

## **Southeast Volusia Audubon Society Meeting**

**November 10, 2016**

### **Financial Report:**

Beginning Balance:	\$1993.36
National Audubon:	\$ 40.00
Ending Balance	\$2033.36

### **Field Trip Report:**

Joe would like input from members if more than once a month field trips are desired. He would also like to know the preferred day of week that would be most convenient for attendees.

Currently the trips we have are:

Nov 18th 2016 Lake Apopka meet at 0700

Dec 09th 2016 Washington Oaks meet at 0730

Jan 13th 2017 Orlando Wetlands Tour meet at 0700

The meeting place is the south side of Edgewater Dunkin' Donuts parking lot.

### **Conservation report:**

There are details in the SEVAS website eSkimmer regarding the Springs Eternal project. There are over 700 springs in FL that are not as clean and pure as they used to be. The flow rates are down, there are algae blooms and salt water intrusions. Our chapter would like to make our threatened Florida Springs our focus for the upcoming year 2017. SEVAS President Don Picard will speak more about this at our December meeting.

The rookery island in Port Orange south of the Dunlawton bridge is under negotiations to become a critical wildlife area under the CWAP(critical wildlife area program). In New Smyrna Beach the area near the Dolphin View will start this process which could take a few years but could also be designated as a Critical Wildlife Area.

Audubon Assembly was held Oct 27/28th in St. Pete, FL. If you are ever go there, Boyhill Nature Preserve is a must see. Details of the Assembly's Conservation Priorities can be found on the Florida Audubon Website.

### **New Business:**

Last Sunday we lost a valued super member and friend, Dick Domroski.

He will be terribly missed and fondly remembered. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family. Services will be held November 26th at 11 am.

### **Location name/address to be provided ...**

There is a refreshment signup list if anyone would like to volunteer to bring snacks and beverages. Ideally we would like 2 volunteers a month to share this duty.

The Christmas Bird Count will be held on December 18th. Meet at the Brannon Center parking lot at 0700. More volunteers are needed. Contact Don if you can help. If you don't feel comfortable identifying species you can help by being a scribe. Suggestions are being taken where people would like to go for the bird count wrap up.

Our next club meeting will be held on December 8th, 2016 at 7PM.

**Guest Speaker:**

David Hartgrove the Conservation chair from the Halifax River Audubon in Daytona Beach will share his knowledge and slides of the migrating birds that stop and rest at their first land fall located at Dry Tortugas National Park.

His interest in birds began in 1973 when he witnessed a shrike consume a sparrow to feed its nestlings. In 1986 he volunteered for the Florida Breeding Bird Atlas Project for many years. He has led many birding field trips for Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival. He has also led 7 Dry Tortugas trips for Florida Nature Tours.

If you are interested in a 2017 Dry Tortugas experience you can get more information from [Floridanaturetours.net](http://Floridanaturetours.net)

Dates would be in April and May 2017. There are 4 trips scheduled on a 12 passenger boat. The Captain's grandmother invented Key Lime Pie in the late 1940's.

The Dry Tortugas is one of the world's greatest birding destination. These islands were discovered by Ponce DeLeon in 1513. Construction of Fort Jefferson began in 1846 using 16 million bricks but was never completed.

You can see a Brown Noddy colony on Bush Key. You will see Sooty Terns, Noddys and Frigate Birds.

Slides also depicted Scarlet Tanagers, Northern Parula, various Warblers, Indigo Bunting and raptors like Peregrine Falcon and Merlins that are on the lookout for tired birds. Hospital Key which is 40 ft by 200 ft has the only Masked Booby Colony in the entire United States.

Meeting Adjourned.