



The Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society Newsletter

Serving from Fort Salonga in Suffolk County to Oyster Bay and Centre Island in Nassau County

Volume 13, Issue 3
September - December 2025

The mission of the Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society is to protect wildlife and preserve habitat through conservation action, advocacy, and education. This chapter territory serves both Huntington and Oyster Bay townships with its all-volunteer chapter 501c3 non-profit established in 1961.

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Letter from the Editor

By Alexandra Martinez

All summer long I've been thinking about this letter and what I wanted to share. I knew that my topic was going to be what is probably the most overlooked and underappreciated species of bird: the Canada goose (who I have inadvertently been calling Canadian geese - which actually only means geese living in Canada, not Long Island... you learn something new every day)! I had a feeling my letter was going to focus on a particular goose that seems to be pretty unique and popular around the Centerport Mill Pond. Some call him Angel or Left Turn; I happen to call him (or her - apparently it is very difficult to tell the gender of a Canada Goose based solely on looks) Broken Wing.

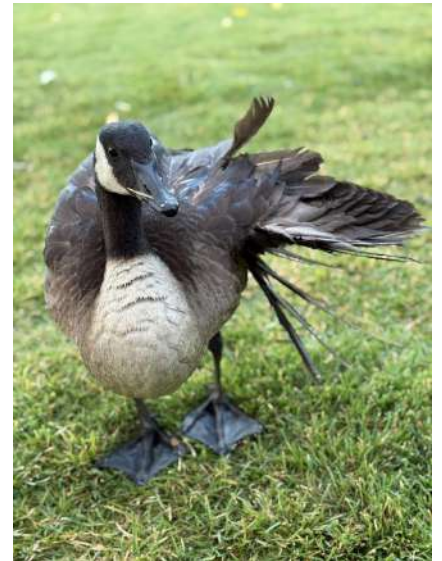
I have really grown to love this goose who I've seen on a daily basis - until the Friday after Labor Day; I hadn't seen him all day. I had eyes out on the Mill Pond for him and a neighbor told me she spotted him at the historic Dove Cottage. I went to look right away, although the sun was already set and it was dark. I couldn't believe it was him; the fractured wing or angel wing (it's up for debate what happened to him) was in a totally different position (upwards, not outwards). He stayed in that area from Friday to Sunday. I stopped by to visit multiple times. He was having an issue walking because of the changed position of his already injured wing. By mid-Saturday, I was going through the list of names from a FaceBook document "Long Island Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation 2025" for my dear feathered friend, Broken Wing.

Most of Saturday's calls were fruitless; unfortunately, Canada geese are overabundant and thus I have been told, groups cannot do anything about Broken Wing because if they did there would be hundreds of Canada geese in need of rehabilitation and rescue. So, it seems like he was foisted into my care. On Sunday, I continued working my way through the list of rehabbers in Suffolk County. A rehabber named Christine texted me back: "Jill had been following this goose. Please reach out to Jill on the list." So, I messaged Jill. And she literally saved the day that Sunday night.

Broken Wing had been basically immobile and seemed to isolate himself to this one area. I explained to Jill that it seemed his wing was lodged under his leg making him unable to ambulate well. I didn't think he had been in the pond since Friday - and a goose needs to be in water! Jill knew exactly which goose I was talking about - she had been keeping a watchful eye over Angel, as she called him. As soon as my text came through she called me. And as soon as she got back to the Huntington area, she went to find him. She texted me: "Can you come? I am netting him." and I barely had a chance to respond; 3 minutes later she got him and freed his leg. He went right into the water! It was amazing. Jill, was MY ANGEL and of course Broken Wings too. She warned me that it may happen again and to let her know if it does.

