

## MINUTES OF THE WCAS BOARD MEETING OF MAY 3, 2005

The board of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society met at the Rocky River Nature Center at 6:30 p.m. before the regular meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss current business and to plan for the future. In attendance were Tom and Mary Anne Romito, Terri Martincic, Nancy Howell, Claudia Anders, Mary Beth Uhr, and Kit Birch.

1. Tom began the meeting by showing the election slate charts which will be presented to the membership for voting at tonight's meeting. The president and vice president positions are still empty, so it has been decided to rotate the chairing of the meetings from month to month among the board members.
2. The board decided to have a summer board meeting on July 7 at 5:30 at Tom and Mary Anne's house. We will conduct the hand off of officer and board member duties at this time.
3. Mike Purdy from Akron Audubon contacted Tom again to remind us of their picnic on June 28 at Bath Nature Preserve to which WCAS has been invited. Tom will mention this again to our members, as well as the fact that we will also have our own WCAS picnic on June 7 at South Mastic Picnic Area.
4. Nancy brought materials to teach our bird of the month, the Magnolia Warbler, tonight. Kit put the picture and info on our bulletin board.
5. Tom told us the WCAS table was well-staffed and well-received at the Rocky River Nature Festival on April 23 and 24 despite the bad weather.
6. Terri told us the April 30 Weeders in the Wild garlic mustard pull was well attended. Her pocket cards for invasive plants are still being planned for the future.
7. Tom informed us that he attended an Ohio Audubon Board of Directors meeting and they are trying to give more Audubon at Home grant money away. It was suggested that the Cats at Home fliers paid for by Audubon at Home could be distributed to local animal shelters to be given away during adoptions.
8. Claudia shared with us the information she obtained at the Audubon Chapter Training she attended on April 30 such as: developing a work action plan, attracting young people, protecting our water resources, protecting Important Bird Areas, and the Great Lakes Water Management program. Jerry Tinianow and John Ritzenthaler from Audubon Ohio were also there.
9. Nancy said she has volunteers lined up for School Days at Edgewater Park and she has put together new materials for an educational bird identification display.
10. Tom reminded us of the August 20 strategic planning workshop for board members at which John Ritzenthaler will show us how to do a "point count" of birds in the Rocky River watershed district. We would provide the volunteers in the field doing the counting and monitoring, but a professional would be needed to organize them and present analyzed findings to Audubon Ohio.
11. Tom told us that the Council of Ohio Audubon Chapters, of which he is vice president, is considering funding a scholarship to Hog Island Audubon Camp in Maine in 2006. Each council is being asked to contribute towards the \$1500 fee in the hopes that the recipient of this scholarship would share his/her knowledge with young people afterwards. We were unable to reach a decision on this matter, but will consider it again soon.