



# The Flyer

## Newsletter of the Williamsburg Bird Club

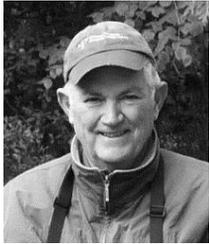
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[www.williamsburgbirdclub.org](http://www.williamsburgbirdclub.org)

September 2016

### President's Corner

By Geoff Giles



When you're hot you're hot. Well, it is late August and we're still hotter than hot. We're cookin'! But that's the way much of this summer has been. While many of us have

fled to the relief of air-conditioned spaces, nature has had no choice but to deal with it. For our birds, a primary method of moderating excessive heat is the insulating effect of air spaces between their feathers. Another is seeking shade and places sheltered from the most withering heat. This includes limiting periods of activity to the less oppressive times of the day. And, of course, a source fresh, clean water is important to their well-being and survival in extremes of temperature. If you have made a contribution by providing some native plantings as a source of shelter and food for your birds and perhaps a water source, you have doubtless been rewarded many times over by the number and diversity of birds and other wildlife in your yard.

Just now we are still enjoying the presence and antics of a lively crop of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. I have a neighbor with a green thumb whose flower garden is always exuberant with blossoms in late summer and draws a swarm of hummers. I benefit, although less talented with the flowers, from her hummers making the short trip to visit my nectar feeders. In years past, I have had a male ruby-throat who has claimed my yard for his exclusive territory. He aggressively zoomed and chased away others who dared approach my feeders. While the antics of the chase were often dramatic and entertaining, I would rather have had him share and allow other hummers to visit and be viewable from short distances. This year I have had a mix of both. At times my resident male chases others away, but occasionally it's live and let live,

*Continued on Page 4.*

### September 21st WBC Meeting – 7:00 pm

By Cheryl Jacobson

Faster than a speeding bullet...no not Superman...the passing of summer! With fall's approach, WBC will soon be meeting monthly, so here is an update on fall programs.

After May's program, Dr. Shawn Dash, a new WBC member and professor at Hampton University, approached me, asked to present a membership meeting, and stated that he also has ornithology experience and is not just a "bug man". He indicated an interest in presenting regarding breeding birds. Since the Atlas is a critically important project that some of us are currently involved with and will be for five years, it seemed timely to provide him the opportunity to present. I have sent him all the information about the Atlas and he is diligently working this summer to prepare his presentation for **September 2016**. If you have seen Dr. Dash present, you know that he has a very engaging and often humorous style. His program should entertain us as well as inform us and hopefully some of our members who have not been involved in Atlasing will begin. He holds degrees in Evolutionary Biologist-Zoology-Entomology.

In October 2016, our Nature Camp scholarship recipients will return to give us a short presentation regarding their experiences. This will be followed by a presentation by Bill Williams regarding Hummingbirds. He presented to the Hampton Roads bird club and their members recommended I schedule him for us. Later I attended his presentation at a local garden club and agreed that his presentation is informative and showcases many beautiful photos of hummingbirds. Many of you have heard Bill present in the past and know firsthand that he is an excellent presenter.

### New Meeting Time and Place

Once again, we are returning to our old meeting place in **Room 101** in **Andrews Hall**, at the College of William and Mary. We will be there in September, October, and November. Room assignments after December are still to be determined. We will continue meeting at **7:00 pm** and you can still park in front of Morton or Phi Beta Kappa Halls. You'll need a new parking pass and it can be downloaded from our website at [www.williamsburgbirdclub.org](http://www.williamsburgbirdclub.org).

## 2016 Officers

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<b>Membership/Webmistress</b> Jeanette Navia	707-3345 <a href="mailto:jnavia@gmail.com">jnavia@gmail.com</a>
<b>Historian</b> Tom McCary	229-2830

## Wild Birds Unlimited and Backyard Birder support our Bird Club and our birders

Visit **Wild Birds Unlimited Store** in Settler's Market. For years, our Club has received a 5% rebate on the pre-tax amount our Club members spend at WBU. Be sure to let these fine folks know you are a member.

