

# SOUTH SHORE SKIMMER



VOLUME 47, NUMBER 4 — SOUTH SHORE AUDUBON SOCIETY

DEC. 2016 & JAN. 2017

## NEXT MEETING

*Paul Stessel*

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 13, 2016  
**TIME:** 7:30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Freeport Memorial Library  
144 W. Merrick Rd. (at S. Ocean Ave.)  
**SPEAKERS:** Deborah Rivel and Kellye Rosenheim  
**TOPIC:** Birdwatching in NYC and on Long Island

Our guest speakers this month are the authors of *Birdwatching in New York City and on Long Island*, a detailed insider's guide to the best places to find birds in all seasons, which was published last May.

The authors will share what they learned while researching and writing the book, copies of which will be available for purchase. Their book provides seasonal information for popular birding sites and ones off the beaten path. It includes the latest information on the seasonal status and distribution of more than 400 species, with 39 maps, precise directions, and over 50 photographs.

Deborah Rivel is an award-winning independent wildlife film producer/director. Since 2004, she has been creating nature-focused products, including the first Peterson Field Guide apps for iPhone and ringtones for mobile devices via her company, Wildtones.com. Raised in New Jersey, she is a longtime resident of NYC and also Cape May, NJ. Deb is a board member of Audubon New York and of Dr. Irene Pepperberg's avian cognition research project, The Alex Foundation. An avid bird photographer who regularly explores the wilds of NYC and the NJ beaches for subjects, she has traveled to six continents in search of birds.

Kellye Rosenheim grew up in Louisiana, where she was surrounded by all manner of wildlife, but took up birdwatching in NYC's Central Park. She has led walks for The Nature Conservancy and New York City Audubon, where she now works as director of development.

Check out [www.birdwatchingnycli.com](http://www.birdwatchingnycli.com) for more info about the book and join us!


**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 gas station that borders Sunrise Highway.

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

## NEXT MEETING AFTER NEXT MEETING

*Paul Stessel*

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 10, 2017  
**TIME:** 7:30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Freeport Memorial Library  
**SPEAKER:** Arthur H. Kopelman, Ph.D.   
**TOPIC:** Marine Mammals of Long Island

We're delaying our annual members' night meeting until February in favor of a slide- and video-based overview of the marine mammals of Long Island, particularly the cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises).

Dr. Artie Kopelman's research interests include the population dynamics and feeding ecology of the fin and humpback whales of New York and New England, and the population dynamics of the pinnipeds (seals) of NY. Through the use of photos, he has been examining the site fidelity of harbor seals at Cupsogue Beach Park in Westhampton Beach since 2006. He received his Ph.D. in biology from The Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York (CUNY). Dr. Kopelman is a Professor of Science at the Fashion Institute of Technology of the State University of NY; in 2010, he was appointed a Distinguished Service Professor by the State University of New York Board of Trustees. Dr. Kopelman is also the president, co-founder, and webmaster of the Coastal Research and Educational Society of Long Island (CRESLI; <http://cresli.org>). Join us!

**Pre-Meeting Book Discussion.** Arrive a half-hour early to participate in a discussion led by R. U. Abyrdar II (aka Paul Stessel) of the book that he and Sy Schiff reviewed



# FIRE ISLAND BREACH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Brien Weiner

# BIRD WALKS

Joe Landesberg

*Editor's note:* In last month's *Skimmer*, we mentioned that we were expecting the release of the draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the possible closure of the breach that Hurricane Sandy created at Fire Island National Seashore. The public comment period on the plan ends on December 12. Brien downloaded the plan from <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=227&projectID=58824&documentID=75805>. Here's the letter that she sent with the approval of SSAS's board.

The South Shore Audubon Society supports the Fire Island Wilderness Breach Management Plan Preferred Alternative, Alternative 3, "No Human Intervention Unless Established Criteria are Exceeded." We agree that the evolution, growth, and/or closure of the breach should be determined by natural barrier island processes, and human intervention to close the breach would occur only "to prevent loss of life, flooding, and other severe economic and physical damage to the Great South Bay and surrounding areas," as allowed by the Otis Pike Fire Island High Dune Wilderness Act.



Rather than spend millions of dollars trying to prevent natural processes from occurring, we should allow natural processes to occur so that we can take advantage of the benefits of those natural features. Research from Stony Brook University shows that there has been no additional flooding from the Old Inlet breach and marine life is returning to the Great South Bay. Fish abundance and species diversity is increasing. Previously, excess nitrogen from leaking septic systems and stormwater runoff containing fertilizer and herbicides produced brown tides and algae blooms that endangered the ecosystem. Since the breach opened, water quality and clarity have improved. Native eelgrass, a high-quality habitat for fish and invertebrates, has returned.

