (6/09) & Publicity 799-7189
Steven Schellenger, Director (6/09) 987-8103
Jim Brown, Director (6/08) & Conservation 432-8156
George Peters, Dir. (6/08) & Brookside Prsrve 868-5480
Betty Borowsky, Education 764-3596
Anne-Marie Conn, Electronic Communications 671-7685
Joseph Grupp, Research
Betsy Gulotta, Brookside Preserve Co-Chair 546-8841
Enid Klein, Programs 561-0004
Elliott Kutner, Birding / Field Trips 486-7667
Therese Lucas, Envtl. Fests. & Annual Dinner 221-3921
James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon 631-957-0949
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming 599-1224
Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality 766-7397

BECOME A MEMBER OF SSAS Think Globally, but Join Locally!

Option 1. You can join SSAS for a year by sending \$15 payable to South Shore Audubon Society using the form below. Our address is P.O. Box 31, Freeport, NY 11520-0031.

Option 2. To join NAS and your all-volunteer local chapter, you can help SSAS survive NAS's major dues-share cutbacks by joining Audubon through us for the same price that it costs if you join through NAS (we get \$0 unless you join through us). Mail the form below and your check payable to National Audubon Society to SSAS at the address above. The special rate for the first year is \$20 per household; \$15 for students and seniors.

Renewing? Please send NAS renewals directly to NAS (we now get \$0 for all NAS renewals).

Donations to SSAS are always welcome!

NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE NO.:	
E-MAIL: Chapter Code R15 7XCH (South Shore A	• •