



# The Sandpiper

## Great South Bay Audubon Society

A Chapter of National Audubon Society

### ECO-FOCUS:

## Out of Sight, Out of Mind . . . Long Island's Offshore Wind Energy Dilemma

by Gail Marquardt Black

LI residents have been inundated with both federal and state media campaigns claiming that offshore wind energy—which will be controlled by giant industrial corporations—is a panacea that will bring clean energy and will help solve carbon pollution and global warming issues, as well as offer extensive economic benefits.

Nowhere is it mentioned that this can only be accomplished at the expense of impacting animal and plant life and disrupting another ecosystem—the offshore LI waters. New York State with NYSERDA (NYS Energy Research & Development Authority) and federal BOEM (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) currently plan industrial offshore wind energy development just south of LI in the NY Bight (overlapping the Atlantic Flyway for migratory birds); this area covers one million acres and will include hundreds of turbines by 2030.\*

Marine environments are dynamic and unpredictable, changing dramatically with differing weather conditions; marine



*As the federally endangered Roseate Tern migrates and searches for food far off the coast during its breeding season, it is at risk of collision with wind turbine blades.*

*continued on page 6*

### 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.

**Thursday, Sept. 20**

**Visit Costa Rica with Mike Cooper**

**From the Pacific to the Caribbean Slope.**

**Birds, Wildlife and Landscapes from the Land of Pura Vida. But mostly birds!**

**Thursday, Oct. 18**

**Birds of the Great South Bay with Mike Busch**

**Renowned photographer Mike Busch will bring his award winning photographs to us! Come and see his awe inspiring photos on the big screen.**

**You won't want to miss this!**

## We are for the Birds!

We have used that little play on words before, and it never ceases to be the truth. We *are* for the birds. There is good reason for that. Best said by Dr. Thomas Lovejoy, accomplished conservationist and biologist, "If you take care of the birds, you take care of most of the big problems of the world."

The urgency of the day is upon us as the federal government threatens to revise the **Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA)**, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in July. ***The MBTA is the single most important piece of legislation in the protection of birds in history.*** This one piece of legislation led the way to others like it around the world.

In keeping with the celebration of this very important Act, and in sync with National Audubon's vision, Great South Bay Audubon is planning to host a celebratory festival to bring public awareness to several issues that impact the bird world and to assist people in being able to really make a difference.

We are planning a grassroots event for September 8:

**Birds of a Feather Flock Together Festival  
Celebrating 100 Years of Conservation**

This event will be comprised of a number of fun and informative components. There will be educational materials, children's activities including a wildlife show, and hikes for the family to enjoy. Additionally, we will be introducing shade grown coffee and giving away native pollinator plants to enhance backyard bird habitat benefits. We will also have letters and petitions available for people to sign and send to the government to show support for environmental protection, along with an art center for children to express their ideas. Hopefully some legislators will be attending.

All this is going to take quite a bit of coordination and effort. It is very necessary for the success of this important event that we have a good volunteer base. **We hope that you will see this as worthy enough to attend, help out and spread the word to your friends.**

If you would like to be part of this important event from the planning stage on, please call or text Annette Brownell at 631-260-8089 or email at [nettiesbaskets2@optonline.net](mailto:nettiesbaskets2@optonline.net).

## 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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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 Year of the Bird

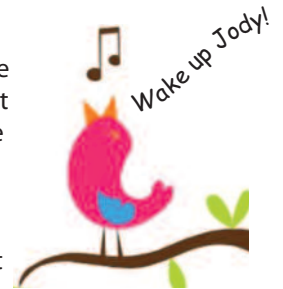


Visit:

**BirdYourWorld.org**  
each month during 2018

## President's Message by Jody Banaszak

Hello my little birding friends! Hope all is well and you are enjoying this ridiculous weather. All I want to do is work in my garden and make some new ones, but this rain has put a damper on things. Some of you know that I am not a morning person. Never have been, except for work and when I had my kids. And of course I get up early for some of the birding walks. But the past few weeks, at 5am, a cardinal has been singing his heart out right next to my open window. Someone told me he's calling for a mate and when he gets one he will stop. Well it hasn't happened and I think he should move on! The other morning he was competing with a robin. Ugh! It used to be a mocking bird every morning, outside my window, and he would start early and continue most of the day! It's like a person who chews your ear off all day about nothing! The Baltimore Oriole has been a pleasure though, as has most of the other birds - but not at 5am!!



