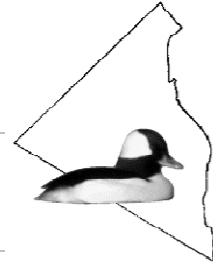


The Observer



The Rockland Audubon Society Quarterly Newsletter. Since 1947. Volume 61, Number 4
Late November 2008- January 2009 www.rocklandaudubon.org

Special Interest Articles

Christmas Bird Count 2008:

The big day is fast approaching. Here's what you need to know to participate.

Page 4

Notes & Sightings:

This was another exciting quarter and Carol Weiss reports on yet another first for Rockland: The White Ibis at Piermont Pier.

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A Guide to Recognizing New York Swans

Winter is waterfowl season in New York. The onset of chilly weather brings huge numbers of ducks, geese, and swans from their northern breeding grounds. Some of these birds simply migrate through our area while others will spend the winter with us. Among the hundreds of thousands of waterfowl migrating through our region each year, swans are among the most obvious, and likely the most frequently overlooked. Did you know that as many as five different species of swans may occur in New York? Almost everyone is familiar with the Mute Swan, but what about the Tundra Swan or Trumpeter Swan? Or what about the Whooper Swan or Black Swan? Here are some tips for recognizing our swans and some interesting facts about each.

Mute Swan – In Rockland County, the Mute Swan is by far the most frequently encountered species.

Adults are easily recognized by the brightly colored orange bills topped by a black “knob”. The knob is more pronounced on the male. Immature birds have a paler, pinkish-red bill. At a distance, the neck of the Mute Swan will appear to be more “S” shaped than that of other swans. This species was originally brought to this country from Europe in the 1800s and is now expanding rapidly within New York and Rockland County. On a winter's day, one can often count nearly 100 at Rockland Lake. It is well on its way to overtaking the Canada Goose as our undisputed nuisance species at local ponds and lakes. As beautiful as these birds are, they are highly destructive to aquatic habitats. In the process of feeding on aquatic vegetation, they strip the bottom of all plant life, stir up the bottom sediments, and muddy the waters. **Con't on page 5...**

Cats and Consequences: Feline Effects on Wildlife

Snow fell softly as dozens of juncos, goldfinches, and sparrows fed in the yard. Suddenly, a gray flash scattered the birds and sent them fleeing for cover in the nearby trees. Feathers exploded into the air and drifted among the snowflakes. Was it the resident Sharp-shinned Hawk? A Cooper's? Neither. My neighbor's cat had struck again, this time taking a junco.

While predation is natural, domesticated cats are an unnatural link in food webs. The threat they pose to wildlife is alarming. Cats kill hundreds of millions of birds each year. Fortunately, this is a threat that we can all work to prevent.

Cats differ from natural predators in many ways. We vaccinate our cats and take other precautions to protect them from disease.

In nature, disease helps keep predator populations in check. While humans supplement the diets of most cats, predator numbers fluctuate with food availability.

Finally, predator densities are limited by territoriality, whereas feral cats congregate and form “cat colonies” where food and shelter are available.

Of the 60 million house cats in the U.S., many have been allowed outdoors or have escaped to the outdoors at some point in their lives. In rural areas, most house cats are believed to be free-roaming. “Feral” cats (cats that live in the “wild” and are unattached to or unclaimed by human owners) number in the tens of millions, putting the total cat population at more than 100 million.

Con't in Conservation Corner, page 3...

Our Mission

Rockland Audubon Society's mission is to promote environmental conservation and foster an appreciation of birds and nature through education programs and activities.



The Observer is the newsletter of the Rockland Audubon Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 404
New City, NY 10956

Editor: Tom Sullivan
Layout: Trisha Sullivan

Send articles, trip reports, poetry, drawings, photos and comments to sullivantp@gmail.com
Submission deadline: December 15, 2008.

Is there something you'd like to read about in *The Observer*? Please, just let me know!

Membership

To join send a \$20 check (\$15 for senior citizens) payable to National Audubon Society to: Veronika Krause, 8 Spruce Street, Orangeburg, NY 10962.

Allow 4 to 8 weeks for delivery of Audubon Magazine and *The Observer*.

