

The Huntington Audubon Society
A chapter of the National Audubon Society



killdeer

August - September - October 2007

Serving Huntington Township and the Neighboring Oyster Bay and Jericho Areas

Birdathon 2007

by Stella Miller

The day dawned chilly, drizzly, and overcast, but by afternoon the sun was bright as raincoats were pulled off and sleeves were rolled up! Our team consisted of 16 Huntington Audubon members. We started out at 6:45 AM on May 20 on the trails of Alley Pond Park. Our group ranged in age from 10 to 70 years old. Along the way we were joined by other birders who lent their birding expertise to us.

As usual, Birdathon had a fine selection of birds to be seen. Eastern Kingbird, Veery, White-eyed, Red-eyed, Yellow-throated, and Warbling Vireos all sang and were most cooperative. Baltimore Orioles were abundant. We watched a pair of Cedar Waxwings feeding each other, engaged in their courtship ritual. Scarlet Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks practically posed for us. A total 21 species of warblers were seen that day including the less often seen Worm-eating Warbler, Chestnut-sided, Hooded, Wilson's, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Canada, and Blackburnian. We also had views of the often seen Black and White, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Yellow, Magnolia, and Yellow-rumped Warblers, along with the Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, and American Redstart. The Prairie Warbler was heard, but we were not able to see it clearly. Little Blue Heron, Tri-colored Heron, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night Herons as well as Great and Snowy Egrets were seen. Glossy Ibis made an appearance near American Oystercatchers and Willets. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird zipped by. Our final bird of the day, at 5:40 PM, was one that had proven elusive during our weeklong Bobolink Watch - we finally had our Bobolink! Our grand total for the day was 107 birds.

Thanks to your efforts Birdathon 2007 raised \$4,800 - more than double last year's amount! The funds raised will help support the efforts of the Huntington Audubon Society and assist in sustaining the important work of environmental education and stewardship. Thanks again to our Birdathon team, the birders who joined us throughout the day, and especially to everyone who sponsored the team. We look forward to doing even better next year!

HAS Garage Sale a Success!

by Ginger Mahoney

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the success of the second annual HAS Yard Sale. The weather was perfect - well, maybe a bit too hot - but, the people came. We made \$667.00 for our day's effort!



Thanks to all who generously donated their stuff. You can't have a yard sale without stuff. Thanks to Louise and George Hublitz for sharing their driveway and supplying workers with water throughout the day. (We could have made a fortune if they had let us sell those beautiful purple and white irises in their front flower bed). Thanks to Doris Bierhanzl for generously covering the advertising costs of the sale. Thanks to Petie Szabo for a delicious lunch just when we needed it and thanks to Alice Del Bosco for thinking of a big umbrella so we didn't melt. Thanks to all - Vinnie Schiappa, Charlotte Miska, Ruth Corwin, Louise Hublitz, Cathy Fitts, Alice Del Bosco, Petie Szabo, Simone DaRos, Ginger Mahoney, Blair Broughton, Sierra Broughton, and Prairie Broughton - who contributed tables and time, pricing, selling, and cleaning up. It was another successful HAS team effort!



NOTICE: Due to a scheduling conflict, the OCTOBER membership meeting will be held on THURSDAY, October 11, 2007.

September Program

Wednesday, September 12
Cold Spring Harbor Public Library

7:00 PM Refreshments
7:30 PM Speaker

Wildlife in Need of Rescue and Rehabilitation

Back by popular demand! This program was so popular last year that we have invited **Bobby Horvath** and his live animals back! Bobby is the director for the non-profit organization, Wildlife in Need of Rescue and Rehabilitation, which serves Nassau County, western Suffolk, and NYC. Bobby and a volunteer will bring various owls, falcons, a Red Tailed Hawk, and a Turkey Vulture, along with some furry critters, for up close and personal viewing. We will hear their stories and learn why they can never again be released into the wild. **Suitable for the entire family.**

The mission of the Huntington Audubon Society is to increase community awareness about the environment and to encourage others to enjoy and protect birds and other wildlife in their natural habitats.



killdeer

is the newsletter of the

Huntington Audubon Society
P.O. Box 735
Huntington, NY 11743-0735

a chapter of the National Audubon Society and is published five times a year.