The next day, Monday, our goose friend was back to his normal routine, but his wing was lodged under his leg again, making walking very difficult. I contacted Jill again and she came right away. Jill netted him and I helped her hold his body down and his neck steady while she dislodged his wing again. It was honestly an amazing experience and I believe he knew we helped him! He has been walking freely since then and Jill and I have been keeping tabs on him daily - morning and night texts about our silly goose! I truly appreciate Jill for all the help she did, has done, and will do for injured animals. While she was in the midst of this situation she was also helping to rescue a squirrel. The kindness she showed me and of course the compassion she has for animals make her a truly remarkable human being.

Thank you Jill Christina Weigold! You deserve all of the recognition and praise and I am sorry if this letter means more calls and rescues for you, but I know that you are the right person for our Suffolk County Long Island wildlife!



Summer Time, Scholarships, and Smiles



By Alexandra Martinez

For yet another summer the Huntington Oyster Bay Audubon Society, supported through a corporate sponsorship with Canon U.S.A., Inc., provided scholarships for local students. Each summer season, the two organizations team up to cover the costs of camp experiences for eager and environmentally-inclined kids at two outdoor adventure spots: the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary (TRS) and the Sea Explorers Marine Camp .

This year, 13 scholarships were provided to the Cornell Cooperative Extension's Marine Program at the Sport Fishing Education Center at Cedar Beach Marina in Babylon, Long Island, New York. These campers enjoyed an exciting week at the Sea Explorers Marine Camp, where they expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to explore Long Island's marine environment. From fishing and seining to exploring the bay and ocean beaches, campers made the most of their time at the Sport Fishing Education Center.

10 scholarships were offered to the TRS, an increase from last year's eight scholarships, plus providing funds for an additional counselor-in-training! Each camp session offers children the opportunity to explore and have fun in 14 wooded acres in a safe and secure environment, including hiking, fishing, and time with animal ambassadors.

We're thankful for Michael Frank, our Treasurer, who organized these scholarships for HOBAS, and to our amazing partners who share our passion for connecting youth with nature through hands-on outdoor learning. Thanks to support from Canon U.S.A., Inc., our members, and the camps and their wonderful staff, the 2025 HOBAS summer scholarship program was a success. We're excited to see what new opportunities we can offer young explorers next year!



ABOVE Sea Explorers Group Photo (left to right): Kate McFadden, *Specialist, CSR & Showroom*; Michael Frank, *Treasurer HOBAS*; Vanessa Lockel, *Executive Director Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk*; Tracy Marcus, *Marine Youth Education Specialist*; Dawn Shields, *Senior Advisor, Community Relations, CSR & Showroom*; Stephanie Caro, *Director, Public Relations, CSR & Showroom, Canon U.S.A., Inc.*



ABOVE Teddy Roosevelt Group Photo (left to right): Michael Frank, *Treasurer HOBAS*; Dawn Shields, *Senior Advisor, Community Relations, CSR & Showroom*; Kathryn D'Amico, *Center Director for the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center in Oyster Bay, New York*; Julie Nelsen, *Education Manager for the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary and Audubon Center*; Kate McFadden, *Specialist, CSR & Showroom*; Jacqueline Bauer, *Intern, Public Relations, CSR & Showroom*; Alyssa Rodriguez, *Consultant, Community Relations & CSR*



Candid California Candors

By Coby Klein

Twenty years ago, I read a book about the near extinction and resurrection of the California condor. Ever since then my dream has been to see condors in the wild. Before this year, I'd been to California twice before and planned excursions to "condor country." The first time the weather did not cooperate; the second time I spent several hours on a mountainside waiting for them to show up. They never did.

This time the plan was to spend a day in Pinnacles National Park, well-known for its condor sightings. After a hike through Bear Gulch, battling temperatures in excess of 100°, and a chance meeting with a friendly gopher snake, I plopped myself down on a bench at the Park Store. There they have scopes trained on the mountains specifically for viewing condors and this is where I waited for them to show up. There was nothing. Nothing, but turkey vultures - dozens of turkey vultures. SO many turkey vultures. But, no condors.

