



# The Flyer

## Newsletter of the Williamsburg Bird Club

Vol. 38 No. 5

[www.williamsburgbirdclub.org](http://www.williamsburgbirdclub.org)

May 2015

### President's Corner

By Geoff Giles



Spring has sprung!! A glance outside leaves no doubts about it, as nature has given the kaleidoscope a vigorous turn and replaced the brown and greys of winter with lush shades of green interspersed

with white and pink blossoms – plus the occasional splash of purple wisteria. The musical accompaniment has also changed to include the “thweep” of the Great-crested Flycatcher and the haunting flutelike melody of the Wood Thrush. If we listen closer, there are some additional new tunes of warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks and others blended into the chorus. Yup, it’s good to be alive and outdoors!

And just in the nick of time, our Williamsburg Wild Birds Unlimited has opened a large and lovely new store in New Town, just behind Trader Joe’s. I personally was getting anxious for them to open, as the bluebird chicks in my backyard box hatched a few days ago and were running Ma and Pa bluebird ragged, trying to keep up with the demand for bugs for five hungry chicks. WBU to the rescue! I was there moments after they opened to get a fresh supply of live wiggling mealworms to augment the bluebirds’ feeding efforts. When I got home and put the first batch in the cup attached under the bluebird box, it took a full fifteen seconds before Ma bluebird found the mealworms and started taking them in to her chicks. Now when I restock the mealworms, Pa bluebird helps Ma bring those in to the chicks, as well as the fresh insects he forages around my vicinity.

I remember the first time I bought mealworms for bluebirds at WBU a few years back, proprietor George, a veteran in such matters, advised me not to “forget the auditory.” Forget the what? I asked.

*Continued on Page 4.*

### May 20 Meeting

Join us Wednesday, May 20th, at 7:30 pm for a presentation by wildlife rehabilitator Pearl Beamer of Sacred Friends, a Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Center. Her organization specializes in raptors and water birds (loons, herons, pelicans, egrets) but will not turn anything away. Her service area is primarily the Tidewater (Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk) area but they will care for any animals as long as you bring the animal in.

This joint meeting with the Virginia Master Naturalist Historic Rivers Chapter will be in Andrews Hall, Room 101. Please remember to have a parking pass on your car’s dashboard.

Pearl Beamer (photo provided by her)



### Annual Bird Club Picnic – Sunday, June 7, 4 pm

Bird club members and their families are invited to join Ruth and Sherwin Beck at their Barhamsville home Sunday, June 7 at 4 pm. Ruth is one of the founding members of our bird club. We will enjoy a potluck picnic at their lovely home and grounds, a very birdy spot overlooking a lake in New Kent County. Thank you, Ruth and Sherwin, for sharing your lovely home and yard with us!

Contact Ruth Gordon by Wednesday, June 1 to let her know you are coming – [ruthkagordon@gmail.com](mailto:ruthkagordon@gmail.com) or phone 757-208-0757. Please tell her how many will be in your party and what dish you might contribute to the festivities—appetizer, main dish, salad, side dish, or dessert. See travel directions to the Beck’s on page 7.

### June 6 Field Trip – Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in Piney Grove

See details on page 2!

## 2015 Officers

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Cheryl Jacobson	<a href="mailto:jcberyljoy@aol.com">jcberyljoy@aol.com</a>
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<b>Member-at-Large</b>	634-4164
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<b>Past President</b>	813-1322
Shirley Devan	<a href="mailto:sedevan52@cox.net">sedevan52@cox.net</a>

## Committee Chairpersons

<b>Field Trips</b>	565-0536
Jim Corliss	<a href="mailto:jcorliss240@cox.net">jcorliss240@cox.net</a>
<b>Records &amp; Bird Counts</b>	229-1124
Bill Williams	<a href="mailto:billwilliams154@gmail.com">billwilliams154@gmail.com</a>
<b>Library Liaison</b>	565-6148
Lee Schuster	<a href="mailto:dlschuster@cox.net">dlschuster@cox.net</a>
<b>Refreshments</b>	
Jan Lockwood	<a href="mailto:nzedr@msn.com">nzedr@msn.com</a>
Ruth Gordon	<a href="mailto:ruthkagordon@gmail.com">ruthkagordon@gmail.com</a>
<b>Membership/Webmaster</b>	707-3345
Jeanette Navia	<a href="mailto:jnavia@gmail.com">jnavia@gmail.com</a>
<b>Historian</b>	229-2830
Tom McCary	

## Wild Birds Unlimited

Visit the new Wild Birds Unlimited Store in Settler's Market. The WBC receives a 5% rebate on the pre-tax amount our Club members spend at WBU. Remember to let them know you are a member.

