

Minutes of the Sussex Bird Club Meeting - Feb 9, 2014

President John Hoyt opened the meeting at 1:55PM

John mentioned the Sea Watch at Indian River Inlet on Feb 8th.
Next Sea Watch is on Mar 8th.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Fintel reported a check book balance of \$3617.78
With 17 new members..

Vice-President for Programs, Sharon Lynn, introduced the speaker:
Steven Huy

Project OwlNet purpose is to lift the veil on Owl movement and biology of owls. It has 150 sites in North America.

Steve describes what he does as 'birding with a purpose' based on a book by that name by Francis Hamerstrom.. He talked about the success the project is having on learning about the secretive Saw-Whet Owl. Sex identification of this owl is done by wing span length and UV light.

Steve also talked about the Snowy Owl irruption we are currently having. Project Snowstorm is an attempt to study historic owl irruptions and to share this data. Cellular transmitters giving GPS data have been placed on the backs of Snowy Owls. These solar powered devices have to be modified because Snowy Owls do not always face the sun. Steve would like to do more banding in Delaware of the Snowy Owl.

Secretary: David Weber