Message from the President

The weather is colder and the days shorter, but Rockland Audubon Society (RAS) still has lots of activities through the winter months for members and non-members alike. Spend some quiet time reading through the pages of this newsletter. Something you read may prompt you to write a letter to a government official, or perhaps inspire you to write an article for an upcoming edition of this newsletter? Go online and research a topic mentioned in this newsletter, or navigate through our website (www.rocklandaudubon.org). You may find something you did not know about RAS or your favorite spot in Rockland County. Invite a friend or two and join us at a monthly meeting. We strive to offer programs that are both fun and informative for everyone. Check out our field trip schedule on page 4. Dress for the weather and come along! Prefer not to venture too far from home? Watch the antics of our winter feathered and furry residents by keeping your birdfeeders full (black oil sunflower seeds and suet cakes are good choices for winter feeding). Suet cakes are available at many local stores, or make your own using the suet cake recipe on our website.

Starting this fall, RAS members and mothers of toddlers Yelena Silverman and Olivia Imoberdorf, will begin leading "Rockland County Nature Stroller" walks for other parents, grandparents, or caregivers and toddlers. For more details and contact information, please see the article by Yelena and Olivia on page 3.

Are you interested in spending Sunday, 14-Dec-2008, counting birds as a "citizen scientist" in National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count? You can either join a team counting birds in one of nine areas in Rockland County, or you can count on your own at your backyard birdfeeder. This will be the 62nd year that members of Rockland Audubon Society have participated in Christmas Bird Count. For more details, please see the article by Carol Weiss on Page 4.

Happy holidays, and good birding!

Della Wells
October 2008

Welcome New Members!

June 2008: Lisa Alony, Spring Valley; Chris and Pamela Holmes, Stony Point; Karen and Henry Kennell, Nyack, W. Lorentz, Valley Cottage; Viola Smith, Orangeburg

Information about new members for July and August was unavailable as of press time, so it will be included in the next *Observer*.

Board of Directors:

President: Della Wells*
Vice President: Elyse Fuller*
Secretary: Karen D'Alessandri*
Treasurer: Glenys Foster Roberts*
* Denotes a member of the Board of Directors

Committees:

Conservation: Stephanie Garber*, Tom Fuller*, Donna Nye*
Education: Lorrie Pallant*, Jim Previdi*
Field Trips: Jim Previdi*
Fundraising: Elyse Fuller* Donna Nye*
Membership: Veronika Krause*
Newsletter Editor: Tom Sullivan
Publicity: Jessie Traband*
Programs: Julia Warger*
Webmaster: Alan Wells

Small mammals comprise 70% of cats' prey. Free-roaming cats kill an estimated billion small mammals each year in the U.S. These same small mammals represent important links in food webs. By killing small mammals, cats compete with native species such as the Great-horned Owl and Red-tailed Hawk.

Birds constitute 20-30% of cats' prey. Biologists from the National Audubon Society estimate that cats are responsible for over 100 million bird deaths each year in the U.S alone. Some of these birds are threatened or endangered, and all are important links in food webs.

While allowing cats outdoors is detrimental to birds and other wildlife, the outdoors can also harm cats. Free-roaming cats are at greater risk of contracting and/or transmitting diseases such as distemper, roundworm, feline leukemia, and rabies. They can transmit disease not only to other cats, but to wildlife as well. In addition, millions of cats are struck by vehicles each year. Keeping cats indoors benefits both them and wildlife.

Solutions to cat predation can be simple. Keeping your own cats indoors or letting them out only in a controlled situation (e.g. enclosed area or leashed) is a start. Encouraging others to do the same can help raise awareness. Adopting stray cats (if your lifestyle and your home permit) or taking strays to no-kill shelters for adoption can improve the cat's quality of life. Spaying and neutering helps control the population, but does not curtail predation. Since cats are such stealthy predators, placing bells on their collars offers limited success.

There are ways to make your feeders safer. Placing them near cover can provide refuge from predators. However, vegetation also creates places of ambush. The space between feeders and cover should be greater than a cat's striking distance.

I am relieved that my feeders will be more secure this season. Disconcerted by the chipmunks laid at her doorstep, my neighbor has decided to keep her cat indoors. It will be a safer winter for her cat and wildlife alike. — *Elyse Fuller is vice president of Rockland Audubon Society.*

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Rockland Audubon Welcomes Nature Strollers!

