2020-2021
VSO
SPEAKERS
DIRECTORY

Compiled and published by
Russell Taylor
Vienna, VA

Print copies of this directory may be obtained from:
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P.O. Box 5994
Williamsburg, VA 23188
email: vsomembership@cox.net
On-line version: https://www.virginiabirds.org/publications/speakers-directory
A note about using this directory . . .

The Virginia Society of Ornithology (VSO) Speakers Directory is updated and published each spring. It contains programs that the individuals and organizations listed have developed for presentation to bird clubs and similar groups. There is no charge either to the speakers to be listed or to the organizations or individuals requesting a copy of this publication; it is compiled as a public service by the VSO. Please be aware that individual programs are not reviewed or endorsed by the VSO.

The directory can be downloaded from the VSO Web site at

http://www.virginiabirds.org/publications/speakers-directory/

The capsule comments in this directory inform you of each speaker’s specialty. When you contact a speaker, ask about fees. Most will visit you for a modest honorarium or travel expenses, some for free, and a few for professional fees. The VSO suggests that in most cases a gift or gift certificate is not suitable; a check or cash to defray traveling expenses is more appropriate. Details concerning length of program, travel arrangements, meals, equipment needed, overnight accommodations, and special considerations should be discussed at the time of initial contact with the speaker. Please note that the VSO has no role in any arrangements concerning these bookings.

Due to the realities as of April 2020, I have surveyed our speakers to see who is willing to do online presentations. Speakers who are equipped and willing to do virtual programs have the “virtual presenter” symbol VP in the header of their entry. Please also see my short article on moving your club to online meetings.

Occasionally, contact information for a speaker changes during the year and some phone numbers and/or addresses may not be current. If you have difficulty reaching an individual listed in this directory, check the Speaker's Directory on the VSO Website for updated information. You may also contact the editor (see below). I may have received new information on the whereabouts of the person you are trying to contact.

If you have a presentation you would like listed in this directory, or wish to obtain further information regarding its publication, please contact:

Russell Taylor
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THE 2020-2021
VSO DIRECTORY OF SPEAKERS AND
ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAMS

Jennifer Ackerman  □VP  NEW PROGRAM
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www.jenniferackermanauthor.com

NEW “The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent, and Think.” – Jennifer Ackerman, author of the New York Times bestseller The Genius of Birds, offers a multimedia talk (in person or as part of a virtual event) about her new book, The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent, and Think. In the book, Ackerman offers a lively distillation of the latest findings in bird science that are dramatically shifting our understanding of how birds live and think. We meet birds that give gifts and birds that steal, birds that dance or drum, birds that paint their bowers and paint themselves, bird that build walls of sound to keep out intruders and birds that summon playmates with a special call—which may hold the secret to our own penchant for playfulness and the evolution of human laughter. Ackerman’s talk includes photographs and audio recordings by professionals and draws on her field observations and research from around the world, from the tropical rainforests of eastern Australia and the remote woodlands of Hokkaido, to the rolling hills of lower Austria and the islands of Alaska’s Kachemak Bay. Everywhere, Ackerman investigates the odd ducks—and seabirds, hawks, cuckoos, corvids, wrens, and vultures—whose novel behavior reveals the striking cleverness and ingenuity to be found in the avian world.

In a starred review, Kirkus Reviews calls The Bird Way “a brightly original book... Ackerman is a smooth writer; her presentation of ideas is deft, and her anecdotes are consistently engaging... [She] demonstrates bird science as an evolving discipline that is consistently fascinating.”


Jennifer asks that organizations she speaks to provide a buy-link to The Bird Way on the event Web page and other communications announcing the event, so that members have easy access to purchase before and during the presentation.

Mark Adams
2300 Rocky Run
Charlottesville, VA 22901
434-296-0222 (day), 434-245-2250 (evening), 434-249-0584 (cell)
markadamsphd@yahoo.com

Mark is a professional astronomer and an avid bird and butterfly watcher who moved to Charlottesville in January 2004 from the Davis Mountains of western Texas. For the past 25 years, Mark’s professional responsibilities at the University of Texas-McDonald Observatory and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory have included public outreach and education. Mark has organized and led, for example,
numerous “Star Parties” to explore the night-time sky with the naked eye, binoculars, and telescopes. Mark also has extensive experience giving informative and entertaining presentations about astronomy, birds, bird watching, butterflies, and butterfly watching. His audiences have included school children of all ages, bird clubs, conservation groups, astronomy clubs, and civic groups.

Mark has studied Virginia’s butterflies annually since 2004, and has recently spent seven weeks photographing butterflies in the Neotropical forests of the Peruvian Andes and the Afrotropical forests of Ghana. He has mined these experiences to create a new program titled *Butterfly Journeys, Near & Far* that features many of his butterfly photographs and experiences from Peru, Ghana, and Virginia.

Mark has organized and led bird and butterfly field trips and seminars for the Big Bend Natural History Association, the Texas Ornithological Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the Monticello Bird Club. Drawing on his extensive natural history knowledge, field experience, and image collection, Mark can assemble and present a program that will entertain and inform any audience. Mark is often asked to present a program about his birding “Big Year,” a year-long bird watching adventure that Mark has chronicled in his book, *Chasing Birds across Texas: A Birding Big Year*, published by the Texas A&M University Press in October 2003. Will travel; fee negotiable.

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**Patti Reum and Dan Bieker**

Patti Reum  
540-474-3245 (H)  540-292-2959 (cell)  
pareum@gmail.com

Dan Bieker  
434-971-9618  
danbieker@gmail.com

*“American Kestrel Nesting Box Project”* - Patti Reum of Highland County, and Dan Bieker of Albemarle County offer this program about the Virginia Society of Ornithology’s American Kestrel Nest Box Project. The American Kestrel has shown dramatic population decreases in recent decades for a variety of reasons including habitat loss, fewer nesting cavities, and use of pesticides on agricultural fields. The VSO’s Nest Box Project has established hundreds of boxes throughout the state and continues to educate landowners on habitat preservation and other conservation measures. We will show photos of our project and present information on the habitat and biology of this fascinating and valuable species.

*“American Kestrel Reproductive Monitoring”* - An additional program includes the content listed in the Nest Box Project presentation, but that goes into more detail about the Highland County Monitoring and Banding Project, initiated by Patti and John Spahr. Patti will describe fascinating observations from the last four years of monitoring boxes in Highland County.

Patti has been involved in many bird projects in Virginia, including the Golden Chase Project (working with biologists at the Center for Conservation Biology) where a Golden Eagle was trapped and fitted with a telemetry device. She has also assisted the Golden-winged Warbler research project done by Virginia Commonwealth University. She has been a wildlife biologist in Canada, Maryland, and Virginia and also taught math and science for 18 years. Now “retired”, she spends much of her time working on the kestrel project and helping out with bird projects whenever she can. She is Vice President of the Bath-Highland Bird Club. Patti is a VSO board member and chairs its Conservation Committee.

Please see the next entry for Dan Bieker’s bio.
Dan Bieker

Dan Bieker
434-971-9618
danbieker@gmail.com

Dan is a farm owner and adjunct professor at Piedmont Virginia Community College in Charlottesville, where he teaches Field Ornithology and Appalachian Ecology. He has been involved with kestrel research and nest boxes for over 30 years, and contributes extensively to the vertebrate database for Albemarle County’s Natural Heritage Committee. Dan currently is the VSO President and serves on the Conservation Committee.

NEW “Rare and Unusual Wildlife of Virginia” - With its varied topography, patches of wilderness and abundant waterways Virginia harbors a wide diversity of plant and wildlife species. This program highlights many of the fascinating yet rarely observed birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish found in Virginia, especially the Mountain and Piedmont regions of the state.