I was starting to resign myself to the idea that it wasn't my day. Again. That's when I started to notice and appreciate all the other creatures around me. A mule deer streaked right past me. A small Oregon junco hopped over the fence right beside the bench. There was a giant flock of quails feeding in the campground behind me. After an hour on the bench I was getting ready to pack it in when I did one more scan of the vultures soaring above the mountains. And there it was: the unmistakable white patches on the leading edge of the wings that scream California condor. It glided back and forth for a few minutes before settling into a tree on the side of the mountain. I'm not sure what the moral of the story is. Is it don't give up on your dream? Slow and steady wins the race? Or is the journey more important than the destination? You decide. I'll be over here thinking about condors.

Pinecone Birdfeeder Children's Program!

Winter is fast approaching, and our feathered friends will need extra food. Let's help them by making our own homemade birdfeeders out of pinecones and birdseed!

We will also go for a walk in the woods, weather permitting.

•Place•

Cold Spring Harbor Library
95 Harbor Road
Cold Spring Harbor, NY

•Dates and Times•

Thursday October 2nd, 1:00pm &
Tuesday November 11th, 1:00pm

This program is for children ages 5-11, accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Preregistration is a must. To register, please call or text 631-896-2872.



Birder Borrow Bag Reminder!

Beginner Birder Borrow Bags are available at the Bayville Public Library amongst their "Library of Things" as well as in Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association office within the Harborfields Public Library! Borrow one for your next Fall outdoor adventure!

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon
PO Box 735
Huntington, NY 11743



Crab Meadow. Photo: Andrew Payne/Audubon

You're Invited! Crab Meadow Restoration Meeting

Tuesday, September 30, 7PM - 8:30PM
Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Huntington, NY

Please join us for a Public Meeting about an exciting restoration opportunity at Crab Meadow salt marsh, located in the Jerome A. Ambro Memorial Wetland Preserve.

The project partners will present the current plans, and would appreciate your feedback.

Over the last few decades, Crab Meadow has lost a significant amount of wildlife habitat. We plan to restore essential habitat and increase the marsh's resiliency.



Salt Marsh Sparrow.
Photo: Frank Lehman/Audubon Photography Awards

RSVP (optional) and
submit a question.

audubon.org/nyc/crab-meadow



Join the 1400+ signatures for this petition already!

Save Our Stillwell Woods Preserve



Scan the QR code for information and the
change.org petition!





Annual BIRD SEED FUNDRAISER

October 25th, 2025 10am - 4pm

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society

Early Bird pick up: Wednesday Oct 22nd- Friday Oct 24th 10am-6pm

Wild Birds Unlimited, 625 Jericho Turnpike, Syosset 11791 (516)-226-1780

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

e-mail

Qty	Description	Price Per Unit	Total Price
	20 lb No Mess Blend	60.00	
	20 lb Deluxe Blend	40.00	
	20 lb Black Oil Sunflower	40.00	
	40 lb Black Oil Sunflower	76.00	
	20 lb Whole Sunflower Kernels	60.00	
	20 lb Safflower Seed	50.00	
	20 lb Nyjer (thistle) seed	52.00	
	20 lb Finch Blend	55.00	
	20 lb Shelled Peanut Splits	52.00	
	Case (12) of 11.75oz Naturally Nuts Suet	42.00	
	Case (12) of 11.75oz PB&J Suet Cakes	42.00	
	Subtotal		
	Seniors 10% discount		
	Additional contribution		
	Grand Total		



To download additional order forms and for more information about our events and programs, visit us at www.hobaudubon.org

Thank you for supporting us!

Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon's conservation and education initiatives.

