



VSO Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

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Fall 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Article by VSO President Dan Bieker



Dan Bieker, President, VSO

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Apologies for the lateness of the Fall Newsletter, but our editor suffered an injury; thankfully she's on the mend.

Fall! Second in my mind only to Spring for birding excitement. Shorebirds, raptors, warblers—visits to the coast and mountain hawk watch sites. And you never know what might come flitting through the backyard at any time. Just the other day I saw hundreds, maybe thousands of dragonflies sailing around over the horse pasture. Pretty cool!

It seems as though we're soaked in media everywhere we turn, but getting out to enjoy the natural world can be a soothing relief to the constant barrage. Unfortunately, when it comes to the environment, the news gets worse all the time. Many of the regulations put in place the past few decades are being aggressively dismantled, while habitats become fragmented, manicured or eaten up by development. Depressing, but what can we do? Enjoy the birds while they last is one attitude, but that's a bit defeatist. One way to help, of course, is to financially support those projects and institutions that are making a difference (like donating to the VSO's Breeding Bird Atlas!). As the saying goes, you can curse the darkness, or light a candle.

Another way to light a candle is to light up a kid, yes—get more kids involved in birding. Many kids would turn away from screens and focus on nature if only given direction. Picture

books are great for introducing toddlers to birds. Outdoor playtime while talking about and looking for birds is important too. One thing not to do: hand a kid an adultsized binocular to look at a bird you've found. Even if they manage to hold it properly they expect to see something right away, and almost all binoculars are too big for their little faces. When they don't see anything it can be frustrating and turn them off to the whole experience. Get some kidsized binoculars, and take it slow. Most importantly, share your enthusiasm; it's contagious, and kids pick up on that. It's too bad some kids feel uncomfortable, or downright afraid outside. I sometimes see children perfectly content on nature walks while out in the open, but as soon as we enter the woods and are under canopy they tense up, and get clingy. Too much negative conditioning: the forest is where the bad guys and monsters live. Outdoor playtime and exploration with calm, caring adults can change that.

As you're out and about enjoying birds and cooler weather this fall, consider making an investment in the future. Give to the VSO's Breeding Bird Atlas (we're all in on this project, which will help ignite and inform conservation measures for decades to come), and engage with some kids in the outdoors. The smallest gesture can sometimes change a life.

Editor

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Change of Address

Virginia Society of Ornithology
 PO Box 5994
 Williamsburg, VA 23188

vsomembership@cox.net

Send submissions electronically via email whenever possible. Attach text as Word

document or plain text file. Attach images as separate files: please do not embed in email body. Send the largest file possible. Images will not print well if formatted as for the web. Submissions may be edited for style or length.

Submit copy for:

Winter: December 21, 2019

Spring: February 21, 2020

Bird reports in this newsletter may not have been approved by VARCOM.

RESTORE BIRD HABITAT WITH THE VIRGINIA DGIF

Article by Jessica Ruthenberg, DGIF Watchable Wildlife Biologist and VSO Board Member

As VSO Members, you probably already know that the Virginia DGIF is heavily invested as a major partner in the second Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas (VABBA2), but did you know that the DGIF has also been working to restore habitat for several species of imperiled birds, such as Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Golden-winged Warbler, and Cerulean Warbler?

As Virginia's lead agency for wildlife protection and conservation, the Virginia DGIF has been conserving habitat for birds and other wildlife in the Commonwealth for decades. We own more land than any other state agency in Virginia and we support restoration work on National Forests and private lands.

For example, in 2018 we completed a four-year project to open up the forest structure at our Highland and Gathright Wildlife Management Areas to benefit Cerulean Warblers.

We are particularly thrilled to share with the VSO our newest habitat initiative that will benefit a wide diversity of Virginia's bird species—a membership program, called Restore the Wild.

Restore the Wild memberships are for anyone who would like to support DGIF's efforts to restore and create healthy bird and wildlife habitats across the Commonwealth. DGIF offers three levels of membership: Hummingbird, Bluebird, and Golden Eagle. All members will receive one year of access to our state Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Lakes, plus additional benefits and gifts depending on the level of membership purchased.

