



The OSPREY

November /December, 2006 – Vol. XXXVI No. 6

Nature Programs

Bob Adamo

Join us for nature programs and membership meetings at the Quogue Wildlife Refuge. Everyone is welcome. (Directions are on our website.)

Monday, November 6

7:15 PM – Nature chat

7:30 PM – Chapter news

8:00 PM – Speaker Steve Fratello

BUTTERFLIES OF THE RAIN FOREST



Steve will present a slide/lecture show about the rain forests and the butterflies he has encountered while visiting Costa Rica, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Guyana, New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Australia. He has requested two six foot tables to display his butterfly specimens, so make sure to attend what should be a very exciting program. (Do all guys named Steve go ape over butterflies?)

Monday, December 4 – 7:00 PM

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

A movie about global warming

Are we sitting on a ticking time bomb? If many of the world's scientists are correct, we have just ten years to avert a major catastrophe that would send our planet into a tailspin of epic destruction involving extreme weather, floods, droughts, epidemics, and killer heat waves beyond anything we have ever experienced.

Recently released and critically acclaimed, "An Inconvenient Truth" offers a passionate and inspirational look at one man's crusade to halt global warming's deadly progress in its tracks. Please call Bob Adamo at 369-1958 to reserve your seat. If needed, a second showing will be scheduled.

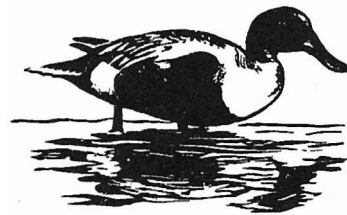
Christmas Bird Counts & Winter Waterfowl Censuses – Jim Clinton

As the holiday season approaches, it is once again time to think about winter bird counts. Each year, ELIAS members participate in a series of seven counts – four Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) sponsored by the National Audubon Society and three winter waterfowl censuses sponsored by the NY State Ornithological Association. This will be the 107th year of Christmas bird counting. The dates and compilers for the counts are listed on page 3.

How to Participate

If you would like to participate as either a field observer or a feeder watcher in any of the listed CBCs, or as a participant in any of the waterfowl censuses, please call the compiler for the count(s) in which you are interested. A \$5.00 fee, intended to defray the cost of compiling the data and publishing the count results, will be collected from all CBC observers over age 18. There is no fee for participating in the waterfowl censuses.

Experienced birders are needed for each of the counts, but beginners are also welcome. If you are not an experienced birder, field parties with which you work will have members who are familiar with the territory and will help you learn your way around. We hope that new observers will find the counts to be as exciting as experienced birders find them to be, and that they will continue to participate in the future. Only in this way can we develop an adequate pool of skilled, committed observers to continue the tradition.

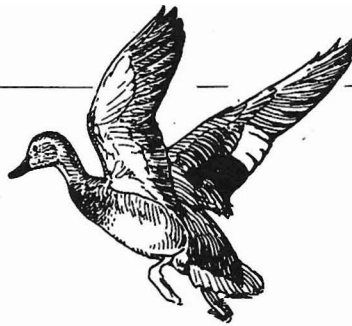


The CBC Process

A CBC is done within a defined 15 mile diameter circular territory having an area of about 177 square miles. Field parties consisting of one or more observers usually divide the territory into a number of sectors. All birds seen during the count day are recorded.

Continued on page 3

Field Trips



PUDDLE DUCKS AND MORE

Saturday, November 4

Join us for a stroll to key “duck areas” from Eastport through Remsenberg to Westhampton. This is a good opportunity for beginners to identify ducks and shore birds.

We will meet at Kaler’s Pond in Center Moriches at 8AM and hit key ponds and estuaries from Kaler’s Pond to Apaucuck in Westhampton. We expect to end by 10 AM.

Bring bagels and hot coffee and binoculars of course! Contact trip leader Bob Murray at 871-3350 if you have questions.



FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE AT SMITH POINT & THE WILLIAM FLOYD ESTATE

Saturday, December 2

Wintering waterfowl as well as a variety of land birds will be looked for on this trip.

You can sharpen your birding skills to help with the upcoming Christmas counts! We will meet at the west end of the parking lot at Smith Point County Park at 8:00 AM.

After birding the beach and dune areas, we will head over to the nearby William Floyd Estate in Mastic to find wintering birds of the fields and woods.

The trip will last approximately four hours. Bring binoculars. Contact trip leader Mary Laura Lamont at 722-5542 if you have questions.

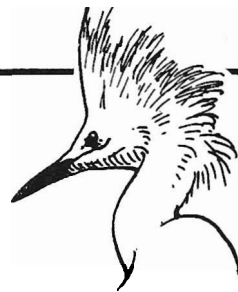
A Report from the Field

Cupsogue 2 - Mike Higgiston

We visited Cupsogue County Park for the second time this summer in search of shorebirds.

We weren’t as successful as our first trip, because the full moon earlier in the week affected the tides so much that there was very little low tide to be found. We needed low tide in order to cross over to the outer island where most of the shorebirds feed and roost. The lunar tide precluded our doing that.

We still saw 29 species of birds, including many red knots and a saltmarsh sharp-tailed sparrow, always



a good sighting. Common terns took turns strafing us, warning us to keep our distance from their young. There was a flyover piping plover, my first such view. The ospreys were still on the nest. But the highlight of the trip was the flock of royal terns found on a sand bar opposite Pikes Beach. The good news was that we didn’t get too wet, and no one fell in the water.

These trips are open to all and certainly worth the effort. Come join us.

Bird counts continued from page one.

Additional coverage is provided by feeder watchers who live in the count circle and volunteer to watch their feeders and record the number of individuals and the variety of species that appear at the feeder during the count day.

