

# The Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Newsletter

Serving from Fort Salonga in Suffolk Co. to Oyster Bay and Centre Island in Nassau Co.  
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## ***YOUR YARD IS A STEALTHY FOSSIL FUEL GUZZLER—GIVE IT A CLIMATE MAKEOVER***

By Janet Marinello, for National Audubon

*Note from National: Want a climate-friendly home? Your yard is a good place to start. This is the first in a five-part series of guides on how to manage your outdoor turf to reduce your carbon footprint, all while creating bird-friendly habitat. Check Audubon.org/news for the sequels!*

Picture this familiar scene in cities and suburbs across America: landscape crews jump out of giant eight-cylinder trucks and rev up a variety of mowers, leaf blowers, and other gas-guzzling engines—all in the name of maintaining our green yards. From a carbon footprint perspective, “it would be better to just pave over the landscape,” says gardening expert Doug Kent, only half-jokingly, as we walk through one of his low-carbon gardens in Manhattan Beach, California.

Many gardeners assume their activities are good for the climate because yards are full of plants that soak up carbon dioxide, the leading greenhouse gas. But maintaining the typical garden “is incredibly fossil-fuel dependent,” says Kent, the author of *A New Era of Gardening* (2001), the first book on low-carbon gardening published in the United States. In reality, he points out, many gardens create more CO<sub>2</sub> than they take up—often a lot more.

The good news is that if you take your yard's care into your own hands, you can lessen its climate impact while conserving water and resources and creating habitat. The following are the most important steps you can take to slash your landscape's greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Opt for People Power**

A mind-boggling assortment of power tools is used in landscapes—not only mowers and blowers, but also lawn edgers, hedge trimmers, weed whackers, chippers, shredders, rototillers, and more. *(Continued on page 5)*



Robins might enjoy grass monocultures, but they are in the tiny minority. Photo: Brendan Fogarty

### ***Spotlight: Great Crested Flycatcher***

Flycatchers don't get much love. They are often simple earth-tones and are constantly upstaged by our colorful tanagers, orioles, and warblers. But they are doing alright for themselves—there are about 400 species of them worldwide, making them the biggest families of birds in the world.

Great Crested Flycatchers love the drier forest and field habitats of Long Island. They will even nest in your yard if you provide a box, or if they find a nice natural tree cavity. If you are lucky, you can see them collecting their favorite nesting material - snakeskin! Amazingly, in warmer areas where there are more snakes, most Great Crested Flycatcher nests are made from snakeskin.

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### **CALL TO ACTION**

There are always opportunities to help our chapter! If you are interested in volunteering on a committee, help with our website, or to be considered for our board of directors, please email the editor at:

**[bnf25@cornell.edu](mailto:bnf25@cornell.edu)**

**Huntington-Oyster Bay  
Audubon Society, Inc.**

*The mission of Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon is to protect wildlife and preserve habitat through conservation action, advocacy and education.*

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**MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD**

*By Brendan Fogarty*

The trickiest thing about publishing three newsletters annually is the time-shift in my brain. Compiling all these articles and field trips to the favorite spring locations gives me a premature sense that spring migration is here. As of writing, the Piping Plovers, Ospreys, and phoebes have begun to return, but I know from previous years that the many weeks left between now and neotropical migrant diversity will slide by at a glacial rate. I was fortunate enough to get a major sneak peek in early March, when I was able to visit Costa Rica for the first time. In addition to all the toucans, hummingbirds, and antbirds, many of our own favorite migrants are still on the wintering grounds (where they spend a majority of their year, do not forget!). The funny thing is that a mixed warbler flock in Central America does not resemble the flocks we see here in New York. The most common warblers in Costa Rica seem to be Wilson’s and Chestnut-sided, which are both fairly scarce migrants on Long Island. Furthermore, some warblers that would stop the presses here are seen daily there, like Mourning and Golden-winged Warblers! I still have never seen a Golden-winged Warbler on Long Island—to see one for yourself, join Coby on his annual pilgrimage to Sterling Forest. The forest is certainly a little daunting to new visitors, but Coby knows it like a local.