Proceeds from the memberships will help support the DGIF's ongoing habitat restoration projects, including:

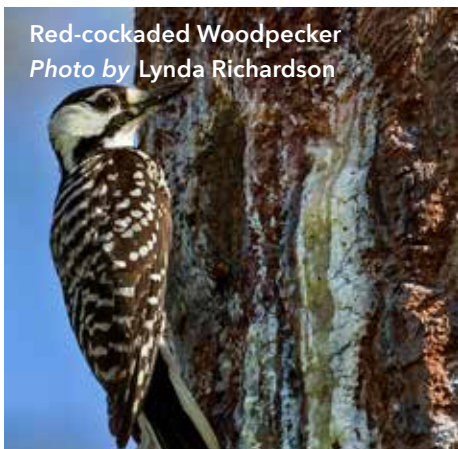
- The restoration of open pine woodlands through prescribed burns and planting longleaf pines at Big Woods WMA to benefit the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker, as well as grassland songbirds and Northern Bobwhite.
- The improvement of open shrubland habitats along a ridgeline on DGIF's Highland WMA by connecting two existing openings, facilitating shrub growth, and cutting back forest edges. This

project will benefit the Golden-winged Warbler and other high elevation shrubland loving bird species.

- The restoration of seasonal water levels and soil moisture, promotion of shrubland habitat, and planting of fruit-bearing shrubs along the low grounds of the Appomattox River at Featherfin WMA. These activities support American Woodcock and wetland associated wildlife.

The DGIF thanks you for all that you do to support the VABBA2 and as it nears its final year, we invite you to join us to help keep Virginia's wild places wild! Together with your Restore the Wild membership support, we can provide the funding needed to continue our current habitat restoration projects and provide the additional support needed to implement any future habitat conservation priorities indicated by the VABBA2.

For more information on Restore the Wild Memberships, please visit our website at dgif.virginia.gov/restorethewild/.



BIRDWATCHING TRIPS TO WESTERN PANAMA

Article by **Allen Hale of Buteo Books**

With over 20 years experience leading birding trips to Panama, Allen plans two departures for the 2020 dry season, February and April. These nine-day itineraries feature Bellbird Lodge at Mount Totumas Cloudforest, Birding Paradise in the foothills, and the Pacific lowlands of Chiriqui. Limited to four spaces, these trips are unique and highly rewarding. Contact Allen at super@buteobooks.com or 434-760-1218 (cell) for more information.

I've been leading birdwatching trips to Panama for over 20 years and have two trips to Chiriqui Province and Mount Totumas Cloud Forest in February and April 2020. Many VSO members have joined me in the past and I'm looking for some way to get the word out about these forthcoming small group trips.



Purple Dove



Fiery-billed Aracari

2020 VSO ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE MAY 1-3 IN WILLIAMSBURG

Article by Shirley Devan

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 1 - 3, 2020—and plan to attend the VSO Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, VA. Headquarters will be the Fort Magruder Inn and Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA. Room rates are \$119 plus tax.

Annual Meeting Fee/Registration fee: \$45 and Banquet ticket: \$35.

Online registration will be available March 1, 2020 at the VSO web site; you'll be able to pay by credit card/debit card/Paypal. Of course, we'll also accept paper registrations and checks. You don't have to be a VSO member to attend the annual meeting.

Tentative field trip destinations include: Hog Island Wildlife Management Area, Cheatham Annex, Grandview Natural Area Preserve, Sandy Bottom Nature Park, Great Dismal Swamp, Messick Point/Poquoson, Bethel Beach Natural Area Preserve, Newport News Park, and several local Williamsburg birding hot spots. Of course, destinations are subject to change. Attendees will be able

to register in advance for field trips when they register online for the meeting. For early arrivals, Friday afternoon will feature two guided trips and two "self-guided" trips. Our banquet speaker will be Dr. Bryan Watts, Director of the Center for Conservation Biology at W&M/VCU and Mitchell A. Byrd Professor of Conservation Biology. We look forward to seeing you in Williamsburg in May 2020.

