

Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

Board Meeting Minutes

March 28, 1999

The board meeting of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology was held on March 28 at Williamsport. Present were Alan Gregory, Doug Gross, Shonah Hunter, Rudy Keller, Katrina Knight, Arlene Koch, Bob Ross, and Margaret and Roger Higbee. A checkbook balance of \$7,168.61 was reported.

Discussion centered around speakers for the fall annual meeting. Scheduled to speak are Scott Weidensaul, Dave Brandes, Scott Klinger, Paul Rodewald, and Louis Bevier. It was decided that Pete Dunne can do his book signing during the Saturday social hour before the banquet. His program will be "Pishing 101." Scott Weidensaul will speak on "Saw-whet Owl Banding in PA."

Field trip possibilities include Lake Ontelaunee, Blue Marsh, Glen Morgan Lake, the Rt. 183 Hawk Watch, Carr Lake, and maybe a trip for sharp-tailed sparrows along the Susquehanna. A preview of the field trips will be given on Friday evening.

Margaret reported that the newsletter is ready to go including registration forms for the annual meeting. Bob Ross commented on the helpfulness of the map with locations of the field trip destinations that was included in the newsletter last year prior to the annual meeting. A map will also be included in this newsletter which will be mailed this week.

The Wildlife Conservation Fund is almost broke. Possibly funds from the new conservation license plate will help.

The Pennsylvania Forest Bioblitz '99 is being sponsored by the PA Game Commission. The plan is to inventory State Game Lands 211 near Fort Indiantown Gap in Lebanon County in 40 hours on June 4 and 5.

Doug reported on the Special Areas Project. Almost 4,000 trips at 99 locations have been entered. The state parks people are developing a checklist with Doug's help. A new list of threatened and endangered species in Pennsylvania is available.

Alan plans to send out information concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Katrina will be taking over the duties of newsletter editor. She will be putting out another newsletter before the annual meeting.

The Poole Award was discussed. A file of possible candidates is available, but none has yet been selected.

At one time we had discussed the possibility of having two awards. After discussion, Bob Ross made a motion that we have only one annual Poole Award. Shonah seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Our current brochures were designed before our dues were changed. Rudy made a motion that Alan and Doug make the appropriate changes on the brochures and have 5,000 printed.

Arlene offered to purchase pins for the annual meeting. She will obtain prices and e-mail everyone with the information.

Our non-profit status was questioned. Alan will check with Gene to see if he has made any progress.

The meeting concluded at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary