



Great South Bay Audubon Society Newsletter

Summer (June-August) 2026 Issue #3

The 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.



by Joe Abraham, Ph.D

Greetings GSBAS Members and Friends!

Tweet tweet, squark squark. When have you recently watched a movie, tv series, read a book or taken a walk without hearing or reading about a bird? Somewhere in the script or story, is a bird singing its song; warning of danger; or nurturing its young. Birds, some so small, still manage to make their way into our cinema, literature, our lives. Their presence there is meant to convey a feeling, a thought, or a point.

In the Netflix series, VICTORIA the Crown is concerned about Ireland and its relationship to England. Upon receiving a gift in Ireland from Catholic Cardinal Rowan, Victoria says "You have given me a dove. This is her land. This is where she belongs. Let us send her home." Victoria then releases the dove out of its cage and into the sky.

P.G. Sittenfeld writes about his experiences in prison. He reports “a bird took a wrong turn and flew into our housing unit, causing a great deal of commotion As the bird alighted on various perches, prisoners provided running commentary. . . . the bird might divebomb or do something else aggressive. One guy exclaimed ‘It’s going to poop on me. . . Man, I don’t mess with no birds, no fish, no rats.’”

Newspapers have their share of bird relevant articles as well. In the NY Times, headed THE BADLANDS HOLD ME AS I GRIEVE Rebecca Norris Webb states “I have a kind of game I play with grief, imagining the birds I see are the people I’ve lost.” She continues “I was stunned to see a one - eyed owl . . . It was as if I were looking into the one good eye of my father. . . .The father to whom I didn’t get a chance to say goodbye.

Looking for a newspaper opinion? Will a Peacock Like Gavin Newsom Fly?
How about HOPING FOR A LIVELY SPRING? WELCOME THE WOODPECKERS. Both NY Times articles. Do you know that woodpecker physiology has inspired safer motorcycle helmets and has influenced research on Shaken Baby Syndrome? Do you know that The Guinness Book of Records began because of a bird? How about those sports teams named after birds?

In conclusion, the next time you see a bird, little or big or in between, take a moment to enjoy its presence, knowing that it may one day be featured in a film or in a book or in the news.

Joe Abraham,
President GSBAS



by Jeanne Halton

[Happy 250th Birthday, America!](#)

What a great time we are living right now! We get to celebrate the 250th birth of our nation! In honor of our nation's birth and being a part of the Audubon society, I felt inclined to write about the history of our national bird, the Bald Eagle.

How and when did this majestic bird become a symbol for the United States?

The bald eagle became an American symbol on June 20, 1782, when it was officially adopted as the national emblem by the Second Continental Congress. This choice was made due to the bald eagle's long life, great strength, and majestic appearance, which

inspired the founders of the nation. It was also chosen because the eagle is indigenous to North America.

The Bald Eagle first appeared on the Great Seal of the United States, clutching an olive branch and arrows to symbolize peace and war, and over time became a symbol in American culture. The selection reflects both the artistic input of early American leaders and the symbolic importance of the eagle as a representation of national strength and freedom.

Come celebrate our country's birthday on July 25 at 11:00 am at Brookside County Park (if it rains, the presentation will be held at Sayville Library-same date & time). Sweetbriar Nature Center will be conducting a "Birds of Prey" presentation with live birds and give information on the Bald Eagle.



American Eagle at 17th hole at Brentwood Golf Course and American Flag-Photos by Joe Abraham

The Fall (September-November) *Sandpiper* newsletter will come out in **mid-September**. If you would like to submit any articles or photos (see photo submission link below) to be included in the newsletter, please submit to me at gsbas.editor@gmail.com by **September 5**.





Glenn Reed and grandson, Beau

Meet Our GSBAS Treasurer: Glenn Reed

Glenn has been serving on our Board for the past year, bringing a wealth of financial and operational expertise to the organization. A Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Global Accountant (CGMA), began his career at Ernst & Young and has spent over four decades helping organizations grow, scale and operate with discipline and purpose. He has served as CFO and COO for a remarkable range of companies-from 1-800-FLOWERS.com to tech startups-and today runs Button Down Solutions, where he serves as a fractional CFO and trusted advisor to growth-oriented businesses across the New York metropolitan area.

