

The Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society
A chapter of the National Audubon Society



killdeer

August – September – October 2011

Serving Huntington Township and the Neighboring Oyster Bay and Jericho Areas

Bird Seed Sale

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon will hold its annual bird seed sale on **Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Huntington High School.** We sell high-quality bird seed, some specially blended for the Long Island area. Order forms should arrive in your mailbox in September, since seed must be ordered in advance. If you don't get a form by then, contact Sharon Brody (516-433-5590) or visit our website. You and your feathered friends will love the seed and the profits help to support the efforts of your local Audubon chapter.



Al Caccese introduced a film which presented highlights of the environmental work performed by each honoree. These individuals have a long and impressive list of achievements in their lifetime. They have given tirelessly of themselves to protect the environment. Without their efforts, the face of Long Island might have been very different.



Honoree Alice DelBosco with Ted Scherff, TRS Director

Alice DelBosco Honored

Pat Aitken

The 2011 Legacy of Conservation Gala was held at the Piping Rock Country Club on May 7. The theme of this black-tie event was "A Night in Venice" and many of the attendees wore Venetian style masks. It was a lovely early spring evening. Staff and volunteers of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary circulated amongst the guests and displayed some of the Sanctuary's rehabilitated birds. There were four very deserving honorees: Helen Crosson of the Cold Spring Harbor Library and Environmental Center; Carol Dubois, a generous local philanthropist and environmental advocate; Julie Rinaldini of the North Shore Land Alliance; and HOBAS's own Alice DelBosco. In addition to her service as a Board Member of the Huntington – Oyster Bay Audubon Society, Alice was a founding member of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center, has advocated for environmental education and conservation for many years, was the Chair of the Audubon New York Education Committee, and was honored by Audubon New York last year with the Norman L. Stotz Award for Extraordinary Volunteer Services.

Laura Savini of WLIW – 21 reprised her role as Master of Ceremonies for the gala. Bernadette Castro proved to be an excellent choice for celebrity auctioneer. She kept the bids flying as guests competed against each other for exciting trips and auction prizes, all to benefit the Sanctuary. Thanks to the efforts of the Gala Committee, over \$170,000 was raised to benefit the Sanctuary.



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Email List...

by going to www.hobaudubon.org



Membership Meetings

7:00 PM Refreshments
7:30 PM Speaker

September 14, 2011:

*Human Impact on Long Island Wildlife
with Lauren Schulz, Education
Coordinator, Volunteers for Wildlife*

October 12, 2011:

*Carnivores of the World
with Luke Hunter, PhD*

See page 6 for details.

The mission of the Huntington-Oyster Bay 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-Oyster Bay Audubon Society
P.O. Box 735
Huntington, NY 11743-0735

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

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Rare Bird Alert	212-979-3070
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For Distressed Wildlife Call

Volunteers for Wildlife	631-423-0982
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You can find us on the World Wide Web at
www.hobaudubon.org.

E-mail us at **has@huntingtonaudubon.org.**

News from the President

Stella Miller



Hello everyone, I hope you are having a great summer! As I write this, we are gearing up for our annual beach cleanup at Target Rock. This past spring we conducted two invasive species pulls, one at Shu Swamp and the other at St. John’s Preserve.

Participating in activities like these is a great way to have fun while making a difference. With that in mind, we are always on the look out for volunteers for our activities, events, and functions. We especially need volunteers that are interested in leading field trips (These do not have to be birding trips. Hiking, kayaking, the Bronx Zoo, general naturalist jaunts, and mammal tracking have been the focus of some of our past trips. If there is a place or activity you think our members would be interested in and you are willing to lead the trip, let us know!), working with kids (ideal for retired school teachers), and fundraising. As an all volunteer organization, volunteers are not only the foundation of HOBAS, they are critical to our success.

If you are interested becoming a board member, we ask that you first volunteer, join a committee and get to know us, as we get to know you. Being a board member has its responsibilities. You must attend monthly board meetings and participate in some of our activities. You should contribute to HOBAS’ financial base by engaging in our fundraising efforts, cultivating potential supporters. Being a board member means you will serve actively, helping to heighten public awareness about our mission, while using your personal field of expertise for HOBAS in a manner and level that will enhance the organization as we progress and grow. If you are interested in “getting involved” with us on a deeper level, please reach out to me. Let’s talk!

