

S O U T H   S H O R E  
**WATERFOWLERS**

A S S O C I A T I O N , I N C .



JUNE 2011

Web site: [sswa.org](http://sswa.org)

P.O. BOX 217

BRIGHTWATERS, NY 11718

*Peconic River  
Sporting Clays Shoots*

I am happy to announce that we have a schedule of shoots at Peconic River. They will be once a month. The dates are May 29, June 26, July 31, August 28. The cost of the shoots are \$46.00 (\$36.00 payable the day of the shoot to Peconic AND \$10.00 for the food—payable to SSWA). There will be food served immediately after the shoots. The first 3 shoots will have BBQ's after the shoot. The August shoot, Warren Busch would like to organize a PIG ROAST. (How great would that be!!!)

Being that we are guests of Peconic River Sportsman Club, and we are being taken around courtesy of SSWA/Peconic members, we are to be observant to ALL THE RULES set forth by Peconic River. To name a few, you need to have eye and ear protection, only shoot lead target loads (NO STEEL or HEAVY LOADS). You need to collect up your empties after the station is completed, and refrain from profanity. Listen to the guys taking you around the course. What I mean is that I want everyone to be on their best behavior and not to screw it up for the rest of us!! GOT IT!!! We have a really good thing here and I hope this can go on for many years to come.

TO SIGN UP FOR THE SHOOTS – Call Curt at 631-661-0379 to be put on the list **AND** send the \$10.00 for the food for each shoot you want to attend. (Check payable to SSWA). We need the money to cover the cost of the food. **There will be no walk ups the day of the shoot. No food money – no shooting.** So call me to get on the list and get ready for a really enjoyable day of shooting, food and comradery. The May shoot took place and we had a really good time. Check out the SSWA.ORG website for the pics of the shoot and dates of the shoots. Hope to see you there.

*Attention All SSWA Members . . .  
Dues Increase*

This should not come as a big surprise to any member who has been attending the regular meetings of the SSWA over the past 2 years. The cost of just about everything has continued to rise. Some of our bigger cost items include such things as: insurance costs, fee increases (since the library renovated their meeting rooms) and increases in printing and mailing costs associated with our newsletter.

Back in 2006, the Executive Board of SSWA authorized the first dues increase in many years (the dues were increased from \$20 to \$25). Now, 5 years later, in keeping with our Constitution, the Executive Board has authorized another dues increase from \$25 to \$30. Even with this increase, you must agree that membership in SSWA is one of the best deals around. (\$30 per year dues is just 8.2 cents per day.)

In keeping with our by-laws, the dues assessment will apply to all annual members, and will be assessed on the first day of September 2011. Those who had taken advantage of a multi-year membership payment, will be assessed at the new rate of \$30 annually when their multi-year membership expires.

You will receive another reminder of this dues increase in the next issue of the newsletter, and your dues payment for September can be mailed in to our PO Box, or can be paid at the September meeting.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Executive Board, SSWA

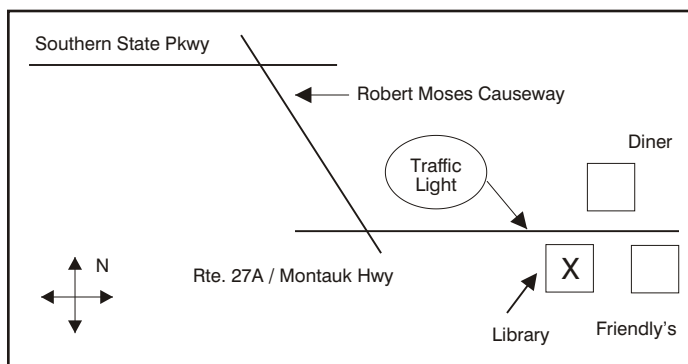
## South Shore Waterfowlers

### Voice of the Long Island Waterfowler

The South Shore Waterfowlers meet at 7:30 p.m. on the 1st Monday of each month from September through April. If the 1st Monday falls on a holiday, the meeting will take place on an alternate date (to be announced). (A library holiday is the same as a U.S. Postal holiday.)