Glenn's connection to nature runs deep-and it's a family affair. He and his wife Josephine, married 39 years, raised three sons who are all Eagle Scouts, with two having also served as in in the Army, with time overseas. Outdoor life is simply part of who the Reeds are. Every morning, the trees surrounding their Long Island home come alive with birdsong-a daily reminder of why protecting our local environment matters so much. Glenn also serves as Treasurer for several other local outdoor organizations dedicated to keeping Long Island beautiful.

Away from the balance sheet, Glenn is an avid photographer with a deep love of black and white photography-finding in its contrast and texture a timeless way to capture the natural world. It's a passion that pairs beautifully with the birds and landscapes that make Long Island so special.

As our Treasurer, Glenn's goal is straightforward: to help the Society operate with strong financial stewardship, build organizational capacity and grow both our membership and resources-so that our conservation work can reach further and last longer.

Glenn holds a BS in Management from Boston College. And when he's not crunching numbers or behind the camera, you might just find him enjoying his greatest title yet-proud grandfather of two.

We are grateful to have Glenn's expertise, dedication and love of the outdoors on our Board.



Great South Bay Audubon
has a new web address. Visit us on:
greatsouthbayaudubonsociety.org



Click on the link below for easy access to our new website address:

<https://greatsouthbayaudubonsociety.org/>

GREAT SOUTH BAY AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



BROOKSIDE PRESERVE

Renovation and repairs. If you are handy, have carpentry skills, like to paint or fix things we need your help.

GARDEN NEEDS

We are in need of a new arbor since the current one is rotting. If you know of anyone who would like to help build a new one or know of a scout who would like to earn their Eagle or Gold award please reach out to Karen at:
gsbas.brookside.director@gmail.com



WHAT WE NEED

We need people to chair the following committees:

- Education
- Programs
- Conservation
- Hospitality

Also needed are Docents at Brookside.

CONTACT

greatsouthbayaudubon@gmail.com

631-563-7716



greatsouthbayaudubon.org

FEATURED ARTICLES



GSBAS Annual Fundraiser Dinner by Jeanne Halton

On May 4, 2026, GSBAS held its annual fundraiser dinner event at The Mansion at Timber Point. Our guest speaker was John Turner, who spoke about the goatsuckers. Approximately 75 members and friends joined us for our yearly fundraiser event. Thanks to numerous sponsors and donations this year, we had over 40 baskets to raffle off!! We also had a 50/50 raffle prize.

I would like to give a great big shout out and much thanks to our event committee who made this event possible with their hard work and dedication:

Karen Andres, Heather Gallagher, Amanda Wilson and myself!

Also, thank you to other members who volunteered their time with our last minute details: Marty Garbarino and Ruth Bernard.

The events committee knows things were different from our past dinners (location, buffet, wine & beer included, different door prizes), but we hope all who attended had a great time!

GSBAS ANNUAL DINNER DONORS

Great South Bay Audubon would like to thank the following donors for their generous support:

Argyle Theater
Audrey's Bakery
Bayport Flower House
Better Man Distilling
Blushing Beauty Bar
Brownstones
Cornucopia
Creative Ministries
George Martin Strip Steak
Giorgio's Italian Restaurant
Good Things Long Island
Hauppauge Palace Diner
Honey Gramz
Jackson Hall
John Engeman Theater
Kay Cameron Jewelry
Kings Coast Coffee Company
Kosmetech Corp.
LI Music Hall of Fame
Long Island Ducks
Long Island Maritime Museum
Long Island Museum
Manninos
O-co-nee Diner
Off the Block

Rumba
Sal's Pizza
Salted Spirits
Sand City Brewery
Sayville Bean
Sayville Garden Club
Sew What's New & Yarn Too
Shabby Tabby Cat Cafe
Snapper Inn
Stanley's Bakery
Stop and Shop
Tea & Spice Exchange
The Greenery Islip
The Shed
Tilles Center
Tito's
Toast Coffeehouse
Umberto's
Uncle Guiseppie's
Viking Fleet
Wild Birds Unlimited