Jeff Blalock

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South Boston, VA  24592
434-470-4352 (Cell)
434-572-8619 (Home)
jcbabirder@gcronline.com

Jeff has been birding in Virginia for over 30 years and has participated in Breeding Birds Surveys, the VSO Atlas Project, lead the Halifax County VSO Foray and established and compiled for the Banister River WMA Christmas Bird Count. He has been to Texas, Maine, Idaho, California, both North and South Carolina, Alaska, Japan, India, and Jamaica birding. Besides birding he enjoys all things in nature and loves being outdoors.

"Alaska – Birds, Mammals and Scenery" - Jeff traveled to Alaska in June 2013 with Field Guides for nearly three weeks. Based out of Anchorage, he visited St. Paul Island, Denali National Park, Stewart and Kenai Fjords National Park, Nome and Barrow. This slide programs covers birds, mammals and the great scenery seen along the way.

“Winter Birding – Japan” - Jeff travelled to all three major islands to see thousands of cranes of six different species including a single Siberian, both Steller's and White-tailed Eagles along with the Blakinston's Fish-Owl. There were plenty of songbirds as well and even Japanese Snow Monkeys. We went on three pelagic trips and even an overnight ferry ride to Hachijojima Island to looks for endemic species and to look for albatrosses on the way back to Tokyo we saw Black-Footed, Short-Tailed and Laysan.

“Birding in India” - Birding India in the month of February allows one to escape the cold of winter here in the States and enjoy the very mild and dry weather in India. It hadn’t gotten hot yet and we didn’t have a drop of rain on my trip of 13 days visiting the subcontinent that is home to over 1.2 billion people. After flying into Delhi airport I along with my guide and driver made our way on a 7 hour drive to Tal Chhapar Sanctuary which is a national forest. Over the next two weeks we visited the Jorbeer Carcass Dump at Bikaner to see vultures, the Khichan Bird Sanctuary to see Demoiselle Cranes, the Desert National Park for the Great Bustard, Akal Wood Fossil Park, Fateh Sagar Lake for pelicans, gulls and other waterfowl and the greatest birding spot I have ever been to; Keoladeo Ghana National Park near Bharatpur which is so large you have to rent a rickshaw to ride around in to bird watch. And we topped it off with a boat ride up the Chambal River to see ducks, terns and shorebirds. After my birding tour, I took a 3 day trip to Jim
Corbett Tiger Reserve to see Tigers which I didn’t see but I added several new species to my Life List while there.

NEW PROGRAM "Jamaica - Birds, Friends, and Food" - In January 2020, Jeff spent 11 days birding in Jamaica with friends Stacy and Natalie Barbour from Raleigh NC. There they chased after and saw the 29 endemic species of Jamaica as well as other regional endemic species mostly from the center to the eastern part of the island. Their total species for the trip was 134. They visited the John Crow and Blue Mountains, the Black River and marshes, as well as coastal areas, and Ecclesdown Road. Along the way they had many cups of the famous Blue Mountains Coffee and enjoyed many a meal of Jerk Chicken, Jerk Pork, Curry Chicken, Ox Tail, different fish and even enjoyed a Rum Punch after a great day of birding one evening.

Erwin Bohmfalk, Ph.D.
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erwin@ntelos.net or purpleft@cfw.com

A world traveler with an emphasis on nature and wildlife, and unparalleled photography of out-of-the-way places. Erwin’s most popular programs include:

“Birds of the Vredefort Dome” - Erwin has published a photographic field guide of the birds seen in this new UN International World Heritage Site in South Africa. The guide contains over 700 of his bird photographs which include 217 species. He tries to cover a range of variable viewing conditions to assist identification - e.g., where possible, shown in flight, male vs. female, immature vs. mature, breeding vs. non-breeding, feeding, nesting, etc. Further, our Wildlife Center of Virginia (WCV) can offer birding photo and viewing safaris conducted in Southern African countries.

“Around the Bottom of the World” - A unique 67-day, 13,000 mile first- and to date only- non-scientific circumnavigation of the Antarctic continent, travelling on the Russian icebreaker Kapitan Khlebnikov. We photographed literally millions of penguins (seven species, including Emperors), other seabirds, seals, whales, icebergs, glaciers, volcanoes, nine research stations, plus the explorer huts of Shackleton and Scott. A once-in-a-lifetime experience!

“Across the Top of the World” - The Russian Arctic: The first-ever surface ship crossing of the Geographic North Pole, on the Russian icebreaker Sovetskiy Soyuz, the world’s largest, nuclear-powered icebreaker. The program features polar bears, walruses, seabirds, expedition sites, derelict Russian Gulag, and mucho ice.

“The Islands of the Falklands and South Georgia” - The wildlife and scenery of these islands is incredible—South Georgia will blow your mind. We will see a spectacular variety of birdlife and seals, visit thousands of penguins and albatrosses in their rookeries, and retrace the final footsteps of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s ill-fated Endurance expedition.

“The Deserts of Namibia During their ‘Rainy’ Season” - A rare glimpse into the unique wildlife and plant life of the Namibian desert as they literally come to life during the momentary, transient rainy season.

Dr. Bohmfalk is a member of the prestigious Explorers Club of New York, and is Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors of the Wildlife Center of Virginia in Waynesboro, VA. An honorarium is requested which will be donated to the Wildlife Center of Virginia.
Rob Cahill  
Director  
Community Cloud Forest Conservation  
Chichen Coban, A.V.  
Guatemala  
011-502-4010-0852  
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www.CloudForestConservation.org

Nearly one third of the country of Guatemala is designated as Important Bird Areas. Guatemala is rich in diversity with over 730 species. Rob Cahill and his son John Cahill are eBird reviewers for Guatemala. The Cahills have lived in Guatemala since 2001 and direct Community Cloud Forest Conservation, a not for profit NGO.

The Cahills have led VSO birding trips in Guatemala for the last 3 years.

Rob’s presentation focuses on regional endemic birds, cloud forests and conservation. Rob is an experienced public speaker and an excellent photographer.

Rob travels to Virginia from Guatemala several times a year. He has the flexibility to plan his travels to coincide with speaking opportunities. However, advanced notice is important. While Rob does not require reimbursement for travel expenses, he would appreciate directing honoraria to Community Cloud Forest Conservation.

Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory

P.O. Box 764  
Lightfoot, VA 23090  
taberzz@aol.com

Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory offers programs on spring and fall bird migration, hawk watching, Prothonotary Warbler monitoring, water bird surveys, monarch butterfly tagging, and related habitat and conservation issues. Several speakers are available for presentations. Contact Brian Taber at the address listed above. A color brochure containing information about the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory is available upon request.

Maureen Eiger  
NEW AND UPDATED PROGRAMS

2415 Mount Vernon Rd. S.W.  
Roanoke, VA 24015-3617  
540-342-4890 (best way to contact me)  
meiger@cox.net  
www.helpwildbirds.org

Maureen Eiger is the founder and Director of Help Wild Birds, Roanoke’s only nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation organization that exclusively rehabs migratory birds. She is the author of one of the new chapters and co-author of another chapter in Hand-Rearing Birds, Second Edition edited by Rebecca Duerr and Laurie Gage. As a State and Federally Permitted Bird Rehabber, Maureen has been rehabbing various species of birds and presenting programs for 20 years. She often teaches bird rehab classes at statewide wildlife conferences. She has been a contributing writer to the North American Bluebird Society Journal, The Roanoke Star Newspaper, various Audubon and bird club newsletters and the blog 10,000
Maureen is an avid birder and previously a Virginia Bluebird Society Board Member and Vice President of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club. She enjoys teaching bird rehab, presenting non-rehab bird programs to various groups, and networking with other bird rehabbers across North America. You can say her passion in life is very “birdy.”

All that is needed for Maureen’s programs is a projector and screen.

**UPDATED “Eastern Screech-Owls! Our fierce little raptors”** – Learn about the life of Eastern Screech-owls, one of our smallest but fiercest owls that we often see in Virginia. Learn how to attract them to your yard, what they eat, and why they often come in to be rehabbed. Presentation includes photos of screech owlets that were raised in captivity and possibly a live education screech owl will be available, depending on location and time of year. Power point presentation, need projector and screen.