Meetings are held on the first floor conference room of the Brightwaters/Bayshore Library located on Montauk Highway (Rte. 27A) in Brightwaters/Bayshore (see map below).

For additional information, please call John (631) 874-7459 or Ron (631) 862-8518.



**As of the April elections, below are the new officers:**

### South Shore Waterfowlers Association — Officers —

- President . . . . . John Adams  
631-618-5728
- 1st Vice President and  
Membership . . . . . Ron Sineo  
631-862-8518
- 2nd Vice President. . . . . Richard Franks, Jr.  
631-603-6295
- Secretary . . . . . George Duguid  
631-667-5886
- Treasurer . . . . . Erik Tallbe  
516-799-6613
- Sergeant at Arms, Newsletter Editor,  
Duckboat Show Chairman, and  
Club Dinner Chairman . . . . . Curt Matzinger  
631-661-0379

## Summer Atlantic Flyway Meeting

by Ron Sineo

This year the summer Atlantic Flyway meeting will be held in Newport, Rhode Island from Sunday, July 17 through Friday, July 22. I will be attending to represent the SSWA and our fellow hunters' interests. Look for my report in our next newsletter, and for a summary presentation at the September meeting.

## Wounded Warrior Project Update

I have some great news. The bronze plaque is in place at Blind 9 in Southaven Park. The county has provided the rock and installation of the plaque. They placed it at the site in early June. Ron and I went by to check it out and it looks TERRIFIC!!!! The plaque says ...

Wounded Warriors Project  
Handicapped-Access Blind  
Dedicated on November 29, 2010  
Proudly Sponsored by  
The South Shore Waterfowlers Association  
in Partnership with  
The Suffolk County Parks Department  
and Riverhead Building Supply

It is really a nice touch for a wonderful project that is for all the handicapped people of Long Island as well as being dedicated to the brave men and women of the Armed Forces. We thank them so much for all they have done for us and the sacrifices they endured.

Come down to the park and check it out. It is at the footpath to Platform/Blind 9. It is my hope that the next step can be to do a planting of some sort to enhance the stone. Many thanks to the Commissioner and the people of the County Parks for a job well done.

## *Youth Turkey Weekend*

*by Ron Sineo*

This Spring, another chapter in bird hunting history unfolded on Long Island. Just 2 seasons ago, in 2009, the DEC decided to open a Fall turkey hunting season here. This Fall season has proven to be both popular and successful. Still, there are apparently many stumbling blocks to creating a regular Spring turkey season on Long Island, but that is the subject for a different story.

For some time now, the DEC has sponsored a statewide weekend youth hunt for turkey in the Spring. This youth hunt always occurs before the regular Spring season opens, and whatever weekend is selected, it is the same date for all youth throughout the state. Unfortunately, our region was never included. Then, in 2009, when a Fall turkey season was created for Long Island, our youth wanted the same opportunity to have a Spring youth hunt as all the other youth statewide.

This past Spring, the DEC expanded the statewide youth turkey weekend to include Long Island. On Saturday & Sunday, April 23rd & April 24th, Long Island youth were able to hunt turkey afield for the very first time. The rules are simple:

- Each junior hunter, 12-15 years old, must have a valid license and a turkey tag.
- One Tom turkey only is permitted for the weekend.
- Each hunter must be accompanied by a mentor who is a licensed adult (the adult cannot carry a firearm).

The decision to have the hunt this Spring came very late into the Fall hunting season, and many Long Island youth bought their junior hunting licenses not knowing about the Spring youth weekend on Long Island. The decision came so late that the State Hunting & Trapping Guide, the official NYS Hunting Regulations Booklet, did not include the Long Island Spring Youth Turkey Hunt for the 2010-2011 season.

Even so, once it was announced, the youth of Long Island showed up in numbers to participate.

When the dust settled, the results were quite amazing.

- 56 Counties in NYS participated in the youth turkey weekend.
- 54 Counties harvested birds.
- 398 Tom turkeys were reported statewide (an average of 7 bird per county).
- Suffolk County reported 16 Toms taken.
- Only Ulster County reported more birds than Suffolk.
- **The Suffolk Harvest was second highest in NYS.**

We are proud to report that at least 2 of those young hunters were South Shore Waterfowler members. They are Pete Collerone, Jr. (pictured below) and Brandon Edwards (pictured left). Congratulations to both of these young men on a job well done!