I did, however, get up early on May 6th for the Central Park walk. I never went on that walk but it was a special occasion: I was honoring John Gluth with the Fran File award. John is one of our trip leaders and is an amazing birder. He spots birds like you can't believe and knows every bird by its call! John is well deserving of this award and I'm so glad I got up early to go!! Plus I got to see a lot of different birds, Central Park, and all the awesome buildings surrounding it!

I also had the pleasure of presenting our Conservation Award at our May dinner to Enrico Nardone. Enrico is the Environmental Director at Seatuck Environmental Association in Islip. He does a lot for the environment, wildlife and our bays and was instrumental in getting the plastic bag act passed. Thank you Enrico for all your hard work!!!

The Board has been discussing some events for the rest of the summer. This year is the Year of the Bird. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 was ratified 100 years ago. It prohibits people from hunting, capturing, taking, killing or selling most species of North American birds in the US. In honor of this anniversary, we are planning an event at Brookside on September 8th: "Birds of a Feather Flock Together Festival" We will have different booths, tables and displays set up relating to birds, native plants, and wildlife rehabilitation. We will have face painting for the children, nature walks, and much much more. Many volunteers will be needed to make this important event a success. Please consider helping out. Contact me or Annette ASAP. We appreciate any amount of time you can spare.

We participated in the "Good Egg" program which educates people on how they can protect beach-nesting birds.

We have scheduled another painting class for July 17th. Please contact me to register. Thanks. Enjoy the rest of the summer and happy birding!!

## World's Most Dangerous Animal by Harry Anderson

There is no shortage of television programs about threatening and savage animals - a 800 pound Grizzly Bear, a 20 foot Great White Shark, or a venomous 12 foot Black Mamba. Ironically, the most dangerous animal on earth weighs about 0.002 grams and flies at only 1 mile per hour - the Mosquito. It is responsible for more deaths than any other creature. Its infectious litany includes malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever, West Nile virus and now Zika. Scientists believe that is not the end of it.

Mosquito fossils go back to the Cretaceous Period, 200 million years ago. There are found virtually everywhere, except Antarctica. Iceland is also mosquito free. In some places they are so thick they fly up the noses of caribou, killing them. The swarms are so thick on the Arctic tundra that they are also capable of killing caribou by exsanguination. They can detect carbon dioxide from 75 feet away. For an insect whose life causes so much misery, they live only about 5 months. During that time, their wings beat at 500 times per second and the salt marsh variety travel up to 100 miles to get what they need. Some folks consider mosquitos to be the state bird of Alaska.

If "nature abhors a vacuum," it also abhors meaningless existence. The mosquito or "little fly" is part of that vast chain of being, like it or not. Mosquito larvae are an important food source for many aquatic insects that fish feed on. They also supply sustenance for birds, spiders, and bats - a single Brown Bat can consume 600 to 1,000 in an hour. A nursing Brown Bat can devour 4,500 in a single evening which is more mosquitos than its body weight. Mrs. Bat will never run out of food. Mosquitos in the world are virtually uncountable, like sand. You can't say that about bears, sharks or vipers. Aren't we lucky.

# Great South Bay Audubon Society Activities

Please Note  
Location Change

## General Membership Meetings and Programs

All General Membership Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month (except for May, July and August). Join us at 7:00 pm 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.

**PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION FOR MEETINGS:** Seatuck Environmental Association located at the Scully Estate, 550 South Bay Avenue, Islip NY 11751. **Directions:** Sunrise Highway (Rte. 27) to Exit 45 (Rte. 111/Islip/Smithtown), Follow signs to Rte. 111 South toward Islip. Rte. 111 ends at Main St. (Rte. 27A). Turn right onto Main St. (Rte. 27A). Turn left at first traffic light onto South Bay Ave. The entrance to the Environmental Center is almost exactly one mile south of Main St. on the right.