Highway Cleanups

HOBAS has completed its first Adopt-a-Highway contract with Suffolk County. We have been conducting cleanups along Pulaski Road parallel to Wicks Farm for the past two years. Perhaps you have noticed the blue and white signs announcing our stewardship of this stretch of road. We will be signing a new two-year contract in August. **Cleanups are conducted at 7:30 AM. Meet at the parking lot across from Wicks Farm:**

- Saturday, August 27
- Sunday, September 25
- Sunday, October 23
- Saturday, November 19



If you want to be part of this fun group, contact Simone DaRos at 516-987-7136. You can make a difference by creating a cleaner environment while getting a sense of community by being part of a nation-wide program.

Oakwood Primary Centers' Schoolyard Habitat Project

Simone DaRos

In 2009-2010 Oakwood teachers, parents, custodians, administrators, and children began to create a schoolyard habitat project modeled after the National Audubon Societies' Schoolyard Habitat outline and National Wildlife Federation's Wildlife Habitat recommendations. The location for this project is on a small sandy playground area that exists in the rear of the school. The vision for this project was to create an outdoor classroom setting for our K-2 students and teachers. Additionally, the habitat would improve the diversity of plants and animals in that area by attracting beneficial pollinators such as butterflies, moths, and bees.

The project was kicked off by a school-community cleanup day. Then two raised flower beds were constructed by staff and parent volunteers. The raised beds include an herb sensory garden. Here students use their senses to discover the scents and textures of each herb. Some of the herbs that were planted were basil, lemon balm, thyme, and rosemary. The sensory garden included student planted nasturtium and petunia annuals as well. Bees and butterflies were attracted to the herb garden and provided the students with a close up view of these important pollinators. The other raised bed houses butterfly and bee attracting perennials and hosts a ladybug beetle house.

In addition, the surrounding sandy areas were improved with the addition of soil and compost where wildflowers and sunflowers were planted. There are also perennials such as bee balm, milkweed, Montauk daisies, Joe-Pye weed, sedum, and hostas which round out some of the additional plantings. Each plant species helps to build species diversity in this somewhat barren area. In the future, we plan to increase the number of and type of plantings so that more native plant species will be represented.

The schoolyard habitat has a bird feeding station that includes a birdbath, suet feeders, and traditional birdfeeders. Teachers purchased birdseed and donated the food for our winter birds as well as our migratory ones. Students and teachers have maintained the bird feeding station and have had the opportunity to see up close many species of birds which include Blue Jays, Northern Cardinals, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Common Grackles, and Dark-eyed Juncos.

Teaching materials were obtained through a generous South Huntington Teachers' Association grant. These learning materials include interactive garden games, insect and bird I.D. games, books, thermometers, hand lenses, and plant labels. We are looking forward to enhancing our

schoolyard habitat for 2011-2012. Our plan will be to include picnic style tables where students could easily gather for outdoor lessons. We will increase the plantings by adding two new raised beds where native plantings will be included namely butterfly weed, milkweed, and berry producing shrubs. A bird nest box and spider web frame will be included inside the habitat as well.



Students planting one of two raised beds.

The first year of our schoolyard habitat project has been a huge success. Our school community and local Audubon chapter, Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society, has been enthusiastic and supportive of this project. Most of all, it is a benefit to our students. Young children love being outside to discover the natural world. Their enthusiasm and interest naturally translates to learning about science concepts in an interactive and meaningful way. When asked what they like most about the schoolyard habitat; some typical responses included, "...I like being surrounded by nature, hearing sounds, picking up sticks, helping birds find food and water..."

Editor's Note: The Oakwood Primary Center Schoolyard Habitat Project is one of the environmental education projects HOBAS supports.

Thank You

... to Debbie Martin for being our publicity person and sending out announcements of field trips and meetings to a wide range of publications. Because of her efforts HOBAS events have been well advertized in the local print media. Her time and effort is greatly appreciated.