Speaker John Turner-photos
by Steve Papa



It's a Team Effort by Karen Andres

I attended a Sustainability Fair at my local library recently. There was a small group of like minded organizations in attendance all geared towards helping the earth and

all of our creatures that reside here: composting, native plants, state parks, recycling and more. The one booth that I gravitated to was run by an organization called Balloon Mission. Everyone loves balloons--they are a part of our celebrations. Unfortunately, balloons are a danger to our ecosystems, wildlife and our health. Balloons, both latex and mylar, can travel thousands of miles. With the plastic ribbons attached, they get tangled in trees, on poles, electrical lines creating eyesores for years and even power outages. When these balloons fall, they are around for years before they break down. The plastic turns into microplastics that end up in our waterways, drinking water, the air that we breathe and food we eat. We are fortunate that we can see these dangers and avoid them when we see them. In nature, it's not as easy. Wildlife and animals can get trapped in the long ribbons attached to the balloons, wrapping around their legs, necks, wings bodies, disabling them and leading to their demise. Birds often eat balloons, thinking they are food and block their airways and fill their gut, starving them. This also happens to other sea life, such as turtles, whales, dolphins.

There are 13 U.S. states that have enacted statewide bans on intentional balloon releases to protect wildlife and the environment: California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Virginia. NY State does not have a ban signed into law as of yet. Contact your local legislator and urge them to pass Bill 2025-S75 to stop balloon releases.

Balloon Mission is working on eliminating this hazard through legislation, outreach programs, collection bins at local libraries, schools, and organizations. They urge everyone to take the pledge to not release balloons at events, but bring them to your local drop off bins. Remember to pop them first! Check with your local library to see if they have a drop off bin. If your library doesn't have one, reach out to your librarian to see how they can get one. If you would like more information about this organization go to: www.balloonmission.org

Remember, it's a team effort. Won't you join the team?

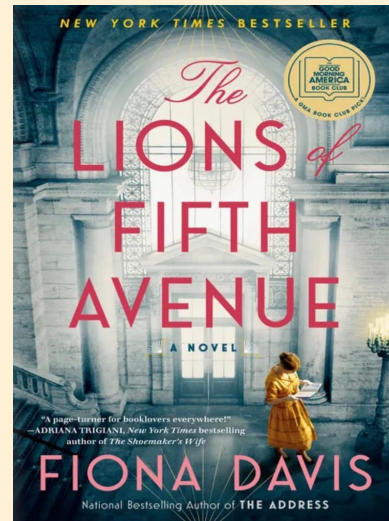
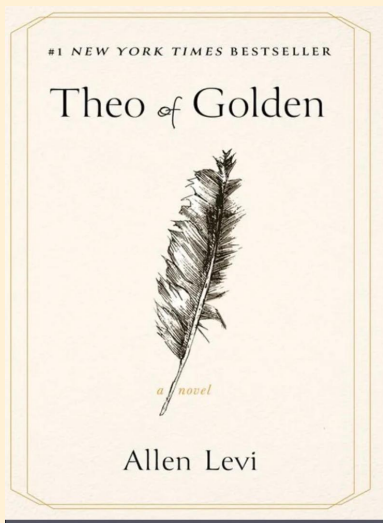
A Royal Tern, entangled with a ribbon and a trailing balloon, flies at Charleston Harbor, South Carolina in 2014. Photo by Fran Baer



Our Audubon Book Club (ABC) is increasing in number! I am **so excited** that our members love to read and to discuss books!!

For our July book club, we will be reading is Theo of Golden by Allen Levi. We will be meeting on July 15 from 2:00-3:00 PM at Brookside. The book we are reading for our August 12th meeting is The Lions of 5th Avenue by Fiona Davis.

If you're interested in joining us, email me at gsbas.editor@gmail.com.



House Sparrows by Mary Rasmussen

I love my bird feeding station and though I don't get many unusual birds, I can always count on the ubiquitous house sparrow to eat the seed and provide activity. I see them on the ground hopping and at the feeder. There are usually other sparrows too, but I can easily recognize them. They may not be as showy as other birds, but I enjoy seeing them. They can be counted on.

