



EASTERN LONG ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY — From the Barrens to the Bays
Formerly Moriches Bay Audubon, established 1967

THE *OSPREY*

Fall 2025 — Vol. XLIXI — No. 2

*Eastern Long Island Audubon Society
invites all our members and friends to
the Annual Dinner*

*at The Bellport Country Club
on Wednesday, October 15, 2025.
The festivities begin at 6 pm*

*Enjoy appetizers,
a delicious buffet dinner,
and dessert and a raffle. Cash bar.*

*With guest speaker
John Turner*

Naturalist and Environmentalist

Natural Secrets of Long Island

*An exploration of Long Island's
natural wonders—the plant and
animal species found
in the Island's varied habitats*

Watch for your invitation in September

The President's Corner

Are you prepared for the Fall migrations on Long Island?

Byron Young

While convalescing at home in June, I got the chance to watch several David Attenborough documentary films on BBC. While the stories did not always have a happy message or ending, the photography was spectacular and the information was rewarding. Each episode added new information to my understanding of the world around us. While watching one video about the thousands of land animals migrating across the vast plains of Africa it reminded me that we get to observe a portion of some very large migrations right here at home.

Think about the numbers of birds that migrate over Long Island each Spring and Fall or the Monarch Butterflies that move along the barrier beach each Fall. Then there are the mammals and fish that migrate along our coast both Spring and Fall. We do not see the large movements of land animals here on Long Island like those in Africa or in the Western United States or Canada. However, we do witness large migrations each year. Most of these involve migrating birds which do not generally travel in large single species flocks but in large aggregations of species moving along favorable wind currents.

More than half of the North American birds migrate each year. These birds

migrate to find better food sources, necessary for their survival or to find nesting locations. Avid birders look forward to the Spring migrations when the birds are in full breeding plumage. After the Spring migration there is a period of quiescence while the birds raise their young before beginning their return migration to overwintering locations. That event has begun already with some shorebirds in full fall migration. In addition, I saw my first gathering of Tree Swallows, on August 3rd, hawking mosquitos and other insects over the marshes along the eastern edge of the Carman's River before it enters Bellport Bay.

It is always a treat to see a large aggregation of swallows. However, how many of us do not view this natural phenomenon like the migrations of Wildebeest on the plains of the Serengeti. There are several examples of migrations one can view on Long Island. The Long Island Hawk watch that takes place on Fire Island is another example where birders record the numbers of raptors migrating along the barrier beach toward their wintering grounds. ELIAS members have participated in this event which runs from early September to late November each year. Here, birders watch as raptors fly by as individuals or maybe

pairs, hardly, a mass migration but a migration none-the-less.

Visit your favorite ocean beach during the Fall and look for the large flights of Northern Gannets, various sea ducks, and Cormorants as they move south. For those of you who want to encounter migrating songbirds it is a bit more difficult as they move with stealth through the forests and along the edges of the ocean. With patience and persistence one can encounter a great variety of birds making their way south to overwintering areas in the southern United States, Central America, and South America. The stories of fantastic bird migrations abound, way too many to be captured here.

The point of this piece is to encourage folks to find your favorite birding locations and look for migrating birds as they make their way to their over wintering areas. Wish them well until they return in the Spring.

Good Birding!

Byron

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Monday Evening, Sept. 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Meet live birds of prey!

Come meet some of the wildlife ambassadors from the Evelyn Alexander Wildlife Rescue Center. Learn how EAWRC serves the community by rescuing local wildlife, learn what you can do to help and learn what you can do if you find a sick or injured wild animal. You'll also learn the stories behind the wildlife ambassadors and get the opportunity to see live raptors up close and take photos of and/or with the ambassadors.

Monday Evening, November 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Night CHAPTER ROUND TABLE & STORY NIGHT

Everyone is invited to participate. Come and share a birding adventure, picture, poem or just something you just learned about the birds.

We will provide a little extra holiday cheer.