Slugs, bugs, crayfish, butterflies, and snapping turtles! Rockland Audubon Society is pleased to introduce Rockland County Nature Strollers, a group for families with young children who enjoy learning and playing in nature. With the goal of helping local families unplug their children and reconnect with nature, Yelena Silverman and Olivia Imoberdorf, both mothers of toddlers, are inviting parents, grandparents, and caregivers with young children to join them on weekly walks in various Rockland County parks, trails, sanctuaries, and preserves.

Modeled on the highly successful Orange County Nature Strollers, Rockland's Nature Strollers group is planning weekly walks on toddler and stroller friendly trails where families can experience, and learn about, their natural surrounding. Outing lengths are often under a mile, last about an hour, and provide the excitement of discovery as families explore and learn together about local aquatic and wildlife in Rockland's own ponds, streams, and woodlands.

No experience necessary—just a desire to have fun outside, explore what the natural world has to offer, and occasionally get muddy are helpful!

Please visit http://attachmentparenting.meetup.com/425/pages/Nature_Strollers/ to view a calendar of scheduled walks and to learn more about Rockland County Nature Strollers. For more information, please call Yelena Silverman at 845-893-3068 or email at yelena9717@yahoo.com. You may also reach Olivia Imoberdorf at 845-406-5627 or email at olivia.i@verizon.net.

If it is raining, call the field trip leader at least one hour before the meeting time to see if the trip is a go. Also, call the trip leader for directions to the field trip site, or if you will be on the trip but not at the meeting place.

16 Nov 2008 (Sun) Celery Farm, Allendale, NJ Meet Jim Previdi at 9 a.m. at the Commuter Parking Lot, Routes 303 North, West Nyack, for carpooling. Fall migrating waterfowl. Good for beginners. Footpath may be wet. Return by noon-1 p.m. 845-942-8448

2 Dec 2008 (Sun) First Sunday Walks at Kennedy Dells Park, New City Meet Veronika Krause at 8 a.m. at the parking lot off North Main St. Opposite Blue Jay Ct. Over by 10 a.m. 845-359-9294

14 Dec 2008 (Sun) Annual Christmas Bird Count Join a team for our 62nd Christmas Bird Count. Check www.rocklandaudubon.org or call Carol Weiss. 845-358-3659

1 Jan 2009 (Thurs) Birding at Jones Beach, NY Meet Della and Alan Wells at the Commuter Parking Lot, Route 303 North, West Nyack, at 5:45 a.m. See the first sunrise of 2009 and start your year list. 845-942-5751

4 Jan 2009 (Sun) First Sunday Walk at Kennedy Dells Park, New City Meet Carol Weiss at 8 a.m. at the parking lot off North Main St. Opposite Blue Jay Ct. Over by 10 a.m. 845-358-3659

10 Jan 2009 (Sun) Winter at Congers Memorial Park Meet Matt Beckerle at 10 a.m. at the main parking lot of Congers Memorial Park (6 Gilcrest Rd.). Check out the variety of trees and birds along the eastern edge of Congers Lake. Last year there were Bald Eagles present. The path is wheelchair accessible, flat and paved. 845-735-5411

17 Jan 2009 (Sat) Pelham Bay Park for Owls and more Meet Jim Previdi, 8 a.m. at the Commuter parking lot on Rt. 303 just north of Rt. 59 in West Nyack for carpooling. Over at midday. 845-942-8448

20 Jan 2009 (Tues) Winter Waterfowl Count Meet Carol Weiss at 9 a.m. at the ball field parking lot at the entrance to Piermont Pier. We will walk the pier to count ducks, and from there, drive north through the county counting all waterfowl we can find. Stops will be made wherever there is open water, and whenever participants need to warm up. Please call Carol if you can help with this statewide count. Results are reported to the NYSDEC. 845-358-3659.

31 Jan 2009 Birding in Orange County Meet Jim Previdi at 2 p.m. at the Commuter parking lot on Rt. 303, just north of Rt.59, in West Nyack for carpooling. Our annual visit to the black dirt region of Orange County, might well feature Short Eared Owls, Rough Legged Hawks, Harriers and more... Over around 6, unless you choose to join us for dinner. 845-942-8448

Upcoming: Christmas Bird Count 2008

The 62nd Rockland Audubon Christmas Bird Count will take place on Sunday, December 14. From dawn to dusk, there will be counters in each of nine areas of Rockland County, counting the number of birds of each species that they see. This data is sent to National Audubon Society and added to counts that are held all over the Western Hemisphere.