"**American Robins our (UN)common bird**" - Robins are probably the most recognizable bird in America. We take them for granted and most of us don’t really know that much about their life. Can you tell the difference between male and female birds or who’s who, by the unique markings on the bird’s face?

This program will shed some light on how and where they go to migrate and why. You will discover how robins are altruistic birds, and the unique personality each bird has. Learn about their diet and how they seem to find earthworms so easily. This program is will let you in on some unique and surprising facts about our American Robin so even the most knowledgeable birder may learn something new. PowerPoint presentation.

"**Bird Safe and Bird Friendly?”** - Simple things you may not think about and easy things anyone can do to protect birds and their environment. Save money on your bird food bill and still attract birds. Create a better feeding station and prevent diseases. Learn what you can do to attract birds to nest on your property. How can you prevent window hits or cat attacks? What should you do if that happens? Is wind and solar power bird friendly? A PowerPoint presentation with props.

"**Growing up Bluebird**" - For Bluebird lovers! See what goes on in an Eastern Bluebird nest box with time lapse video. Learn about some of the reasons why nesting attempts are unsuccessful. Nest box monitoring tips; signs to look for when your nest box babies may be in trouble, when do you need to intervene? How do bird rehabbers take care of nestling and fledgling bluebirds that are orphaned and still keep them wild? This program presents an up close and personal life of a most beloved bird, the Eastern Bluebird. A PowerPoint and video presentation with lots of photos of bluebirds.

“**Baby Bird ID**” - We know the field marks for adult birds, but how can you identify that “naked” bird in a nest? Or identify a bird with just a few pin feathers? Learn a new set of field marks and see some more common bird species in a new way. Test your group’s skills with a “What baby bird is that?” quiz at the end of the program. Program is a PowerPoint presentation with lots of interaction with the audience.

"**Baby Bird ID 2**” - See the more uncommon species (flycatchers and others) not covered in the previous Baby Bird ID. Learn the field marks to identify that “naked” bird in a nest. Test your group’s skills with a “What baby bird is that?” quiz at the end of the program. Program is a PowerPoint presentation with lots of interaction with the audience.

“**Fascinating Feathers**” - All birds have feathers, but why do they come in different colors, shapes and sizes? Learn how feathers get their color. Learn which birds use feathers as “tools.” What bird has poison feathers? What bird can be its own little copper mine? Are blue feathers really blue? We will learn some unusual uses for feathers by birds. This is an in depth program about bird feathers. A PowerPoint presentation with several (legal) feather examples will be available for close inspection.
“Amazing Birds” - This program is an intimate look at unusual bird behaviors and little known facts about a few specific species of birds. Do you know which birds have teeth or a toe with a comb? Some bird species covered include Sora, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Coopers Hawk, Common Nighthawk and more. PowerPoint presentation

“Beyond Birdwatching” - Ever want to know what it takes to become a permitted migratory bird rehabilitator? Maybe that is something you would like to do? Learn about the process involved to be permitted to rehabilitate wild birds and why birds end up in rehab. Maureen will also discuss the rewards and pitfalls of being a State and Federally Permitted Migratory Bird Rehabilitator. A PowerPoint presentation and props.

NEW “Bird Rehabbing in Virginia” – There are a lack of permitted bird rehabbers in Virginia. We can use more people in this field. Learn what it takes and how you can become a state and federally permitted bird rehabber. Learn what you can do legally to help injured or orphaned birds. Photos of baby birds and ideas for a home based set up for bird rehabbing from your home.

Dr. Marshall Faintich  VP

3258 Rowcross Street
Crozet, VA 22932
434-760-2278 between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.
mbf@faintich.net
www.faintich.net

Marshall is the author of A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Wintergreen and is a past birding activity manager for the Rockfish Valley Trail. His wildlife photos have appeared in newspapers, magazines, web sites, government reports and presentations, and on wildlife and birding trail signs in Virginia and Maryland. His own web site contains more than 8,000 of his best wildlife photos, and gets about 3 million hits per year from visitors in more than 80 countries around the world.

He offers a one-hour photographic presentation on the “Birds of Central Virginia” when the hosting organization can provide a laptop computer projection system. Expenses for travel outside his local area are expected, and hosting organization’s usual honorarium is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Faintich can present 45 minute programs on birds from his extensive birding trips to the following areas:

“Birds of Southwest Florida” - The Naples area offers an exceptional winter getaway for birding. Since 2008, he has made four trips to there, all in January, and totaling about 80 days, as he explored Naples and birding sites within a two-hour drive from Naples. His Florida bird list includes 142 species, and the presentation includes the most popular birding sites, as well as some lesser-known but even better birding sites, and the birds seen there.

“Birds of Southern Texas and South-central Arizona” - The Texas hill country and the Lower Rio Grande River Valley, as well as south-central Arizona from Sedona down to the Mexican border, offer great birding, and an opportunity to see many western bird species. He made one trip to Texas in May, and three trips to south-central Arizona in the months of January, April, and May. His Texas bird list includes 117 species, and my Arizona bird list includes 154 species. The presentation includes the most popular and some lesser-known birding sites, and the birds seen there.

“Birds of England and Scotland” - In addition to the historical and cultural value of visiting the United Kingdom, many Eurasian bird species can be seen there. He has made seven trips to England/Scotland between April 2008 and May 2017. This presentation covers bird species that can be seen in suburban
London and at the London Wetlands Centre, as well as in the Scottish highlands. His UK bird list includes 101 species.

“Birds of Australia and New Zealand” - It’s really an adventure to go birding in a location where almost every bird you see is another life bird, and a North American winter trip there is a southern hemisphere summer adventure. He went on a 23 day tour there in January 2011, and although it was a general tourism activity, he still saw 88 avian species in Australia and 41 in New Zealand. From the urban parks to the desert outback to the rugged mountains and coastal waters, this was an experience of a lifetime.

“Birds of Alaska” – This presentation highlights a wildlife trip to the Denali area, coastal waters south of Seward, and the Katmai Peninsula. Highlights include newly fledged avian species that breed there, spectacular scenery, and Alaskan brown (grizzly) bears.

“Birds of Ecuador and Galapagos” – This presentation highlights a wildlife trip to Mashpi eco-lodge in the western Andes, and a week-long tour of several of the islands of Galapagos. Highlights include numerous hummingbird and warbler species of the Ecuadorian cloud forest, and many of the endemic avian species of Galapagos.

Dr. Faintich also can give a two hour tutorial on bird photography ($200 fee for tutorial for unlimited attendance).

Katie Fallon  VP

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Katie is the author of the nonfiction books Vulture: The Private Life of an Unloved Bird (2017) and Cerulean Blues: A Personal Search for a Vanishing Songbird (2011), and two books for children, Look, See the Farm! (2018) and Look, See the Bird! (2017). Vulture chronicles the life and times of one of the world’s most under-appreciated and overlooked birds, the Turkey Vulture. Part ecological memoir, part travel narrative, part scientific exploration, and part love story, this book examines the roles Turkey Vultures — and vultures worldwide — play in healthy ecosystems. Cerulean Blues describes the plight of the Cerulean Warbler, the fastest-declining Neotropical migrant songbird. Due to activities such as mountaintop removal coal mining in Appalachia and deforestation in the Andes for coffee production, Cerulean numbers have dropped by 3% a year since 1966. Look, See the Farm! is about two children who visit their grandparents’ organic farm and discover the many wild birds that make the farm their home. Look, See the Bird! is about Neotropical bird migration; both books are intended for children ages 3-7 years.

Katie is available to give visual presentations about Turkey Vultures or Cerulean Warblers. She can also give presentations about the importance of shade-grown coffee to Neotropical migrants. And she is always happy to read her children’s books to young audiences.