## *Long Island Zone Season Setting Task Force*

*by Ron Sineo*

On Saturday, April 30th, the Long Island Zone Season Setting Task Force met once again to prepare recommendations to the DEC for what next year's season dates will be. The meeting was held at the DEC building in Stony Brook. The 9 member committee included President John Adams, who was in attendance representing the South Shore Waterfowlers Association. Rich Otterstedt was there as the SASI (Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen) representative, Erik Tallbe sat in as the NCFGA (Nassau County Fish & Game Association) representative, Ron Kee represented the Smith Point Fish & Hunt Club, and I was there as the NYSCC (New York State Conservation Council) representative. Clearly, the SSWA was well represented at this important meeting.

The recommendations for next year's season dates are as follows:

**DUCK SEASON:** Based upon a 60-day duck season, a split season was proposed, with opening day on November 24 and the season closing on November 27, 2011. The season is scheduled to reopen on December 5, and go straight through until January 29, 2012.

**BRANT SEASON:** Is expected to be a 50-day season this year, so Brant season will open with the duck season on November 24, 2011 and close on November 27, 2011, just like the duck season. Because it is 10 days shorter than the duck season, Brant will not reopen until 10 days after the duck season reopens. So Brant will reopen on December 15 and extend straight through until January 29, 2012.

**CANADA GOOSE:** Long Island is split into 3 different zones for Canada Goose:

**Western Zone:** Will open with the duck season on November 24, 2011 and close on November 27. It will reopen on December 1, 2011 and remain open straight through until March 10, 2012.

**Central Zone:** Will open with the duck season on November 24, 2011 and close on November 27. It will reopen on December 1, 2011 and remain open straight through until February 4, 2012. (The late season in the central zone, North Shore will be 11 days from February 5 through February 15, 2012.)

**Eastern Zone:** Will open with the duck season on November 24, 2011 and close on November 27. It will reopen on December 5, 2011 and remain open straight through until January 29, 2012.


**SNOW GOOSE SEASON:** Will open with the duck season on November 24, 2011 and remain open straight through until March 9, 2012.

**SEA DUCK SEASON:** Opening day of sea duck will be October 15, 2011 and the season will remain open straight through until January 29, 2012.

**YOUTH WATERFOWL WEEKEND:** Is scheduled to be November 12-13, 2011.

It is always possible that the Feds. will impose some additional restrictions on the states with regard to season dates, but this will not be known until after the summer Atlantic Flyway meeting and the follow up US Fish & Wildlife Service Regulatory Commission meeting. Soon after those meetings, the DEC will officially set the season dates for all the different hunting zones within New York State. In the Long Island Zone, they will most likely follow the Task Force recommendations.

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## *Remembering Ted Sanford, Jr.*

My Dad, Theodore M. Sanford, Jr., died peacefully on May 31, 2011 at age 86. Ted Sanford was a lifelong resident of East Islip and a founding member of what was then the Great South Bay Waterfowlers; he was the first Secretary-Treasurer. He served as a Marine during WW II (Guadalcanal) and Korea, and was with NYS Parks for 38 years. He was a gifted athlete, skilled outdoorsman, and expert craftsman with a lifelong curiosity and ability to master any challenge. First and foremost, he was a dedicated husband and father to his family and a cherished friend to all who knew him.

Of course, he was the one who introduced me to duck shooting on our meadows and bays. But, long before I took a gun afield, I was hooked. Growing up during the 1950s and 60s, my earliest memories, during the colder months, were of running to the back door to inspect the ducks brought home by my Dad. Each morning or evening, several would be arrayed at his feet in our entryway. With a great hands-on teacher and a well-worn copy of the Audubon Bird Guide, I learned them all early on. He also taught me how puddle ducks could rise like a helicopter and that divers taxied like airplanes. And, I knew that ducks did not sink when they fell because he told me all about how they oil their feathers. While still in kindergarten, I remember sitting in the East Islip meadows (now Town of Islip Nature Center) on a folding stool made of wood and canvas. I was content to sit still for hours, in my red plastic boots, while my Dad waited for a mallard or black to come in before dark.

