OUTH HORE KIMMER

VOLUME 39, NUMBER 2 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2008

NEXT MEETING

Enid Klein

DATE:

Tuesday, October 14, 2008

TIME:

7:30 P.M.

PLACE:

Freeport Memorial Library

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

SPEAKER:

Mickey Maxwell Cohen

TOPIC:

To Eat and Be Eaten – Life and Death on the Plains of East Africa

Join naturalist and adventurer Mickey Maxwell Cohen on a return visit to SSAS as he takes us on a slide-illustrated tour of the vast plains and savannahs of Kenya and Tanzania, where we will witness the intricacies of the complex food web at one of the most exciting and brutal ecosystems on Earth.

Mickey, a retired marine biology and oceanography teacher, has been to East Africa three times, with a fourth trip planned for next summer. He has helped lead numerous trips for the American Littoral Society; his voice will be familiar to anyone who has gone on their Jamaica Bay cruises and he will be a leader of their Chincoteague/Assateague trip advertised inside. His last program for SSAS was about the Galapagos Islands five years ago.

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. Do not park at Citibank; they tow.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 10 (due to library closure on Veterans' Day) ******************

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE WASTE, PLEASE
BRING COFFEE MUGS TO OUR MEETINGS.
SHADE-GROWN COFFEE PROTECTS RAINFORESTS

BROOKSIDE PRESERVE CLEANUP TIME!

On **Sunday, October 19**, starting at 1 P.M., SSAS will have its annual fall cleanup at Brookside Preserve, rain or shine. Brookside is a 20-acre freshwater wetland, woodland, and upland area owned by Nassau County that was rescued from oblivion and is managed by SSAS. With help from a state grant, we produced a trail guide, educational freshwater wetland guide for children, and a video. The guides may be viewed at ssaudubon.org. Our proposal for preserve improvements using county environmental bond act funds was approved and is on the county's to-do list.

The Preserve is located on the Freeport-Baldwin border, along Milburn Creek; park at the main entrance on Brookside Avenue just north of Sunrise Highway (turn north at the traffic light that's just east of Freeport H.S.). Please bring gloves, rakes, bags, and/or friends of all ages.

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.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

On **Saturday, October 18** from 1 to 3 P.M., SSAS will hold its annual Halloween party for children at Tackapausha Museum on Washington Avenue in Seaford. Light refreshments will be served. There will be nature crafts during the first hour, after which Bobby Horvath of Wildlife in Need will present an interactive demonstration featuring raptors and other animals. This informative program will appeal to children and adults alike. The regular museum admission will be charged; \$2 for adults and \$1 for children (ages 4 to 14; free for younger children).

CONSTRUCTION PROPOSALS UPDATE

There's been no shortage of construction proposals for our area recently, and SSAS's board has been issuing comments in print and at meetings in hopes of protecting the open space that still exists around here. Here's a status report on four issues.

Condominiums for Atlantic Beach? As mentioned by our conservation chairperson, Jim Brown, in the October 2007 Skimmer, former Senator Alfonse D'Amato led an investment group seeking to replace the Sands Beach Club with twenty 2-1/2 story buildings, each containing five luxury condominiums. The proposal required a change of zoning from marine recreational district to multifamily residential. It was withdrawn in late July as a result of local opposition and the release of the federal government's updated flood-zone maps, which would have forced a redesign and about a 7-foot increase in elevation. Sometimes the environment wins.

Meet Me at the Lighthouse? Our former vice president, Michael Goldsmith, has been representing us at meetings of the Nassau Hub Citizens' Advisory Committee. Back in May, he spoke at one of the two Environmental Impact Statement scoping meetings held by the Town of Hempstead for the redevelopment of 150 acres, including Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, scheduled to begin next July. The Lighthouse Development Group's draft scope, issued prior to these meetings, is still available at www.townofhempstead.org/media/home/news/lighthouse.pdf.