Questions: Contact Meeting Chair Rexanne Bruno: rexannebruno@gmail.com

CRANEY ISLAND FIELD TRIP

Article by Lee Adams

Sixty people went to Craney Island Disposal Site on August 16, 2019 for a Virginia Society of Ornithology field trip. The weather was warm, it was August after all, but the insects were few unlike last year. It is a privilege to be allowed to visit Craney Island and the VSO appreciates the chance to view the birds and wildlife there. Approximately fifty species of birds were seen with highlights of Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet and Blue Grosbeak. Thanks go to the Army Corps of Engineers who manage the site and to all of the participants who car pooled so that the number of vehicles in the convoy was manageable.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE JAMES EIKE SERVICE AWARD

Article by Bill Williams

The James Eike Service Award Committee is soliciting nominations for the award.

In 1983, the Virginia Society of Ornithology Board of Directors approved the James Eike Service Award, to honor James Eike who was a Virginia Society of Ornithology member from 1933 until his death in 1983. Jim's long and faithful service, his dedication, and his enthusiasm in promoting the work of the VSO gave him a unique status in the organization. The presentation of this Service Award recognizes a VSO member for outstanding service to the Virginia Society of Ornithology. Eligibility for consideration would include service as an officer, board member, foray director, field trip leader, or other contributions to the organization. The award recipient will be recognized at the 2020 VSO Annual Meeting by the presentation of a silver Raven pin. The first pin was given to Claire Eike, in honor of her late husband for whom the award was named.

Nominators should send a letter of nomination giving the rationale behind the nomination to Bill Williams billwilliams154@gmail.com by February 1, 2020. In addition, two letters of support are required. The committee will review all nomination packets and make its recommendation to the VSO Board at its Spring 2020 meeting.

A list of James Eike Service Award honorees may be found on the VSO website.



Great Egret Photo by Beth Howell

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF KESTREL BOX MONITORING IN HIGHLAND COUNTY

Article by Patti Reum

Kestrel monitoring season started on April 14, 2019 and finished the end of July. Of the 47 boxes checked (only one was not checked because I was unsure of location, and three were removed from this study), 39 boxes were occupied by American Kestrels, ten were occupied by European Starlings (five of these ten were all located in the extreme southern end of the County, one occupied by a squirrel, one occupied by an Eastern Bluebird.) There were seven empty boxes.

There were many interesting events, like finding dead kestrels in a couple of boxes, winter occupancy by Eastern Screech Owl, and one box containing six eggs.

In October, Dan Bieker, Lou Tanner and I put up several more boxes in Highland and also more in Bath County. The Highland boxes will become part of this project. At this point, that is the end of installation in Highland. I plan to monitor Bath boxes one time this upcoming season.

I have recently met with Cathy Viverette to plan our monitoring and banding for 2020 season. She has taken several trips to Hawk Mountain to learn more about kestrel banding. I brought all my 2019 data to her which was in written form, and she assigned a student to computerize all this data, making it accessible to everyone. Also, we will be hosting the Working Group in early 2020. The first step is to send out a survey to participants to discover their interests and level of participation. The goal is to know what is going on with kestrel populations in Virginia and to set up some new monitoring routes.

AUG. 9, 2019 updated on November 5, 2019



American Kestrel (photo from the web with no attribution)

VSO CHINCOTEAGUE FIELD TRIP REPORT

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2019

Report by **Meredith Bell**, VSO Field Trips Cochair

Photo of **Little Blue Heron** made by *Beth Howell*

The weather was magnificent for the VSO field trip to Chincoteague on September 20-22, and we tallied 122 species. It was exciting to return after missing last year due to the mandatory evacuation related to the hurricane. We had many first timers among the 85 participants, and several got at least one life bird.

Many thanks to field trip leaders Jerry Via, Bill Akers, Andrew Rapp and Meredith Bell, who worked hard to ensure everyone had a great experience. Friday evening we met to overview the weekend, and we enjoyed a very informative presentation by Jerry Via on migration paths and how birds are affected by hurricanes.

