



# The Sandpiper

## Great South Bay Audubon Society

A Chapter of National Audubon Society

## Our Nation's Uncertain Environmental Future

by Gail Marquardt Black

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS and MONTHLY PROGRAMS

All GSBAS Activities are FREE and open to the public. Join us and bring a friend. General Membership Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month, except May, (which is our Annual Dinner), July & August. Pre-program refreshments begin at 7:00. Program begins at 7:30 pm

September and October Meetings will be held at Brookside County Park

*See directions on back cover*

### Thursday, September 21

#### "John James Audubon: His Life and Art"

John James Audubon was an ornithologist, naturalist and painter who spent a good part of his life documenting and painting about half of the 914 species of birds found in North America. His name is synonymous with birds and bird conservation all over the world. Our speaker for the evening, **Jack Finkenberg**, an Audubon Society member for 42 years and retired environmental attorney, will discuss Audubon's travels, the science behind his art, and how he was able to publish his stories and paintings.

### Thursday, October 19

#### "From Plankton to Whales-

#### Why our Local Waters are Worth Protecting"

Regain your enthusiasm for protecting our marine environment by learning about some of the fascinating marine life that inhabits the waters of Long Island with

#### Chris Paparo, AKA "The Fish Guy"

With endless stories and photos of fish kills, harmful algal blooms, oil spills, and beach closures filling our daily newsfeeds, it appears that our environment is in a horrific state of "Doom and Gloom". Although we do face many environmental challenges, this constant bombardment of negativity creates a lack of enthusiasm among local communities when it comes to protecting our environment.

Although numerous environmental regulations and laws have been enacted over the years to protect, manage and/or restore America's natural resources, this positive direction is now being threatened by newly implemented policies, as well as legislation proposed by the current administration and Congress. A few examples of these threats include:

1. The impending 2018 proposed major budget reductions which will cut extensive, long-standing environmental programs. Most affected will be three agencies essential for protection of America's public lands, birdlife and habitats. Budget cuts would result in drastic staff and program reductions. \*Environmental Protection Agency to be cut almost 33% from 2016 (by \$ 2.6 billion)

\*Department of Interior to be cut almost 15% from 2016 (by \$1.5 billion)

\*Department of Agriculture to be cut over 20% from 2016 (by \$4.7 billion)

The 2018 proposed budget also promotes major energy development on public lands, which can impact habitat conservation and restoration needed to protect threatened and declining bird species.

2. Reversal of a scheduled permanent EPA ban on the use of the commonly applied farmland pesticide, chlorpyrifos. Ordered by the newly appointed director, both EPA scientists and numerous environmental groups supporting this ban were ignored. A draft EPA biological evaluation had revealed its toxic adverse effects on nearly all wildlife, including diverse bird species. Chlorpyrifos has been poisoning our national environment for over 50 years and its next review will now only be in 2022.

3. A Congressional vote now blocking "Planning 2.0", the Bureau of Land Management's new land-use planning rule, which would have allowed the public more ability to give input regarding land management decisions on 245 million acres of public lands. The President has already signed a resolution to completely do away with the rule.

4. Many prior administration climate protection regulations reducing environmental controls on the energy industry overall, including greenhouse gas emissions, now cancelled by Presidential Executive Order. More deregulation could threaten bird conservation efforts if wind energy development strategies aren't controlled for bird protection. Presidential withdrawal of the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accord now also will negatively affect national environmental policy regarding climate change.

5. The Endangered Species Act, passed in 1973, now under fire from some Congressional members who want to do away with it completely. As one of our notable environmental laws for over 40 years, it has been a major control in preventing rare species from becoming extinct. The need for this law



*The Whooping Crane is one of many threatened American bird and animal species saved from extinction with the help of the Endangered Species Act.*

*continued on bottom of page 6*

## 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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*Sandpiper*

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Submission Deadline for next issue is August 4  
send submissions to  
vlvcap@yahoo.com



## The Larry Merryman Memorial Library

is located at Brookside,  
59 Brook St. in Sayville.  
It can be accessed Wednesday  
and Sunday  
from 1 to 3pm

## The Board-Walk by Annette Brownell

It seems that every article I write starts with something about the passage of time! It must be my age. Time is one of those interesting concepts. It's real – very real! – however intangible. Time is like an ever-rolling wave that is not necessarily our friend, but in reality it is all we have and we can't live without it. The spring flew by as we planned and executed a clean-up, art class and dinner. We fought some vandals and for now it looks like we are winning.