Michael, with input from SSAS's board, mentioned the following issues about the plan (which, according to www.lighthouseli.com, includes a new Coliseum; a Sports Complex; 2,300 new residences; a Celebration Plaza; a Grand Canal; a 300-room hotel plus condominiums; 250,000 square feet of Convention, Conference, and Exhibition space; 1,000,000 square feet of new office space; and approximately 500,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space): effects of construction, traffic, noise, run-

off, light pollution, etc., on the flora and fauna of the adjacent and rare Hempstead Plains; effects on the natural areas and wetlands along the Meadowbrook Parkway; concerns that the Meadowbrook Parkway

will need to be expanded due to increased traffic; and effects on songbird migration and breeding, as well as on hawks and raptors in the vicinity of the project.

Independent of the Lighthouse project, Nassau County is working on transportation and redevelopment plans for the Nassau Hub, which covers about 10 square miles surrounding the Lighthouse's proposed location. It currently appears likely that Lighthouse approval will precede any transportation decisions. You can read about the County's efforts at http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Planning/RedevelopingtheNassauHub.html.

Ocean Parkway Bike Path? In August, Jim Brown represented us at a hearing in Jones Beach State Park regarding the proposed construction of a shared-use path along the north side of Ocean Parkway from Jones Beach to Captree State Park. SSAS had opposed a similar plan five years ago, but it has been revived by the New York State Department of Transportation. Jim's comments were inaccurately portrayed in some local newspapers, so our president, Wendy Murbach, sent the following clarifying letter to the editor afterwards:

"The Board of Directors of the Society [SSAS] had discussed the issue and come to the conclusion that without an Environmental Impact Statement from the Department of Environmental Conservation, the proposed project should not go ahead. To effect a large change in such a large area without determining what that change

would mean for the wildlife and the plant life that inhabit this area would be less than wise stewardship of this land. In addition, the Board is concerned with the fragile nature of the dunes in the areas of Tobay and Gilgo

beaches. The low dunes, the narrow land mass at this point, is very vulnerable to storm breakthrough as they are now. Persons climbing the dunes, walking on them, and going from the bay side to the ocean side would further erode the dunes and make breakthrough a very real possibility. There is no money allocated for enforcement of any dune encroachment by shared path users.

"In short, we are not categorically opposed to a bike path in this area, but we would like to be assured that it will not be hurtful to the wildlife that live in and use the marsh area for migration, to the plants that are endangered species, and to the beautiful Ocean Parkway itself. Do not forget that for at least two years, by the Department of Transportation's timetable, the area will be dug up and under construction."

Coes Neck Property Development? Shortly after the Nassau County Open Space & Parks Advisory Committee, including SSAS's George Peters, voted against the recommendation that the county-owned 35-acre Coes Neck Property be leased for development, the Nassau County Planning Commission nevertheless voted in favor of issuing a request for development proposals. The undeveloped property, just south of the Southern State Parkway in Baldwin, is upstream of Brookside Preserve and is sought by Molloy College for the creation of athletic facilities. Wendy Murbach drafted the following letter in early September and sent it to Nassau County's Legislators:

"South Shore Audubon Society, representing 1500 households in south Nassau County, strongly supports the Baldwin Oaks Civic Association's position on the disposition of the Coes Neck Property.

"We feel that this parcel of land would be a valuable community asset were it to be utilized as a passive preserve, protected from development, and saved for future generations to enjoy as a natural habitat. This usage is what the surrounding community wishes to have happen.

"Baldwin Oaks Civic Association and South Shore Audubon Society believe that natural habitat, in such short supply in this county, should be preserved rather than planted as lawn and playing fields, which provide an extremely limited habitat for wildlife and which will drain still more fertilizer into our drinking water and into the surrounding bays.

"We encourage you to support our position when the disposition of this property comes before the legislature. We urge you to preserve the Coes Neck Property as a passive preserve for the good of the future, for the enjoyment of the present, and to save a part of the past environmental bounty of Nassau County.

Thank you for your efforts."

THANK YOU, ACCOUNTANT KONSKER!

SSAS thanks Leonard G. Konsker for agreeing to prepare our federal tax return and New York State annual financial report for free once again. You'll find his business card in this *Skimmer*.



