

The Huntington Audubon Society
A chapter of the National Audubon Society



killdeer

January - February 2007

Serving Huntington Township and the Neighboring Oyster Bay and Jericho Areas

Special Event - In Search of the Jaguar

Dr. Alan Rabinowitz has traveled extensively to Thailand, Laos, Borneo, Taiwan, Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) and a good portion of Central and South America. He has studied jaguars, clouded leopards, Asiatic leopards, tigers, Sumatran rhinos, and other large mammal species. His studies have resulted in the establishment of nature reserves on a grand scale. His first major achievement was the creation of the world's first jaguar preserve, The Cockscomb Basin Jaguar Preserve in Belize. The Tawu Mountain Nature Reserve in Taiwan was the result of his surveys of clouded leopards. The work he conducted in Thailand resulted in the first field research on IndoChinese tigers, Asiatic leopards, and leopard cats, which led to the region's first World Heritage Site. Dr. Rabinowitz's work in Myanmar led to the creation of a number of new protected areas: the country's first marine national park, its first and largest Himalayan national park, and the world's largest tiger reserve. He is also the force behind the establishment of the Northern Forest Complex in Myanmar, a set of four contiguous protected areas that total one of the world's most pristine and wild parcels of habitat. While traveling in Myanmar, Dr. Rabinowitz discovered the leaf deer, the world's second smallest and most primitive species of deer. While surveying wildlife there, he made contact with the Taron, a group of Mongoloid pygmies, the only pygmies of Asian ancestry in the world.

He is now hard at work at fulfilling his dream of saving jaguars in the wild. He is currently working with countries in Central and South America in order to establish a "necklace" of protected areas. His goal is one long contiguous chain of protected areas, from Mexico to the Pantanal where jaguars can live free and wild, safe from persecution. Dr. Rabinowitz is determined that jaguars will be saved. Based on his past track record, his

confidence is warranted. Dr. Alan Rabinowitz is a passionate voice for wildlife and this remarkable man's passion and dedication has truly made him a wildlife hero.

We are privileged and honored to have Dr. Alan Rabinowitz as our guest speaker on **March 14th**. Please join us for this very special event.

Upcoming Field Trip to Wolf Center



On **Saturday, May 12, 2007**, we will be visiting the **Wolf Conservation Center in South Salem, New York** along with a walk through the **Ward Pound Ridge Reservation in Cross River**. The Wolf Center visits are booked months in advance. In order to ensure we have a spot on that day, we must have our reservations in place by January 31. There is a \$10 entry fee that must be paid in advance for the Center to hold our reservation.

A visit to the Wolf Conservation Center begins with a 30-minute slide program that covers the biology, ecology, and mythology of wolves. They will discuss the differences between wolves, dogs, and coyotes. The wolf is examined as a social predator at the top of the food chain, with special attention paid to its role in the larger environmental picture. After the slide presentation visitors are introduced to the four wolves who act as ambassadors for their wild counterparts. This segment is an informal question and answer period and can last anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour.

If you want to attend this event, please send your check for \$10 per person made out to Wolf Conservation Center to Stella Miller, 107-A Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791. Please give the names of the participants who will be attending. The deadline for this is January 31, 2007.

Reminder!

Don't forget starting **January 10, 2007**, Huntington Audubon meetings will be held at the new **Cold Spring Harbor Library**.

January Program

Wednesday, January 10
Cold Spring Harbor Public Library

7:00 PM Refreshments
7:30 PM Speaker

Owls - Predators of the Night

Owls, the stealthy, silent hunters of the night, have become an integral part of myths, legends, and even popular entertainment. Unfortunately, they are often portrayed as bad omens, creepy haunters of cemeteries, or evil denizens of the dark. However, they are actually fascinating creatures, most of which prefer to have nothing to do with people. Join us to learn all about these nocturnal predators and what makes them so efficient at finding and capturing prey on moonless nights when most humans would not be able to see their hand if front of their face. You'll meet live owls from the TR Sanctuary and Audubon Center. We'll dispel the myths and state the facts.

Featured Volunteer - Stella Miller

It was Huntington Audubon's lucky day when Stella Miller, a devout hiker who rarely "slowed down" for birds, discovered the thrill of bird watching. She was instantly hooked and though a member of HAS for 12 years, only attended her first meeting in the fall of 2005. Now she's a regular at membership meetings, a voice on the HAS board of directors, and a dynamic force behind the scenes!