## June 6 Field Trip – Red-cockaded Woodpeckers

On Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Mike Wilson, Center for Conservation Biology, will lead a trip to Piney Grove Preserve in Sussex County to hopefully spot some of the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Piney Grove hosts Virginia's last breeding population of this endangered species. Biologists from the Center for Conservation Biology monitor and support what is recognized as the record recovery of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in Virginia.

An EARLY departure to catch the ferry and drive to the Preserve to meet Mike is a must if we are to see the birds as they leave the nest cavity to forage.

Carpooling is important in order to limit the number of vehicles traveling through the Preserve. We will meet at the Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road at 4:00 a.m. to carpool. Those driving independently may meet us in Sussex (location TBD, possibly the Virginia Diner) to further consolidate cars.

If you have a spotting scope please bring it for this trip. Also, you'll need to bring water, snacks and insect repellent.

Please let Jan Lockwood know if you plan to go on this trip. Questions? Contact Jan Lockwood at 757-634-4164 or [nzedr@msn.com](mailto:nzedr@msn.com)

## Spring is here!

By John Adair

This is our first backyard sighting of a *Yellow-throated Warbler* – on our deck April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Seen for about a week—then gone...



Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)  
Male displaying his red cockade  
© Photo by B A Bowen Photography  
<http://babowenphotography.com> Used by permission



## March 29 – Chincoteague or Bust: Chasing Birds from Sun to Sun

By Tom McCary

Many thanks to Dr. Dan Cristol for his exuberance and his attentiveness as he led our group on an all day birding journey on 29 March on the Eastern Shore. The variety and numbers of bird species encountered never let up; the trip was one of the most exciting and rewarding outings I have taken in many a year. Quite cold temperatures notwithstanding, our band grew warmer, it appeared, in our collective pursuit.

As has often been noted, diversity of habitat enhances diversity of birds observed. To be sure, many of our stops were by marshes, ponds, and coves, but these areas were alive indeed with many wintering duck species. It was good to see Buffleheads, Northern Shovelers, Gadwall, Hooded- and Red-breasted Mergansers to name a few. A special treat was an excellent view of a Eurasian Wigeon in company with American Wigeon.

My particular favorite encounter, however, occurred on Seaside Road. Our party had assembled on the edge of a field to observe a small flock of Snow Geese as they enjoyed some winter wheat. A lone "blue" goose in their midst caught our admiring eyes. Suddenly Dr. Dan turned our attention to the skies. A peregrine falcon just happened to be looking us over while we surveyed the geese. He obliged us with excellent views. One never knows what Seaside Road – and a vigilant leader – will present.

Another good stopping place was Willis Wharf, where we marveled over the large numbers of Marbled Godwits, admired the Willets in flight when they mimic the mockingbird, and stood in awe when an impressive Whimbrel posed for the scopes.

Chincoteague's Woodland Trail was a nice change of pace. A Brown-headed Nuthatch there stole the show, as he toddled down the tree trunk with temerity. He was rivaled by a Louisiana Waterthrush, the tail-bobbing warbler that reminds us of early spring. We needed him.

A few of us decided to head for Saxis where Dan was taking his students to explore the marshes and fields there. Rumors of a crepuscular species, the Short-eared Owl, filled the air. In our search for the owl, our group delighted in watching both the male and female Northern Harrier.

On such a day, I expected the owl would perhaps turn up. Finally our leader found him by scope perched at a great distance, yet maintaining an owlish look. Crepuscular he is said to be, but by my clock it was afternoon. But then, you don't want to argue nuances of word meanings with a sagacious owl. We kept all of our feathers in place.