It is said that many of our favorite, colorful, summer birds evolved in the tropics. Due to crowded conditions, they decided to fly off to somewhere remote, quiet, and filled with bugs (think boreal Canada!) to raise their family. But for many species, as soon as the young ones are grown, they all begin to migrate again. Yellow Warblers, as an example, arrive in bulk in early May, but actually begin departing before the dog days of August. So the reality is that we are simply leasing these (still primarily) tropical birds for their short, concentrated family time. This is one of the many reasons why we support initiatives in the tropics, such as the habitat stewardship program for Guatemalan girls, and why National Audubon promotes flyway integrity along their entire lengths. We do what we can.

Lastly, I highly suggest taking a peek to the left of this column, at our board of directors. With everyone’s titles, it looks like a hefty list. But we have three officers and another four directors. That is everyone. Everything that you see happen is because of these great people, as well as our many wonderful volunteers (please read “Thank You Blair!” on page 3). If you find it unbelievable that so few can accomplish so much, well, it is, and we really need help. Do you want to be president? That is great. Do you want to provide snacks to our member’s meetings, or maintain a simple spreadsheet, or find speakers for our monthly programs, or attend community events? That is great too! You can help your local chapter in many ways. Do not be shy to offer just an hour of your time. That is exactly how we get things done.

**Membership is just \$20 per year.** Your membership directly supports HOBAS’ mission to advocate for wildlife and habitat through educating others at our programs and walks and in engaging in conservation projects and advocacy both locally and beyond. **Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society appreciates your support and we thank you!**

Membership-\$20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 I wish to make an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Would you like to receive alerts and notices? email \_\_\_\_\_

## ***HOBAS RECEIVES AUDUBON NEW YORK COLLABORATIVE GRANT***

*By Simone DaRos*

With gratitude and excitement HOBAS is proud to be the recipient of a \$1,000.00 Audubon New York Collaborative grant. This two-part grant encompasses two projects in alignment with HOBAS' mission to enrich bird-friendly communities by increasing habitat for birds through the installation of native plants in a local schoolyard habitat and in a nearby passive parkland.

We are pleased to continue to collaborate with Jackson Elementary School, Jericho, NY and Laurie Oddo, science specialist, in filling out existing raised beds of native grasses, milkweed, and asters with more native blueberry bushes. Elementary science classes will engage in examining the plants, digging them in, and caring for them while observing their growing progress along the way. Planting native plants in a schoolyard habitat project can become a vital recharge station for birds passing through and a sanctuary for nesting and overwintering birds.

The second part of this grant project will be to install nutrient rich, berry producing native shrubs at the Carpenter Farm Park in Town of Huntington, NY in collaboration with Julie Sullivan, of TOH Conservation Board. Aiding Julie's efforts to continue the journey in adding more native plants to the 6 acres of oldfield with the addition of a native bush hedgerow. This hedgerow will serve to provide cover and high-quality, year-round food sources for resident and migratory songbirds. The addition of native plants such as sweet spicebush, red twig dogwood, chokeberry, to name a few, will increase beneficial bird habitat. This collaboration continues here with volunteer efforts on invasive species removal of autumn olive. Kayla Kraker, at Students 'Taking Action for Tomorrow's Environment', is integral in enlisting teenage volunteers who are passionate about working together to make meaningful environmental impacts for wildlife and habitat. We thank Joyann Cirigliano, President of Four Harbors Audubon Society, for her expert suggestions in developing the planting plans.

Creating a network of collaboration among these amazingly dedicated individuals and groups is what it takes to form impactful partnerships as we continue to pursue endeavors in creating, long-lasting, bird-friendly, green spaces. We look forward to working together, in partnership, on our shared missions. For more information regarding plants for birds, please refer to Audubon.org Plants for Birds.