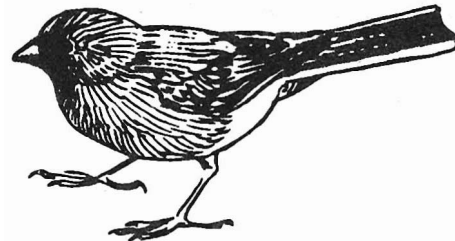
For the most part, counting begins as soon as it is light enough to see (around 6:30 to 7:00 AM) and continues until it is too dark to see anymore (around 5:00 PM). However, to hunt for owls, some observers start a few hours before daylight and continue for a while after dark. At least eight hours of field observation during daylight hours in a CBC circle is required for acceptance of a CBC report. Field coverage is primarily done by some combination of walking and driving, but bicycles, boats, motorcycles, and other modes of transportation are also used.

CBC Areas Covered

The Quogue to Water Mill CBC covers the area between the two villages. The Central Suffolk CBC includes the area bounded roughly by Wading River to the north, the Atlantic ocean to the south, Yaphank to the west, and Westhampton to the east. The Orient CBC includes the north fork from Peconic to Orient Point, all of Shelter Island, and a portion of the south fork from Noyac to Sag Harbor. The Sagaponack CBC includes an area along the south fork between Water Mill and Amagansett.

CBC Data Analysis and Publication

Count results are forwarded to the National Audubon Society where the data are compiled into a computer database that is used to analyze changes over time in the distribution and size of early winter bird populations. The annual results are published in the journal *American Birds* that will be sent to fee paying participants. Feeder watchers and participants under age 18 will have to pay to receive the journal.



Winter Waterfowl Counts

Winter waterfowl censuses have been done throughout New York State since 1955. These too are done in assigned territories, but only birds such as ducks, geese, swans, cormorants, grebes, and coots are counted.

Count	Date	Compiler	Phone/email
Quogue to Water Mill CBC	Saturday, Dec. 16	Steve Biasetti	Home 874-4684 Work 537-1400 ext 15 biafamily@optonline.net
Montauk	Saturday, Dec. 16	Hugh McGuinness	725-6037 hmcguinness@ross.org
Sagaponack CBC	Sunday, Dec. 17	Hugh McGuinness	725-6037 hmcguinness@ross.org
Central Suffolk CBC	Saturday, Dec. 23	Jim Clinton	929-8370 lcliwren@optonline
Orient CBC	Saturday, Dec. 30	Mary Laura Lamont	722-5542
Smith Point to Shinnecock Inlet Census	Saturday, Jan. 13	Jim Clinton	929-8370 lcliwren@optonline
Yaphank to Peconic Bay Census	Midweek Jan. 17	Jim Clinton	929-8370 lcliwren@optonline
Montauk Point to Amagansett Census	Saturday Jan. 20	Jim Clinton	929-8370 lcliwren@optonline

Eastern Long Island Audubon Society
From the Barrens to the Bays



Student Camp Scholarships

Next summer, ELIAS will offer two scholarships to upstate Department of Conservation camps for students in grades 7 through 12. Two camps are in the Adirondacks, one is in the Catskills, and one is in western New York. Campers enjoy fishing, hiking, canoeing, volleyball, and hunter safety training. Activities such as sampling streams for aquatic life and hiking in the dark to listen to the sounds in the woods are designed to bring conservation concepts to life. If you are interested in the environment, and you would like to learn more, then you are a perfect candidate. We encourage you to apply. (Parents do not have to be Audubon members.)

Please complete and forward the application **by January 25th** to Eastern Long Island Audubon Society, Box 206, East Quogue, NY 11942-0206 – Attention: Education Committee.

Name _____ Address _____

Date of birth _____ Phone _____

Name of school _____ Grade _____

Have you ever attended an outdoor education/ecology camp? _____ If so, what camp, where, and when _____

DEC camps are for one week. Scholarship recipients may choose camp location. They are responsible for their own transportation to and from the camp and are responsible for their own physical examination, if the camp requires it. **Please attach a letter signed by your parents** stating that they are aware of the transportation stipulation.

On an additional sheet, **please write an essay** stating why you think you are a worthy candidate for our scholarship. Include environmental experiences and interests. Also, tell us what benefit you might derive from the experience. **For more information, call Evelyn at 727-0417.**

Signature _____ Date _____

Volunteer Profile



JIM CLINTON

Jim has been a pillar of this organization for decades. For over twenty years, he led most of our field trips and coordinated numerous annual surveys for our area, such as the Christmas Count, the Waterfowl Census, and the Breeding Bird Census. In addition to organizing the teams of observers and spending hours in the field, some of these projects involved the laborious task of compiling copious statistics, writing summaries for our newsletter, and preparing extensive reports for sponsoring organizations such as the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and the NYS Ornithological Association. As part of the Bluebird Recovery Project, he still monitors two of our bluebird trails in Calverton.

Jim was born in Geneva, Illinois. During the depression, his family moved to Chicago. He studied biology at the University of Illinois, where he met his wife, Loretta. They married in 1956 and moved to the panhandle of Florida, where Jim taught at a junior college. After doing graduate work in radiation biology at the University of Florida, they moved to Philadelphia, and then in 1972, they moved to Wading River, where Jim worked at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

At the lab, Jim was involved in a range of environmental projects such as studying the effects of radiation on forests, grasslands, crops, and water habitats. While at the lab, he also made several trips to the Marshall Islands to study the impact of radiation on the population resulting from US nuclear tests done between 1946 and 1956.

On the way home from one of these trips, he joined Loretta in Honolulu, and they toured the Hawaiian Islands. This trip was especially memorable for Loretta, because her father had worked in Hawaii as a construction engineer, and they were in Honolulu, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on her seventh birthday in 1941. Needless to say, her birthday party was scratched. She had not been back to Hawaii since those turbulent times.

