

The Sandpiper

Great South Bay Audubon Society

A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Raptor Migration

By Steve D'Amato

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND MONTHLY PROGRAMS

All GSBAS Activities are FREE and open to the public.
Join us and bring a friend.
Programs are held at 8:00 pm on the third
Thursday of each month, except May, (which is our Annual Dinner), July and August.
Pre-program refreshments begin at 7:00.
General Membership Meetings are held at Connetquot River State Park Preserve.
See page 3 for directions.

Upcoming Programs January 15, 2015

Don Riepe is the Director of the Northeast Chapter of the American Littoral Society located in Broad Channel, NY.

Don will take us on a virtual tour of the Jamaica Bay Refuge and give us an inside look at the wildlife management activities that he has been involved with over the past 30 years. Don will share his thoughts on habitat management and environmental changes such as Hurricane Sandy that have affected this dynamic ecosystem.

The salt marshes of Jamaica Bay have been disappearing at a rate of 40 acres per year. Through the work of Don and the Jamaica Bay Guardian, efforts are being made to reverse this trend.

February 19, 2015

To Be Announced
Please check our website for Program Info

All throughout the United States, different regions are 'tallying' up their numbers for this Fall's hawk migration. We have a local concentration point near us at Robert Moses State Park on Fire Island. We are somewhat fortunate to be able to have this concentration point. As the raptors from New England and the coastline north of us cross over the Long Island Sound east, they continue heading south over the land. When they reach the south shore, the Atlantic Ocean

acts as a barrier, so they fly along the south shore of the Long Island westbound. When they reach a point where they can see eastern Fire Island, they 'hop' onto the island. Here, they funnel along Fire Island in more concentrated numbers. So just west of the Fire Island Lighthouse, at the turnaround, was the perfect location to count the raptors as they pass by. The Fire Island count was established in the Fall of 1982. In late 2001, the New York State Parks Department decided to build a hawk watch platform in order for the Fire Island Raptor Enumerators to safely conduct the counts, wherein we first used it in the 2002 hawk watch season.

I was invited to go with a friend, Bill Madigan, to a hawk migration funneling site in Pennsylvania called Waggoner's Gap, for the weekend of October 25th and 26th. It is in the Appalachian Mountains, and like the famous Hawk Mountain, it also falls along the Kittatinny Ridge.

Again, like Hawk Mountain, and unlike the Fire Island Hawk Watch, the mountain ridges at Waggoner's Gap are migration routes for the larger raptors. The new world vultures, the buteonine hawks (red-tailed, red-shouldered, broadwinged), and both large eagle species all prefer these migration routes because the mountain drafts and thermals help keep them aloft without much energy expenditure. The two major groups in common between Fire Island and Waggoner's Gap were Ospreys and the 'smaller' accipitrine hawks (Sharp-shinned & Cooper's). There was one species of accipitrine hawk which we will only see once every few years at Fire Island but are regularly seen at Waggoner's Gap, and that is the Northern Goshawk, *Accipiter gentilis*, and those are almost always immature birds. Of the two days Bill and I were there, we saw a total of 7 Northern Goshawks, including 1 adult. However, they had a total of 37 goshawks this season, and that is about average.





Connetquot Breakfast and Birding

Saturday, January 17, 2015 • 8:00 am - 11:00 am Connetquot River State Park Preserve, Sunrise Highway, Oakdale Hosted by Friends of Connetquot.

Join us for a continental breakfast, an introduction to bird identification, and a walk in beautiful Connetquot Preserve to find and identify birds.

RSVP required - call Connetquot River State Park Preserve at 581-1072 to register. Registration fee \$4 plus \$8 parking fee per car - unless you have yearly NYS Park pass.

Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Great South Bay Audubon Society is to advocate for the conservation of habitats for native birds and other native wildlife on Long Island.

The Sandpiper

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Mailing Chair: Ken Thompson Thank you to everyone who helps mail each issue.

Illustrator: Steve D'Amato (as indicated)

Editorial Address: Sandpiper GSBAS, PO Box 267 Sayville, NY 11782

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Website: GSBAS.org email: info@GSBAS.org Webmaster: Eric Larson

Submission Deadline for next issue is February 10.