Programs are open to all, free and take place at The Nature Center at Quogue Wildlife Refuge, 3 Old Country Road, Quogue, NY



Monday Evening, Oct. 6, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Keeping Track of Long Island's Newest Mammal: the Coyote

Mike Bottini, wildlife biologist, Seatuck Environmental Association

This presentation will discuss the coyote's fascinating natural history and behavior and its huge range expansion in North America over the last century. It is now found in every state except Hawaii and every Canadian province. Coyotes first became established in northern New York in the 1920s. Long Island is one of the last large land masses in the continental U.S. to be colonized. The first breeding documented on L.I. was in Queens in 2016. There are now several breeding pairs in northern Nassau. Individual coyotes have been sighted and photographed on the north and south forks, and on Fire Island. There will be time for questions about coyotes and Mike's other research species: the river otter.

Mike Bottini is a member of the L.I. Coyote Study Group; in addition to coyotes, his current study subjects include river otters and spotted turtles. He is also leading Seatuck's L.I. Mammal Survey.

Monday Evening, December 1, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

An Evening with Brian Heinz

Brian Heinz is a children's book author who lives in Wading River. Since childhood Brian has been drawn to the natural world and was fascinated by every bug, spider, snake, or furry critter he could find. As a science teacher he tried to instill the same love of nature and exploration in his students

Most of his books, too numerous to mention here, are about wild animals, sometimes endangered species, and their fascinating and unique abilities to survive in harsh and unforgiving environments. They are tales of adventure and survival. His research trips have taken him north on dogsled trips in sub-zero temperatures; to alligator nests deep in the Okefenokee Swamp of southern Georgia; to the rain forests of Puerto Rico; across Canada; to the Rocky Mountains...to name a few.

He has wonderful stories to tell about some comical incidents that occurred in completing his research on his wild animal subjects

Some books will be available for purchase.

ELIAS Field Trips – Fall 2025

Tentative: Saturday September 13 or Sunday, September 14

Dorothy P. Flynn 4 H Camp, Riverhead

The oldest 4H Camp in New York State, this 140 acre children's camp is located between Sound Ave and Long Island Sound. We will be meeting at 8:30 am at the end of the long driveway into the heart of the camp to begin exploring the open fields, and woodlands, and (hopefully) see south-bound warblers! Contact Eileen Schwinn, Beachmed@optonline.net, to register and to confirm the date.

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Watch Hill, Fire Island

Join Debbie Swamback and others as ELIAS makes a return visit via Ferry, to part of the Fire Island National Seashore. We will walk the over one mile of boardwalk through marsh, dunes and fresh-water ponds which host many migrating warblers on their way south. There is a cost for the ferry, which leaves from West Ave, Patchogue at 10:15 am, with plans to return via ferry at 4:15 pm. For those who wish to leave earlier, there is a 1:00 pm boat. Our highly successful trip this Spring offered terrific leadership, and a chance to learn about the park and the habitat that makes this so unique. Contact Eileen Schwinn, Beachmed@optonline.net, to register.

Sunday, October 5, 2025

FINS & the Hawk Watch at Fire Island

Our traditional fall trip by car to Field 5, Robert Moses State Park. We will walk the 3/4 mile boardwalk to the Fire Island Lighthouse - stopping at the Hawk Watch Platform along the way to "check out the raptor action". Past visits at this time of the year by ELIAS had Chat, Gray Kingbird, Swainson's



At the FINS Hawk Watch

Thrush, and A LOT of Yellow-rumped Warblers! We will be meeting at 8:00 am at the eastern end of Parking Lot 5. Contact Eileen Schwinn, Beachmed@optonline.net, to register.

Saturday October 18, 2025

Suffolk County Farm, Yaphank

Meeting at 8:30 am, we will walk the fields, hedgerows, and barnyard area - hopefully finding a variety of raptors, sparrows and other late migrating birds along the way. Contact Eileen Schwinn, Beachmed@optonline.net, to register.

Saturday, November 15, 2025

Wintering Ducks in the Greenport/Shelter Island area by Boat!