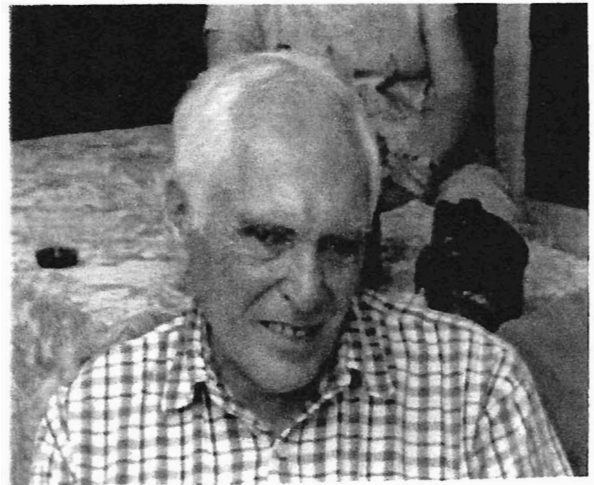
Jim retired in 1997. He and Loretta still live in Wading River. Loretta has a degree in English and has taught in elementary schools and high schools. They have four children – two boys and two girls – and six grandchildren. Recently, they celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Jim's interest in birds started when his mother gave her children booklets about birds, plants, and insects, because she wanted them to do well in school and go to college. Jim took the pictures and went out to see if he could find the real thing. Fortunately, the family lived in the southwest corner of Chicago, where Jim had access to a prairie.

Years later, while while working at Brookhaven Lab, Jim met John Ruscica and some of the other accomplished birders who worked there. He started going birding with them, and through them became involved with our chapter, which was then known as Moriches Bay Audubon Society.

In 2004, Jim won the Osprey Award for outstanding volunteer service to the chapter. To borrow a phrase from a tribute written to him at the time: "His encyclopedic knowledge of the birds in our area is exceeded only by his modesty."

Ask members who have known Jim, and they will tell you how much they learned from him about birds, how he scouted areas a few days before a field trip so he could take them to the spots where the most interesting birds would be found, and how he helped a mother with a blind teenage daughter feel comfortable on their first field trip. Over the past few years, Jim has gradually been turning responsibility for many of his projects over to others. His shoes are hard to fill.



This is the seventeenth in a series of profiles designed to recognize volunteer contributions and help members get to know the people whose names appear regularly in this newsletter.

TOWN PERSPECTIVES



Piping Plovers are Making a Comeback in East Hampton

Larry Penny
Chief, East Hampton Natural Resources



The Atlantic Coast piping plover has been on the federally threatened list since 1986. However, largely based on the historic accounts of the late Roy Wilcox, efforts were put into play by the Long Island Colonial Water Bird Association as early as 1980 to re-establish the population here, which over the years had dwindled to less than 75 pairs. Massachusetts was the leader in the Atlantic coast's recovery of this species, largely via the efforts of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. It led the way.

A Long Struggle

On Long Island, the State Department of Environmental Conservation under the direction of Mike Scheibel, the now defunct Seatuck organization, and the two Long Island chapters of the Nature Conservancy worked together to foster the piping plover's comeback. They started the long road to recovery which, 25 years later, has begun to pay off, but only after a great expenditure of human and economic resources. It takes a very long time and a lot of luck to bring back a coastal population, which had been reduced to less than 3000 adults between Prince Edward Island and the Carolinas by the time it was listed by the feds.

The program suffered many pitfalls and pratfalls, but was ground out with a steady determination by its practitioners. East Hampton Town, counting Gardiners Island, has about 120 miles of coastline on the Atlantic Ocean and Peconic Estuary. In 1984 after a devastating March nor'easter, the town's piping plover program came into being, mainly by way of the efforts of Russell Hoeflich who was then director of the local Nature Conservancy chapter.

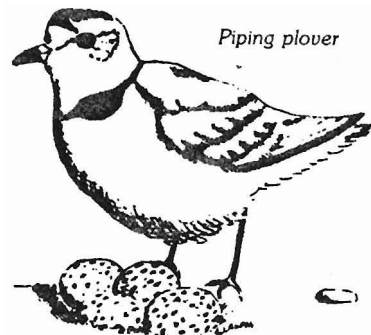
The Town's Natural Resources Department kicked in, but it took a long time — 11 years — before the department was ready to go it on its own. During that span at least five plover chicks were run over by beach vehicles, hundreds were taken by crows, gulls, foxes and cats, and another fifty or so were lost to the ravages of tropical storms. The reins were officially handed over to the Town by the State DEC and TNC in 1995.

Eleven years later, the population has reached record highs. In this past breeding season, 93 piping plover chicks took to the air. They and the 55 pairs of adults that

raised them have already left the area. Piping plovers begin their migration south by the end of August.

Dedicated Staff and Volunteers

Latisha Coy, Dawn Wiley, and Sam Wiley, all Southampton College graduates, are responsible for such a successful year. Working under the aegis of East Hampton's Natural Resources Department and the Town Trustees, the three and their volunteers worked hard from April through August to achieve these results. In the previous year, Latisha and Dawn oversaw the fledging of 73 chicks. The year before that, Latisha and Natural Resources staff also brought off 73. That was Latisha's first year on the job. Ordinarily, the chief piping plover steward burns out after two years, but Latisha has just finished her third year and shows no sign of overdosing. That is very good news for the plovers (and the least terns, sea beach amaranth, and seabeach knotweed, too).



