

## Governor Pataki Gives Audubon a Birthday Present

IN THE GOVERNOR'S State of the State message, on January 5, 2005, he recognized the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Audubon Society and pledged 20 new Bird Conservation Areas for the State of New York.

Governor Pataki said, "Today marks a century since the National Audubon Society was founded, right here in New York—let's give them a birthday present. We will add 20 new bird conservation areas to the 28 we've created since 1995."

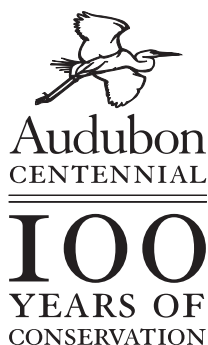
Both Audubon New York's Chairman Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff and Executive Director David J. Miller were invited to sit in the Assembly chamber to hear the speech. Audubon thanks Governor Pataki again for a wonderful birthday present.

## Audubon's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: New York at the Center

By Tom O'Handley

AS AUDUBON BEGINS its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in January 2005, its state program Audubon New York has a lot to celebrate. Nowhere has Audubon's mission and effectiveness been more apparent than in the Empire State. Since Audubon's inception, New York has always been at the center of this national movement that began as a series of independent local chapters.

It was in New York City on January 5, 2005, that Audubon's incorporation papers were signed and its national office was headquartered (then the center of the millinery and feather trade). Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary, near the president's former home in Oyster Bay, was the first bird sanctuary to be established, leading a movement that now numbers several hundred Audubon centers and sanctuaries nation-wide, including 11 in New York. In addition, Audubon New York was among the first to establish state programs in response to Audubon's strategic plan for identification and establishment of a network of Important Bird Areas (IBAs).



With so much to celebrate, Audubon New York has decided to take the festivities on the road and has challenged its chapters and centers to join in a yearlong celebration entitled *Audubon New York: 100 Years, 100 Fêtes*. The goal is to have each of our 30 chapters and centers host a specific number of Anniversary-related events—totaling 100—during the course of the year. Several may occur simultaneously throughout the state on significant dates in Audubon's history. These events will

be the sites for membership drives and press opportunities.

Some of the events already scheduled include:

- **January 20<sup>th</sup>**, New York, NY - an Evening with Richard Rhodes, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the recently published *John James Audubon: The Making of an American*.
- **February 17<sup>th</sup>**, New York, NY - a preview cocktail reception to celebrate the opening of the John James Audubon exhibition at the New York Historical Society.
- **March and beyond**, throughout NY - a book tour for Audubon New York's *Important Bird Areas of New York State*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, authored by Michael Burger and Jillian Liner.
- **April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Skaneateles, NY - a cocktail reception at the Sherwood Inn to preview the soon to be developed Montezuma Audubon Center, Savanah, NY.
- **April 26<sup>th</sup>**, Brooklyn, NY - a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cocktail reception at Prospect Park Audubon Center on John James Audubon's 220<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## Inside this issue

### Pale Male

What happened when a pair of Red-tailed Hawks lost their nest.

(See story on page 1)

The results are in! New York's list of IBAs increases to 136 sites

Our second round of IBA identification is complete and nearing publication.

(See story on page 4)

### Increase Conservation Funding

In spite of budget deficits, conservation funding must be a priority.

(See story on page 9)

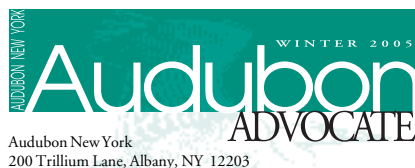
### Audubon Turns 100!

Audubon has something to celebrate with 100 years of conservation successes.

(See story on page 16)

- **April 30<sup>th</sup>**, Glen Cove, NY - 'A Bully! Gala', held at the Nassau Country Club in support of Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary & Audubon Center, Oyster Bay, NY.
- **May 21<sup>st</sup>**, Aurora, NY - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Audubon Nature Festival at Knox Farm State Park.

Audubon New York has embraced the *2020 Vision* concept within this Anniversary Campaign. Together with its members, staff and volunteers, Audubon New York has a lot to celebrate, whether it is the talented artwork of our namesake or the latest round of Important Bird Areas. In 2005, it will not only be a time to reflect on Audubon's past achievements, but a time to prepare for the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and stay focused on the *2020 Vision*. Together we can change the world.



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