This summer is also going to be a busy time at Brookside County Park. As we have mentioned, we are considering permanently moving our monthly meeting location to Brookside from Connetquot State Park. While it appears that most people are in favor of the idea, there are some bugs to work out and this is what we are planning to do this summer. Suffolk County has very generously allowed us to upgrade the décor of the front room, change the electric and add some features. With the addition of a new air conditioner and some folding chairs and a wall mount screen as space savers, things should move in the right direction. We plan to host the meetings at Brookside beginning in September. Nevertheless, if we find that it really isn't working out because of space or comfort, we are not closing the door on renting from Connetquot. Many hands make light work. If you like to paint, can do some electrical work, can help with installation or have some woodworking expertise, we would love some help.

Even as we find ourselves frustrated with the vandalism issues we have had, and at times it's almost easy to lose sight of how great young people are, we are very fortunate to have some Boy Scout and Girl Scout projects happening over the summer to enhance the beauty and usefulness of Brookside County Park. Please watch the website for upcoming events. There will be another art class on August 12. Jody is such a fun teacher, and if you attend her class, you will be pleased that you did.

## Tweet Tweet by Harry Anderson

In medieval literature, the language of the birds was seen as a mystical, adamic language, like the one Adam presumably spoke in Eden. It was a magical language used by birds to communicate with the initiated. Just who those rare but privileged folk might be is another mystery.

Our own songbirds pertain to certain birds who have the vocal apparatus to produce distinct and frequently intricate song. It would be a mistake to number Starlings in this group. Their distinction is a shrill, metallic song, not unlike finger nails on a blackboard, a sound only Starlings themselves can appreciate. Even the perennial favorite the American Robin can drive you nuts, in spite of their song being described as a "cheerily carol." That incessant carol at the wrong time can make you wish they had an off switch. Blue Jays' shrieks also frequently need a silencer. The Mockingbird is a persistent karaoke machine.

But a world devoid of birdsong would be a mute and bleak one indeed. They hardly sing for us, and at times our presence can even drive them to silence. But a bleak winter day can be lightened by the crystal clear song of a White-throated Sparrow. An Ovenbird or a Tufted Titmouse can make the woods ring. The song of a Black-capped Chickadee, Baltimore Oriole or Northern Cardinal can add dimension to any backyard. And the crisp, loud brilliance of the Carolina Wren is never forgotten once heard. A male has a repertoire of up to several dozen different song variations, and will sing one of these about 15 times before changing his tune, and it can have the magic to change our tune for the better.

As with any music, birdsong favorites vary from person to person, but it would appear that we are those rare and privileged folks after all.



## It All Matters by Vera Capogna

What I have learned the most being an active member of our chapter is how important Audubon local chapters really are in the whole picture of conservation. Every person is important regardless of the capacity in which they volunteer.

The other day I saw a person wearing a T-shirt with a picture of a panda bear and a cartoon balloon over its head that said "save the humans". We are the only ones that can protect nature. And your involvement with Great South Bay Audubon Society really matters. We thank all our volunteers and actively seek more!

If you are considering volunteering in any way, please call to discuss the perfect position for you, 516-639-5430, or email us at info@gsbas.org. Thank you!





# Great South Bay Audubon Society Activities

**There are no General Membership Meetings or Tuesday Walks in July and August**

## Louise Titus Memorial Tuesday Walks

**Tuesday Sept 05, 9:30am, Heckscher State Park** Meet in the Field 5 parking lot at the west end of the field.

**Tuesday Sept 12, 9:30am, Shinnecock, Dune Rd** Sunrise Hwy. East to Exit 65 South to Montauk Highway. Go east and follow signs to Ocean Beaches. Cross Ponquogue Bridge and turn left at the traffic light. Go to end of road to parking lot on right.

