

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the
Williamsburg Bird Club**
Wednesday, April 20, 2011
Room 150, Millington Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: 41

President's Remarks:

- President Shirley Devan opened the meeting. She welcomed club members and asked new members and guests to identify themselves.
- Shirley asked Savannah Williams, a farmer from Surry County, to introduce herself and describe the Bird Count which will be held on her property on May 7 and 8. It will be the 1st Bird Count at South of the Ferry (SOTF) Jim Tucker of Chattanooga, Tennessee, the founder of the American Birding Association, will be the leader of this new annual activity at SOTF.
- Shirley reminded everyone about putting parking permits on their vehicles.
- Shirley reminded everyone that 2011 club dues need to be paid.
- Shirley mentioned that we have Bird Club hats and shirts available for a donation.

Other Business:

Club members mentioned the following interesting birds in their yards:

Alex Minarik has a Prothonotary Warbler living in her wood duck box. Other birds mentioned were Swan, Pileated Woodpecker, Chuck will's Widow, Greater Yellow Legged, Eastern Kingbird, Black & White Warblers, Ovenbirds, Red Eyed Vireo, Purple Martin, Carolina Wren, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, and Chickadee.

Upcoming Events:

- Bird Walk @New Quarter Park, Saturday, April 23, 2011, 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Led by Bill Williams.
- Spring Bird Count, Sunday, May 1. Same protocols and sectors as Christmas bird count. Tally and snacks at the Carrot Tree beginning at 5:00 p.m. Bill Williams is the coordinator and compiler.
- Bird Walk @New Quarter Park, Saturday, May 14, 2011, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Led by Geoff Giles.

Upcoming Events (continued)

- Next club meeting will be Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 7:30 p.m. Three graduate students we support will give talks.
- Field trip to 42nd Street and Riverside Drive on Saturday, May 21, 6:00 a.m. This is Site CRI11 on the Virginia Birding & Wildlife Trail. It is near the falls of the James River and is one of the top hotspots in the Richmond Area. Leader is Lewis Barnett, a Richmond Audubon chapter leader.
- Bird Walk @New Quarter Park, Saturday, May 28, 2011, 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Led by Bill Williams.
- Annual Picnic at Ruth & Sherwin Beck's home in Barhamsville on June 5, 2011. Event begins at 4:00 p.m. Jean Rend is organizing the pot luck.

Program:

Joe Piotrowski introduced Sergio Harding who presented a program on Bird Conservation Activities by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The DGIF, in addition to the restoration and management of game bird species, has a rich history of implementing and supporting the conservation of nongame avian species. DGIF takes a multi-faceted approach to bird conservation, including research and monitoring, education and outreach, habitat management and land acquisition. This presentation will give an overview of DGIF's bird conservation activities, with a focus on research and monitoring and highlighting a few select projects. Sergio has worked as a Nongame Bird Conservation Biologist with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries since 2005. In this capacity he is responsible for interagency coordination on bird conservation issues, including coordination of the VA Bird Conservation Initiative. Sergio is also the VA coordinator of the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), and regularly participates in avian surveys. These have included breeding landbird surveys of Wildlife Management Areas as well as surveys of bald eagles, peregrine falcons, golden-winged warblers and breeding marsh birds.

At the end of the program, a free raffle was conducted for a Crossley Field Guide.

Closing:

Shirley adjourned the meeting and refreshments were served in the Millington lobby outside Room 150. The refreshments were provided by Barb Streb & Jan Lockwood.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Boag, Secretary
Williamsburg Bird Club
May 9, 2011