Officers

President	Stella Miller	(516) 682-5977
1 st Vice Pres.	Blair Broughton	(631) 543-2875
2 nd Vice Pres.	Ginger Mahoney	(516) 922-4599
Recording Sec.	Simone DaRos	(516) 987-7136
Treasurer	Petie Szabo	(631) 427-8769

Newsletter Staff

Co-Editors	Maria Kelly	(631) 673-0937
	Charlotte Miska	(516) 922-9710

Important Telephone Numbers

Rare Bird Alert	(212) 979-3070
-----------------	----------------

For Distressed Wildlife Call

Volunteers for Wildlife	(631) 423-0982
TR Sanctuary	(516) 922-3200

You can find us on the World Wide Web at
www.huntingtonaudubon.org.
E-mail us at has@huntingtonaudubon.org.

Featured Volunteer - Doris Bierhanzl

Doris Bierhanzl has been an active member of Huntington Audubon since she joined in 1975. She was the mid-week field trip leader for a while back when we had mid-week field trips. In the 1980's she was the field trip coordinator and led an occasional trip, usually to Connetquot and Crab Meadow until the early 1990's. She served on the Board of Directors from 1985 - 1994 and was Recording Secretary for a few years. Over the years Doris participated in Nature Awareness Days, Fall Festivals, Bird Seed Sales, helped with hospitality, membership, education, wrote letters as an Armchair Activist, monitored the tern colony at Sand City, and participated in Birdathon and Christmas Bird Counts. She even got her children involved attaching the labels, sorting, and mailing the *Killdeer* for a few years in the 1980's.

Doris was awarded a scholarship from HAS in 1983 to attend the Audubon Camp in Maine. She has been a Cornell Feeder Watch participant for several years and recommends it highly. She says it's enjoyable, easy, and provides you with a wealth of information about birds, their behavior, and distribution. It also serves as another tool of citizen science that ornithology depends upon.

Doris has also been doing behind the scenes tasks as the HAS historian forever, it seems, and has been doing publicity for HAS for over 15 years. Usually she contributes whatever costs are involved in the publicity and this year she very generously donated the cost of a one-week ad in *Newsday* for our recent Yard Sale. For many years, Doris attended membership meetings very regularly, but we haven't seen her as often in the last few years due to other commitments and her extensive travel. (*See related article in this issue.*)

We're most grateful for her longstanding commitment and hard work on behalf of HAS and hope to see her more often. We wish her well in her travels and thank her for still making time to support HAS.

Feed the Birds



We are having just one **Bird Seed Sale** this year on **Saturday, November 3, 2007**. We sell a wide variety of quality seed. The order form, which you will be receiving in the mail in September, describes which types are preferred by different birds. Suggest to a neighbor to also order some seed or better yet, add a bag to your order and give it as a token gift to introduce a neighbor to our seed. Our customers are our finest references. **Please notice the order deadline date and the times to pick up the seed at Huntington High School.**

Out on a Limb
by Alex McKay

Maxwell Corydon Wheat, Jr. – the name is cadenced, fitting for a poet laureate, but Max Wheat, as we have known him in the environmental community, will not be named poet laureate of Nassau County. Most know the story, nominated for the post, our friend and poet-naturalist got caught in the political crossfire of Nassau’s unpredictable legislature and was rejected primarily for the pacifist views expressed in his 2004 book of poems, *Iraq and Other Killing Fields: Poetry for Peace*.

Max has long been a poet of nature. The slender volumes we have known – *Thermalling*, *Trillium*, *Following Their Star* – have all given vivid and memorable images of plants, birds, and other features of the natural world. From the “fiesta flashes” of redstarts to migratory “small birds/hurrying toward the Carribean/taking their fix in life/on the heavenly bull’s incendiary eye” to a grandmother’s story of why the leaves of bird’s foot violets “are shaped like plovers’ feet” Max has given us new ways to envision what we have seen.

Max has always valued all things living wild and free. The poetry for peace that gave rise to the controversy in the Nassau legislature, seems a natural outgrowth of that love for life. Killing fields, whether they be in shrinking forest habitat, vanishing Arctic ice floes, or the dusty cities and deserts of Iraq, are not to be celebrated. We need to be aware of them and do what we can to heal them, and that is what Max’s voice has called and is calling for us to do.

A recent poem, the darkest I know, in *Kingbird*, the journal of the New York Ornithological Association, wonders about the sightings of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in the swamps of eastern Arkansas – “this immense cartoon, this Disney caricature” – is it there? – “what have been the sightings, soundings, along the Congaree . . .?” The question leads to visions of the extinctions of the manatee, the right whale, the polar bear. “There will be no reports – no reports of thousands of species.”