The Great South Bay Audubon
Library is located at our
Brookside Headquarters,
59 Brook St. in Sayville. It can be
accessed Wednesday and Sunday
from 1 to 3pm

Please consider joining us on one our Nature Walks listed on Page 3.
Our experienced leaders are always willing to share their expertise.
Everything we do centers on what's out there to be enjoyed and, if need be, protected.
Hope to see you soon!

The Board-Walk

Greetings to everyone out there in this beautiful wonderland of winter birding. I hope that your holidays and new year were and are happy, safe and healthy. May your back yard bird feeders be alive with color and activity. As part of the changing land-scape of the Great South Bay Audubon Society, we have renamed the President's Message to be the Board-Walk. Here's where you can depend on various board members to keep you updated.

This year started in September with a terrific general meeting featuring Birding at Cape May. In October we learned about Monarch Butterflies and in November we had a great session on winter birding tips. We really would like to encourage you to attend our monthly meetings. I know it's a drag, especially in the winter, to come out to Connetquot River State Park in the dark and the cold. But it really is worth it! The speakers and education are second only to how valuable the fellowship is in meeting other members, chatting and sharing. The refreshments are nothing to complain about either. Give it a try – the 3rd Thursday of each month. We have a fine line up of speakers planned.

Hard to believe, we are already working on the May dinner. As the dinner chairman, I would like to invite anyone who is interested in joining this team to contact me. We need many hands to get donations and coordinate this event to make it the success it is each year.

We have a few other thoughts in the works and are waiting on grant information to find out what kind of funding we may have. It is an honor to be placed in the position of caring for our environment on a community level and also being a voice in the larger picture. The Society welcomes thoughts, ideas and feedback so please don't be a stranger. **Annette Brownell**

From the Editor

I am very excited to be taking over as Editor of The Sandpiper. I am extremely proud of our Chapter and am honored to be the voice of GSBAS. It certainly is a hard act to follow, after the fine work of our past Editors, Harry Anderson and Lenora Daniel. I will try my hardest, but am depending on members to continue submitting articles of interest, reports, photos, poems, or anything appealing relating to nature and our chapter mission.

This issue brings us some interesting articles: Harry Anderson's amusing piece on house finches and their antics, and two articles by Steve D'Amato regarding hawk migration. As Long Islanders we are fortunate to be located along the Atlantic migratory flyway, and we, therefore, have the opportunity to play an important role in the study and counting of these hawks. One of the important reasons for studying raptors is that these birds of prey, being at the top of the food chain, are perfect ecological indicators of any problems in the environment. So if a specie's number is showing a trend toward decreasing over time, that species is having a problem with survival and reproduction. This usually indicates there is a problem with that raptor's environment, whether food, habitat loss, etc. These birds, therefore, become a barometer for the health of an ecosystem. This brings to mind the quote of the issue:

"The nation behaves well if it treats its natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value."

Theodore Roosevelt

Great South Bay Audubon Society Activities

General Membership Meetings and Programs

All General Membership Meetings are held at Connetquot River State Park Preserve in the beautiful and historic main building. The entrance is in the back of the building; please park near the garages. There is a handicap ramp at this entrance. Please do not park on the grass or in the circle in front of the building.

Join us at 7:00 p.m. for pre-program refreshments and casual conversation. Our bird experts will be on hand to field your questions, discuss equipment and share their favorite birding spots.

Directions to the Connetquot River State Park Preserve:

Approaching from the East, the entrance is on the north side of the Sunrise Highway (Route 27), opposite the Sunrise-Montauk Highway merge. From the West, exit Sunrise Highway (Route 27) at Oakdale-Bohemia Road, cross over Sunrise Highway, merge on to westbound Route 27 and watch for the Park entrance on the right.

Call GSBAS direct at (631) 563-7716 or see our website: www.GSBAS.org for details and updates.

Louise Titus Memorial Tuesday Midweek Walks*

Tuesday, March 17, Sunken Meadow State Park, 9:30 am. Meet in the northwest corner of the main parking lot.

Tuesday, March 24, Heckscher State Park, 9:30 am. Meet in Parking Field 5 in the west end.

Tuesday, March 31, Jones Beach West End, 9:30 am. Meet at the Coast Guard Station parking lot.