Further, the breach has created the potential for marsh habitat expansion on flood tide deltas, which could provide new habitat for marine, terrestrial, and avian species, including the federally threatened and New York State endangered Piping Plover and the at-risk Saltmarsh Sparrow.

The preferred alternative would preserve the untrammeled, natural, and undeveloped qualities of wilderness. If the breach closes as a result of natural barrier island processes, the effects would be gradual. The breach has not interrupted longshore processes on the ocean side, and it has reduced erosion in the Great South Bay.

In summary, Alternative 3 best preserves and benefits wilderness character, water quality, ecosystem structure and processes, marine and avian life, public health and safety, and the local economy for Fire Island and the Great South Bay.

All walks start at 9 A.M.; no walk if it rains or snows or temperature is below 25°F. Call me at 467-9498 in case of questionable conditions or for other info. Directions and lists of what we've seen are at [ssaudubon.org](http://ssaudubon.org).

- Nov. 27 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
- Dec. 4 Alley Pond Park (76th Ave. parking lot)
- Dec. 11 Lido Preserve
- Dec. 18 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
- Dec. 25 *Ho! Ho! Ho! NO WALK — Happy Holidays!*
- Jan. 1 *Happy New Year! — NO WALK*
- Jan. 8 Jones Beach West End #2, N.E. corner
- Jan. 15 Pelham Bay Park\*
- Jan. 22 TBA; check Facebook or Yahoo! Group
- Jan. 29 TBA; check Facebook or Yahoo! Group
- Feb. 5 Hempstead Lake State Park (Southern State Parkway Exit 18 south, Field #3)
- Feb. 12 Massapequa Preserve (LIRR N.E. lot)

\*For Pelham Bay Park (where we usually see owls): Wear hiking shoes — it's a hilly forest walk to the bay. Take Throgs Neck Bridge to I-695 north to I-95 north. Take I-95 to exit #9, Hutchinson River Parkway north. Take first exit #5, Orchard Beach Rd., go past traffic circle, and continue on Orchard Beach Rd. to end. Turn left on Park Dr. Go past another traffic circle and enter parking lot through toll gates (free); meet at far left corner of parking lot (northeast corner). See [www.mappery.com/Pelham-Bay-Park-NYC-Map](http://www.mappery.com/Pelham-Bay-Park-NYC-Map) or Google's directions to "Orchard Beach Parking Lot" for reference.



## NY STATE PARKS FUNDING

*Editor's note:* In early November, SSAS signed onto a budget letter for Governor Andrew Cuomo that was forwarded to us by Audubon New York's Manager of Conservation Engagement, Laura McCarthy. The letter was written by Parks & Trails New York, who described its purpose as follows:

Over the last 5 years, the state has invested \$470 million in restoring and reinvigorating our treasured state parks and historic sites. This sustained effort has created local jobs, enhanced community resiliency, expanded recreational opportunities, and breathed new life into the state park system.

In order to maintain the state's progress in addressing the nearly \$1 billion capital backlog, we are requesting another round of \$90 million for infrastructure improvements and health and safety repairs at state parks and historic sites. The attached letter to the governor outlines this request, along with our support for a \$300 million Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).



**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.

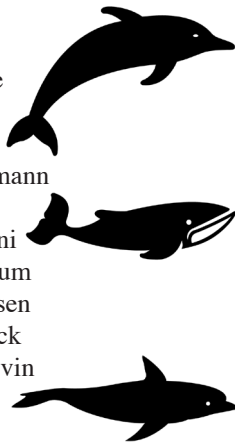
You are automatically a valued member of this active and friendly chapter, so please come out to the next meeting at the Freeport Memorial Library from 7:30–9:30 P.M., usually on the second Tuesday of the month, to hear what you can do to help preserve your local environment’s health and viability, to 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. 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 last month’s *Skimmer* are:


- Baldwin ..... Rose Scarola
- Bellmore ..... Robert Farley
- East Meadow ..... Christina Semonella, Joseph Shay
- Farmingdale ..... Audrey Walters
- Floral Park ..... Michael Ryan
- Franklin Square ..... Colleen Simeone
- Garden City ..... Carol Tighe
- Lawrence ..... Leo Greenberg
- Levittown ..... William Buppelmann
- Long Beach ..... Anna Lavin
- Lynbrook ..... Maureen Bertolini
- Merrick ..... Marla Maidenbaum
- Oceanside ..... Irene Cowan Rosen
- Point Lookout ..... Noreen Fitzpatrick
- Rockville Centre .... Dr. & Mrs. S. Levin
- Valley Stream ..... Joy Chacon
- Wantagh ..... Barbara Sher



**DISCOUNTED AUDUBON CALENDARS FROM SSAS**

At our walks and meetings, we’re selling three Audubon wall calendars for \$11 apiece (list price \$14.99): Songbirds & Other Backyard Birds, Nature, and Wildflowers.