**Tuesday Sept 19, 9:30am, Oceanside MNSA & Jones Beach** Southern State Pkwy. to Meadowbrook Pkwy. South to Merrick Road (27A). Go west on Merrick Road a short distance and turn left on Mill Road and bear left (on Main Street) turn right on Atlantic Avenue to Waukena Ave. left to Park Avenue to Golf Drive (brown signs from Atlantic to Oceanside Marine EC)

## Weekend Nature Walks

**Saturday August 19, 9:30 am, Baiting Hollow Hummingbird Sanctuary** Leader: Annette Brownell (631-665-4405) YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THIS TRIP BY CALLING ANNETTE: The number of visitors is strictly limited to 30 and carpooling arrangements must be made in advance through Annette. (parking is limited) Absolutely no one will be admitted unless they are registered by August 12. Directions can be found at [WWW.LIHUMMER.ORG](http://WWW.LIHUMMER.ORG). It is expected of all visitors to do their homework and study the maps, directions, warnings and instructions at [www.lihummer.org](http://www.lihummer.org). Please note that this trip is NOT recommended for small children.

**Saturday Sept 9, 8:00 am, Jamaica Bay** Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120), Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Southern State Pkwy to Belt Pkwy to Exit 17, Cross Bay Blvd. South. Continue south for about 2 miles. Look for entrance of refuge on the right (west) side. There are signs for park entrance.

**Sunday September 10, 8:00 am, Connetquot River SPP Breakfast & Birding** Leaders Edith & Bob Wilson, Helga Merryman, Ken Thompson. Continental breakfast hosted by Friends of Connetquot. Reservations required - call Connetquot River Park Preserve at 581-1072 to register. Registration fee \$4. plus \$8 parking fee per car - unless you have yearly Empire pass.

# Annual Outdoor Program Welcomes Quogue Wildlife Refuge

Owls were the stars of the show this year at our June Outdoor Program at Brookside as Environmental Educator Cara Fernandes of The Quogue Wildlife Refuge presented several species of these birds of prey. Guests got a once in a lifetime chance to get up close to these spectacular birds. Cara was informative and entertaining as she brought out four owls one by one and explained how each bird came to live at the Refuge.



Attendees got to see the resident Barn Owl who had been hit by a car and therefore had only one wing. We saw two Eastern Screech Owls; one was blind in one eye and the other had an injured wing. Chapter member Steve D'Amato impressed the crowd with his realistic imitation of a screech owl call. The Great Horned Owl that Cara brought out was almost totally blind. Even though the injuries that these birds have make them unreleasable, it is reassuring to know that they are well taken care of at the refuge.

Cara also explained how these birds of prey live and hunt in the wild and what we can do to help their survival. The show ended with an invitation for all to visit the Refuge located in Quogue where many other species of animals live.



*The audience participated by answering questions that Cara posed and had fun trying to guess the weight of each owl.*



*Barn Owl (above), Great Horned Owl (below left), Eastern Screech Owl, (below right). These birds cannot be released into the wild and are well taken care of at the Refuge.*



# CHAPTER NEWS

## Spring Weekend Nature Walks by John Gluth Valley Stream/Jones Beach April 29

Weather conditions the night before Great South Bay's Valley Stream/Jones Beach west end field trip looked promising for migration, so anticipation was high among the birders attending. Reality didn't live up to expectations (it rarely does in birding), but it was a very enjoyable morning nonetheless. Several species of neotropical migrant songbirds had arrived overnight. These included Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Wood Thrush, and a few warbler species – Ovenbird, Black and White, Northern Parula, Yellow, Blackpoll (early date for this species), and Black-throated Blue. A tip from a local birder we ran into (Bobby Berlinger) sent us across Hendrickson Avenue to Hendrickson Park, where we not only encountered the Red-headed Woodpecker he told us about, but a sec-

few birds present, so we turned our attention to the habitat of the wide park road median for land birds. It was late morning by then so it was a little quiet, but another helpful tip from a birder on the scene eventually led to our group enjoying excellent views of a male Blue Grosbeak feeding in the grass near the west exit of parking field 2. A fine bird with which to end the field trip on a high note.

### Central Park, May 7

Central Park is a mecca for birders during spring migration, which is why GSBAS schedules a field trip to the park every year. There are always migrants to see, hear and appreciate.

