OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 4 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

DEC. 2007 & JAN. 2008

NEXT MEETING

Enid Klein

DATE: Tuesday, December 11, 2007

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

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

SPEAKER: Dr. Bret Bennington

TOPIC: Origins of Birds from Dinosaurs

The evolutionary origin of birds is a scientific puzzle that has generated controversy for over 100 years. Although paleontologists have argued for decades that birds are the direct descendants of dinosaurs, many ornithologists have been reluctant to accept this. New analyses and recently discovered fossils from China are finally bringing this controversy to an end. Join Dr. Bennington as he reviews the wealth of new fossil evidence that has established beyond doubt that birds are the living legacy of the dinosaurs.

Dr. Bret Bennington received his Ph.D. in paleontology from Virginia Tech and has been a professor at Hofstra University for over 12 years. In addition to researching the history of fossil marine invertebrate communities and the geological history of Long Island, he teaches courses in geology, paleontology, and about dinosaurs at Hofstra. Five years ago, he was SSAS's guest speaker for a program on LI's geology. Join us!

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 Hwy.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS.

Shade-grown coffee protects rainforests:

NEXT MEETING AFTER NEXT MEETING

Enid Klein

DATE: Tuesday, January 8, 2008

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Freeport Memorial Library

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

TOPIC: Members' Night

Join us for our third annual after-the-holidays fete, and bring your family, friends, and significant others for an evening of wildlife-related games, food, and getting to know each other better. Members, if your talents lie in the culinary arts, please bring in a favorite finger food, appetizer, or dessert. Everyone, please help us reduce waste by bringing a mug.

Whether you are an artist, musician, poet, writer, photographer, carver, or simply want to share your ideas about birds, wildlife, nature, or the environment, we invite you to bring a sample of your creative talents; talking about them in front of the audience is optional.

You may recall that SSAS member David Goliger brought along his stereo photographs a few years ago; we are expecting an eagerly awaited encore. Join us!

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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.

Our Web site, ssaudubon.org, contains a link to the Online Nature Mall, which automatically gives a percentage of your purchases (10%) to SSAS if you visit the site using our link.

The mall is a division of the Thayer Birding Software company. There are over 8,500 products available in the following categories: bird software, bird songs, bird books, binoculars, bird feeders, nature books, plush birds, and gifts & more.

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.

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 (second Monday this February) 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.

Our new members since the last Skimmer are:

Bethpage Stanley J. Squires
Carle Place Suzanne McVetty
East Meadow Sherri Ackereizen
Elmont Stanley Wager
Farmingdale E. Gorczycki, Timothy Heagarty, Francis J.
McCormick
Floral Park Deborah Moore
Garden City The Klupka Family; James B. Sarno, M.D.
Hewlett Elizabeth Laster, John Richardson
Huntington Sta Scott Honickman
Lido Beach Terry Raddock
Lynbrook Helene Sloan
Massapequa Maria DeLuise-Brodsky, Suzie Novak, Joan
Ridam
Massapequa Park George Duffy, Nancy Vannata
Oceanside Joseph Gray, Anthony Penna, June M. Titus
Stewart Manor Edward & Phyllis Cookson
Upper Brookville Roni Downey
Valley Stream Meyer Balamut, Julia Bromley, Gail Lindman
Tinghitella
Wantagh Eva Frendzel
Woodmere Berle S. Bonner

MASSAPEOUA PRESERVE MEETING

Michael Sperling

On **Thursday, November 29**, starting at 7:30 P.M., there will be (was?) a free meeting at the Bar Harbour Library to discuss two major issues that are of concern to SSAS.

It's been three years since the *Skimmer* last mentioned a \$6 million project that is now expected to begin this spring. Mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency when sewer systems were approved for the adjacent streets decades ago, the Streamflow Augmentation and Pond Restoration project will include the temporary closing of portions of the preserve from Sunrise Highway north to Linden Street and the rebuilding of the "bike path" when a two-mile-long pipeline for water recirculation is buried near it. Representatives from Nassau County's Department of Public Works will be at the library to discuss this project, which also involves the partial dredging of some of the ponds and streams.

