



VSO Newsletter

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SUMMER 2022



Swainson's Warbler singing. Photo by David Clark.

VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY 2022 ANNUAL MEETING Summary

Bob Ake, Annual Meeting Chair

The VSO 2022 Annual Meeting, which concluded Sunday, May 1, was a big success. VSO President Terri Cuthriell opened the virtual meeting Tuesday evening by welcoming members to the first Annual Meeting in three years. She introduced Dr. Jerry Via who delivered the opening presentation "Sojourn in the Swamp." His illustrated talk set the tone and put everyone in an anticipatory mood for the weekend field trips.

The virtual Business Meeting held on Wednesday brought us up to date on the latest news from the VSO Board concerning the Breeding Bird Atlas, Bramble Hill, and our current financial status. After attending to some formal business items including amendments to the society bylaws and the articles of incorporation, the membership affirmed the slate of officers for next year. Elected were President, Bill Williams; Vice President, Diane Lepkowski; Secretary, Phil Kenny; Membership Secretary, Shirley Devan; Treasurer, Dixie Sommers; and Directors (with class), Patti Reum (2023), Lisa Koerner-Perry (2024), Jessica Ruthenberg (2025), and Jason Bulluck (2025). Their terms begin July 1.

The awards ceremony, officiated by Patti Reum, recognized three James Eike Award winners for each of their contributions to the VSO: John Spahr, Dick Rowe, and Dan Bieker. (See page 3.) The Jackson Abbott Conservation Award was presented to Becky Gwynn of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources for the successful preservation of the highly productive nesting area for birds on the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (See page 5.)

A series of student research presentations organized by Dr. Lesley Bulluck covered work which was funded in part by the VSO. (See page 6.)

The field trips began early on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning with groups of eager VSO birders gathered at the three main entry portals on the west side of Dismal Swamp in Suffolk VA for an exciting morning of birdwatching. The weather was excellent if a bit cool all three days. Pairs of guides coordinated the walks and provided effective leadership for each group.

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Editor: Dixie Sommers

Change of Address (USPS or email)

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Send submissions by email. Attach MS Word document or plain text, with high resolution photos. Submissions may be edited for style and/or length.

Contact VSO President Terri Cuthriell at:
virginiabirdconservation@gmail.com



On a Swainson's Warbler! Photo by Laura Mae



Swainson's Warbler at Washington Ditch. Photo by David Clark

Special thanks go to these guides: David Clark, Peggy Rommen, Tracy Tate, Ken Markley, Laura Mae, Sandra Winstead, Tom St. Andre, Bob Ake, Judy Hinch, Dianne Hinch, Terri Cuthriell, Steve Myers, Elisa Flanders, Brandon Holland, Dave Youker, and Dave Brown.

Over the three days the groups recorded a total of 100 bird species. A spreadsheet with those species and the numbers can be found [HERE](#) under field trip reports.

Many great looks with photos were had of Swainson's Warblers, perhaps the most sought-after species of the weekend. A total of 20 species of warblers were listed many of which are breeding species in the swamp. A rarity highlight was a Swallow-tailed Kite along Railroad Ditch that performed for a few lucky observers.

The damage from the tornado which ripped a 4-mile, hundred yards wide swath two years ago across Railroad and Washington Ditches produced an increase in some species like Blue Grosbeak not normally associated with the interior of the swamp. With more tree stubs, the woodpeckers of the swamp put on a good show including many great views of Red-headed Woodpeckers.

A pair of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at a nest over Washington Ditch and a pair of Prothonotary Warblers building a nest in a dirt cavity in the base of upturned tree roots were nesting highlights.

On Saturday afternoon a meet-and-greet social was held on the north patio of the host hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn Riverfront in Suffolk. It was well attended and provided ample opportunity for the exchange of birding stories from near and far. It certainly reminded all of us that the most important part of the weekend was the opportunity to be with others from the birding community in person.

Everyone agreed it was great to be back at a VSO Annual Meeting, and all are looking forward to the next one!



Ruby-throated Hummingbird at nest at Washington Ditch. Photo by Laura Mae

President's Message

Terri Cuthriell, VSO President

As Bob Ake described above, VSO members had the great pleasure of meeting in person in Suffolk for the 2022 annual meeting. We had great weather conditions for spring birding in the Swamp, and our tally of 100 avian species reflects the effort of many participants in the field and the cooperation of the birds! I'm already looking forward to seeing you again at the 2023 annual meeting! We're considering possible locations now and planning for the next annual meeting will soon be underway.