At the **Backyard Birder** store at Quarterpath Crossing (near Harris Teeter), receive a 10% discount on all merchandise. Just let the kind folks there know that you're a member.

## Reported Bird Sightings for April 2016

*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 Devan [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net).*

**June 10:** Gary & Ann Carpenter reported: "Our Red-headed Woodpecker was back this morning at our suet feeder. Also, a Green Heron seems to have taken up residence in the pond at the base of Gunlock [in Colonial Heritage]. Saw Bald Eagles in what seemed like a mating ritual over the Colonial Heritage Club House yesterday. I emphasize the "seemed" because isn't it a bit late in the year for that?"

**June 11:** Brian Taber observed a Western Kingbird at the College Creek HawkWatch site this morning in James City County on the Colonial Parkway.

**June 16:** Shirley Devan spied a Hooded Warbler at the edge of her yard.

**June 18:** Cheryl Jacobson reported: "I heard a Northern Bobwhite call for over five minutes on a big lot full of grass, weeds, and small bushes in Kingsmill. In the seven years I have lived in Kingsmill and birded this particular spot, I have never heard Bobwhites."

**June 22:** Cheryl Jacobson reported a Dickcissel on Marclay Drive in James City County. This is a first reporting of a Dickcissel in James City County and was accepted for the record.

**June 25:** Nick Newberry related: "While doing point counts for my summer research this morning, I had an American Bittern fly over my location in Williamsburg (York county portion). It was fairly low and headed in the general direction of New Quarter Park and its nearby tributaries."

**July 1:** Cheryl Jacobson found a Loggerhead Shrike on Burwells Bay Road in Isle of Wight County. She reported, "I got my Shrike. Isle of Wight is lovely...I had never birded there before...so glad I went. Also, as I drove down a side road, I got a photo of an American Goldfinch

carrying nesting material. I have been watching for this diligently and hurray... I finally got one and it's a pretty good picture."



## Reported Bird Sightings for Summer 2016 (con't.)

**July 1:** Jeanette Navia reported a Pine Siskin at her feeder. The attached photo was great confirmation for this unusual sighting.



**July 2:** Geoff Giles reported a Dickcissel at Westover Plantation in Charles City County.

**July 6:** Nancy Barnhart, Cheryl Jacobson, Patty Maloney, Les Lawrence, and Sue Mutell observed an American Avocet "foraging on a gravel sandbar with Caspian Terns" on the Jamestown Island Causeway.

**July 13, 14, and 18:** Bill Williams saw a Willet (Western) at Jamestown Island – a "large pale gray shorebird in the company of one Short-billed Dowitcher." Nick Newberry found a Willet (Western) at Jamestown July 14.

**July 18:** Brian Taber and Bill Williams observes a Marbled Godwit at Jamestown Island.

**July 19:** Nick Newberry reported a Black-bellied Whistling-Duck at the Jamestown Island Causeway.

**July 27:** Brian Taber rode the Jamestown-Scotland Ferry looking for birds and found an unusual Common Tern.

**August 18:** Lois Leeth reported seeing dozens of Roseate Spoonbills, dozens of White Ibis (both mature and immature), dozens of Mallards (both male and female), 8 Brown Pelicans, 6 Cormorants, 2 Blue Jays, and 3 Mockingbirds, all near her home in St. Augustine.

**August 27:** The folks on the New Quarter Bird Walk spied a Northern Harrier. It was a quick spot but an exciting one....too fast for a photo but long enough for an ID!

## Reported Bird Sightings for Summer 2016 (con't.)

**Twelve Days in August:** Lucile Kossodo reported, "I've had a Prothonotary Warbler at my feeder for about 12 days this August. It has been exciting!"

## A Kiptopeke Letter from Dave and Brian

Hello Kiptopeke Challenge Supporters!  
The 22nd Annual Kiptopeke Challenge team birding competition and fund-raiser is September 24, 2016! Our Wild Birds Unlimited of Williamsburg team is the only one to have competed every year. Dave Youker and I...and perhaps another team member...will again explore the Eastern Shore from before sunup to after sunset! In past years, we have dedicated our KC efforts to a particular friend who had recently passed away and this year, sadly, we lost another in June...Fenton Day was an enthusiastic birder, Observatory supporter and also participated on the Wild Birds Unlimited of Williamsburg team years ago. He will inspire us throughout our big day...and after.

