

## MINUTES OF THE WCAS BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 5, 2004

The board of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society met at the Rocky River Nature Center before the regular monthly meeting. The purpose of the meeting was the discussion of current business and planning for the future. In attendance were Tom Romito, Nancy Howell, Terri Martincic, Paula Lozano, and Kit Birch.

1. Tom told us that Mary Anne wanted to encourage people to attend this weekend's dedication ceremonies held at CVNP. There will be a "Big Sit" at Ira Rd. trail head and boardwalk area where Audubon members will sit in groups to count birds and talk to interested passers-by. Mary Anne and Tom also want members to use our WCAS web site as a tool for finding out about our activities. Our field trip and program schedule for 2004-2005 is on this site as well future dates for Terri's Weeders in the Wild group and other bird related information. Tom asked us to have all our articles for the November newsletter turned in as soon as possible.
2. Tom showed us a map showing the 15 mile diameter circle WCAS will be responsible for in the Christmas Bird Count. Paula questioned the accuracy of the map's boundaries, and said she would check into the matter. The official name is the Lakewood Christmas Bird Count.
3. Tom told us that we are continuing to get people joining at the Passport level of \$35. Those joining at the lower basic level will still have their own nametags available at each meeting. Tom made up questionnaires to hand out to guests at each meeting to get feed back on what they like or dislike about our meetings. Tom will also use these to help find future candidates for board positions.
4. Terri volunteered to call Trish and ask her about her progress on the Audubon At Home grant project of which she is in charge.
5. Terri said she has closed down Weeders in the Wild for this year because she is the only leader available. She hopes to extend the group's season next year if she can find other members willing to lead some of the invasive plant removal events.
6. National Audubon is going to send Tom a copy of the National Audubon Society Ad Hoc Chapter Committee's report on chapter partnership issues. They want feedback from chapters on this report by Dec. 1, 2004. They will meet in Naples, Florida in February, 2005. A copy of the report is also on the NAS website.
7. It was decided that guests (non-chapter members) would be given decorated cups so board members could recognize them easily and make them feel welcome. It was also decided that regular chapter members will use real mugs from now on to save on environmentally unfriendly Styrofoam cups.
8. Mike Purdy of the Akron Audubon Society has invited WCAS to it's June picnic at the new University of Akron Biology Field Station at Bath Nature Preserve. We will get a tour of their field station and maybe a presentation by a UA researcher. Details can be worked out later.

9. The American Bird Conservancy sent a letter to WCAS asking us to join their Bird Conservation Alliance. The membership would be \$50 a year. The board decided that we do not know enough about this endeavor to justify the expense at this time.
10. A “get out the vote” type of flier was sent to WCAS by a number of conservation groups promoting the website [www.candidateneight.org](http://www.candidateneight.org) . We will distribute these fliers at tonight’s meeting.
11. Paula informed us that so far she has ordered six classroom and two individual Audubon Adventure Kits at a cost of \$294. She will be given a check for this amount tonight.
12. Nancy told us she plans to spend about \$24 on the Pale Male DVD we will be viewing at our Christmas Potluck Dinner. Due to our scheduled speaker canceling recently, Nancy has graciously volunteered to do a presentation on her bee keeping hobby tonight.
13. Tom adjourned the board meeting at 7:15 so we could get ready for the regular meeting.