... and a warm **Welcome** to Stephanie Fleice who has generously assumed this important task.

Habitat Hotel

John Turner

Imagine yourself alone on a desolate stretch of interstate highway. Your eyes are tired and beginning to burn, you've grown hungry and thirsty, and you wouldn't mind making a bathroom stop. Moreover, you look down and realize your gas tank is nearing empty. Not to worry you tell yourself because, after all, you've taken this route before and know you're only minutes away from a trusted and very fortuitously positioned diner, gas stop, and motel. Yes, just minutes away from a full meal, topped-off gas tank, warm shower, and a soft pillow. Your car hums around the last bend into a flood of neon glare that tells you the basics you need – food, water, rest, and shelter are near. Life is good.

Now further imagine that you've sprouted wings and grown feathers. You've become a small songbird, say a Swainson's Thrush, and you're migrating from breeding haunts in northern Canada to wintering grounds in Central America and northern South America. After a night of non-stop flying you're fatigued – like the weary motorist you too need rest, food, water, and shelter. As a migrating bird what and where is your "car stop"? It's quality natural habitat along your migratory route – fields, wetlands, and forests – like those found in the Long Island Pine Barrens.

Scientists call such areas migratory stopover habitat and there is growing appreciation among ecologists, conservationists, and birders alike about the value these types of habitat play in sustaining birds during migration, a particularly challenging time in the year. Challenging because during migration birds expend tremendous amounts of energy. In fact, some birds push the absolute limits – certain songbirds and shorebirds, for example, fly non-stop for several thousand miles, often for a few days in a row. During this time the bird's heart may beat more than one million times and their wings flap more than half a million. For these bird marathoner's, and others like our Swainson's Thrush which make more modest progress while migrating in shorter but still impressive leaps, the presence of high-quality habitat in which these birds can forage and refuel their "gas tank" is imperative.

Stopover habitat is especially important within or at the edges of unsuitable or inhospitable habitat. Areas along the coast, adjacent to large water bodies that birds traverse during migration, are well-known for providing habitat in which tired and hungry birds can rest and feed. Perhaps the most well-known example in North America is the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana. Natural land along this several hundred mile long coastline provides foraging habitat for birds that have just migrated across the Gulf of Mexico. Coastal islands like Block Island, Plum Island, and the Florida Keys, surrounded by the inhospitable

ocean, similarly offer food and respite for songbirds. Even small fragmented woodlots a few acres in size can be significant.

The importance of stopover habitat for migratory birds became quite apparent on a hike I took last fall in the Pine Barrens. I was exploring one of the largest protected tracts left in the Pine Barrens, an area encompassing more than 400 acres of intact woodland in Ridge. Within minutes of leaving the road and heading into a forest decorated in fall foliage, I was witness to a continuous movement of birds. Surrounding me were various species of songbirds and their motion was continuous: some flitted down from a branch disappearing behind the shrubby heaths while others did the opposite – apparently sated from feeding on the forest floor they flew upward to alight on a low-level branch, kindly providing me with clear, prolonged views. The two most common species were a pair of thrushes – the above-mentioned Swainson's Thrush (named after William Swainson, a noted English ornithologist) and its cousin the Hermit Thrush. The individuals were migrating south having recently departed from summer breeding grounds in New England and southern Canada. The forests in this tract of Pine Barrens were providing stopover habitat – a well positioned hotel of sorts along their migratory route-of-travel.

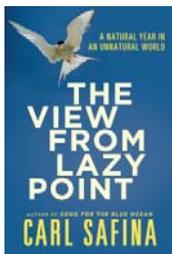


Swainson's Thrush

Walking back to the car at the end of the two-hour hike, during which I saw more than a dozen thrushes feeding, the fundamental value of habitat provided by the Pine Barrens and the dozens of other large and small parks and preserves throughout Long Island became abundantly clear. A forest, as but one example, not only provides the resources which enable resident species – deer, mice, chipmunks, and rabbits; chickadees and woodpeckers; box turtles and tiger salamanders – to thrive in their "homes." Habitat also provides another very important function: serving as well positioned "hotels" for dozens of species of on the move, such as migratory birds and insects providing them with places where they can meet the basic requirements that our weary interstate traveler needs – food, shelter, and water.

