



GARDEN CITY BIRD SANCTUARY, INC.

"Making Sump-Things Happen!"

Winter 2022 Newsletter

One of Garden City's best kept secrets.

You are invited...

On Saturday, January 8, the Board of Directors of the Garden City Bird Sanctuary, invites you to join us for our annual Winterfest celebration, which honors our volunteers and supporters, and is open to community members.

It is full of meaningful ceremonies and traditions which reflect the three virtues that any community needs to survive; volunteerism, environmental stewardship, and hope.

At Winterfest, we seek to engender a sense of belonging, safety, and comfort, which will lead us to be more willing to act with hospitality and generosity in our personal lives.

We began as a 9-acre storm water basin and were transformed into a beautiful Bird Sanctuary and Nature Preserve that can be enjoyed by you and your family today and for generations to come.

Winterfest begins at 4 pm, as twilight approaches. We provide warm cocoa to drink as we fill the birdfeeders and put up some decorations for our fine feathered friends. About 4:30 pm, we will begin our ceremony. Then we culminate the event with our Candle-lighting Ceremony in which we tell the story of the GCBS and Winterfest itself.

At Winterfest, we remember the past year's accomplishments and dream of the ones to come. Finally, you will hear the ultimate message of hope that we pass on at Winterfest which is... ALL WINTERS MUST COME TO AN END. Not just seasonal winters, but the "winters" of social problems, economic problems, relationship problems. So we hope you will join us. The gates open at 3:30 pm.

The event is free and open to the general public.

Halloweenfest

The annual Halloweenfest was held this past October 22, 23 and 29. Hundreds of children flocked to the Sanctuary to show off their costumes while experiencing nature at its finest.



Volunteers, dressed as vampires, ghosts and goblins, hiding in the woods, greeted the young festive hikers as they made their way along the spooky trails.

Chaminade work day

On Saturday, October 9th, over 20 Chaminade High School students volunteered for a work day at the Garden City Bird Sanctuary.

The students spent the day pruning and trimming back the overgrowth on the upper and lower trails to prepare them for the Haunted Hikes. Maintenance on the trails had been deferred in 2020 due to the pandemic and they were difficult to traverse due to the overgrowth.

Chaminade has been a partner, providing work days at the Sanctuary since its founding in 1995.



Girl Scout work day

On November 2, Nassau County girl scouts removed trash and weeded the butterfly way-station and garden beds. We are grateful for the work of the girl scouts.

Who we are:

The GCBS is a 9-acre community nature preserve located at 184 Tanners Pond Road, which features many species of birds. We are a certified 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization run by volunteers. There is no charge to enter the sanctuary. We plan to open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from late April through October 2022.

Once a garbage-filled storm water basin, the Sanctuary is now an amazing example of environmental stewardship!

(over, please)

What we have accomplished so far with the help of our volunteers and donors:

- The beautiful June Fay Memorial Pond at our entrance, an 8 ft by 10 ft fishpond that enhances the overall aesthetics of our nine-acre preserve
- Clean-up and debris removal on all of our trails
- Construction of a new storage shed for the tools and equipment needed to maintain the property.

What we hope to accomplish in the coming year:

- The purchase of bird food and bird houses that allow us to attract the beautiful creatures that make a walk through the sanctuary a wonderful experience for adults and children of all ages
- The payment of our water bill which increases each year. Water is vital in keeping our space green, lush and a positive influence in our neighborhood
- Continued improvements in our 9-acres to insure a walk or run through the sanctuary remains an enjoyable natural experience

Donations

A gift of any amount is greatly needed and very much appreciated as we receive no funding at this time from Garden City, Nassau County or New York State. Donations of bird food are also welcomed. (an addressed reply envelope is included for your convenience. A tax deductible gift can also be made online at gcbirdsanctuary.com)

Volunteers

We welcome new volunteers – to learn more about volunteering at the Sanctuary please email us at: gcbirdsanctuary@gmail.com.

Our mission:

The GCBS was created and continues to thrive through the generosity and dedication of good people like you – over 1,000 have worked to make the nine-acre preserve what it is today.

We are a not-for-profit organization, and every penny we raise goes back into the Sanctuary and our community programs. Our family of volunteers and donors are committed year-round to keeping the GCBS beautiful and open for our surrounding community to enjoy.

Birds of the sanctuary

The Sanctuary attracts many different species of birds for you to enjoy watching when you visit. A partial list includes robin, chickadee, blue jay, mallard, northern cardinal, northern flicker, goldfinch, osprey, red-tailed hawk.



American Goldfinch: photo credit: Ken Thomas

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Cronin, *President*

Evan Sandgren, *Exec. VP*

Brook Brown, *1st VP*

Annette Seltzer, *Secretary*

Tim Martens, *Treasurer*

Directors:

Anthony Cenzoprano

Patrick DiCaprio

Ralph Healey

Interim Directors:

Jacqueline Reinhard

Emily Sauchelli

*Garden City
Bird Sanctuary, Inc.*

P.O. Box 7507
Garden City, NY 11530

email: gcbirdsanctuary@gmail.com

website: gcbirdsanctuary.com