Last year, there was an unusual happenstance: Bad weather caused us to postpone the count to the following Saturday, when fewer people were able to attend. Despite that, 33 field counters and four feeder observers were out looking for birds. 91 species and 16,625 birds were recorded. The number counted was the second lowest since 1976; only 2002 was lower at 16,397, but the 2007 count of 91 species was the highest in the 61-year history of the Rockland count.

We can never predict what unexpected birds will be discovered in our county. Although this is not a competitive event, teams do hope to find a species that no other group uncovers. And there is always real anticipation to see if any team has found a species never before counted on the RAS CBC. In 2007, the Rockland Lake team had the Eurasian Wigeon for the first time on the CBC. Other out-of-the-ordinary birds were Barred Owl, Short-eared Owl, Glaucous Gull, Purple Finch, and Common Redpoll. The day ends with a pot luck dinner and a countdown of the day's sightings. Alan and Della Wells will host the supper, and both field participants and feeder watchers are invited! Call one of the numbers below to let RAS know what you will contribute. Directions will be sent or emailed to participants. If you would like to participate in the CBC for the first time or if you usually do but didn't count last year, please call Carol Weiss at 845-358-3659 or Alan Wells at 845-942-5751. If you counted in 2007, you will be contacted. We also need volunteers to watch their bird feeders on count day - or within three days before and after. Feeder watchers should submit the highest number of individuals seen at one time -- and are critical as sometimes a species is seen only at someone's feeder on count day. — Carol Weiss

Rockland Audubon Feeder Checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	<input type="checkbox"/> Tufted Titmouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mockingbird	<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mockingbird	<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Screech Owl	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening Grosbeak
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee (Rufous-sided)	<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	<input type="checkbox"/> Other - please specify: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	Name _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	Address _____
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	

To report your feeder count: Come to the Countdown Potluck Dinner, mail to Alan Wells at 9 Dunderberg Rd., Tomkins Cove, NY 10986, e-mail awells@bestweb.net, or call (845) 942-5751. This checklist can also be downloaded from our Web site.

In an effort to understand and address the problem, NYS D&W has been studying the Mute Swans over the last several years. This study is still ongoing and you are encouraged to report any sightings of collared Mute Swans to the DEC. For more on that visit its Web site at: (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7076.html>).



Photo credit: Mute Swan, by Alan Wells

Tundra Swan – Much less frequently encountered in southern New York, especially in Rockland County, is the Tundra, or Whistling, Swan. This species is a widespread native species breeding across much of Arctic Canada. Along the Atlantic coast, huge flocks overwinter in the Chesapeake Bay region. Invariably, a few stray individuals can be found almost every winter in southern New York. The Tundra Swan can be distinguished from the Mute Swan by its black, or mostly black, bill and relatively straight neck. While the bill often has a small yellow spot in front of the eye, this spot is frequently missing.

Trumpeter Swan – The Trumpeter Swan is North America's largest waterfowl. It was nearly driven to extinction in the early 20th century by overharvest and habitat destruction, but thanks to several restoration projects, populations are now increasing. A private estate near Syracuse, New York and a reestablishment program in Ontario, Canada appear to be largely responsible for an increase in New York sightings. To date, this species has not been reported from Rockland County. The Trumpeter Swan closely resembles the Tundra Swan and, at times, it may be difficult to distinguish the two. Any white swan in New York with a small yellow spot on the bill in front of the eye can be confidently identified as a Tundra Swan. If the bill is all black, however, then the difficulties begin. There are a number of differences between the two, such as the placement of the eye within the facial mask, but these differences are often quite subtle. Sibley (<http://www.sibleyguides.com/swans.htm>) and McGowan

(<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/crows/SwanID.htm>) provide useful summaries for these distinguishing features.

Whooper Swan – The Whooper Swan is an Old World species and most strays to North America are to the Aleutian Islands, Alaska. It is extremely rare in New York. In the fall of 2006 one was present at Jamaica Bay NWR. The origin of this individual was never determined, but it was strongly suspected that this bird had escaped from a private collection. The Whooper is easily distinguished from other white swans by the extensive amount of yellow on the bill; the yellow extends past the nostril, covering more than half the bill. The remaining portion of the bill is black.