Out on a Limb

Alex McKay



Among the guests and speakers at HOBAS' 50th Anniversary Dinner was Carl Safina – author, ecologist, marine conservationist, and president of the Blue Ocean Institute based in Cold Spring Harbor. Copies of Carl's new book, *The View from Lazy Point: A Natural Year in an Unnatural World* were available for purchase after the dinner. I left with a copy and eagerly read it over the next several

days – a second, slower reading is in progress.

The view from Lazy Point is a long one in time and space, following local events and Carl's personal experiences during a year at the east end of Long Island to the devastating effects of global warming, rising sea levels, and ocean acidification in places as far flung as the islands of Micronesia, the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans, and the coral reefs of the South Pacific and Caribbean. The book is also, as Carl puts it, "partly about a kind of heartbreak for a world so vitally unaware of how imperiled it is."

Locally, the first singing Red-winged Blackbirds announce that it is spring. The natural year begins. In alternating chapters, we follow the ringing of peepers, the migrations of shorebirds, the mating of horseshoe crabs, move into a summer of breeding and feeding terns, an Osprey nest, and on through the year to the wintering waterfowl, the scoters and Long-tailed Ducks, and "scribbles" of cormorants passing offshore and the return of the red-wings. And there are Carl's wonderful fishing stories – for bluefish, striped bass, herring, and a solo Herculean encounter with a massive mako shark and the killing of a killer instinct.

We read of the decline of migrating Red Knots dependent on the eggs of horseshoe crabs whose numbers also decline with over-harvesting by baymen. "If the Red Knot comes undone, it will be just the first in an oncoming chain of shorebirds derailed in the crab-overfishing train wreck." We travel to Antarctica where retreating sea ice leads to a decline in young krill which leads to a decline in penguins. At the opposite pole, above Svalbard in the Norwegian Sea, we witness the struggles and drownings of polar bears and learn that researchers are "increasingly worried about early ice breakup and receding sea ice forcing bears to swim long distances."

Native people as well as wildlife are being stressed by warming waters and rising sea levels. We visit the Inupiat Eskimo community of Shishmaref, their home island for millennia, where melting sea ice and melting permafrost threaten their way of life and will force them to abandon their homes. Thousands of miles away, "the slow tsunami of a rising sea" affects the tiny island of Peleliu, its taro crop, wells, fishing, and is in the process of creating "climate-change refugees."

There is more than fact here to think about. In Carl's words, "our philosophy, ethics, religion, and economics can't seem to detect the risks we're running. How could they? They're ancient and medieval institutions, out of sync with what we've learned in the last century about how the world really works." Perhaps we have entered a new epoch in Earth's history – the Anthropocene – "when people are **the** dominant force on the planetary surface." Certainly, the destructive effects of our civilization and expanding populations are evident everywhere the author has travelled.

An epigraph from E. B. White fronts the text of *The View*: "I arise in the morning between a desire to save the world and a desire to savor the world." There is both much to savor and much to save in the worlds described in this compelling and troubling book. We need a "compass of compassion" to guide our way on our threatened planet. Carl concludes, "We can't run civilization on energy that diminishes the world." It is a diminished and rapidly diminishing world – an unnatural world – that we see here.

Carl inscribed my copy of the book, "Enjoy the view." As dog-eared and highlighted pages attest, I certainly have. You need to discover for yourself the riches this short review has omitted.

Seahorse Legislation Signed into Law HOBAS achieves important legislative priority

John Turner, Conservation Co-Chair

In the last *Killdeer*, we reported that NY State legislation to ban the commercial harvest of northern or lined seahorses (A. 2439/S.2324) was working its way through the legislative process, and we're hopeful it would pass both state houses and make it to Governor Cuomo's desk. Well, the measure did find its way to the Governor's desk and he signed it into law (Chapter 81 of the Laws of 2011)! We are delighted he did and in so doing enabled us to achieve one of ours and the LI Audubon Council's legislative priorities for the 2011 State session.



With enactment of this new marine conservation measure, seahorses will be protected against harvest by commercial interests for sale to local pet stores. Scientific and educational institutions will still be able to harvest seahorses.

