

A review of the 4th Annual NJ Meadowlands Festival of Birding By Jack



I really enjoyed going to the Meadowlands Birding Festival, even though we had to get up pretty early. When we arrived, we had a sticky bun for a snack, and went to a slide show on birding basics. It was very good, but the guy was having some trouble operating the computer!

Then we went on a 2 hour walk in the Meadowlands. We saw many birds of prey, including peregrine falcons and red tailed hawks (mostly immature). Something really cool was when a red tailed hawk came within a couple of feet of me chasing a rabbit. I'll never forget that.

After we were done with that, we went back to get lunch. Lunch was very good. Pasta and sandwiches and salad! Mmmm!

When we had finished lunch, we headed over to look at the keynote speakers production, The Birdsong Grammys. It was a show where the audience gave the

speaker bird names for a birdsong category (most beautiful, most like a laugh... etc.). It was really funny! The weirdest bird sound was the black vulture. It sounded like something prehistoric!

After The Birdsong Grammys, we headed off on another walk, where we saw two red tails sparring in the air. They swooped around, higher and higher, until I got dizzy just looking at them. Then we saw great and snowy egrets paddling around in the water, eating fish, and roosting up for bed.

In the evening, we went on a great boat trip through the salt marshes. We got a guide, Captain Hughie who told us about the things we saw. We saw many different types of birds and even a kestrel! I really enjoyed our trip!