## Louise Titus Memorial Tuesday Walks

**Tuesday Sept 04, 9:30 am, Connetquot SPP** Meet in the parking lot near booth. May require entrance fee of \$8.

**Tuesday, Sept 11, 9:30 am, 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 at inlet.

**Tuesday, Sept 18, 9:30 am, Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area & 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 Rd. and bear left (on Main St.). Turn right on Atlantic Ave. to Waukena Ave., Left to Park Avenue to Golf Drive, make right (follow brown signs from Atlantic Ave. to Oceanside Marine NSA)

**Tuesday Sept 25, 9:30 am, Suffolk County Farm, 350 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank** Take Sunrise Highway to exit 57N, Horseblock Rd. Bear right onto County Road 21, Yaphank Ave. Travel approximately one mile to the Cornell Cooperative Extension on left. Turn left onto the entrance road. Take your first right, continue down and meet at the visitors parking area on your left

## Weekend Nature Walks

**Saturday August 25, 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 the park entrance

**Saturday September 15, 8:00 am, Connetquot River SPP Breakfast & Birding** Leaders Edith & Bob Wilson, Helga Merryman, Ken Thompson, Jack Carlson 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.

**Saturday September 22, 8:00 am, Robert Moses Hawk Watch & Jones Beach West End** Leaders Ken Thompson (631-612-8028) John Gluth (631-827-0120) Meet at Robert Moses State Park parking field #5 northeast corner. May require parking fee.

## Art Class with Jody

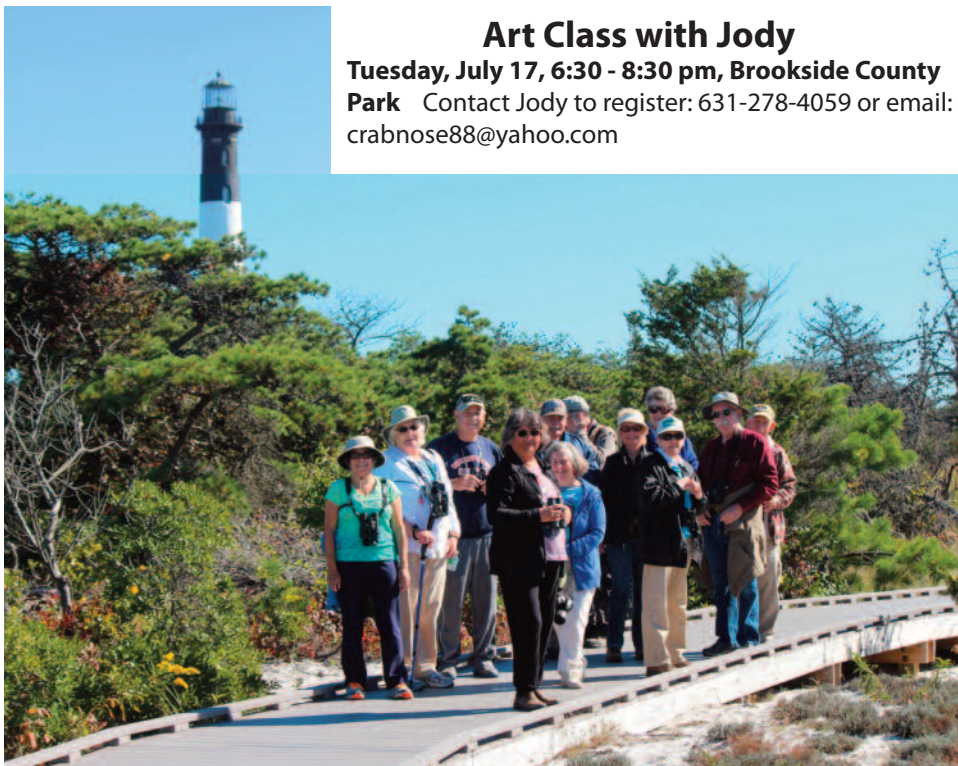
**Tuesday, July 17, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Brookside County Park** Contact Jody to register: 631-278-4059 or email: crabnose88@yahoo.com

## Young Naturalists Club

**Meets first Sunday of the month, 1:15pm, Brookside County Park**

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. For details on upcoming Young Naturalists Club activities, please email [info@gsbas.org](mailto:info@gsbas.org) or call 631-581-1731, or visit our website: [www.gsbas.org](http://www.gsbas.org).