In the 1990s, there were years when fewer than 20 piping plover chicks fledged. There were also large struggles between the beach drivers and the birds and between the beach drivers and the piping plover stewards. These conflicts still arise now and then, but with the help of the Town Trustees and Town Board, they have been mediated successfully. Nonetheless, a large part of the local population is relieved each year when the last juvenile plover has left the nest, after which the fishermen, surfers, and beach drivers pretty much have the beaches to themselves.

You never know which beach is going to be the most successful. Hicks Island at the top of Napeague Harbor was great during 2004 and 2005, a year, in which it fledged a record number of chicks. In April of 2006 the long-standing east inlet shoaled over, four-wheel vehicles and foxes were able to drive and walk to the island from

Goff Point at will, and Tom Dess, the manager of the Montauk State Park system, jokingly renamed Hicks Island “Hicks Point.”

When the piping plovers started nesting, the vehicles were fenced out, but the foxes weren't. Six pairs laid eggs, chicks hatched out, but only five fledged for a meager productivity of 0.83.

Contrast this dismal productivity with that of the Atlantic Double Dunes beach area, part of which is a US Fish and Wildlife Refuge, where 10 pairs produced 28 fledges for a productivity of 2.8. Five years ago this stretch of shore, about three miles in length, produced nary a piping plover chick. The Napeague Beach east of the Double Dunes area was almost as successful – 50 pairs brought off 25 fledges for a productivity of 2. Notwithstanding the fact that during the time when chicks have hatched out, the beaches are closed to all vehicle thoroughfare and all dogs using the plover areas have to be leashed, these ocean beaches are extremely popular for bathers, sunbathers, and walkers. There may be some truth to the oft repeated observation that piping plovers like people (they keep the predators away), they just don't like people in moving motor vehicles.

This year, eight piping plovers from three pairs of adults fledged from the area of Hither Hills beach around Gurney's resort hotel situated right at the edge of the beach, about a mile west of downtown Montauk. Lois Markle, the stage actress and friend of nature, discovered the nests and then took care of them and their babies until they could fly. In the past twenty years of plover watching, there had only been two viable nests east of Hither Hills State Park. A pair of piping plovers also brought off young for the second year in a row on Suffolk County parkland east of Gin Beach east of Lake Montauk. Piping Plovers hadn't nested on this beach since ca. 1975.

It cost the town about \$1,500 a fledgling this year, down from \$2,000 a fledgling last year, and \$5,000 a fledgling in 2000. So you see from the East Hampton experience, piping plovers, like the ospreys, are making a comeback here. **They still have a long way to go before they're out of the dark. Let's be abiding and caring for another ten years and see what happens.**

Bringing Back Our Bay Shorelines and Beaches

Marty Shea, Chief Environmental Analyst
Town of Southampton



Many acres of precious natural estuarine shoreline have been lost on Long Island's east end, due to construction of shoreline hardening structures, including bulkheads and revetments. These hard structures and their many

variations essentially serve as vertical sea walls or rock armoring, and they are typically built along mean high water and/or the storm debris or wrack lines of our beaches and shores. They are often constructed along the entire length of a property's shoreline, and are usually accompanied by sand backfilling on the landward side of the structure. Bulkheads and revetments are desired by landowners, as they can provide better boating access along a canal, creek or bay. They can also lessen flooding and erosion, as well as artificially create and secure higher, drier land along a property's water frontage. The additional waterfront land is sought to allow for various residential uses such as lawns, landscaping, patios, swimming pools, and other amenities.

Bulkheads Damage the Environment

No one would argue the additional recreational benefits accrued by many homeowners from bulkheads and similar structures. However, these modifications to our shorelines are, unfortunately, contributing to our loss of beaches, wetlands, and public access along the shore. By hardening the shoreline, bulkheads and revetments can cause the energy of waves to be directed downward, rather than being dissipated up along the sloping face of a beach or through a vegetated wetland edge. This wave deflection can result in significant scouring and dramatic vertical loss of the foreshore beach, thereby affecting the public's right of passage or right to walk along bay beaches between the mean high and low tide zones. These hard structures also tend to increase erosion and flooding rates along any adjacent or neighboring unhardened natural shoreline, resulting in further loss of wetlands, natural beaches, and public access.

Shoreline hardening structures also adversely affect the ecology and biological viability of our bays, as these shoreline areas are so critical to so much of our marine life. In fact, it is in these natural habitat edges where so many of our young finfish, shellfish, and other coastal wildlife abound. Consequently, the future of our fin and shell fisheries, as well as the fate of a wide range of wildlife species, is undoubtedly tied to whether or not we decide to actively promote alternative erosion control strategies, options which address individual landowner needs, yet still protect this natural estuarine edge. Commercially vital finfish and a whole host of shorebirds would benefit from a much more environmentally sound approach, as well as horseshoe crabs, fiddler crabs, and even uncommon species like the mink, which once ventured along our bay shorelines, but has disappeared because of the loss of this critical shoreline habitat link.

What Should be Done?

Government agencies charged with protection of the coast need to pool their ideas and resources with respect to rethinking bulkheads and revetments, so they can offer

better guidance to property owners about how to balance the lofty goals of marine conservation with the need for waterfront recreational access and erosion control. Local marine contracting businesses, landscapers, and environmental consulting groups can also serve conservation by encouraging waterfront property owners to explore options other than bulkheads and revetments and by offering natural shoreline restoration alternatives, which protect and restore the shoreline ecology, while meeting a resident's needs for water access as well as flooding and erosion control.

A productive approach on some properties is to use an assortment of native stone boulders of varying sizes, combined with additional native beach sand and plantings, to create a naturalized rocky shoreline, mimicking those north facing beaches of Long Island, where natural glacial erratics, (boulders dropped by glaciers thousands of years ago) are abundant. The value in such 'recreation,' especially on high wave energy beaches, is natural rock dissipation and softening of wave attack, thereby reducing loss of sand and allowing valued native beach and salt marsh grasses to grow.