## ***THANK YOU BLAIR!***

*By Simone DaRos*

Blair, a transplanted Canadian, arrived on Long Island in 1998. Equipped with a cheap pair of binoculars, he was looking forward to learning all about the birding in his new adopted home. Luckily, he found out about the Huntington Audubon Society (later HOBAS), and signed up for a few spring field trips. Little did he know that this would lead to a long-lasting relationship with many great friendships. His early mentors such as Bill Reeves, Dick Furman, Maria Kelly and Sharon Brody made it a pleasure to learn all the birding hotspots and the birds in the Long Island area.

Soon he was attending monthly meetings and helping out at the annual birdseed sales. He was asked to join the Huntington Audubon Society board (as we were formerly known) and eventually served many years as vice-president. When new trip leaders were needed, he stepped up and continues to this day leading trips in all seasons. He still attends the monthly meetings at Cold Spring Harbor Library where he presides over the raffle.

Over the years he has been an estate caretaker, golf course horticulturist, lived and worked at the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary Audubon Center in Oyster Bay and currently works for a landscaping firm in Huntington.

HOBAS is an all-volunteer, Audubon chapter. The chapter's successes are directly related to having volunteers who are dedicated and knowledgeable about birds and conservation like Blair Broughton. Blair is always willing and able to help-out in a pinch and is a cheerful birding guide and friend. We are grateful to Blair and we thank him for being an integral member of Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon with his generosity of spirit and support.



**BEACH NESTING BIRD STEWARDSHIP 2019**

By *Amanda Pachomski, Long Island Bird Conservation Manager, Audubon New York*

Audubon New York coast staff are gearing up for another busy field season and are looking forward to continue working with local partners on shorebird conservation. Our seasonal staff will work with partners and volunteers to steward and monitor beach-nesting birds and engage local communities in bird conservation.

By the end of March, we will have worked together to install fencing around Piping Plover nesting habitat at Centre Island and Stehli beaches in Bayville. We plan to host three additional conservation action days this spring, including a beach cleanup and a day trip to Great Gull Island where we'll help locate and map tern nests. We're also looking for volunteers to help us steward Piping Plovers and other beach-nesting birds at select Long Island beaches this summer.

Finally, we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the "Be a Good Egg" outreach program. The goal of the "Be a Good Egg" outreach initiative is to reduce human disturbance to beach-nesting birds by encouraging beachgoers to share the shore. If you haven't yet taken the "Be a Good Egg" pledge, please head over to [ny.audubon.org/BGE](http://ny.audubon.org/BGE) to sign the pledge online. This year, we plan to host on-the-beach events during the weekends of June and July at sites on both the north and south shores of Long Island.

For more information and to sign up for our upcoming events and volunteer programs, please email us at [NYcoast@audubon.org](mailto:NYcoast@audubon.org).

**WELCOME, ANGELO!**

Our new HOBAS Treasurer is Angelo Garcia, III. Angelo Garcia III is the founder and principal-industrial hygienist of Future Environment Designs (FED), one of the nation's leading indoor air quality, industrial hygiene and safety training companies that is based in Syosset, New York. He has been a consultant and trainer working with government and industry on issues relating to asbestos and indoor air quality since he founded the company in 1988. An industrial hygienist since 1981, Mr. Garcia is certified on the national level as a Council-Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant (CIEC), Council-Certified Emergency Operations Professional (CEOP), and has achieved the highest level of accreditation in the field. Mr Garcia has been published in Healthy Buildings Magazine regarding the "Asbestos Floor Tile Debate from PACNY 2017 Presentation" and has authored a book "Do As I Say, Not As I Did!" About what he has learned after 30 years of being in business.

Mr. Garcia was a former board member of the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center and served on the finance committee for the Sanctuary. The finance committee's responsibility was to set the budget for the Sanctuary and help the Director maintain his expenses within the budget.