Again our appreciation to Dr. Cristol and his class who impressed us with their skills and their gusto. My thanks also to Geoff Giles who gave me a ride and made sure I got up on time.

## Herring Gull C3E

By Dena Proctor

The Herring Gull (C3E) in the picture was taken Feb. 8, 2015 in Poquoson. When I took the picture, I was just taking a cute gull on a piling. Later when reviewing my pictures I noticed it was tagged! Geoff Giles and Bill Williams directed me

to <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv> to report the band number and gull. After about a month I heard where this bird was banded! This is the email I got from Professor John Anderson at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor Maine: "I gather that you have spotted our C3E bird! Delighted to hear it! Would love a picture. For your records, this bird was banded by my student team on Mount Desert Rock, our field station here in the Gulf of Maine in 2013. MDR is essentially a 3-acre chunk of granite 22 miles off-shore. Students live in the old light-keepers quarters & monitor seabirds, whales, and seals. The gull colony has been increasing slowly the past 5 years; we now have

about 120 nests on "The Rock." Thanks for reporting the band; we'd love to hear of any others you spot!" Here is a link to their website!

<http://www.coa.edu/mountdesertrck.htm>



## President's Corner (continued)

George advised that if I gave the same sound, whatever I chose to do, each time I put out mealworms, the bluebirds would quickly learn to come to my sound. And that is exactly what happened. I wound up using a whistled call that, as near as I could recall it, was the rallying bugle alarm blown by Gunga Din in a movie from my childhood. The bluebirds quickly took the hint, and would appear magically from the woods around my house, even after their young had fledged, to jump on the wiggling mealworms. Initially the parents would come and take the mealworms to their young, but in time the fledglings would come with their parents and then later on their own.

Not only does the new Wild Birds store have an ample supply of mealworms, but a full array of seeds, feeds, bark butter, suet – pretty much everything a backyard bird could desire! And everything we need to make sure we have nectar out for the hungry hummers already coming to our yards. And for the birds that forage insects, the copiously sprouting foliage and blooms are already setting the table. Most of the beautiful migratory birds passing through to nest farther north will pause here long enough to build up their fat and energy reserves to continue their long journeys, and will be looking for the protein and fat in insects to do so. For our birds that nest here, they will mostly feed their nestlings insects, although many (including my bluebirds!) continue to welcome our offerings at the feeder throughout the summer. Feeding the nestlings is hard work, and an easy meal at the feeder is obviously welcomed!

We've heard plenty about the virtues of plants native to our region for sustaining our wildlife, so I'll just mention my favorite one – the serviceberry, or shadbush, or Juneberry. There are two species of serviceberry, a shrub or small tree that I have planted in my yard and they are both flourishing. They have already had their lovely white blossoms a few weeks into April, and these have given way to berries, which should be ripe in a few weeks. Those berries are delicious for the birds, and if you are quick enough to get some before the birds get them all, for us! What sold me on this shrub, aside from the blooms and berries, is that it is called shadbush because it blossoms when the shad are going up our estuaries into fresh water to spawn. So are my favorite game fish, the striped bass, at that magic time in the spring. The white blossoms in my yard remind me of an annual phase of nature for which I am happy and thankful every year. I hope you will find a native plant variety, whether this one or another, that enhances nature in your yard and gives you a special joy.

And speaking of beautiful birds, Ruth Beck has invited our club members for a day of birding and potluck dining at her lovely home Sunday, June 7. This is a highlight of our summer schedule, and a genuine treat in both the culinary and birding departments. Please bring your special dish to add to the delectable offerings and join us!

The day previous will be a special one for those who rise early to visit the Piney Grove nature preserve to see the state-endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. The story of the preservation of our state's population of this fascinating bird and the elaborate measures taken to ensure that its habitat is sustained are simply unforgettable. If you have had the chance to experience these previously, like me, you'll want to do it, and if you haven't, don't miss it! But before the June events, the shorebirds will be feasting on horseshoe crab eggs in an annual migration extravaganza on the Delaware beaches. This happens mid to late May, and there was considerable interest in an overnight field trip to witness the spectacle. Jim Corliss is checking interest currently for a weekday overnight (to avoid Memorial Day weekend traffic!), which would include a visit to Chincoteague on the way north, an overnight in Delaware and the bucket-list shorebird event the following morning. Stay tuned for details!