A number of individuals and marine conservation organizations wrote to Governor Cuomo asking him to sign the bill into law. We thank all of you that responded to the Action Alert and wrote to the Governor to express your support to protect these iconic and vulnerable animals, and also thank the legislative sponsors State Senator Ken LaValle and Assemblyman Steve Englebright for moving the measure through the legislative process.



MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Membership meetings and most activities of the Huntington-Oyster Bay 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 PM so that you will have ample time for socializing, meeting Board members, and perusing the printed materials available. The program starts promptly at 7:30.

August 2011

Wednesday, August 17, 7:15 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at the Cold Spring Harbor Library.

September 2011

Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 PM – **Membership meeting at the Cold Spring Harbor Library.** *Human Impact on Long Island Wildlife with Lauren Schulz, Education Coordinator, Volunteers for Wildlife.* Every year wild animals are injured due to human influence. Tonight you will learn about some of the wildlife cases that have come to Volunteers for Wildlife's hospital. You will also have the opportunity to meet several of the center's permanently disabled birds that have been affected by people on Long Island.

Saturday, September 17, 2:00 PM – *Close Encounters of a Gigantic Kind, from Montauk to Tonga with Paul J. Mila.* Today's presentation will feature encounters with humpback whales in Montauk, Dominican Republic's Silver Bank, and the South Pacific Kingdom of Tonga; recent surface encounters with Gray Whales in the lagoons of the Baja Peninsula; and a glimpse into diving Cozumel.

Wednesday, September 21, 7:15 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at the Cold Spring Harbor Library.

October 2011

Monday, October 3 – Deadline for November-December *Killdeer*.

Wednesday, October 12, 7:00 PM – **Membership meeting at the Cold Spring Harbor Library.** *Carnivores of the World with Luke Hunter, PhD.* In conjunction with the release of his latest book, *Carnivores of the World*, the first detailed field guide to all 250 species of true carnivores, Dr. Hunter will provide an overview of taxonomy, conservation, and the distinct families within the order Carnivora. Books will be available for sale and signing by Dr. Hunter.

Wednesday, October 19, 7:15 PM – Meeting of the Board of Directors at the Cold Spring Harbor Library.

Saturday, October 29, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. **Bird Seed Sale at Huntington HS.** Order forms should arrive in your mailbox in September since seed must be ordered in advance. If you don't get a form, contact Sharon Brody (516-433-5590) or download from our website.

Birders' Box

Sunday, April 24. Blair Broughton and 2 others travelled to the **Great Swamp** in NJ. Not only were good birds seen, but 2 species of snakes, 3 of turtles, and 2 of frogs. Birds included both Vultures, Wood Duck, Eastern Bluebird, Catbird, Pileated Woodpecker (3), Swamp Sparrow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and Black & White Warblers.

Saturday, April 30. Mike Bottini and 7 others explored the **Walking Dunes near Hither Hills SP.** Birds seen were Double-crested Cormorant, Osprey, Great Blue Heron, Eastern Kingbird, Rufous-sided Towhee, and the highlight of the trip – a Chuck-Wills-Widow.

Sunday, May 1. Stella Miller and Jacob Drucker led 23 birders to **Central Park** where they saw 77 species including 21 warblers. Some of the more exciting birds were Black-crowned Night Herons, Green Heron, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Eastern Kingbird, Veery, 5 species of sparrows, and 3 species of vireos. Warblers included Canada, Blue-winged, Worm-eating, Nashville, and Blackburnian. Best bird of the day was the Summer Tanager.

Sunday, May 8. Blair Broughton and 15 others enjoyed wonderful spring birding at **Jamaica Bay.** Sightings included Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned and Black-crowned Night Heron, American Coot, Glossy Ibis, American Oystercatcher, Greater Yellowlegs, Willet, Peregrine Falcon, Laughing Gull, Forster's Tern, Eastern Kingbird, and White-crowned Sparrow. Warblers included Black & White, Northern Parula, Common Yellowthroat, and American Redstart.