On a personal note Mr. Garcia is an amateur photographer, maintains a Koi Pond, and is a craft beer enthusiast. His favorite song bird is the cardinal and his favorite raptor is the Golden Eagle.

Thank you for volunteering with us, Angelo!

***Member's Gallery***

*Do you have any great photos of nature or wildlife from within our chapter territory? Send us and we may feature it HERE!*

→ [bnf25@cornell.edu](mailto:bnf25@cornell.edu)

**Northport resident and saw-whet owl enthusiast Taylor Sturm photographed this rare Pacific Loon in Oyster Bay in February 2019. Nice capture!**

Photo: Taylor Sturm



**YARD MAKEOVER (continued from cover...)** According to the California Air Resources Board, these “small, off-road engines,” or SORES, significantly outnumber passenger cars in the vehicle-happy Golden State. An Environmental Protection Agency study calculates that SORES account for 4 percent of CO2 emissions nationwide. They’re also major components of smog, and belch out a number of cancer-causing pollutants.

If you can’t rely on your weed whacker to keep your landscape under control, what are you supposed to do? Kent, who teaches ecological landscape design and management at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, sings the praises of people power. To decrease your landscape’s contribution to climate change, “the best thing you can do is reduce the amount of machinery you use.” And using hand tools like reel mowers and rakes is great exercise, he adds. This people-powered approach to landscaping is quite doable if you reduce the size of your lawn and avoid high-maintenance features like manicured hedges.

Some people have swapped their gas-powered garden tools for more energy-efficient and quiet electric ones. But unless your electricity comes from solar, wind, or other renewable sources, they still add to overall carbon emissions. The EPA’s Power Profiler gives a breakdown of where your electricity comes from to help you assess your SORES’ carbon footprint.

### Kick the Fertilizer Habit

“Most gardeners are surprised to learn that one of the biggest contributors to greenhouse emissions from home gardening and lawn care is the use of nitrogen fertilizers,” says David Wolfe, professor of plant and soil ecology at Cornell University. Synthetic fertilizers are extremely energy-intensive to manufacture—for every ton of nitrogen made, four to six tons of carbon typically end up in the atmosphere, according to Wolfe. What’s more, most fertilizers provide more nitrogen than plants can take up, and soil microbes convert excess nitrogen to nitrous oxide gas, which has 300 times more heat-trapping ability than CO2.

Using either synthetic or organic fertilizers releases nitrous oxide. But organic fertilizers are better than synthetic ones because the enormous CO2 emissions associated with manufacture are mostly eliminated. And if you use yard trimmings composted in your own backyard as your plants’ primary source of nutrition, you’ll also eliminate the greenhouse gas emissions associated with packaging and transporting store-bought products. As a bonus, this keeps garden refuse out of landfills, where it breaks down and releases methane, another powerful greenhouse gas.

### Stop Wasting Water

According to the EPA, gardening gobbles up more than 30 percent of household water usage on average, and up to 60 percent in arid regions. As much as half is lost due to wind,

evaporation, and runoff caused by inefficient irrigation systems. If that weren’t bad enough, pumping, treating, and distributing water accounts for an estimated 3 to 4 percent of national electricity consumption, which means that irrigation is responsible for a significant amount of CO2 emissions.

The most effective way to stop wasting water is to grow plants suited to the conditions on your property and the amount of precipitation in your region. Hand watering is the most climate-friendly way to hydrate them when necessary. If you must irrigate, make sure the professional you hire to install and maintain your system is certified by EPA’s WaterSense program, which helps consumers identify water-conserving products and services.



### Lose the Lawn

The endless mowing, blowing, fertilizing, and irrigation involved in turf maintenance results in a hefty climate footprint. To make matters worse, the country’s 40 million acres of lawn, our largest irrigated crop, offer little to birds and other wildlife. Replacing your lawn with native trees, shrubs, and ground covers not only can slash your landscape’s greenhouse gas emissions but also coax birds back to your garden and look great, too.