Tuesday, April 7, Jamaica Bay NWR, 9:30 am. Southern State Pkwy to Belt Pkwy, Exit 17, Cross Bay Blvd. South. Continue south for about 2 miles. Look for entrance on the right (west) side. There are signs for park entrance.

Tuesday, April 14, Robert Moses State Park, 9:30 am. Meet at Robert Moses State Park parking field #5 northeast corner.

Tuesday, April 21, Gardiners Park, Bayshore, 9:00 am. Entrance on south side of Montauk Hwy (27A). From west, 1/2 mile east of Robert Mose Pkwy. From east, 1 mile west of Brightwaters Canal.

Tuesday, April 28, Norman J Levy Park & Jones Beach West End, 9:00 am. Southern State Pkwy to Meadowbrook Pkwy south to Merrick Road (27A). Go east on Merrick Road approximately 1/8 mile and turn right into the Norman J. Levy Park.

Weekend Nature Walks*

Saturday, December 13, Montauk, 9:00 am, Leaders: Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028) Meet at Lighthouse parking lot. Directions Route 27-27A to end.

Saturday, January 10, Montauk, 9:00 am, Leaders: Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028) Meet at Lighthouse parking lot. Directions Route 27-27A to end.

Saturday, February 7, Jones Beach West End, 8:30 am, Leaders: Mike Cooper (516-523-2369) Steve D'Amato (631-264-8414) Meet in the parking lot near the Coast Guard Station at West End.

Saturday, March 7, Bob Laskowski Memorial Duck Walk, 8:30 am, Leader: Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Meet at Brookwood Hall, Islip Town Park in East Islip on Irish Lane between Montauk Hwy and Union Blvd.

Saturday, April 18, Connetquot River State Park Preserve, 8:30 am, Leaders: Bob Grover (516-318-8536)

Ken Thompson (631-612-8028) Meet in parking field. Entrance is on the westbound side of Sunrise Highway (Rte. 27) west of Pond Road. If coming from west to east, must go all the way to the next overpass to cross over bridge, then head westbound and stay in right lane to entrance.

*Note: Rain and snow CANCELS Midweek and Weekend Nature Walks.

Young Naturalists Club

First Sunday of the month, 1:15pm, Brookside County Park, 59 Brook St. Sayville

The Young Naturalists Club focuses on learning about nature and stewardship of a natural area. Outdoor activities include crafting nature boxes and pinecone feeders, nature scavenger hunts, hiking the trails, gardening, and maintaining bird-feeding stations. Indoor activities include examining birds' nests and feather displays and special presentations on subjects such as the Northern Bobwhite Quail, local marine creatures, and bird watching. For details on upcoming Young Naturalists Club activities, please email info@gsbas.org or call 631-581-1731, or visit our website: www.gsbas.org. Registration is not required but recommended. Program is free, but donations or joining GSBAS is encouraged.

CHAPTER UPDATES

Autumn Splendor by Janet Gremli

On Sunday, November 2, 2014, the Young Naturalists Club of the Great South Bay Audubon Society met at Brookside County Park in Sayville to enjoy the splendor of Autumn. The children gathered around a large wooden table which was liberally strewn with leaves of oak, maple, sassafras and dogwood, pine needles, acorns, pinecones, bark, and moss. The children were introduced to the variety of shapes, colors and scents that Nature offers. Hard,



Our young naturalists at work.

oval pitch pinecones were compared with the slender, arcing cones of the white pine. Clusters of pine needles were counted to identify whether they were pitch pine or white pine. The gnarly bark of the pine trees was compared to the smoother bark of birch and sycamore. The bright yellow maple leaves, palmate in shape, were held in contrast to the orange and red of the mitten-shaped sassafras and the scarlet of the round-lobed oak leaves. The children then set out on a scavenger hunt to find the various objects of our lesson. Darting across the grass and scurrying along the edge of the woods, the children collected leaves,

pine needles, pinecones and acorns. Not certain if they had a sassafras leaf, they remembered to crush the leaf to release the citrus-like aroma for validation. The children filled their paper bags with all of the items on the scavenger list. Returning to our great table, they let the spoils of their search tumble out for closer inspection. Through their newly acquired knowledge and direct observations, the children were able to connect the information they had learned with Nature's Bounty.