Katie’s essays and articles have appeared in a wide variety of magazines and literary journals, and Cerulean Blues was a finalist for the Reed Award for Outstanding Writing on the Southern Environment. She has taught writing at Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, West Virginia Wesleyan College, and Chatham University, and she is a co-founder of a nonprofit organization, the Avian Conservation Center of Appalachia (http://www.accawv.org). She currently serves as President of the Mountaineer Chapter of the National Audubon Society.
Dr. Todd S. Fredericksen  
Associate Professor of Forestry and Wildlife  
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Ferrum, VA 24088  
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tfredericksen@ferrum.edu

Todd conducts research on forestry practices and their effects on forest health and biodiversity in the Appalachian Mountains. He is willing to give presentations on the following topics: managing forest woodlots for wildlife, white-tailed deer management and conservation issues, wildlife management and conservation issues at the wildland urban interface, and the use of prescribed fire as a management tool in Virginia forests. He also conducts research on the eastern box turtle, pond amphibians and the southern flying squirrel in Virginia. He has visited the Galapagos Islands several times and could give an overview of the geology, biodiversity and conservation of this archipelago.

Nell Fredericksen  
Sugar Grove Studio  
540-365-7400  
nfredericksen@ferrum.edu  
www.nellfredericksen.com

A biologist / zoologist before becoming a professional artist, Nell spent six years in Bolivia, dividing her time between artwork and wildlife research. Her programs reflect these varied interests and talents.

"Between Art and Nature, the Path of Inspiration" - This program integrates how her background in science and love of the natural world is expressed in her designs.

"Reptiles and Amphibians of Virginia" - This is a two-hour program popular with Master Naturalist groups. It can be broken down into two one-hour programs as listed below. These delve into the group characteristics and life cycles and then into individual species and their specific environments.

"Reptiles of Virginia" - see above
"Amphibians of Virginia" - see above
"What are Reptiles" (for kids)" - This program is appropriate for children of all ages and is good for schools, scouts and summer camps. It includes several live animals.
"What are Reptiles and Amphibians" (for kids)" - Similar to reptile program but with additional study of amphibians.
"The Geographical, Cultural and Biological Diversity of Bolivia" - This program can be tailored as a natural history presentation or a more scientific presentation on the impacts of selective logging techniques on wildlife.
"Birds of Bolivia" - A tour of the avian diversity from the high Andes to the tropical lowlands of Bolivia.
"How Snakes Kill" - This is an hour long presentation giving an in depth look at the evolutionary and mechanical aspects of different feeding strategies in snakes.
Daphne Gemmill
215 10th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-546-3624 until 10:00 p.m.
daphnedgemmill@verizon.net

Daphne Gemmill offers a wide variety of slide presentations, most of which are approximately 45 minutes in length. Travel expenses are expected and honoraria greatly appreciated. Among the selections are:


“The Flora and Fauna of Our National Forests”

“Plight of the Snow Geese”

“Birding at the End of the Earth, Attu, Alaska”

“Banding Warblers in the Bahamas”

“The Birds of the Falkland Islands”

“Birds of the Southern Oceans: Falklands, South Georgia, and Antarctica”

“Birding the Roof of the World in Tibet”

“Birding the Four Corners of South Africa”

“Madagascar: A Conservation Challenge”

“Birds of High Altitudes and Latitudes”

“Southeast Asia: Birds, Culture, and Food”

Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
3100 Desert Road
Suffolk, Virginia 23434
757-986-3705 (office)
757-986-2353 (fax)
greatdismalswamp@fws.gov
https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_dismal_swamp/

Refuge hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Trails are open 7 days a week, dawn to dusk. Refuge orientations are available on request by contacting the refuge office, for organized groups of at least 10 members. Off-site programs are offered when staff scheduling permits. Reservations are required for all programs and should be made at least two weeks in advance. Call the refuge office during business hours.

Sergio Harding
Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
7870 Villa Park Dr, Suite 400
Henrico, VA  23233-6510
Sergio is a Nongame Bird Conservation Biologist for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF). He coordinates the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) in Virginia and leads or participates in many of the DGIF’s bird survey and monitoring programs. He is available to give presentations on:

1. DGIF’s bird conservation program, with an emphasis on the Golden-winged Warbler
2. DGIF’s bird conservation program, with an emphasis on the Loggerhead Shrike
3. The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) in Virginia

Bruce Ingram

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www.bruceingramoutdoors.com
https://sites.google.com/site/bruceingramoutdoors/

Bruce Ingram is the author of over 2,500 magazine articles on the outdoors and has sold over 3,000 photos to magazines since he began writing in 1983. Ingram writes for a number of outdoor magazines such as Virginia Wildlife, Wildlife in North Carolina, Bassmaster, Virginia Game and Fish, Turkey Country, and many others. In 2014, Bruce and his wife Elaine were named Land Savers of the Year by the Blue Ridge Land Conservancy. The couple also has two venison cooking columns for magazines.

Ingram is the author of a new edition of the James River Guide which details the over 30 float trips available on the upper James from the river’s beginning to Richmond, plus trips on the Maury River. The book includes information on access points, major rapids, topographical references, and fishing, birding, paddling, and photography tips. Ingram has also published a new edition of The New River Guide which covers the same topics as the James book and the 29 float trips on the New River in North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Bruce Ingram’s other books include:

- The Shenandoah/Rappahannock Rivers Guide which includes much historical information.
- Fly and Spin Fishing for River Smallmouths. The book deals with fishing tips, of course, but also has chapters on improving wildlife habitat.
- The South Branch and Upper Potomac Rivers Guide.
- Living the Locavore Lifestyle, a guide for health eating and living, as well as living a sustainable life.
- Three Young Adult Fiction novels, Ninth Grade Blues, Tenth Grade Angst, and Eleventh Grade Stress.

For signed, dedicated copies, contact Bruce through his website or e-mail address. Bruce and Elaine also write a weekly blog for his website.

Topics that Ingram is available to speak on include the following:

“**The James River**” (see book reference above)

“**Life Cycle of the Wild Turkey**” (including its many calls and demonstrations on how to make them)

“**Grouse and Quail in Virginia and Their Status and Future**”
“How to Bring Back the Golden-winged Warbler and Other Birds that Need Early Succession Habitat”
“How to be a Successful Freelance Photojournalist”
“Canoeing and Birding the New River”
“Conservation Land Trusts and Their Importance to Wildlife”
 “Canoeing and Birding the Shenandoah and Rappahannock Rivers”
“Creative Timber Harvesting and Wildlife Plantings for Songbirds and Other Wildlife”
“Gathering, Cooking, and Eating Wild Foods and Game”
NEW “How to Raise Chickens”

Teta Kain
7083 Caffee Creek Lane
Gloucester VA 23061-3374
804-693-5246 (cell)
tkdragonrun7@gmail.com

Teta has all of her own equipment and has no restriction on travel distances. The programs listed below are about 45 minutes long, but the time can be adjusted to suit individual needs. Occasionally, Teta can fill in on short notice if a program chairman has an unexpected cancellation.

“Feeding Wild Birds” - Highlights those species that are commonly encountered at feeders and what to feed them, and also how to help keep them safe from predators as they feed and seek shelter in your yard.

“Nesting Birds” - Adventures while observing and photographing nesting birds. The program takes a look at a few of the common species and what you can do to attract them to your backyard to nest.

“Butterflies Of Virginia” - Butterflies that are likely to be found in backyards and neighborhoods and what can be done to help protect them. Many strange facts about these colorful insects are revealed.

“Moths” - Discovering, identifying, and photographing moths, along with stories about caterpillars, cocoons, and host plants. Some folks meet the idea of this program with skepticism, but when they see it, they are astonished by the beauty and variety of these fascinating insects.

“The Strange World Of Fungi” - Virginia is home to a bewildering variety of mushrooms, brackets, slimes, jellies, cups, many other types of fungi. Teta has amassed many stories about fungi, how they get their strange names, whether they are edible, and what other uses they might have.

