AUSABLE VALLEY AUDUBON MEETING, November 12, 2024
AuSable/Oscoda Senior Center, 653 State St. SW, Oscoda, MI 48750
AMENDED (December 10, 2024) - Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES:
Board Members Present (all), Absent (none):
- Bill Roth, President
- Kathy Swindlehurst, VP
- Dawn Hooper, Treasurer
- Amy Kohlhepp, Secretary
- Nancy Myers, Member at Large

Sign Up Sheet was presented to members at Welcome Table, a quorum was present.

Guests Present:
- Shelley Goodlaski
- Roxanne VanHouten
- Sherry and David (saw ad in newspaper)
- Ken and Kay (saw ad in newspaper)
- Gloria, Master Gardner

MOTIONS:
Motions Made, Results of Voting, Agreed upon Actions
- None, except acceptance of Treasurer's Report and last month meeting minutes.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer's Report provided by Dawn Hooper. The Chapter has $7,707.82 reconciled but we bought audio visual and presentation equipment, and the bench hasn't been subtracted yet so next month the total will be down significantly. Reminder that dues are owed, send checks to Dawn Hooper at 2414 N. US Hwy 23, Oscoda 48750.

Motion made to accept report, seconded and passed.

Minutes Report:
Minutes from the October 8, 2024 meeting were read by Amy Kohlhepp.

Motion made to accept minutes, seconded and passed.

MEETING SUMMARY/DISCUSSION

At approximately 3:06 pm, the Au Sable Valley gathered for a monthly meeting. President Bill Roth welcomed members and guests. We had a large group, enough to establish a quorum.

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Hooded Mergansers, lots of winter ducks, Spotted Towhee, Coopers Hawk, Lots of Trumpeters seen in many locations, Flocks of Wood ducks in Oak Trees, Blue Phase Snow Goose, Horned Larks, White Crowned Sparrows, Lapland Longspurs, Snow Buntings.

EM'S BIRD LESSON OF THE DAY: House finches rub tube feeders to open their eyes when they get eye disease. If you see any eye disease, then take down your feeder to help prevent spreading. Other birds do not rub their eyes to be able to see. The disease was from domestic poultry.

In addition, Bird Watcher's Digest was re-done as Bird Magazine. Em had copies of old editions for anyone that wanted to take them.

PRESENTATION
Birds of Alaska, especially St. Paul Island Alaska by Amy Kohlhepp

10 MINUTE BREAK

OLD BUSINESS

TAWAS POINT
Larry VanWagoner's team completed the benches for the Tawas Point feeding station and will be installing them on the 13th at 11:00 am if anyone wants to help. The benches were designed by committee and the building was implemented by Larry and Bob Kemnitz.

Bill Roth thanked Bob and Larry on behalf of AVA.

OWLING FIELD TRIP
Thirteen members showed up for our first (hopefully annual) Owl Calling Campfire. There was great food, stories, and friendship. One Great Horned Owl was heard by several members.

PHOTOS
If you have great bird photos that you want to share, send to Carol Cole for distribution on our Facebook page, or Amy Kohlhepp for our Webpage. You will get credit for the photo and a description will be helpful (location, activity, who took the photo for credit).
Amy Kohlhepp (Web): kohlhepp@comcast.net, 517-489-7879
Carol Cole (Facebook): carol.em.cole@icloud.com, 734-484-4723

NAME TAGS
If you need a name tag, let Nancy Myers or Kathy Swindlehurst know:
Nancy Myers: 724-889-6576
Kathy Swindlehurst: 313-330-2974

SPEAKING SERIES
Pam Carter has been giving presentations at the Alcona Library in Harrisville about Safe Bird Feeding Practices on our behalf.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Larry VanWagoner will need volunteers for 2024 Circles. There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers, asking also if you are willing to drive.

Tawas is Wednesday, December 18th and Oscoda is Saturday, December 21st.

Larry VanWagoner, lvanwago@charter.net, 989-701-5470

NO MESS CUSTOM BLEND SEED:
Standish Milling makes a seed that is "no mess". Gingrich's sells it. You can buy 12 bags and get the 13th free at Standish Milling on M-61.

TAWAS FEEDING STATION:
More Information. Larry VanWagoner showed us the design to cover the old poles for the feeders. He and Pam Carter are going to get together to discuss next steps.

Peggy Ridgeway mentioned that safflower seed is good because Squirrels do not like it.

NEW BUSINESS

WEBINAR ANNOUNCEMENT
Trumpeter Swans webinar on November 13th, if you want information ask Bill Roth.

Iosco Historical Society has a presentation about Wild Rice that may be interesting.
Amendment: Ed Davis attended the presentation and said it was fabulous. He recommended that people read the book (Amazon Link: https://a.co/d/givxun8\).

AUDIO VISUAL AND SPEAKER EQUIPMENT
Amy Kohlhepp showed the new equipment to everyone, which was used for the presentation. The equipment (Bose PA system, Epson Projector, storage case, projection screen and cords cost $2,117. Members were thrilled and expressed thanks for buying these essentials.

NEXT MEETING:
DECEMBER 10, 2024 at 3:00 pm. Presentation is by Bill Roth on Waterfowl at East Tawas Senior Center.

Meeting Adjourned by motion.