

**Minutes of the Sussex Bird Club**  
**Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**President Bill Fintel opened the meeting**

**Treasurer Lou Archdeacon presented the finance report:**

- Opening balance of \$2,303.91
- Closing balance of \$2,316.55

General Notices:

- Chris Bennett commented on Field trips:
  - The 'Big Sit' netted 80 species at Cape Henlopen highlighted by numerous Gannets and Scoters
  - Dates for future field trips are available on the website

**Program – Bill Stewart the DOS Conservation Chair presented today's program  
"Evolving trends on Bird Conservation in North America"**

Bill has been birding for over 35 years And 35 years ago not much was happening in bird conservation, but since then numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations have surfaced focusing on wildlife and birds:

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Peregrine Fund
- Conservation Fund
- American Bird Conservancy
- Bird Conservations Alliance
- Hawk Migration Association
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife
- The creation of 106 National Wildlife Refuges – all from the proceeds of Duck Stamp sales!
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Nature Conservancy – protecting 119 million acres (30,000 in Delaware)

Additionally numerous initiatives have surfaced to study bird populations and trends:

- Christmas Bird Counts
- Great Back Yard Bird Count
- U.S. Breeding Bird Atlas – 65 since 1977!
- E-Bird from The Cornell Lab of Ornithology where individuals can input their personal observations
- Carbon Offset Bird Project (new)
- 12 Citizen Science projects in Delaware alone!

Bill elaborated on his visit to the British Bird Fair attended by upwards of 30,000 people with over 800 exhibits over a three day period with attempts to start a similar initiative in

the U.S. Bill also emphasized the importance of Duck Stamps in procuring lands for birds and wildlife stating that 95.1% of Bombay Hook NWR was procured with Duck Stamp revenues!

Thanks to Bill for a very informative program!!

Round Robin:

- Loggerhead Shrike at Bennett's Pier Road that was banded in Ontario Canada
- Five White Pelicans sighted at the Hawk Watch
- Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits and Avocets at Bombay Hook
- Red-breasted Nuthatches at the Hawk Watch

Respectfully submitted, Bob Edelen