The other issue to be discussed at the meeting is that as part of Nassau County's efforts to transfer responsibility for parks and preserves to the Towns of Hempstead, North Hempstead, and Oyster Bay, the transfer of Massapequa Preserve to Tobay is under serious consideration.

The sponsor of the meeting is the all-volunteer Friends of Massapequa Preserve; I have been on its board of directors since it was founded.

Directions: The Bar Harbour Library is at 40 Harbor Ln. in Massapequa Park. From Sunrise Highway opposite the LIRR station, take Park Blvd. south; when you cross Merrick Rd., you will be on Harbor Ln. The library is on the right.

20TH ANNUAL WATERFOWL SURVEY

The dates for the 2007–2008 Waterfowl Survey are as follows, rain or shine: **Saturdays, December 8, January 5, February 2, February 23, and March 22**. Volunteers are welcome to participate in the surveys. If you are interested in spending a full or half day visiting up to 28 locations from Valley Stream to Massapequa Park, call Joe Grupp, SSAS's Research Chairperson, at 481-4208.

JOIN A CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT TEAM

SSAS's Wendy Murbach is the team leader for the Northern Nassau Christmas Bird Count (CBC) quadrant that is surveyed from Gerry Park in Roslyn to Garvies Point in Glen Cove. This CBC is run by North Shore and Huntington Audubon Societies (the Southern Nassau CBC is several decades older than SSAS and consequently is not organized by us). If you're interested in participating (for the usual CBC fee of \$5), contact Wendy at Wmrbch@aol.com or 546-6303. The **Saturday, December 22** count will begin at 8 a.m. and continue through the day, but you can join it after lunch (ask for Wendy's cell phone number in order to locate her team).



All walks start at 9:30 A.M.; no walk if it rains or snows or temperature is below 25°F. Any questions? Call Elliott at 486-7667. Directions and summaries may be found at ssaudubon.org.

Nov. 25	Hempstead Lake State Park (Southern State Parkway Exit 18 south, Field #1)
Dec. 2	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Dec. 9	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner
Dec. 16	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Dec. 23 & 30	Season's Greetings — No Walks
Jan. 6	Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
Jan. 13	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)
Jan. 20	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Jan. 27	Zach's Bay Parking Field #4, N.E. corner

NATURE TALES FROM A WANDERER An Interesting Bird — Two Interesting Observations Part II

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Joe Grupp

Part I of this article, in the last issue of the *Skimmer*, found us discovering Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in the Fort Bragg area of North Carolina. A talk there with a ranger—naturalist introduced me to the Redcockaded Woodpecker, its interesting life history, and its endangered species status. The conversation with the ranger motivated me to attempt to find a Red-cockaded Woodpecker.

Convincing my wife to join me, we arrived, the following morning, at the locked sanctuary gate well before dawn and parked on the side of the dirt entrance road. By the light of a full moon, we walked around the locked gate and headed for a group of old pines about a hundred yards into the preserve. The ranger—naturalist had pointed those trees out to us as being a good place to possibly see a Redcockaded Woodpecker, as the cavities that the birds built there frequently housed birds during the winter months. Our goal was to get to those trees early enough to observe their entrance holes, wait for the birds to leave through them, and hope that they would perch nearby before they began their daily activities.

Moonlight changed to dawn and then daylight as we stood among the trees, watching the holes, wondering if we were lucky enough to have roosting woodpeckers in the cavities that the holes provided entrance and exit to. As the minutes ticked by, I kidded my wife and said, "Do you realize that we got up at 4:45 A.M. and drove about 30 miles so we could stand in a forest in North Carolina and watch some holes in some trees?" We both laughed at ourselves.