Of course the number of birds can vary greatly based on the seasonal weather pattern leading up to the trip, and the weather the night before is even more influential. If conditions are right the park can be a birding bonanza, with so many birds singing it's hard to know which way to turn. But if conditions aren't conducive to migration, the birding can be, charitably speaking, a bit of a grind. This year the seasonal pattern had been unfavorable, but the overnight weather seemed at least somewhat promising. Disappointingly, the former won out and all the eager trip participants had to be grinders.

Our efforts turned up a relatively meager 44 species, and low numbers of most of those encountered. But, to paraphrase an old fishing maxim, 'a bad day of birding is better than a good day at work'. The birds we saw were no less dazzling, and those only heard were no less inspirational. We encountered 12 species of warbler, with Northern

Waterthrush being the most abundant, but also Nashville, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Magnolia and Blackpoll. We were treated as well to three species of brown-backed thrush – Veery, Hermit Thrush, and Wood Thrush. A Scarlet Tanager, the only one all day, was a colorful crowd pleaser late in the trip, as had been the multiple Baltimore Orioles seen throughout the morning. Other notable finds were a couple of female Indigo Buntings, two Blue-headed Vireos and a Great Egret.

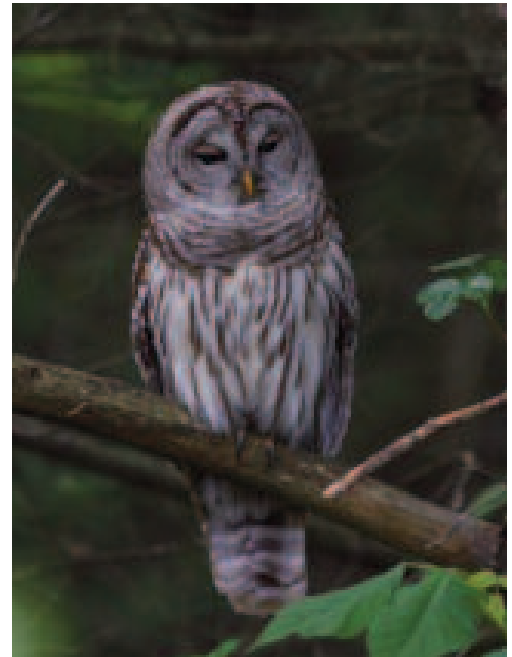


Photo by John Gluth

*Spotting this Barred Owl on Sunday morning was a perfect start to a great day.*

### Sterling Forest/Bashakill, May 20 & 21

Great South Bay's annual weekend field trip to Sterling Forest and Bashakill WMA was attended by eight eager birders. Weather was mostly cooperative if a bit cool.

Day 1 started at Sterling Forest, where Blue Lake, Ironwood Road, and Laurel Meadow were explored from morning to early afternoon. At Blue Lake we walked the increasingly overgrown trail up to Sandy Pond. The marsh, not far past the trailhead, had been dammed by beavers. Water was spilling over the trail and down into the ravine opposite, but we were able to traverse this obstacle and continue on our way. Birds encountered included Golden-winged, Worm-eating, Cerulean and Canada warblers, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. The view of Sandy Pond is becoming more obscured by vegetation every year.

Birding the length of Ironwood Road and the utility right-of-way at its end, we saw and/or heard Golden-winged and Blue-winged warblers (and the hybrid of those two – Brewster's Warbler), Hooded, Cerulean and Chestnut-sided warblers, Eastern Bluebird (entering and exiting a nest cavity), Alder Flycatcher, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and Common Ravens (vocalizing up a storm).



Photo by John Gluth

*Red-Headed Woodpecker, not typically seen on Long Island, was worth the chase!*

ond as well! The two birds interacted briefly but then separated, so we focussed our attention on one of them for quite a while, ogling its sharp red, black and white plumage. It's velvety crimson head gleamed in the sunshine. Also at Hendrickson were two Solitary Sandpipers, a flyover flock of Glossy Ibis, and a Prairie Warbler (heard).

Next, we headed down to Jones Beach where we first checked the sand spit near the Coast Guard station for shorebirds. But the tide was wrong and there were



# CHAPTER NEWS

Laurel Meadow yielded another Cerulean Warbler, Black-billed Cuckoo, Willow Flycatcher and an adult Bald Eagle.