The last twelve months was a rewarding time for VSO, as we've been growing and reaching out to our affiliates and conservation partners to broaden our impact. A goal of mine over the last year was to boost our relationships with our members and affiliates. We've asked our bird clubs what VSO can do to maintain strong partnerships across the state. And we've heard from many of you that VSO needs to be more outgoing with program sharing, and we need to become a more diverse organization.

I'm encouraged to see more young folks and persons of color and varied backgrounds outside learning about birds with the new interactive apps that help birders break through the mystery of what they see and hear. I'm also glad for the excellent participation in our ever-popular field trips this year. Others are learning what we've known all along - it's good for our health, and it's great fun to be outside observing nature and birds. VSO is dedicated to seeking new ways to harness the fascination with birds to grow the organization and shine light on our conservation efforts. Virginia's birds are worth protecting!

Over the last year we worked hard developing strategies to accomplish a significant number of conservation endeavors. VSO has made great strides planning activities at the Bramble Hill Conservation Area, and we're well on track in 2022 to "work the plan," improving habitat and engaging in summer research.

Also, our plans to bring you the Second Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas website are progressing nicely. VSO's partners at Virginia Tech and the Virginia Department of Natural Resources are charging ahead with data analysis efforts which will continue through the year. We're excited about the

opportunities that the free online Atlas will have on outreach through education and the many possibilities for clarifying conservation needs for Virginia's birds.

As the summer season begins, I conclude my eight-year tenure on the board of VSO. It's been my pleasure serving as Treasurer and as President, and I'm honored to have been part of this great team.

Please join me in welcoming Bill Williams as President and the new VSO board members to this group of dedicated volunteers starting in July. You may know Bill as he has served VSO in almost every possible capacity over many years. Bill's vast experience and knowledge about Virginia's birds positions the organization for accomplishing big things in the year ahead. I know all of you will support this fantastic team, their amazing work, and their enthusiasm for Virginia's birds.

Recognizing Service to the VSO

Patti Reum, Awards Committee

Three individuals received the Eike Service Award recognizing their outstanding service to the VSO: John Spahr, Dan Bieker and Dick Rowe. The awards were announced at the recent annual meeting.

The Eike Service Award is named in honor of James Eike, a member of the VSO from 1933 until his death in 1983. The recipient is recognized by the presentation of a silver Raven pin.

John Spahr was co-nominated by Bob Ake and John Rowlett; Ashley Peele, the VABBA2 coordinator, wrote a letter of support.

John invested a great deal of time in organizing and managing a very successful Foray in both Augusta and Highland counties during the 2003 breeding season.

He served the VSO as its Vice-president in 2004 and 2005, followed by two years as the Society's president. During those years he displayed leadership by working to increase funding on projects related to research on Virginia's birds.

Beginning in 2016 John assumed the role of Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas coordinator for Region 3 and worked to achieve full coverage for that section.

Over the past 20 years during his working career as a pathologist, John has found time to research and publish a few case reports detailing some avian pathology. He published research in *The Raven*, two studies of which focus on one of his favorite avian families—owls.

After his initial 2013 study of prevalence and



A John Spahr favorite – Eastern Screech-owl. Photo by Dick Rowe

distribution of the Eastern Screech-Owl, he has continued to do monthly night surveys in the Blue Grass Valley of Highland County to look for seasonal variations and potential trends over time. He has also placed and monitored over 50 nest boxes for the screech-owl. In 2020 he began banding captive adults and nestlings within the boxes to learn about their local movements and territories as well as breeding trends and success.

John has also been involved with nest box studies of the American Kestrel in a joint project with Patti Reum. The two of them have been monitoring over 70 nest boxes in Highland County. Over two-thirds of the boxes have consistently produced successful nests. In 2019, John started banding nestlings and adults to learn about their movements, territories and breeding trends.

Dan Bieker was nominated by Janet Paisley, with letters of support coming from Mary Ames (avid birder) and Terri Cuthriell (current VSO President).

Dan is a past-President of the VSO. He spearheaded the Kestrel Box project and built and installed over 500 nesting boxes in the Commonwealth.