They are sexually dimorphic. Males have a black throat patch called a bib and a dark gray crown. The females are dull, lack the bib and have a dull eye stripe. They both have strong, conical beaks, made for eating seeds. There are 12 subspecies of house sparrows with slight variations.

House Sparrows are not endemic to the United States. They are native to Eurasia and North Africa. They were introduced to North and South America and are now world wide and wide spread.

They are usually associated with people and can be found in city and country, farms and towns. They are members of the wide spread Sparrow family, Passeridae, genus and species *Passer domesticus*. They are mostly seed eaters, but will eat insects and caterpillars.



Male



Female

They have a simple song of chirps, described as cheep, cheep. They also have other vocalizations depending on the situation. There is a harsh chir-chir-r-r-it-it call for territorial disputes by males and used by females for dominance during the breeding season .

House Sparrows are common and not much to look at, but they are reliable bird and one of nature's gifts.

Parks and Trails: Hallock State Park Preserve ***by Jeanne Halton***

Park Name/Address: Hallock State Park Preserve, 6062 Sound Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11947

Why I loved this park: My husband and I took a ride out to Hallock State Park Preserve in May. This park is located on the North Shore of Long Island along the Long Island Sound.

When you enter from Sound Avenue, you will come to a visitor's center (check website for visiting hours: <https://parks.ny.gov/visit/state-parks/hallock-state-park-preserve#about>) with a gift shop and bathrooms. Since this is a state park, you will have to pay an \$8 parking fee. If you drive down the unpaved, graveled path, you will come to a parking area. At the beginning of the trail is a kiosk where you can see the trail map or pick up a paper copy. There were marked trails, which took us through woodlands and down to the Long Island Sound.

Using my Merlin App, we were able to hear and see so many birds: Eastern Towhee, Northern Yellow Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Blue-winged Warbler and Wood Thrush!!!

I encourage you to take a ride out east and experience nature at its finest....and maybe to see and hear a variety of birds!

If you have a favorite park, why not share it with our members! Email me (gshas.editor@gmail.com) the name of the park and why you enjoy visiting the park, as well as any pictures you may have taken.



Northern Yellow Warbler (photo taken from internet)



SCDHS - Office of Minority Health Walk

With the cooperation of Ken Thompson GSBAS Walk Leader, Shaina Waterbury Shaw, SC Relations Assistant, and myself a walk was held on March 28th at Gardiner County Park, Bay Shore. Approximately 30 people were in attendance on this sunny day. In attendance were a number of representatives from Suffolk County Health, including Dr. Gregson H. Pigott, Health Commissioner, Adesuwa Watson, Director, and Laura Baez, Bilingual Nutritionist. Aiyana Smith did a nature related opening poem/prayer, and Dorian Johnson led us in a nice warm up exercise.

Shai Mitra did a wonderful job pointing out approximately 25 species of birds as well as informing the group regarding various plant life. The walk started out with seeing a large group of Robins, intermingling with some Brown Cowbirds. We then came upon a Brown Creeper, not too often seen and a Slate Colored Dark-eyed Junco. When we arrived at the bay, there were hundreds of Brant on the water and some Fish Crows nearby on land. In the far distance, an Osprey could be seen in its nest, marking the beginning of their arrival to Long Island. Flying overhead toward the bridge was a Gadwall and on the walk back we saw 3 airborne Wood Ducks. As we neared the end of the walk, Shai mentioned that he would have thought we would see an Egret, and then, immediately after he stated that, an Egret came soaring across the sky.

We are pleased to have been able to get together with the S.C. Office of Minority Health to arrange this outing. It was an enjoyable experience for all.

Joe Abraham, President GSBAS

We Want Your Feedback!

Our president, Joe Abraham, submitted this poem which he heard on "Peaky Blinders: The Immortal Man." He would like your feedback on what you think the underlying message is. Please submit your ideas to: jabraphd@gmail.com

The wren is a small bird.
How pretty she sings.
She bested the eagle,
when she hid in its wings.



