

Draft Minutes, NTOS Meeting, November 20, 2025

First Vice President & Program Coordinator Cherie Parker welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. in the absence of President Cyndi Routledge.

There were several visitors – Jon May’s daughter, Rickie, and friends of Jon May.

In Secretary Margie Dunham’s absence, Susie Russenberger took notes for the meeting. Danny Shelton made a motion to accept the October minutes as written. Jon May seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

In the absence of Treasurer Pam Lasley, no Treasurer’s Report and no Membership Report were given.

Field Trips:

- The Field trip to the Duck River took place on November 1st. No one present had gone, so there was no report from the trip.
- There are no OFFICIAL field trips in December. There will be the Christmas Bird Counts instead.
- First Quarter field trips will be announced in the NewsHawk due out January 1st or thereabouts.

Old Business:

- The Christmas Bird Counts are Dec. 20th for the land count and January 1st for the lake count. Cyndi Routledge is coordinating the land count....but continues to look for a volunteer to take it on in the future. Richard Connors is coordinating the lake count. Everyone is invited to participate. Contact either Cyndi or Richard if you want to count.
- Susie Russenberger presented the 2026 Slate of Officers. See attached slate. Elections will take place next month at the December meeting.
- The next deadline is December 15th for the 2026 1Q Newshawk issue. Please send any articles, or interesting tidbits to nashvillenewshawk@gmail.com
- Susan Hollyday will be resigning as Curator by February 2026. Danny Shelton has been checking to see if the State Museum might be interested in the archived items. The current museum curator has retired, so Danny is trying to contact the new curator to see if there is interest in the NTOS archived items. There are over 20 bins of items. Regardless, we still need a person to fill that position and carry-on the duties of Curator. Susan has provided Cyndi with a list of duties. Anyone who might be interested in either helping with the transition or taking on the role as Curator, please contact Cyndi Routledge.
- Our Annual Holiday Potluck will be Thursday, December 18th – 6 pm. Bring a dish or two to share...NTOS will provide drink and paper products.

- Looking way ahead...Please mark your calendars for our 2026 Spring Count on April 25, 2026.
- Also, the Annual TOS Spring Meeting in Kingsport – May 1-3. Stay tuned for registration, host hotel information, etc. Keynote Speaker for the event will be Sheri L Williamson - naturalist, ornithologist, conservationist, hummingbird researcher and author of *A Field Guide to Hummingbirds of North America* in the Peterson Field Guide Series. She is currently working on an updated Hummingbird Guide with Princeton University Press.

New Business:

- TWRA has announced the reintroduction of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker with the first birds being released in 2028 in the historic range near Savage Gulch State Park. The last RCW was seen there in the early 90's and was declared extirpated from TN in 1994. For more details and Information about the project visit:
<https://www.tn.gov/twra/news/2025/10/22/reintroduction-of-red-cockaded-woodpecker.html>
- Immediate Volunteer opportunity – We are looking for a Wednesday morning Radnor Lake Volunteer coordinator – Someone to line up 4 volunteers for the fall and spring walks. Contact Cyndi Routledge if interested.

There being no further questions or announcements, Program Coordinator Cherie Parker introduced the program presenter, Jon May - "The Birds and Wildlife of Brazil's Pantanal and a Brief Glimpse of Iguazu Falls"

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Cherie Parker, First Vice President & Program Coordinator

2026 Slate of Officers

Officers:

President – Cyndi Routledge

1st Vice President & Program Coordinator –Tim Ryan

2nd Vice President & Field Trip Coordinator – Shelley Smith

Secretary – Kathy Ware

Treasurer – Pam Lasley

State Directors:

Angie Elmore, Ken Oeser, Hugh Barger, Susie Russenberger, JoAnn Staples

Committee Chairs:

Curator – Susan Hollyday until February 2026

Media Coordinator – Angie Elmore

Finance – Pam Lasley

Membership – Steve Routledge

Legislative Affairs – Melinda Welton

Spring and Fall Bird Count – Barbara Harris

Christmas Bird Counts – Cyndi Routledge and Richard Connors

Fall/Spring Radnor Lake Volunteer coordinator – Cyndi Routledge