One of my personal favorites is “They are Following Their Star” from the volume of poems of Christmas and Nature that I reread annually – we read of Canada Geese, Black-throated Greens, Blues, Blackburnians, Golden Plover, and the Three Wise Men all “following their Star.”

We are fortunate to have had the pleasure of knowing Max and his poems, and whether or not he ever becomes a poet laureate, he remains a poet of the first order, that voice for all things living, wild and free, whether they be our troops in Iraq, wolves that “answer each other under stars,” or “plants that call down the motions of stars.” We are fortunate that Maxwell Corydon Wheat has followed his star and invited us on the journey.

Wicks Farm Fall Work Dates

Please call Cathy Fitts (631-427-8623) for clean up days at Wicks Farm.

Thank You From HAS’ Hospitality
by Simone DaRos



Freshly baked, homemade coffee cake, Irish soda bread, brownies, cupcakes, cookies, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, cheese and crackers and so much more have been generously donated to our outstanding refreshments at each of HAS’ monthly membership meetings.

We want to extend a huge thank you to ALL who have contributed in one way or another to our Hospitality Committee. Your contributions and help with setting up and cleaning up have been vital to the success of our meetings. With your support, we were able to continue to provide our members with a delicious array of yummy goodies that our members eagerly looked forward to each month. HAS wants to thank all of those members who signed up as volunteers and wants to thank all of those anonymous helpers who regularly contributed to our refreshment table.

Please look for our Hospitality Refreshment sign-up sheet at each of our meetings. We look forward to continuing to provide our members with outstanding refreshments that they have come to depend on!

THANK YOU - Pat Aitken, Pat Burnside, Ruth Corwin, Simone DaRos, Alice DelBosco, Denise Harrington, Maria Kelly, Ginger Mahoney, Charlotte Miska, Lindy Nielsen, Pat Reeves, Arlene Scholer, Petie Szabo, and Joan Shapiro.



October Program
Thursday, October 11
(Note change of usual meeting day.)
Cold Spring Harbor Public Library

7:00 PM Refreshments
7:30 PM Speaker

Urban Raptors

Cal Vornberger, professional wildlife photographer and author of the award-winning *Birds of Central Park* will give a slide presentation about his forthcoming book, *Urban Raptors: the Hawks, Owls, Falcons, and Eagles that Live Among Us*. His presentation will focus on raptors that have learned to adapt to the presence of man and that live in and around major urban areas in the United States.

Up-Country by Bill McAneny



from Huntington seven years ago.

This is the second of a series of articles describing the pleasures of life among the Finger Lakes. We live just north of the border between Seneca and Tompkins Counties. Our street is the county line. Shirley and I moved here

My neighbor, Jesse Miller, and I were scanning our section of Cayuga Lake for waterfowl. We were participating in the NYSDEC annual waterfowl census last January. (John Taylor, how many years have we been doing this census? 45? 50?) We were at Taughannock Falls State Park, about a mile from home. There is a small marina there, and it was covered about half with ice and half with Mallards. As we counted ducks, a small black shape ran to one of the dock pilings and pulled something off. This was repeated while we tried to ID the critter. Our conclusion? A mink. Larger than I expected! Most likely, it was collecting pond algae for lining a burrow. We observed several more trips to the piling before the action stopped.

Wildlife is plentiful here in the up-country. One reason this may seem to be so is better visibility in the open croplands and ex-croplands. But a better reason is the greater availability of forage and breeding places or dens. Deer are so plentiful as to be a nuisance. Two of our gardens are fenced year round and the plantings around the house are fenced in winter. A couple of weeks ago, there were 11 deer in our backyard. Shirley yells at them, but they stare back and won't move unless chased. There have been times when 40 deer were observed in the cornfield around the corner. One interesting accommodation the does have made is to drop their newborn young near our house, knowing that they are safer here from predators than in the fields and woods. It is hard to accept that these incredibly beautiful fawns are going to become the bane of our gardening enterprises.

Red foxes and gray foxes wander through our yard occasionally. Sometimes we see them and other times we see only their tracks in the snow. A gray fox had a den in the dirt floor of one of our barns when we moved here, but was displaced when we undertook major repairs to the barn. Less often, opossums and skunks cross the yard. They are not encouraged. Neither are the groundhogs, which tend to dig in around the stone foundations of the house and barns.