Please circle day you plan to pick up your order:

Wednesday, October 22nd

Thursday, October 23rd

Friday, October 24th

Saturday, October 25th

Orders must be received by **Friday, Oct 3, 2025**

RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS - PLEASE RECORD ORDER ON BACK OF THIS SLIP

Please pick up your birdseed order in Wild Birds Unlimited of Syosset. Your birdseed will be transferred to your vehicle by our staff and volunteers. **Seed not picked up by 4pm Oct 25th will be donated.** Extra seed, as well as gift items and bird feeding supplies can be found in store. **If using GPS, enter 625 Jericho Turnpike, Syosset for directions.** Please make check payment by **Oct 3rd, 2025** payable to **Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society.** Mail to:

HOBAS Bird Seed Sale

PO Box 735

Huntington, NY 11743

Please contact Michael Frank, HOBAS Treasurer, at (631) 252-1082 should you have any questions.

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon - Annual Bird Seed Fundraiser

Seed Descriptions:

- **No Mess Blend**– A high-quality, no-waste mix without shells. Contains 65% medium sunflower chips, 15% diced/chopped/small peanut pieces, 10% hulled white millet. Will attract most winter feeder birds including nuthatches, woodpeckers, cardinals, juncos, white throat sparrows and titmice.
- **Deluxe Blend** – A combination of high-oil content seeds with shells. 63% black oil sunflower, 25% white millet, 10% safflower, 2% striped sunflower. attracts a large variety of birds.
- **Black Oil Sunflower** – A favorite of almost all seed-eating birds, your feathered friends will happily fill up on this high fat seed.
- **Whole Sunflower Kernels** – Whole sunflower seed kernels. No shells, **no waste**. An excellent feed. Everyone loves this.
- **Safflower Seed** – The cardinal's choice! Glossy white seeds are the **favorite food of cardinals**. Also eaten by chickadees, finches, and doves. Ignored by squirrels, starlings, and blackbirds. An excellent seed for year-round feeding.
- **Nyjer (Thistle) Seed** – Tiny black seeds for goldfinches and pine siskins. Nyjer must be placed in a special feeder with tiny holes. Nyjer is ignored by squirrels and starlings. Use your Nyjer feeder year-round.
- **Finch Blend:** A 50/50 mix of Nyjer and fine sunflower chips, which helps attract even more birds to your finch feeder such as chickadees and downy woodpeckers.
- **Shelled Peanut Splits** – Peanuts are the best single source of protein and fat for birds and a great addition to the choices you offer in your yard. Woodpeckers, nuthatches, blue jays, tufted titmice and chickadees love this!
- **Suet Cakes** – Each 11.75oz cake fits in a wire suet cage. High protein and fat content with no waste, no fillers and real fruit! Woodpeckers love suet and so do other birds!

Reminder - All orders due by Friday October 3rd 2025. Thank you for your continued support!

It is always a good idea to keep feeders clean by following these steps:

1. Clean feeders and bird baths with soap and water at least once a week, then disinfect with a 10% bleach solution to prevent potential infectious disease spread between birds and other wildlife. 2. After cleaning, rinse well with water and allow to air-dry. 3. When handling bird feeders and baths be sure to wear disposable gloves and wash your hands when finished. 4. Keep pets away from sick or dead birds as a standard precaution. 5. To dispose of dead birds, place them in a sealable plastic bag and discard with household trash. This will prevent disease transmission to other birds and wildlife.

Source: NY Audubon

For Customer Use: Record your order here.

Qty	Description	Total
	20 lb No Mess LM Blend	
	20 lb Deluxe Blend	
	20 lb Black Oil Sunflower	
	40 lb Black Oil Sunflower	
	20 lb Whole Sunflower Kernels	
	20 lb Safflower Seed	
	20 lb Nyjer (thistle) Seed	
	20 lb Finch Blend	
	20 lb Peanut Splits	

Qty	Decsription	
	Case (12) Naturally Nuts Suet	
	Case (12) PB&J Suet	

Customer Reminder

Please circle the day you plan to pick up your order

Wednesday, October 22nd

Thursday, October 23rd

Friday, October 24th

Saturday, October 25th