“Along Came A Spider” - Explore the world of the spider as Teta brings us a close-up investigation of this greatly maligned, often feared, creature that lives in such close proximity to man. The talk is laced with folk lore, scientific facts, and mysteries of the spider, along with stories of Teta’s encounters with this greatly misunderstood animal.

“Wildlife Along Virginia's Rivers” - Teta takes her camera along on float trips to capture the beauty and variety of our rivers. She covers not only flora and fauna, but she also stresses the importance of taking better care of our rivers.

“Dismal Swamp” - A place packed with wildlife, Dismal Swamp is the scene for bird counts, butterfly counts, and many days of simply wandering along the roads enjoying and photographing whatever comes by. Few places in Virginia can boast a greater variety of rare and exciting species of wildlife.

“Dragon Run” - For years Teta has prowled the cypress swamp/river called Dragon Run on Virginia’s
Middle Peninsula. She has spent hundreds of hours kayaking the river and has explored the woods along its shores, looking for those special creatures and plants that inhabit this wet and pristine world.

"Plover Paradise" - A few years ago, Teta had opportunities to accompany research teams out to the barrier islands of Virginia while they banded and studied the endangered Piping Plover population and other birds that come to the islands each spring to nest and raise young.

"What’s In Your Backyard" - Do you realize what is going on right in your own back yard? Great battles are waged. Love flourishes. Intricate homes are constructed. Ruthless evictions are common. Teta’s program takes a look at selected birds, animals, bugs, and plants, and how they interact.

"Australia - Land Down Under" - From Sydney to Adelaide, Darwin, Kakadu, Cairns, and many points in between, this program is based on a journey to experience the varied habitats and strange flora and fauna of that very different continent.

"Antarctic Ice—The Ultimate Adventure" - In the autumn of 2002, Teta, along with three friends, spent 17 days on a ship plying the Antarctic seas looking for those special birds found primarily near the Antarctic Circle. You won’t soon forget the wild ocean, breath-taking icebergs, beautiful seabirds, and the remote sub-Antarctic islands of this once-in-a-lifetime story that Teta tells.

"Panama" - When birders decide to visit Panama, they often chose “Canopy Lodge” and “Canopy Tower” as their destinations. Canopy Lodge is home to a myriad of colorful birds and exotic animals. Canopy Tower is a converted radar tower that overlooks the Panama Canal. This presentation highlights the special birds and animals they saw in the jungles and along the famed Pipeline Road.

"Ecuadorian Adventure" – Fascinated by tales of exotic hummingbirds, volcanic mountains, and an opportunity to stand in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres at the same time, Teta and two traveling companions spent 12 days experiencing the strange world of cloud forests, the majestic Andean Mountains, and the incomparable flora and fauna of Ecuador.

"Borneo" - With about 15,000 species of flowering plants, 221 species of terrestrial mammals and 420 species of resident birds, Borneo is one of the top birding/nature destinations in the world. This is Teta’s pictorial exploration of her visit to that island in 2007.

“Amazing Argentina” - In November 2014 Teta and her long-time friend Thelma Dalmas, sign up for a two-week exploration of Argentina, from Buenos Aires to the city of Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world. By the end of the trip, the group had tallied over 250 species of birds and 12 native mammals. Teta’s camera captured a great cross-section of wildlife and the scenic beauty of this exotic country.

“Alaska - America’s Amazing Jewel” - When you think of tundra, do you see a flat, frozen, barren stretch of land? In reality, it is vibrant, undulating sea of plants, where exotic wildlife ekes out a rugged existence. Teta’s tour group also visited one of America’s most spectacular national parks - Denali - with its breath-taking scenes of mountains, valleys, and rivers, along with animals and birds. Teta’s two-week stay also included a pelagic trip on the Bering Sea where seals, sea otters, and rare arctic birds abound.

Allyson Lee

4441 Old Mountain Road NE
Roanoke, VA 24019
540-397-1008
swampwitch@cox.net

Wildlife Care Alliance volunteer Allyson Lee offers programs with visual excitement and stimulation.
Some live animals are available depending upon program topics and needs. She is a trained educator, permitted wildlife rehabilitator, and licensed veterinary technician. She covers topics such as:

“Wildlife Rehabilitation” - Who we are, what we do, and how you can help

“What to do if you find a wild animal in need” - And how to determine if it is in need

For more specific interests, programs can be tailored to specific animals such as:

“Reptile Rehabilitation”
“Bird Rehabilitation”
“Mammal Rehabilitation”

Programs can be tailored to more specific needs and age groups. Travel expenses for the speaker and a tax deductible donation to the organization are requested.

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**Pete Myers**  
VP

White Hall VA 22932  
434-249-3448  
jpm@ehn.org

Pete Myers is an avid birder and bird photographer with decades of field experience. He received a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley for his field research on shorebirds, which took him from Arctic Alaska to southern Argentina. He was a research ornithologist at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, where he continued shorebird research in California, Peru and Chile. For three years he served as Senior Vice President for Science at the National Audubon Society. His photographs appeared on four covers of Audubon’s birding magazine, *American Birds*, and he wrote about shorebird behavior for *Audubon Magazine* and *Natural History* magazine. After leaving Audubon to become director of the W. Alton Jones Foundation, he served on Audubon’s board for four years. In 2009 he co-created BirdsEye, the iPhone birding app that uses eBird to help birders find birds and great places to go birding. BirdsEye was the *New York Times* app of the week in 2010. In 2011 he surprised the Virginia birding community by discovering and documenting the first state record of the Violet-Green Swallow near his home in central Virginia.

Pete has lectured widely on birds, bird behavior and bird photography. His talks include stunning close-ups of common and rare species. His recent lectures have focused on “The evolution of a bird photographer.” Pete was co-author of the bestselling book, *Our Stolen Future*, about how chemical contamination affects fetal development. He also lectures around the world on this subject, and how a revolution in environmental health science holds the promise for making people healthier.

Pete would appreciate receiving the honorarium customary for the speaking venue, as well as travel expenses.

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**Paul A. Napier**  
VP

6358 Crosswoods Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22044  
703-507-5214 cell  
napierpa@verizon.net  
www.capemayraptors.org

Paul A. Napier is an avid birder and bird photographer with decades of field experience. He received a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley for his field research on shorebirds, which took him from Arctic Alaska to southern Argentina. He was a research ornithologist at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, where he continued shorebird research in California, Peru and Chile. For three years he served as Senior Vice President for Science at the National Audubon Society. His photographs appeared on four covers of Audubon’s birding magazine, *American Birds*, and he wrote about shorebird behavior for *Audubon Magazine* and *Natural History* magazine. After leaving Audubon to become director of the W. Alton Jones Foundation, he served on Audubon’s board for four years. In 2009 he co-created BirdsEye, the iPhone birding app that uses eBird to help birders find birds and great places to go birding. BirdsEye was the *New York Times* app of the week in 2010. In 2011 he surprised the Virginia birding community by discovering and documenting the first state record of the Violet-Green Swallow near his home in central Virginia.

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Pete would appreciate receiving the honorarium customary for the speaking venue, as well as travel expenses.
“The Cape May Raptor Banding Project” – Paul presents a brief history, some impressive Project statistics, an overview of the intern program, how the Project contributes to science projects, and portraits and facts about the raptors banded. There will be lots of great close-up photographs.

Paul Napier has been banding raptors since 1988. He started out as a birdwatcher, then discovered raptors and never recovered. He has traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad in order to learn more about the many exciting birds of prey that share our environment. Paul has been President of the Cape May Raptor Banding Project since the early 2000s when Project founder and noted raptor expert William S. Clark retired.

