

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

Wednesday, February 15, 2012
Room 150, Millington Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Attendance: 75

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 asked members to report recent bird observations to the group. Members reported sightings of the following birds: Painted Bunting, Glaucous Gull, Bald Eagle, Black Vulture, and Northern Gannet.
- Shirley mentioned that refreshments after the meeting would be provided by Virginia & George Boyles and Marilyn & John Adair.
- Shirley reminded club members that the Great Backyard Bird Count would be held from February 17-20, 2012.
- *Shirley reminded everyone that Bird Club hats, pins, and patches are available during refreshments for a donation.*

Upcoming Field Trips & Bird Walks:

Geoff Giles told the group about the following upcoming field trips and bird walks:

- 2/17-2/20/12 Members of the club will be at **York River State Park** at 1:00 p.m. every day of the Great Backyard Bird Count to lead walks and count birds.
- 2/18/12 **Dutch Gap County Park** (near Henricus Historic settlement) led by Shirley Devan. Great opportunity to see winter waterfowl.
- 2/19/12 **Island Hopping on the CBBT Islands** with the Hampton Roads Bird Club.
- 2/25/12 **Bird Walk at New Quarter Park.** Meet at the Visitor Center at 7:00 a.m.
- 2/26/12 **Boat trip to Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel Islands.**
- 3/17/12 New Kent Forestry Center led by TBD. Will coordinate with the Hampton Roads Bird Club.
- 4/21/12 Great Dismal Swamp.

A field trip to see red cockaded woodpeckers will also be planned later this year.

Other Business:

- Barb needs volunteers to provide refreshments in April and October.
- Dave Youker updated the group on the Western Shores Marshes IBA. On March 3, club members will assist Dave with doing a survey of the Robbins and Guinea Neck portions of the Gloucester part of the IBA. The IBA is over 12,500 acres and over 50 miles of shore line. We would like to survey bird populations, remove litter, assess habitat changes, partner with land owners, plant helpful vegetation, and do outreach to the community.

Program:

Vice President Joe Piotrowski introduced Dean Shostak who presented a program on *Everglades: Birds, Gators, and More*, a photographic, video, and audio journey in the Everglades. Dean is a Certified VA Master Naturalist who led a group of 22 Bird Club members, Master Naturalists, and Colonial Nature Photo Club members on nature expedition to the Everglades in mid-January. The group ventured out on dawn and dusk kayak trips, slough slogs, swamp walks, and swamp buggies to experience everything the Everglades offered.

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

Shirley adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m. and refreshments were served in the lobby outside Millington 150.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer A. Boag, Secretary
Williamsburg Bird Club
April 21, 2012