Beach Clean-Up by Jody Banaszak

This year's beach cleanup was sponsored by the American Littoral Society. Carol Jansch asked me if I would consider taking over for her this year and I considered it an honor! At first, I was very nervous, but it turned out to be a great time.

Annette Brownell, Rick Barns, Kim French, Karen Funes, Christine Banks, Kevin and June Ward, myself and a ranger took the ferry from Sayville to Sailors Haven/Sunken Forest for the cleanup. It was the perfect, beautiful day to walk the beach. As we walked

about 1 1/2 miles to the west, and Annette and Rick to the east, we found quite an interesting array of garbage. As they walked in a group with garbage bags and me with the clip board, we tried to figure out how some of the debris could have gotten onto the beach. We figured ships dumping their garbage, maybe trucks riding the beach losing garbage or even garbage being unearthed from Storm Sandy. The one disturbing find was a dead, partially decomposed gull with a zip tie through his eye socket. Among the clothes, rubber, wood, cans and bottles, foam and candy wrappers, the most found garbage were plastic bottle caps (164), plastic pieces (101), balloons (108), ribbon (43), and plastic bags (53).

It's disturbing to think we found that many things in that mile and a half stretch of beach! After we were finished, the ranger told us where to "dump" the bags of garbage since the pick up vehicle wasn't available! Damn! I had to chalk it up to a good workout, since I was walking, carrying the clip board, and all my big driftwood finds. On the way back to the bay side, we had a nice lunch and some ice cream. I would like to thank Carol for asking me to fill in and to all the helpers for doing a good deed and having A LOT of laughs!

Below: Great South Bay Audubon's 2014 Coastal Clean-up Team. A good time was had by all!



CHAPTER UPDATES

Meet the Monarch

Annie McIntyre, LI Regional Manager of Environmental Office of NY State Parks, was our guest speaker at our October General Membership Meeting. Aided by her powerpoint

presentation, Annie discussed the incredible Monarch Butterfly migration, including how these butterflies are tagged and monitored, how data is collected, and the perils that these fragile beauties encounter during their life cycle.

One question that many members had for Annie was: "How in the world do you tag a butterfly?" The answer: Very carefully!



Annie holding a live monarch at the meeting. Can you imagine how small the band must be?

Bird Seed Sale

Our annual bird seed sale fundraiser was held on October 25 and was a huge success. One of our members was gracious enough to hold this event out of her garage. Early that morn-

ing volunteers were there early to greet the driver of Shirley Feed and unload about 75 bags of seed. We were so grateful that the weather cooperated and turned out to be a gorgeous fall day. A big thanks to those volunteers and to Shirley Feed for all of their help and dedication.

We would also like to thank all of our members who purchased seed from this sale. Great South Bay Audubon really depends on our members' contributions so we can continue to advocate and educate our community on special issues and concerns.

Volunteer Highlight: Peter O'Connor

The spotlight this issue is on Peter O'Connor. Not only is Peter the chairperson of Brookside, and our Program chair, but now he is also the newest member of the Board of Directors. Peter's frequent visits to Brookside are very reassuring to all. He has already been such a tremendous asset to our Chapter and we look forward to his future involvement with the Board. Welcome and thank you Peter!

Volunteers Needed--Please Consider Helping Out

The Great South Bay Audubon would not be what it is today if it were not for our awesome volunteers. Consider joining our team and donating just a few hours to any of the following opportunities:

• May Dinner Committee

Our Annual May Dinner is our main fundraiser and an enjoyable event that is eagerly anticipated by all. If you have ever attended one of our dinners, I'm sure you can imagine the hours of work and planning that is involved. If you think you might want to help out--c'mon down! Some of the things we need help with are: organizing prizes, working the day

May Dinner Committee First Meeting

Monday, February 9
7 - 8:30pm at Brookside
Please call Annette Brownell to
respond or if you have any questions.
631-665-4405 or email her at
nettiesbaskets2@optonline.net

We warmly welcome new volunteers

of the dinner, soliciting for donations, and brainstorming ideas. Please call Annette if you would like to attend the first dinner planning meeting on Monday evening, February 9th at Brookside from 7-8:30. Annette: (631) 665-4405 or email her at: nettiesbaskets2@optonline.net