We leave from Greenport Harbor, with two sailings, an AM and PM, tentatively scheduled (to be finally confirmed in Sept). Rain date: November 22, 2025. Contact Eileen Schwinn, Beachmed@optonline.net to register. There will be a fee for trip.

December Field Trips

We urge you to sign up with the various organizers of the Christmas Bird Counts to be part of this ongoing research.



A Black-necked Stilt, a tall and lanky shorebird with a delicate-looking body, black above and white below and bubble gum pink legs surprised the bird watchers on the July 18th trip along Dune Road. Photo: Brad Miles.

REMINDER

Please submit your photos for consideration in the ELIAS 2026 Calendar.

There are just a few rules.

- You must be a member in good standing.
- Photo needs to be taken in Suffolk County between October 2024 and September 2025
- Pelagic photos in nearby waters are ok
- The photos should be high res.

Submit photos to

Byron Young at
youngb53@optimum.net and
Sally Newbert at
eliasosprey@optonline.net
Deadline Sept. 30th

SEED SALE

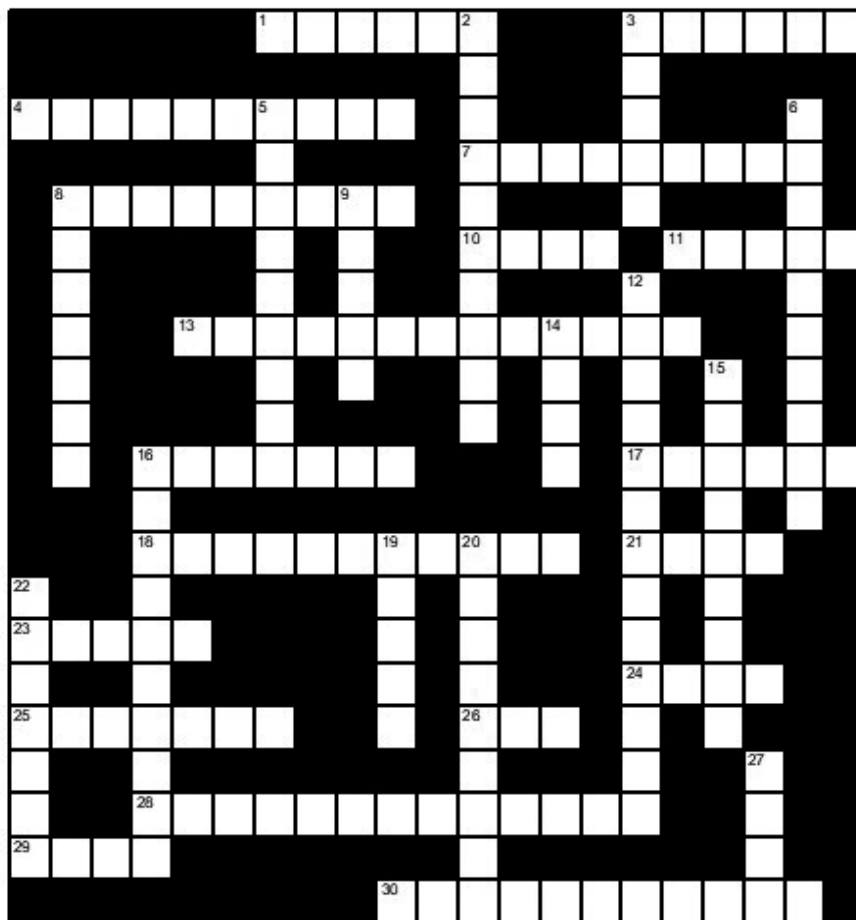
Join ELIAS and Quogue Wildlife Refuge at the Annual Seed Sale on Saturday, November 15.

Get yourself all set for winter birdwatching with enough seed to keep the birds well fed.

You will need to pre-order the seed and then pick it up on Saturday, November 15.

Forms for pre-order will be available at the websites of both ELIAS and Quogue Wildlife Refuge.