After an hour-long drive up Route 17, we arrived at Bashkill WMA, where we birded until late afternoon along the "stop sign" trail. Despite it being well past prime time for songbirds, the walk to and from the observation tower was pro-

ductive, with Pileated Woodpeckers, Bald Eagles, Gray-cheeked Thrushes and Swamp Sparrows encountered. Yellow Warblers, Gray Catbirds and Baltimore Orioles were reliably abundant.

After checking into our hotel and eating a hearty dinner at Giovanni's, we went to Haven Rd. and birded from dusk until dark. We were treated to a spectacular flight of Common Nighthawks, 40 or so of these crepuscular birds feeding on flying insects high and low over the kill. A few birds even flew across the road at near eye level, less than 20 feet away, close enough to hear the sound of their wings slicing through the air.

Day 2 started off with a bang – a Barred Owl perched in the open near the "stop sign" trail parking lot. The rest of the morning couldn't quite match that highlight, but visits to the Nature Trail and "horseshoe pulloff" trail gave us Virginia Rail, Common Gallinule, Least Flycatcher, Swainson's Thrush, Cerulean and Chestnut-sided warblers, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak. All told, it was a beautiful morning and a pleasing end to another successful trip.

## Second Paint Class Held: Third to Come in August!

by Jody Banaszak

On May 20th, our chapter held another paint class in response to the popularity of our first class. Six people attended, two of them were second-timers! The bird of choice this time was a male cardinal.

Once again, step by step instructions, a photo, and supplies for an acrylic painting were given, and all students did very well. One woman never painted before



*Proud instructor Jody Banaszak, second from left, and students with their finished paintings.*

and did a great job! Another was more of an abstract artist, putting a different twist on her cardinal. All paintings were different, which is what we want to accomplish. No Bob Ross here! The class was held at Brookside County Park, which is a great place for this kind of class. A good time was had by all with a lot of laughs.

This class is a fundraiser for our chapter and I have been asked to do more. The 12th of August will be the next one so mark your calendars! Look for more info on our website as time approaches. No painting experience needed.

## Stop and Shop Fundraiser Now Offers \$25 Gift Cards

Our Cash for Causes fundraiser continues as we add a \$25 gift card, along with the \$50 cards. This is a "risk free, have to eat anyway" fundraiser. We hope that more people will support this activity. Mail a check made payable to Great South Bay Audubon Society (GSBAS) to Annette Brownell at 1411 Saxon Ave., Bay Shore NY 11706, along with a stamped, self addressed envelope and the cards will be mailed to you.



## Brookside Clean-Up Held

On Sunday, April 30, 2017, Brookside County Park received a thorough clean-up thanks to volunteers from the Great South Bay Audubon Society. Members like Helga, Jody, Mike and Bill trimmed hedges, vines and branches to create open vistas to the water and the woods.

## CONSERVATION TIPS

by Diane

### MULCH!

What saves time, reduces garbage, and makes your plants happy?

If you don't mulch that means you're making extra work for yourself, and your plants are not happy because you're leaving their roots exposed to extreme heat and cold.

Benefits of mulching include plants require less water and fertilizer and are better protected during winter months. Spread mulch about 1-2 inches deep. Don't use red cedar- it's not sustainable.

Using grass clippings and dead weeds reduces landfill. Don't use them for mulch if you use toxic pesticides and fertilizers on your yard. You can also use newspapers and seaweed.

- Diane Ives

Tim and Janet reorganized the storage shed. Margaret and Lisa pulled weeds and tidied the garden beds. Vera removed the overgrown vegetation to reveal the original slate patio on the east side of the building. Girl Scout Troop 559 stopped by to detail the gardening work they would be completing at the entrance to the park.

GSBAS members enjoyed the day connecting with nature, sharing their time and experiences and enhancing their passion for the great outdoors.

-Janet Gremli

## Brookside Butterfly Garden Update

Sunday, June 11, 2017, Butterfly Garden Club members spent several hours toiling in the garden. Annuals were planted along the slate pathway to welcome visitors entering the garden. The garden has a plentiful amount of common milkweed, bergamot, and echinacea cone-flowers. Oxeye daisies and wild carrot are abundant. Trumpet vine and honeysuckle are quickly climbing the fences and soon will be flowering. Cabbage White butterflies and Fritillary butterflies were visitors to the garden while members enjoyed getting some "green exercise" and connecting with the greater environment.