Explore the coast with the

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

BREEZY POINT HAWK WATCH (Sun., Oct. 19). Meet 10 A.M. at Bldg. 1 in Fort Tilden for a hike along beach & dunes, and visit hawk watch platform on top of a high bunker. Free; contact Don. CHINCOTEAGUE/ASSATEAGUE (Nov. 6-9). Stay at beautiful Refuge Motor Inn and visit beach, marsh, and ponds of refuge & national seashore. See famous ponies and lots of waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. Best crab cakes & oysters. Call Don. NEW YORK AQUARIUM (Sat., Nov. 15). Meet 10 A.M. at entrance in Coney Island for a 2-1/2 hour "behind-the-scenes" tour. See sharks, penguins, sea otters, walrus, sea turtles, local & exotic fish, and Buzzy, the Electric Eel. Cost: \$25 (kids \$15). FLORIDA EVERGLADES (Feb. 21-28, 2009). Visit the best wildlife areas of South Florida, incl. North & South Everglades. Big Cypress Preserve, Corkscrew Swamp Preserve, Ding Darling Refuge, Loxahatchee Refuge, Wakodahatchee Boardwalk, state parks, and more. Travel by van & see roseate spoonbill, bald eagle, purple gallinule, reddish egret, wood stork, Everglades kite, burrowing and barred owls, as well as American crocodile, lots of gators, butterflies, and maybe a bobcat or river otter. Cost: \$1,795 includes airfare. lodging, breakfasts & lunches, van, gas, park fees & guides.

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.

BUDGET 2008-2009

Bank Fees\$10	00	
Brookside Preserve\$2,00	00	
College Scholarships\$1,50	00	
Conferences		
Conservation\$20	00	
Donations\$50	00	
Education\$3,00	00	
Festivals\$1,00	00	
High School Scholarships\$1,25	50	
Insurance	00	
Library\$1,30	00	
Membership\$50	00	
Miscellaneous\$20	00	
Office Expenses\$80	00	
Publicity \$20	00	
Refreshments\$40	00	
Skimmer	00	
Speakers	00	
TR Camp Scholarships/Bus\$4,00	00	
Total\$26,75		

BACKYARD SURVEY DATA NEEDED!

Joe Grupp

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. Please do not hesitate to submit your observations, even if you make only very few.

Simply record the date, time, and the number or approximate number of each species. 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. Survey sheets are available at SSAS events and at ssaudubon.org or you can create your own.

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

Birdseed
Optics
Birdbaths
Bird Houses
Feeders
Jewelry
Music
Nature Gifts
Tilley Hats
And much more



Lighthouse Commons 911 Montauk Highway, Oakdale 631-218-BIRD (2473) www.wbu.com/oakdale Mon-Fri 10-6;Sat 9-6;Sun 11-5

Discover a Refuge In Your Own Backyard.

NATURE TALES FROM A WANDERER Here in the Winter - North in the Summer

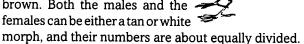
Joe Grupp

For a number of years now, I have spent part of the summer in the Adirondacks enjoying the northern forest. When hiking trails into the wilderness and up some of the higher mountains there, I'm surrounded by a forest that is a mix of broad-leaved trees that lose their leaves each year, with some evergreen trees mixed among them at the lower elevations; as the trail gains elevation, the forest gradually becomes mostly spruce and fir. I can't remember a time while hiking those trails when my attention was not pulled from the surrounding scene or my innermost thoughts by the whistle-like song easily interpreted as "Old Sam Peabody, Peabody," White-throated Sparrow!

It is the very species that in the winter scratches up seeds under my feeder, or that I encounter in small flocks when doing some winter birding at a local park or preserve. Except for a very few rare stragglers, they can't be found locally during the summer, as they have gone north to breed. On my summer hikes, I am simply walking through a very, very small portion of their breeding range. which extends even further up north through a good portion of Canada.

White-throated Sparrows as a species consist of two different forms or morphs. The most obvious difference between the morphs is the colors of the stripes found on

the head. The head of the whitestriped morph is striped in black and white, and that of the tanstriped morph is striped in tan or a very dull white and a darker brown. Both the males and the females can be either a tan or white



Amazingly, both color morphs play a role in the breeding behavior of the birds. Males of both morphs prefer white-striped females and females of both morphs prefer tan-striped males. However, after competing for a mate, breeding pairs usually consist of a white-striped male and a tan-striped female, or a tan-striped male and a whitestriped female. Not all birds end up with their preference. There is also a tendency for the tan-striped male and white-striped female pairs to nest in areas of denser forest. while white-striped males and tan-striped female pairs tend to nest in open forest or along forest edge.