Something to do with a cup of Joe Tom Moran



Across

- 1 A flop, but hopefully not on Thanksgiving!
- 3 Not Bicknell's, Swainson's, Gray-cheeked, or Wood but _____ the lonely one
- 4 Belted _____
- 7 _____ Waterthrush, an above usual number were seen this spring
- 8 Hooded, common or red-breasted
- 10 ee-oo-lay, another thrush
- 11 _____ Duck, a stiff-tailed duck
- 13 _____ Nuthatch
- 16 Keep your eye on the _____
- 17 _____ Point, good place to see Great Cormorant in the winter.
- 18 "Yank," but more nasal than 13 Across
- 21 _____ Eagle
- 23 King or Common _____
- 24 Crazy as a _____, seriously have you heard the tremolo, yodel, wail, hoots?!!
- 25 Not to be confused with a Canvasback
- 26 _____ Farm, good place to see grasspipers this fall
- 28 _____
- 16 Across, O, Canada
- 29 Is that a Great or Lesser Black-backed _____
- 30 _____ Teal

Down

- 2 Greater or Lesser _____
- 3 _____ 16 Across
- 5 A family of shorebirds with long bodies, bills and legs
- 6 Fun to watch at the surf's edge
- 8 Male goes into "eclipse" and resembles a female from June through August
- 9 Often white waders
- 12 _____ Sapsucker, Flycatcher
- 14 _____ 16 Across
- 15 An example of 19 Down, Black _____
- 16 Rufous or gray morphs, Eastern _____
- 19 aka auk
- 20 11 Across _____
- 22 29 Across, in between Great Black-backed and Ring-billed in size
- 27 _____ Swallow

Paddlebirding:

Taking to the water for a different look at Long Island's birds

Brian Moldashel

It's almost impossible to picture the incredible birdlife of Eastern Long Island without also conjuring up images of our Island's waterways. From graceful terns noisily feeding over South Shore bays, to the beautifully cascading song of a Veery emanating from the banks of the Peconic River, to heart-stopping glimpses of secretive rails and bitterns in one of the Island's many salt marshes, an untold number of indelible moments await the birder who takes an outing in one of these fantastic places. While much can be observed from the shoreline, one of the best ways to experience these places and creatures is to take to the water in a kayak, canoe, or standup paddle board (SUP). The ability to enter and truly immerse oneself in the birds' own habitat – oftentimes at their own eye level – allows for unparalleled views and extraordinary insights into the habits and behaviors of many species that can otherwise be difficult to observe closely from land. Furthermore, the act of paddling itself

has a number of tangible benefits that serve as a nice complement to more terrestrial activities and encourages a deeper appreciation for nature.

In many ways, getting out on the water helped spark my own love for birds. It wasn't long after I bought my kayak in 2016 and started paddling on the Carman's River that I found myself focusing less on the sport itself and more on the sights and sounds of the river: Ospreys plunging into the water mere meters off my bow, Marsh Wrens chattering their hearts out while doing splits in stands of phragmites, Barn Swallows whipping by my head as they raced in and out of their nests under the bridge at Montauk Highway. All of these birds were new to me, but with time and effort (and, admittedly, the help of the Merlin app), I was able to increase my knowledge (and my life list!) to the point where I finally felt comfortable calling myself a "birder" and began devoting much of my free time to learning about and seeing as much of the local avifauna as I could. To this day, however, paddling remains one of my favorite ways to explore Long Island's natural spaces and discover the creatures that inhabit them.

As anyone who watches birds knows, some of the best experiences one can have with a species are often the ones where we get an unusually close look at an individual or get to see a part of its life history that we've never seen before. Having a hummingbird zip by you in the woods is always a nice treat, but watching one perch on a branch just feet from your face and sally out to grab insects can be a magical experience. Likewise, hearing a Clapper Rail call from a marsh is a cool but familiar aspect of summer birding on Long Island, but few and far between are the chances to watch an



PHOTO: BRIAN MOLDASHEL

Marsh Wren calling from the reeds

adult chaperone a flotilla of swimming chicks across a mosquito ditch. Leaving the shore and taking to the water under your own power makes moments like this a reality, allowing you not only to see new birds but also find new joys in otherwise everyday species. Furthermore, doing so provides the means to explore some of Long Island's most extensive and untouched wild places, allowing one to better disconnect from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and revel in the peace that comes with being closer to nature. Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't note that the upper body workout of paddling – be it a short, easy jaunt on a small pond or a more strenuous trip to points farther afield – can be a welcome change of pace for the birdwatcher who's used to leisurely walks in the woods!