In the last several decades, Dan has shepherded untold numbers of new birders in his Field Ornithology course at Piedmont Virginia Community College and Natural History classes. Many of his students have taken these classes multiple times (including myself), as Dan's teaching methods are so educational and his spirit and love of birds is so evident. A great many of his students have gone on to become VSO members, citizen scientists, and conservationists, working hard to improve or save habitats, teach others and generally share their love of birds and birding.

Ivy Creek Natural Area in Charlottesville has been a passion for Dan for many years. He has worn many hats at Ivy Creek and has played a role in community education through his leadership in the 4H Junior Naturalist" program. For years (possibly as many as 20), it would be common to see Dan, followed by a line of happy youngsters, traversing the many trails. His students become thoroughly engaged in the activity and leave with newfound knowledge and respect for the world in which they live.

Dan's parting words as the season comes to a close are the words of the Lorax: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is gonna get better, it's not."

Dick Rowe is currently serving a three -year term on the VSO Board of Directors. During his current term, in November 2020, he accepted the challenge of temporarily editing *The Raven*, which had fallen behind in its publication schedule. By May 2021, he had contacted authors of nine known, unpublished, but submitted articles, found academics to peer review these articles as needed, copy edited these articles, worked with the printer to format them and finally had them published in three volumes of *The Raven*: Volumes 89 from 2018, Volume 90 from 2019 and Volume 91 from 2020. That is a pretty amazing feat for anyone to accomplish in six months' time, but especially while teaching full time at VMI. And then after cleaning up the backlog of submitted articles and publishing all of them in three issues of *The Raven*, Dick proceeded to guide the new editors in the intricacies of editing *The Raven* to smooth the transition as they took over.

Dick has also organized and compiled the Lexington (Rockbridge Bird Club) Christmas Bird count since 2006. He serves as the club ornithologist for the Rockbridge Bird Club.

Rebecca Gwynn Receives Abbott Conservation Award

The VSO is pleased to announce that Rebecca Gwynn, as leader of the DWR Hampton Roads Seabird Conservation Initiative Team, is the recipient of the 2021 Jackson M. Abbott Conservation Award.

Becky was nominated by Jim Fraser, Virginia Tech professor, and Terri Cuthriell, VSO President, with letters of support from Bill Leighty, Bob Ake and Rogard Ross from the Cape Henry Audubon Society.

To quote Jim Fraser:

Becky has made many contributions to conservation, but none, in my view, have been more significant than her contribution to the conservation of Hampton Roads seabirds. In my 40 years of bird work in Virginia, I have not seen a more important habitat conservation effort. Becky showed fierce determination in moving the colony from the South Island of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (destroyed by construction) to Rip Raps Island. The DWR team only had 3 months to create a new nesting habitat.

The end result is the construction of conservation islands to protect the largest and most productive seabird colony in Virginia. In the first year of operation, 2021, the breeding season was a resounding success. The colony contains over 20,000 seabirds, including the Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Black Skimmer, Gull-billed Tern, and Laughing Gull.

The entire Department of Wildlife Resources team had a role, but Becky served as the catalyst and “true light” for a hopeful solution. The DWR team and others were able



Royal Tern chick at Ft. Wool – a sight made possible by Becky Gwynn’s efforts. Photo by Meagan Thomas, DWR

to preserve the northernmost stronghold of the Royal and Sandwich Terns. The habitat work included a modification of Fort Wool (Rip Raps Island) and staging of additional sand-topped barges between Fort Wool and South Island. “This effort was repeated this past spring, and the seabird colony is thriving.

Becky continues to work tirelessly for the construction of the final solution of this project, which will be a dedicated bird conservation island in the Hampton Roads ecosystem. When that is completed, it will conserve the largest and most productive seabird colony in the Commonwealth.

The Hampton Roads Seabird Conservation Initiative was a first-of-its-kind project on the east coast and is now known nationally for its tremendous success.

This miraculous accomplishment by Becky and the rest of the DWR team has been a tremendous victory for our wildlife, and a testament to the dedication of DWR staff and our partners.

The Jackson M. Abbott Conservation Award was established in 1973 to recognize individuals or organizations that have demonstrated outstanding conservation work in the state of Virginia. The award is named in honor of Jackson M. Abbott for his lifelong devotion to conservation and his effective work on its behalf.



