

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 2013

Web site: sswa.org

P.O. BOX 217

BRIGHTWATERS, NY 11718

The 2013-2014 Long Island Zone Waterfowl Task Force

by Ron Sineo

The Long Island Zone NYS Waterfowl Task Force met, on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Below are the recommendations. These will be forwarded to the USFWS for their approval. It is always possible that the Feds will overrule any or all of these recommendations. However, in recent years, they have taken the task force recommendations and implemented them. The NYSDEC has already posted the proposed seasons and dates on its website. They are:

Regular Duck Season:

Recommendation: November 28–January 26 (no split)
Rationale: Traditional Thanksgiving opener and holiday weekend included. Otherwise, “late and straight”... Accommodates both those hunters wanting late and straight as well as traditionalists who enjoy going out on the holiday weekend.

Scaup (season within a season, if needed):

Recommendation: November 28–January 5 (1 scaup/day) and January 6–January 26 (last 20 days of season, 2 scaup/day)
Rationale: The later it is in the season, the more likely the birds will be in the area.

Youth Days:

Recommendation: November 9th–November 10th
Rationale: Earlier in the season is too early for any action, seems to be going consistently well where it's been in the past. Older hunters will be satisfied that there is a break in between the youth hunt and the start of the regular season. Give youth hunters the maximum hunting opportunity.

Regular Canada Goose Season (Western Long Island):

Recommendation: October 5–October 20 (1st split)
November 28–February 26 (2nd split)
Rationale: Accommodates those disappointed by loss of September season. Gives early hunters more weekend days, fewer hunters are out in March.

Regular Canada Goose Season (Eastern Long Island):

Recommendation: December 3–January 31
Rationale: Late and straight.

Regular Canada Goose Season (Central Long Island):

Recommendation: November 28–February 5
Rationale: Late and straight.

Late Canada Goose Season (North Shore Long Island):

Recommendation: February 6–February 13
Rationale: Begins the day after the Central zone goose season ends, allowing for maximum hunting opportunity for those that hunt both areas.

Brant Season:

Recommendation: December 28–January 26
Rationale: Late and straight

Sea Duck Season:

Recommendation: October 17–January 31
Rationale: Late and straight.

Snow Goose Season:

Recommendation: November 24–March 10
Rationale: Late and straight season.

Membership Drive Incentive

As an incentive to increase our membership, we came up with an idea to recruit **NEW** members. The SSWA is offering a **\$10.00 dues credit** for **each new** member they recruit into our flock. A new member is a man or woman who has **not** appeared on our membership roll for the past 5 years. This is to get new blood into our ranks. The credit will be toward next year's (2014-15) dues. This way you have the whole year to earn credits toward your dues. Try to get your currently renegeed, fellow waterfowlers to re-up, but the credit is for new members only. On the application, they need to add your name to the sponsored by section. Search your address books for appropriate new members. It could be someone you never thought of. Start looking today!!! Those that have a credit, the credit will appear on the front of the June & September newsletter label.

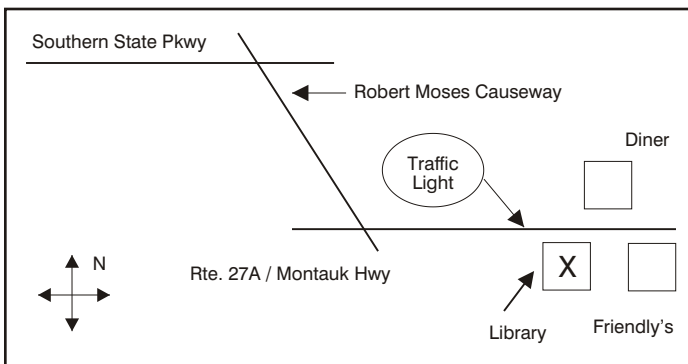
South Shore Waterfowlers

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.



Sporting Clay Shoots at Peconic River Sportsman Club: July 28 and August 18

Once again it is my pleasure to announce that the SSWA is invited to hold shoots at the club. They were gracious enough to permit our members the opportunity to attend shoots at Peconic. We usually go out to lunch after the shoot. It's a great day out and there's no better way to sharpen your shooting skills than to run the course at Peconic. Perry makes sure that NO ONE will break 100. They will be once a month starting in May. You must call me to be put on the list for EACH shoot you want to attend. We need to have Peconic members accompany us around the course. It is \$35.00 a person to shoot the course and bring your own shells, glasses, and hearing protection. Hope to see you there.