If you have not visited the HAS website recently, do and be amazed at Stella's creative input. She visited dozens of websites, meticulously noting what "worked" and what didn't and then searched for a webmaster with the skill and patience to replicate her vision. Together with HAS web technician Vinnie Schiappa, Stella gave our website a facelift and the result is a site that is attractive, easy to navigate, and chock full of interesting and pertinent information. It's a site HAS can be proud of.

This year HAS joined forces with TR Sanctuary at the 23rd annual Oyster Festival in downtown Oyster Bay. It was Stella who made the arrangements with TR and volunteered both days of a spectacular weekend to set up and work the festival. And those handsome gray tee shirts with the Killdeer logo that volunteers were wearing and people were buying were Stella's idea. We suspected that Stella had aptitude as a salesperson by the number of raffle tickets she sold last winter, but watching her at Oyster Fest left no doubt in our minds. Hand-made ornaments, calendars, shade-grown coffee, and home-made (by Stella) chocolate lollipops - she sold them all!

The quality of our membership programs has always been high and continues to be with Stella working on this committee. She tirelessly makes calls and connections, and visits speakers (sometimes quite far away) as they give their program for other organizations and Audubon chapters. (If we'd let her, she'd schedule two meetings per month because her list of potential speakers is that long.) Through Stella's efforts we have Dr. Alan Rabinowitz, world renown big cat expert, as our March speaker.

Publicity is another area of interest for Stella. She has arranged for HAS events to be listed on LIBirding.com and makes flyers advertising upcoming programs and encourages all of us to distribute them. She recently traveled to Saranac Lake to attend her first NY State Audubon Council meeting.

It didn't take long for Stella to recognize the important work our chapter does in fulfilling its mission of increasing community awareness about the environment and decide to be a part, a big part, of it. She's putting her footprint (those big hiking boots, you know) on things from field trips to fundraising and we at HAS are just delighted that she has joined us. Her energy, enthusiasm, generous spirit, and commitment to making a difference are a perfect fit for HAS.

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
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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.

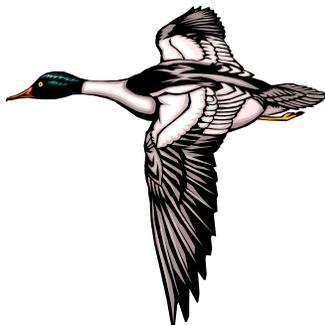
The Who, What, When, Where, and Why of Counting Waterfowl

by Bill Reeves

Since 1955, except for the years 1968 - 1972, the New York State Ornithological Association (NYSOA), formerly the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, has conducted an annual midwinter census of the waterfowl present in the state. During the latest count for which data are available, 230 birders took part in this project. They counted a total of 347,661 birds of 47 species of loons, grebes, cormorants, coots, ducks, geese, and swans between January 10 and January 19, 2004. The total count was up 8% percent from 2003 and 24 percent above the long-term average (1973-2003). A summary of the 2004 census published in *Kingbird*, Vol. 55, No.1 stated, "The total for ducks was below the long-term average and the counts for geese and swans were above their long-term averages. Comparison of the 2004 data with long-term averages shows 10 of 21 major species or taxa at least 10 percent above average and nine species or taxa below average. Canada Geese climbed to the third highest count ever."

According to Brian L. Swift, census coordinator and author of the report in *Kingbird*, "This census is a valuable long-term population monitoring program for waterfowl and other water birds wintering in New York State. The Department of Environmental Conservation has discontinued aerial surveys of waterfowl wintering in New York, so they rely on this census as the standard survey. It is important that member clubs and individuals maintain complete and consistent coverage of areas surveyed in the past to ensure that results are comparable from year to year and over the long term."

Several members of HAS have participated in the census for many years. Among them are Howard Boltson, Sharon Brody, Blair Broughton, Dick Furman, Alex McKay, Herman Wenz, Bill Reeves, and the late John Ricks. The Region 10 coordinators of the annual NYSOA Waterfowl Census are Ronald and Jean Bourque. They can assign count areas to interested qualified observers. **If you would like to participate in this year's Waterfowl Census to be conducted January 13-21, 2007, you can reach them at ron.jean1@verizon.net.**



Remember when . . .

Do you have memories of Huntington Audubon (persons, meetings, trips, school activities, funny things that occurred during a bird walk) that you remember fondly and would like to share with others? If so, please write a brief reminiscence (no more than a page) and e-mail it to: mkelly822@optonline.net or mail it to Killdeer Editors, Huntington Audubon Society, P.O. Box 735, Huntington, NY 11743.

Oyster Festival 2006

The morning dawn unveiled the first frost of the season, but the weather for the 2006 Oyster Festival in Oyster Bay turned out to be glorious. Huntington Audubon was there on October 14th and 15th, sharing a booth with TR Sanctuary. A splendid time was had by all! Volunteers included Blair Broughton and his daughters Prairie and Sierra, Simone DaRos, Alice Del Bosco, Cathy Fitts, Ginger Mahoney, and Stella Miller. Old friends and new stopped by the booth, many attracted by the wonderful birds of prey that TR Sanctuary's Susan Werner and Karl Brummert expertly displayed to the public, and others by the lovely array of goods for sale. We answered questions and handed out literature, and people walked away a little more knowledgeable about who we are and what we do. We look forward to seeing new faces at our meetings and activities as a result of this endeavor.

We would like to thank all the festival goers who stopped by to say hello and the volunteers who helped out that day. We especially would like to thank TR Sanctuary for graciously allowing us to share a booth with them. We couldn't have asked for more beautiful weather for Oyster Festival 2006 and we are already looking forward to next year!

February Program

Wednesday, February 14
Cold Spring Harbor Public Library

7:00 PM Refreshments

7:30 PM Program

Members' Night

Sharon and Mark Brody will share highlights of their June 2006 vacation in a program they call, "The Alaska You Won't See on a Cruise Ship." Members' Night is a long-standing HAS tradition where extra time is allotted for chatting and getting to know one another better. We invite all of you to bring photo albums, art, collections, whatever - to share in a night of camaraderie and great refreshments.

Pay it Forward, the Plight of My Osprey by Shelley Contin-Hubbs

Editor's Note: This is a follow up to Shelley's article *Every Action Has a Reaction, the Plight of My Osprey* in the November - December *Killdeer*.

The leaves have steadily been turning and there is a distinct familiarity to the crisp chill in the air. I gaze over the quiet terrain that not long ago was teeming with life. Hours can slip away while staring out at the expanse of land that is designated The Jerome Ambro Memorial Wetlands Preserve.

The Osprey that had once been a part of my daily routine, invigorating and renewing my spirit have gone. They were my window to inner peace and a glimpse into paradise. One by one I watched them soar off, first the mother, then father, followed by one juvenile soon after. It seemed as though one final obstinate youngster would hold out for all time, ignoring the ever persistent drive to take wing and fly south, but then it too was gone. Or so I had thought. Blinking my eyes to get a clearer picture I could barely make out something perched in the nest. It was the end of October, certainly this was no Osprey. I thought that I had heard of instances in which a youngster would stay on and winter in its place of origin, but I was positive that this was never at this latitude. I strained even closer to get a glimpse, unable to fully focus or fathom what indeed was taking up residence here. I struggled in haste to place the telescope in position. I had nestled it far into the corner of my bedroom, having no longer felt the urgency to check on my brood each morning since their departure. I found it became a sad constant reminder that winter was on its way.

Once everything was in place, my heart skipped a beat as I leaned in and peered through the telescope. Perched in audacious glory was a seagull in peaceful slumber. This was *deja vu*. It had been at least a month since I'd glanced through the scope, something that had become so familiar to me, an extension of myself. Every morning and several times throughout the day I'd stare out, gaping in awe at this domain. Their world had become my world since early spring when I first spotted the male Osprey's return and I'd peek out and glimpse into heaven.

Once the female arrived I'd watch their courtship and then they'd roost. I calculated when the first chick might hatch and waited in anticipation. I gleefully squealed with delight when I unsuspectingly witnessed three fuzzy heads one cheerful morning. Three young fledglings that grew up strong and fast. But that seemed like ages ago and I suddenly flashed back to that horrific day when I noticed that one of them was suffering and tethered to its nest. Our eagerness for his release, after a well choreographed rescue, carried us through the long months of his rehab. A release that unfortunately would never take place. I've not seen such dedication, as exhibited by the rehabilitators

known as Volunteers for Wildlife in Lloyd Neck, with their friend and fellow raptor rescuer, Jim Jones. They had gone to such lengths to nurture and restore health to my forlorn baby Osprey. Their diligence and unyielding efforts led them from veterinarian to veterinarian for consultation. Lastly, he was evaluated by experts at the Bronx Zoo where they too were cautiously optimistic for his future. Then suddenly and for no explicable reason, he took a turn for the worse. Perhaps it was being imprisoned in a cage with the constant unyielding need to move on or never having had the ability to fully expand his wings, launching high into the air, taking that first flight, and soaring hundreds of feet above the nest. At no time would he have the opportunity to dive, plunging into the cool waters below, latching onto that very first fish; to never taste the blood and victory of his first kill; to never experience freedom. These things still sadden me and the hurt will remain for some time to come. We all had such high hopes for this little fellow and the unfortunate truth is that this would never come to pass. I will always wonder the "what ifs" - if only I had noticed his plight sooner!

The month that has gone by truly feels like several and I can only imagine where the other members of this Osprey family are at this moment in time. Each is in his/her rightful place, traveling on a path encoded in its genes, flapping and soaring for thousands, upon thousands of miles. For the young forging on, this is uncharted territory, a totally undetermined destination and I pray that they are safe.

Most northeast Osprey fly south over land crossing the ocean at Cape Fear and continue to fly further and further south on their migration. This is often termed the "highway to the tropic." They will winter in South or Central America till one day the urge will overtake them to fly back from whence they came and the young will find a mate. The parents in their monogamy will find each other again and the species will live on. They all tend to separate in winter, parents not only from juveniles, but from each other as well, to return in the spring. The young will rest up and mature, honing their skills as they may stay in their winter spot for a year or more before returning to where they were born and carry on as those before.

That is hopefully what's in store for the two remaining siblings. The third of this brood will not be returning. That is certain. Injuries sustained in the nest that could not be healed led it's caretakers to do the only humane thing. Humane seems like such a peculiar word as this poor innocent creature would never have been in this position if it weren't for humanity in the first place.

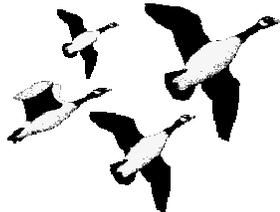
So now the grieving process continues, but in an effort to insure that this doesn't happen again, it is my intention to take on the personal challenge of advocating for these beautiful, majestic birds. Perhaps educating our young

Pay it Forward (Continued)

children to be careful of their actions is a good place to start. Pay attention to your surroundings, and always leave things better than they were before. Help to clean up our parks and waterways and emphasize the urgency in disposing of fishing tackle and all garbage immediately and appropriately. This will be my message.

My mentor in the world of Ospreys and raptors, Mr. Jim Jones has offered to erect and install a couple of new nesting poles in the Ambro's Preserve. In this way, perhaps we can honor this Osprey's ill-fated demise. It is my plan to help see this through.

So next spring when life abounds, look up to the sky above this wetlands. Look way, way up high and watch the miraculous beauty of our native Osprey and remember that we are responsible for our world, and in turn their world. It is absolutely our duty to pay it forward.



Out on a Limb

by Alex McKay

Almost ten years ago, David Quammen wrote in an *Audubon* magazine focused on our national parks, "As we humans continue to procreate and to lay firmer claims upon ever-larger portions of this landscape, our national parks - so carefully 'set apart,' so treasured, so abused, so inadequate to the expectations placed upon them will become islands of memory in an ocean of dreary reality." This dire forecast is being played out in the current state of our parks.

A decade later, in *Turning Point*, a report on the effects of air pollution on the parks, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) wrote, "We are rapidly approaching the day when Glacier National Park will have no glaciers, no grizzly bears will roam Yellowstone National Park, and Joshua Tree National Park could need to be renamed because there are no Joshua trees to be found."

In view of these sorry outlooks, NPCA has initiated a campaign to get 50,000 Americans to "Take the Pledge" to initiate actions to save our heritage of wild and scenic treasures. Called the "Fix Our Parks" pledge, the goal is to get Congress and the administration in Washington to take significant steps to remedy the parks' state in the next ten years, in time for the 100th anniversary of the National Park System. For details of the pledge and to sign up, log onto the NPCA website at <http://npca.org>.

There is also a petition in another section of the website called "It's All About Jack" which features a short film celebrating children's experience of the parks. With under funding and understaffing, the National Park Service is struggling to provide the bare minimum of resource protection and visitor education. The petition focuses on preparation of the fiscal year 2008 budget which is currently underway and calls upon the President to provide strong budget increases for the parks as we approach the 90th birthday of the system.

With the results of the November election indicating voter dissatisfaction with the administration and Congress, the time is propitious for change. Richard Pombo, who is the anti-environmental chairman of the House Resources Committee that oversees the National Park Service and who advocated opening public lands to mining exploration and gutting the Endangered Species Act as well as opening the Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil exploration, was soundly defeated by a wind energy expert who aims to wean the nation from fossil fuels.

The Pombo defeat, along with a few dozen others, signals a change of direction to come and gives us a more hopeful outlook for our national parks, seashores, monuments, wildlife refuges, and forests. Now is the time act. Take the pledge to fix the parks and write those letters to get the funding to undo the damages the parks have suffered. We can make the next two years a true turning point.

National Audubon Honors State Director

by Alice Del Bosco



We all knew it was bound to happen. Dave Miller, Executive Director of Audubon New York, received the Charles Callison award at the National Audubon meeting in Vail, Colorado. This award, the highest award for outstanding contributions to conservation, recognizes an Audubon professional who has made "remarkable contributions to conservation through creativity, coalition building, outreach, perseverance, patience, and a positive attitude." Constantine Sidamon Eristoff, chairman of Audubon New York's Board of Directors, describes Dave "as a bright and articulate leader who has an incredible grasp of the Audubon missions." Dave is no stranger to Long Island. Each of our chapters could describe a project that has been brought to fruition with Dave's help. Those of us on the North Shore recognize his persistence in the restoration of Long Island Sound, starting with his initiation of the "Listen to the Sound" campaign in 1990, a campaign in which Huntington Audubon was one of the first to participate. Congratulations, Dave! Huntington Audubon especially appreciates Dave's efforts in helping us with our support of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center as it continues to grow and prosper.



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. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM with refreshments and socialization, followed by announcements and the featured speaker program from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Board of Directors meetings are open to all HAS members. Board delegates are expected to attend.

January 2007

Wednesday, January 10, 7:00 PM - Membership meeting at the **Cold Spring Harbor Library**, 95 Harbor Road, CSH (opposite Billy Joel Park). This is 2 miles west of the Huntington Public Library on Rte 25A. **Note new meeting place.** A member of the staff at Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary will present *Owls: Predators of the Night*, a program featuring live owls. Owls, the secretive hunters of the night, fascinate people of all ages. Legends and pop culture do not always provide accurate portrayals of these stealthy nocturnal hunters. Join us for a live owl presentation to discover the lives of native owls found in your neighborhood. Learn about the unique adaptations that help make these birds efficient hunters and valuable predators in a variety of ecosystems.

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

Monday, January 29 - Deadline for the March - April *Killdeer*.

February 2007

Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 PM - Membership meeting at the **Cold Spring Harbor Library**, 95 Harbor Rd. CSH (opposite Billy Joel Park). **Members' Night** - We invite our members to share anything related to Audubon or the love of nature with the audience that evening. Some of us bring slides, still photos, or hobby collections, others bring equipment or mementos, some share stories or books. Please join us and participate in whatever way makes you comfortable. Sharon and Mark Brody will share highlights of their June 2006 vacation in a program they call, "The Alaska You Won't See on a Cruise Ship."

Wednesday, February 21, 7:30 PM - Meeting of the Board of Directors at Cold Spring Harbor Library.



March 2007

Wednesday, March 14, 7:00 PM - Membership meeting at the **Cold Spring Harbor Library**, 95 Harbor Rd. CSH (opposite Billy Joel Park). *In Search of the Jaguar* - world renowned big cat expert and author Dr. Alan Rabinowitz has worked with tigers, leopards, and jaguars all over the world. Among his notable achievements are creating the world's first jaguar preserve in Cockscomb Basin, Belize and the world's largest tiger reserve in Myanmar. In 2004 he was featured in the National Geographic special *In Search of the Jaguar*. We are honored to have Dr Alan Rabinowitz, whom *The New York Times* called "The Indiana Jones of Zoology", as our special guest this evening. (See article on page 1.)

Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 PM - Meeting of the Board of Directors at Cold Spring Harbor Library.



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



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.

January 2007

Saturday, January 6, 9:00 AM - Massapequa Preserve and Twin Lakes at Wantagh. Many ducks up close including Green-winged Teals, Ring-necked Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Widgeons, and often Snipe are seen. Some land birds as well. Leader: Maria Kelly (631) 673-0937.

Directions: Take Southern State Parkway to exit 30S, Broadway, Massapequa. Go south on Broadway to Euclid Ave. Turn left onto Euclid 2 blocks to the T intersection, Parkside Blvd. Turn left again onto Parkside and park along the road adjacent to the Park. You'll see the opening for the entrance to the Park. We'll meet at the opening.

February 2007

Sunday, February 11, 9:00 AM - Point Lookout. Look for Loons, Grebes, and Harlequin ducks which are usually seen on LI only at Point Lookout. Leader: Blair Broughton (631) 543-2875.