Monthly General Membership Meetings

*Our monthly meetings are held at **Sayville Library** beginning at **7 PM** every third **Thursday** of each month.*

Light refreshments will be available throughout the meeting.

No general membership meetings will be held during the summer months. However, GSBAS will be sponsoring summer events at Brookside County Park! See flyer below for more details. Hope to see you there!



Summer at Brookside

BROOKSIDE COUNTY PARK,
59 BROOK STREET, SAYVILLE, NY 11796

June

Sat, June 13	YOGA <i>in the Park</i> Beginner Friendly	10am - 11am
Sun, June 28	MUSIC <i>in the Park</i> Lean Mean Jazz Machine	1pm - 3pm

July

Sat, July 11	YOGA <i>in the Park</i> Beginner Friendly	10am - 11am
Sat, July 25	AMERICA 250 <i>Celebration</i> Birds of Prey Demonstration	11am - 12pm

August

Sat, Aug 8	YOGA <i>in the Park</i> Beginner Friendly	10am - 11am
Sat, Aug 15	SHAKESPEARE <i>in the Park</i> A Midsummer Night's Dream	2pm
Sat, Aug 22	MUSIC <i>in the Park</i> Miss Maybell & Her Ragtime Romeos	1pm - 2:30pm

September

Sat, Sept 5	ISAAC GREEN HISTORY LECTURE	1pm - 2pm
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Parking can be found in the High School's
Parking lot across the street

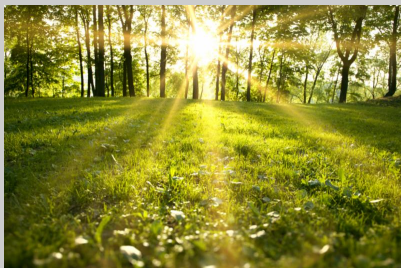


Bayard Cutting Arboretum Horticultural Society Event Calendar



BAYARD CUTTING ARBORETUM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY – 2026 (PROGRAMS AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026 – 1 PM	L.I NATIVE PLANTS INITIATIVE (LINPI)
SATURDAY, FEB. 14, 2026 -- 1 PM	KEVIN WIECK, BCA DIRECTOR – THE SECRET STORIES OF TREES
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 -- 1 PM	KARL AUWAERTER--BAYPORT FLOWER HOUSE NEW PLANTS FOR 2026; PLANT RAFFLE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026 -- 6:30 PM	ORCHIDS Rich Heesler presents: “Believe it or not, but most orchids are easy to grow”.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026 -- 6:30 PM	TONY GRAZIANO – MOBILE PHONE PHOTOGRAPHY -- PART 2
SATURDAY, MAY 30 & SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026 – 9 AM – 4 PM	PLANT SALE – LOWER CARRIAGE HOUSE ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BCA!
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2026 – 6:30 PM	“DIRECTOR’S WALK” by Kevin Wiecks, Arboretum Director
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26, 2026 – 6:30 PM	DAHLIA WALK – MEET AT DAHLIA GARDEN
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9, 2026 -- 6:30 PM	“Monarch Butterfly Conservation in NYC and Long Island” presented by Robyn Elman @Monarch Recovery Project NYC Inc.
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14, 2026 – 6:30 PM	Updates on the Manor House and Bayard Cutting Family History: presented by Stephanie D’erasmo, Manor House Curator
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11, 2026 – 6:30 PM	
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 2026 – 6:00 PM – 9 PM	HOLIDAY DINNER – HIDDEN OAK CAFÉ



Weekend Nature Walks 2026-2027

Saturday August 15, 8:00 am, Jamaica Bay

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120), Mike Cooper (516-523-2369)

Southern State Pkwy to Belt Pkwy to Exit 17, Cross Bay Blvd. South. Continue south for about 2 miles. Look for the entrance of the refuge on the right (west) side. There are signs for park entrance. (Knee high boots are recommended.)

Saturday September 12 2026 8:00 am, Connetquot River SPP Bird and Breakfast

Leaders Edith Wilson, Helga Merryman, Ken Thompson, Jack Carlson

Reservations required \$4 at Eventbrite.com search #NatureAdventure, Plus parking fee per car - unless you have a yearly Empire pass.