Curt

Dinners Recap

In April we had a couple of great dinners in our area. April 20th, the SSWA held it's 9th Annual Curt Matzinger dinner at Fisherman's Catch restaurant in Point lookout. The restaurant looked terrific from the remodel, courtesy of Sandy. Bruce and his band of helpers did a wonderful job in fixing the restaurant, as well as the TERRIFIC job that they always do for the waterfowlers dinner. Bruce always goes above and beyond for the club. Thank you Bruce. We raffled off some great stuff and raised some bucks for the club. We appointed the new president, and thanked the outgoing one. Even a salesmen of the year. Things ran the smoothest to date (I guess I got it right after 8 tries). Thank you to everyone who helped me out and all those that attended the dinner. It wouldn't be a success with out you there. Just wait till next year for #10. Check out the dinner pics on the website.

Secondly was the April 26th SASI dinner in Smithtown. We had a table there to show our support for SASI. Ron Sineo and his group did a really good job. Many raffles and auction items. Ron had some really good ideas at the dinner (I wonder where he got them from?????). Great job SASI for a really enjoyable night, and I hope it put some well needed funds into the bank.

South Shore Waterfowlers Association — Officers —

- President Ron Sineo
631-862-8518
- 1st Vice President and Membership John Adams
631-618-5728
- 2nd Vice President. Richard Franks, Jr.
631-603-6295
- Secretary Ron Pliszak
(631) 902-2220
- Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Duckboat Show Chairman, Historian, and Club Dinner Chairman Curt Matzinger
613-661-0379
- Sergeant at Arms Erik Tallbe
516-799-6613

Grass Island (The Al McCormick Marsh Project) Update

by Ron Sineo

In the December 2012 issue of the SSWA newsletter, I provided the membership with a brief history of the Grass Island project, and the progress (or lack thereof) to date. I reported that SSWA was trying its best to develop renewed interest in Grass Island, and that meetings were under way with a DU biologist and others to try and make something happen. Well, of course, Super Storm Sandy had just happened, and everything was put on hold . . . and that is what I reported in December.

Here we are in June, some 6 months later, and here is where we are now. The late winter meeting never happened and the spring meeting never got off the ground. The project DU biologist, Kurt Andersen, was unable to get to NYC to move forward. This was largely because the city property which was to be included in the project was destined to take a back seat to all those other waterfront city properties which were severely damaged by the Super Storm. There are still hundreds of residences on the Staten Island shore which are in serious need of repair before they are fit to move back into. The city is not about to sink money into a shorefront project for habitat until the residences that were damaged have been repaired. This could take many more months before we see any daylight on that score. According to Kurt Andersen's assessment, without the city's support in this coastal rehab project, it just won't be able to move forward. So it seems that we are on hold indefinitely.

Well that is where we were on May 1, when I received a copy of a DU resignation letter from Kurt Andersen. It seems that Kurt was leaving DU on May 10 to work as a biologist for Maine Farmland Trust. Kurt referred all questions to Bernie Marczyk, the DU Director of Conservation Programs for the Atlantic Region, who works out of the DU Annapolis office. I had met Bernie last summer at the summer Flyway Conference, where all of this had been jump started by my inquiries. So I contacted Bernie again to find out where we are. His response was less than optimistic. He gave me the name of a DU biologist who has assumed Kurt's projects. She is Sarah Fleming, DU's NY biologist. Now DU is not sure at this time whether or not the Staten Island project will be moving forward, and apparently our project is linked to the Staten Island initiative. So it would seem that nothing is going to happen any time soon.

As a footnote, I will be going to the Atlantic Flyway Council Summer meetings in Connecticut in July, and the Annapolis DU Director of Conservation will also be at those meetings. I hope to be able to sit with him and either get an update or spark some renewed interest in Grass Island. Keep an eye out for the September newsletter . . . there should be some more news by then.

The SSWA "Buddy" Hunting Program

by Ron Sineo

Last September, SSWA member Ben Sohm came up with an idea to get fellow hunters who were beginners, and/or who did not have access to boats, to experience hunting from a duckboat. The idea caught on, and several members who own duckboats volunteered to "buddy-up" with a member who didn't so that they could expand their waterfowling experience. This program was a success and we hope to continue it as we move forward into the 2013-2014 hunting season. SSWA has also been involved for some time in mentoring youth hunters, and SSWA members routinely volunteer annually on youth waterfowl weekend to take youngsters out at Hubbards Park and at Southaven Park on Youth Days. And speaking of Southaven Park, SSWA has partnered with Suffolk County in the recent past to create a handicapped-accessible duck hunting blind available for our returning Vets, wounded warriors, and other handicapped hunters. It is Blind #9, and those who are handicapped get preference at the park for that blind in the regular weekly lottery there.