Registration is not required but recommended. Program is free, but donations or joining GSBAS is encouraged.



Chapter members walk the boardwalk last year, admiring the plants and wildlife along the way. Robert Moses State Park has a very nice boardwalk that leads to the lighthouse.

# MAY Dinner and GSBAS Awards

On May 7 we held our annual dinner meeting/fundraiser at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore. Chris Paparo, our very entertaining speaker, was very well received. As always, we had very nice prizes thanks to the volunteers who created, collected, donated or solicited corporate donations. Several works of art were created just for the occasion by members and friends. Listed below in alphabetical order are our dinner donors:

**Jody Banaszak • Gail Black**  
**Annette Brownell • Steven D'Amato**  
**Peg Dante • Lorraine Fogarty**  
**Gerta Fritz • Bob Grover**  
**Bob Labuski**  
**Patricia Lindsay & Shai Mitra**  
**Sandra & James McNeil**

**Peggy Marsh • Helga Merryman**  
**Tom & Mary Plant • Salvatore Spizzirri**  
**Anna Mae Stein • Ken Thompson**  
**Bob & Edith Wilson**

It is usually our tradition to bestow two awards at our annual dinner. We don't give these awards every year to just dole them out, but we thoughtfully consider the recipients. The first is the **Fran File Award**. This is given in the name and spirit of Fran File, past chapter president, who was a lover of nature and passionate about education. We look for a candidate with a spirit that is willing to share and help others. This year's Fran File Award went to chapter member and trip leader, John Gluth. John is an amazing birder with incredible ears. If you have

never gone a trip led by John, you are missing out. Even when John isn't leading the trip, when he shows up, it's like the Guru has arrived. John is kind and humble and just pours out his knowledge. Thank you, John, for being a part of Great South Bay Audubon.

The second award is our **Conservation Award**, presented to someone who champions the cause of nature, conservation and restoration. Enrico Nardone and the Seatuck Foundation received the Conservation Award. Enrico has been chief in leading the action to restore and revive the rivers and waterways of Long Island. One who is like an unsung hero, Enrico's name is everywhere in conservation conversations.

Captain Bill's always does a very nice event for us with excellent food and professional service. In addition to holding down the cost for us, they also donate a brunch for 4 to our raffle table.

Please support our corporate sponsors who are listed below.

**Applebee's**  
**Argyle Grill of Babylon**  
**Bayport Fish Store • Cornucopia**  
**Cutco • La Casa Italian Restaurant -Islip**  
**Monsoon Steak & Sushi**  
**Oconee East- Islip**  
**Sayville General Store**  
**Wildbirds Unlimited -Oakdale**



photo by Lisa Nasta

Left Photo: Jody Banaszak presenting Enrico Nardone the Conservation Award. Photo Right: John Gluth accepting his award on the Central Park trip with Annette Brownell (L) and Jody (R).

## MEMBER'S CORNER

### The Eagles of Centerport

by Steve D'Amato

There is a successful nest of Bald Eagles in Centerport. Bill Madigan invited me twice in May to visit this nest and the birds within. There was a total of 4 birds: 2 adults and 2 eaglets close to being at the point of leaving the nest. By the time we got to see the nest, the eaglets were beginning to flap their fully feathered wings, 'rehearsing' for lift-off.

According to a number of internet articles, the adult pair, who have been named the Commodore and Mrs. Vanderbilt by their followers, started building their nest at Mill Pond in Sept. 2017. It was around April 12th that the fuzzy, down-covered eaglets were first seen 'peeking over the top' of the nest. Their growth progress continued, being documented throughout their development.

The adults were recorded bringing in fish and eel. I was able to



Once endangered, the Bald Eagle has been successfully nesting on Long Island for the last several years.

get numerous digital images of both adults coming in with fish for the eaglets. With the aforementioned lift-off practice these birds are showing, they are quite developed now and should soon be leaving the nest.