And lastly, congratulations are in order for our WBC members, present and past. The Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa has selected our Williamsburg Bird Club as this year's recipient of their Life Long Learner Award as an organization from our community that exemplifies Phi Beta Kappa's commitment to the lifetime pursuit of knowledge. This is a great honor for our club, and is richly deserved. Our association with William and Mary faculty, students and staff and staff of the Center for Conservation Biology has richly enhanced our experience of birds and nature. Their passion for knowledge has kindled our own throughout the nearly forty years of our club's existence. What better time than a lovely spring season to continue learning about and enjoying our birds and nature. Enjoy!

## April 18 Field Trip to Great Dismal Swamp

By Bob Ake, Field Trip Leader

April 18 the Williamsburg Bird Club and guests met at 7:00am at the Washington Ditch parking lot and headed down the trail toward the lake. The bird songs started slowly with Wood Thrush and Pine Warbler being noteworthy at the beginning. Soon more warblers began to be heard including our first Swainson's Warbler, which was just a bit too far off the trail to try and see. That wasn't the case for the second bird. After a Herculean group effort the singing bird was spotted and put in the scope for everyone to get stunning views. It was a lifer for several. We had a minimum of four Swainson's Warblers during the walk. We saw most of the other warblers on our list of eleven except the Hooded. We put in a valiant effort, but the reward just wasn't there.

At one point we looked up to see a Barred Owl perched in a small tree only a few feet off the trail. This owl began to talk with another nearby owl and soon the woods were full of owls cackling and giving their monkey calls. Later a surprise for me was a singing Blue-headed Vireo which went nicely with the Red-eyed and White-eyed Vireos.

The butterflies seen were: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 5, Zebra Swallowtail 15, Question Mark 1, Pearl Crescent 1, Falcate Orangetip 5.

After returning to our cars, a smaller group of us headed down to Railroad Ditch for a trip into the burn area near Lake Drummond. We added Prairie Warblers to our list to finish with an even dozen warblers for the day. We also had a FOY Eastern Kingbird, a hunting Northern Harrier, a couple of Greater Yellowlegs, and two Wilson Snipes. On our way through the woods we heard two more Swainson's Warblers. With the crunching gravel under tire it's difficult to hear much of anything without stopping frequently which we had chosen not to do. Along Interior Ditch we saw several Palamedes Swallowtail butterflies.



Field trip leader Bob Ake, right, is looking at the birds. What are the others looking at?



On a Dismal Swamp Field trip, lots of pointing required.

## VA Society of Ornithology's Summer Field Trip to Blacksburg, June 12-14, 2015

The New River Valley Bird Club will host the VSO summer field trip, featuring some of the best birding areas in the New River Valley and Southern Appalachians. The varied topography and the river valley offer a wide variety of habitats and bird species. Field trips will be offered Friday afternoon, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning. Bill Akers and Jerry Via will be our trip leaders, and they have planned some terrific activities.

**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. Please bring FRS (two-way) radios if you have them.

**Headquarters:** Comfort Suites University in Blacksburg. The special rate for the VSO block of rooms is \$85/night (plus tax) for single, double or triple. Register by Friday, MAY 29, to get the special rate: (540) 552-5636. Hotel address is 1020 Plantation Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

**Meals:** A complimentary hot breakfast buffet is included with your stay, beginning each morning at 6:30 AM. You'll need to bring lunch for Saturday. Dinners are on your own.

**Field Trips:** Mountain Lake, Owl Prowl to listen for Saw-whet Owls, Glen Alton, Kelly Flats, Heritage Community Park and Natural Area. Target birds for the weekend include high elevation breeding birds such as: Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Black-capped Chickadee, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Northern Parula, Blue-headed Vireos, Brown Creepers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Scarlet Tanagers, Acadian Flycatchers, Hermit Thrush, Golden-winged, Hooded and Kentucky Warblers.