Last winter we had to take down an old sugar maple in the front yard for safety reasons. It had major rotten spots and holes in the trunk. After trimming off all the branches and felling the tree, and after sawing the fallen trunk into short pieces for firewood, we were about to saw into the biggest

rotten section when we realized something was in there. With a little poking and prodding, we encouraged a fat raccoon to leave his snug den for the uncertainty of the nearby woods.

Gray squirrels and chipmunks abound, as do rabbits. Red squirrels make a nuisance of themselves around the feeders and bird nests. They also gnaw their way into my shop building. That does little to endear them to me. Sometimes the chipmunks find their way into our cellar through cracks in the old stone foundation. There they join the legions of deer mice that seek warmth in winter. In the fields, the mice are joined by meadow voles, which become a major source of food for raptors and canids. Yes, we have coyotes, but we hear them yipping in the woods more often than we see them. Even a black bear or two wander through, according to our neighbors. No moose, however; not yet. No porcupines either, but people talk about them as though they should be here but perhaps are invisible.

Our stone walls are home to garter snakes and a few milk snakes. It is always a big day here in the spring when the snakes come out. (OK, sometimes the rural life is a little short of excitement.) There are toads and tree frogs and a red-backed salamander here and there, usually not far from our creek. Box turtles are notably absent from our property, but we keep looking. Painted turtles and an occasional snapper are seen in ponds and swamps. Not a few of the swamps are created by beavers, which can be seen industriously building and repairing their dams. There is a lot more surface water here than on Long Island because the soil is much less permeable – clay versus sand. Many properties have farm ponds, too, making a moist environment for shorebirds and ducks. They will make their appearance in a future column.

Just in case we feel a need to engage even further with wildlife, there is the very active Cayuga Nature Center just four miles down the road towards Ithaca. I will save that also for another time. Good Birding.

Editor's Note: Bill McAneny was an active member of HAS for more than 35 years. During that time he served two terms as president, was editor of the Killdeer, coordinator of Armchair Activist from its inception, and HAS representative to numerous local, state, and national committees. We welcome him back to the Killdeer.

To All Long Island Birders



Visit LI Birds.com, the website aimed specifically at you. Find photos, articles, identification help, backyard hints, and much more. Check the Sightings Page to see what other birders are seeing around the Island. And please, send in your sightings as well; help keep everyone informed. Go to www.libirds.com.

Our Travels
by Doris Bierhanzl



When I get to Huntington Audubon meetings nowadays, people greet me commenting that they haven't seen me lately and ask where I've been. For several years now, my husband Ed

Luber and I have been able to travel extensively. We have traveled to China, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Borneo, Bali, India, Pakistan, Syria, Jordan, Jerusalem, Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Dubai, Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. We also went to western Europe, Romania, Turkey, Greece, Estonia, Ukraine, Russia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. And let's not forget Australia, New Zealand, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, Brazil, and the Galapagos.

Most of our travel has been motivated by an interest in history and in people and cultures different from our own. A desire to see the natural beauty and wonders of the world has led us to travel throughout the Continental United States as well as to distant locations. On some trips we have had a bird guide and have been thrilled to see birds common to the area, but new to us like the Blue-footed Boobies and Frigate birds in the Galapagos, the White-browed Wagtail, Red-vented Bulbul and Indian Pond Heron in southern India and "not another Vermilion Flycatcher" in Big Bend National Park. Then there are the sightings that are unusual even for the area – the Hoatzin in Brazil and the Montezuma's Quail in Fort Davis, Texas.

With the guidance of local birders we have found birds even in the unlikeliest of spots. Dubai in the United Arab Emirates seemed to me like a giant, dusty construction site in the desert dotted with fancy hotels and shopping malls. But Ed found a local bird guide before we left home and he was true to his promise - we saw 128 species in 3 days. We visited a fresh water pond near a construction site (ducks, cormorants, grebes, gallinule, teal, and a Greylag Goose), a sod farm (Red-wattled Lapwing, several types of wagtail, pipits, Stint, Snipe), the shore of the Persian Gulf (Redshank, Greenshank, lots of gulls, sandpipers and the striking Black and White Crab Plover), the Arabian Desert (Crested Lark), the Hajar Mountains (we saw Egyptian vultures and looked for but didn't see Lappet-Faced Vultures), parks (Hume's Wheatear and Blue Rock Thrush) and a bird preserve with seven Greater Spotted Eagles flying over and a few hundred Greater Flamingoes in the water. Other enjoyable birds were the Collared Kingfisher, Little Green Bee-eater, and Purple Sunbird.