Black Swan – The Black Swan is considered the symbol of the unpredicted occurrence of a highly improbable event. Until the 17th Century, only white swans were known to Europeans and the occurrence of a black swan was considered utterly impossible. It was not until the exploration of Australia in the 1600s that this long-held belief was shown to be false. Fittingly, it seems impossible that this species can occur in New York, but on rare occasions, it can be found. Imported from Australia, Black Swans are sometimes encountered in private collections throughout New York and much of the rest of the country. These birds may occasionally escape and, as demonstrated by one currently being seen at Jamaica Bay NWR, be encountered in the wild. As the name implies, Black Swans are almost entirely black (although there are some white feathers that may be seen if the bird is preening). The bill is bright red with a white tip.

So next time you run across a swan, take a careful look. While there is a good chance that it is a Mute Swan, you never know!

— Alan Wells is Webmaster of the Rockland Audubon Society



Photo credit: Trumpeter Swan, by Alan Wells

Notes & Sightings, compiled by Carol Weiss

Another first for Rockland County: On August 10, Glenys Foster Roberts, Della Wells, and I were in Piermont watching an aerial dog fight between a Great egret and a Snowy egret when a large bird flew over. An ibis! An immature white ibis - dark upper wings, white underwings, white rump, red facial skin, and dark down-curved bill. We followed it to the Sparkill Creek where Alan Wells joined us. We started calling other birders. Veronika Krause joined us before the rising tide drove the bird out of sight. Despite careful searching the next week, the bird was not located again. During the summer months there were other wonderful observations. . . .

July 2: Two eaglets have fledged at Stony Point Battlefield, a first for Rockland County and for the Battlefield. Tracy and Gerhard Patsch

July 3: A male orchard oriole 'nectaring' on the huge trumpet vines at Van Houten's Nursery on Little Tor Road, New City. Jim Previdi



Photo credit: Immature White Ibis, by Alan Wells

July 22: Once in a while there is a crowd at the Pier. Among this morning's 48 species were least and semipalmated sandpipers (about 120 altogether), spotted sandpiper, greater yellowlegs - 6, killdeer - 5, semipalmated plover - at least 6, and short-billed dowitcher -5. Four Forster's terns were on the old barge and/or flying around it. Seen from the ball field was a peregrine falcon carrying a shorebird. I had started down Ferry Road on foot at 7 a.m. - just before low tide. The shorebirds were mostly on the south side -the big beach near east of the old pipe. When I walked back, many had moved to the north side - that's where I briefly saw the dowitchers. Willow flycatchers were still calling. Mockingbirds and kingbirds were feeding young. Carol Weiss

July 24: I was able to get down to Piermont yesterday and luckily enough all the shorebirds were still there with the exception of the spotted sandpiper. Something caught my eye among all the mallards on the north side. I think it was a juvenile scaup. I thought it might be a little early for scaup and only one? Whatever it was, it was the only one I saw there nor did I see any adult scaup. Larry Bates

July 27: Two Caspian terns, five Forster's terns, and nine short-billed dowitchers were the highlights of a stroll on the Pier. Drew Ciganek, Veronika Krause, and Carol Weiss.

August 3: The Forster's terns were on the old barge for the first Sunday walk and with them was a single common tern - which was observed feeding one of the young Forster's.

August 16: Four common nighthawks flew over Veronika Krause's back yard in Orangeburg.

August 17: Belinda Cash of South Nyack for several hours watched a bald eagle sitting in a tree near her house.

August 18: Two Caspian terns were on the north side of the Pier with an immature laughing gull. And there were three early migrating green-winged teal. Carol Weiss

August 19: At the Pier, many least sandpipers and semipalmated plovers, a spotted sandpiper and a black-crowned night heron and a first for me, a short-billed dowitcher on the mud flats opposite the fisherman. Fortunately I did have Peterson's with me and after watching the bird for probably 20 minutes, I got every one of its field marks and its call. Linda Pistolesi

August 22: At 9:30 a.m. on Iona Island, two rails - an adult Virginia Rail and an immature sora. The Virginia had ventured out onto the mud flats near the causeway and was feeding cautiously. The sora remained at the edge of the phragmites. Carol Weiss

August 23: The Pier about 7:15 p.m. Most notable sighting was of two common nighthawks just over the north side of the easternmost condos. Linda Pistolesi