The Songbirds picture-a-day calendar features a large photograph at the top of the page, plus smaller images throughout the grid. Accompanying the photographs is detailed text describing species characteristics, songs and calls, migration patterns, habitats, and more. To see a calendar page, visit <https://www.workman.com/products/audubon-songbirds-other-backyard-birds-picture-a-day-wall-calendar-2017>.



*Explore the coast  
with the*  
**AMERICAN  
LITTORAL SOCIETY**

---

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY** (Sat., Dec. 10, 5 to 9 P.M.). Come celebrate the holiday season at a fun party held at the American Legion Hall in Broad Channel, Queens. Cost: \$75/person incl. buffet dinner, drinks (wine, beer, vodka, soda), entertainment (Flamenco Dance group), door prizes, plus an “UGLY AUCTION.” Nature walk at Jamaica Bay Refuge at 3 P.M.

**NEW YEAR’S DAY BEACH WALK** (11 A.M. to 1 P.M.). Meet at Bldg. 1 in Fort Tilden for brisk walk. Hike dunes, woods, and visit hawk watch platform on top of Battery Harris East for great views of ocean & bay with NYC skyline. Gather after walk at Rockaway Artists Alliance bldg. for coffee, cookies & champagne. Leaders: Mickey Cohen, Don Riepe. With NYC Audubon and Gateway National Recreation Area. Free.

**MONTAUK WINTER WEEKEND** (Jan. 13–15). Join us during peak seal haulout & winter birding time. Cost: \$395 (double occ.; \$140 extra for single room) incl. two nights at luxurious Manor House (heated pool; Jacuzzi; sauna; exercise room; spacious lobby; large suites with kitchen, living room & bedroom, 2 baths); 5 meals; 5 guided hikes; 2 evening programs & star watch. Leaders: Mike Bottini, Mickey Cohen, Don Riepe. With NYC Audubon. E-mail [don@littoralsociety.org](mailto:don@littoralsociety.org).

---

For information and free field trip brochure,  
call/write Don Riepe, (718) 474-0896, [donriep@gmail.com](mailto:donriep@gmail.com),  
28 West 9th Road, Broad Channel, NY 11693;  
[www.littoralsociety.org](http://www.littoralsociety.org).

**29TH ANNUAL WATERFOWL SURVEY**

The dates for our 2016–2017 Waterfowl Survey are as follows, rain or shine: **Saturdays, December 10, January 7, February 4, February 25, and March 25.** Members 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 SSAS’s Bill Belford at 385-1759.



VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE (516) 674-0982



NAT’L AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP STATUS (844) 428-3826



**“SONGBIRDS IN SNOW” POSTAGE STAMPS**

SSAS member Anne Mehlinger recently e-mailed your editor about stamps she had bought, suggesting that they be plugged here. Coincidentally, I had also bought them that day and had posted info on our Facebook page.

The U.S. Postal Service has issued a “forever” (first-class postage) 20-stamp booklet of four different “Songbirds in Snow.” The species are named in the booklet and all are seen on SSAS bird walks — Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Northern Cardinal, and Red-breasted Nuthatch. The booklets are available at [https://store.usps.com/store/browse/productDetailSingleSku.jsp?productId=S\\_681104](https://store.usps.com/store/browse/productDetailSingleSku.jsp?productId=S_681104) and at post offices.

**THOUGHTS, NEWS, AND REFLECTIONS FROM YOUR  
CONSERVATION CHAIR  
Offshore Wind Energy Update**

*Jim Brown*

Offshore wind energy is moving forward in our region, in the Atlantic waters south and east of Long Island. The Continental Shelf, especially the section off the coast of Long Island, has been termed the “Saudi Arabia of wind power” due to the ideal wind conditions found there. BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management), the federal agency responsible for leasing offshore wind development, and the Cuomo administration envision offshore wind power contributing significantly to reaching a goal of having 50% of our state’s energy needs satisfied by renewable energy sources by 2030.