I seldom carry binoculars with me when I am hiking into the backcountry and when I do they are usually in my pack, except when I take a break or stop at a scenic view, so my main association with the White-throated Sparrow on its breeding grounds is when I unexpectedly hear its song. It has become so much of my Adirondack experience that this year even before leaving home I was looking forward to hearing it sing up there.

For a while I almost thought that was not going to happen. Two of my grandchildren and I had taken a hike to a backcountry lake in the Indian Lake Wilderness Area and were returning; we had not yet heard the song. Then all of a sudden there it was, "Old Sam Peabody, Peabody, Peabody!" Then it sang again. It was quiet for a few moments and I tried to imitate the song by whistling it. Sure enough, the bird sang another chorus. I whistled again; it sang again. I would like to think it was answering my whistle, but really know better! Then we felt a drop of rain and then another drop. Then we got wet, then wetter, and soaked by the time we reached camp, but we had heard the bird sing and it made my day, and after we dried out the day was even better.

*********************************** 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.

*********************** THE NEW PETERSON FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS

Jim Remsen

Editor's note: Back in July, Jim posted this to our e-mail list and gave me an okay to put it in the Skimmer.

I just received my copy of the brand-new Peterson Field Guide to the Birds of North America. I wanted to give a few quick first impressions.

- ① As the title suggests, this is the first time the Peterson guide has merged both eastern and western species into one book. Thus, on the title page we see the words "First Edition." The venerable book(s) has been started on a new course with this release.
- 2 Say goodbye to the pocket-sized Peterson. This book is very similar in size to the original, single-volume Sibley. It is BIG!
- Although a few new illustrations are scattered around, probably 95%+ are the familiar ones from the last eastern and western editions. Coverage of plumages is pretty much the same as we've seen in the past.
- Despite the new large size, the range maps opposite the illustrations remain pretty small. Larger maps remain in a separate section at the back.

If you enjoy Peterson guides, you'll probably enjoy this one too (unless the large size causes you to leave it home or in the car). If you don't, I doubt there's much here to change your mind. Personally, I think Sibley's illustrations are the best of any North American field guide, but I would never be without my venerable Peterson's and will continue to buy every new edition that comes out.

There are also some 35 video podcasts that have been produced to accompany the book that are accessible online. I haven't checked those out yet.

LISTS OF BANNED INVASIVE PLANTS

In 2007, Suffolk and Nassau County approved similar bills that will start taking effect next year. Here's Nassau's version (except that the plants below are alphabetized by common name instead of by scientific name):

This Legislature hereby finds and determines that invasive species can displace native species and alter natural ecosystems, and are considered to be the second leading cause of species extinction and endangerment worldwide. Such invasive species can negatively impact agriculture, industry, and human health. It is the intent of this law to protect the ecology of Nassau County by preventing the introduction of any waste containing invasive species in any ecosystem in Nassau County, and to prohibit the sale of such species in the County.

Prohibitions

- (a) No person shall introduce, throw, dump, deposit, place, or cause to be propagated, transplanted, introduced, thrown, dumped, deposited, or placed in any river, stream, lake, pond, wetland, or storm-water drain, in whatever capacity and for whatever purpose, the invasive plant species listed in paragraph (b) of this section.
- (b) No person shall knowingly collect, transport, sell, distribute, propagate, or transplant any living and viable portion of any plant, or the compost, mulch, soil, or other materials containing seeds or other viable parts of any such plant, included in the Nassau County prohibited invasive plant species lists as follows:

Table 1

Common Name (Scientific Name)

Autumn olive (Elaeagnus umbellata)

Beach vitex, roundleaf chastetree (Vitex rotundifolia)

Black swallowwort (Cynanchum louiseae)

Border privet (Ligustrum obtusifolium)