Finally, around 7:00 A.M. a head appeared in one of the holes. We studied it as it looked around, hoping that if it left

the hole it did not just fly away. Then the bird disappeared back down into the cavity in the tree. Our observation was not the greatest, but at least we knew the cavities held at least one bird and all that we had to do was wait for it or them to exit.

Wait, wait, wait is what we did for another twenty minutes or so before a bird again appeared at the hole. This time, after a few minutes of looking around, it perched for a few seconds on the edge of the hole, launched itself into the air, and flew to a nearby tree. We felt a certain inner excitement as we observed the black-and-white plumaged bird for a good length of time. The bird then suddenly flew back and perched on the side of the tree near the hole from which it left, hammered on the bark beneath the hole a few times, and left.

Unlike the lucky chance occurrence that led to this first Red-cockaded Woodpecker sighting, our second and only other observation of the species was a planned adventure. Last spring, we traveled to Louisiana to explore the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Big Branch Marsh Refuge and a few other local areas. The refuge is located on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain and is just north of New Orleans. Red-cockaded Woodpeckers reside in a number of colonies there and the refuge is managed in part for their benefit. Part of the management plan is the placing of specially made nest boxes in the heartwood of suitable trees. It has proven to be a successful but not certain management tool. These trees were marked with white bands on their trunks for refuge research purposes, which made them reasonably easy to find.

We explored a trail that began in some prime woodpecker habitat. We spent a fair amount of time there, finding banded trees, holes, and the peaceful quiet of a long needle pine woodland, but no woodpeckers. We continued our search in other areas of the refuge, getting the same results. We may have planned to see Redcockaded Woodpeckers at the refuge, but plans do not always work out.

Early in the afternoon, we abandoned our quest so that we could explore other areas beyond the refuge. The ecology of those areas was not Red-cockaded Woodpecker habitat. As the day moved on, the thought of not finding a Red-cockaded Woodpecker really bothered us, so we decided that we would return to the refuge late in the day and hopefully find some woodpeckers heading for their roosting cavity. Not searching for the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, at least one more time, had become not an option.

About an hour before sunset, we were back where we first attempted finding the bird in the morning. This time we did not find the peaceful quiet of a long needle pine woodland, as there were numerous mosquitoes there waiting for the blood meal they need in order to reproduce, and when they were not biting us, their flying around us was really annoying. Slapping at them as they were, or to

keep them from, biting us didn't help our comfort level, but insect repellent, while not perfect, improved it somewhat. Mosquitoes were not what we had returned to the refuge for and in a short time we were about ready to give it all up when three birds flew into the woodland and landed in trees not too far from us. One then flew to a branch close by and we identified it as a Brown-headed Nuthatch. The other two birds came closer and I heard myself mentally say, "yes, yes," as they were Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. As we studied the birds while being attacked by the mosquitoes, it was hard to keep the glasses steady, but study them we did!

One of the birds then swept down on the nuthatch and quite a battle took place, with the nuthatch finally giving way to the woodpecker. The woodpecker then perched for a while on the very same branch from which it had chased the nuthatch. After a reasonable length of time passed, the three birds flew off and we quickly left the woods, thankful to be getting away from the mosquitoes.

Only two times have I seen the Red-cockaded Wood-pecker and both times were memorable. My experience learning about and observing this species is best summed up in the title of this two-part article: An Interesting Bird — Two Interesting Observations.

CIVING BACK TO THE BIRDS

Therese Lucas

Saturday, December 15th from 1 to 3 P.M. is the SSAS Holiday Party for children, which is being held at Tackapausha Museum & Preserve on Washington Avenue in Seaford. Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children (ages 4 to 14; free for younger children), which are the normal museum admission prices. This is a chance for attendees to make various feeders for birds. During the holiday season, children receive many gifts, and this is an opportunity for them to give something that they've created to the birds.

