

NTOS Meeting Minutes – January 15th

Welcome

- The meeting Opened by Cyndi Routledge. Our President acknowledging visitors and encouraging them to join NTOS

Secretary

- A Vote was taken to accept Kathy Ware as our new Secretary. Pam Lasley motioned, Steve Lasley seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's and Membership Report - Pam Lasley .

- Pam Lasley presented a brief Treasurer's and Membership Report and encouraged all members to renew their membership via the web site by paying their 2026 Dues.

Field Trip –

Attendees were reminded of the January field trip to Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge on January 24th! Mark Greene will be leading walk around O'Neal Lake, where we'll search for flocks of wintering waterfowl and scan the surrounding fields for seasonal specialties.

Reminder that it is a 2 ½ hour drive from Nashville so plan accordingly. Meet at 8:00 AM at the O'Neal Lake parking area, just past the Hatchie NWR Visitor Center at 6772 TN-76 Stanton, TN 38069 (Coordinates: 35.49797, -89.26051).

Dress warmly, bring a spotting scope if you have one, and come enjoy a crisp winter morning exploring one of West Tennessee's most scenic refuges. Rain or shine I'm told but watch Instagram/FB or TN-birds for updates from Shelley due to inclement weather other than rain.

Two scheduled field trips in February. First is on February 14th to Lincoln County - Fowler Rd Irrigation Pond - beginning at 7:30 am. The second Feb field trip is on 28th at 3:30 pm at Cornelia Fort Airpark in Davidson County...searching for sparrows and short-eared owls. All this information can be found in the NewsHawk or under events on the NTOS webpage – Nashvillebirds.org

For any questions, contact Shelley Smith at wkusmith@gmail.com and include "NTOS Field Trip" in the subject line.

Old Business:

- CBC – "Land" count – took place on 12/20 - 55 participants counted the 9 historic areas, saw 79 species and 3 during 'count week' (orange-crowned, pelican and merlin). Thanks to our area leaders Mike Smith, Susan Bradfield, Richard Connors, Jan Shaw, Laura Smith, Frank Fekel, Ari Fremont, Amy Pardo and Tarcila Fox. And last but not least special thanks to Scott Block for

his computer skills!

- The CBC – ‘Lake count’ – took place on Thursday, Jan. 1st – Richard reports that 28 birders participated in the 5 areas. They tallied 99 species which was slightly ABOVE the norm for the 90’s. Fish Crow ‘officially’ counted for the first time. Count week birds included: Greater-white fronted goose, Common Merganser and Eurasian Collared Dove. Many THANKS to all who counted.
- Radnor Spring walks. Need 3 more leaders. Danny Shelton will lead on May 6th. - Open are: April 22nd – April 29th – May 13th See Cyndi after the meeting if you can lead one of these dates. If we don’t have leaders for the Spring walks, they will be canceled.
- Attendees: reminded of the Great Backyard Bird Count – February 13-16th.

New Business:

- VP/Field Coordinator – Shelley Smith and Pam Lasley are now posting regularly to our Instagram page and Shelley will be taking over posting to the Facebook page.
- Conservation Grant – we award one each year and are seeking suggestions from our membership for 2026. Please see Cyndi with any suggestions for Grantees.

Announcements -

1. The spring count will take place on April 25th. Barbara Harris will be coordinating. Encompasses ALL of Davidson County so if you live within and can’t get out to count an area you can do a feeder count. However you need to contact Barbara so she’s aware of the area you intend to Bird, etc.
2. TOS Annual Spring State meeting will take place in Kingsport on May 1-3...keynote speaker for the event is Sheri Williamson – hummingbird expert, author, naturalist, etc. Registration information will be forthcoming on the TOS webpage and in the next issue of the Warbler.
3. Finally, the annual TOS fall meeting will be a JOINT meeting between KOS and TOS and will most likely take place in or around Land Between the Lakes. Date and location are being worked out at this time depending on venue availability. Will be weekend of Sept 18th or 25th. Keynote speaker for the event is shaping up to be Cin-Ty author of and expert on Flycatchers. Stay tuned for lots more information with regard.

Program –Steve Lasley shared a fabulous program on Kick A#* Birding in “Jammin’ Jamaica”. All attendees deeply enjoyed and appreciated not just the photos of course, but especially the commentary and cultural insights.

The meeting was adjourned.