

Reviewing the State of Your Estate Before Your Vacation and Summer Travel

By Jan Hesbon

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, my wife, Jo, and I visited my in-laws to hear about their three-week holiday in the Caribbean. After a slide presentation of their trip, my father-in-law commented how they had reviewed their estate plans prior to that trip.

Ever since then, they have shown us slides, videos and now digital pictures, via the computer, of all their trips—Ireland, Asia and Canada (where their children, with grandchildren, live). And following each presentation, they reminded us that they had reviewed their estate plans before each trip.

I eventually asked, "What did you review?" I wasn't entirely surprised by their reply. They had reviewed their gifts to children, grandchildren and their friends. But what did surprise me is they also pay attention to bequests to their charitable interests.

As I thought about that comment, I reflected on conversations with hundreds of people with whom I have talked about gift planning over the last

decade. And, I remembered that many had told me that same thing: they had checked their estate plan *before* major travels out of the country.

As this season of long distance traveling begins, you may have already thought about checking on your estate plans. As you do, I hope you will also review the gift intentions from your estate, and consider Audubon in your gift planning.

Here's what you can do during a review of your estate plan. Bequests from a will are the most common form of gift planning. Making a bequest to Audubon will cost you nothing out-of-pocket during your lifetime. And, leaving Audubon just 1% of your estate can become a very generous gift to support the education of future conservationists through Audubon nature centers and chapters.

For more information or a copy of *Invest in the Future of Our Natural World*, please contact me: Jan Hesbon, Planned Giving Officer, 200 Trillium Lane, Albany, NY 12203; phone 845-369-1496; email jhesbon@audubon.org.



Will They Inherit a Love of Nature?

YOUR BEQUEST TO AUDUBON WILL

- help ensure that future generations feel connected to our natural world
- cultivate a personal sense of responsibility for protecting birds, wildlife, and habitat

By including a bequest to Audubon in your will (or personal retirement account, or insurance policy) you will help Audubon connect people with nature for generations to come.

Make your bequest by asking your lawyer to use the following language in your will: *I bequeath to the National Audubon Society, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, with principal offices located at 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003, the sum of \$_____ (or _____%) for its general unrestricted environmental conservation purposes.*

To learn more, visit www.audubon.org/plan or call for a free brochure and annual report:

Wayne Mones
Vice President, Planned Giving
National Audubon Society
700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003
212-979-3033, wmones@audubon.org



From Central Park to Jamaica Bay, the New York City Birdathon team enjoys the view and shore birds such as the colorful Oystercatcher.



2003 Audubon New York Birdathons Take Wing

By Shirley Hartman

AUDUBON New York's 2003 Birdathon season kicked-off in New York City's Central Park on May 6th at 6:00 a.m. Over 60 species were found in the Ramble before the team headed to Marine Park in Brooklyn to catch a glimpse of the Monk Parakeets. Finishing at Jamaica Bay, the team of over a dozen sponsors identified 122 species.

Audubon New York's staff covered five territories and created a friendly rivalry by offering prizes for first and second place tallies among teams. May 9th proved to be lucky for the staff that covered birding hot spots from RamsHorn Livingston Sanctuary to Cherry Plain to Thatcher Park to

Saratoga Lake. All together, the teams identified 139 species — an all-time high for a staff Birdathon.

Shuffling off to Buffalo, Kris Hinesley led a team of 'thoners through Knox Farm State Park in East Aurora on May 20th. Emily Wettlaufer and Barbara Newman, fresh from Florida, enticed their friends to join them in search of New York's grassland birds.

And last of the season, the Beaverkill Birdathon was held on May 24th. Audubon supporters hiked the famed fishing stream in search of feathers rather than fins. John & Patricia Adams, Ned Ames & Jane Sokolow and John & Mia Wilkinson generously sponsored the third annual event.



(Top) The New York City Birdathon commenced on May 6, 2003 in Central Park. What a happy group at 6 a.m.! From left to right: Back row: Ellen Taus, Oakes Ames, Leslie Beller, Diane Baker, Shirley Hartman, Gini Stowe, Kris Hinesley, Regan Clover, Rich Anderson. Front row: Margot Ernst, David Miller, Michael Burger, Nina Cabot. Missing: Louise Ames, Kate Downey, Andy Gershon, Tom Weiser.



The Knox Farm State Park Audubon Birdathon in full swing.

Audubon New York's first place team of Bob Budliger, Carole Nemore, Eric Lind and Nina Cabot raise their prizes of candy bars after finding 83 species in six hours.