• Brookside Tour Guides

Every Wednesday and Sunday at our beautiful Brookside Preserve tour guides greet visitors and show them around our beautiful preserve. New volunteers will train with an experienced guide who will give them the run-down on Brookside. It's just two hours a week, either Wednesdays or Sundays, from 1 -3. If you are interested call Peter O'Connor at 631-466-4360 or email him at: pdcocon@gmail.com

Welcome to New Conservation Chairperson: Maria Brown

We are thrilled to have Maria Brown as our new Conservation Chairperson. Maria has been an active member of the Great South Bay Audubon Society for the past 15 years. She teaches Research in Science & Engineering at Sayville High School and often uses Brookside Preserve as her "classroom and outdoor laboratory". She has been teaching for Sayville Schools for 16 years and has taught Regents Earth Science and AP Environmental Science.

Prior to becoming an educator, Maria was a Senior Environmental Scientist at engineering firms in New York City and on Long Island for ten years and is a Certified Wetland Scientist. She is a Permanent Lecturer in the Sustainability Studies Program at Stony Brook University where she teaches Introduction to GIS and Design.

Maria is passionate about conservation biology and finding new ways to promote sustainability for Long Island's natural resources.

We are confident that Maria will be an asset to our mission and we welcome her wholeheartedly.



Golden Eagle Migration - 2014 by Steve D'Amato

This year, we had a surprise migrant at the Fire Island hawk watch at Robert Moses State Park. On November 2nd, for the second time since this hawk watch count started in 1982, we had a Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*, pass over (the first time being October 25, 1992). As you can see, this species is extremely rare migrating along the Atlantic coast-

line. Of the 9-12 species* of the genus Aquila (known as the true or booted eagles, because of their feathered tarsus), only the Golden Eagle is found in the western hemisphere. (*there is now debate in the ornithological world regarding the status of some of the eagles previously placed in the genus Hieraaetus as to whether they belong in the genus Aquila, as well as one previously placed in the genus Aquila possibly belonging in the genus Hieraaetus).

Over the past 40 years, Golden Eagles have been increasing in numbers in the eastern side of the North American continent.

They are mainly a holarctic species, breeding in upland/mountainous habitats and seen mostly along mountain ridges and passes during migration. Famous hawk watch observation locations such as Hawk Mountain have been getting increasing numbers of Golden Eagles each year.

I was fortunate to accompany a fellow artist, photographer, and all around birding buddy, Bill Madigan, to one of the locations along the Kittatinny Ridge, Waggoner's Gap, on the weekend of October 25th and 26th. The Kittatinny Ridge is a prominent 300 mile long ridge which extends from New York State, ~60 miles northwest of New York City, southwest down to just ~20 miles west of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. It is the southeastern most Appalachian ridge and valley province of eastern Pennsylvania. Raptors migrating south from Canada, New England, and New York, 'slope soar' along the length of the Kittatinny Ridge, saving a great deal of energy during migration. There are seven raptor observation locations along the Kittatinny Ridge. For us, probably Hawk Mountain and Second Mountain are the most recognized examples.

The two days Bill and I were at Waggoner's Gap, they had a total of 1539 raptors, 29 of which were Golden Eagles (10 Golden Eagles of the 987 raptors on the 25th and 19 Golden Eagles of the 552 raptors on the 26th). So far, the greatest single day record for Golden Eagles at Waggoner's Gap was 50 on November 3, 2012.

Being an inland, mountainous region, the raptor migrants going through the Kittatinny Ridge are mostly of the broader-winged groups, such as the vultures, accipiters, bu-

teos, ospreys, and eagles. There were a few harriers, peregrines, merlins, and kestrels, but nothing like the numbers of this group of raptors that we see at Fire Island or Cape May.

Hopefully, it won't take another 22 years before the next Golden Eagle passes the Fire Island Hawk Watch at Robert Moses State Park.

Enough Is Too Much by Harry Anderson

Our window feeder drew a pair of House Finches. Hardly a rare bird, but a welcome one never the less. The male is striking, looking like it had been dipped in red paint. The female, like many species, is far less showy, but the male's color is extremely important for mating and, hence perpetuation of House Finches.

