



Naturalists Mike Bottini and John Turner, and publisher James Monaco (together with several other key Long Island naturalists) have established a 501(c)3 organization to support these aims:

- to create a web-based clearing house for information about Long Island's flora and fauna to be shared by Long Island naturalists, both professional and amateur
- to publish more guides to Long Island's natural world
- to promote Long Island nature studies by sponsoring specific projects, including an annual conference devoted to Long Island Natural History.

Plans are already underway for this conference, which is now scheduled to be held at Brookhaven National Laboratory, November 16, 2012. The Steering Committee includes Mike Bottini, John Turner, Melissa Griffiths (LI Pine Barrens Commission), Don Riepe (Jamaica Bay Guardian), Tim Green (Brookhaven National Laboratory), and Jody DeMeyre (USFWS). The conference will be a one-day series of seminars, which will be webcast, followed by a second day of field trips. We believe it will be an attractive forum for many of Long Island's leading naturalists.

Here are some of our active publishing projects:

The Fishes of Long Island.

Larry Penny, Howard Reisman, Emerson Hasbrouck. A complete illustrated guide to the scores of species that inhabit Long Island waters. All three authors are renowned naturalists.

A Guide to Long Island's Nature Preserves.

John Turner. John will provide a comprehensive guide to each of Long Island's scores of nature preserves so that you know what to look for when you go to one. Maps and charts will open up this extensive system to thousands of Long Islanders.

The Seashells of Long Island.

An update of the book published by the Long Island Shell Club in 1988. This is a complete catalogue of Long Island seashells. It also offers an opportunity to photograph in high-resolution detail their renowned collection of seashells to preserve it for future generations.

Trail Guide to the East End: Southampton.**Trail Guide to the East End: East Hampton.**

A new edition of Mike Bottini's best-selling trail guide, this time in two volumes, greatly expanded and enhanced with photos and maps.

Trail Guide to the Pine Barrens.

A new edition of the guide prepared by the Long Island Pine Barrens Society. Royalties benefit the Society.

Exploring the Other Island, Volume II

John Turner. John is already at work on this. It will include chapters on owls, woodpeckers, goatsuckers, galls, American Holly, and much more.

On the East End: Recollections of a Long Island Fishing Community.

Clarence Hickey. An eloquent memoir of the last generation of authentic Bonacker baymen in the seventies, including a lot of valuable historical information about the beginnings of the environmental preservation movement at that time.

Guide to Long Island Seaweeds.

In Japan, seaweed is a major source of nourishment. With this guide, we hope Long Islanders will discover the bounty in their bays.

Tidal Marshes of Long Island.

Torrey Botanical Society. A complete guide to perhaps the most crucial ecosystem of Long Island.

Long Island Native Plants for Landscaping: A Sourcebook.

Karen Blumer. New edition of this classic guide to Long Island's native flora.

The Return of the River Otter to Long Island.

Mike Bottini. Mike has done pioneering work tracking evidence of the growing presence of the River Otter on Long Island. More info at MikeBottini.com.

Waylon's Wandering Waterdrop.

John Turner. A new edition of John's illustrated children's book describing the water cycle. This is an especially important lesson today, as we learn more about the increasing threats to Long Island's aquifers.

A Guide to Long Island Pine Barrens.

John Turner. The Long Island Pine Barrens — more than 35,000 contiguous acres of publicly-owned open space — is the result of a several decades-long land acquisition effort. John Turner will provide: 1) An overview of the major features of

the ecosystem, the ecological processes that shape it, the natural communities and plant and animal species that collectively comprise the ecosystem 2) An overview of the several decades long battle to "preserve the pines" and 3) property specific descriptions in which a property's notable natural features is described.

A Guide to the Long Pond Greenbelt.

The Long Pond Greenbelt encompasses a magnificent six-mile-long expanse of thirteen interconnected ponds, woods, and wetlands. Spectacular for its wealth of rare plants, animals, and ecological communities, the Greenbelt is widely recognized as one of the most ecologically significant areas in all of New York.

The Story of an Island: The Geology and Geography of Long Island.