-Janet Gremli

# MEMBER'S CORNER

## Winter Raptor Festival by Jody Banaszak

This spring, my friend Mike and I went to the Winter Raptor Festival at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Greenwich, New York, held on May 13th and 14th.

There were several little buildings on the property with different events, including a food tent and bathrooms. One building had programs every hour on different topics. Most of them were rehab facilities with raptors, a wolf and a fisher. The care givers hold the birds and talk about why they are there. They then walk around so you can see them up close and take pictures. It's a great opportunity as they stay in front of you until you get a good shot! One topic was about the bald eagle. He was brought out on a board by two people and had on a falconers



Short-eared Owl at Raptor Festival

hood that they didn't take off! The eagle was too skittish. The speaker told us that the eagle was there because he had lead

poisoning and was the third one at the facility. Two didn't survive. It seems that hunters shoot the deer in the area with lead shot. Some of the lead particles break off into the deer. The hunter then guts the deer leaving the waste on site. The eagles, who are carrion eaters, eat the remains and some of the lead shot gets into their system causing lead poisoning. It is a slow, debilitating death. This upset me to no end. I remember when duck hunters used lead shot for hunting, leaving it to fall into the lakes and bays. It was banned and now steel shot is used. Why can't they use that for deer hunting? The eagle is our nations bird!!! I'm not sure but maybe it is also affecting vultures, wolves, fox or any other animal eating the deer leftovers.

On a happier note, there was another building where raptors, the wolf and fisher were on display. A Short-eared Owl, two kestrels, a Saw-whet Owl, two Screech Owls, a Snowy Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, Merlin, and Sharp-shinned Hawk were on perches ready for a good close-up look, questions and photos. There were also other tables where photos of wildlife and books could be purchased, with information and handouts about the IBA. (important Bird Area) One table even had skulls of different mammals and birds! You could also get your picture taken with an owl!! For information about next year's festival, go to: WinterRaptorFest.com or 518-449-0012. IBA info: IBAFriends.org

## Environmental Future from front page

has only grown over time as threats such as habitat loss, pesticides, invasive species and climate change grow. This key legislation needs protection and support.

Above is only a short listing of the many assaults currently taking place on our environmental integrity. What can you do in the face of the continual erosion of environmental protection? Public pressure can make a big difference in controlling present environmental threats and those that are certain to appear in the future. Contact your elected officials and make your voice heard.

Call, write or fax your concerns and opinions and always specify that you are a constituent. Phone calls are simple to make. Post cards, letters and faxes are preferable over email. Post cards have one advantage over letters; they're envelope-less and require no security screening.

### How to find your elected representatives and senators:

- On the internet at "govtrack.us/congress/members" or contact your local library for assistance.
- Senators and representatives have both a Washington, DC office as well as a local/regional office.
- Call the Capital Building switchboard, AC 202-224-3121, to contact them via telephone.
- To be most effective also call the local office with your message.

(Information compiled from *Bird Conservation*, published by American Bird Conservancy)

## Light up the Night

As a child, sitting on the back stoop on a summer evening with my mom, watching the fire flies flash their tiny lights in the great darkness is one of my fondest memories. We would try to count them and chase them around the yard, hoping to get a few in a jar. Mom would never let us keep them, lest they should die in captivity. It was one of my early lessons on how important freedom is for the soul.



I looked forward to doing the same with my children. But the darkness of the evening sky in Bay Shore is much brighter than it was on the farm as a kid. And there just didn't seem to be that many fire flies anymore. Could it be because from 1960 to 1990, the Sigma Chemical Co. paid collectors up to a penny per firefly because they sold luciferase, the enzyme that produces light in fireflies? Over 100 million lightening bugs were harvested, possibly reducing local populations. Or could it be that if a field is paved where fireflies live, they don't migrate to another field. They just disappear completely.

Interesting little creatures, lightning bugs come in 3 colors – yellow, orange and green. An adult lives about 21 days. They glow to communicate, attract a mate and let predators know they don't taste good.

Find some time this summer to sit out in the evening and enjoy the bioluminescent light show. -Annette Brownell



## MAY DINNER: A Fun and Enjoyable Evening

### by Annette Brownell

Our annual May dinner, held at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore, is once again behind us. Amazing how time rolls on!