It can be surprisingly easy to get started paddling, even for those who don't already have a kayak or SUP. Many places on Eastern Long Island offer hourly or daily rentals, as well as guided individual or group trips for beginners or those who enjoy the company of others. This includes traditional brick-and-mortar shops like Peconic Paddler in Riverhead, as well as mobile companies that will deliver the equipment to a particular launch

Continued on the next page



PHOTO: BRIAN MOLDASHEL

Least Bittern tries to hide

Continued from page 6

site, such as P&L Watersports. A quick Google search should give you some options for your particular area of interest. If you're thinking about getting your own equipment, there are often used kayaks and SUPs available online through sites like Facebook Marketplace and OfferUp (especially in the colder months), which can be a much better deal than buying one new. In a similar vein, it is always worth asking friends and family if they have one lying around, as chances are they do or know someone who does and would be happy to lend or sell it to you. The same goes for the essential accessories, namely paddles and life jackets (also known as personal flotation devices, or PFDs). If you choose to buy new, fear not: while the price of a good kayak can be steep, many will easily last for decades if properly cared for, and will also maintain a good resale value, should you choose to one day part with it. Finally, as with any large purchase, it can be best to try before you buy. Do your research, give some thought as to where you think you would like to paddle and how you plan to transport your equipment there, and otherwise, get your feet wet!

The Virginia Rail is secretive and reclusive

Not sure where to take your first trip? Here are some of my favorite places to paddle on Eastern Long Island:

• **Lower Carman's River:** The place that started it all! Although the part of the Carman's that flows through Southaven County Park is renowned amongst paddlers for its scenic charm, it is the last section of the river – most of which lies within the boundaries of Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge – that offers the greatest variety of wildlife to discover. In summer, launch from the Town of Brookhaven dock at the end of Beaverdam Road – open to residents and non-residents alike – and head north on the river for great views of nesting Bald Eagles and Ospreys, close encounters with Belted Kingfishers and Virginia Rails, and maybe even bump into the tiny but beautiful Least Bittern in one of the few places on Long Island where it regularly breeds. Conversely, head south from the launch site and explore the more brackish and saline parts of the river mouth to get unbelievably close looks at normally shy birds such as the aforementioned Clapper Rails, and experience the sights and sounds of a thriving yet threatened population of Saltmarsh and Seaside Sparrows. The constantly-growing list

of rare birds encountered in this area – including Sora, American Avocet, and Common Gallinule – suggests that you never know what you'll find on the river and adds a level of excitement to every trip taken there.

• **Orient Beach State Park:** Head to the end of the North Fork in late summer or early fall and enjoy an incredibly scenic paddle around Hallock Bay, either in your own personal watercraft or in one rented from Eagle's Neck Paddling Company located within the state park. Here, shorebirds such as American Oystercatcher, Ruddy Turnstone, and Whimbrel can be found plying the pebble and seashell-lined shores of the park's long peninsula, while migrating raptors and waterfowl soar overhead or feed on the pristine waters of the bay. Nelson's Sparrows regularly show up in the nearby Brown's Point marsh in small numbers later in the fall, whereas wading birds are present there in good numbers throughout the warmer months. Besides birds, the crystal-clear waters of Hallock Bay are great for spotting various kinds of marine life, from fish to crustaceans, while deer, raccoons, and even river otters are known to frequent the surrounding shoreline. More adventurous paddlers can head to the tip of Long Beach for phenomenal views of the eponymous lighthouse, Shelter Island, and Gardiners Bay.