Robyn Puffenbarger, Ph.D. \&VP UPDATED & NEW PROGRAMS

Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Biology and Environmental Science
Bridgewater College,
Bridgewater, VA 22812
540-828-5713
rpuffenb@bridgewater.edu

UPDATED “Robins to Raptors” – This is an opportunity to examine preserved bird skins to help with identifying the birds that come to our yards and feeders. The talk can be 45-60 minutes and can include all species of Virginia woodpeckers, along with other common and uncommon species in a backyard setting. This is a unique opportunity to see the bird species represented by the skins up close. Other topics raised can include habitat, diet, breeding behaviors, plus feathers and molting. Other topics of avian biology and behavior can be added! The presentation only requires a few long tables for setup, Robyn brings the birds to you. Help with mileage and other travel expenses are appreciated.

NEW “Chile for Thanksgiving” – In 2018, Robyn and her husband Bill Benish, plus a friend traveled to Chile for Thanksgiving. Besides sightseeing and wonderful meals, they enjoyed three day trips with Birdwatching Chile guide Rodrigo Reyes. From the beaches near Valparaiso to the Andes, the bird watching was excellent. Chile has a number of endemics, plus penguins on the beach, and the Andean Condor in the mountains. This is a PowerPoint presentation, Robyn can bring a computer-projector or use your setup. Help with mileage and other travel expenses are appreciated.
Bob Schamerhorn  
UPDATED AND NEW PROGRAMS

1101 Glidewell Rd.  
Richmond, VA 23227  
C. 804-929-6568  
bob@iPhotoBirds.com

All program topics, descriptions and reviews at: [http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs.html](http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs.html)

Will Travel • Fee Negotiable • Fully Equipped (Projector, PA, Laptop…) • Last-Minute Bookings

Bob Schamerhorn has had an innate passion for nature since childhood. At a very young age, he was mentored by generous friends in the Lynchburg Bird Club, who were the first to put a camera in his hands. Bob has decades of field experience to share, both in Virginia and from a lifetime of travel adventures. Just after the turn of the century, the emergence of digital camera technologies, boosted his enthusiasm for nature photography and within just a few years, his work began to be published in magazines, calendars, bird books, newspapers, and more. In 2009, as a representative of the Richmond Audubon Society’s Education Committee, he began to present nature-based programs at various bird and garden clubs. Since then, Bob has spoken to over a hundred different organizations including: Audubon Societies, Master Naturalists and Master Gardener groups, at wildlife festivals, senior groups, photography seminars, plus church and camera clubs. In the fall of 2017, he was a featured guest on the PBS TV show “Virginia HomeGrown” (Richmond–VPM). Over the last few years, he received two national photography awards, numerous juried art show awards, and has exhibited his work at over seventy different venues. Bob’s award winning photography is at the core of all his programs. He now enjoys an active schedule of art show exhibitions, lectures and travel throughout the year.

Visit [http://www.iphotobirds.com](http://www.iphotobirds.com) for schedule, sample images and program reviews

“Web-footed Waterbirds” – NEW PROGRAM - As our seasons pass, the winter brings an amazing assortment of water birds into our lakes, rivers and wetlands. This multimedia program shows that diversity in all their splendor. Includes all of our wintering Ducks, Mergansers, Geese, Swans, as well as our resident waterfowl and more. Enjoy the beauty of this diverse group of birds and see what makes each species unique. A perfect fit for fall meetings, just before these birds arrive for the winter. (~45 minutes + Q&A)

Reviews & Info at: [http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/Waterfowl/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html](http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/Waterfowl/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html)

"Attracting Birds With Water" – COMPLETELY NEW SINCE 2018! Birds, like all other animals, prefer habitats that meet all their basic survival needs: food, shelter and water! Birds depend on water for hydration, to maintain body temperature, to condition their feathers for flight, and for hygiene. Having a constant, clean running water source in your garden will attract more birds than ever before. This inspiring, multi-media presentation contains an amazing array of birds in proof of this fact. Learn how to present water specifically for birds, whether it is winter, breeding season, spring, or fall migration. See how this vital resource can greatly improve any backyard habitat. Experiences shared from thousands of hours of observation. The program finishes with a segment than shows how to built and install this low-maintenance birdbath system that has attracted over 80 species! As featured on the PBS TV show “Virginia HomeGrown” (Richmond–VPM) with host Peggy Singleman. Displayed with award winning photography, supplemented WITH MATCHING BIRD SONGS and High Definition video clips. Great for Garden Clubs and Master Gardeners too. (~45 minutes + Q&A).


"ALASKA - An EPIC Adventure" - Come see and hear the stories from this dramatic landscape. Adventures from the trip of a lifetime, beginning in Anchorage and exploring a few local hot spots. Then covers travels along the Seward Highway to Lowell Point for a boat trip to the Holgate Glacier with views of Horned and Tufted Puffins, Rhinoceros Auklets, Pigeon Guillemots, Stellar Sea Loins, Humpback
Whales, Sea Otters and much more. Then, returning to Anchorage to see Red-necked Grebes and Moose before departing for Lake Clark National Park and Reserve on a Brown Bear (Grizzly) photography expedition. Come witness this adventure in the Alaskan wilderness. Presented with amazing photography from "the last frontier". **Great for ALL nature lovers, groups and ages.** (~45 minutes + Q&A).

**Reviews & Info at:**
http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/GardeningForBirdsAndButterflies/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"**Atlantic Coastal Birds**" ~ NEWLY UPDATED - The Atlantic Coastline contains a great diversity of bird species: Gulls, Terns, Skimmers, Sandpipers, Plovers, Herons, Egrets, Swans, Ducks, Geese, Mergansers, Grebes, Rails and more. This wide variety of species, typical to the coast, is discussed and shown with beautiful photography and entertaining stories. Information about our favorite shorebirds, discussion of habitats, migration and their challenges. This program covers the gamut from Maine to Florida. Presented in colorful award winning photography, with HD Video clips, and bird songs. **Each participant receives a FREE copy of "Common Coastal Birds" ID card** (~45 minutes + Q&A)

**Reviews & Info at:**
http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/CoastalAtlantic/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"**Gardening for Birds and Butterflies**" - Sometimes the most significant impact we can have on the environment, starts right in our own backyard. This program is information packed with tips on how to improve any suburban property for a diversity of local wildlife. Varying micro-environments and native plants within a given area will invite a bouquet of different species. It shows specific examples and results of a backyard landscape becoming an inviting environment to a variety of birds, butterflies, insects and mammals. Based on personal experience. Colorful photography, bird songs and the occasional HD video clip make this a true multi-media presentation. **Great for Garden Clubs and Master Gardeners too.** (~45 minutes + Q&A).

**Reviews & Info at:**
http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/GardeningForBirdsAndButterflies/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"**Along The River's Edge**" - Discover the amazing diversity of wildlife that lives along the banks of the Commonwealth’s watershed systems. Informative and entertaining, this multimedia program is based on extensive observations and riverbank encounters with flora and fauna. Includes birds, as well as plants and more, that frequent Virginia’s riverine ecosystems from Eagle Rock to the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Contains migratory, breeding, and resident species too. Presented in colorful award winning photography, supplemented with matching bird songs and the occasional HD video. A **great program for all birding skill levels, groups, interests, and ages.** (~45 minutes + Q&A)

**Reviews & Info at:**
http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/AlongTheRiversEdge/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

“**Our Wonderful Wood Warblers**” - This program celebrates the diversity and indisputable beauty of Warblers. These are amongst the smallest, yet most brilliantly colored birds in the Commonwealth. Finding and viewing these beauties often becomes a passion for many birdwatchers. Program includes a majority of Virginia’s species, some that are only present for brief periods during spring and fall migration too, plus many that reside and breed here as well. A multimedia experience that presents this group of beautiful little birds utilizing sight, sound, and stories. Displayed with award winning photography, HD video clips, WITH MATCHING BIRD SONGS. It’s a great refresher course in preparation for spring migration or just to sit back and enjoy their beauty and sound. **Entertaining for all age and birding skill levels. A great spring program in preparation for spring migration.** (~45 minutes + Q&A)

**More Info at:**
http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/WoodWarblers/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"**Birds Of Prey**" - Experience the beauty and majesty of these apex predators. Includes some of our most exciting, fierce, and perhaps most interesting North American predatory birds including: Hawks, Owls, Falcons, and Eagles. Focuses primarily on mid-Atlantic raptor species, with information on food sources, migration, adaptations and identification. Learn about some of their protection history, survival struggles,
and successes. Includes stories of the characteristics of these amazing and beautiful birds. Presentation displayed in colorful award winning photography with HD Video clips and audio samples. A great program in preperation fall migration. (~45 minutes + Q&A).