A number of articles described the young in the nest as eaglets. I checked how that should be described. While the young eagles are still in the nest, even while they start practicing to fly, they are called eaglets. When they leave the nest but still hang around 'practicing' flying from branch to branch, and still get fed by the adults, they are technically called fledglings. When they are fully away from the adults, and fending

for themselves, then we start describing them as immature birds – 1st year, 2nd year, and 3rd year. It takes 3-4 years for a Bald Eagle to reach full maturity and attain their notable white head and tail.

photo by Steve D'Amato

# CHAPTER NEWS

## Spring Nature Walks Highlights

### Central Park, Sunday, May 6

Central Park is a mecca for spring birding, and a highlight of the chapter's field trip calendar. This year's trip had a lower than typical turnout due to iffy weather, but the 7 that did attend were treated to plenty of birds, including one particularly stellar highlight.

As usual our efforts were concentrated in and around the Ramble, and around Turtle Pond. This tried and true route, encompassing hotspots such as 'The Oven', 'The Point', Azalea Pond, 'maintenance meadow' and Shakespeare Garden, yielded good numbers of migrant songbirds. Most abundant were Northern Waterthrush, Black and White Warbler, Northern Parula, and Black-throated Blue Warbler. Most noteworthy was a Prothonotary Warbler foraging along the shoreline of The Point. We missed out on a Kentucky Warbler (found the day before) in the same area, which was seen again that day, before and after we were there. Such is the nature of birding. But the pain of an individual bird not seen was assuaged by all the other birdlife present, including Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, Spotted Sandpiper, American Kestrel, Wood and Swainson's Thrushes, Nashville, Magnolia, and Blackburnian Warblers, Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Seeing such feathered jewels never gets old. It's what makes birding such an enthralling pastime, and what makes an annual visit into Central Park to see them in profusion so worthwhile. Hopefully there will more people on next year's trip to share the enjoyment.

-John Gluth

### Hempstead SP, Tues., May 15

A foggy misty morning turned into a clear day with bright sunshine to finish our walk at Hempstead State Park. A dozen folks participated and were not disappointed.

We had over thirty species of birds for the morning, including twelve warblers. We had great looks at Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue and Blackpoll Warblers on our walk. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo popped up on the return trail heading back to the parking lot..

A really nice surprise was a pair of Wood Ducks on the pond as we were finishing our walk. One of them posed in a tree for us to enjoy the finale for the morning. -Ken Thompson



*A male Wood Duck was spotted in a tree at Hempstead Lake State Park*

### Sterling Forest & Bashakill, Sat & Sun. May 19 & 20

Despite a wet forecast for at least half of the weekend, 6 diehard birders made the most of the trip upstate to bird Sterling Forest and Bashakill WMA.

Rain through much of Saturday made for trying conditions at times, but was light enough early on that we got a decent amount of time in at Sterling Forest before the skies really opened up. The deluge was waited out in a diner - hot food and good company. Thankfully the rain ended by mid afternoon, allowing some birding at Bashakill, both before and after dinner. Highlights for the day included Cerulean Warbler (Blue Lake), Black-billed Cuckoo (Laurel Meadow, gorging on tent caterpillars) Hooded Warbler (Ironwood Drive) and Pileated Woodpeckers at Sterling Forest, and Red-shouldered Hawk, Common Gallinule, Common Nighthawk and Eastern Whip-poor-will at Bashakill.

Sunday at Bashakill started out foggy and cool, but ended being quite nice - warmer, with partly sunny skies. We birded Haven Road, and the 'stop sign', 'white birch' and 'nature' trails, where we were treated to Cliff and Bank Swallows, multiple Common Gallinules, a brief glimpse of a Least Bittern, Bald Eagles, a Virginia Rail, Least, Willow, and Alder Flycatchers, and Chestnut-sided, Canada, and Wilson's Warblers.

All told, it was another enjoyable off-island expedition to some beautiful and bird-filled locations, which this writer looks forward to visiting every year. Please join us in 2019. -John Gluth

### Marine Nature Study, Oceanside & Jones Beach, Tues., May 22

We had a good turnout for our walk. The weather was cooperative in that we had no rain, and temps were mild.