Other natural beach sites may lend themselves to simple placement of a few large boulders at key locations at the tail end or return of neighboring bulkheads, a strategy which oftentimes provides a sufficient degree of erosion reduction so as to negate the need for a much more extensive engineered erosion control plan.

On gradually sloping beachfronts, where a remaining high vertical seawall of bulkhead exists, there may be an ability to retain the bulkhead, but simply modify it by making periodic cuts or gap openings in the wall, sufficient in width to allow seawater to bypass and nourish virgin wetlands developing on the landward side, while still retaining a sufficient armorment to deflect heavy storm wave action on the beach. Elevated catwalks to the bulkhead, or in the case of complete bulkhead removal to floating docks, can then be installed from the higher, drier land, to provide good access to the water.

Southampton Town's Tiana Bay Beach Park on Dune Road in Hampton Bays is a visible example of where this approach has been used on a grander scale. This site

exhibits well how the goals of erosion control and preservation of natural shorelines and water access can both be met. At this location, over 1,000 feet of former bulkheading were removed by the Town to recreate a natural beach. Low rock borders or sills were established along the shore and buried with sand to provide erosion control in extreme storm events. Floating docks, rather than bulkheads, now provide water access and fishing opportunities, with new elevated pedestrian walkways providing public access from upland parking areas and the rest of the park.

Where much more vertical shores, banks, and bluffs are eroding, there is sometimes an opportunity to install tiered wood or rock retaining structures, which stabilize the vulnerable shoreface and provide multiple 'shelves' for planting of native marsh and dune grasses. In other cases, such as along an existing bulkheaded canal, heavy buffering or landward planting of native vegetation may be the only natural option, however, even this strategy offers both renewed shoreline habitat and resistance against overtopping waves in severe storms.

No action, or allowance for natural beach restoration processes on historically fortified shorefronts, or gradual breakdown of bulkhead and revetment structures, together with promotion of marsh grass re-colonization and ribbed mussel colony establishment may be the best common sense approach on some property, as nature when left to its own devices is often most eager to recreate marsh or beach and stabilize the shore. Other shorefront sites may have ongoing erosion but can still be left alone, because homes or other structures are sufficiently set back and/or buffered by natural vegetation, so that no real threat to property or water access exists.

All told, prevention of continued impacts to our shoreline from bulkhead and revetment construction and rebuilding is hampered by a single fact – there is often no clear consensus among all who plan for or work along our shorelines as to the best solution for marrying the seemingly conflicting needs for water access, erosion control, and marine conservation. What is absolutely essential for resolving this dilemma is support from private waterfront landowners, marine contractors, landscapers, and environmental consulting organizations for bringing back our bay shorelines and beaches and contributing to the greater marine conservation cause.

When we protect and restore natural shorelines, we all benefit, as the aesthetic, open space, wildlife, and economic values of these critical finfish nursery and feeding areas are so closely tied to our superb quality of life on the east end. Bringing back our shorelines and beaches along our already heavily fortified bays may indeed be a tall order, but if we continue to work together, we can all leave a legacy of having greatly improved the quality of our bays and shorelines for future generations.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS – and mention their ad when you shop

WE'VE MOVED – DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Charles Stephani
Store Manager

Kathy Stephani
Owner



Wild Bird Supermarket

“We’re not just for the birds”

1598 Route 112
Medford, NY 11763

631-289-7197
Fax: 631-289-7198

Hours: Mon – Sat 10 am – 6 pm * Sun 11 am – 4 pm



Surfside 3



Victor E. Levy
General Manager

MAIN ROAD • MATTLICK, N.Y. 11952
(631) 298-5800 Fax: (631) 298-2043
LIBRARY AVENUE • WESTHAMPTON BEACH, N.Y. 11978
(631) 288-2400 Fax: (631) 288-2459

corcoran

corcoran group real estate

Robert Murray
Licensed Sales Associate

robertmurray@corcoran.com

92 Main Street
Westhampton Beach NY 11978
d: 631.723.4410
h: 631.288.1183
m: 631.871.3350

Owned and operated by NRT Incorporated



New York The Hamptons North Fork Shelter Island South Florida



BARTH'S PHARMACY

32 East Main St.
Riverhead, NY 11901
Barry D. Barth R.Ph.S.P.
(631) 727-2125
Fax: (631) 727-2199

58 Sunset Ave.
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978
Warren B. Poulson R.Ph.S.P.
Lou Cassara R.Ph.
(631) 288-4345
Fax: (631) 288-4363

Your ad could be here:

This newsletter reaches over 500 households, primarily in the Townships of Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, and Brookhaven.

Our readers are a target audience for nature-friendly businesses. For rates, contact newsletter editor Shirley Morrison at 631-208-3894 or shmorri@suffolk.lib.ny.us

Birds-out-back 
Everything For The Backyard Birder!

Feeders • Houses • Baths • Optics
Books and Accessories

Visit Us At...

www.birds-out-back.com

Audubon Members: Enter the name of your Audubon chapter in our store's checkout comment box and we will refund the shipping fee!