I have many good memories of my childhood vacations camping on Cape Cod. Now our family vacations consist of taking our children and grandchildren to Cape Cod to share the natural beauty and enjoy the wonderful seafood. In a few years we hope to take the whole family to Alaska.

As I write this, I'm preparing to leave next week for a repeat visit to the Galapagos with a friend and in September Ed and I will be headed to Namibia and South Africa to enjoy the animals and birds.

Wherever we travel I always return home with a renewed appreciation of the freedom and comforts of living in the United States. People world-wide understand the opportunities life offers in the US and individual Americans are seen favorably and as friends. The average person is very interested and knowledgeable about life and politics in the US. In my travels and birding I have often felt like a goodwill ambassador for the US.

From the Board of Directors



Some changes have taken place on the Board of Directors. Elections resulted in the following: President, Stella Miller; First Vice President, Blair Broughton, Second Vice President, Ginger Mahoney, Treasurer, Petie Szabo, and Recording Secretary, Simone DaRos. They serve one-year terms. Elected for a three-year term ending in 2010 were Sharon Brody, Simone DaRos, Catherine Fitts, Stella Miller, and Vinnie Schiappa. We welcome Charlotte Miska who joined the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy for a term ending in 2009 and Pat Aitkins our new field trip co-coordinator. Thanks to all for sharing their time and talents on behalf of Huntington Audubon.



Membership Application

Chapter No. RO2

Membership in National Audubon includes a subscription to *Audubon* magazine and all the benefits of being a local chapter member. As a member of the Huntington Audubon Society, you will receive our newsletter and an open invitation to all our meetings, field trips, and events.

- New National Audubon Society member for \$20 (includes *Audubon* magazine)
- Huntington Audubon Society member for \$20 (does NOT include *Audubon* magazine)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 e-Mail _____

Make check payable to:
Huntington Audubon Society.
Send your check and application to:
Huntington Audubon Society
P.O. Box 735
Huntington, NY 11743-0735



MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Meetings and activities of the Huntington Audubon Society are free to members and nonmembers. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at the **Cold Spring Harbor Library** except for the months of July and August. Our refreshments will be set up and ready for you at 6:45 so that you will have ample time for socializing, meeting Board members, and perusing the printed materials available. We're doing this to be sure the program can start promptly at 7:30 and end early enough for us all to exit the building by its 9:00 PM closing hour. Our cooperation and compliance will allow the library staff to close the gate on schedule.

August 2007

Wednesday, August 29, 7:30 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at Cold Spring Harbor Library.

September 2007

Wednesday, September 12, 7:00 PM – Membership meeting at the Cold Spring Harbor Library. *Wildlife in Need of Rescue and Rehabilitation*, featuring Bobby Horvath is back by popular demand! Bobby and a volunteer will bring various owls and falcons, a Red Tailed Hawk and a Turkey Vulture, along with some furry critters, for up close and personal viewing. We will learn about their lives in the wild and why these particular animals can never again be released back into the wild. Children as well as adults will enjoy this program!

Wednesday, September 19, 7:30 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at Cold Spring Harbor Library.

Friday, September 28 - Deadline for the November-December *Killdeer*.

October 2007



THURSDAY, October 11, 7:00 PM – Membership meeting at the Cold Spring Harbor Library
NOTE CHANGE OF DAY. *Urban Raptors*, Cal Vornberger, professional wildlife photographer and author of the award-winning *Birds of Central Park* will give a slide presentation about his forthcoming book, *Urban Raptors: the Hawks, Owls, Falcons, and Eagles that Live Among Us*. His presentation will focus on raptors that have learned to adapt to the presence of man and that live in and around major urban areas in the United States.

Saturday, October 13, Fish Hatchery Festival in Cold Spring Harbor. We need volunteers to man our table at the Fair. Contact Petie Szabo (631-427-8769) if you can help.

Wednesday, October 17, 7:30 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at Cold Spring Harbor Library.