Brazilian waterweed (Egeria densa)

Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense)

Carolina fanwort, cabomba (Cabomba caroliniana)

Chinese lespedeza (Lespedeza cuneata)

Common buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica)

Common reed (nonnative genotype) (Phragmites australis)

Cottonweed, slender snake-cotton (Froelichia gracilis)

Cup plant (Silphium perfoliatum)

Curly leaf pondweed (Potamogeton crispus)

Cypress spurge (Euphorbia cyparissias)

Dame's rocket (Hesperis matronalis)

Eurasian water-milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum)

European frogbit (aquatic) (Hydrocharis morsus-ranae)

Eutrophic water-nymph (Najas minor Allioni)

Floating primrose-willow, water purslane (Ludwigia peploides)

Forget-me-not (Myosotis scorpioides)

Garlic mustard (Alliaria petiolata)

Giant hogweed (Heracleum mantegazzianum)

Giant knotweed (Polygonum sachalinense)

Giant salvinia (Salvinia molesta)

Hydrilla (Hydrilla verticillata)

Japanese angelica tree (Aralia elata)

Japanese hop (Humulus japonicus)

Japanese knotweed (Polygonum cuspidatum)

Japanese stilt grass (Microstegium vimineum)

Killer algae (Caulerpa taxifolia)

Kudzu (Pueraria montana)

Leafy spurge (Euphorbia esula)

Lesser celandine (Ranunculus ficaria)

Mile-a-minute weed (Polygonum perfoliatum)

Mudmat (Glossostigma diandrum)

Mugwort, common wormwood (Artemisia vulgaris)

Multiflora rose (Rosa multiflora)

Narrowleaf bittercress (Cardamine impatiens)

Oriental bittersweet (Celastrus orbiculatus)

Ornamental jewelweed, tall impatiens, purple balsam (Impatiens glandulifera)

Pale swallowwort (Cynanchum rossicum)

Parrot feather, Brazilian water-milfoil (Myriophyllum aquaticum)

Pink lotus (Nelumbo nucifera)

Porcelainberry (Ampelopsis brevipedunculata)

Princess tree (Paulownia tomentosa)

Purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria)

Reed canarygrass (Phalaris arundinacea)

Russian olive (Elaeagnus angustifolia)

Sea poppy, yellow horned poppy (Glaucium flavum)

Spotted knapweed (Centaurea stoebe)

Tall pepperweed, perennial pepperweed (Lepidium latifolium)

Tansy ragwort, stinking willie (Senecio jacobaea)

Water chestnut (Trapa natans)

Water primrose (Ludwigia grandiflora)

Wild chervil (Anthriscus sylvestris)

Wineberry (Rubus phoenicolasius)

Yellow floating heart (Nymphoides peltata

Table 2

Amur honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii)

Bell's honeysuckle (Lonicera x bella)

Dwarf honeysuckle, fly honeysuckle (Lonicera xylosteum)

Forget-me-not (aquatic) (Myosotis scorpioides)

Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica) (pictured)

Morrow's honeysuckle (Lonicera morrowii)

Tartarian honeysuckle (Lonicera tatarica)

Effective Date

This law shall take effect on January 1, 2008; except, however, that the prohibition as it relates to Table 1 in paragraph (b) of this law shall not take effect until January 1, 2009 and the prohibition as it relates to Table 2 in paragraph (b) of this law shall not take effect until January 1, 2011.

Because National Audubon Society is in the process of switching membership database vendors, they haven't provided us with a list of new members during the past month. We do, however, have three people to welcome to SSAS: Elizabeth R. Cava from Baldwin, Sheila M. Doherty from Hicksville, and Joann Zenewitz from Malyerne.

BARRIER BEACH REFORMULATION

In July, Audubon New York's Grassroots Coordinator, Laura McCarthy, sent us The Nature Conservancy's comments regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point Reformulation Project (details at www.nan.usace.army.mil/fimp/reform.htm). SSAS has endorsed TNC's comments, but they're too long for the *Skimmer*. Here are some excerpts.