John P. Cardone spoke about the health benefits of being out in nature. There were many great prizes and, as you can see from our donor list, we are fortunate indeed to have so many generous people willing to give of time, items or funds in order to make this evening a success.

The list of businesses that supported our efforts is impressive. Please keep them in mind and support them in turn. Steve D'Amato once again offered his talents, spending a good deal of time creating a painting for us.

Most importantly, the people who at-

tend the dinner have the opportunity to spend time with fellow bird enthusiasts that they may see on nature walks or they see just once a year at the dinner. Fellowship is so special and important.

As always, we encourage new faces, ideas and offers to assist. We always welcome feedback and this year we left questionnaires on the tables. We will certainly take into consideration the suggestions made as we continually strive to improve this important night.

See more photos of the dinner on our website GSBAS.org under the **Nature Walk/Event Recaps** Tab.

*Right: Jody Banaszak displaying Steve's painting before handing it off to the lucky winner. Below: Guests having fun and showing their winning prizes.*



### We would like to thank the following people who generously donated prizes to our Annual Dinner (alphabetical order)

Jody Banaszak  
Gail Black  
Annette Brownell  
Vera Capogna  
Nicole Capogna

Audrey Collins  
Kathleen Cully  
Steven D'Amato  
Lorraine Fogarty  
Gerta Fritz

Bob Grover  
Jack & Karen Finkenberg  
Walter & Methel Gale  
Joel & Peg Horman  
Katie Kleinpeter

Sandra & James McNeil  
Peggy Marsh  
Helga Merryman  
Tim & Karen Meyer  
Bob & Linda Puglieli

Salvatore Spizzirri  
Anna Mae Stein  
Ken Thompson  
John Vullo  
Bob & Edith Wilson

### Please support our corporate sponsors

Bayport Flower Houses -  
owners Gisbert & Joann Auwaerter  
Captain Bill's  
Cheesecake Factory  
Chowder House of Bay Shore  
Cornucopia Natural Foods

Daisy Gardens - owner Tom Stemler  
Fancy Flour  
Friends of Connetquot  
Gardener's Supply Catalog  
Lowe's

Panera Bread  
Rambling Rose -  
owner Margaret Bartok  
Sayville General Store  
Wild Birds Unlimited -  
owners Gary Fortcher & Brooke Mulligan

# Great South Bay Audubon Society

## Officers

President: (Position Pending)  
Vice-president: (Position Pending)  
Treasurer: Annette Brownell (631) 665-4405  
Corresponding Secretary:  
Tim Meyer (631) 346-0198  
Recording Secretary: Nicholas Laviola (631) 678-7866

## Board of Directors

Jody Banaszak (631) 278-4059  
Steve D'Amato (631) 264-8413  
Jack Isaacs (631) 567-7631  
Nicholas Laviola (631) 678-7866  
Peggy Marsh (631) 667-3556  
Tim Meyer (631) 346-0198  
Juliane Wohler (631) 581-1731

## Committee Chairs

Brookside: Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969  
Hospitality: open  
Conservation: Maria Brown  
Membership: Juliane Wohler (631) 581-1731  
Publicity: Helga Merryman (631) 669-6473  
Education: Juliane Wohler, Janet Gremli,  
Jack Finkenberg  
Audubon Activist: Open  
Newsletter: Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969  
Nature Walks: Ken Thompson (631) 612-8028  
Programs: Jody Banaszak (631) 278-4059  
Librarian: Vera Capogna (631) 563-4969  
Annual Dinner:  
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**

A Big Welcome  
to All Our New Members!



## 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    ☐ New Membership Senior (62+) \$15  
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## Directions to Brookside County Park 59 Brook St, Sayville 11782

The park is located on the north side of Brook St., just east of, and diagonally across from Sayville High School. Look for the large white sign that says "Brookside County Park".

**From the West and East via Sunrise Hwy:** Sunrise Highway to Locust Ave. South, to Montauk Highway. Make a left onto Montauk Highway. Then a quick left onto Brook Street. (traffic light). Continue 2 miles, just past Sayville High School. The entrance to the park is on the left (north side of street). Look for the "Brookside County Park" sign. You may park in the high school parking lot and walk across the street to the park.



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



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