As always, Kiptopeke Challenge funds will be used to support our public education and research programs, including studies of songbirds, hawks, waterbirds, Northern Saw-whet Owls, Monarch Butterflies and Prothonotary Warblers, through the nest box project. Visit the website for more details at [www.cvw.org](http://www.cvw.org).

We greatly appreciate your support over the years and hope you can sponsor our team's efforts again. Donations may be sent to Brian at 103 Exeter Court, Williamsburg, VA 23185 or made through the website. Last year, we won the bronze Piping Plover trophy for most funds raised and as always, we'll send you our report right away. If you have any questions, please e-mail Brian at [taberzz@aol.com](mailto:taberzz@aol.com).

Thanks , Dave Youker and Brian Taber

*Dave and Brian at last year's challenge!*



## President's Corner (continued)

and others can come in for a sip of nectar. I am enjoying these coming to my deck about five feet from where I read. Gotta enjoy them before they decide it's time to move south for the winter!

Speaking of moving south, you might have noticed that the osprey numbers here already appear to have thinned dramatically. Many of our summer residents appear to have already begun their southward migration. For the next months we will have ospreys and other raptors passing through from farther north on their migratory journeys. Some of those raptors will be following the plentiful food supply provided to them by the millions of migratory songbirds migrating southwards to their wintering grounds from the forests to the north where they fledged their young. Particularly the large numbers of "yearbirds" (young hatched last summer), which are migrating for the first time, make ample, easy pickings for ravenous raptors.

And all those migrants of the wonderful songbird species that nest in the north country and pass through our area in the fall should provide sensational viewing opportunities for birders to see and identify species that are with us only briefly on their way through in spring or fall, right?! Well, yeah. Only it's not quite as easy as it would seem. The migrants passing through in the fall will not be singing, since the pairing and nesting time is past, so the birds will not be as easily findable and identifiable by their voices. How about those beautiful plumages? Unfortunately, a large percentage of the songbird migrants are hatch year birds, which are in variations of sub-adult plumage and even a large proportion of adult birds have molted into a more cryptic plumage for the non-breeding phase of the year. To say that identification challenges abound in spotting and identifying fall migrants is no exaggeration.

The good news is, our wintering species will return and the heat and humidity will eventually moderate for us and our birds. Will this be an irruptive year for Red-breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins, Snowy Owls? Stay tuned to see what surprises might be in store. At the very least we can be sure that our friends the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker will be back to entertain us. And we hope you will join us on the William and Mary campus on the evening of the third Wednesday of September.

## New Quarter Park Bird Walk on August 27th



The August 27<sup>th</sup> New Quarter Park Bird Walk, while humid, was pleasant. Capably led by Hugh Beard, the treat of day was the Northern Harrier. Another treat was to be able to assist a young Scout with his badge requirements - perhaps in the future he will not only be in one of Hugh's classes at Lafayette but also a skilled birder. He has the eyes!

Photo: Back row, L to R - Bonnie Fitz, Hugh Bear, John Grantz, Ron Giese

Front row, L to R - Sylvia Giese, Cathy Bond, Betty Peterson, Colin Grantz  
Behind the lens - Jan Lockwood



## VSO Field Trip to Chincoteague, Virginia on September 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>

By Shirley Devan

Every fall is different at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, so join us to discover the surprises that await us on this year's annual fall VSO trip, September 16-18. Last year we tallied 145 species, including a terrific combination of waterfowl, shorebirds and migrating songbirds.

**TRIP REGISTRATION:** To help us plan for the weekend, please register in advance.

Provide the names of participants in your party with your mobile number and email address so we can contact you if needed. Register with Meredith Bell, trip coordinator, at [merandlee@gmail.com](mailto:merandlee@gmail.com) or 804-824- 4958. If you're also registering for one of the bus trips to Wash Flats (see below), be sure to state your preferred day.

