

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the
Williamsburg Bird Club
Wednesday, October 15, 2014
Room 101, Andrews Hall, W&M, 7:30 pm**

Attendance: 40

President's Remarks:

- President Geoff Giles opened the meeting and welcomed club members. There were 5 visitors.
- Geoff enquired about interesting bird sightings but none were reported locally.
- Geoff asked Betty Peterson to show the membership a catalog put out by Road Scholar created by Elderhostel and that features a number of birding trips. The catalog and Betty will be available after the meeting for questions.

Announcements:

- Geoff reported that there are 2 openings on the Board of the Williamsburg Bird Club and asked that anyone interested should speak to him or Shirley Devan. These offices are:
 1. Field Trip Chairman (Jim Corliss will not be available for a while due to family illness).
 2. Newsletter Editor
- Geoff announced that the citizen scientist Project Feederwatch, a winter long survey of birds, will be running again this year from November to April. He showed the membership the research packet he'd received and said he would be glad to speak to people at the end of the meeting about the project. He stressed how the info is useful to scientists at Cornell Lab and Audubon Society. Participation is very flexible as one can watch ones feeder as little or as much as desired. Reporting can be done on-line.

Upcoming Events:

- Field Trips:

October 18, Saturday: Eastern Shore National Wildlife Refuge and Kiptopeke State Park in the morning with continued birding in the afternoon for those who wish. Carpooling will be available at 7:30 am at Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Rd. Geoff introduced Nick Newberry, president of W&M Bird Club as our eyes and ears for this trip as he was there on a college field trip 2 weekends ago . Nick gave us some highlights of what we might see.
- Programs:

Cheryl Jacobson reported that the meetings for October 15 and November 19 would feature a documentary about research on Juncos in 2 parts that was highly recommended by Dan Cristol and for which he would provide a commentary.

Program: Cheryl Jacobson introduced tonight's speaker, Bob Schamerhorn, who gave an illustrated lecture, 'Birding Florida's Hotspots'. Bob is a graphic designer and professional photographer. He not only showed many wonderful close-ups of birds and their family life but also gave out a handout with

map and location information of the best places he'd found for photographing and observing these interesting birds in Florida both in winter (December) and early springtime (April).

At the end of the meeting a free raffle was held.

Geoff adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Refreshments were provided by Ruth and Deane Gordon.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Millar, Secretary Williamsburg Bird Club
October 15, 2014