

**Williamsburg Bird Club
November 19, 2025**

Hybrid meeting. Conducted in person at Quarterpath Rec Center, Rm. 2, Quarterpath Rd,
Williamsburg and via Zoom hosted by Ann Carpenter at 6 pm.

Attendance: 30 in person; 18 via Zoom

President's Remarks: President Nancy Barnhart welcomed everyone present and on Zoom. She reported that after the presentation, elections would be held and there would be a brief period of announcements.

Program: VP Patty Maloney introduced tonight's guest, James Abbott, a researcher and conservation ecologist who, among other things, is the program coordinator and master captain of the James River Association. He gave a delightful talk on **New Zealand (Aotearoa), The Land of Birds**. With no native mammals, (only 2 native species of bats), birds evolved in ecological isolation resulting in a fantastic variety of species. James and his wife visited from Feb 12 -March 8, 2025. A charming feature of the presentation was the 6 endemic plush birds that play authentic calls that James brought back with him. A thrilling moment for James was when a Kiwi touched his foot!

Announcements:

Bird Walks – Scott Hemler:

- **Saturday, November 22:** Babs Giffin will be leading the 4th Saturday bird walk at New Quarter Park at 8am.
- **Saturday, December 27:** at New Quarter Park at 8am. Nancy suggested that members bring their visiting family and friends here for Christmas.

Field Trips – George Martin, Field Trip Coordinator: Next field trip in January. Date and place to be announced. Probably to Dutch Gap

Newsletter – The Flyer, VP Mary Ellen Hodges, Editor: Nancy announced for Mary Ellen that there will be no December newsletter. The deadline for the January issue is Dec. 28th. She has requested photos from the Christmas Bird Count.

Christmas Bird Count – Shirley Devan, Chairperson/Compiler:

- **CBC, Sunday, December 14.** Shirley reported that she is using an on-line site, Mobilize, for signing up and that there are 50 folks signed up to date. She encouraged feeder watchers who are in the circle as well as people in the field. It was noted that birds of interest seen 3 days before and after the bird count day may still be recorded along with place and time. Shirley had cards containing her contact info to make herself available for any questions.
- **Almost Annual Bird and Birder Show – Thursday January 1st, 2025:** Shirley will host a casual birding even and get-together at Chickahominy Riverfront Park from 1-3 pm. Bring your family and friends.

Programs – Patty Maloney, VP Programs:

- **January 21, 2026:** Bobby Clontz will talk about land management for the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. This is a shared meeting with the Historic Rivers Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists.

Election of 2026 WBC Board Members: A Nominating Committee consisting of Deborah Humphries, Babs Giffin, and Donna Benson proposed the slate of nominees for consideration by the membership. The slate was printed in the November issue of *The Flyer*. Deborah Humphries read aloud the slate as follows.

- President: Nancy Barnhart
- Vice-President, Newsletter: Mary Ellen Hodges
- Vice-President, Programs: Rexanne Bruno
- Secretary: Cathy Millar
- Treasurer: Ann Carpenter
- Members-at-Large: Donna Benson and Deborah Humphries
- Past President: Cheryl Jacobson

There were no nominations from the floor. Nancy asked for a show of hands of those both present and on Zoom who approved the slate. The vote of approval was unanimous.

Nancy Barnhart took the opportunity to thank Patty Maloney for her service as VP, Programs. Nancy also asked the membership to email her with any suggestions, ideas, goals, target birds, etc. for this 49th year of the WBC.

End of Meeting: A free raffle was held, and refreshments, brought by Tarry Doran and new member, offered.

Nancy Barnhart adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Millar, Secretary Williamsburg Bird Club
November 23, 2025