At 2 P.M., Bobby Horvath of Wildlife in Need of Rescue and Rehabilitation will conduct an interactive live raptor presentation. Mr. Horvath always has interesting facts to share and deepens our appreciation for these amazing birds.



Volunteers are always needed. Please contact me at 221-3921 or tklwings@optonline.net if you can help.

Halloween Follow-Up. A special thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out at our annual Halloween Party at Tackapausha: Gloria Berkowitz, Alice Blaustein, Helen Buckley, Mary Jane Conlon, Louise Leonard, Wendy Murbach, Theresa Perez, and Michael Sperling. More than 200 people attended and almost every child came in a costume. This made for some great interaction between the children and the volunteers. The handouts available at the bat and owl craft tables were well received.

SSAS WELCOMES LEONARD G. KONSKER

South Shore Audubon is pleased to announce that our treasurer's accountant has agreed to handle our tax returns pro bono. Thank you, Mr. Konsker!

E-Mail: lgk1cpa@aol.com

LEONARD G. KONSKER

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Konsker and Company, LTD 550 W. Old Country Rd., Suite 101 Hicksville, New York 11801

VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE (631) 423-0982



Explore the coast with the

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

ALS HOLIDAY PARTY (Dec. 8, 5–10 P.M.). Held at the historic control tower on Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, the cost is only \$35 and includes food & drink, a Silent Auction, an "Ugly Auction," door prizes, and entertainment: *Flamenco Dancers and Exotic Dancer*. Nature Walk at 3 P.M. before party.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BEACHWALKS (Jan. 1). Three walks: Jones Beach West End 2 (11 A.M.), Fire Island Lighthouse (10 A.M.), and Fort Tilden, Rockaway Beach (11 A.M.). Champagne, coffee & cake at Fort Tilden. Call for more info.

MONTAUK WINTER WEEKEND (Jan. 4–6). Spend a quiet but active weekend at Montauk during peak seabird and seal-watching time. Cost: \$345 incl. 2 nights at luxurious Manor House, 5 meals, 5 hikes, 2 evening programs, a star watch, and LIRR station pickup. Leaders: Mickey Cohen, Don Riepe.

FLORIDA EVERGLADES AND PARKS (March 1–8). Visit best wildlife areas of South Florida: North & South Everglades, Key Largo, Sanibel Island, Corkscrew Swamp, Loxahatchee Refuge, Wakodahatchee and Green Caye Boardwalks, more.

TEXAS COAST BIRDING & BUTTERFLY PRESERVE (April 12–19).

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.

BROOKSIDE PRESERVE'S FALL CLEANUP

SSAS's October 28th cleanup at chapter-managed Brookside Preserve was remarkably successful, for which we thank members of SSAS, the South Nassau Unitarian Universalist Congregation, a group of Nassau County Parks employees, and neighbors, including Lloyd Abrams, Lorraine Avitabile, Tom Beach, Jim & Gail Brown, Laura D'Angelo, Connie Gallagher, Betsy Gulotta, Marilyn Hametz, Therese Lucas, Rory & Alice O'Connor, George Peters, Steve Schellenger, Michael Sperling, Nelson W., Arthur Weaver, Pearl Weinstein, and John Zarudsky.

AUDUBON ANALYSIS REVEALS DRAMATIC DECLINES FOR SOME OF NEW YORK'S MOST FAMILIAR BIRDS

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Editor's two paragraphs: As many of you saw, the July/August issue of Audubon magazine had a foldout entitled "Wakeup Call," about the ten common birds whose nationwide numbers have declined the most sharply in the last 40 years (if not, you can download it and more from http://stateofthebirds.audubon.org/cbid/magazine.php). What follows is a June 14th press release from Audubon New York that localized the magazine story.