FEEDER SURVEY REPORT FORMS

Mail **immediately** after each survey period to: Marybeth Stembler, 11 Pinedale Rd., Hauppauge NY 11788, or to send via the internet, go to: www.easternlongislandaudubonsociety.org and 1) Click on *Chapter Projects*; 2) Click on *Feeder Statistics*; 3) Click on *To submit via the Internet, etc.*

Survey Dates : December 3 - 10, 2006 Name _____ Address _____ Town _____ Phone _____	Survey Dates : January 7 - 14, 2007 Name _____ Address _____ Town _____ Phone _____																																																																																																																																								
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 10%;">NO.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">SPECIES</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Mourning Dove</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Northern Cardinal</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Blue Jay</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>House Finch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Black-capped Chickadee</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Tufted Titmouse</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Downy Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>White-throated Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Dark-eyed Junco</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>House Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Song Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-bellied Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Crow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>European Starling</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Common Grackle</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Carolina Wren</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Northern Mockingbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Goldfinch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-winged Blackbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Hairy Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Common Flicker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Rufous-sided Towhee</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Robin</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Sharp-shinned Hawk</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Rock Dove</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Gray Catbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Yellow-rumped Warbler</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-breasted Nuthatch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	NO.	SPECIES	_____	Mourning Dove	_____	Northern Cardinal	_____	Blue Jay	_____	House Finch	_____	Black-capped Chickadee	_____	Tufted Titmouse	_____	Downy Woodpecker	_____	White-throated Sparrow	_____	Dark-eyed Junco	_____	House Sparrow	_____	White-breasted Nuthatch	_____	Song Sparrow	_____	Red-bellied Woodpecker	_____	American Crow	_____	European Starling	_____	Common Grackle	_____	Carolina Wren	_____	Northern Mockingbird	_____	American Goldfinch	_____	Red-winged Blackbird	_____	Hairy Woodpecker	_____	Common Flicker	_____	Rufous-sided Towhee	_____	American Robin	_____	Brown-headed Cowbird	_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk	_____	Rock Dove	_____	Gray Catbird	_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler	_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch	_____		_____		_____		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 10%;">NO.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">SPECIES</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Mourning Dove</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Northern Cardinal</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Blue Jay</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>House Finch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Black-capped Chickadee</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Tufted Titmouse</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Downy Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>White-throated Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Dark-eyed Junco</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>House Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Song Sparrow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-bellied Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Crow</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>European Starling</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Common Grackle</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Carolina Wren</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Northern Mockingbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Goldfinch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-winged Blackbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Hairy Woodpecker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Common Flicker</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Rufous-sided Towhee</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>American Robin</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Brown-headed Cowbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Sharp-shinned Hawk</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Rock Dove</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Gray Catbird</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Yellow-rumped Warbler</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td>Red-breasted Nuthatch</td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>_____</td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	NO.	SPECIES	_____	Mourning Dove	_____	Northern Cardinal	_____	Blue Jay	_____	House Finch	_____	Black-capped Chickadee	_____	Tufted Titmouse	_____	Downy Woodpecker	_____	White-throated Sparrow	_____	Dark-eyed Junco	_____	House Sparrow	_____	White-breasted Nuthatch	_____	Song Sparrow	_____	Red-bellied Woodpecker	_____	American Crow	_____	European Starling	_____	Common Grackle	_____	Carolina Wren	_____	Northern Mockingbird	_____	American Goldfinch	_____	Red-winged Blackbird	_____	Hairy Woodpecker	_____	Common Flicker	_____	Rufous-sided Towhee	_____	American Robin	_____	Brown-headed Cowbird	_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk	_____	Rock Dove	_____	Gray Catbird	_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler	_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch	_____		_____		_____	
NO.	SPECIES																																																																																																																																								
_____	Mourning Dove																																																																																																																																								
_____	Northern Cardinal																																																																																																																																								
_____	Blue Jay																																																																																																																																								
_____	House Finch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Black-capped Chickadee																																																																																																																																								
_____	Tufted Titmouse																																																																																																																																								
_____	Downy Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	White-throated Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	Dark-eyed Junco																																																																																																																																								
_____	House Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	White-breasted Nuthatch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Song Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-bellied Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Crow																																																																																																																																								
_____	European Starling																																																																																																																																								
_____	Common Grackle																																																																																																																																								
_____	Carolina Wren																																																																																																																																								
_____	Northern Mockingbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Goldfinch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-winged Blackbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Hairy Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	Common Flicker																																																																																																																																								
_____	Rufous-sided Towhee																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Robin																																																																																																																																								
_____	Brown-headed Cowbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk																																																																																																																																								
_____	Rock Dove																																																																																																																																								
_____	Gray Catbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch																																																																																																																																								

NO.	SPECIES																																																																																																																																								
_____	Mourning Dove																																																																																																																																								
_____	Northern Cardinal																																																																																																																																								
_____	Blue Jay																																																																																																																																								
_____	House Finch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Black-capped Chickadee																																																																																																																																								
_____	Tufted Titmouse																																																																																																																																								
_____	Downy Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	White-throated Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	Dark-eyed Junco																																																																																																																																								
_____	House Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	White-breasted Nuthatch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Song Sparrow																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-bellied Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Crow																																																																																																																																								
_____	European Starling																																																																																																																																								
_____	Common Grackle																																																																																																																																								
_____	Carolina Wren																																																																																																																																								
_____	Northern Mockingbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Goldfinch																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-winged Blackbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Hairy Woodpecker																																																																																																																																								
_____	Common Flicker																																																																																																																																								
_____	Rufous-sided Towhee																																																																																																																																								
_____	American Robin																																																																																																																																								
_____	Brown-headed Cowbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk																																																																																																																																								
_____	Rock Dove																																																																																																																																								
_____	Gray Catbird																																																																																																																																								
_____	Yellow-rumped Warbler																																																																																																																																								
_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch																																																																																																																																								



PLEASE JOIN US. We would welcome your help in the monitoring the birds in our area.