We were greeted by a Green Heron and multiple egrets. We had both Great and Snowy Egrets along our walk.

One of the Great Egrets is the official greeter at the site. It is used by the staff for school demonstrations, and he gets the leftover seafood from the seine nets.

We then went to Jones Beach West End for a few minutes to finish the morning. We had good looks at several Brown Thrashers. We then walked to the beach side pavilion and watched Least Terns in their breeding colony.-- Ken Thompson

### Dune Rd., Tuesday, May 29

A large group showed up for our semi-annual 'Dune Rd Caravan'. We began at the jetty and moved west along Dune Rd.

At the first turn-off parking area, adjacent to the Osprey nest, we watched the male and female Osprey tend to their nest as Willets flew overhead, back and forth, vocalizing as they normally do this time of year: "pill-will-willet", "pill-will-willet", "pill-will-willet". On the beach there were many shorebirds, including Black-bellied Plovers, Semipalmated Plovers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, Least Terns, American Oystercatchers, and a single Piping Plover. Continuing slowly down Dune Road, we spotted several other species from our cars: We saw many of



*Ring-neck Pheasants can be seen around marsh edges, such as those along Dune Rd.*

the above mentioned birds plus Dunlin, Red Knots, Great Egrets, Ruddy Turnstones, a Clapper Rail; and our 'icing on the cake' was a Ring-Necked Pheasant walking along the edge of the road, popping in and out of the beach grass.

We look forward to visiting this same spot again in the fall. -Vera Capogna

## Wind Energy Dilemma *continued from page 1*

animal populations are also fluid, dependent on marine water, wind and food sources for their movement. With unchecked industrial wind energy growth, LI could be opening a Pandora's Box of environmentally negative consequences for its ocean waters and for both vertebrate and invertebrate marine species which inhabit them.

Once this degradation process begins, its long term environmental impact may be irreversible. Virtually no research exists regarding an offshore wind energy program designed like the one for LI: built in deep offshore waters with towers over 600 ft tall, larger blade sweep and different environmental conditions, not comparable to European ones.

Industrial offshore wind energy is not a benign energy solution. In operation, these offshore wind farms produce heavy vibration, sustained noise and lighting pollution, as well as restricted area access; they cause benthic and pelagic habitat alteration, leading to ecosystem damage of diverse species. They can cause injury and death to marine mammals (such as whales, seals and dolphins), turtles and fish from: exposure to electromagnetic sound waves from undersea electric cables, building construction and pile driving noise, daily operation, ship collisions and resultant pollution. They're also responsible for sea bird and migratory bird kills, as well as bat kills, from collision with moving wind turbine blades; mortality numbers are virtually invisible and undocumented when the kills sink into surrounding waters. Limited data is available for marine avian species and flying height--wind speed and direction can sweep them into the turbine blade vortex. Since marine animal populations are not static, no amount of mitigation can ever be fully effective.

National environmental regulations are currently being dismantled piece by piece to allow "takes" or kills of protected species--marine mammals, birds and bats--in order to avoid impacting growth of the offshore wind energy industry. Federal accountability is nonexistent for them.

Environmental input from the scientific community lacks long term investigation on cumulative environmental effects. Eastern LI's controversial South Fork Wind Farm, to be located 30 miles off Montauk Pt. at Cox's Ledge (proposed opening by Deepwater Wind: 2022), will initially have 15 turbines but can potentially support over 200. A single offshore wind farm with limited turbines will have individualized negative environmental impacts, but impact from the future addition of multiple facilities with turbines numbering in the hundreds regionally over time is unknown. Cumulative negative effects on vertebrate and invertebrate species, their migration

patterns and on the food web, itself, could be catastrophic. Unfortunately, this remains a looming and worrisome future environmental question . . . .

Considered a high risk industry, safety issues with industrial offshore wind farms commonly include: undersea electric cable failures, blade-throw and "ringing" (wave vibration that can fracture wind turbines). Major storms and hurricanes can also cause devastation. As offshore wind facilities age, they require additional maintenance expense, and power generation becomes less effective. With a limited 20-25 year life expectancy, decommissioning and some form of recycling will be required, diminishing their cost-effectiveness and adding to future ocean environmental degradation.