We made adjustments to the itinerary due to drastic change in habitat at the Woodland Trail and the Wildlife Loop. Also, mosquitoes were brutal, as usual, on Assateague. We changed the Warbler Walk to the Island Nature Trail in Chincoteague, where mosquitoes were not a problem. We cancelled the birding and biking trip around the loop, and those participants joined the trail walk. Thanks to Larry Meade for enhancing Saturday with identification of butterflies and dragonflies, and to Andrew Rapp for co-leading this trip on Sunday. While the southerly winds did not bring in the hoped for woodland birds, we still had some nice birds over the two mornings - a family of Red-headed Woodpeckers, Brown-headed Nuthatches, several American Redstarts and Northern Parula, a Black-throated Blue Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

On the popular Saturday AM boat trip, led by Bill Akers with excellent assistance from Andrew Rapp and Mike Schultz, the 60 participants enjoyed closeup views of many species. Highlights were: Seaside Sparrow, Marbled Godwit, Least Sandpiper, Clapper Rail, Bald Eagles, a Merlin sitting on driftwood at eye level, and a variety of herons, egrets and terns.

Jerry Via led the two bus trips to Wash Flats, assisted by Andrew Rapp (again!) and Doug and Sally Pfeiffer. The 25 passengers on each trip enjoyed some of the best sightings we've had there in several years, including: Gull-billed Tern, Whimbrel, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Short-billed Dowitcher, White-rumped and Pectoral Sandpipers.

Ducks were in short supply this year, but we did have an interesting Mallard/American Black Duck Hybrid on the Wildlife Loop.

At sunrise on Sunday, two dozen participants gathered at the beach to celebrate the lives of two very special

people we've lost in the past two years: "Nultie" Wiseman, mother of Mary Foster, and Bob Livingston, husband of Lucinda Jennings. Those who knew these individuals shared memories of their experiences. We began this in 2015 to honor Ruth Beck and Peggy Opengari, who always loved to watch the sun rise at the beach during the Chincoteague trip.



Canada Goose	Lesser Black-backed Gull
Wood Duck	Great Black-backed Gull
Blue-winged Teal	Gull-billed Tern
Mallard	Caspian Tern
American Black Duck	Common Tern
Wild Turkey	Forster's Tern
Rock Pigeon	Royal Tern
Eurasian Collard-Dove	Black Skimmer
Mourning Dove	Double-crested Cormorant
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Brown Pelican
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Great Blue Heron
Clapper Rail	Great Egret
Virginia Rail	Snowy Egret
Black-necked Stilt	Little Blue Heron
American Avocet	Tricolored Heron
American Oystercatcher	Cattle Egret
Black-bellied Plover	Green Heron
American Golden Plover	Black-crowned Night Heron
Semi-palmated Plover	Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Killdeer	White Ibis
Whimbrel	Glossy Ibis
Marbled Godwit	Black Vulture
Ruddy Turnstone	Turkey Vulture
Red Knot	Osprey
Stilt Sandpiper	Northern Harrier
Sanderling	Sharp-shinned Hawk
Dunlin	Cooper's Hawk
Least Sandpiper	Bald Eagle
White-rumped Sandpiper	Great Horned Owl
Pectoral Sandpiper	Belted Kingfisher
Semi-palmated Sandpiper	Red-headed Woodpecker
Short-billed Dowitcher	Red-bellied Woodpecker
Spotted Sandpiper	Downy Woodpecker
Lesser Yellowlegs	Northern Flicker
Willet	Pileated Woodpecker
Greater Yellowlegs	Merlin
Laughing Gull	Peregrine Falcon
Ring-billed Gull	Great Crested Flycatcher
Herring Gull	Eastern Wood-Pewee

Eastern Phoebe
 White-eyed Vireo
 Red-eyed Vireo
 Blue Jay
 American Crow
 Fish Crow
 Purple Martin
 Tree Swallow
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow
 Carolina Chickadee
 White-breasted Nuthatch
 Brown-headed Nuthatch
 House Wren
 Carolina Wren
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
 Eastern Bluebird
 American Robin
 Gray Catbird
 Brown Thrasher
 Northern Mockingbird
 European Starling
 Cedar Waxwing
 House Sparrow
 House Finch
 American Goldfinch
 Chipping Sparrow
 Savannah Sparrow
 Seaside Sparrow
 Bobolink
 Eastern Meadowlark
 Baltimore Oriole
 Red-winged Blackbird
 Brown-headed Cowbird
 Common Grackle
 Boat-tailed Grackle
 Common Yellowthroat
 American Redstart
 Northern Parula
 Black-throated Blue Warbler
 Pine Warbler
 Scarlet Tanager
 Northern Cardinal
 Blue Grosbeak
 Indigo Bunting