Margaret M. Voelbel. A new edition of this classic for young adults.

The Mammals of Long Island, New York.

P. Connor. A new edition of this important historical monograph, edited and updated by Mike Bottini and others.

Radio Nature News

A weekly five-minute radio update on what's happening outdoors on Long Island. Mike Bottini has already recorded 40 of these, which were broadcast a few years ago on WLIU. They are available at MikeBottini.com. We hope to continue and expand the series and offer it other Long Island radio stations.

Peconic Water Trail

Mike Bottini. An informational guide and map for paddlers. Topics include safety, tides and currents, access and parking, camping and other accommodation options, cultural, historical and ecological points of interest, outfitters for tours, lessons and rental equipment. A major objective of the water trail is to foster a stewardship ethic towards the Peconic estuary among the fast-growing paddling community.

For more about our publishing program please see HEPdigital.com.

HEP has been publishing books about local Long Island natural history (and other local topics) for ten years and has established a reputation as a leading publisher of Long Island subject matter. The company has been in the Internet business since the beginning and currently designs, manages, and hosts eight locally focussed websites.

In addition to these publishing projects, our main aim is to create a clearing house on the web for information on Long Island flora and fauna. LongIslandNature.org will serve as the center. Everyone can report sightings here from which we can build a database of the nature community of Long Island.

Each of the books costs between \$5,000 and \$20,000 to produce. The business plan for the web-based clearing house calls for a budget of about \$100,000 per year. The Group for the East End and The Nature Conservancy support the project. We are confident other foundations will support the Clearing House project once it begins.

We are currently looking for financial partners to launch Long Island Nature Organization. Please contact James Monaco at 631 725 9513 or JMonaco@UNET2.net for more information.

See also:

LongIslandNature.org

Currently devoted to John Turner's book, this will be the domain name to be used for the Clearing House site.

MikeBottini.com

See especially Mike's Otter Study and Turtle Study Reports.

Alulatrips.com

John's birding tour company.

Peconic.org

Currently our central site for local natural history news.

HEPdigital.com

Our publishing company.

LongPondGreenbelt.org

We manage this site for the Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt. See especially the essays on the various ponds and the slideshow, which will form the basis for the book.

About Us

Mike Bottini

Mike Bottini is a veteran naturalist, outdoor educator, and environmental consultant. Mike worked for fourteen years at the Group for the South Fork, a non-profit environmental advocacy organization. He has taught field ecology, environmental science, and natural history courses at St. Lawrence University, Southampton College, and CUNY, has published three books, and is an award-winning columnist. Mike's wildlife research studies have included elk, spotted and tiger salamanders, spotted turtles, piping plovers, and river otters. He continues to introduce people to the outdoors through his field naturalist classes, nature walks, and paddling trips. Mike also serves on the board of SPOKESPEOPLE of Eastern Long Island, a cycling advocacy organization. He is also active in the Plum Island preservation project.

James Monaco

James Monaco is a writer and publisher who has been active in the electronic publishing and internet businesses for thirty years. He is the author or editor of more than thirteen books about film and media which have been published in fourteen languages, including the best-selling *How To Read a Film*. He founded Baseline, the online source for film and television professionals, in 1982. By 2006 the company had become a division of The New York Times Company. He founded UNET, an internet pioneer, in 1992. The company was sold to News Corp two years later. Fifteen years ago he founded Harbor Electronic Publishing to focus on books of local interest to Long Island and on innovative nature studies.

John Turner

Retired Director of the Division of Environmental Protection for the Town of Brookhaven where he was instrumental in preserving much open space, John Turner also teaches at Stony Brook University. He was a co-founder of the Long Island Pine Barrens Society and recipient of *Newsday's* "Everyday Hero" award for his long-standing commitment to environmental protection. He is a prolific author whose articles have appeared in numerous magazines devoted to natural history. In 2011 he founded Alula Birding and Natural History Tours whose mission is "to inspire people to deepen their appreciation of, connection with, and commitment toward the natural world by sharing its many wonders, and by working to safeguard these aspects of nature in the places we visit."

For more information:

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