Two are welcome, but one morning it was a flock. They sucked the feeder dry in three hours, all fighting for their turn at the trough. All females with a male making a token appearance.

They continued to vacuum up the seed so fast that I decided enough. So I stopped filling it. But they continued to come any-

way, perching on the feeder and looking in at me with heads cocked, like dogs do. I realized that they were "my" birds.

When not at the feeder, they perched on a small dead tree branch less than ten feet away. I intended to lop the dead branch off, but how could I now that was part of the cafeteria.

Observation has paid off, watching that branch. One male and four females lined up. The male feeds the closest female and she flutters her



Male House Finch

wings with each beak-to-beak contact. Once or twice the second female got a ritual peck, but no more. The other three just watched it all -rather disinterested.

The window feeder itself has become theirs. Occasionally, a female Cardinal lands on it, or a Jay and they retreat to the trees, but not for long once the bird twice their size flies off. Their manners at the cups are deplorable.

House Finches (*Carpodacus or Haemorous mexicanus*) inhabit all of the US, Southern Canada and Mexico. It is believed that those in the east are related to caged birds brought from the southwest and released in New York City in 1940. They thrived here and can live up to ten years, but populations crashed in the 1990's because of mycoplasmal conjunctivitis. Nation wide, their population is now believed to exceed 21 million. They have received a better reception than other exploding species like the Starling or House Sparrow.

Since House Finches are omnivorous, they can survive without our window feeder. They will have to since it suddenly looks like one of them put out a call and it seems like a significant part of that 21 million hovered outside our window. Bye bye, birdies.

BIRD FEEDER SURVEY

Fall 2014/Spring 2015 Compiled by Helga Merryman

Some of us were lucky to have Purple Finches stop and visit our feeders this fall as they migrated south from their nesting grounds in northern North America. At first there was a bit of confusion among the viewers as to their identity because of the similarity to House Finches but that was quickly cleared up after advising them to check the field marks in a good guide. Whether just checking your feeders or venturing out on a nature walk a good field guide is an important tool for identifying birds. In our area The Peterson Field Guide to Birds of Eastern and Central North America is the easiest to use and The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America is a little more advanced.



Although photographic guides are good, color alone is not reliable in identification because it can vary so much.

I don't feed the birds over the summer and it took a little while before they realized that the feeders were full again. Most of the birds seem to like the peanut chips, they are pricey but go a long way in the right feeder (one that is easy to fill and resistant to damage by squirrels, such as the Perky Pet Sunflower and Peanut feeder). This fall I was happy to have a large variety of birds attracted to my yard. A catbird held court in my Crab Apple tree feasting on the tiny fruit until the cold weather urged his departure to the south, the berries on the Beauty Bush and viburnum attracted robins and thrushes, the seed heads left from cone flowers and a patch of sunflowers attracted goldfinches.

We had 13 participants to start this season's survey period. Welcome to newcomers Carol and Jose Rivera; we are happy to have you join us. The following communities were represented, Babylon, Bayshore, Deer Park, West Islip, Lake Ronkonkoma, West Sayville, Ridge, and Bellport.

The GSBAS Feeder Survey has been run for many years. The reward of the survey is to bring awareness of nature to our doorstep and share our observations with others. Everyone is welcome to join the survey. I look forward to a new season with our past participants and welcome all newcomers.

How Does the Survey Work?

- 1) The counting period is 5 months from November to March. You may choose to participate for only one month, several months or the full period of five months.
- 2) During the first 15 days of each month, keep your feeders filled. Whenever you view your feeders, count the number of each individual bird species you observe. Report the *largest number of each individual species seen at any one time*. e.g., if you see 10 Cardinals on the 1st, 5 on the 2nd, 3 on the 3rd report the largest number observed, i.e., 10. These birds can actually be at your feeder or attracted to your yard by the feeding activity.
- 3) Make five (5) copies of the form printed in the Nov/Dec issue of the Sandpiper, or just send a list of your observations. Use one (1) form per month to record the largest number of individuals of any species that you see at one time.
- 4) No later than the 19th of each survey month, mail your completed form to Helga Merryman, 38 South Carll Ave, Babylon, N.Y., 11702. You can also email your sightings and photos to me at: eider55owl@optonline.net. Please put FEEDER SURVEY in the subject line. I will compile the information and the results will be published in the following issue of *The Sandpiper*.

