*Thunder Bay Audubon Society thunderbayaudubonsociety.com*

*January 11, 2016 www.facebook.com/thunderbayaudubon*

The January 11 meeting was held in the conference room at the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan. Ten members attended. While eating lunch, portions of the DVDs, *Pale Male* and *Better Birdwatching in the East* were shown, both owned by TBAS.

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Klemens at 12:45.

2016 Events: The 2016 programs were discussed and changes made since the last meeting. The events brochure and a cover letter by Linda will be mailed to all members as soon as possible.

*January 11*

12:00 CFNEM Conference Room

Lunch, birding DVD, by-laws update

Coordinator: Linda Klemens, 989-727-4703

*February 8*

6:30 Alpena County Library

Our Winter Birds presented by Linda Klemens

Coordinator: Linda, 989-727-4703

*February 12-15*

Great Backyard Bird Count – info & registration at http://gbbc.birdcount.org

*March 8*

6:30 Alpena County Library

Program by Joy Leisen of Huron Pines on invasive species on Thunder Bay River

Coordinator: Lynn Field, 356-3745

*April 30*

9:00 Duck & Island Parks

Program: Bridge and Birding

Coordinators: Roger Witherbee & Judy Kalmanak, 616-527-0419

*May 14*

North American Migration Count – Alpena County census for field and feeder counters

Count reports via e-mail to Bill Grigg wngrigg@hotmail.com

*May 19-22*

Tawas Birding Festival & Michigan

Audubon Society Annual Meeting

For more info, http://tawasbirdfest.com

*June 7*

Birding Field Trip – Isaacson Bay, Alpena Township Nature Preserve (both on Sunrise Coast Birding Trail). 9:00 meet at McRae Park to caravan. Brown bag lunch at Elizabeth Littler’s. Coordinator: Liz 356-4327

*June 18 Rockport Recreation Day*

8:30 Nature walk for all ages exploring plants and animals of Besser Natural Area forest and shoreline of Lake Huron. Coordinator & Presenter: Bill Grigg wngrigg@hotmail.com

10:00 Rockport State Rec Area- Display celebrating 100thyear Migratory Bird Treaty

*July TBA*

Fletcher Pond Pontoon Tour

Limited space

Reservations: Arnie Pokorzynski, 471-5392

*August 17*

9:00 Paxton Quarry Birding Tour

Meet at main gate on M-32 or

8:30 Caravan from Walmart parking lot

Coordinator: Karen Tetzlaff 595-3585

*September 21*

Alcona County Birding Sites (some on Sunrise Coast Birding Trail)

9:00 Caravan from Chippewa Point (corner US23S & F41)

Coordinator: Craig Klemens 989-727-4703

*October 13*

12:00 CFNEM Conference Room

Planning Meeting for 2017, election of officers, planning for CBC

Coordinator: Judy Kalmanak, 616-527-0419

*November 1*

*11:30 Wiltse’s Restaurant, Oscoda*

AVA Joint Meeting - Dale Borske, Ducks Unlimited

Reservations: Linda Klemens, 989-727-4703

*Christmas Bird Count*

December 15 – Hubbard Lake-Linda Klemens December 17 – Alpena-Bill Grigg

Field observers and feeder watchers always needed. Join the fun!

Judy Kalmanak reported that the Wildlife Sanctuary received a 2017 DEQ Grant to pay for removal of invasives in the Wildlife Sanctuary. This will be done in 2017.

Bill Grigg reported a February 2, 1:00 presentation at the Roger City Library by Jim and Kathy Bricker on Straits Area Hawk Watch. Also, on April 1-2, there will be a Mackinaw Raptor Festival in Mackinaw City.

By-Laws: Linda brought us up to date on a concern about poaching on our Fletcher Pond property. Apparently, poachers have been approaching the land via boat. Linda received a call from the Leroy Hunt Club President about illegal poachers on their club and believe on the TBAS land also. Craig met their officers, and Bill Webster, CO of the DNR at the site.  These are professional poachers that violate all over the area to fill orders for trophy animals. The DNR would like us to post at least one section of the property if we do not allow hunting there. Craig told Bill that TBAS allows hunting but by members or their guests only and they must have permission so we know exactly who and where each hunter is at. Since it is confusing for the DNR to know who and when we give permission, they suggested we adapt an official policy so there is no question. After discussion, Lynn Field moved we adopt the following amendment to our by-laws.

*TBAS Amendment to Article II: Purpose*

*Section 1.*

*(II) To conserve local natural habitats, no unauthorized motorized vehicles, hunting, trapping, camping, campfires, or specimen collecting is allowed on any Thunder Bay Audubon Society properties.*

Motion was seconded by Judy Kalmanak. Unanimously approved.

CBC overview: Linda Klemens and Bill Grigg have compiled all of the data from the Hubbard Lake and Alpena counts, respectively. A copy of the data is attached to these minutes or can be found on our website. [www.thunderbayaudubon.com](http://www.thunderbayaudubon.com) 71 species and 8 more during the count period were documented.

Sunrise Coast Birding Trail – Karen Tetzlaff asked if all the signs had been placed. Linda said one needs to be added at Negwegon and she is working with Eric Ostrander to get that done this spring. Lynn Field will speak with Alpena County about placing one on Grand Lake Highway, just off of US23

Treasurer Report: Craig Klemens reported that the long term CD was renewed on December 8, with $2000 being transferred to the Memorial Fund to pay current expenses. $9285.65 in long term CD. $1469.29 in short term CD. Next month, Memorial and General will be shifted to one: $2159.97 and $149.91.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

Respectively Submitted,

Karen Tetzlaff, TBAS Secretary