Directions: Take Meadowbrook Parkway to Loop Parkway. At the end of Loop Pkwy turn left. Go to the end of the road. Park anywhere near the entrance to the Park. We'll meet by the gate to the Park.

Sunday, February 25, 9:00 AM - ALL day trip to Montauk Point. Winter waterfowl abound including scoters, eiders, loons, gannets, and numerous pond ducks. Leader: Sharon Brody (516) 433-5590.

Directions: Take the LIE to exit 70, Manorville. Go south on Rte 111 to Rte 27. Take Rte 27 east all the way to Montauk Point Lighthouse. There may be a parking fee. Meet by the restaurant opposite the parking lot.

March 2007

Sunday, March 11 through Saturday, March 17 at 6:00 PM - Woodcock Watch at Wick's Farm. Each evening at 6:00 PM Dick Furman will be near the building

opposite White Post Farms' parking area on Pulaski Rd. to guide birders into the area of Wick's Farm where Woodcocks were seen displaying last year around mid-March. The displays occur at dusk. Bring a flashlight to light your way back to the road. Leader: Dick Furman (631-692-7356).

Directions: From the east, take Pulaski Rd. west passed 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. White Post Farms is about one-quarter of a mile from there.

Birders' Box

The October trip to the Fire Island Hawk Watch produced 48 species, but few hawks. Unfortunately it was a day with minimal winds, but we were treated to views of many migrating warblers including Northern Parula, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Palm, Black and White, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, and Hooded.

The trip to Hawk Mountain, on the other hand, was on a day with favorable winds from the Northwest. Total daily tallies for the Red-tailed and Cooper's Hawk, respectively were 90 and 84. The first 2 Northern Goshawks of the year flew by that day accompanied by Red-shouldered Hawks, Kestrels, Northern Harriers, Osprey, and both species of Vultures, even a few Ravens. But the biggest thrill for the birders was when the Eagles soared by. No mistaking them, both the Bald and Golden being huge in size and awesome to see close up. During a 1-hour stretch, 73 Sharp-shinned Hawks were counted. By the end of the day 427 had been spotted.

Number of species seen this year on HAS trips is 161.



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

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January - February 2007



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Bird Seed Customers and Volunteers

Once again our loyal customers and volunteers have generously supported our efforts. The Birdseed Sale, held on a beautiful November 4th was very successful. This year we held the sale in conjunction with Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary. Many thanks to Betty Borowski, Michelle McFaul, and Aaron Virgin from the Sanctuary who helped all day. Our steady crew of volunteers was ably headed by co-chairs Sharon Brody and Cathy Fitts. This year the following people worked the day of the sale Marc and Sharon Brody, Ann Brosnan, Blair Broughton, Alice Del Bosco, Dick Furman, Louise Hublitz, Maria Kelly, Ginger Mahoney, Bob May, Rosemary and David Papayanopulos, Bill Reeves, Vinnie Schiappa, Jane Schmidt, Petie Szabo, Joanne Tow, Marty Wenz, and Herman Wenz. But they would have had nothing to do if it were not for our customers who love feeding birds, recognize quality birdseed, and faithfully support Audubon. Well done. Thanks!



Does anyone in our area participate in **ProjectFeeder Watch**? If so please contact Maria Kelly at mkelly822@optonline.net or 631-673-0937.

Check It Out!

HAS has a new website! It was been completely redesigned and in addition to the up-to-date look and feel, it contains new links and information and will be updated frequently to keep it fresh. The *Killdeer*, including past issues, is now posted on the website so you do not have to wait for the mailman to read the latest issue. In the new Photo Gallery we would like to include pictures of HAS events and your nature photographs. If you have photos you would like to share, please e-mail them to trickiwoo63@yahoo.com. Thank you Stella Miller and Vinnie Schiappa for designing and developing our exciting new website and keeping it current. Great job!

WE'RE INVITED . . .

. . . to join the Adirondack Mountain Club on the following ALL DAY trips. Register to get start times and car pool information.

Monday, January 1 - 4th Annual *Start Your Year's List* trip. Start local and follow the birds. Leader: Richard Furman (631-692-7356); call before 9:00 PM. MUST REGISTER by Saturday, December 30.

Saturday, January 27 - Pelham Bay to Hudson River sites for eagles, owls, and water fowl. Co-leaders: Richard Furman (631-692-7356) and Arlene Scholer (516-354-0231); call before 9:00 PM. MUST REGISTER by Thursday, January 25.