*LI industrial offshore wind farms are not the environmentally safe energy producers that they appear to be.*

LI residents want and need a solution that provides clean, environmentally safe energy in today's world. Alternative wind energy technology is now available that causes less environmental destruction, does not need placement in wind-driven areas and can produce more power per unit cost-effectively than conventional industrial offshore wind energy. It can also protect bird and bat populations, whose healthy existence is vital for mankind. Conventional bladed wind turbines have an inherently flawed design, which will always kill birds and bats.

Giant industrial corporations will control LI offshore wind energy development, reaping profits that won't benefit local communities. Diversifying LI's power supply with small, renewable clean energy technology companies can offer safer options not dominated by one major energy industry. Other renewable clean energy solutions are available that provide an environmentally safer energy product and also offer LI job and economic benefits. Besides utilizing localized alternative wind energy technology, small scale solar power can be used in parking lots, on rooftops, in disturbed/abandoned areas; California is leading the way in requiring solar on all new buildings. Shallow geothermal energy (common in Europe) is also a safer local approach, and other alternative renewable energy sources need to be investigated. Mandating lower appliance electricity consumption levels, as well as establishing LI public school education programs on environmentally responsible energy use could also assist in reducing future LI energy requirements. A new mindset is required to find more diversified and environmentally safer renewable energy solutions for our future LI energy needs--solutions that make LI residents responsible participants in our world's environmental protection.

For further information: [www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org)

\*See our website [GSBAS.org](http://GSBAS.org) for full article with Appendix: "LI Industrial Offshore Wind Development Background."

# REMEMBERING Bill Redshaw

by Annette Brownell

It wouldn't be right to have an issue of *The Sandpiper* go by without paying tribute to a dear friend, fellow birder, knowledgeable gardener and just terrific person.

Bill Redshaw, known affectionately as "Razor Bill" was really a prince of a man. Bill always had a twinkle in his eye, was bright when it came to conversation of any sort and very generous with his knowledge and love of life.

When I first met Bill, chatting in polite conversation, Bill told me he was a security guard. Looking at this ancient man, I thought "He surely means he was a security guard." So I said "You were a security guard?" he said "No. I am one." I think he was a security guard until he was 90.

Bill let me know that there is no such thing as Canadian Geese. There is Canadian bacon, but the bird is called a Canada Goose. Bill bounced along the trails and swung from tree branches on walks when he was in his



late 80's. I looked forward to the Central Park trip the most because Bill and I could hang back at the rear of the group and talk about the wonderful plants in bloom in the Park.

When GSBAS had a booth at a Wertheim event one year, Bill came to visit us -- he said he liked to "support the troops." Bill went with me to the Eclectic Café one night to rock the town and was able to accompany us on the Bob Laskowski Memorial Duck Walk several times.

There are some in our chapter that had the pleasure of spending more time with Bill than I; drove him on trips and brought him to meetings faithfully. I kind of filled in the gaps. But how lucky was I? Even the last time I saw Bill, his eyes still bright, he said to me "Life is good."

I answered him "Yes, Bill, it is."

A wonderful man that we will miss.



*Bill attended our nature walks and chapter events up to the very end of his life, aided by his walker, oxygen tank and Ken Thompson, trip leader and good buddy.*



*Bill always appreciated every opportunity to enjoy nature. Here he is on last year's nature walk in Connetquot State Park Preserve.*



*One of many great memories of Bill: Celebrating his 90th Birthday at a party hosted by Ken and Ann Thompson. I don't think I have ever seen Bill without a smile on his face.*

Photos and captions: Vera Capogna

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Peggy Marsh (631) 667-3556

Juliane Wohler (631) 581-1731

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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:

Helga Merryman

GSBAS Direct Phone Number (631) 563-7716

GSBAS website: GSBAS.org

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 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  
☐ Renewal \$20    ☐ Renewal Senior (62+) \$15

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.



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Dated Material: Please Do Not Delay**