Reviews & Info at: http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/AttractingBirdsWithWater/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"Adventures of Bob The Birdman" –NEW EACH YEAR - Exciting, fun and entertaining stories shared from the latest travels of professional nature photographer “Bob The Birdman”. Hear about our most recent adventures from the Mid-Atlantic to the South Pacific. Covers a wide array of bird, mammal and other wildlife experiences, accompanied with colorful photos and the occasional HD video. This program is constantly updated and is never the same show two years in a row. Appeals to all audiences. An excellent program for Library Programs, Seniors Groups and Photography Clubs. (~45 minutes + Q&A)


"Birds of Virginia" - This popular program is loaded with beautiful images of birds of the Commonwealth. From the mountains to the coast, spring to winter, with stories, information and experiences of where and how these images were captured. A highly informative and enjoyable program for any group, novice to experienced. It covers a wide variety of species and conveys the great diversity of habitats in Virginia. Presented in colorful award winning photography, with HD Video clips, and bird songs. Great for general audiences, libraries and garden clubs. Each participant receives a FREE copy of "Common Birds of Virginia" ID card. (~45 minutes + Q&A)

Reviews & Info at: http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/BirdsOfVa/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

"Birds in Flight – Action Photography" - This multimedia program contains the many different elements of bird flight including take-off, travel, and landing. Plus discussion about the reasons birds fly, the motivations, and characteristics of flight including: migration, food gathering, plus avoidance of danger and weather. Includes both basic and more technical photography skills needed to capture sharp images of birds in flight. Moving objects are an especially difficult subject to capture photographically. Learn how to improve your flight photography abilities both technically and physically. Also covers: optimizing your location, good motor-skill practices, camera focus mode, recommended shutter speeds, weather conditions, and more. A Great presentation for bird club or photography club too. (~45 minutes + Q&A)

Reviews & Info at: http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/BirdsInFlight/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html

“Easy Access Birding Around Florida” - FREE MAP - This program displays a spectacular array of species that only Florida can offer and the easy access places to find them. Contains Swallow-tailed Kites, Snail Kites, Sandhill Cranes, Roseate Spoonbills, Crested Caracara, Limpkin, Florida Scrub Jays, Burrowing Owls, Painted Buntings and lots more. Presented with colorful HD photographs, locality maps and discussion of some of the best places to birdwatch and view wildlife in Florida from St. Augustine to Orlando, down to the Everglades and over to Fort De Soto. Great for any level birder, novice to expert. A map with location information is provided for each attendee. (~45 minutes + Q&A)

Reviews & Info at: http://www.iphotobirds.com/programs/FloridaBirding/iPhotoBirdsProgram.html
**Matt Smith**

Executive Director  
The Central Virginia Parrot Sanctuary  
3026 Ellisville Dr.  
Louisa, VA 23093  
540-967-0447  
matt@projectperry.com  
www.projectperry.com

Matt established the Central Virginia Parrot Sanctuary, also known as Project Perry, in 2006. The Sanctuary is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, adoption and sanctuary of exotic parrots and other birds living in captivity. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Sanctuary is funded largely by public contributions. Matt has spoken at various events and meetings including bird clubs, animal control associations and animal welfare conferences. Topics include avian welfare, caring for birds in a shelter setting and establishing a companion animal rescue or sanctuary. The Sanctuary is located in Louisa County and is one of only a handful of accredited parrot sanctuaries located throughout the Country. A main focus of the Sanctuary is to provide natural, free flight environments with others of their kind. During a speaking engagement you can learn about the issues that affect non-native birds commonly kept as pets as well as how you can help them. Approximately one hour is needed along with a projector to display a power point presentation. Matt does not have a set fee, but does ask that a donation be made to the sanctuary, with the minimum based on distance traveled.

**Len Smock**

Professor Emeritus, Department of Biology and Rice Rivers Center  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, VA 23284-2012  
804-387-3138 (cell)  
lsmock@vcu.edu

Len is a long-time birder, professor emeritus of VCU’s Department of Biology and former director of the Rice Rivers Center, the university’s environmental research and education center on the James River. His passion for birding has taken him throughout the country and beyond.

**“Birding Western Alaska”** - Many of us have birded Alaska from Seward to Anchorage, Denali and Fairbanks, but birding in far western Alaska and on roadless St. Lawrence Island, in the Bering Sea just 34 miles from Siberia, is a different kind of adventure. The presentation will lead you through this beautiful, wind-swept environment and introduce you to its birds and people. Meet the Upik Native-Americans and their subsistence way of life - have you ever walked through, and birded in, a centuries-old boneyard full of whale, seal and walrus bones? And of course there are the birds. Clouds of over 600,000 auklets, murres, puffins, guillemots, eiders and others that fly by twice a day as they head out to sea to forage and then return to the island's seaside cliffs. There also are the Asian species such as bluethroats, wagtails and greenshanks, as well as species of the tundra like snow buntings, longspurs, bristle-thighed curlews and gyrfalcons. Afterwards, you will be ready to pack your bags and head out to this remote and beautiful area of North America.
John Spahr
234 West Frederick St.
Staunton, VA 24401
540-471-6193
jspahr@yahoo.com (preferred method of contact)

John is a retired physician (pathologist) with a life-long interest in birds and conservation. For the last 7 years he’s been doing field research on Eastern Screech-Owls in Highland County, where he is also helping Patti Reum monitor over 30 American kestrel nest boxes. In his quest to continually learn more about birds he has developed a number of informative programs. His presentations are “image intensive,” designed to inform and entertain. A few of John’s most popular and recent presentations are listed.

"Hummingbirds: Jewels of the Americas" - There are well over 300 species of hummingbirds, all are limited to the Americas. In multiple trips to the American tropics John has seen about half of these. Their amazing flight capabilities, fantastic plumage, and unique physiology have enthralled all. Our own “ruby-throat” is a common and welcome warm weather visitor in Virginia from its winter range in Central America. This annual journey requires an 18-20-hour non-stop flight across 500 miles of open seas across the Gulf of Mexico. John will discuss many other interesting and fascinating aspects of "hummers," all illustrated with colorful images and a few short videos.

“The Eastern Screech Owl in Virginia and Beyond” - John has done field work of this small owl for several years in Highland County. He is also currently in the process of examining most of the museum specimen collections of this species throughout the US. This program will include some of his findings, such as habitat and elevation preferences, nest selection, and roosting strategies. Also, what’s with the two color morphs – red and gray? Why do we in Virginia have mostly “reds”, while Ontario and Michigan has mostly “grays”? The program does include graphs and charts, which will be mercifully few, and will be highlighted with lots of quality images.

“Feathers and Plumage” - All birds are covered in part by feathers. Tundra swans, for example, have about 25,000, while many songbirds have less than 4,000. Feathers warm and protect birds and are essential for flight. They come in various shapes, sizes and colors and also serve as camouflage and adornment. This program will explore the structure and function of feathers with images and illustrations. It will also highlight some amazing plumage adornments of birds (e.g. hummingbirds, birds of paradise), some of which are truly “eye candy.”