### April 11 Bird Walk at New Quarter Park

The group tallied 47 species, led by Alex Minarik. Highlights include a mixture of winter and spring birds: three Wood Ducks, one Horned Grebe, 10 Osprey, four Red-headed Woodpeckers, one Brown Creeper, Louisiana Waterthrush, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and Pine Siskin.

Participants: Leader Alex Minarik, Mike Minarik, Jan Lockwood, Jim Corliss, Cheryl Jacobson, Bruce Glendening, Sara Lewis, Lisa Nickel, Lois Ullman, Joyce Lowry, Geoff Giles, Peter Tacy, Beatrix Woods, Tony Penza, and Bob and Cynthia Long. Phot by Sara Lewis.

### April 25 Bird Walk at New Quarter Park

What a difference two weeks make! Spring arrivals dominate the list of 58 species tallied by the birders led by Bill Williams on an overcast and chilly morning with light rain starting as the group departed.

Highlights include: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Wood Thrush, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Summer Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak ("a gorgeous adult male").

Participants: Leader Bill Williams joined by Nancy Barnhart, Geoff Giles, Rosemarie and George Harris, Cheryl Jacobson, Sara Lewis, Jan Lockwood, Sue Mutell.



## Reported Bird Sightings for April 2015

*We want to know what you're seeing in your yard and travels. Please share with Club members by sending your sightings to Judy Jones, [jjones184@cox.net](mailto:jjones184@cox.net) or Shirley Devansedevan52@cox.net.*

Members reported these sightings in April:

**April 1:** Matt Anthony reports a Chimney Swift over Bassett Hall Nature Trail

**April 1 & 2:** Megan Massa, Matt Anthony, Erin Chapman find a Black-and-white Warbler in Matoaka Woods

**April 3:** Megan Massa hears and sees a White-eyed Vireo in Matoaka Woods.

**April 4:** Brian Taber and Bill Williams spot a Northern Goshawk at the College Creek Hawkwatch Site on the Colonial Parkway

**April 4:** Bill Williams sees a Chimney Swift at College Creek plus a Prairie Warbler, also at College Creek, almost beating the local early date of April 3

**April 4:** Hugh Beard hears an Ovenbird at Warhill Sports Complex

**April 4:** Carol O'Neil reports a Northern Parula at Governor's Land

**April 6:** Bill Williams observes six American White Pelicans over Hog Island in Surry County from College Creek – “watched them off and on through a spotting scope for 55 minutes as the group circled and drifted northwest/southeast over Hog Island”

**April 6:** Kenneth Lorenzen reports a Ruby-throated Hummingbird at his home in James City County.

**April 7:** Shirley Devan hears Prothonotary Warbler and Northern Parula at Northwest River Park in Chesapeake

**April 8:** Carol O'Neil was buzzed by a male Ruby-throated Hummingbird at her feeder in Governor's Land. The hummer “fed twice then was off.”

**April 9:** George & Rosemarie Harris in Gloucester report Ruby-throated Hummingbird in their yard plus 2 Pine Siskins

**April 9:** Dave Youker finds a Ruby-throated Hummingbird visiting his backyard camellia in York County.

**April 11:** Bill Williams finds five American White Pelicans soaring over Hog Island WMA while at College Creek

**April 12:** Lee Schuster reports "my first hummer this morning (4/12) and I continue to have 3 to 5 purple finches at my feeders. There are both males and females – usually 2 males and 3 females. They are gorgeous in their spring attire!!”

**April 12:** George Harris finds four Seaside Sparrows at Brown Bay Road/Kings Creek Rd. in Gloucester

**April 13:** Matt Anthony and Megan Massa observe a Wood Thrush in Matoaka Woods

**April 14:** Cheryl J Jacobson reports a Sora at Greensprings Trail

**April 15:** Carol O'Neil hears a Red-eyed Vireo plus a Great Crested Flycatcher doing the “Wheep” call in Governor's Land

**April 15:** Matt Anthony reports a Red-eyed Vireo and a Wood Thrush in Matoaka Woods

**April 16:** Erin Chapman, Nicholas Newberry and Matt Anthony report a Great Crested Flycatcher in Matoaka Woods

**April 22:** Cheryl Jacobson reports “my first ever Rose-breasted Grosbeak at my feeder” in Kingsmill

**April 23:** Nancy Barnhart reports a late Pine Siskin at her feeder in Riverview Plantation area

**April 22:3** Matt Anthony, Erin Chapman, Megan Massa, Nick Newberry report Black-throated Green Warbler in Matoaka Woods

**April 26:** Matt Anthony reports a Blue-winged Warbler on Bassett Hall Nature Trail

**April 26:** Shirley Devan reports a Red-headed Woodpecker at her feeders in Colonial Heritage – a first for her yard there.