A good way to begin chipping away at your lawn is to enlarge existing planting beds, replacing another patch of turf each year. One climate-friendly way to smother the lawn or other unwanted vegetation is described here. In its place, add a much more interesting mix of woody plants, ferns and forest wildflowers or native grasses and perennials, depending on what is most appropriate for your region. Birds and other wildlife will welcome the enhanced habitat. Consult your state native plant society and Audubon’s native plant database for planting ideas.

The Manhattan Beach garden is a good example. “No power tools are used here,” Kent says. “The garden is entirely hand watered.” An impressive California sycamore casts cooling shade over much of the backyard. In the front, low-growing flowers provide more color and seasonal interest than the typical lawn. Best of all, fuchsia-flowering gooseberry, golden monkey flower, California flannelbush, and other native wildflowers attract a fascinating array of birds, bees, and butterflies.

## **Events: May 2019 - Aug 2019**

### **FIELD TRIPS**

#### **REGISTRATION BY PHONE IS REQUIRED.**

Please register at least two days ahead of your trip. Membership is not required; experts & newcomers welcome.

Don't forget to bring binoculars, proper clothing and shoes, and insect repellent! If you need to borrow binoculars, ask your leader if they have extras.

→ May 5, Sunday, 8AM

#### **Central Park**

Leader: Blair Broughton; Registration: (631) 885-1881  
Meet at the Boathouse, easily accessed from the pedestrian entrance on Fifth Ave near 76th St. Walk downhill veering left past the Alice in Wonderland statues, by the right side of the sailboat pond toward the right, up the hill, cross the roadway and to the Boathouse.

→ May 12, Sunday, 8 AM

#### **Sterling Forest**

Leader: Coby Klein; Registration: (585) 880-0915  
Celebrate Mother's Day by checking out this great spot in upstate New York. Sterling Forest is known for its Golden-winged Warblers. Meet at the end of Ironwood Drive in the park.

→ May 19, Sunday, 8:30 AM

#### **Doodletown**

Leader: Blair Broughton; Registration: (631) 885-1881  
The Lower Hudson favorite, known for flashy breeders like Cerulean and Hooded Warblers. Travel west over the Tappan Zee Bridge to exit 13. Take the Palisades Interstate Parkway north. Go north to Route 6 to the Bear Mountain traffic circle. Leave the circle at the first exit, the Bear Mountain State Park exit. At the light, follow the left fork south along 9W. Within less than 1 mile there will be several small parking areas near two, white concrete abutments indicating the bridge over Doodletown Brook. Park along the road.

→ May 26, Sunday, 8 AM

#### **Cranberry Bog Nature Preserve**

Leader: Coby Klein; Registration: (585) 880-0915  
This preserve is a tiny jewel set in the wetlands of Riverhead, and serves as part of the drainage system of the Peconic River and is a natural reservoir for Long Island's fresh water supply. Hiking trails on the property allow for sights of various plant life, birds species, reptiles and other local wildlife. Great Blue Herons fish here frequently, as do kingfishers. Take LIE east to exit 71, then take NY-24 S to Lake Ave, about a mile or so south of

the traffic circle. Look for a sign that marks the entrance to the preserve.

→ June 16, Sunday, 8 AM

#### **Connetquot River State Preserve**

Leader: Coby Klein; Registration: (585) 880-0915  
The Preserve maintains 3,473 acres of land and water for the protection and propagation of game birds, fish, and animals. Deer and waterfowl are numerous and there are numerous rare plants, such as trailing arbutus and pyxie moss in their natural habitats. The Preserve is a waterfowl hang-out as well as many resident birds. There may be some surprises at the bird feeders! From the west, get off Sunrise Highway at Oakdale-Bohemia Road, cross over Sunrise, head west and watch for the Park entrance on the right.