Ft. Wool Tern Colony. Photo by Meagan Thomas, DWR

Annual Meeting Research Presentations

The VSO Annual Meeting included the following presentations on research related to avian behavior and conservation. These studies were partially funded by the VSO's Conservation Grants and Murray Award.

Michael Academia and Bryan Watts
Department of Biology and The Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary

Ospreys and fish shortages: Food addition study increases nesting success in the Lower Chesapeake Bay (Murray Award)

Haley Howerin and Sarah Foltz
Radford University
Effects of human disturbance-related environmental characteristics on nestbox preference of eastern bluebirds and tree swallows (Murray Award)

Samuel Lane and Kendra Sewall
Virginia Tech, Dept of Biological Sciences
How does urbanization impact female song sparrows? A comparison of physiological and behavioral recovery from disturbance. (Murray Award)

Alan Williams, Joe Kolowski and Bert Harris
The Clifton Institute
GPS Tracking of American Kestrels in Northern Virginia: Novel data on movements, ranges and habitat use in a declining species (Conservation Grant)

Elsa Chen and Lesley Bulluck
Department of Biology and Center for Environmental Studies, VCU
Breeding Density, Female Aggression, & Parental Care in a Secondary-Cavity Nesting Warbler (Murray Award)

Timothy Boycott and John Swaddle
Department of Biology, College of William and Mary
Field testing an "acoustic lighthouse": Combined acoustic and visual cues provide a multimodal solution that reduces avian collision risk with tall human-made structures (Murray Award)

Robyn Thady and John Swaddle
Department of Biology, College of William and Mary
Evaluating acoustic signals to reduce avian collision risk (Conservation Grant)

NEW VSO MEMBERS - MARCH 2022-APRIL 2022		
Linda Arthur, Suffolk, VA	Latham Frank, Charlottesville, VA	Karen Moore, Stanardsville, VA
Suzanne Ault, Henrico, VA	David Frye, Roanoke, VA	John Murray, Norfolk, VA
Gene Bailey, Reston, VA	Christy Galletta, Centreville, VA	Lori Palagyi, Suffolk, VA
Sophie Bodrog, Annandale, VA	William Guild, Lexington, VA	Robert Pearson, Stanardsville, VA
Allen Boynton, Troutdale, VA	Carol Heiser, Mineral, VA	Mark Pierson, Blacksburg, VA
Alex Capaldi, Alexandria, VA	Haley Howerin, Virginia Beach, VA	Bill Riester, Richmond, VA
Jordan Carpenter, Winchester, VA	Deborah Humphries, Williamsburg, VA	Robert Riggs, Marion, VA
Jennifer Cox, Monterey, VA	Virginia Klara, Floyd, VA	Steve Robinson, Reston, VA
Beth Croghan, Louisa, VA	Kasey Lind, Ashland, VA	Kenneth Sardegna, Falls Church, VA
Kristi DeCourcy, Catawba, VA	Antonio Martinez, Verona, VA	Emily Southgate, Middleburg, VA
Ella DiPetto, Portsmouth, VA	Debbie McLaughlin, Virginia Beach, VA	Richard Teig, Madison, VA
Susan Estes, Richmond, VA	Callie McMunigal, Union, WV	Marta Wagner, Washington, DC
Dorothy Evans, Worton, MD	Laura Meder, Danville, VA	Benjamin Whitt, Salem, VA

Scott Weidensaul Presents "A World on the Wing"

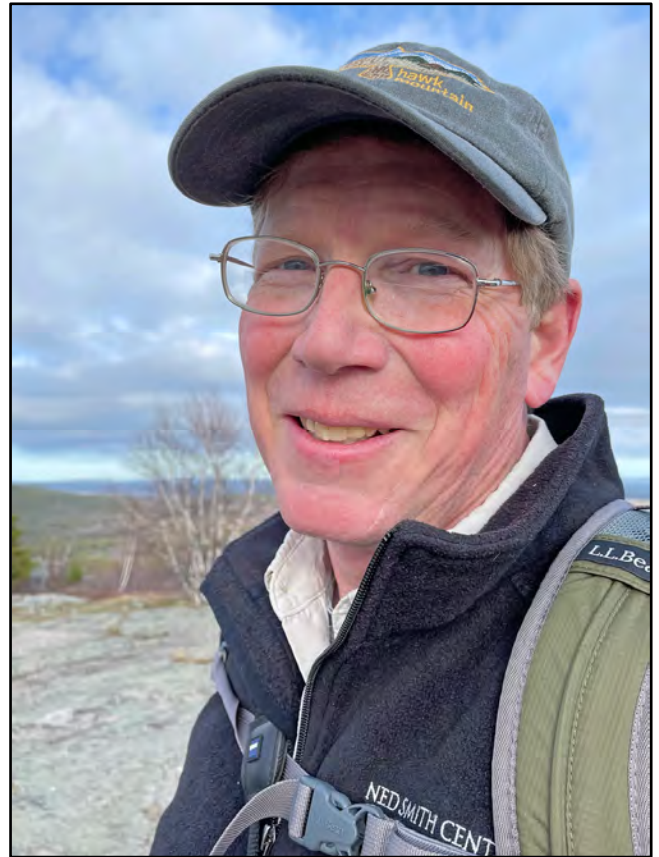
Learn about the amazing global journeys of birds in migration, and the people working to help them.