**April 27:** Shirley Devan reports two Eastern Meadowlarks and two American Woodcocks in the meadows at Colonial Heritage near Route 60

## TAKE NOTE!

### Pay Your 2015 Dues!

We still need your dues for 2015!

Individual: \$15          Family: \$25

Patron: \$35              Student: \$5

Make your check payable to WBC and mail to:

**PO Box 1085, Williamsburg, VA 23187.**

Our membership dues are lagging behind last year's levels.

We still need your support for our Bill Williams Nature Camp Scholarships, our Ruth Beck and Bill Sheehan Ornithology Research Grants to Biology Graduate Students, and feeder stations at the Child Development Resources campus. We can't do it without you!!

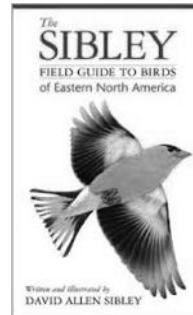
### Help Wanted Immediately!

Our last meeting of this season in May 20, and we need two or three folks to step forward to help with refreshments. The Bird Club provides drinks, ice, cups, and all plastic ware, but we need several willing and able people to provide our refreshments – finger food, cookies, veggie tray - that kind of thing. Can you help? Please contact Ruth Gordon at 757 208 0757 or email Ruth at [ruthkagordon@gmail.com](mailto:ruthkagordon@gmail.com) to help.

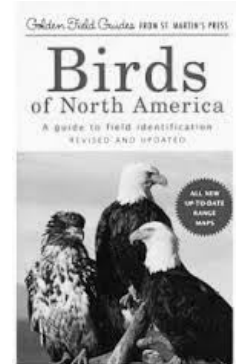
### Driving Directions to Beck's House for Picnic

Take I-64 west towards Richmond to exit #227 (West Point/Toano). Turn right onto Route 30 North to West Point. Follow Route 30 about 2.5 miles to Barhamsville. The center of Barhamsville extends along the road for less than a mile. Look for the Post Office on your right. Then look for a secondary paved road, Route 273 N, and turn right. Follow Route 273 N for 1.6 miles. Look for a large sign on the right that says "Hickory Springs, Leyland Tree Farm." Turn right onto the gravel/dirt road at the Tree Farm sign. Stay on this road for about 1/2 mile. This gravel lane goes into the Beck's driveway. Go through open red gate (with house # 19231) and continue to the parking area in front of the house. In case you have a problem, the Beck's phone number is 566-8234; Ruth's cell phone number is 757-870-0318.

## Book Bags Now Available



Great News! At the last board meeting, money was set aside for the purchase of 10 copies of Sibley's Field Guide to Birds as well as ten copies of Golden Books Birds of North America. Labeled and bagged, these titles are now available to use with groups of students. Sibley's is appropriate for students grades 4 and up ... the Golden Book is appropriate for younger students who are ready to bird! You can check these out by emailing Judy Jones at [jjones184@cox.net](mailto:jjones184@cox.net) or calling at 757-229-2667.



### Nest Cams

Who doesn't like to watch hatching eggs and starving nestlings being fed? Check out these nest cams on the web – just a few of the many available around the world

Peregrine Falcons are nesting in Richmond, hosted by VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. One of four eggs has hatched at the nest on the Riverfront Plaza building in downtown Richmond.  
<http://blog.wildlife.virginia.gov/falcon-cam/>

Osprey nesting at Gloucester Point, VA hosted by Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)  
<http://www.vims.edu/bayinfo/ospreycam/index.php>

Nesting Red-tailed Hawks in Ithaca, NY, hosted by Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
[http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/16/Red-tailed\\_Hawks/](http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/16/Red-tailed_Hawks/)