November 2007

Saturday, November 3, 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM – Bird Seed Sale at Huntington High School. Our only Bird Seed Sale this year. Top quality seed! This is our biggest fund raiser. Please continue to support us by ordering and picking up the birdseed. You should receive an order form in the mail. Please be sure to note the order deadline. If you can help on the day of the sale, contact Cathy Fitts (631 427 8623).



Birders' Box

As of April 28, HAS had seen 106 different species of birds on official field trips. May, naturally, added quite a few. The May 12 trip to the Wolf Conservation Center and Ward Pond Ridge added Eastern Bluebird, Turkey Vulture, and Wild Turkey. On May 13 at Central Park, 18 species of warblers were seen including Chestnut-sided, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Worm-eating, and Canada Warblers as well as Ovenbird and Northern Waterthrush. The Birdathon on May 20 had 21 species of warblers among the 107 different species recorded by HAS that day. Also added on the 20th were Tri-colored Heron, Little Blue Heron, Semi-palmated Plover, and Semi-palmated Sandpiper. Although the Bobolink Watch did not yield Bobolinks, one of the last birds seen by the group at Jamaica Bay on the Birdathon was – surprise, a Bobolink! Teatown Lake on June 16 added Black Vulture.

Number of species seen this calendar year on HAS trips is 160.



FIELD TRIPS

Field trips organized by Huntington Audubon are free and open to the public. Birding with a group is a wonderful way to share your interests with like-minded people to learn more about birds and nature, and to enjoy many preserves and natural areas. Newcomers are most welcome. Binoculars and field guides are strongly advised, but leaders usually have some field guides to share. Field trips begin at 9:00 AM at the birding site and end around noon unless otherwise specified. Directions to the site are published below and on our website. Carpooling is possible, gas and tolls are shared. Contact the trip leader for details. The trip leader is not responsible for arranging carpools, but will provide names of others who are interested in carpooling. Registration is necessary. Call the trip leader by 9:00 PM Thursday for a Saturday trip and by 9:00 PM Friday for a Sunday trip. Be sure to leave your phone number. You may participate if you didn't register, but we will not be able to notify you of any changes or cancellations without your phone number. Dress for the weather realizing you'll be outdoors for long periods of time. Bring water and if the trip is for a full day, bring a bag lunch. Rain or temperature below 20° F cancels. For the comfort and safety of all participants there is no smoking on field trips.

September 2007

Saturday, September 8, 9:00 AM – Canoe Trip in Constitution Marsh, Cold Spring, NY. Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary. Eric Lind, a marsh naturalist, will lead participants through winding channels, identifying plants and wildlife observed. There is a \$15 fee for Audubon members, \$20 for nonmembers for this two-hour trip. Contact Stella Miller (516-695-0763) to register by September 5.

Directions: Taconic Parway north, exit onto Route 301 going west to Cold Spring. At the Cold Spring traffic light, go left onto Route 9D south. Approximately 2 miles down the road, make a right onto Indian Brook Road. Go down Indian Brook Road about 1/2 mile and look for the National Audubon parking area on the right hand side. Park and walk to your right. Walk through the gates and down the hill to the nature center.

Saturday, September 15, 9:00 AM – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. This is a great birding spot in the fall for shorebirds, summer residents, and migrants. Leader: Sharon Brody (516-433-5590).

Directions: Southern State Parkway to Belt Parkway to exit 17S, Cross Bay Boulevard, heading south. After crossing the bridge, look for parking lot entrance on the right side 1-1/4 miles from the bridge. Turn right at the traffic light and meet in the parking lot

Sunday September 23 8:30 AM – Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge/Raptor Trust Center, Basking Ridge, NJ. The walk will be led by a volunteer of the refuge. Pack a lunch to enjoy while we view a short video on Great Swamp. **A \$5 per person donation is suggested.** Contact Stella Miller (516-695-0763) to register.

Directions: From the George Washington Bridge, take I-80 west to I-287 south. Take exit 30A (Basking Ridge/North Maple Avenue) and bear right onto North Maple Avenue. Go through traffic light at Madisonville Road (ignore the refuge directional sign pointing left at Madisonville Road) and continue on North Maple Avenue. After one mile North Maple will bear left and become South Maple Avenue. Continue on South Maple Avenue for one mile and turn left

on Lord Stirling Road. After 1.3 miles (last part is a dirt road) and pass over a bridge on the Passaic River (the road name changes to White Bridge Road). From the bridge on White Bridge Road, stay on White Bridge Road for 2 miles, make left onto New Vernon. Continue 0.9 miles and wildlife observation center will be on left. Approximately 2 hours from Huntington.