- Record the highest number of species you see in your count area at any one time.
- Don't include birds seen off premises or just flying through your area.
- Don't add counts from previous sightings together.
- Estimate the number of birds if there is a large number. Everyone has a different idea of the size of a "flock."
- Be specific with the species, e.g., don't use sparrow,

- blackbird, or gull, etc. We need to know what kind.
- Send in surveys even if you only saw common birds. It is just as important to record the usual species as it the unusual birds.
- Don't worry if you miss a survey because of other commitments, or if you can only watch before work, on weekends, etc. Your participation will still enlarge our database.

Summary data and trends are published in the newsletter when space permits. They can always be found on the website.

Kaler's Pond Nature Center

Summer/Fall Wrap-up

The summer programs have now finished. Annette Oliveira conducted the weekly nature and crafts programs. She also worked on the dragon fly census.

On September 30, as part of National Public Lands Day, forty to fifty Girl Scouts helped with cleanup, moving compost, and spreading wood chips around the Nature Center and on the Gil Raynor trail. Sharon Gilbert organized this as well as our participation in the beach cleanup two weeks earlier.

Two serviceberry trees were planted in memory of Richard Haley and were dedicated at the Wildlife Festival on October 21. This day also included a live birds of prey program, singing, and an ecological

interactive program. In the morning, there was a hike through Terrill River Park focusing on migrating birds and insects. The gardens are expanding with the planting of native plants friendly to wildlife. The bird feeding area is being enlarged and improved. This will be viewed from the Eagle Scout project bird blind to be constructed by Konrad Grossman.

Winter Plans

Our next program will be a winter bird talk at the Center Moriches Library on February 11. This will focus on preparing people for the Great Backyard Bird Count two weeks later. We are working on more winter programs for next year. Please contact us if you would like more information about the Nature Center.

Jay Kuhlman (SJKuhlman@aol.com)
www.kalerspondaudubon.homestead.com

DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

- Eileen Schwinn, President – 728-8342
- Al Scherzer, Past President – 728-2898
- Beth Gustin, Vice President – 874-9424
- Larry Sturm, Recording Secretary
- John McNeil, Corresp. Secretary
- Evelyn Voulgarelis, Treasurer
- Mary Laura Lamont, Director (9/07)
- Shirley Morrison, Director (9/09)
- Bob Adamo, Director (9/08)
- Mike Marino, Director (9/08)
- Robert Murray, Director (9/08)
- Dan Wilson, Director (9/08)
- Ridgie Barnett, Director (9/08)

COMMITTEES/PROJECTS

- Membership, John McNeil (281-2623)
- Conservation, Gigi Spates
- Programs (open)
- KP Nature Center Liaison, Al Scherzer
- Education, Evelyn Voulgarelis
- Nature Chats, Steve Biasetti
- Hospitality, Ridgie Barnett,
- Feeder Survey, Marybeth Stembler
- Feeder Survey Stats, Edgar Stembler
- Field Trips, Steve Biasetti
- Publicity, Peggy Caraher
- Web Master, Annette Oliveira
- Sales Corner, Mike Nelson,
- Bluebird Restoration Prog. Gigi Spates

NEWSLETTER EDITING &

LAYOUT: Shirley Morrison 208-3894
 (shmorri@suffolk.lib.ny.us)
 1145 Middle Rd. Apt. 8C,
 Riverhead 11901
The next deadline is December 1.

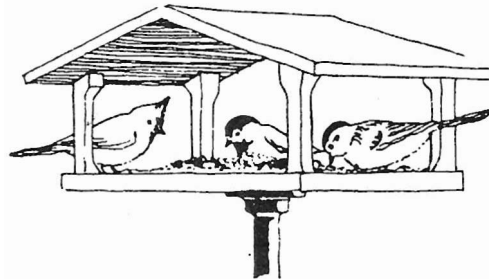
Events Calendar

November

- 4 Field Trip - Ducks – p2
- 5-12 Feeder Survey (see last issue)
- 6 Nature Program – p1

December

- 2 Field Trip – Fire Island – p2
- 3-10 Feeder Survey – p10
- 4 Nature Program – p1
- 16 Quogue/WM Christmas Ct – p3
- 16 Montauk Christmas Ct – p3
- 17 Sagaponack Christmas Ct – p3
- 23 Central Suff Christmas Ct – p3
- 30 Orient Christmas Ct – p3



Also see Kaler's Pond NatureCenter events above.

Our Vision in a Nutshell – To be an inspiration to those who feel a sense of kinship about Long Island by encouraging an appreciation for the natural world and a commitment to the environment.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

For \$15 a year, you can receive 6 copies of this newsletter. You will also be supporting our local education and conservation activities. (Members of National Audubon who are not chapter members receive one copy of this newsletter per year.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Make check payable to Eastern Long Island Audubon and mail to ELIAS, PO Box 206, East Quogue, NY 11942-0206, Attn. Membership

Please consider sending gift memberships to your friends.

Annual Seed Sale

Please consider stocking up on bird seed at this sale which will benefit both ELIAS and the Quogue Wildlife Refuge.

An advance order form has been inserted in the centerfold of this newsletter. **The deadline for orders is November 9.** The seed you order can be picked up on the sale days – November 19 and 20. On the day of the sale, a limited amount of additional seed will be available for purchase, along with bird houses, bird feeders, and other accessories.

Turn Your Kids on to Nature

Every year, this chapter offers one week nature camp scholarships. We do this in the belief that total immersion in nature leads to a greater appreciation for it and a desire to protect it. See page 4 for details and an application form.

Eligible scholarship winners can choose from several nature camps operated by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation. Kids between age 12 and 14 can attend Pack Forest or Camp Colby in the Adirondacks, or Camp De Bruce in the Catskills. For kids age 15 to 17, there is Pack Forest Teen Ecology Workshop at Rushford Lake in the Hanging Bog Wildlife Management Area.