Sunday, May 22, Birdathon. A total of 103 species were heard or seen. Sightings included Clapper Rail, Semi-palmated Plover, Red Knot, Solitary Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Iceland Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Common Tern, Willow Flycatcher, Purple Martin, Fish Crow, Cedar Waxwing, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, and Seaside Sparrow.

Sunday, June 5. Peter Martin and Stella Miller led a group in **Caumsett Park** observing facets of wildlife in the different ecological regions in the Park. Bank Swallows were observed as well as a pair of Eastern Meadowlarks displaying possible courtship behavior.

Sunday, June 12. A small group of botany enthusiasts led by Betsy Gulotta and Blair Broughton explored the small parcel of land that is a remnant of the **Hempstead Plains.** Many interesting plants and flowers were observed, but it wasn't a good day for birds.

Species seen on 2011 HOBAS trips is 165.



FIELD TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Field trips are free, unless otherwise specified, and open to the public. Newcomers are welcome. Binoculars are advised. Carpooling is possible, gas and tolls are shared. 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. 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. Call the leader if in doubt about the weather. For the comfort and safety of all participants, there is no smoking on field trips.

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Sunday, September 4, 8:00 AM. Bring your muck boots as we will walk around the East Pond at low tide looking for shorebirds and other great birds. **Leader:** Blair Broughton. Call 516-802-5356 to register.

Directions: Belt Pkwy to Cross Bay Blvd south, exit 17S, and head south. After crossing the bridge, look for parking lot entrance on the right side, 1.25 miles from the bridge. Turn right at the traffic light and meet in the parking lot.

Mount Montclair Hawk Watch in New Jersey

Sunday September 18, 9:00 AM. We'll be looking for early raptor migrants. This is one of the best spots to catch Broad-winged Hawks as they form large kettles rather than single fly-bys like other raptors. **Leader:** Blair Broughton. Call 516-802-5356 to register.

Directions: After crossing the George Washington Bridge exit I-95 onto I-80, then exit onto Garden State Parkway south. Take exit 151 for Watchung Ave and go west on Watchung to its end at Upper Mountain Ave in Montclair, about 2.1 miles. Make a right and go north on Upper Mountain 0.7 miles to Bradford Ave. Make a left and go up Bradford 0.1 miles to Edgecliff Road and make a right. Go up Edgecliff 0.2 miles and park on the shoulder (to avoid parking problems, park well off the side of the road). The lookout path is on the south side of the road.

Oak Brush Plains Preserve

Thursday, September 22, 5:30 PM. This 81-acre preserve contains many rare plant and animal species. The focus will be migratory birds, Oak Brush Plains ecology, and perhaps an early flying buck moth. Steady and/or heavy rain cancels. **Leader:** John Turner. Call 516 695-1490 to register.

Directions: Take exit 52 on the LIE to Commack Road, going south 2.1 miles to the entrance in a large field on the left (east) side of the road. Meet at the entrance.

Jones Beach

Saturday, October 1, 9:00 AM. We will look for early fall migrants that take shelter on the barrier beach before continuing south. These could include many of our rarer shorebirds, any Neotropical songbird, and plenty more. **Leader:** Sharon Brody. Call 516-433-5590 to register.

Directions: Take Wantagh or Meadowbrook Pkwy and

follow the signs to Coast Guard Station at the West End. Meet at the Coast Guard parking lot near the restrooms.

Robert Moses State Park Hawk Watch

Sunday, October 9, 9:00 AM. Best place to see migrating raptors on Long Island. Great viewing platform. Walks in the surrounding areas should turn up other early migrants. **Leader:** Blair Broughton. Call 516-802-5356 to register.

Directions: Take Sagtikos Pkwy south to the northeast corner of Parking Field 5, at Robert Moses State Park. We will meet at viewing platform at east end of parking lot.

Edwin B. Forsythe NWR - Brigantine Division, NJ

Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM. Located in one of the Atlantic Flyway's most active flight paths it is an important link in the vast network of national wildlife refuges. **Leader:** Sharon Brody. Call 516-433-5590 to register.

Directions: Garden State Pkwy south to exit 48. Take Route 9 south past Smithville. At the traffic light in Oceanville make a left onto Great Creek Road to the end. Meet at the parking lot in front of the Visitor Center.