Survey Data: Fall 2014

Red-tailed Hawk 0
Sharp-shinned Hawk 3
Cooper's Hawk 3
Rock Pigeon 41
Mourning Dove 110
Monk Parakeet 8
Red-bellied Woodpecker 20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 7
Downy Woodpecker 21
Hairy Woodpecker 4
Northern Flicker 2

Blue Jay 56
American Crow 16
Black-capped Chickadee 32
Tufted Titmouse 20
Red-breasted Nuthatch 0
White-breasted Nuthatch 19
Carolina Wren 19
American Robin 12
Northern Mockingbird 14
Brown Thrasher 1
European Starling 141

Towhee 1
Fox Sparrow 3
Song Sparrow 79
White-throated Sparrow 79
Dark-eyed Junco 38
Northern Cardinal 44
Red-winged Blackbird 46
Common Grackle 138
Brown-headed Cowbird 11
House Finch 73
American Goldfinch 26

House Sparrow 264
OTHER SPECIES
Peregrine Falcon 1
Merlin 1
Woodcock 1
Boat-tailed Grackle 5
Brown Creeper 2
Winter Wren 1
Hermit Thrush 2
Golden-crowned Kinglet 1
Purple Finch 12

Great South Bay Audubon Society

Officers

President: (Position Pending)
Vice-president: (Position Pending)
Treasurer: Annette Brownell (631) 665-4405
Corresponding Secretary:
Genevieve Lee (631) 581-2470
Recording Secretary: Arlene Rawls (516) 712-9514

Board of Directors

Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969 Steve D'Amato (631) 264-8413 Jack Isaacs (631) 567-7631 Nicholas Laviola (631) 678-7866 Peggy Marsh (631) 667-3556 Peter O'Connor (631) 466-4360 Juliane Wohler (631) 581-1731

Committee Chairs

Brookside: Peter O'Connor (631) 466-4360 Hospitality: Mary Plant (631) 284-3713 Conservation: Maria Brown Membership: Arlene Rawls (516) 712-9514 Publicity: Helga Merryman (631) 669-6473 Education: Juliane Wohler, Janet Gremli, Jack Finkenberg

Audubon Activist: Open
Nature Walks: Ken Thompson (631) 612-8028
Programs: Peter O'Connor (631) 466-4360
Librarian: Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969
Annual Dinner:
Appette Brownell (631) 665-4405

Annette Brownell (631) 665-4405

Mailing: Ken Thompson (631) 612-8028

Email Responder: Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969

Answering the GSBAS Direct Phone:

Steve D'Amato

GSBAS Direct Phone Number (631) 563-7716 GSBAS Email address: info@gsbas.org

> For wildlife in need of rescue please call The STAR Foundation (631) 736-8207



Great South Bay Audubon Society PO Box 267, Sayville, NY 11782 A Chapter of National Audubon

Great South Bay Audubon Society Membership

Become a member of Great South Bay Audubon Society. Your contribution will support GSBAS conservation efforts, educational programs and our stewardship at Brookside County Park.

Please make checks payable to:
"Great South Bay Audubon Society" and mail to:
GSBAS, P.O. Box 267, Sayville, NY 11782

	•	,
☐ New Membership \$20 ☐ Renewal \$20		•
Name		
Address		
City S	tate	Zip
Phone	Email	

- We would like to welcome all new members to our Chapter and those coming into GSBAS from another chapter.
- Guided tours of Brookside are given every Wednesday and Sunday from 1 to 3 pm. See our facility, walk the nature trails and become acquainted with the history of the property. We are located at 59 Brook Street, Sayville, diagonally across from Sayville High School.

Great South Bay Audubon Society 2015 Nature Calendar

Bursting with beautiful color photographs by our very own members, our 2015 nature calendar is for sale on our ZAZZLE website.

In addition to this calendar, you'll find many other useful and practical Great South Bay Audubon products. Zazzle website address is: www.zazzle.com/sandpiper267 Any questions please call Vera at 631-563-4969 or email: vlvcap@yahoo.com



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