→ July 14, Sunday, 8 AM

#### **Suffolk County Environmental Center**

Leader: Coby Klein; Registration: (585) 880-0915  
The 70-acre facility lies near the shores of the Great South Bay and is adjacent to the Seatuck National Wildlife Refuge and the Islip Town Beach. A system of trails and boardwalks gives visitors access to the property's diverse mix of habitats, including extensive salt marsh, freshwater wetlands and mature upland forest. Take LIE east to exit 56, to Route 111 South. Turn right onto 27A, turn left onto S. Bay Ave, entrance is one mile south on Main St.

→ August 18, Sunday, 8 AM

#### **Muttontown Preserve**

Leader: Coby Klein; Registration: (585) 880-0915  
The Preserve includes miles of marked nature trails with local wildflowers, trees, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Meet in the parking lot off of Muttontown Lane, which is on the south side of Route 25A, just west of Route 106 in East Norwich. Follow Muttontown Lane to the end.

### **FAMILY EVENTS**

→ April 24, Wednesday, 10:30 AM — 12 PM

#### **I Spy Nature at Target Rock**

Children with their adults will engage in a beginners' naturalist hike along woodland trails and beachside habitats. Enjoy using your senses to explore this beautiful refuge. Look closely at different plants and signs of animals along the way. Keep track of your sightings on your own beginners' naturalist checklist (provided).

**Please register by April 21, by calling (631) 896-2872 .**

## Events: May 2019 - Aug 2019

Meet at Target Rock National Wildlife Refuge, 12 Target Rock Road, Huntington. Parking fee is \$4.00. Dress for moderate to strenuous (hilly terrain) outdoor activity. Bring extra water and snacks for your comfort, restrooms are available.

→ June 23, Sunday, 2:30 PM—3:00 PM

### Summer Stroll at Sagamore Hill

Enjoy the arrival of summer, at our beloved Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. Families will stroll the grounds to observe a native plant garden, fields, woodland, and marsh habitats. We will be on the lookout for milkweed, bluebirds, and many other nature surprises along the way!

**Register by June 19 by calling (631) 896-2872.**

Space is limited. Rain will cancel.

Meet at far end of main parking lot (free parking) opposite Welcome Center at Sagamore Hill NHS, 20 Sagamore Hill Rd., Oyster Bay, NY. Dress for moderate to strenuous(hilly) outdoor walking. Bring extra snacks and water for your comfort. Restrooms are available.

→ Please check our Facebook and website at [www.hobaudubon.org](http://www.hobaudubon.org) for the latest on scheduled and additional events

## PROGRAMS

→ **ALL PROGRAMS** held at Cold Spring Harbor Library  
95 Harbor Rd, Cold Spring Harbor, NY

→ May 8, Wednesday. Light refreshments at 7 PM, speaker at 7:30 PM.

### **CONSIDER THE BIRDS OF THE AIR: AVIAN HISTORY AND ART HISTORY** by *A.W. Cafarelli*,

From predators to passerines, visual images of birds have been a conspicuous presence in art throughout human history. Whether considering paleolithic carvings, ancient coinage, medieval tapestries, renaissance paintings, aboriginal featherwork, enlightenment scientific illustration, or modern animation, the analysis of these intriguing and amusing artworks provides insight into how symbolic depictions of birds reflect civilizations, and opens a scientific window onto the past for evaluating the frequency and distribution of species, reconstructing the appearance of vanished avifauna, and examining cultural practices and intercultural commerce that influence avian population dynamics and the mechanisms of extinction.

*A.W. Cafarelli, Ph.D., J.D., is an ecological historian and habitat consultant whose recent field research in our region has included native*

*forest, prairie, and wetland.*

*Wildlife cameraman Gordon Buchanan meets some of the world's most iconic snow animals across the globe, from the penguins of Antarctica to the bison of Yellowstone and the Arctic fox. Beyond the Arctic Circle in northern Norway, he encounters wolves, lynx, reindeer, polar bears, muskox, and even a woolly bear - the most miraculous, coolest Arctic caterpillar! Buchanan reveals the incredible adaptations and extraordinary strategies these animals use to survive.*

→ June 12, Wednesday. **Double header!** Fundraiser and light refreshments at 6 PM, speaker at 7:30 PM.