Last month, I was contacted by SSWA member George Ruland, who wished to donate several dozen working decoys to SSWA under the condition that they not be sold or traded for revenue. George's request is that they be made available especially for our returning Vets who might enjoy hunting, but don't have the extensive decoy set ups to be able to hunt certain species. After speaking with George about his idea, he has agreed that these same decoys could also be used by beginning hunters, youths, and those who would benefit from our fledgling "buddy" program as well. Some of the decoys that George has donated are puddle ducks, and they will surely be welcomed as replacements for the beat up set that currently exist for use at the handicapped-access blind #9 in Southaven Park. There are a variety of other decoys as well, broadbill and other divers, and so on. These we will be sorted out and hopefully putting to good use.

At the end of this month, there is a SSWA Board of Directors meeting scheduled, and George's generous donation will be one of the topics of discussion at that meeting. We will be looking to determine the best way or ways to put these decoys to good use with returning vets, and with our youth and the new/beginning hunters that we will continue to mentor and work with. We are grateful to George for his thoughtfulness, and we hope to implement George's ideas, as these also become a regular part of our mentoring program. Watch for an up-date on this in a follow-up article in our Fall newsletter.

Big Turnout at the April Elections

by Curt Matzinger

I am so please to see the turnout we had at the April meeting, both by the members and the candidates. Yes I said candidates. We had two candidates for each of the top 3 positions, President, 1st Vice, and 2nd Vice. Secretary and treasurer ran un-opposed. It is wonderful to see that there is group of people who care enough about the club to run for a position. Thank you very much to everyone who ran. The new list of officers for the 2013-14 year are:

President: Ron Sineo

1st Vice President: John Adams Jr.

2nd Vice President: Richie Franks Jr.

Secretary: Ron Pliszak

Treasurer: Curt Matzinger

Appointment of Erik Tallbe Sr. as Seargent-at-Arms

The new blood that we have in charge, and at the meetings, should bring new life, and ideas to our club. Thanks again everyone.

SSWA's Fishing Trip

by Curt Matzinger

We are planning a fishing trip on July 13, 2013 onboard the FISH ON II. It is a striped bass trip, from 5-9 p.m. The cost is \$50.00 per person. It leaves from the Water's Edge Marina, 215 Atlantic Ave. East Moriches NY 11940. Call John Adams 631-618-5728 to be put on the list and send him a check payable to Fish On. There is a limited number so reserve your spot today. Bring your favorite fishing buddy, and/or hang out with other SSWA members. Call today. Check out the boat at www.fishonfishing.com

and while we're talking fishing . . .

Here are Some Tournament Dates

Windswept Marina is a very good friend and supporter of the SSWA. I was notified by their dockmaster of their upcoming fishing tournaments. June 29 is a shark tournament. July 20 is a Bluefish tournament. August 10 and 11 is a huge block party (raindate is August 17, 18). Vendors wanted. September 14 is a Bass Tournament. October 12 is a Bass tournament. For more info on any event. Call John Adams at 631-618-5728. Sign up and have fun at one or all of these fine events. Enjoy!!!



OCTOBER 27, 2013 Duckboat Show and Waterfowl Festival

The Annual Duckboat Show and Waterfowl Festival is scheduled for Sunday Oct 27, 2013, raindate November 3. Put it on your calendar to attend. All vendors can go on the website to download a vendor application to get a table for this year. I pray to GOD for a nice day. As you all remember, Hurricane Sandy was knocking at our door the day of the show.

Any questions, contact show chairman, Curt Matzinger at 631-661-0379

SSWA—Proud creators of the Southaven Park
Blind 9 Wounded Warriors Project

Recipe

Game-Hunter Style (Cacciatore) works well with upland game meats

by Ron Sineo

INGREDIENTS (Makes 8-12 servings)

½ cup olive oil
 2 medium onions, julienned
 1 red bell pepper, julienned
 1 green bell pepper, julienned
 1 box fresh mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
 1 28 oz. can of tomato puree
 1 cup of flour
 1 tablespoon salt
 1 tablespoon garlic powder
 1 teaspoon black pepper
 1 cup white wine
 Game meat, cleaned and cut into pieces

DIRECTIONS

1. Clean, prepare, measure, slice, & cut all ingredients in advance!
2. Add the salt, black pepper, and garlic powder to the flour, and mix them.
3. Dredge the meat through the flour to coat it. Gently shake off the excess flour.
4. Pre-heat the olive oil in a saucepan. Then sauté pieces of meat until light golden brown, and remove. Once all of the meat has been browned and removed, add the onions and peppers to the saucepan. Sauté until cooked.
5. Now add the mushrooms to the pan, and sauté until cooked.
6. Next, put all the meat back into the pan. Add the white wine, and cook until most of the alcohol boils down.
7. Add the tomato puree, basil, and more salt (to taste), cover, and stir occasionally, simmer until meat is tender. (Add a little water as needed to prevent stock from reducing too much. You want it to cook, but you do not want it to burn.)