After the Great Swamp walk, we will go to the **Raptor Trust**, a very short drive away to view at close range the many hawks, eagles, falcons and owls that are permanent residents at the facility. **A donation of \$2.00 per person is encouraged.** Contact Stella Miller (516-695-0763) by **September 18 to register. Group size is limited to 15.**

Sunday, September 30, 2:00 - 4:00 PM – Wicks Farm Tour. We will walk in Wicks Farm to show people the property and what we have done there. Contact Cathy Fitts (631-427-8623).

Directions: From the east take Pulaski Rd. west past Oakwood Rd. in Huntington. From the west take Woodbury Rd. toward Huntington. When Woodbury Rd. veers to the left after the Cold Spring Harbor RR Station stay straight. That becomes Pulaski Rd. Wicks is directly across from White Post Farms parking area.

October 2007

Saturday, October 20 to Sunday, October 21 – Overnight trip to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in PA. Meet at the Hawk Mt. Parking lot at 11 AM. If you care to carpool from LI, contact the trip leader. Carpoolers share gas and tolls. Also contact him for suggested places to stay overnight on Sat. 10/20. Leader: Blair Broughton (631-543-2875). Hawk Mt. is located north of Hamburg, PA, approximately 7 miles northeast of I-78. Approximately 2 hours from Huntington.

Directions: 3 hours Take I-78 WEST thru New Jersey to Pennsylvania. Continue on I-78 thru PA, passing Lehigh Valley exits to Exit 35 (Lenhartsville). On Rt. 143 NORTH, go 4 miles to Sunoco gas station. Turn left at the blue Hawk Mountain sign onto Hawk Mt. Road. Go 7 miles to top of mountain, turn left into parking lot.

(Continued next page)



killdeer

Huntington Audubon Society
P.O. Box 735
Huntington, NY 11743-0735

Forwarding Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Huntington, NY
Permit No. 546

August - September - October 2007



Printed on recycled paper.

(Field Trips continued from page 7.)

Saturday, October 27, 8:30 AM – Mianus River Gorge Hike. This hike will be approximately 5 miles or so, easy to moderate. Leader: Stella Miller (516-695-0763).

Directions: Hutchinson River Parkway north to 684. Take 684 to exit 4 and turn onto Route 172 east (right turn) towards Bedford. Go about 2 miles to the fork in the road (Shell Gas Station on the left) and turn left towards Bedford, still on 172. Head north on 172 to Bedford Village Green and bear right at the Green towards Pound ridge. Drive 1 mile, still on 172, to Mobil gas station on right. Turn right on Long Ridge Road (Rt 104). Go 1/2 mile to Miller's Mill Rd, turn right. Go down hill and turn left just after the small bridge onto Mianus River Rd. Entrance to MRGP is 0.6 down on the left. Approximate travel time is 1.5 hours from Huntington. Group size is limited to 10.

November 2007

Saturday, November 17, 9:00 AM – Pelham Bay Park. Look for owls, ducks, and permanent residents. In the past, Barn, Screech, Long-Eared, Saw-whet, and Great Horned owls have been sighted there. Leader: Blair Broughton (631-543-2875).

Directions: Hutchinson River Parkway to the Pelham Bay Park/City Island/Orchard Beach exit. Continue east farther into the park past the traffic circle then veering left to the parking area on Hunters Island. Meet the group there.

December 2007

Saturday, December 1, 9:00 AM – North Shore Ponds and Harbors. Meet in front of the Heckscher Museum in Huntington to visit several ponds and harbors on the North shore. See Mergansers, Pintails, Green-winged Teal, Scaup, Canvasbacks, Buffleheads, and other ducks as well as permanent resident land birds. Always a fun trip. Leader: Maria Kelly (631-673-0937).

Directions: Take 25A east in Huntington and go north onto Prime Ave. to Museum parking lot. The Museum is east of the village.

December TBA – Northern Nassau Christmas Bird Count. Join Audubon members in the oldest continuous citizen science project. Data is used to determine patterns of increases or decreases in winter populations throughout the U.S. Contact Bill Reeves (631-266-4309). He will explain the time and place.



**Be sure to visit us on the
web**

www.huntingtonaudubon.org