**HEADQUARTERS:** The Refuge Inn on Beach Road in Chincoteague will be the host hotel (800-544- 8469 or 757-336- 5511). Room rates are \$108 (plus tax) per night for a single or a double room, minimum two night stay. For those arriving a day early or staying an extra day, the rate for Thursday and Sunday nights will be \$96. The Refuge Inn is non-smoking and no pets are allowed. To assure the VSO rate, make reservations by August 16 and state you are with the VSO when you call.

**SATURDAY FIELD TRIPS:** You can select from a variety of field trip experiences: "Morning Warbler Walk" on the Woodland Trail to look for migrating songbirds; "Motorcade to Assateague Beach," with frequent stops to look at shorebirds; and "Birding and Biking" (Sat only) to explore the wildlife loop. (No cars are allowed until 3:00pm, so it's a safe, easy ride. If you don't have a bike, you can rent one at the shop next to the Refuge Inn.) And we'll also offer two bus trips (Sat and Sun) and a Sat-only Birding Boat trip (Sat only).

*Yellow Warbler on Jewel Weed – Photo by Inge Curtis*



### WASH FLATS BUS TRIP – ADVANCE REGISTRATION

**REQUIRED:** We have arranged for two bus trips to the Wash Flats: at 8:00am on Saturday and on Sunday. This is a restricted area in the refuge and can only be entered with special permission. The shorebirds and raptors are often abundant in this area. The bus has a capacity for 25 people. The cost per person is \$12. If you want to go on this trip, you must make a reservation and specify your preferred day with Meredith Bell, at [merandlee@gmail.com](mailto:merandlee@gmail.com) or 804-824-4958. Payment will be made at the registration area when you arrive on Friday (exact change is appreciated). If you are unable to attend after making your reservation, please contact Meredith so that she can open up your space for someone else. This is a popular trip and fills up quickly, so we recommend that you register early.

**BOAT TRIP – ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** There will be a special birding by boat trip Saturday at 1:00 pm (2 hours) with a local boat captain and his crew. You have a chance to check out the marshes and tidal flats up-close during low tide for interesting water birds and raptors. The fee is \$33 (plus tip) and is paid in cash at the boat, located at 2246 Curtis Merritt Harbor Drive, off Main Street. (Note: The boat can hold up to 100 people!). Contact Meredith Bell at [merandlee@gmail.com](mailto:merandlee@gmail.com) or 804-824-4958 to register.

**SUNDAY MORNING:** We will repeat many of the field trips from Saturday, so you will have a chance to sample many different areas. Check out time from most of the motels is 11:00AM.

## The Super Bowl of CVWO – Hawkwatch at Kiptopeke State Park

By Jessica Ausura, the Bird Nerd (Jessica is a columnist for the Daily Press as well as the publicity officer for Hampton Roads Bird Club. She has graciously agreed to write a column for us periodically. Many thanks to her for her time and effort!)

Virginia has lots to offer when it comes to birds, due to our varying habitats. From the mountains to the sea, it's a beautiful place to live and birding can be pretty spectacular here this time of year, especially, we have the joy of Fall Migration. While Spring excites with migrating songbirds and hummingbirds, Fall brings them all back through Virginia along with other impressive migrants. For the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory, this month marks the beginning of our big event of the year, our Super Bowl, if you will. The Hawkwatch at Kiptopeke State Park on the Eastern Shore starts September 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through the end of November and this year marks our 40th year.

As a conservation group operating in Hampton Roads, the Eastern Shore, the Northern Neck and up into the piedmont region to Richmond, we conduct surveys, counts, and research projects that help us better understand the patterns of bird migration and nesting in Virginia. We study several sensitive sites including Grandview Nature Preserve in Hampton, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel where Terns and Gulls nest along with some other species, the Eastern Shore, and Northwest River Park in Chesapeake, among others.



We also study butterflies, set up and monitor nest boxes for Prothonotary Warblers, and conduct water and shorebird surveys. Hawkwatch is one of our bigger projects and people come from all over to see what the folks on the platform are doing with their eyes pointed to the sky with binoculars and scopes.