If you have a nest cam you really enjoy, let us know!  
Judy Jones: [jjones184@cox.net](mailto:jjones184@cox.net)  
Shirley Devan: [sdevan52@cox.net](mailto:sdevan52@cox.net)



## Homemade Mosquito Trap

(Courtesy of member Helen Hamilton who received it from a friend)

### Items needed:

1 cup of water  
1 2-liter bottle

1 gram of yeast  
1/4 cup of brown sugar

### Directions:

1. Cut the plastic bottle in half.
2. Mix brown sugar with hot water. Let cool. When cold, pour in the bottom half of the bottle.
3. Add the yeast. No need to mix. It creates carbon dioxide, which attracts mosquitoes.
4. Place the funnel part, upside down, into the other half of the bottle, taping them together if desired.
5. Wrap the bottle with something black, leaving the top uncovered, and place it outside in an area away from your normal gathering area. (Mosquitoes are also drawn to the color black.)

Change the solution every 2 weeks for continuous control.

## Spring birds! Photos by our members



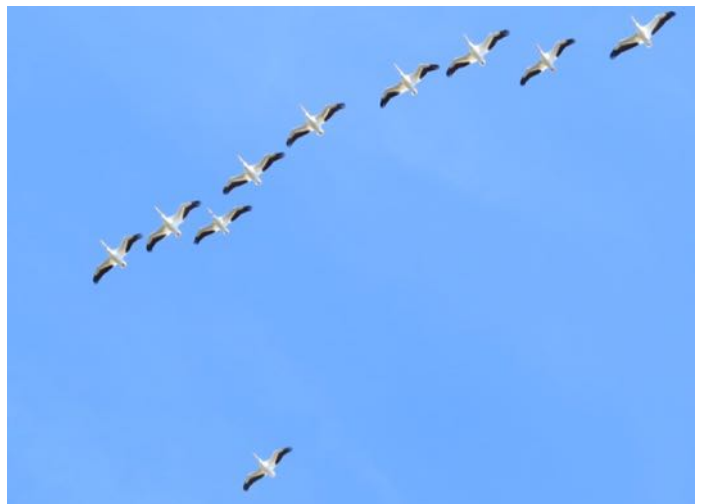
Hood Warbler at Great Dismal Swamp, April 18, 2015. Photo by Andy Hawkins



Swainson's Warbler at Great Dismal Swamp, April 18, 2015. Photo by Shirley Devan



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher incubating at Jamestown Island, April 24, 2015. Photo by Nancy Barnhart



American White Pelicans over Jamestown Island, March 31, 2015. Photo by Nancy Barnhart



Nestlings of Northern Cardinal near front door of Kathi and Mac Mestayer, April 29, 2015. Photo by Kathi Mestayer

Eastern Bluebird and its “two-hole mansion” at Eco-Discovery Park. A new nest box to help protect bluebirds from predatory House Sparrows. Photo by Judy Jones

**CALENDAR**

Saturday, May 9	Williamsburg Bird Club Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 8 am.
Sunday, May 17	HRBC Bird Walk at Newport News Park, 7 am. Jane Frigo, Leader
Wednesday, May 20	Joint Meeting with Historic Rivers Chapter of VA Master Naturalists, 7:30 pm, Andrews Hall Room 101. Pearl Beamer, wildlife rehabilitator of <i>Sacred Friends</i> .
Saturday, May 23	Williamsburg Bird Club Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 7 am. Leader Bill Williams
Saturday, June 6	WBC Field Trip to Piney Grove, “Red-cockaded Woodpeckers” with Mike Wilson, Center for Conservation Biology. 4:00 am carpool. Details on page 2.
Sunday, June 7	HRBC Bird Walk at Newport News Park, 7 am. Jane Frigo, Leader
Sunday, June 7	WBC Annual Picnic at home of Ruth & Sherwin Beck, 4 pm. See page 1 for details.
Saturday, June 13	Williamsburg Bird Club Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 8 am.
Sunday, June 21	HRBC Bird Walk at Newport News Park, 7 am. Jane Frigo, Leader
Saturday, June 27	Williamsburg Bird Club Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 7 am.