White Ibis
Photo by Pam Scrima



Black-necked Stilts
Photo by Pam Scrima



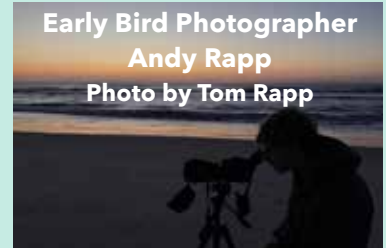
Sunday Trail Participants
Photo by Tom Rapp



Great Blue Heron
Photo by Pam Scrima



Merlin
Photo by Pam Scrima



Early Bird Photographer
Andy Rapp
Photo by Tom Rapp



Clapper Rail
Photo by Pam Scrima



Bus Trip
Photo by Sally Pfeiffer



Great Egret
Photo by Lee Bell



Bald Eagle
Photo by Pam Scrima



Boat Trip
Photo by Tom Rapp



Clapper Rail
Photo by Lee Bell



Bus Trip
Photo by Kathy Louthan



Boat Trip
Photo by Tom Rapp



Immature Little Blue Heron
Photo by Lee Bell



American Oystercatcher
Photo by Pam Scrima



Island Nature Trail
Photo by Tom Rapp

WE'VE ALREADY LOCKED IN THE 2020 DATES, SEPTEMBER 18-20. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND PLAN TO JOIN US FOR SPECTACULAR BIRDING AT A REMARKABLE PLACE!

VSO 2020 WINTER FIELD TRIP NORTH CAROLINA OUTER BANKS



Long-tailed Duck Photo by Dick Rowe



Brown Pelican

Make plans to join us for the VSO's Winter field trip at the Outer Banks of North Carolina **JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2!**. The weekend's leaders include Bill Akers and Jerry Via, as well as VSO field trip co-chairs Lee Adams and Meredith Bell. We always have great waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors, along with a wide assortment of land birds.

TRIP REGISTRATION

To help us plan for the weekend, please register in advance. Provide the names of participants in your party with a telephone number and email address so we can contact you if needed. Register with Meredith Bell, trip coordinator, at merandlee@gmail.com or 804-824-4958.

A detailed weekend itinerary will be sent via email to all registrants a few days before the trip.

Important! Please bring FRS (two-way) radios if you have them because this helps us stay in contact in our caravans.

HEADQUARTERS

The Comfort Inn South Oceanfront in Nags Head is again the trip headquarters. There's a huge deck off the second floor, which offers great beach-viewing opportunities. The special VSO room rate is \$75 for oceanfront and \$62 for bayview (plus tax). Oceanfront rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The seventh-floor bayside rooms offer a panoramic view of the bay, but do not have balconies. The hotel is just two blocks from Jennette's Pier, a 1,000-foot long, 24-foot wide pier that will allow you to get really close to the ocean birds! Contact information for the hotel is: 8031 Old Oregon Inlet Road, Nags Head, NC 27959; Phone: 252-441-6315. Reservations must be made by January 10, 2020 to get the special VSO rate.

MEALS

A complimentary breakfast buffet breakfast is included with your stay, beginning each morning at 6:00 AM. For dinner there are many fine restaurants in the area.

FRIDAY

You have two options for Friday, and you do NOT need to register in advance for your preference.

Option 1 - Lee Adams will lead the all-day trip to Lake Mattamuskeet. Meet in the hotel lobby at 7:15 AM for 7:30 departure. Expected driving time is 90 minutes. Bring snacks, beverage, and lunch. Optional: camp or lawn chair for greater comfort while eating lunch. Those interested will stop at Alligator River on the return trip to listen and watch for Short-eared Owls at dusk.

Option 2 - For those who prefer less driving. Meredith, Bill and Jerry will cover areas closer to the hotel. AM Jennette's Pier and other nearby spots

Lunch - on your own

PM - Alligator River. We'll explore areas that won't be covered on Sunday's AM trip. Those interested can stay until dusk with Lee Adams' groups to listen for Short-eared Owls.

