

## **October Minutes Lee & Lois Herndon Chapter of TOS**

**Location:** Northeast State at Elizabethton and Zoom

**Date** October 3, 2023

**Attendance:** 17 people attended the meeting in person and 5 people attended via Zoom

**Call to order:** President Dave Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Presentation:** Rachel Whiteman presented a program birds entitled "Making a Story Map for the Elizabethton Bird Club"

**Minutes:** Kim Stroud read the minutes from the September meeting. Roy Knispel made a motion to accepted the minutes as read. Brookie Potter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Vern Maddux presented the Treasurer's Report. The current balance is unchanged at \$4,762.16. Next month, Vern will present the Annual Financial Report

### **Old Business:**

- 1. Roan Mountain Naturalist's Rally:** Joe McGuiness reported on the three bird walks at the Roan Mountain Naturalist Rally. On Saturday, the weather was not cooperative. Debi Campbell spent much of her time birding around Picnic Shelter 2. Joe McGuiness had 6 people in attendance for the beginner birder's walk. Between the Dave Miller Farmstead and Picnic Shelter 2, his group tallied 10 species of birds. On Sunday, weather conditions were better and Joe had 8 people with a total of 39 species. A Wilson's Warbler was one of the highlights of that walk.
- 2. Rankin Bottoms Field Trip:** The Rankin Bottoms field trip was rescheduled for September 23. Joe McGuiness reported that 11 people attended this field trip and a total of 33 species were found. Some highlights of the trip include a Neotropic Cormorant, American Golden Plover, and White Pelicans.
- 3. Fall Count:** Rick Knight reported that so far 118 species have been reported for the Fall Count, which is slightly below average. However, one party has not reported their data yet. So, these numbers may increase.
- 4. Fall TOS State Meeting:** Dave Gardner and Kim Stroud are planning to attend this meeting and will report on it next month.
- 5. October Walks at Sycamore Shoals:** Bryan Stevens announced that he will lead bird walks at Sycamore Shoals during the month of October. He will be able to cover all four walks.
- 6. Winter Trip:** Joe McGuiness announced that he will present more information at the next meeting.

7. **John Hay Memorial:** Vern will contact Bays Mountain Park about the donation.

**New Business:**

1. **Calendars:** Bryan Stevens announced that the deadline for submitting pictures for this year's calendar is October 6.
2. **Volunteer Agreement:** Joe McGuiness reported that it was time to renew the club's volunteer agreement with the United States Forest Service. He also reported that last year the club contributed 228 volunteer hours. Joe made a motion to renew the agreement and Judy Sawyer second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Christmas Party:** Dave Gardner polled the club to determine if there was interest in a Christmas party. The club responded enthusiastically. The second Saturday was discussed as a possible date. We will contact Sycamore Shoals and Tipton Haynes to see which location might be available.

**Recent Sightings:** Warren Massey reported a purple gallinule in Washington County.

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:** Kim Stroud