Saturday September 19 8:00 am, Robert Moses Hawk Watch & Jones Beach WE

Leaders Ken Thompson (631-612-8028) John Gluth (631-827-0120)

Meet at Robert Moses State Park parking field #5 northeast corner. May require a parking fee.

Saturday October 17, 8:30 am, Caumsett SP

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028)

Northern State to exit 42N (Route35) to 25A west to West Neck Rd.(right turn). West Neck/Lloyd Harbor Rd. into Lloyd Neck. Entrance to the Park on the left. Meet in the parking lot.

Saturday November 7, 8:30 Suffolk County Farm

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120) Vera Capogna (516-639-5430)

350 Yaphank Avenue Yaphank NY. 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 the left. Turn left onto the entrance road. Take your first right and follow down and meet at the visitors parking area on your left.

Saturday November 14, 9:00 am, Morton NWR

Leaders Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028)

Sunrise Highway east past Shinnecock Canal. Look for a North Sea Road Noyack sign and bear left on CR52. Stay on CR52 and then turn left at light onto CR38. After 1.4 miles on CR38, turn right onto Noyack Road after 5 miles turn left onto refuge.

Saturday December 5, 9:00 am, Montauk

Leaders Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028)

Meet at Lighthouse parking lot. Latecomers can still join in the vicinity of the restaurant overlook. Directions Route 27 to 27A to end.

2027 Weekend Nature Walks

Saturday January 9, Connetquot River SPP, 8:00 am Bird and Breakfast

Leaders Edith Wilson, Ken Thompson, Helga Merryman, Jack Carlson

Reservations required 4\$ at Eventbrite.com search #NatureEdventure

Saturday January 16, 9:00, am Montauk

Leaders John Gluth(631-827-0120) and Ken Thompson (631-612-8028)

Meet at Lighthouse parking lot. Latecomers can still join in the vicinity of the restaurant overlook. Directions Route 27 to 27A to end.

Saturday February 20, 8:30 am, Jones Beach West End

Leaders Mike Cooper (516-523-2369), John Gluth (631-827-0120)

Meet in the marina parking lot near the Coast Guard Station at West End.

Saturday March 6, 8:30, Bob Laskowski Memorial Duck Walk

Leaders 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 17 8:30 am, Connetquot River SPP

Leaders Bob Grover (516-318-8536) Ken Thompson (631-612-8028), John Gluth (631-827-0120) 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, Take exit 47A and go to the next overpass, Oakdale Bohemia Rd. to cross over bridge, then head westbound and stay in right lane to entrance. Parking fee may be required.

Saturday April 24, 8:00 am, Valley Stream SP & Jones Beach West End

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120) Vera Capogna (516-639-5430)

Southern State Parkway to exit 15S, North Corona Ave. No Corona Ave to Hendrickson Ave (.07 mi) turn right at Hendrickson Ave. Hendrickson Ave. to Fletcher Ave (.3 mi) turn right on Fletcher Ave. Fletcher Ave North to Valley Stream State Park entrance on right (.2 mi). Park at far end of lot.

Sunday May 2 , 7:00 am, Central Park

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120), Vera Capogna (516-639-5430)

Meet at 7 a.m. on Central Park West at 77th St (opposite the Museum of Natural History). One of the best trips for our chapter! You must register for this trip. Text or email to Vera Capogna 516-639-5430 ,vlvcap@yahoo.com

Saturday May 8, 7:00 am, Alley Pond Park

Leaders Mike Cooper (516-523-2369) John Gluth (631-827-0120)

Northern State Pkwy to Exit 23, which reads: Cross Island Parkway, Union Turnpike and Alley Pond Park. Go to Union Turnpike (NOT Alley Pond Park). At the signal light, turn right onto Union Turnpike. Proceed to the next signal light which is Springfield Blvd and turn right. Go about 4 blocks to 76th Ave. Turn right onto 76th Ave. and proceed to Alley Pond Parking lot on your left.

Sunday May 9, Connetquot River SPP, 8:00 Bird and Breakfast

Leaders Edith Wilson, Ken Thompson Helga Merryman, Jack Carlson

Reservations required \$4 - Reservations at Eventbrite.com search #NatureAdventure.