The Virginia Society of Ornithology and the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia are proud to present an author talk with New York Times Bestselling author Scott Weidensaul!

His recent book, [*A World on the Wing: The Global Odyssey of Migratory Birds*](#), has captivated birders and non-birders alike with stories of astounding discoveries about the navigational and physiological feats that enable migratory birds to cross immense oceans or fly above the highest mountains, go weeks without sleep or remain in unbroken flight for months at a stretch.

For this presentation, author and researcher Scott Weidensaul takes you around the globe -- with researchers in the lab probing the limits of what migrating birds can do, to the shores of the Yellow Sea in China, the remote mountains of northeastern India where tribal villages saved the greatest gathering of falcons on the planet, and the Mediterranean, where activists and police are battling bird poachers -- to learn how people are fighting to understand and save the world's great bird migrations.

The online program will be on June 28, 7:00-8:15 p.m. Register for the program [here](#), \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. Get your ticket at the membership price by joining the [Virginia Society of Ornithology](#) or the [Audubon Society of Northern Virginia](#).



Scott Weidensaul, photo © Amy Weidensaul

Scott Weidensaul is the author of nearly 30 books on natural history, including the Pulitzer Prize finalist *Living on the Wind* and his latest, the New York Times bestseller *A World on the Wing*. Weidensaul is a contributing editor for Audubon and writes for a variety of other publications, including Bird Watcher's Digest and Living Bird.

He is a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society and an active field researcher, studying saw-whet owl migration for more than two decades, as well as winter hummingbirds in the East, bird migration in Alaska, and the winter movements of Snowy Owls through Project SNOWstorm, which he co-founded. A native of Pennsylvania, he and his wife now live in New Hampshire.

Proceeds from this event will be shared between the VSO and Audubon Society of Northern Virginia to help protect birds & their habitats. VSO's share will go to the VABBA2 Fund to support publication of the 2nd Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas.



Yellow Sea Shorebirds, Photo by Scott Weidensaul

Fall Field Trip -- Chincoteague, VA

September 9-11, 2022

Join us September 9-11 in Chincoteague for one of VSO's most popular field trips!

VERY Important! All VSO field trips are open to members at no charge. If you have not renewed your dues for 2022 or have not joined yet, you can **RENEW or JOIN here!**

<https://www.virginiabirds.org/join-renew>

We encourage every participant to be vaccinated for COVID-19, if at all possible. By registering for this event, you agree to abide by all COVID-19 guidance provided by the CDC, individual field trip leaders and local businesses.

TRIP REGISTRATION

Please register online [HERE](#). The form gives you the option of signing up for one of the two boat trips, offered at 2:00pm on Friday and Saturday (details below). If you have any questions, contact Meredith Bell, trip coordinator, at merandlee@gmail.com or 804-824-4958.

HEADQUARTERS

The Refuge Inn on Beach Road in Chincoteague will be the host hotel (800-544-8469 or 757-336-5511). Room rates for Friday and Saturday nights are \$119 (plus tax) per night for a single or a double room, minimum two-night stay. For those



Marbled Godwit. Photo by Carl Huang

arriving a day early or staying an extra day, the rate for Thursday and Sunday nights is \$110.50 (plus tax). The Refuge Inn is non-smoking and no pets are allowed. Check-in time is 4:00pm, and check-out time is 11:00am.

To assure the VSO rate, **make reservations by August 9** and state you are with the VSO when you call.