Minnewaska State Park Preserve

Saturday October 22, 9:00 AM. Hike length will be approximately 5-7 miles. **Leaders:** Stella Miller and John Turner. Call 516-695-0763 to register.

Directions: Upon exiting the NYS Thruway in New Paltz (exit 18), make a left on Route 299. Stay on 299 for approximately 6 miles. At Junction Route 44/55 make a right. Park entrance is about 6 miles up a winding mountain road on left. Meet in the upper parking lot.

Dune Road

Sunday, October 23, 9:00 AM. Late shorebirds, early waterfowl, straggling waders, migrating raptors, and other birds will be our targets as we make numerous stops along the way. **Leader:** Blair Broughton. Call 516-802-5356 to register.

Directions: From Sunrise Highway take exit 65 south to Rte. 24. Make a left onto Montauk Highway then a left onto Ponquoque Rd. Continue south then make a left onto Shinnecock Rd, then right onto Foster Ave. This will eventually lead you over the bridge to Dune Road where a left brings you to our starting point. We'll meet at the east end of the road where it meets the Shinnecock inlet.

(Continued on page 8.)



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

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Organization
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Huntington, NY
Permit No. 546

August – September – October 2011

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



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Field Trips (Continued)

Canoe Trip in Constitution Marsh, Cold Spring

Sunday, October 30, 12:00 Noon. A Sanctuary naturalist will lead us through cattail-lined channels identifying any wildlife observed. Fees: adults - \$25, seniors, students, and Audubon members - \$20; child ages 7-15 - \$15. Call Stella Miller (516-695-0763) to register by October 26.

Directions: Throgs Neck or Whitestone Bridge to Hutchinson River Pkwy, to 287 west over Tappan Zee Bridge. Take exit 13 to Palisades Pkwy north to Bear Mt. Bridge. Cross bridge, turn left onto Rt. 9D, go 8 miles north on 9D through Garrison, take a left onto Indian Brook Rd (dirt road at bottom of hill after going over steel bridge), go 0.5 mile. The parking area is on right by the sanctuary sign.

Birdathon 2011



**Thank you to our donors!
Congratulations to all our winners!**

We would like to thank our generous donors for the sponsorship and team prizes: The \$500 prize was underwritten by Meopta Sports Optics, Seth Ausubel, and Marc Brody. Incentive prizes for sponsors and team members were donated by Wild Honey Restaurant, Sage Bistro, Sapsuckers Hops and Grubs, Merrill Shoes, Dodds and Eder, Youngs Farm, Sue Adler, Bill McAneny, and John Turner. Thanks to Stella Miller and Ginger Mahoney, who solicited the prizes and organized the fundraising.

The lucky winners of the raffle were: Gary Titus (\$500 cash), Marie Truebert (the \$100 gift certificates to Sage Bistro and Wild Honey) and Ellen Leventhal (hand-painted bird feeder from Sue Adler, goodie tray from Youngs Farm, and a gift certificate to Sapsuckers). As a bonus prize, a birdhouse from Dodds and Eder was won by Marge Saccoccio.

Of course, a big thanks go to the team members who birded for the event: Seth Ausubel, Simone DaRos, Norm Klein, Ginger Mahoney, Bob May, Stella Miller, Charlotte Miska, Vinnie Schiappa, and Joe Viglietta.

We cannot thank enough the team members who went out and raised money for this event. The top three fundraisers were Stella Miller, Ginger Mahoney, and Bill Reeves (who somehow managed to raise money despite being hospitalized). The folks sponsoring the team members were not the only ones who had a chance to win prizes. Team members competed for prizes based on how much they brought in. Stella Miller won a gift certificate for a pair of Merrell hiking shoes; Simone DaRos won signed copies of two books: *The Crossley ID Guide: Eastern Birds* (donated by Bill McAneny) and John Turner's *The Other Island*; and Vinnie Schiappa won a birdhouse donated by Dodds and Eder.

A huge thank you to all who participated, donated, and raised money!



Bird Seed Sale – October 29, 2011
Huntington High School, 9:00 – 2:00