Friday evening at 8:00 PM we'll have a slide presentation and weekend overview in the Neptune Room on the 2nd floor at the end of the hall. Complimentary coffee and tea will be available.

SATURDAY

Our morning field trips will include visits to the impoundments of Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding areas. We'll divide into smaller groups for a safer caravan experience, and every group will visit all areas.

We'll return to the hotel for lunch (on your own), with time afterwards to visit Jennette's Pier, the beach and other nearby areas. Last year at the pier, species of note were Dovekie, Razorbill, Red-breasted Merganser, Horned Grebe, and Northern Gannet. At 3:00 PM we'll gather at Bodie Lighthouse to view waterfowl from the platform.

At 6:00 PM there will be a tally in the Neptune Room on the 2nd floor. Complimentary coffee and tea will be available.

SUNDAY

We'll explore Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Drive on your own and meet at 8:30am at the main entrance on Milltail Road. We'll caravan down the road so you can easily catch up with us if we've already started.

Come prepared for variable weather, lots of birds and a great time! If you have any questions, contact field trip coordinator Meredith Bell at 804-824-4958 or merandlee@gmail.com.

VERY Important! All VSO field trips have a registration fee of \$20 for NONmembers only. This fee will be applied to an individual membership that will be active until the end of 2020. If 2 or more people from the same family register, the registration fee is \$25, which covers a family membership. Groups of students accompanied by their instructor are exempt from this fee. Nonmembers can join in advance at www.virginiabirds.org/membership-and-donate or pay the registration fee on the first evening of the event.



Purple Sandpipers



Brown Pelican

NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR VSO MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020!

Article by **Shirley Devan, VSO Membership Chair**

Use the membership renewal form on Page 9 or renew online (safely and easily with your debit or credit card) at the VSO website:

www.virginiabirds.org/membership-and-donate

Your VSO membership runs from January to December each calendar year. Initial renewal reminders were sent by snail mail and Constant Contact in early November. Follow up notices will be sent in early 2020 to those who have delayed renewing. You can renew safely and easily online: <https://www.virginiabirds.org/membership-and-donate> "

So what do your membership dues support? In addition to the costs of "keeping the organization running," your dues support the VSO's publications (printing and mailing plus cost of Constant Contact email subscription), Murray Scholarship Awards, conservation projects such as the Kestrel Nest Box Project across Virginia, the VABird listserve, and the breeding bird atlas.

The VSO is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, so your 2020 membership dues and any donations to the

Second Breeding Bird Atlas, VSO Conservation Fund, or American Kestrel Nest Box Project are tax deductible in 2019 if you pay before January 1.

Keep in mind that nonmembers have to pay a \$20 fee (individual) or \$25 fee (family of 2 or more) to participate in VSO field trips. Please make sure your membership is up to date to avoid the hassle of paying at the last minute.

If you have questions about your VSO membership status, feel free to contact Shirley Devan, Membership Secretary, at: vsomembership@cox.net

PS: Many thanks to those who have already renewed their membership for 2020! Your early dues and donations are

NEW MEMBERS FALL 2019

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Andrew Avery, Norfolk, VA | James McConnell, Unionville, VA |
| Michael Beck, Mechanicsville, VA | Linley Mahon, Ridgewood, NJ |
| Nina Brundle, Quinton, VA | Kathy Myers, Midlothian, VA |
| Kathleen Burger, Herndon, VA | Kathleen O'Connor,
Virginia Beach, VA |
| Beverly Clark, Newtown, VA | Pamela Scrima, Richmond, VA |
| Mary Coker, Powhatan, VA | Dean Shostak, Williamsburg, VA |
| Valentine Herrmann, Amissville, VA | Brenda Tekin, Stuarts Draft, VA |
| Diane Holsinger, Timberville, VA | |
| C Allen Hooks, Kitty Hawk, NC | |
| Kelley Lipphard, New Market, VA | |



2020 VSO Membership Form

Name & Address: _____

Email address: _____

___ Check here if you wish to receive VSO publications **electronically by email via Constant Contact**. 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	\$60
___ Sustaining Membership	\$35
___ Family Membership	\$25
___ Active Membership	\$20
___ Student Membership	\$10
___ Life Membership (individual)	\$500

