

**Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society
Board Meeting Monday, March 16, 2015 at 6 p.m.
Panera Bread, I-480 and Tiedeman Rd.**

Present: Kit Birch, Liz Clingman, Nora Ebie, Nancy Howell, Kurt Miske, Penny O'Connor, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito

1. **Finances:** Nancy Howell reported \$25,402.71 in the treasury. The largest expenses this month were two science fair prizes of \$100. each.
2. **Cleveland International Film Festival:** The film "Above all Else," for which WCAS is a Community Partner will be shown Wednesday March 25 and Thursday March 26.
3. **Update on Walton School Project:** No news at this time, but community meetings are scheduled.
4. **Update on Board receiving input from Black Swamp Bird Observatory, regarding Wind Power on Lake Erie:** Kim Kaufman was unable to attend this Board meeting, but send some documents for our review. These were received the day of the Board meeting, so the Board has not had time to read them.
5. **"Thriving Communities" project led by Western Reserve Land Conservancy:** Aimed at improving the urban environment. Possible future collaboration for WCAS?
6. **Next newsletter:** Kurt Miske would like to have items by April 1, with a goal of having the draft to review by April 10. Kit will write an article on wind energy. Penny will ask Laura Gooch for an article on Bird Surveys at Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, Will have an item on volunteer Opportunities, including two events in September (see below)
7. **April 1 collaborative with Kirtland Bird Club and Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland:** There will be a videographer. WCAS will have a table. Nancy Howell will set up the display board and materials. Liz Clingman will retrieve the board and materials from the Rocky River Nature Center and deliver to Nancy.
8. **NASA Sustainability Fair, April 30:** WCAS has been invited, event is 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., for NASA staff. Penny O'Connor will attend, and will request some additional volunteers, via e-blast.
9. **Conservation Symposium at Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Friday Sept. 11, 2015:** WCAS will have a table staffed by volunteers. All-day event, table will need to be staffed in the morning as participants arrive, at break times and at lunch. WCAS will pay registration and lunch and parking for volunteers. Will put a notice in the upcoming newsletter.

10. Backyard Biodiversity Blitz at Watershed Steward Center, West Creek Reservation, Friday, September 18 in the afternoon: WCAS will have a table, will request volunteers in the next newsletter.

11. IBA surveys at Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve: New protocols allowing for some shorter surveys. Coordinator Laura Gooch will offer training sessions on March 22, and on April 5. WCAS has a field trip on March 29, and all of these events will be used to encourage more birders to take part.

12. Field Trips: Planned through May. Penny O'Connor will organize trips for June and July in time for the upcoming newsletter.

13. Web Site / Social Media: Nora Ebie has restored the calendars for the CLNP surveys. For the new WCAS website, content has been restored following a crash last month. Nora is working on blog components. She is considering Word Press or possibly a Joomla blog extension. All Board members will have their own logins for Joomla. Nora will schedule another training meeting. She will let the board know when she is ready.