NOTE: There is a **one-week** cancellation notice if you decide to cancel your reservation.

MEALS

The Refuge Inn offers a complimentary continental breakfast for guests. Right now the breakfast area is still closed, and they provide a bagged breakfast for each guest. We'll update you closer to the date if there's a change in this arrangement. All meals are on your own.

SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

We'll hold a Zoom call at 7:30pm to overview the weekend and have a special presentation by Jerry Via. We'll record the call and send the link afterwards for those who can't attend the live call.

Continued on next page...



Clapper Rail. Photo by Dennis Utterback



On the boat at Chincoteague. Photo by Carol Mullen

BOAT TRIPS FRIDAY and SATURDAY (SEPT 9 and 10) – ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

There will be two birding by boat trips on Friday and Saturday at **2:00pm** (none on Sunday) since low tide during the weekend is in the afternoon. This is a two-hour trip with a local boat captain and his crew. You have a chance to check out the marshes and tidal flats up-close during the outgoing tide for interesting water birds and raptors. The fee per person is \$35, and you will pay in cash as you board the boat (exact change please). Bring additional cash for tip (to crew) on the boat. Departure is from the Curtis Merritt Marina at the Sound end of Chincoteague Island, 2246 Curtis Merritt Lane. Arrive by 1:45pm, 15 minutes before departure.

NOTE: If you're arriving early for the weekend and plan to register for the boat trip, you're encouraged to sign up for Friday since we expect more sign-ups for Saturday.

FRIDAY, SEPT 9, 5-6PM MEET-AND-GREET

This social time was such a hit last year that we're making it part of the weekend! We will have a Meet-and-Greet Happy Hour from 5-6pm outside



Birders on the trail. Photo by Carol Mullen

at the far end of the Refuge Inn (on the pool side). Bring your own beverage and folding chair if you prefer to sit.

FIELD TRIPS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Field trips for the weekend will be offered Saturday morning and afternoon as well as Sunday morning. Advance registration for these trips is not required. Offerings will include the Island Nature Trail in Chincoteague, Marsh Trail on the Wildlife Loop, and the beach area. Details will be provided closer to the weekend. There will be NO bus trips because the buses are no longer operating on the Refuge.



Sometimes shorebirds blend right in! Pectoral Sandpiper. Photo by Doug Pfeiffer

SATURDAY EVENING

We'll have a tally of the day's species outdoors at 6:00pm, around the picnic tables at the far end of the Refuge Inn (on the pool-side). You can bring a chair if you prefer not to sit at one of the tables.

OTHER LODGING IN THE AREA

If you're unable to get a room at the Refuge Motor Inn, you may want to try these motels close by: Best Western (757-336-6557), Days Inn by Wyndham (757-336-1900) and Comfort Suites (757-336-3700).

For additional information about lodging, restaurant options and COVID-19 updates, check out the Chincoteague town website:

www.chincoteaguechamber.com

Royal Raffle and More Move the Atlas Forward

The VSO has launched the Royal Raffle - an exciting opportunity for a lucky donor to visit the tern colony at Ft. Wool in Hampton. Proceeds will go to the VABBA2 Fund to support publication of the 2nd Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas.

The winner will spend an exciting day with Virginia Tech's Shorebird Program and the Department of Wildlife Resources staff, who will be banding Royal and Sandwich Tern chicks. The winner will be able to observe first-hand the spectacle of Virginia's largest Royal and Sandwich Tern colony that nests on Fort Wool, as well as the numerous Common and Gull-billed Terns and Black Skimmers that nest on the three industrial barges that complete the habitat complex.



Royal Tern adults and chick on Fort Wool. Photo by Meagan Thomas, DWR

The winner will see and have an opportunity to assist with the Royal and Sandwich Tern chick round-up by helping to bring chicks to banders and returning banded young to their parents and cohorts on-site, observe banders in action, help record data, and even band a chick or two under the careful supervision of a bander!

Raffle ticket sales close on June 3, and the drawing to determine the winner will be held the week of June 6. Watch for VSO news to see who the lucky winner is!



Royal Tern chicks on Fort Wool. Photo by Meagan Thomas, DWR

On the data front, the Conservation Management Institute at Virginia Tech has finished the atlas data review phase of its work and is beginning the data analysis phase. Data analysis will result in much – but not all - of the content for the published atlas and data files for generating maps for each species. This work is funded through a contract with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

And the Atlas Final Products Committee continues its work, focusing on detailing the work plan that lays out the many activities that must be accomplished to produce the Atlas content for publication and to publish it on a website in late 2025. The Committee is also spelling out the species accounts content in further detail.