• **Peconic River:** From the heart of the Pine Barrens at Connecticut Avenue to the expanse of Flanders Bay off Indian Island, the Peconic River Blueway offers more than nine miles of paddling and wildlife viewing opportunities for all skill levels. Want to see and hear dozens of breeding songbirds while enjoying a relaxing float not too far from civilization? Put in at the DEC's Lower Peconic River launch site in summer and paddle west along the northern edge of Peconic Bog County Park for excellent looks at acrobatic swallows, handsome Eastern Kingbirds, and several species of warblers and vireos, before letting the gentle current bring you back to where you started. Head east from the same

Continued on the next page



PHOTO: BRIAN MOLDASHEL

Continued from page 7

launch site and, after a short portage, keep an eye out for families of ducks and geese, as well as hunting Green Herons and Ospreys diving for alewife. If you're hungry, Roadhouse Pizza and Maple Tree Barbecue are both accessible right from the river here, making for great lunch or dinner breaks on longer paddling trips. At the river's eastern terminus, the waters around Indian Island can be a great place in the fall to observe eagles and early-arriving waterfowl, as well as offering a chance to spot some local specialties such as Red-headed Woodpecker.

These trips are just the tip of the iceberg, of course, and it can be fun to get a little creative. Explore your local waterways and you're sure to see a new side to even familiar places. For example, I've paddled Bellport Bay from the parking lot at Smith Point County Park to Old Inlet, just to avoid the drudgery of walking almost four miles round-trip in the sand (pro tip: go at high tide). For many trips, it can be best to go early or late in the day, as this is not only when many species are most active (particularly the elusive rails and bitterns) but also when human traffic on the water is lowest. This is especially true for popular fishing locations and high boat traffic areas, such as Moriches and Peconic Bays, and is doubly true during the hottest days of summer. Similarly, accounting for the tides in places where they are present can be an important factor in determining what kind of trip you have. As with shorebirding, low tide can be great for creating exposed mud flats that attract different kinds of birds, but you also risk getting stuck or losing access to other areas. The inverse can be true with high tide, though it naturally depends on where you're trying to go and what birds you're trying to see. As always, only take to the water in conditions where you feel comfortable and prepared. For more information on paddling safety, check out the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary website or contact a local chapter. For a great resource on ideas for paddling locally and wonderful insight into native wildlife, track down a copy of Mike Bottini's book "Exploring East End Waters" at your local library or bookstore.

Happy birding, and see you on the water!



From left: Tara D'Amato, Assistant Director of the Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library, holds the new Birding Backpack; Byron Young, President of the Eastern Long Island Audubon Society; and Joe Maiorana, President of the Library's Board of Trustees.

Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library is the Newest Participant in the ELIAS Birding Backpack Program

The Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Community Library announced a new partnership with ELIAS that brings the natural world closer to home for local residents. Thanks to a generous donation from ELIAS, Library patrons may now borrow a fully equipped Birding Backpack—a take-home kit that encourages outdoor exploration and nature education.

The backpack includes two pairs of binoculars, and birding guides neatly packed into a lightweight backpack. Perfect for birdwatching outings.

"This is just one more example of how we're working to bring the community innovative, hands-on resources," said Tara D'Amato, Assistant Director of the library.

The library hopes this new birding kit will inspire individuals and families alike to engage with the rich bird-life found across the South Shore.

The Birding Backpack is available for checkout at the main library branch in Shirley on a first-come, first-served basis.

ELIAS has donated Birding Backpacks to many libraries between Patchogue to Montauk along the South Shore of Long Island.. Check with your local library to see if one is available near you.