Overview

The Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point Reformulation Project (FIMP) should be designed to create the most long-term sustainable outcome for both the natural environment and the human environment. To achieve that, a successful FIMP must not be reliant upon simply nourishing beaches, but should instead include nonstructural measures that will provide a transition towards a more sustainable, resilient southern shore of Long Island while reducing risk to life and property.

Recent studies on the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have emphasized the importance of healthy, functioning ecosystems in storm damage mitigation. As the authors state, "maintaining and, where possible... increas[ing] the area of marshes, mangroves, and swamps in strategic locations would provide a self-sustaining complement" to existing structural protections. It is clear that strict reliance on structural, engineered solutions to erosion control and hazard mitigation are no longer viable solutions, but that a focus on returning the natural processes and functions of the ecosystem should be emphasized in creating long term, sustainable solutions.

The Nature Conservancy is prepared to support a FIMP project that accomplishes four key objectives: (1) an emphasis on nonstructural shoreline protection, including, but not limited to, such activities as habitat restoration, property acquisition, coastal realignment, and poststorm recovery planning; (2) a gradually reducing level of beach fill, phasing out structural protection components as the aforementioned nonstructural actions are phased in; (3) a revised approach to breach management and overwash that recognizes the importance of these natural processes to the health of the ecosystem; and (4) a wellcoordinated, comprehensive, and networked plan where the strategies, capacity, and most importantly the funding for each stage in the process are linked and are the shared responsibility of all partners. It is imperative that the federal, state, county, and local initiatives be mutually linked and that the success of each of the objectives referenced above be tied to the achievement of each of the others.

Coastal Realignment

Create proper incentives to encourage the realignment of coastal properties and structures out of vulnerable areas, and set positive examples by moving publicly owned structures to less-vulnerable locations. The Corps should work with the state at identifying areas for coastal retreat that reflect community vulnerability and the need to protect critical natural areas. Private property owners



should be incentivized to realign their structures, thereby reducing their risk and the overall vulnerability of the coast. Publicly owned structures should be moved to less-exposed areas, setting an example for such decision making

and reducing the risk of long-term vulnerability for affected municipalities. At a minimum, the local, state, and federal project partners should work together to ensure that the restored coastline — as modified through beach fill or other restoration activities — be protected against future unwise development and armoring.

Gradually Reducing Beach-Fill Activities

TNC opposes the use of beach fill for a variety of reasons. However, TNC can support beach fill as an interim measure, allowing for a transition period that establishes best practices and policies for nonstructural storm damage mitigation and adaptation to sea-level rise and global climate change. In light of that, the following stipulations should be met to ensure that reliance on beach fill will not compromise the integrity of this project:

- * Specify an irrevocable schedule and timeframe over which beach-fill activities will be reduced and, eventually, stopped entirely. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) needs to articulate a plan with defined reductions in the amount of beach fill that will occur over the first 20–30 years of this project, as well as a specific end point for all beach-fill activities. Project partners should take measures to prevent simply shifting the cost of beach-fill projects from the state and the ACOE to local governments and erosion-control tax districts.
- * Premise beach fill on steps taken by New York State and on the inclusion of specific, nonengineered, nonstructural erosion control solutions. There is not, currently, a collaborative framework in which to implement the suite of actions contemplated by the FIMP. Accordingly, no beach-fill activities should take place before there is a coordinated, well-defined plan for the implementation of all nonstructural activities, along with the creation of a multijurisdictional coordinating body to ensure that implementation occurs as planned.

Breach and Overwash Management in Fire Island Natural Areas

The water- and fishery-dependent economic activities of Great South Bay are reliant upon a healthy bay and

and overwash of the barrier island system are natural processes on which the resources of the bay are dependent. For



example, breaches and overwash provide new conduits to the ocean, enhance the exchange of bay water with the ocean, provide alternative routes for migration of marine fish and crustaceans, provide new sediment inputs to reduce bayside erosion, and create new platforms for the development of salt marshes and seagrass meadows. There are vast stretches of Fire Island that are managed as parks and wilderness areas with little to no infrastructure. However, the current and proposed breach management policies provide for rapid closure of all breaches and prevent the natural processes that are needed to maintain the health of the bay and the integrity of the economic activities that depend upon the bay. Actively bulldozing sand within these natural areas to prevent overwash and breaching is expensive and detrimental to natural resources.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Betsy Gulotta

SSAS congratulates its two college environmental scholarship winners for 2008.

