

Hampton Roads Bird Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.
2. ID Challenge: Brenda Gervais and Jessica Ausura, standing in for Dave Youker, highlighted distinguishing characteristics of the Veery, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and a "bonus quiz" on a clutch of eggs (those of a Northern Cardinal).
3. EXCOM Member Reports:
  - a. President [Dave Youker was absent; Jessica Ausura and Brenda Gervais co-led the meeting in his stead]:
    - i. Nominating Committee: Jane Frigo (chair) advised that the full slate of candidates for EXCOM member positions that will be vacated this year was set for the election to be held at the May meeting. The slate is as follows:
      - a. President: Shawn Dash  
Field Trip Committee: Jason Strickland and Andy Hawkins  
Host: Jane Frigo and Wendy Maxey  
Director (2016-2019): Dave Youker
    2. EXCOM Members and Committee Chairpersons who will remain in their current positions for the 2016-17 year:
      - a. Vice President – Brenda Gervais  
Treasurer – John Adair  
Secretary – Bill Boeh  
Publicity Committee: Jessica Ausura  
Membership Committee (Gwen Harris)  
Programs Committee (Brenda Gervais)  
Publication Committee (Tom Charlock)  
Directors; Pete Peterman (2014-2017); Andy Hawkins (2015-2018)
    - ii. Jessica recommended a nearby resource for birding by boat: Broadwater Bay Eco Tours located on Virginia's Eastern Shore. The proprietor is highly experienced in providing ecotours and is also the only certified historical guide in Virginia that provides tours by water.
    - iii. The Club's Spring Bird Count will be held on May 7. Email Nancy Gruttman-Tyler or Bill Boeh if you would like to participate and haven't let them know yet.
  - b. Field Trip Coordinator:
    - i. Stuart advised that the Richmond field trip is scheduled for May 14 so as not to conflict with the club's Spring Bird Count. All who are planning to go and have not signed up yet should let Stuart know. Participants will be meeting at the Ranger's Station at Newport News Park in time for a 6:00 AM departure for Richmond. See the newsletter for further details.
  - c. Hospitality: Shawn Dash (standing in for Katrina) advised that volunteers are needed to stand up a Picnic Committee. Additionally, Shawn advised that there

will be a raffle at the May club meeting. Club members who would like to donate items for the raffle, or are interested in working on the Picnic Committee should email or call Katrina.

- d. Membership: Not present.
  - e. Newsletter Editor: Tom needs inputs for his next newsletter!
  - f. Treasurer: Nothing of significance to report.
  - g. Publicity: Jessica advised that her next Daily Press article will be out this coming Thursday.
  - h. Open discussion:
    - i. Tom Charlock advised that he attended the York River Sierra Club-hosted "Newport News Candidates Forum" on Wednesday, April 13 at the Main Street Library in Newport News. Tom advised that only one candidate (Dr. Patricia P. Woodbury) was solidly in favor of keeping the City Farm land as a public resource; the other candidates were either in favor of commercial development or undecided.
4. Guest Speaker: Bill Williams provided presentation, "The Diversity and Natural History of Hummingbirds". The presentation covered multiple species that inhabit North and South America, included some basic facts about hummingbirds as facts, and also cited some occasions where species normally only found in the western U.S. were found in Virginia.
5. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
6. Next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, at the usual time and place--6:30 PM, Sandy Bottom Park.