The first offshore wind facility in the United States has just been completed. This OWED (Offshore Wind Energy Development) is the Block Island Wind Farm and consists of five turbines generating 30 MW (megawatts) of electricity. It is designed to completely serve the electric power needs of Block Island’s approximately 1,000 residents and also will send electricity to mainland Rhode Island. This wind farm was developed by Deepwater Wind and was first proposed in 2008; it took one year to build the turbines and associated infrastructure. Though a small “demonstration” project, the Block Island facility is important, showing that a workable offshore wind farm can be built in the United States — it is indeed an historic event!

Another wind facility has just been proposed by Deepwater Wind, 30 miles off the coast of Montauk. This South Fork Wind Farm would bring 90 MW of wind energy to the Town of East Hampton, enough energy for 50,000 local homes. This wind farm would have 15 turbines and would not be visible from Long Island beaches. Construction is initially planned to begin in 2019 and to be completed in 2022.

A third, much larger, offshore wind farm is in the beginning stages. An OWED that had earlier been termed the Long Island–New York City Offshore Wind Project is planned for the New York Wind Energy Area (WEA), a triangular-shaped section of the Continental Shelf in the New York Bight located 11–24 nautical miles south of the Rockaway Peninsula. Initially it was projected that this wind energy facility would have a 700 MW energy capacity and consist of 194 turbines, providing power for 220,000 homes. Now it is thought that the facility will eventually have the same productive capacity using fewer, though larger, wind turbines. This large wind farm was the subject of the work done by the South Shore Audubon Society and New York City Audubon with funds from a grant obtained from National Audubon and the Moore

Charitable Fund. The purpose of the grant was to study wind energy siting issues, especially potential impacts on birds. Our two chapters have also been following the development of plans for this wind facility since the end of the grant period, most recently by offering comments to BOEM’s Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Site Assessment Plan (SAP) for the project. We also presented our findings and recent activities to a statewide meeting of New York’s Audubon chapters.

This important project — which may become the largest offshore wind project in the United States — is moving forward. BOEM will be leasing the 79,000-acre New York WEA on December 15. Fourteen entities or companies have shown an interest and been identified as qualified to take part in the lease sale; among them are NYSEDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority), Deepwater Wind, Fishermen’s Energy, and Energy Management, Inc.

A revised EA for the SAP has just been released. Though wording and clarifications in the original EA have been added in the new document, BOEM issued a finding of “no significant impact” regarding their site assessment plans. It should be pointed out that site assessment does not refer to the actual construction of the wind turbines; BOEM has determined only that the site assessment studies, surveys, construction of meteorological measuring equipment, etc. — which will take up to five years for the developer to complete — is expected to have “no significant impact” on the environment. Within five years from the granting of the lease, the developer is expected to come up with a Construction Operation Plan (COP). That document will address issues such as the actual number of turbines, their construction, and their actual location within the leased Wind Energy Area. The COP, in its turn, will be scrutinized. Environmental reviews of that document will address the possible impacts on birds, other wildlife, and habitat.

All of us who are concerned about the possible impacts of offshore wind farms on birds are urged to follow this environmental assessment process as it advances throughout the coming years. More offshore wind farms, larger than the small one near Block Island, will undoubtedly be built to combat global warming and catastrophic climate change. We must work to ensure that they are properly sited to limit negative impacts on bird populations. I urge everyone to check out the documents related to the New York offshore wind energy issues found on BOEM’s Web site: [www.boem.gov/new-york](http://www.boem.gov/new-york).



**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.

## BOOKS FOR BIRDERS

R. U. Abyrdar II with Sy Schiff

Enough with saving raptors for a while! This newsletter we're returning to "zany" birding adventures. You'll really like this book, *Listening to a Continent Sing: Birdsong by Bicycle from the Atlantic to the Pacific* by Donald Kroodsma. Don rides across the United States with his adult son, David, and tells a wonderful tale of birds, people, and places. A really interesting part of the book, among many others, is his focus on the "sounds of music" he hears along the way... and records!

At this point, Sy chimes in: The book is rather unique in that it's both a travel book *and* a birding book. This tour is complete with maps and pertinent information. But, this trip was different. In addition to visiting and describing the sights along the way, he also records the sounds. Wake-up time was at or before dawn, the purpose being to listen and record the sounds of birds and the "dawn chorus" as they bike on their merry way. The sounds are described with mnemonics, descriptions, and info on alternate and dawn songs. Very interesting and informative. As an added feature, each of the 381 songs mentioned are marked with a QR code, one of the small squares that can be read with any smartphone. Click and you're transported to the trip itself, "the great outdoors." These songs are not the "pure" sounds found on birdsong CDs; they are what the world they encountered along their journey sounds like, songs often several minutes long with other sounds of "wild America" clearly in the background.