Missed the Royal Raffle?

You can still support completion of the Atlas publication by joining the 2022 Atlas appeal!

Donate on-line [HERE](#) or send a check designated for the VABBA2 Fund to the VSO, P.O. Box 5994, Williamsburg, VA 23188. Thank you!

All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

VSO OFFICERS		
President: Terri Cuthriell Vice President: Bill Williams Secretary: Phil Kenny Treasurer: Eileen Geller	Conservation: Patti Reum Membership Secretary: Shirley Devan Newsletter Editor: Dixie Sommers	Webmaster: Lisa Koerner Perry <i>The Raven</i> Co-editors: John & Jennifer Styrsky
VSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
Terms Expire 2022 Diane Lepkowski, Harrisonburg Richard Rowe, Lexington Jessica Ruthenberg, Norfolk	Terms Expire 2023 Faye Cooper, Staunton Ellison Orcutt, Richmond Alan Williams, Luray	Terms Expire 2024 Guy Babineau, Earlysville Chris Bolgiano, Fulks Run William Leighty, Richmond

Virginia Society of Ornithology Treasurer's Report for 2021			
Beginning Balances - January 1, 2021		Disbursements	
General Fund	\$120,899.06	General Fund	\$ 21,626.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 60,253.04	Endowment Fund	\$ 5,928.00
Conservation Fund	\$ 10,615.58	Conservation Fund	
VABBA2 Fund	\$ (18,184.07)	Bramble Hill Fund	\$ 6,218.05
Total	\$173,583.61	Kestrel Fund	\$ 3,212.84
		VABBA2 Fund	\$ 0.00
		Total	\$ 36,984.89
Receipts		Ending Balances - December 31, 2021	
Dues (General Fund)	\$ 24,085.00	General Fund	\$130,234.53
Other General Fund Receipts	\$ 6,871.47	Endowment Fund	\$ 55,055.04
Endowment Fund	\$ 730.00	Conservation Fund	\$ 51,559.69
Conservation Fund	\$ 1,065.00	Bramble Hill Fund	\$ 42,486.95
Bramble Hill Fund	\$ 48,705.00	Kestrel Fund	\$ 10,925.34
Kestrel Fund	\$ 605.00	General Conservation Fund	\$ (1,852.60)
VABBA2 Fund	\$ 27,323.32	VABBA2 Fund	\$ 9,139.25
Total	\$109,389.79	Total	\$245,988.51
Respectfully Submitted, Eileen R. Geller, Treasurer			



The Virginia Society of
ORNITHOLOGY
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WILLIAMSBURG, VA
23188

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2022 VSO Membership Renewal

Name & Address: _____

Email address: _____

Check here if you wish to receive VSO publications electronically by email via Constant Contact. Please print your email address clearly. (Note that we do not share members' email addresses with any other organizations. The VSO may contact you by email to notify you of upcoming events, field trips, annual meetings, and organization news. You may opt out of these email notices at any time.)

New _____ Renewing _____ Gift _____

_____ Contributing Membership \$75 _____ Active Membership \$20
_____ Sustaining Membership \$50 _____ Student Membership \$10
_____ Family Membership \$35 _____ Life Membership (individual) \$500

I would like to make a donation to:

\$ _____ Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas 2 Project \$ _____ VSO Conservation Fund
\$ _____ Bramble Hill Conservation Fund \$ _____ VSO General Fund
\$ _____ Scholarships and Student Grants

VSO Merchandise

Virginia's Birdlife "Gold Book" (Rottenborn, Brinkley 2007) \$20.00
VSO Arm Patch \$5.00 VSO Cloisonné Pin \$8.00

VSO Field Checklist FREE! Download the latest 2020 list at:

<https://www.virginiabirds.org/resources-education>

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO THE VSO:

VSO, PO BOX 5994, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23188-5994

You may also join, renew and purchase items online at:
<https://www.virginiabirds.org/join-renew> If you have questions about your membership, contact Membership Secretary Shirley Devan at:
vsomembership@cox.net

Your support means so much to the success of the VSO. Thank you!

The Virginia Society of Ornithology is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All membership fees, donations, and contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law.