

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the
Williamsburg Bird Club**

Wednesday, September 21, 2011
Room 101, Andrews Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: 36

President's Remarks:

- President Shirley Devan opened the meeting. She welcomed club members and asked new members and guests to identify themselves.
- Shirley reminded everyone that they needed a Parking Permit for their car.
- Shirley mentioned that refreshments after the meeting would be provided by Barb Streb and Cathy Hill.
- Shirley mentioned that Bird Club hats and shirts would be available after the meeting for a donation.
- Shirley announced the formation of a Nominating Committee consisting of Jennifer Boag, Jeanette Navia, and Joe Piotrowski who would present a slate of officers for the 2012 Bird Club Board. Each position is for one-year. She asked anyone who would like to be considered for the board to contact Jeanette Navia through the "Contact" page on the Club's web site.

Other Business:

- Club members mentioned the following interesting birds in their yards: Red Starts, Juncos, Red-eyed Vireos, and Pine Warblers.
- Jeanette and Shirley told the group about their recent trip to Chincoteague with the VSO. They saw 139 species; Jeanette particularly enjoyed seeing a Green Heron. Shirley mentioned that Chincoteague looked very different after Hurricane Irene with roads washed out and beaches eroded in many places.
- Geoff Giles told the group about the field trip to Kiptopeke last Saturday and mentioned that he saw a Merlin chasing a Belted Kingfisher.

Upcoming Events

- 9/24/11 **Bird Walk at Greensprings Trail** led by Bill Williams at 7:00 a.m. Park next to the Tennis courts at Jamestown High School.
- 10/8/11 **Bird Walk at Beaverdam Park in Gloucester County** George Harris of Gloucester county. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road to carpool or at the main entrance to Beaverdam Park at 8687 Roaring Springs Road.
- 10/15/11 **Field Trip to Shirley Plantation** led by Tom McCary. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road to carpool or at the Visitor's Parking lot at Shirley Plantation, near the restrooms, at 8:00 a.m. There is a \$5 per

person admission fee for access to the grounds, fields, and wildfowl impoundments. For those who are interested, there is an option of a tour of the plantation house for a discounted rate of \$12.

10/19/11 **Bird Club Meeting.** Bob Ake will talk about his Big Year.

11/5/11 **TogetherGreen Volunteer Day.** Volunteers from the Williamsburg and Hampton Roads Bird clubs will do a bird survey and clean up at Bethel Beach and New Point Comfort Natural Area Preserves, both part of our adopted Western Shore Marshes IBA. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road to carpool or at Mathews High School parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

Geoff made the following announcements:

- We are hoping to reschedule the field trip to Craney Island which was cancelled due to Hurricane Irene.
- We are hoping to schedule another field trip to Kiptopeke to see the hawk watch and the song bird banding stations. Geoff reported that the previous Friday had been an exceptional day at Kiptopeke since the north wind had finally come in. Over 1,495 songbirds were banded including six species of Flycatchers (including Trails' Flycatcher); three species of Vireo including the Philadelphia Vireo; four species of Thrushes including fourteen Swainson's Thrush and three Gray-Cheeked Thrush; 26 species of warblers including the Northern Parula, Black-Throated, and Black and White; Ovenbirds, Common Yellow Throats, and 446 Red Starts were also banded. In addition, there were about 500 raptors seen at the hawk watch station.

Program:

Shirley Devan and Ruth Beck presented information about the newly adopted Western Shore Marshes IBA which the club co-adopted with the Hampton Roads Bird Club. They described the areas with photos and maps and discussed the importance of conserving and protecting these areas and the special birds in these habitats. Ruth Beck's discussion focused on the birds she has been studying at Grandview Nature Preserve (Factory Point spit) IBA for many years.

At the end of the program, a free raffle was conducted.

Shirley adjourned the meeting and refreshments were served in the Andrews lobby outside Room 101.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Boag, Secretary
Williamsburg Bird Club
October 18, 2011