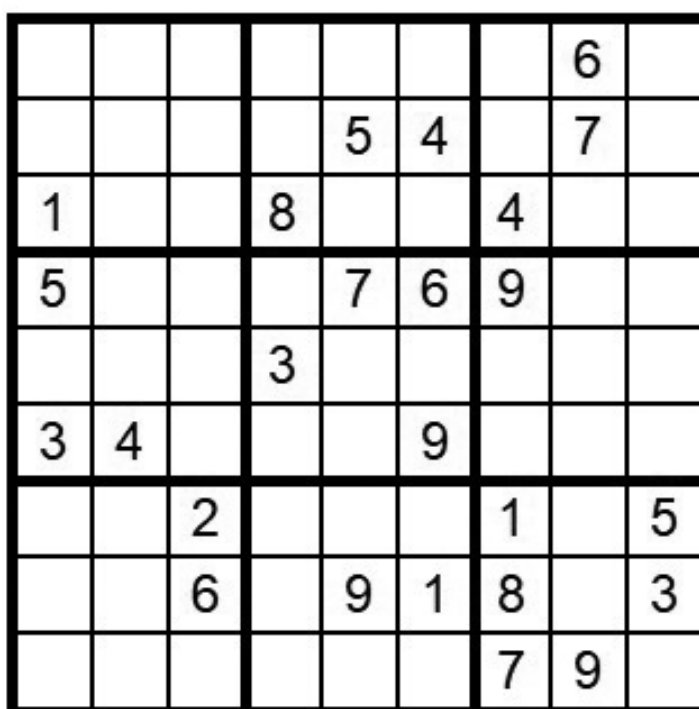
PHOTO: ERICA MOLDASHEL



Word Search - the Bird Version



Sudoku



- | | |
|--------|--------------|
| Alcid | Red-breasted |
| Bald | Redpoll |
| Blue | Ruddy |
| Eagle | Scoter |
| Eared | Snowy |
| Egret | Sod |
| Eider | Song |
| Gull | Towhee |
| Hairy | Tree |
| Heron | Wigeon |
| Hooded | Wood |
| House | Wren |
| Jay | |
| Junco | |
| Owl | |

The Laughing Gull

Q: Why did Mozart sell his chickens?

A: Because they kept saying Bach Bach

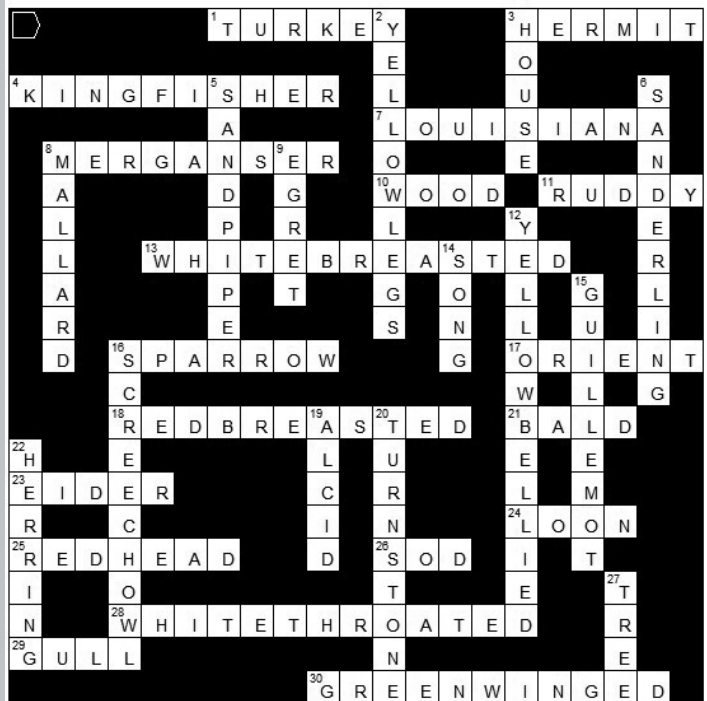


Happy Fall Birding

Migration has already started.

Check
<https://birdcast.info>
during migration season to find out how
busy the skies were overnight.