I would like to make a donation to:

\$ ___ Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas 2 project
 \$ ___ American Kestrel Nest Box Project
 \$ ___ VSO Conservation Fund
 \$ ___ VSO General Fund
 \$ ___ VSO Endowment Fund
 \$ ___ J. J. Murray Student Research Grant Award

VSO Merchandise

___ Virginia's Birdlife "Gold Book" (Rottenborn, Brinkley 2007)	\$20.00
___ VSO Arm Patch	\$4.00
___ VSO Cloisonné Pin	\$5.00
___ VSO Field Checklist - FREE! Download the latest 2018 list at: http://www.virginiabirds.org/publications/field-checklist/	

Please return this form with your check, payable to the VSO, to:

Virginia Society of Ornithology, PO Box 5994, Williamsburg, VA 23188

Your support means so much to the success of the VSO. Thank you! If you have questions about your membership, contact Membership Secretary Shirley Devan at: vsomembership@cox.net

[The Virginia Society of Ornithology is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all membership fees, donations, and contributions are tax deductible.]

VSO BIRDING GUATEMALA 2020

TRIP LEADERS
JOHN AND ROB CAHILL



COMMUNITY CLOUD FOREST CONSERVATION (CCFC) NATURE TRAVEL PROGRAM RESERVATION FORM

GUATEMALA • MARCH 23 - APRIL 3 • WITH EXTENSION APRIL 3 - 6, 2020

Please complete this form and email it to David Farner guatzal18@gmail.com

Cost: \$2,700 for 10 days

Including Trip extension: \$3575 for 10 days + Sierra de las Minas Extension to April 6

Single Room supplement: \$400

Payment Policy = 50% due at time of sign up and 50% due 3 months prior to trip start, Dec. 23, 2019

Checks should be made out to Community Cloud Forest Conservation, with notation VSO Birding 2020.

Mail payment to: CCFC, 6000 Bonnie Brae Drive, Edina, MN 55439

1) Name _____

2) Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home/Cell _____ Work _____ Email: _____

Do you plan to go on the optional 3 day extension

Emergency contact person(s): _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Telephone, Home/Cell: _____ Work: _____

_____ I wish to have a single room whenever possible and will pay the extra fee.

_____ I/we wish to have a double room whenever possible. Two beds _____ One bed _____

Note: If we cannot match you with a roommate, payment of the single room supplement will be required.

My roommate: _____ (or) I need an assigned roommate:

How did you find out about this trip? _____

Briefly note your natural history interests or goals for this trip: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Your signature denotes acceptance of the terms set forth in the attached itinerary/important information sheet, and responsibility clause.

I consent to the following statement of risk and acknowledgement of liability: I know and understand that there may be risks and dangers involved in the above activities, and that CCFC does not carry accidental injury insurance on participants. In case of medical emergency, CCFC has my permission to secure emergency treatment for me. I will assume liability for any expenses incurred in such an emergency. I waive and release CCFF and its agents from all liability for any personal injuries, illness, loss or property damage. CCFC reserves the right to use photos of participants for non-commercial, informational purposes

signature & date _____

signature & date _____

If you have any medical conditions or dietary requirements that could possibly become evident during the trip, please note this information below or on another page

The Virginia Society of
ORNITHOLOGY
PO Box 5994
Williamsburg, VA
23188

ADDRESS SERVICE

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US Postage Paid
Lynchburg, VA
Permit No 161

VSO OFFICERS

President: Dan Bieker
Past President: Lenny Bankester
Vice President: Becky Gwynn
Secretary: Phil Kenny
Treasurer: Terri Cuthriell
Virginia Birds Editor: Bill Williams
Raven Editor: Mike Stinson
Newsletter: Lucinda Baker
Membership Secretary: Shirley Devan

VSO BOARD of Directors

Terms Expire 2020

Rexanne Bruno, Williamsburg
Ashley Peele, Blacksburg
Leonard Smock, Richmond

Terms Expire 2021

Patti Reum, Highland County
Cheryl Jacobson, Williamsburg
Dixie Sommers, Alexandria

Terms Expire 2022

Dianne Lepkowski, Harrisonburg
Richard Rowe, Lexington
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