To mark this year's big year, our president, Brian Taber will be holding a workshop to help folks with identification of raptors flying over the platform. Using cut-out models and field marks, he will show visitors how to easy it is to identify birds like Broad-winged Hawks, Kestrels

*Photo of Bald Eagle by Judy Jones*

and even Bald Eagles as they whiz by on their paths south. The workshop will be September 25th and will coincide with our other big event, our Kiptopeke Challenge, on the 24th. This fun day of birding is a 24-hour birding "blitz" designed to raise awareness about fall migration while raising funds to support our research projects. Teams participate to identify as many species as they can, bringing a spirited competitiveness to a non-competitive hobby. You may visit our website for more information: [www.cvwo.org](http://www.cvwo.org) and please check us out on Facebook where we post photos, have bird quizzes, and share events at <https://www.facebook.com/coastalvawildlife/>.

## The New Quarter Park Bird Walk on August 13<sup>th</sup>

Late summer birding in eastern Virginia is not for the faint of heart. On August 13<sup>th</sup>, the temperature and humidity were both in the low eighties at eight o'clock in the morning. Few birds were singing, for they no longer needed to attract a mate or protect their territory. It was a bit early for any fall migrants. Yet hope springs eternal in the heart of a birder that there might be a life bird right around the corner and it is always enjoyable to spend a little time with knowledgeable and enthusiastic observers. So eleven optimistic birders headed out and we picked up three more along the way. No unexpected birds were spotted but a couple highlights were a Spotted Sandpiper at very close range at the floating dock and a couple of feeding Red-eyed Vireos put on a show near the shelters on the way to the fire pit. All in all, we recorded thirty-two species and a very nice, although muggy, couple hours spent with good birders.

Front Row: Bob Long, Cynthia Long, Jan Lockwood.

Cheryl Jacobson, Barbara McCain, Chuck McCain

Back Row: Joyce Lowey, Lynn Collins, David Lunt, Lisa Nickel, Sue Mutell

Missing: Andy Hawkins (photographer), Betty Peterson, Geoff Giles



## Where Have All the Meadowlarks Gone?

By Cheryl J. Jacobson

*Eastern Meadowlark photographed by Cheryl Jacobson*

According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the State of the Birds report that can be seen at [StateoftheBirds.org](http://StateoftheBirds.org), during the past four decades, Eastern Meadowlark populations have plummeted by more than 70%.

Recently, I walked with Angier Brock, a local Yorktown resident who



walks the battlefield trails twice a week and reports her finding regarding Eastern Meadowlarks to the staff. Angier knows where the Meadowlarks like to nest. She reported recently finding a nest with eggs just minutes before a staff person on a mower would have cut up the nest. She stopped him and showed him her picture of the nest and eggs. He was pleased to have the information and roped off that area. So, if you know of nesting Meadowlarks near you who potentially could have their nests destroyed, perhaps Angier can be a model to protect them.



*Eastern Meadowlark eggs hatching photographed by Angier Brock*

## The Migrants Are Coming! Atlas Tips for Late Summer

By Ashley Peele, PhD, VA Atlas Coordinator

As we slowly roll into the fall migration season, we need to start using a little more care when applying breeding codes to our observations. As migrants begin moving back through Virginia, it's a good idea to consult the Breeding Guidelines Chart to see what species have entered the transition zone (when northern breeders start mixing with our local summer residents). At this time, Atlas volunteers need to start asking themselves a few questions before entering a breeding code...

