

Minutes of the WCAS Membership Meeting 9-6-2005

1. Called to order at 7:40 pm by MC Nancy Howell
2. Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting with great enthusiasm!  
She stated that she was waiting for the scheduled speaker to arrive.  
She announced that on the back table were copies of the WCAS newsletter and list of meetings and field trips.  
Nancy acknowledged and thanked Kit for setting up the display for information  
Nancy encouraged everyone to join or renew their Chapter Membership, and reviewed rewards for basic (newsletter, nametag ) and enhanced (newsletter, name tag and WCAS patch)
3. Alice asked for volunteers to sign up for refreshments for the rest of the meeting Year.
4. Tom Romito announced that the next WCAS sponsored field trip would be this Saturday, 9-11 at the West Creek Metropark in Parma, 7:30 pm. He invited all to Come and look for fall warblers and grassland sparrows. Tom will lead it.
5. Tom then explained that WCAS was the first chapter in Ohio to adopt an IBA- the Rocky River IBA. This covers the East Branch of the Rocky River from Hinckley to Lake Erie. He stated that following the August Strategy meeting three Sub-committees were formed; further reports with details will be coming in the future.
6. Tom announced that he has now been elected to the Board of Directors of Audubon of Ohio. He is 1 of 21 people over 19 Ohio Chapters. The purpose of the Board is to advise the Ohio Audubon office of conservation issues. Tom was asked to run for the position by the President of Ohio Audubon Board of Directors. His agenda is to try to influence the State office to support the Chapters.
7. Terri announced that the next Weeders in the Wild will be with Stacy Allen, Cleveland Metroparks Naturalist at the West Creek Metropark in Parma from 2-4 pm Sat. 9-10-2005. She anticipates removing Buckthorn and Phragmites.  
October 1<sup>st</sup> the group will be in Brecksville reservation pulling Japanese Barberry.
8. Nancy announced that WCAS was sponsoring teachers if they would like to obtain and use the Audubon Adventure teaching kits for grades 3, 4, and 5. This Includes four kits for one year membership. Info is on the back table or see Nancy Howell.
9. Nancy announced that next month for the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting Christine Stanford would speak on Snakes and Water snakes around Lake Erie.

10. When the scheduled speaker did not show, Joe Reardon, new member of WCAS volunteered to speak on the topic: Alternative Energy Source to Windmills around Lake Erie.

Joe stated that he has had an interest in this area for some time. He stated that windmills are expensive to maintain, unstable and fast moving and in constant motion. He felt that Audubon needs to take a careful look at what existing windmill farms are doing to migratory birds. He stated that we need an alternative to coal and gas.

He proposed the use of Fuel Cells. There are two basic types of fuel cells: Hydrogen or Phosphoric Acid Based Cells. He explained in basic terms how they work and gave examples of their current use and the status of research. He entertained questions as well.

Thank you very much Joe for presenting impromptu and sharing you knowledge and information.

11. Nancy thanked Joe for speaking and members for attending.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Anders