

STRAITS AREA AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 2021

Attendance: Zoom - 14

In Person - 12 at CAPL; 9 members, 3 guests

President Dale Giddings call the meeting to order.

Leah R explained the zoom procedure for this evening

Dale introduced the speaker Gail Walter

The title of Gail's presentation was "How to Save a Billion Birds for \$1.98" She is an advocate for safe building design to prevent bird collisions with glass. She works closely with The American Bird Conservancy She talked about designing bird friendly buildings. Some of the problems are that birds can't see glass as their eyes are on the side of their head, reflections in the daytime cause them to think they are flying into safe areas, reflection of light at night disorients them, atria/courtyards trap them. Birds do have a good sense of their body shape and size (for songbirds approximately 2" x 4"). Therefore any patterns such as bird outlines put on windows need to be close together. Special glass that deters birds can be purchased or films, coatings or tapes can be applied - best on the outside of the glass. She encouraged us to raise the awareness of the problem, especially with businesses with a lot of exposed glass - locally the Cheboygan Hospital. Free ideas for the homeowner are: close curtains and blinds; move houseplants away from windows; turn off/shield lights at night; move feeders closer to windows; and the \$1.98 suggestion - buy a bottle of tempera paint and paint designs on the outsides of window. Gail's email: <Gailwalter@att.net>

Field Trip: Luncheon Lecture November 19 at the college in Petoskey topic is a talk on the new super telescope. Reservations are required. Afterward those interested can hike on the North Country Trail that passes through campus.

Nature Sighting: Large flocks of Chickadees were reported by Rose Rynerson (40) and Bev Kirby (120). Bev also reported on a sighting in Pellston of Eagles and coyotes feeding.

Sand Hill Cranes: 177 were sighted locally during observation week.

Raptor Watch: Today is the last day of the raptor watch in St. Ignace. A total of 17,085 raptors have been spotted.

Raffle: Rose Rynerson was the winner of the raffle.