Registration fee, plus \$8 parking fee per car - unless you have yearly Empire pass.

Sat & Sun May 15/16, 7:00 am, Sterling Forest and Bashakill

Leaders John Gluth (631-827-0120) Vera Capogna (516-639-5430)

From Tappan Zee Bridge, take I-87 to Sloatsburg exit 15A, take the exit for Rte 72 (Sterling Mine Rd.), 1-mile up Rte 17. Continue west on Rte 72 for 3 Miles until you reach Rte 84, Long Meadow Rd. Continue up Long Meadow Rd to Sterling Lake Rd (4 Mi). Turn left there and continue to Park Visitors Center parking lot on Old Forge Rd. Overnight at Wurtsboro Days Inn (845-888-8727). You must register for this trip. Text or email to Vera Capogna 516-639-5430 vlvcap@yahoo.com.

Saturday September 18 2027 8:00 am, Connetquot River SPP Bird and Breakfast

Leaders Edith Wilson, Helga Merryman, Ken Thompson, Jack Carlson

Reservations required \$4 at Eventbrite.com search #NatureAdventure, Plus parking fee per car - unless you have a yearly Empire pass.



Tuesday Nature Walks 2026-2027

Tuesday, Sept 1, 9:30 am Connetquot River State Park Preserve

Meet in the parking lot near entrance booth.

Tuesday, Sept 8, 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) Maybe ending at Jones Beach

Tuesday Sept 15, 9:30 am Suffolk County Farm

350 Yaphank Avenue Yaphank NY. 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 and follow down and meet at the visitors parking area on your left.

Tuesday, Sept 22, 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. We meet at the ocean overlook parking area south of the road.

Tuesday Sept 29, 9:30 St Joseph Campus Brentwood

Take Sunrise Highway to Brentwood Rd. north approximately 2.5 mi look for the main entrance. Meet in the parking lot in front of building 4.

Tuesday Oct 6, 9:30 Robert Moses SP

Meet in Field 5 at the northeast corner.

Tuesday Oct 13, 9:30 Belmont SP

Exit 38 off the Southern State Pkwy. Meet in the parking lot on the east side of the lake.

Tuesday Oct 20 9:30 Jones Beach West End

Meet in the parking lot at the Marina near the Coast Guard Station.

Tuesday Oct 27, 9:30 Blydenburg CP

Entrance on Veterans Highway just west of the Route 347 merge. Use Blydenburgh entrance not Greengate Park entrance. Meet in the parking lot at the boat ramp area.

Tuesday Nov 3, 9:30 Sunken Meadow SP

Meet in the main parking lot in front of the main pavilion near the traffic circle.

2027 Tuesday Nature Walks

Tuesday Mar 30, 9:30 Sunken Meadow SP

Meet in the main parking lot in front of the main pavilion near the traffic circle.

Tuesday Apr 6, 9:30 Heckscher SP

Meet in Field 5 western end.

Tuesday Apr 13, 9:30 Jones Beach WE SP

Meet in the parking lot at the Marina near the Coast Guard Station.

Tuesday April 20, 9:30 Robert Moses SP

Meet in Field 5 at the northeast corner.

Tuesday April 27, 9:30 Norman Levy & Jones Beach WE

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.

Tuesday May 4, 9:30 Belmont SP

Exit 38 off the Southern State Pkwy. Meet in the parking lot on the east side of the lake.

Tuesday May 11, 9:30 Shinnecock

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. We meet at the ocean overlook parking area south of the road.

Tuesday May 18, 9:30 St Joseph Campus Brentwood

Take Sunrise Highway to Brentwood Rd. north approximately 2.5 mi look for the main entrance. Meet in the parking lot in front of building 4.

Tuesday May 25, 9:30 Hempstead SP

Southern State Pkwy. to Exit 18 (Eagle Ave.) and proceed south to the second parking lot. Turn right and then left into parking lot 3.

Tuesday June 1 , 9:30 Oceanside & 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) Maybe ending at Jones Beach.