Other program titles include:

“Extreme Birding”
“Kingfishers and Kookaburras”
“Bird of Paradise”
“Wild and Weird Birds of the World”

Requests for these will be considered with sufficient advance notice.
The Virginia Bluebird Society

Valerie Kenyon Gaffney, President
3805 Wagon Wheel Lane
Woodbridge, VA 22192-6440
(703) 973-9194
vkg3105@gmail.com
www.virginiabluebirds.org

The Virginia Bluebird Society offers a spectacular program on bluebirds, other common cavity nesters, and methods for establishing bluebird trails. Our speakers bring exhibit materials and handouts. Several members throughout the state are available to give this program. Please contact our main office, our web page, or email us to make arrangements.

VA Department of Game & Inland Fisheries

7870 Villa Park Drive, #400
Henrico, VA 23228
804-367-1000 (main number)
www.dgif.virginia.gov

The Department has wildlife biologists, fisheries biologists, nongame biologists, conservation police officers and other staff stationed throughout the state who may be called upon to assist with a program or presentation, as time permits. In addition to our headquarters office above, the Department has several regional and field offices. Please contact the office nearest you for assistance.

Regional Offices:

3801 John Tyler Memorial. Hwy. 1132 Thomas Jefferson Rd.
Charles City, VA 23030 Forest, VA 24551-9223
804-829-6580 434-525-7522

517 Lee Highway 1796 Highway Sixteen
Verona, VA 24482 Marion, VA 24354
540-248-9360 276-783-4860

1320 Belman Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-899-4169

Field Offices:

3909 Airline Blvd. 2206 S. Main St., Suite C
Chesapeake, VA 23321 Blacksburg, VA 24060
757-465-6811 540-961-8304

107 Foxwood Dr.
Farmville, VA 23901
434-392-9645
Wildlife Center of Virginia
P.O. Box 1557
Waynesboro, VA 22980
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The Wildlife Center of Virginia is one of the world’s leading teaching and research hospitals for wildlife and conservation medicine. The Center offers a variety of public education programs for adults, children, and mixed audiences. Topics suitable for bird clubs and other conservation-minded organizations include birds of prey, wildlife habitats, problems facing wildlife, and a behind-the-scenes look at the care and rehabilitation procedures performed at the Center. Live native wildlife is included in most programs. There are also opportunities for online education with virtual programs and classes. Please visit the Center’s website at http://wildlifecenter.org/education-outreach for more information about program fees and scheduling.

Jeff Wright
VP
NEW and UPDATED PROGRAMS
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Jeff is a Virginia Master Naturalist and a former President of the Northern Neck of Virginia Chapter. He is the VP of the Friends of Dragon Run. Northern Neck Audubon Society, he is a member of the Virginia Society of Ornithology (VSO), The North American Blue Bird Society (NABS), the Northern Virginia Audubon Society (NVAS), the Northern Neck Audubon Society, the American Birding Association (ABA), and the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). Among his favorite philanthropic institutions supporting birds are The Nature Conservancy, American Bird Conservancy, and The Cornell Lab of Ornithology. He serves as a county coordinator for the Old Growth Forest Network, Compiler for Butterfly Counts and Christmas Bird Counts, and as a Trail Monitor for The Nature Conservancy in Virginia.

Humor and pathos are woven into the materials depicting the state of birds and birding and what can be done to improve the plight of birds, butterflies, bats, and bees – the Fabulous Flying 4Bs. High Definition (HD) Imagery, video, and interactive discussion with the audience are used. The materials used include data from birding and Citizen Science projects from Virginia and adjacent areas. The presentations are each approximately 45 minutes long and can be adjusted to your meeting needs. Each presentation includes materials related to the geographic area within Virginia of the host organization. He prefers presentation locations where an internet connection is available. Jeff brings all necessary video and audio equipment with the exception of a projection screen. He uses a high definition projector to better depict images of birds and supporting materials. He can respond to short notice requirements. Jeff is available to do presentations throughout Virginia.

UPDATED “Hummingbirds, Butterflies, and Tulips Too!” – A phenology and climate focused presentation about the four seasons and how our gardens, yards, and communities are important habitat for flora and fauna. Examples from the life cycles of Hummingbirds, Butterflies, and Tulips are used in the presentation. As birders we can apply citizen science projects to cultivate a richer understanding of wildlife habitat, for people concerned with their local environments. These projects of course also support the birds we need and love. Bird-focused Citizen Science for documenting climate change, collecting census data on Flora and Fauna, Phenology, the global study of wildlife migration and seasonal change, and for teaching America’s youth about climate and seasons.
UPDATED “Citizen Science, Birding, and Virginia” – An overview of some of the newest and best Citizen Science Projects supporting birds and habitat. The focus is on Citizen Science projects for birding and habitat protection. Also discussed are Birding Tools and applied technologies that are important to Citizen Science. Many of the projects and tools discussed help support Citizen Science projects in Virginia to protect birds and further our understanding of challenges faced by birds from habitat loss and climate change.

NEW “Birds in Our Yards: Helping Nature’s Pairing” – Climate change is having an impact on seasons, birds, and plants across Virginia. In this class you’ll learn how you can fine tune your yards features and plantings to attract, enjoy, and help a wider variety of birds while at the same time sharing observations about your yard to help science and conservation within Virginia.

NEW ”Selected Butterflies and Skippers and the Host Plants They Need and Love” – The presentation focuses on species of butterflies and skippers and their host native plants. The presentation aims at what can be done to attract the fabulous flying “4Bs” (birds, butterflies, bats, and bees) to your neighborhood and your “patch.”

Sylvia Hoehns Wright

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Sylvia Hoehns Wright, recipient of the Turning America from Eco-weak to Eco-chic Award sponsored by Hines Horticulture and Project Evergreen, is a nationally recognized author and lecturer, workshop instructor, and eco-landscape/garden advocate. Identified by the Landscape Architect Association as an Industry Mover and Shaker, she is founder of the Plants of CARE, plant recognition of program. Wright discusses a variety of eco-sustainable topics that include roof gardens, use of native plants, and environmentally-friendly products. Wright’s 6 P approach—place, plant, planting strategy, purchase, people perspective and eco prosperity—enables landscapes of CARE: conservation, accountability, recovery and eco-efficiency. Not simply a focus of lifestyle choices but a reflection of how we feel about the environment. For details, visit Wright’s web site www.TheWrightScoop.com.
William Young

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Bill is a writer who lives in Arlington, Virginia. His long-time interest in birds developed when he was growing up in suburban Philadelphia. He has traveled around the world to study birds and is especially interested in bird behavior and bird conservation. His travels have taken him to all seven continents as well as throughout the United States.

"99 Reasons to be Fascinated by Birds" - Bill's program is based on his book The Fascination of Birds: From the Albatross to the Yellowthroat, published by Dover in 2014. The book contains 99 essays that combine his extensive field experience with reflections drawn from biology, ecology, literature, music, history, linguistics, politics, sports, entertainment, and other areas.

Bill presents material in a manner that will keep the interest of experienced birders while being accessible to beginning birders. He has given bird presentations about his travels in Antarctica, Africa, and the Neotropics. Bill also makes videos about birds and other natural history subjects which he posts on his YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/user/williamyoung42?feature=watch. He is one of the co-creators of the website MPNature, which provides information about the nature at Monticello Park in Alexandria, VA. The website can be accessed at www.MPNature.com. Please note that Bill is limiting his speaking engagements to events within 50 miles of Arlington, VA.

Charles Ziegenfus

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“Everything You Wanted to Know About a Dark-eyed Junco and Maybe More!” - Breeding biology of the Carolina Junco, altitudinal and latitudinal migration, winter population structures, winter dominance studies in free ranging birds (both Carolina and Northern juncos), and other demographic items.

“Acorns, Chipmunks and Ground Nesting Birds” - This is about the ecology of the mountain top; how mast crop production fluctuation affects over-winter survival of chipmunks and deer mice, major predators of ground nesting birds (juncos in particular) and subsequent nesting success.