The foldout mentioned that ten more common birds in decline were listed online; here are all 20 common species, where "common" means more than 500,000 with a range exceeding 1 million square kilometers: Northern Bobwhite (down 82%), Evening Grosbeak, Northern Pintail, Greater Scaup, Boreal Chickadee, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Tern, Loggerhead Shrike, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Snow Bunting, Black-throated Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Common Grackle, American Bittern, Rufous Hummingbird, Whip-poor-will, Horned Lark, Little Blue Heron, and Ruffed Grouse (down 54%).

Population declines for some of the most recognized and beloved birds in New York echo the disturbing findings of a new analysis by the National Audubon Society that reveals how local and national threats are combining to take a toll on birds, habitat, and the environment across the country.

"These are not rare or exotic birds we're talking about — these are the birds that visit our feeders and congregate at nearby lakes and seashores, and yet they are disappearing day by day," said Audubon Chairperson and former EPA Administrator, Carol Browner. "Their decline tells us we have serious work to do, from protecting local habitats to addressing the huge threats from global warming."

The national study found that continental populations of some common birds nose-dived over the past forty years, with several down nearly 80 percent. In New York, Grasshopper Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and Ruffed Grouse topped the list, with statewide declines of between 98% and 83%. These figures are steeper than the national rates, indicating that the loss of these types of habitats is

accelerated here in New York. These dramatic declines are attributed to the loss of grasslands, healthy forests, and other critical habitats from multiple environmental threats such as sprawl and changes in agricultural practices. The study notes that these threats may now be compounded by new and broader problems, including the escalating effects of global warming and demand for corn-based ethanol.

Species especially hard hit in New York include:

- Grasshopper Sparrow. This species gets its name from its buzzy, insect-like song. Because it requires especially large, open expanses of grasslands, it has suffered steep declines due to encroachment by shrubs, intensive agriculture, and development, all of which cause loss and fragmentation of its habitat. Stewardship of private farmland is imperative to provide the habitat necessary to maintain this species.
- Eastern Meadowlark. This robin-sized, melodic songbird nests directly on the ground in pastures and hayfields. Farm abandonment and sprawl development have resulted in the loss of much of its habitat. Intensification of agriculture on remaining habitat has contributed to the declines. Cooperation with private landowners to help manage grassland habitat is the best opportunity for conserving this bird.
- Ruffed Grouse. Found in young deciduous and mixed forests, the Ruffed Grouse is dependent on successional habitat. Maturation of forests due to lack of forest management and control of natural disturbance factors is a key threat, while over-browsing from deer makes some early successional forest less suitable for this species.
- Field Sparrow. This small, brown songbird that nests in shrub/scrub habitat is distinguishable by its light rusty cap and bright pink bill. The major threat to this species is habitat loss from sprawl development and old fields reverting to forests. Stabilizing their populations may be possible by maintaining suitable shrub and old field habitats through management and allowing natural disturbances such as floods and fires to occur.
- Common Tern. This slender, black-capped, gray-and-white bird is seen flying low along coasts and diving for fish. Threats include development, human disturbance, predation, and pollution. Continued management of breeding colonies, and the protection of lakes, rivers, and shorelines from development will help to ensure this species' success.

To address these population declines, Audubon New York is working with individuals across the state to monitor birds in Important Bird Areas and in their own backyards, and to promote sound stewardship of public and private lands. "Since many of our declining common birds are found in grasslands that are privately owned, it is essential that we reach out to landowners with guidance and support for managing their lands in bird-friendly

ways," said Al Caccese, Executive Director of Audubon NY. "Our collaborative Grassland Bird Program is already making a difference for the species on this list by focusing our conservation efforts on the most significant grasslands areas and working hand in hand with landowners, providing them with habitat recommendations and incentives."

Audubon continues to advocate for legislation that protects the species most in need, and expand conservation and education programs to target the most threatened areas. "We recently hired a bird conservation coordinator to oversee our conservation efforts on Long Island, focusing on beach-nesting birds like the Common Tern," added Caccese. "Additionally, our centers and sanctuaries serve as models for good habitat management practices, and our naturalists educate thousands of schoolchildren annually in an effort to inspire the land stewards and conservation leaders of tomorrow."