More than anything, Ted Sanford loved to hunt broadbill out of a scooter, whether his own or that of Brud Skidmore or Charlie Horal. We were also very fortunate, too, that we could hunt Timber Point Country Club back when it was in private ownership. Right where the Connetquot River empties into Great South Bay, Timber Point was a bit ragged as country clubs go, but perfect for duck shooting. We would often “run down to Timber for the last half hour” to stand in the saltmeadows for black ducks. Because my Dad was a policeman while I was growing up, he worked shifts and so could hunt at least a part of every season day. More than once, he would fall asleep in the scooter, with the rising sun warming his face after a midnight tour.

I have hunted with my Dad for all of my 45 gunning seasons. Once I was settled back on Long Island (as DEC’s Waterfowl Biologist), it was my great privilege to take him hunting with me. I was able to show him some new spots and also introduce him to many of my gunning friends. He was always game and I was glad to have his eagle eyes aboard. Together we had many adventures. One annual treat for him was getting afield with Craig Kessler and Fred Wertz. These gentlemen showed us many a great hunt, as recently as this past January. Although his lungs and heart had only a few months left, he still scored a split double on brant. Always an exceptional shot, Ted Sanford made the last of his many triples as recently as 2009 – again with Craig and Fred.

He loved to join us at our Washington County farm each fall. We took him to a number of places but he was most content to stand in his blind on our Hemlock Swamp. He seemed to be “high gun” each opening weekend. On willpower alone he and my Mom drove up north a mere month ago. We sat in the woods and listened to gobbling for 2 hours on Opening Day but he did not get the opportunity to take a tom. Luckily, I was able to bring home a long-beard the next morning – with my Dad’s Winchester Model 50.

It has been noteworthy that all of the condolences we have received from other outdoorsmen have a common theme: Ted Sanford enjoyed a long rich life and we who have known and hunted with him have a rich storehouse of shared memories. I will be forever thankful to the man who will always be my favorite gunning partner.

*Steve Sanford  
Pencil Brook Farm, South Cambridge, NY  
6 June 2011*

**Editor’s Note:** I had the great pleasure of meeting Ted at the 7th Annual SSWA Dinner. He was a true gentleman. Hopefully, we can all experience the same joys that Ted experienced in the great outdoors.

### ***DEC Goose Banding***

Here is an e-mail from Kelly. It says:

"I am starting the process of looking for new areas to band geese in June, especially on the East End. I have two areas I will be looking into this year so far: West Hampton Marina and Sag Harbor Beach.

Please e-mail me any suggestions you may have—keep in mind that the geese lose their flight feathers in June, and we round them up either on foot or by boat/kayak, so there needs to be a suitable area on land for the banding to actually take place. Also, it is not necessary for there to be hundreds of geese at a spot for me to consider banding there—I would say as long as there is at least 20, it would be worth it.

Any help you guys could give me would be greatly appreciated! Thanks!"

Kelly A. Hamilton  
 NYS DEC–Region 1  
 Sportsman Education Program  
 Wildlife Biologist  
 Regional Coordinator–Regions 1&2  
 50 Circle Road  
 SUNY Stony Brook  
 Stony Brook, NY 11790  
 Phone: (631) 444-0255  
 e-mail: kahamailt@gw.dec.state.ny.us

**Note from SSWA:** Anyone on the East End who harvests a goose should really report the bands. If the DEC is banding resident birds and we get to show them that most of the bands reported are from resident birds, the limits should be able to be raised. So report your bands this year to update the DEC's *VERY OUTDATED* goose band information.

### ***Board of Directors Meeting***

President of the SSWA is requesting that all board members please attend this meeting. It will take place at:

Ron Sineo's House  
 10 Rutherford St., St. James  
**Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

Please respond to Ron at **631-862-8518** as to whether you **WILL** or **WILL NOT** be attending.