For those of you, like R. U. Abyrdar II, who have still not joined the modern tech scene, you can access the sounds referenced here at [listeningtoacontinentsing.com](http://listeningtoacontinentsing.com). I found the Web site rather easy to maneuver, the indexes excellent, and the descriptive material with each song quite helpful. It also points out the bird names of any extraneous songs captured in the background.

However, this is also a travel book. The journey across the country took 70 days and each day's journey is prefaced with the starting and ending locations. The places traveled through are covered, including any difficulty navigating the hills (both up and down) on their bikes. Each morning's birdsongs are described and the songs can be readily accessed with a smartphone, as previously indicated. The author is also attuned to distinct dialects in addition to bird sounds and the speech patterns of the people they encountered along the way, as are the people themselves. This makes for an interesting narrative and breaks up the "boring?" repetition of the birdsong descriptions themselves. As a travelogue, it covers a journey from a different perspective and talks about things other travel books do not. Its "off the freeways" road travel gives you the feeling of not whizzing by on the interstate, seeing nothing as you go! So, there is plenty of



time to look at the geology and, also, how the topography of the land affects their travel.

Parks are their natural camping places as they traverse the continent. Many are historic... There are history lessons to be learned throughout the book! So, this book is a wonderful tale of the human spirit. Along the way and in the book he appreciates his son's companionship, and admires many of the people they meet along the way. Birdsong coast to coast (east to west), mind you; not a natural way to travel the continent — from Seaside Sparrows and



Laughing Gulls on the Atlantic to Wrentits (pictured) and Western Gulls on the Pacific. The author is very adept at using the art of the sonogram, during which he learns that birdsongs are most robust at or before dawn; they taper off as the day progresses. Setting out before four in the morning, listening to birds and all else that sings along the way... all of this from the best seat of all, the one atop their bikes! You'll not be able to put this book down... So, READ it and ENJOY!!! Let me know how it goes!!



## BIRDERS I HAVE KNOWN

Sy Schiff

When I started birding, I went after my new hobby with enthusiasm. As a newcomer to birdwatching, I could not join the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, as it was an invitation-only organization. But I could and did attend their monthly meetings at the Academy of Natural History in Philadelphia. The meetings were held in an open area that was set up with folding chairs. A work table stood at the front of the area and was used for display purposes, if required.

This "meeting room" was set up in the midst of the museum's extensive bird collections. Cabinet after cabinet filled the major part of the floor. A staff ornithologist always seemed to be on hand to bring birders to the specimens when ID problems arose and study skins needed to be studied. This happened from time to time and I looked on from a respectable distance when I could.

Occasionally, the curator of birds for the museum would come to the meeting. I always knew he was present because the display table contained three study skins. Before the meeting started, the birding experts crowded around, trying to ID the specimens, most often without success. They were always obscure plumages or rare birds, neither of which were familiar to most observers. The curator was addressed with some familiarity as "Jim" and he had a great time fooling everyone.

Jim turned out to be James Bond, author of *The Birds of the West Indies* [first published in 1936 — ed.] and the authority on birds of the region. All this before Ian Fleming made his name a worldwide phenomenon.

## TRUMP'S ENERGY PLAN

Michael Sperling

Work on this *Skimmer* began a few days before Election Day, so all of the articles in it except for this one were written before Donald J. Trump unexpectedly became our President-Elect. I'm typing this four days after that, having already received many fund-raising e-mails from environmental groups that are more involved in politics and legal action than 501(c)(3) groups like Audubon are; one of these e-mails quoted from the transition team's "Energy Independence" plan that they've already posted at [www.greatagain.gov](http://www.greatagain.gov). Here's the plan, some of which was mentioned during the campaign.

"The Trump Administration will make America energy independent. Our energy policies will make full use of our domestic energy sources, including traditional and renewable energy sources. America will unleash an energy revolution that will transform us into a net energy exporter, leading to the creation of millions of new jobs, while protecting the country's most valuable resources — our clean air, clean water, and natural habitats. America is sitting on a treasure trove of untapped energy. In fact, America possesses more combined coal, oil, and natural gas resources than any other nation on Earth. These resources represent trillions of dollars in economic output and countless American jobs, particularly for the poorest Americans.