Answers to Crossword
Something to do with a cup of Joe
on page 10
Puzzle by Tom Moran



Answers to puzzles on page 11

4	7	5	9	1	3	2	6	8
2	8	9	6	5	4	3	7	1
1	6	3	8	2	7	4	5	9
5	2	8	1	7	6	9	3	4
6	9	1	3	4	2	5	8	7
3	4	7	5	8	9	6	1	2
9	3	2	7	6	8	1	4	5
7	5	6	4	9	1	8	2	3
8	1	4	2	3	5	7	9	6

S	C	O	T	E	R	H	E	R	O	N
N	W	O	O	D	E	O	A	H	W	X
O	T	R	E	E	D	U	L	O	I	U
W	E	R	E	M	B	S	C	O	G	Y
Y	A	R	N	N	R	E	I	D	E	R
E	G	E	G	R	E	T	D	E	O	U
J	L	D	Q	H	A	E	D	D	N	D
U	E	P	W	A	S	S	B	A	L	D
N	L	O	O	I	T	O	L	L	O	Y
C	T	L	W	R	E	N	U	S	A	J
O	J	L	L	Y	D	G	E	J	R	K

BIRD FOCUS

The Osprey, and How it Got Its Name

Eileen Schwinn

Most of you know that the bird chosen by ELIAS (at the time, Moriches Bay Audubon Society) as its emblem back in the late 1960's, was the Osprey. There were probably multiple reasons, not the least of which is the fact that at the time, the Osprey was just barely escaping extinction. Caused by the pesticide DDT, this was a problem not just locally on Long Island, but in many locations. A handful of our Club's earliest members were instrumental in bringing the focus on the environmental impact, and forcing the ban on that pesticide. And today, well, hardly a drive anywhere near the shoreline here on Long Island – between April and September – is without an Osprey being spotted in the air or on a nest.

Osprey are found on every continent except Antarctica. They are even, but rarely, seen in Hawaii and New Zealand. It is the only raptor that dives into the water to catch their meal. Bald Eagles skim the surface to fish, but the Osprey plunges feet first to grab prey just below the surface. It even has the ability to close its nares to prevent water from coming in when it might dip below the surface. Spiky pads on their feet (called spicules) allow the Osprey to keep a firm grasp on fish, and enables the bird to turn the fish, face first, reducing air friction. It's also a bird which is not high on any falconer's list – although Osprey can be "tamed", they can't be prevented from carrying their fish to a tree, where the fish is

swallowed head first – the fins and tail slip down more easily that way! The Osprey was even noted to be such successful hunters, that the early Native Americans thought the bird had near-mystical powers of casting a spell on fish. Some tribes, and

of Attica, the ancient area near Athens, Greece. Pandion's family, in mythology, had most members turned into birds! Even Shakespeare thought highly of the Osprey, and wrote, "I think he'll be to Rome as the Osprey to the fish, who takes it by sovereignty of nature".

But why the word "Osprey"? In Latin, *ossifragus* means "bone breaker".

Bone fragments were found in nests.

Another early belief was that the bird would drop bones, breaking them to eat the marrow. But the Osprey is a fish eater, right?

Early zoologists were probably confusing the Osprey with the Lammergeier (literally lamb-vulture). *Ossifragus* then evolved to Old French "osprei", and from there, Middle English authors used "hosprey", "osperaye", and "aspray", eventually settling on "Osprey", according to most sources.

No matter how the word evolved, the bird is "our" bird – and an extremely successful story of recovery, made possible by our own, local residents, and members of our Club. A reminder of that every time you see an Osprey return in the Spring!

Photo: Audubon Archives



early European explorers, thought the bird had an oily substance on their bodies which "possessed a power of alluring the fish to the surface....", and if that oil touched bait, the fish would find it "impossible" to resist!

So how did this brownish-black bird on the head and back, and white on the underside, get its name? Linnaeus, the famous creature-namer, called it *Pandion haliaetus*. *Haliaetus* means sea eagle – Linnaeus thought the bird was a resident in the eagle family – and Pandion refers to a legendary King

THE OSPREY

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Brian Moldashal	631-626-1361
Gigi Spates	631-765-1436
Rosemary Valente	631-882-2464
Evelyn Voulgarelis, <i>Emeritus</i>	

COMMITTEES/PROJECTS

Field Trips: Eileen Schwinn	516-662-7751
Conservation & Bluebird Restoration: Gigi Spates	631-765-1436
Membership: Rosemary Valente	631-882-2464
Newsletter Editor & Publicity: Sally Newbert	631-281-6001
eliasosprey@optonline.net	

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