

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society Meeting November 12, 2015

Financial Report:

Tax Exempt Status has been approved for 2016

Nov 12, 2015 balance: \$2200.61

Conservation Chair Report by Lamont Ingles:

The scientific depth and scope of the projects presented at Sh.O.R.E. was very impressive. Some subjects were explored thoroughly and many questions answered (e.g. the wide-ranging and deleterious effects of phyto-plankton blooms) but other projects pointed to important areas of scientific inquiry that are just now being explored (e.g. the nature and characterization of man-made marine acoustic effects in the IRL) and require much more research before the effects on the eco-systems of the IRL can be understood. The complete report can be found on our SEVAS website.

Hydraulic fracturing is making the rounds in Florida Legislature. The state wants to take away municipalities home rules so oil companies can frack in Florida whether a particular city wants them there or not. We must tell our legislative representatives that this will hurt our water supply, springs and also cause sink holes.

New Business:

Audubon Adventures: We are currently sponsoring 2 classes at a cost of \$50.00 per class. Donations are welcome.

Swallow tail kite radio transmitter project: Our swallowtail kite that we are sponsoring for 12 months is named "Day". You can go online at www.arcinst.org to track her location.

Speaker: Meret Wilson Bird Bander from Daytona Beach

Meret Wilson is a state and district licensed master bander who has been banding birds in Tomoka State Park since 2004. She would band in Fall and Spring on Helicopter Island. In 2008 when the economy crashed the State decided that her poles were a liability and she ended up at a different area of the park. Lots of species were seen at first but later on she did not see any house wrens or sparrows any more. So they sent her to Boardman Lane to Crab Hole and beyond to another section. Lots of palmetto but few pine trees. Only 45 birds caught in one season. Common yellow throats, catbirds and wood peckers. No bird diversity in this area. Lots of pygmy rattle snakes. Meret was moved to another area with many different trees and some open space. There was a small circular area for the nets. Not a lot of diversity due to the small area. Stayed for about a year and caught only 50 birds. Meret was told to go to yet another area where there was more diversity and more birds. Black throated loons came down from Appalachian mountains. A great area until the bald eagle nest was seen. Due to state law you cannot be within 750 feet of a nest. So off she goes to another home across the street from the south side of the park. But this is a nice area with picnic tables, restroom and fresh water and shelter. The nets can stay at the park which helps with setting up and taking down. The deer have destroyed 2 nets by running through them. This area has a view of the marsh. After checking nets for birds she makes her way back to the marsh to survey that area as well. She gave the audience a wonderful slide show of the banded birds, lots of raptors, snakes, and alligator within this area. Her presentation was fantastic showing lots of beautiful pictures of bird species that she has banded.