If you have friends with children this age group, please tell them about this opportunity. The parents do NOT have to be Audubon members.

The Quogue Wildlife Refuge also offers camp scholarships. Call 653-4771 for information.

IN THIS ISSUE

Nature Programs	1
Christmas Bird Counts	1
Field Trips	2
Report from the Field	2
Camp Scholarship Application	4
Volunteer Profile – Jim Clinton	5
Piping Plovers are Making a Comeback	6
Bringing Back Bay Shorelines & Beaches	6
SEED SALE ORDER FORM (INSERT)	
Support Our Sponsors	9
Feeder Survey	10
Kaler's Pond Nature Center	11
Events Calendar	11
Chapter Membership Application	11



Printed on Plainfield Plus paper which is elemental chlorine free, acid free, and recycled – made with 20% post-consumer waste.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE OSPREY

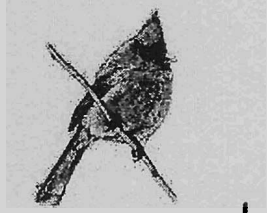
Published by:

Eastern Long Island Audubon Society, Inc.
PO Box 206
East Quogue, NY 11942-0206

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Center Moriches, NY 11934

Permit No. 3

FALL BIRD SEED SALE



to benefit Quogue Wildlife Refuge and Eastern Long Island Audubon Society



WHEN: NOVEMBER 18 & 19, 2006 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

WHERE: Quogue Wildlife Refuge, 3 Old Country Road, Quogue NY 11959

Order Deadline: November 9th, 2006

Make Checks Payable to: STWA

Mail to: STWA Seed Sale, PO Box 492, Quogue NY 11959

--Funds raised by this sale will go towards maintaining staffing, purchase of educational supplies, programs and events.--

How it works: You order the seed from us, paying in advance, and pick it up on the day of the sale. This fundraiser has been made possible by the generous assistance of Neptune Feed in Calverton and Southold Agway.

On the day of the sale, a limited amount of additional seed will be available for purchase. We will also be selling bird houses, kits, bird feeders and accessories.

XX

Detach this section and mail to: STWA Seed Sale, PO Box 492, Quogue NY 11959 before November 9th!

Seed Descriptions on Reverse Side

Quantity	Description	Price	Total	Quantity	Description	Price	Total
	25 lb Black Oil Sunflower	\$13.00			20 lb Healthy Hearts	\$20.00	
	50 lb Black Oil Sunflower	\$22.00			20 lb Shell Free Festival	\$23.00	
	25 lb Birdluvers' Blend	\$12.00			25 lb Squirrel Chow	\$18.00	
	40 lb Birdluvers' Blend	\$18.00			5 lb Thistle Seed	\$10.00	
	20 lb Premium Picnic	\$14.00			10 lb Thistle Seed	\$19.00	
	40 lb Premium Picnic	\$25.00			25 lb Cracked Corn	\$9.00	
	20 lb Chickadees' Dee'light	\$21.00			5 lb Safflower Seed	\$6.00	
	20 lb Woodpeckers' Wish	\$23.00			Premium Wildbird Block	\$10.00	
	20 lb Finches' Feast	\$20.00			Wildlife Block	\$10.00	
	25 lb Cardinals' Cuisine	\$18.00			Hanging Seed Wreath	\$15.00	
	12 oz suet cake	\$1.50			*a nice gift idea!		

SUBTOTAL A -----> ----->

SUBTOTAL B

SUBTOTAL A

additional donation

Thank you!

GRAND TOTAL

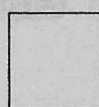
Please Print Clearly...

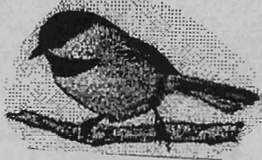
Pre-payment is necessary, make Checks Payable to STWA

Name _____ Phone Number _____

I will pick up my seed on Saturday, November 18

I will pick up my seed on Sunday, November 19





Descriptions of Seed Mixes and Preferences of Common Backyard Birds



Ingredients	Birdlovers' Blend	Premium Picnic	Chickdees' Dee'light	Finches' Feast	Woodpeckers' Wish	Cardinals' Cuisine	Shell Free Festival	Healthy Hearts
Black Oil Sunflower	**	**	**			**	**	
White Millet	**	**					**	
Safflower		**	**			**		
Sunflower kernels/chips		**	**	**	**	**		**
Niger thistle				**				
Peanut pieces		**	**		**		**	
Tree nut pieces			**		**		**	
Raisins		**			**			
Cherries		**			**			
Canary Seed				**				
Cracked corn					**			
Mill grains	**							
Pumpkin seed					**		**	
Bird Preferences	Birdlovers' Blend	Premium Picnic	Chickdees' Dee'light	Finches' Feast	Woodpeckers' Wish	Cardinals' Cuisine	Shell Free Festival	Healthy Hearts
Blue jays		**					**	**
Bobwhites	**							**
Cardinals		**				**	**	**
Chickadees	**	**	**				**	**
Evening grosbeaks		**				**	**	**
Goldfinches	**			**			**	**
House finches	**			**			**	**
Juncos		**		**			**	**
Nuthatches		**	**				**	**
Pine Siskins	**	**		**			**	**
Purple finches	**			**			**	**
Rose-breasted grosbeaks						**	**	**
Sparrows	**	**					**	**
Towhees	**	**				**	**	**
Tufted titmouse	**	**	**				**	**
Quail				**				
Woodpeckers	**		**		**		**	**

Wildbird Block is a mix of seeds blended with molasses and shaped into a block. Stays intact even in bad weather!
 Wildlife block is similar to Wildbird Block with a recipe more suitable to our four-legged feeder visitors!