Jonathan Ciappetta graduated from Adelphi University in May as an environmental studies major with a grade point average of 3.21. He began his Master's program there in environmental studies this fall. He is researching single-celled organisms in Hempstead Bay marsh areas; they are called benthic foraminifera, meaning bottom-dwelling shelled one-celled organisms. He says that studying foraminifera helps to understand how the marsh changes over time and how to better plan for its future.

Kulleperuma Kethika Kulleperuma will graduate from the Master's program at Adelphi in May 2009, majoring in biology. Her grade point average is 3.9. She is studying tilefish, of which there are 42 species. She is also a teaching assistant and will be seeking her Ph.D. in bioinformatics, which means using techniques such as applied math, statistics, computer science, artificial intelligence, chemistry, and biochemistry to solve biological problems at the molecular level.



Elliott 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.

Sept. 28	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)*
Oct. 5	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Oct. 12	Norman J. Levy Park and Preserve
Oct. 19	Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)*
Oct. 26	Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

*As noted last issue, a long-term Streamflow Augmentation and Pond Restoration Project in Massapequa Preserve will result in temporary detours for portions of the paved trail from Massapequa Reservoir (just north of the LIRR tracks) for two miles northward. Information should be available at www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Parks.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT 4-H CAMP

This past summer, for the first time and thanks to a suggestion from Nancy Youngfert, SSAS funded seven weekly visits by Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary educators and several raptors to the summer sleep-away camp at the Dorothy P. Flint 4-H Camp in Riverhead, which is owned by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County and caters to children entering grades 4 through 10.

TR SANCTUARY SUMMER CAMP REPORT

Mary Jane Russell

Thirteen disadvantaged children from the Oceanside School District were chosen for Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary summer camp. The district was very helpful to me in the selection.

Up to eight attended each day from August 25–28. The children had a great time running around the sanctuary, tossing water balloons, and learning about our natural world on the day that I was with them.

I am grateful to our chaperons, Dolores Rogers, Gloria Berkowitz, Wendy Murbach, Alice Blaustein, and Michael Sperling.

Next year, Betty Borowsky will again be in charge. This SSAS program, which was started by Betty ten years ago, provides bus transportation and free attendance for economically disadvantaged elementary schoolchildren from a different local school district in SSAS's area each year.

Phone: (516) 931-1445 Fax: (516) 931-1467 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

Socially Responsible Investing

Amy Boyle, Associate Vice President - Investments 88 Froehlich Farm Blvd., Suite 110 · Woodbury, NY 11797 516-677-5528



WACHOVIA SECURITIES

Securities and Insurance Products:

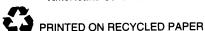
NOT INSURED BY FDIC OR ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY - MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT OF OR GUARANTEED BY A BANK OR ANY BANK AFFILIATE

Wachowia Securities, LLC, Member NYSE/SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate nonbank affiliate of Wachovia Corporation. ©2007 Wachovia Securities, LLC 86666 0806-33238 12/07

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

2008–2009 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

546-6303

Wandy Murhach President & Membershin

Wendy Murbach, President & Membership 546-6303			
Steven Schellenger, Vice President			
Laurie Luxner Raisher, Treasurer			
Ruth Aptacker, Recording Secretary 791-1746			
Alice Blaustein, Corresponding Secretary 221-1870			
Barbara Levine, Director (6/11)741-3386			
Therese Lucas, Director (6/11), Greening of Long Island			
& Annual Dinner			
Joe Landesberg, Director (6/10) 536-4808			
Marilyn Hametz, Director (6/09) & Publicity 799-7189			
Betty Borowsky, Education 764-3596			
Jim Brown, Conservation 432-8156			
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			
George Peters, Brookside Preserve Co-Chair 868-5480			
James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon 631-957-0949			
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming 599-1224			
Mary Jane Russell, Hospitality 766-7397			
Michael Sperling, Skimmer Editor 221-3921			

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)