- 1. Can I be sure this juvenile bird was hatched in my block?** This question is much more difficult to answer at this time of year. Many juveniles are now dispersing out and away from their natal areas, so it is possible that you'll have new juveniles moving into your block. One way to gauge a local fledgling is to look at tail length. Recently fledged young tend to have shorter tails than juveniles fledged earlier in the season. In general, it's best to err on the side of caution at this time of year. If you're not sure, get a second opinion from your regional coordinator or birder friends.  
Example 1: A fuzzy juvenile Cedar Waxwing begging for food in your pine trees is still a solid FL code.  
Example 2: The juvenile Black and White Warbler foraging independently on the edge of the woods is NOT a reliable FL code. In fact, this bird should get no code at all.
- 2. Is it possible this bird is migrating?** If yes, then do not use the **H** or **S** codes. Most *possible* and *probable* codes no longer apply to species that may be passage migrants. In fact, it's best to only enter *confirmed* codes for potential migrants at this point in the season. For resident species, a few may still be in active breeding mode. American Goldfinch are notably late breeders may still be on eggs, have nestlings, or recently fledged young. However, most species should not be defaulted to H or S anymore.  
Example 1: Eastern Wood-Pewee singing in the woods – this species is well into the 'transition' time, so singing individuals could be passage migrants. S code no longer applies.  
Example 2: Green Heron sitting near a pond – again, well into the transition time, so H code is out!
- 3. What *confirmed* codes are still useful?** There are several codes that are safe to use, even this late in the breeding season. These include FY (feeding young), NE (nest with eggs), and NY (nest with young).



On August 4<sup>th</sup>, photographer and bird lover, Inge Curtis, captured the scene of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird fighting off a Black Rat Snake at the feeder in her backyard.

At the New Quarter Park bird walk on August 27<sup>th</sup>, a speedy Northern Harrier was seen and quickly ID-ed, but the birders couldn't catch a photo, so, to make up for it, Jan Lockwood submitted a photo of this very sleepy Turkey Vulture, sunning itself on a rooftop.



## CALENDAR

Sunday, September 4	Hampton Roads Bird Club sponsors a Bird Walk at Newport News Park, 7 am. Meet in the parking lot near Ranger Station.
Saturday, September 10	Bird Walk at New Quarter Park, 8 am. Meet at the parking lot near the office.
September 16-18	VSO trip to Chincoteague, details on page 6
Sunday, September 18	Hampton Roads Bird Club sponsors a Bird Walk at Newport News Park, 7 am. Meet in the parking lot near Ranger Station.
Wednesday, September 21	Bird Club Meeting, 7 PM (Note change of location), Room 101 in Andrews Hall, W&M Campus. Guest is Dr. Shawn Dash, speaking on breeding birds. (See details on page 1.)
Saturday, September 24	CVWO Kiptopeke Challenge, details on pages 4 and 7
Saturday, September 24	Bird Walk at New Quarter Park, 7 am. Meet at the parking lot near the office

## The Kiptopeke Challenge – Gulls Gone Wild

By Shirley Devan



In a few weeks, the **Gulls Gone Wild** and **Wild Birds Unlimited** will be flying around the highways and byways of the Eastern Shore for the Kiptopeke Challenge to raise much-needed funds for the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory (CVWO). Four birders from the Williamsburg Bird Club –Jan Lockwood, Nancy Barnhart, Barbara Neis, and Shirley Devan – will compete against other teams to find the most species of birds in a 24-hour period, September 24, 2016. Another team from Williamsburg – Wild Birds Unlimited with Brian Taber and Dave Youker – will be racing around the Shore as well. But we already know who the winner will be...CVWO!

CVWO has provided financial, volunteer and logistical support for songbird, diurnal raptor, and Monarch Butterfly research and education on the lower Delmarva Peninsula for the past 22 years. As autumn approaches, CVWO is sponsoring these programs:

- Research-based songbird studies directed by Dr. Eric Walters of Old Dominion University
- 40<sup>th</sup> annual Kiptopeke Hawkwatch. Anna Stunkel will be on the platform this year assisted by Caroline Sankey. They'll be counting hawks September 1 – November 30. Be sure to visit!
- CVWO's Monarch Butterfly migration studies, with Clay Buffkin, will continue, providing crucial data for understanding the migration needs and patterns of this beleaguered species.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Bay Watch Program, conducted by Charlie Plimpton, from Pickett's Harbor Natural Area Preserve just north of Kiptopeke State Park.



*Loggerhead Shrike photographed by Cheryl Jacobson*

The value of these long term studies cannot be overstated in view of climate change predictions, implementation of off-shore wind-energy technology, and potential changes in land use practices, to name only a few. **CVWO needs your**

**help** to sustain these research efforts this fall and beyond. CVWO has already committed to paying these young people for their research this fall. Through the Kiptopeke Challenge you can support CVWO and make a difference right away!

The Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory (CVWO) is a non-profit organization whose mission is the protection of wildlife and habitats in coastal Virginia through field research, education, and land conservation. The CVWO is a 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax deductible. The CVWO's web site has additional information about its organization, programs, and research: [www.cvwo.org](http://www.cvwo.org).

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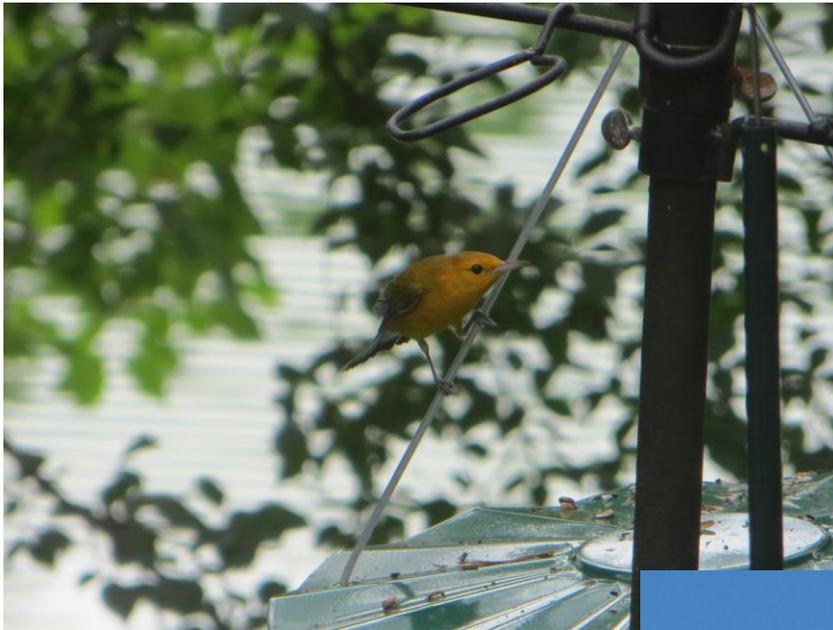
*Roseate Spoonbills photographed by Lois Leeth near her home in St. Augustine, FL*

We hope you will sponsor one or both of these Williamsburg teams. Please send your donation check, payable to CVWO, to:

- Shirley Devan for the Gulls Gone Wild, 6227 Tucker Landing, Wmsbg, VA 23188
- Brian Taber for Wild Birds of Williamsburg, 103 Exeter Court, Wmsbg, VA 23185

ALL donations go to CVWO. Please pledge whatever you like. This is supposed to be fun, and we – and CVWO – will be grateful for whatever pledge you make. If you would like a target for making a flat donation, we would suggest \$25.

After the “Challenge,” each team will let you know the results and send you an account of the birds and adventures. CVWO greatly values your support.



Lucille Kossodo was thrilled to see this Prothonotary Warbler at her feeder twelve days in a row this August.

Lois Leeth proudly photographed a Bald Eagle near her house in St. Augustine on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.



Ever Atlas-ing, Cheryl Jacobson was able to capture these two photographs of flycatchers in June. The photo on the right shows a Great Crested Flycatcher carrying nesting materials to build her nest.



This photo shows an Acadian Flycatcher sitting on her nest. Both photos were taken in June.

Jan Lockwood captured three Great Blue Heron down near Queen's Creek on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August. She claims they're saying, "My neck is longer than yours is!" Isn't it nice to know someone who speaks bird?



## The New Quarter Park Bird Walk on July 23rd



Jim Corliss writes:

“Here is the photo from NQP walk on July 23rd. The photo leaves a little bit to be desired (not many convincing smiles). Participants were: Dick Owen, Katie Johanson, Jan Lockwood, Geoff Giles, Cheryl Jacobson, and Jim Corliss.”

Finally, we end this newsletter with two stunning photos of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds from Inge Curtis. Taken on August 8<sup>th</sup> (right) and August 18<sup>th</sup> (below), they capture the magic and beauty of these amazing birds in flight.