The meat and sauce can be served right from the pan, but the sauce from the pan makes a wonderful meat sauce for Pasta or spaghetti as a side dish.

A garden salad, and a glass of wine, and . . . There you have it!

Future Upgrades to sswa.org

Business Opportunities

If you have a business that you like to have appear on the SSWA.org website, send me a business card and I will get it on our website. This is available only to members in good standing and will be removed if you become negligent in your dues. It is a feature we are trying to have available before Sept (we need to have the site changed for this purpose). We are hoping that members use other members' businesses, and by being listed on the site, we hope to get more usage to the site, while getting your business seen by more people. Remember to have your website name listed when you send me the card, so that it will be listed also. Send the card and info to Curt Matzinger, 32 Magro Dr., N. Babylon, NY 11703.

Member Directory

The Officers presented the idea at the last meeting and it was well received. We would like to make a list available to all paid-up members, of each members Name, Town, and Phone number. It will be in the secure section of the website, and only members can see it. Many times we have been approached with the question, "Do you have John Smith's phone number?" They would like to go hunting, shooting, ask a question, etc., to the person and they can't get in touch with them. We would like to post a list of members on the web by September.

ANYONE NOT WANTING TO BE LISTED, CALL Curt at 631-661-0379, and leave your NAME AND ADDRESS. I will remove you from the list, and I will call you back to confirm you are off the list.

We feel this is a great way to expand the comradery of the club. The more people get to know each other, it will, in turn, make the SSWA a friendlier organization. Remember to call if you wish to opt out.

Recipes

If you have a really great duck, goose, fish, or game recipe, e-mail it to cazinger@yahoo.com and I will get it in the new section. Many members don't know how to cook the game they shoot, and you old-timers have some great recipes. Please share them with your fellow members.

Curt

Quack's Tips

Entire books have been written about working decoys. Popular topics always include how many to use, and what type of "pattern" to use when you set them out. Whether you are setting up for puddle ducks, divers, or geese, one thing is certain. A successful decoy spread depends most of all on **location**. Go to where the birds want to be, before you concern yourself with the look of your decoy spread! No amount of decoy positioning, motion, color, or any other gimmick or gadget is going to overcome the **handicap** of hunting in a place where the birds don't want to be. So the most effect component of decoying is **scouting**. It has been said that in the right location, ducks and geese will come to their shadows.

After you've done your best to find a marsh or a field in which the birds want to light, concern yourself with creating the **flock effect**. Birds aren't lured by any one decoy, but are attracted to the composite of the flock. The shape of a single decoy, therefore isn't nearly as important as the form of the spread. So think random. Spreads that catch the eye of passing waterfowl look as though they're birds that are resting or feeding—in loose aggregation. Flocks that are alarmed almost always bunch up before they swim or fly away.

So the message here is that the best number of decoys to use is the fewest necessary to entice birds. This is where mobility is important. A handful of decoys in an area where the birds want to light is far more valuable than a huge spread in a location in which the birds have no interest in visiting.

Scouting birds takes time, and *can only occur* once the birds have arrived for the season. So take care to make all your other preparations for hunting long before the migration arrives. Then you will be able to spend necessary time scouting, both before and during the season.

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— *South Shore Waterfowlers Association* —

CALENDAR OF UP-COMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- June 29** — Shark Tournament (see pg. 4 for info)
July 13 — SSWA Fishing Trip (see pg. 4 for info)
July 20 — Bluefish Tournament (see pg. 4 for info)
July–August — Peconic River Shoots (July 28 and August 18, see pg. 2 for info)
August 10-11 — Windswept Marina, huge block party (see pg. 4 for info)
September 14 — Striped Bass Tournament (see pg. 4 for info)
September 22 — Delta Waterfowlers Dinner. Contact John Ferguson at 631-539-9539
October 12 — Striped Bass Tournament (see pg. 4 for info)
October 27 — DUCKBOAT SHOW AND WATERFOWL FESTIVAL (see pg. 4 for info)



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