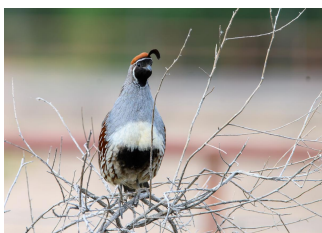
Tuesday Jun 8, 9:30 Suffolk County Farm

350 Yaphank Avenue Yaphank NY. 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 and follow down and meet at the visitors parking area on your left.

SUBMITTED BIRD PHOTOS



All photos from Arizona were taken by Dennis Elder



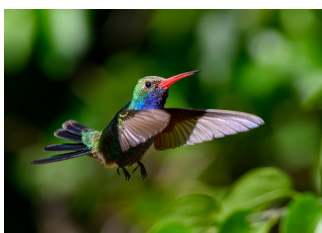
Gambel's Quail, Sweetwater Wetlands, Tuscon AZ



Vermilion Flycatcher, Sweetwater Wetlands, Tuscon, AZ



Grace's Warbler, Mt. Lemmon, AZ



Broad-Billed Hummingbird, Paton Center, Patagonia, AZ



Violet-Crowned Hummingbird, Paton Center, Patagonia, AZ



Cactus Wren, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve, Orr Valley, AZ



Yellow-Eyed Junco, Mt. Lemmon, AZ



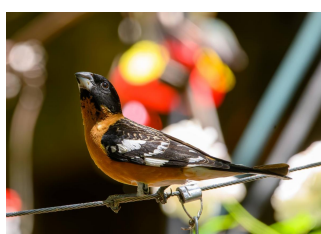
Verdin, Sweetwater Wetlands, Tuscon, AZ



Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Arthur Pack Regional Park, Tuscon, AZ



Gila Woodpecker, Arthur Pack Regional Park, Tuscon, AZ



Black-Headed Grosbeak, Madera Canyon, AZ



Thick-Billed Kingbird, Box

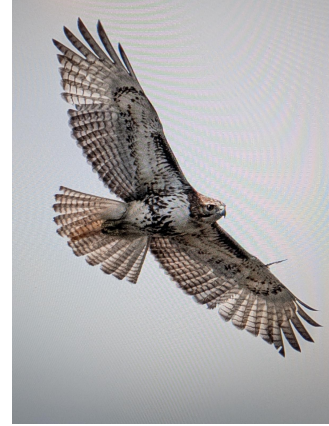
All photos below were taken by Joe Abraham



Rare Tufted Duck
Cammans Pond, Merrick



Osprey



Red-Tailed Hawk



Red-Winged Blackbird



Black-Crowned Heron



King Rail



Northern Mockingbird



Barn Swallow



Hello Great South Bay Audubon Members and Friends!

We're excited to launch the new [Great South Bay Audubon Society Member Portal](#)! The portal provides a convenient place to manage and renew your membership, and submit your nature photos for possible inclusion in our newsletter,

helping showcase the incredible wildlife and landscapes of our community. Going forward, the portal will be the way to pay membership dues.

In the future, there will also be a members only forum making it easier than ever to stay connected to other members. Members (and former members) will soon receive an email invitation with instructions on how to log in.

We thank you for your continued participation in being a member of our local chapter of Audubon! We hope you enjoy our bird/nature walks & hikes, attending our general meetings and annual fundraising dinner and presentations related to birding, nature and conservation.

In order to continue to present these activities, we depend on the dues and donations of members and others. **Our membership year now runs from July 1-June 30. All dues are to be submitted by June 30th to remain a member in good standing. Make sure to click on the above link to pay your membership dues.**

Thank you and have a wonderful birding season!

GSBAS Board Members

Current GSBAS Board Members

President: Joe Abraham *jabraphd@hotmail.com

Vice President: Steve Papa

Treasurer: Glenn Reed, CPA, CGMA *gsbas.Treasurer@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Mary Rasmussen

Corresponding Secretary: Amanda Wilson

Brookside Director: Karen Andres *gsbas.brookside.director@gmail.com

The Sandpiper Editor: Jeanne Halton *gsbas.editor@gmail.com

Website Manager: Heather Gallagher

Past President: Jody Banaszak

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