- **PHOTOGRAPHY FUNDRAISER FOR MAYAN GIRLS** by *Alexa Helburn*
- **LONG ISLAND'S WHITE SHARK RESEARCH** by *Chris Paparo*

Before our regular monthly program, at 6 PM, you are invited to join us to view and enjoy the inspired nature photography of Huntington High School student, Alexa Helburn. Refreshments will be served. There will be refreshments. Original nature photographs will be available as a token of appreciation for your generous donation (cash or check please). It is never too early to get a Mother's or Father's Day gift for the nature lover in your life! Your participation in this fundraiser will be supporting an aspiring new photographer and HOBAS at the same time. Thank you for your support!

**Long Island's White Shark Research:** Our coastal waters have an abundance of sharks, all of which we know very little about. In 2015, a small group of researchers were the first to deploy a satellite tag on a juvenile great white shark off Long Island's south shore. Over the subsequent two summers, a partnership with OCEARCH enabled them to tag an additional 20 white sharks off Montauk. In this presentation, we learn about the continued work of the Shark Research and Education Program of the South Fork Natural History Museum.

*Born and raised on Long Island, Chris has been exploring the wilds of the island for over 30 years. As a wildlife photographer, writer and lecturer, he enjoys bringing public awareness to the diverse wildlife that calls the island home. His passion for coastal ecology, fishing and the outdoors led him to obtain a BS in Marine Science from LIU/Southampton and currently manages the new Marine Sciences Center at the Southampton campus of Stony Brook University. An award winning member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and the New York State Outdoor Writers Association, Chris is a freelance writer for several fishing, hunting, and wildlife related publications. Although his work tends to focus on marine life, everything in the natural world is fair game.*

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### ***BOARD MEETINGS***

Just a reminder that the board meets once a month, and meetings are open to all board members! We meet at the Cold Spring Harbor Library, just like for our monthly meetings, except in the round meeting rooms on the main or basement floors. We meet at 7PM on the third Wednesday of the month (exactly a week after the monthly member's meeting). Our remaining meeting dates before summer break are as follows:

**April 17 — May 15 — June 19**

After June, meetings will resume in August.



***I FOUND AN INJURED ANIMAL!***

*Please contact **Volunteers for Wildlife***

**516-674-0982** [volunteersforwildlife.org](http://volunteersforwildlife.org)

### ***AUDUBON NEW YORK COUNCIL MEETINGS— ADVOCACY IN ACTION***

*By Brendan Fogarty and Laura McCarthy*

Did you know that Audubon New York has two big council meetings annually? All of the chapters within New York can

attend and share notes and best practices. It is a healthy, inspiring, and invigorating event.

The spring council meeting is always held in March or April in the Saratoga area. This Spring, the meeting began with a desert buffet and speaker Kris Covey, who is undertaking an amazing study to estimate the number of trees on Earth. On Saturday, speakers from National Audubon included Loren Smith of the network team, Marlene Pantin of the Plants for Birds initiative, and Sarah Greenberger, the vice-president of conservation policy. These are some seriously influential people, and this is just a sample of the many events that occurred over the entire weekend.

One of the core exercises of the weekend is the chapter roundtable, where all chapters report in on their triumphs and weaknesses. Everyone comes away better after finding solidarity in the challenges we face as chapters, and also in seeing the various solutions that have been tested.

The next Audubon Council Meeting will be in the fall, November 1-3 at the Villa Roma in Callicoon, New York, along the extremely scenic Upper Delaware River. Why am I telling you this? Because **we invite interested members to apply for a scholarship to attend!** It is a great way to become more involved in both Audubon New York and our chapter, and you get a lovely weekend vacation out of it too. If interested, please email Brendan, the editor, at [bnf25@cornell.edu](mailto:bnf25@cornell.edu).