Audubon's Common Birds in Decline list stems from the first-ever analysis combining annual sighting data from Audubon's century-old Christmas Bird Count program with results of the annual Breeding Bird Survey conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey. "This is a powerful example of how tens of thousands of volunteer birders, pooling their observations, can make an enormous difference for the creatures they care the most about," said noted natural history writer Scott Weidensaul. "Thanks to their efforts, we have the information. Now all of us — from birders to policy makers — need to take action to keep these species from declining even further."

Public response will shape the long-term outlook for New York's Common Birds in Decline. "Many of these population declines were driven by human changes to the landscape, and, fortunately, people have the power to make things better," says Michael Burger, Director of Bird Conservation, who encourages people to do the following

- Practice "Audubon at Home" principles in your yard by reducing pesticide use, conserving water, removing invasive species, and providing native plants that support birds and their forage insects as an alternative to lawns. Tips at www.audubonathome.org.
- Support state and local smart growth planning and open space funding initiatives to help us to identify and protect key habitat.
- Help track bird population trends and identify key habitats by taking part in bird inventory and monitoring projects, like the Great Backyard Bird Count, and using eBird to log bird sightings in your own backyard (www.ebird.org/ny). [Send them to SSAS's Joe Grupp!]
- Combat global warming by reducing your energy use in your home by installing compact fluorescent light bulbs, purchasing energy-efficient appliances, and making smart transportation choices.
- Support New York legislation like the Community Preservation Act; Bigger, Better Bottle Bill; Wetlands Protection Act; increased funding of the Environmental

Protection Fund; and measures to incentivize the purchase of fuel-efficient vehicles.

 Join your local Audubon chapter to learn about and help save birds in your community.

Keeping Common Birds Common: What You Can Do

Protect Local Habitat. Join local Audubon chapters and other groups to protect and restore habitats close to home. Audubon's Important Bird Areas program offers opportunities to save critical bird habitat, from small land parcels to broad ecosystems. Learn more at www.audubon.org/bird/iba/index.html.

Promote Sound Agricultural Policy. This has enormous impact on grassland birds and habitat, including Grasshopper Sparrows and Eastern Meadowlarks. Promoting strong conservation provisions in the federal Farm Bill and Conservation Reserve Program can help to protect millions of acres of vital habitat.

Support Sustainable Forests. The Northern Forest in the northeastern U.S. and Canada is essential breeding territory for many species of birds, including Ruffed Grouse. Federal and state legislation promoting sustainable forest management will help fight habitat loss from inappropriate logging, mining, and drilling, while providing the early successional habitat required by this and many other species.

Protect Wetlands. Support for local, state, and federal wetlands conservation programs is essential to protect a wide array of species. Learn more at www.audubon.org/ campaign/cleanwater2.html.

Fight Global Warming. The decline of common birds will be exacerbated by global warming's mounting threat to people and wildlife around the world. Individual energy conservation along with strong federal, state, and local legislation to cap greenhouse emissions can help to curb its worst consequences. Learn more at www.audubon.org/ globalwarming/.

Combat Invasive Species. Invasive nonnative species disrupt the delicate ecological balance that sustains birds and other wildlife. Federal, regional, state, and local regulations are needed to combat this growing environmental threat. Learn more at www. audubon.org/campaign/invasives/index.shtm. The Audubon At Home program offers tips for supporting birds with native plants at www.audubon.org/bird/at home/index.html.

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

ARTHUR C. SNOW

Certified Public Accountant

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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.

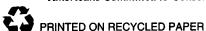
Please do not hesitate to submit your observations, even if you have been able to make only very few. WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Dates: From to								
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				Please send to: Mr. J. Grupp, Research Chairperson 660 Edgemere Ave., Uniondale NY 11553 or E-mail: Birdstudyjoeg02@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



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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 Audubon Society))
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