"Rather than continuing the current path to undermine and block America's fossil fuel producers, the Trump Administration will encourage the production of these resources by opening onshore and offshore leasing on federal lands and waters. We will streamline the permitting process for all energy projects, including the billions of dollars in projects held up by President Obama, and rescind the job-destroying executive actions under his Administration. We will end the war on coal, and rescind the coal mining lease moratorium, the excessive Interior Department stream rule, and conduct a top-down review of all anti-coal regulations issued by the Obama Administration. We will eliminate the highly invasive 'Waters of the U.S.' rule [which defines the waters protected by the Clean Water Act — ed.], and scrap the \$5 trillion dollar Obama-Clinton Climate Action Plan and the Clean Power Plan, and prevent these unilateral plans from increasing monthly electric bills by double-digits without any measurable effect on Earth's climate. Energy is the lifeblood of modern society. It is the industry that fuels all other industries. We will lift the restrictions on American energy, and allow this wealth to pour into our communities. It's all upside: more jobs, more revenues, more wealth, higher wages, and lower energy prices.

"The Trump Administration is firmly committed to conserving our wonderful natural resources and beautiful natural habitats. America's environmental agenda will be guided by true specialists in conservation, not those with

radical political agendas. We will refocus the EPA on its core mission of ensuring clean air and clean, safe drinking water for all Americans. It will be a future of conservation, of prosperity, and of great success."

**Quotations.** The election results have caused your editor to reminisce about when I started looking for environmental groups to support (the first, as you may have guessed, was Audubon). Below are four quotations from Ronald Reagan, taken from *A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations*, compiled by Barbara K. Rodes and Rice Odell (published by Simon & Schuster, copyright © 1992). We'll know soon if Trump's nominees to head the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other agencies that make key decisions affecting the natural world will warrant comparisons with Reagan's now-infamous appointees; I sure hope not, but I've seen a short list of people rumored to be under consideration and it's cause for pessimism.

"The problem isn't a shortage of fuel, it's a surplus of government." (quoted in *Newsweek*, 1 October 1979)

"We are in the hands of environmental extremists." (quoted in *Sierra*, 10 September 1980)

"Environmental extremists wouldn't let you build a house unless it looked like a bird's nest." (quoted in *Newsweek*, 3 November 1980; Reagan was elected President the next day)



"A tree is a tree — how many more do you need to look at?" (from a speech to the Western Wood Products Association, 12 September 1965; he was referring to redwoods, three years before Redwood National Park was created to protect some of them from the lumber industry, but a walnut tree is pictured)

\*\*\*\*\*

Phone: (516) 931-1445  
Fax: (516) 931-1467  
E-Mail: [lgk1cpa@aol.com](mailto:lgk1cpa@aol.com)

**LEONARD G. KONSKER**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.*

**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**

WWW.SSAUDUBON.ORG



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

**2016-2017 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND  
 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Betty Borowsky, President & Education .....	764-3596
Michael Sperling, Vice President & <i>Skimmer</i> Editor....	221-3921
Joe Landesberg, Treasurer & Field Trips.....	536-4808
Arlene Rawls, Recording Secretary .....	712-9514
Therese Lucas, Corresponding Secretary.....	221-3921
Bill Belford, Director (6/19).....	385-1759
Brien Weiner, Director (6/19).....	220-7121
Mary Colway, Director (6/18) & Annual Dinner .....	887-0153
Stacy & Kurt Meyerheinrich, Directors (6/17).....	796-7411
Gail Brown, Hospitality.....	608-1446
Jim Brown, Conservation.....	608-1446
Anne-Marie Conn, Electronic Communications.....	671-7685
Joanne Del Prete, Trip Leader.....	433-0739
Betsy Gulotta, College Scholarships.....	546-8841
Marilyn Hametz, Publicity.....	799-7189
Richard Kopsco, Brookside Preserve.....	825-6792
Wendy Murbach, Membership .....	546-6303
James Remsen, Jr., Birdathon .....	631-957-0949
Dolores Rogers, Welcoming.....	599-1224
Paul Stessel, Programs & NAS Liaison.....	208-6374

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

*Option 1.* You can join SSAS for a year by sending \$20 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 by joining Audubon through us for the same price that it costs if you join through NAS (we get \$0 from these dues 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.



**Renewing?** Please send NAS renewals directly to NAS.



**Donations to SSAS are always welcome!** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I'd like to join:  SSAS only  National Audubon too

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Zip+4)

PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chapter Code R15 (South Shore Audubon Society)*

