

MINUTES OF WCAS MARCH MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society was held at the Rocky River Nature Center in North Olmsted, Ohio, on March 2, 2004. There were approximately 25 people present. President Tom Romito conducted the meeting.

1. Tom acknowledged a guest visitor from Columbus, Casey Tucker, who administers the new Audubon at Home pilot project. Tom also welcomed all first time visitors and had them introduce themselves.
2. The minutes of the February meeting were read by recording secretary, Kit Birch.
3. Tom talked about our Passport project and once again explained that members can earn points toward rewards by attending meetings and field trips. Board members will initial Passports during meetings and after field trips and activities. Passports should be turned in to Tom by May 15.
4. Tom reminded everyone that our next field trip will be at Columbia Reservation on March 20, at 8 a.m. It is located on Rt. 82 past Rt. 252. Our June picnic will be held this year at a new location. It will be at Horseshoe Pond in CVNP near Rt. 303 and I.77. We hope to have a bird walk, cook-out and plant exchange. The location was chosen for its closer proximity to Akron so the Akron Audubon chapter members will be able to join us and we can get to know each other. Tom asked for input as to the first Sunday or Saturday in June, and times favored. No consensus was reached.
5. Terri Martincic announced that her grant application for money from Audubon at Home had been granted, but that it really was for a different project than she had envisioned. Casey Tucker told her a stronger educational component was needed than having a group eradicate invasive plants in parks. Whatever our group does must relate to what people can do in their own yards and neighborhoods. Terri and the board agreed to delay taking the \$1000 grant money until a revised plan to use it is agreed upon. In the mean time Terri is going ahead with her invasive plant project called "Weeders in the Wild". There will be an organizational meeting on March 15, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. at Rocky River Nature Center.
6. Nancy Howell thanked Dave LeGallee for helping her with the WCAS exhibit at the Science Olympiad at Cleveland State University. She also informed us that we have been invited to participate in the "Dike 14 Wildlife Festival" sponsored by the Dike 14 Environmental Education Collaborative. It will be held on May 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is located at the end of Martin Luther King Blvd. right on the lake. All are welcome to come and enjoy guided nature tours and boat rides at this 88 acre site, and Nancy would also like some members to volunteer to help out with this. We have also been invited back to the Edgewater State Park's "Edgewater School Days" to set up

our hands-on wetlands display in the Fun Fair section.

7. Young wildlife artist Adam Grimm presented his program, "An Eye for Wildlife" in which he shared his beginning and subsequent rise to national recognition. He displayed some of his actual paintings and showed others in a slide show presentation. It was easy to see why he won the prestigious Federal Duck Stamp competition, and has been able to transform his love of nature into a lifelong career.