*Pizza and beverages will be served*

Members can call with ideas for next season's meeting nights. Let him know if you have any guest speakers or ideas for meetings.



### ***— South Shore Waterfowlers Association —***

P.O. Box 217 Brightwaters, NY 11718

*Membership Enrollment / Renewal Card (please print legibly)*

Address Change       Address Correction       New Member       Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

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

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: 1 year . . . . . \$30.00

### Quack's Tips

1. I overheard one hunter ask another, "What do you do with your old steel shot shells? You know, the ones that are in questionable condition. How do you dispose of them?" Sadly, the other hunter replied, "I save them up and bring them to the clay target range, and I shoot them at clay targets!" Well, when I heard that, the feathers in my rump curled right up! This is such a bad idea on so many levels. First of all, if they are in questionable shape to shoot at a duck, they should not be shot at anything! Steel which is exposed to moisture over a long time will rust. If the steel shot rusts together, it will form a very unforgiving "slug" which is much harder than its lead counterpart. This lump of steel can easily damage your barrel, or worse. Second, if the steel inside is questionable to use, chances are that the brass base is showing rust and may be swollen. A shell in this condition is likely to cause feeding problems in pumps and automatics. Third, most clay target ranges have strict rules about what TARGET LOADS can be shot at that range. So instead of shooting them up, take a utility knife to the plastic hull of those questionable loads, and empty the steel, pull the wad sleeve, and wet and discard the powder.

2. If you are not an accomplished duck caller, this is the right time of year to work at becoming better. First you must decide which call is best for you. Speak to a local duck hunter and get some advice. Once you have the call, practice calling every chance you get ... at home, and / or in you car ... NOT ON THE DUCK MARSH. Poor calling is the quickest way to keep birds out of your decoys! Listen to some duck calling CD's or watch a calling video to get an idea of what various calls should sound like. But knowing how to call is only part of the challenge. You must also know how frequently and how loudly to call, and when to call. On some days, lots of calling works best. On others it is better not to call at all. The only way to know is through experience and learning to read the ducks' body language as they react to the call. One thing is for sure, successful duck callers put more birds in their bag.

## Waterfowler's Classifieds

### FOR SALE:

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FIELD AND FLOATERS + ACCESSORIES**

Call Butch at (631) 924-5249

### GRUMMAN CANOE MOTOR BRACKET

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Call Curt at (631) 661-0379

### WANTED:

**U.S. NATIONAL POSTER 1977-1978**

Call Tony at (631) 617-6217

## U.S. Nationals Returns in 2012

It has been brought to my attention that the history of the U.S. Nationals Decoy Competition will be on display at next year's Antique Decoy Collector's Association show. A committee is being formed to get everything related to the Nationals collected so we can display it. The U.S. Nationals was the largest show of its kind in the country. The SSWA is very proud to be the organization that put on the show. It was a tremendous amount of work to do and it involved quite a large number of volunteers to make it happen. If you have anything that is from the U.S. Nationals Show and would like to display it, contact Curt at 631-661-0379 and I will arrange to get it and present it on your behalf. As the self-proclaimed SSWA club historian, I'd love to get my hands on these items to document them and copy them for our club history. Please go through your treasures at home and see if you have anything related to the U.S. Nationals and please contact me ASAP.

[www.captkeith.org](http://www.captkeith.org)

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## East Coast Waterfowlers

[www.eastcoastwaterfowlers.com](http://www.eastcoastwaterfowlers.com)

— *South Shore Waterfowlers Association* —

**CALENDAR OF UP-COMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

- June 24** — Board of Directors Meeting (see page 6 for details)
- June 26** — Peconic River Sporting Clays Shoot (see page 1 for details)
- July 31** — Peconic River Sporting Clays Shoot (see page 1 for details)
- August 28** — Peconic River Sporting Clays Shoot (see page 1 for details)  
Pig Roast following shoot if we have enough people
- Summer 2011** — We will notify you of any pertinent issues on the website ([sswa.org](http://sswa.org)).  
Check the website often for new posts.
- September 12** — First SSWA Meeting, Brightwaters Library (2nd Monday due to holiday)



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