Full Circle

Where forest shade gives way
to sun splashed plumes of goldenrod,
clumps rising between craggy rock bodies
strewn across the summit -
treeless,
but for stunted oak,
and sapling sumac,
and the rare, tall snag once kissed by lightning -
the county unfolds below -
flaws disguised by beauty that is distance, -
a viridescent paradise,
fading into green-blue undulations.
Raising my glasses to scan this far horizon,
i find revealed
the skyline of new york city.
-- Pat Murray
Kakiat County Park, Orange Trail
August 17,2008

2008 CHAPTER FINANCIAL REPORT

National Audubon Society

Chapter Name: Rockland Audubon Society Inc.

Balance Sheet and statement of revenues and expenditures for a 12 month period
from July 1 2007 to June 30 2008

REVENUES

Audubon Society Net Payment	\$ 2,276.75	
Additional membership revenue	\$ 220.00	
Bequests	\$ 540.00	
Grants/Contributions	\$ 1,050.00	
Educational Events	\$ 750.00	
Fundraising Events	\$ 1,679.85	
Interest and Investments	\$ 703.19	
Sales, store, videos	\$ -	
Other, misc	\$ 206.00	
Total Income		\$ 7,425.79

EXPENDITURES

Administration	\$ 1,743.07	
Newsletter/Postage/Mailing	\$ 3,359.74	
Educational events	\$ 1,230.00	
Fundraising	-	
Regional/State Offices/State Council	\$ 1,029.90	
Grants Contributions to Others	\$ 150.00	
Collaborative funding project	\$ 1,311.00	
Other	\$ 406.47	
Total Expenditures		\$ 9,230.18

NET INCOME (OR DEFICIT) IN OPERATING FUNDS **\$ (1,804.39)**

BEGINNING BALANCE **\$ 14,410.40**

ENDING BALANCE **\$ 12,606.01**

ASSETS

Cash and Equivalents (Checking acct etc)	\$ 2,409.82	
Investments – 2 CD (exp 9/02/07 and 8/20/07)	\$ 10,000.00	
Accounts receivable (owed to Chapter)		
Other (video, store goods)	\$ 196.19	
Net Fixed Assets (Furniture, equipment, not including value of land or buildings)		
Total Assets		\$ 12,606.01

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES

Liabilities

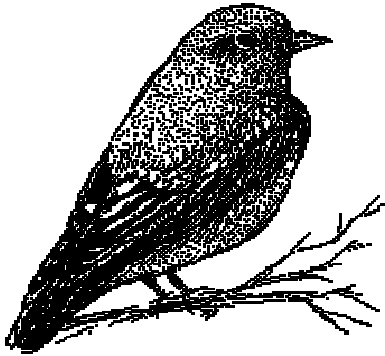
Accounts payable (owed by chapter)		
Unearned Income (not credited in this Fiscal Year)		
Other		
Total Liabilities		0

Funds

Restricted (Endowments, Scholarships etc)		
Reserved (Committed to Special Programs)		
Unreserved (Not Committed)		
Total Fund Balances		\$ 12,606.01

ROCKLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY
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WWW.ROCKLANDAUDUBON.ORG

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DATED MATERIAL: PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

Upcoming Rockland Audubon Society Programs

RAS meets at Rockland Country Day School, 34 Kings Highway, Congers, NY, at 8 p.m.

Dec. 8: *Hudson River Sloop Clearwater*

This update on environmental issues pertaining to the Hudson River with Manna Jo Greene, Environmental Action Director, will include the April 2008 Pisces Report on the status of diminishing fish populations, current issues of development along the river and its impact on wildlife and ecology – power plants, water desalination plants and more.

Jan. 3: *Member Participation Night!*

Members are invited to share their favorite birding and nature interests in short presentations such as photography, painting, poetry, etc. Pre-registration is necessary; please call program chairperson, Julia Warger at 947-4453 to sign up. Non-commercial presenters only please.

Feb. 6, 2009: *Constitution Marsh: Jewel on the Hudson*

Speaker Eric Lind, Director of the Constitution Marsh Audubon Center & Sanctuary, in Cold Spring, NY, will talk about the latest education activities and stewardship issues at the marsh. Eric will also share the exciting activities occurring at the Marsh and their plans for the future.