



The SISKIN

Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Bird Club

Vol. 67, No. 4

November 2022

www.nvabc.org

Inside

- Calendar of NVBC field trips, November 2, 2022 - February 12, 2023
- Upcoming Christmas Bird Counts in Northern Virginia
- 2023 ASNV Winter Waterfowl Survey
- Shorebirds at Huntley Meadows Park (photographs)
- Maiden Pelagic Trip

Insert - 2023 membership renewal notice

Winter Chincoteague Trip

The Winter Chincoteague Weekend club trip is scheduled for February 10 to February 12 (Friday to Sunday). The trip will be limited to 16 people. NVBC membership is required for this trip and all tour participants will need to declare that they are vaccinated for COVID-19 at the sign-up time of the trip. **Registration will open on November 16, 2022 at 6 am.** To sign up for this trip, please email Elton Morel at eltonlmorel@verizon.net. Please do not make your hotel reservations until your trip registration has been confirmed. When signing up, please affirm that you are vaccinated for COVID-19 virus and whether you are interested in Saturday night's group dinner at Bill's Seafood Restaurant and Sunday morning's CBBT Island trip. If the trip is full, your name can be put on a waiting list.

February is an excellent time to visit Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel Islands (CBBT).

Continued on pg. 2

NVBC GENERAL MEETING—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 8 PM

Bird Conservation Work by the American Bird Conservancy

Speaker: Daniel J. Lebbin

How many of you have heard of American Bird Conservancy (ABC) or know what ABC does to conserve birds? Dan Lebbin will give a presentation about bird conservation work by ABC, touching on efforts in Virginia, and focusing on preventing extinctions of the rarest species in the Americas, from Hawaii to South America, and including establishing nature reserves for endangered species.

Dan lives locally in Vienna, and serves as Vice President of Threatened Species at ABC. He is an author of American Bird Conservancy's Guide to Bird Conservation, and has published articles in peer-reviewed science journals and popular magazines such as *Birding* and *Neotropical Birds*. Prior to ABC, he completed a PhD at Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology studying habitat specialization of Amazonian birds.

Early bird refreshments start at 7:30 pm. Any contributions of food or beverage will be most gratefully received. There will be a drawing for door prizes. Northern Virginia Bird Club pins will be available for members who would like to buy them (\$5 each).

MEETING PLACE: St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane, Arlington, 22207. Directions are on page 4.



Daniel J. Lebbin

Birds of Virginia: A Guide to Must-See Birds in the Commonwealth - American Bird Conservancy blog

Our November meeting speaker, Daniel Lebbin, recently produced with other birding experts a great resource for Virginia birders.

Check out the 5-part blog and links to other birding resources at <https://abcbirds.org/blog/virginia-birds/>

Presidential Peentings

For me, just as spring brings warblers, fall brings sparrows. Some birders may overlook sparrows since they are not as brightly colored as many of the other birds that we find. These “little brown jobs” are thought of as drab birds that scurry around in the brush and all look pretty much the same. However, if we really look at sparrows, we will find that they are often charismatic birds. Also, the various species are distinctive in their appearances and behaviors. Some sparrows like Fox Sparrows and White-crowned Sparrows, contrary to the stereotype, are actually quite striking in appearance. It is always a treat to find one of these birds out in the field. Even common sparrows like Song Sparrows and Swamp Sparrows have their appeal if you take a



Song Sparrow at Green Spring Garden Park, photographed in November 2021 by Larry Meade

good look at them. Another reason to like sparrows is that unlike many other birds, sparrows will often sing when they are in their fall and winter habitats. When I hear the “Poor Sam Peabody, Peabody” song emanating from a White-throated Sparrow for the first time every fall, I know that the season has truly changed. We can also sometimes get rare sparrows in our area which just adds to the fun. I will never forget when, as a new birder, I saw a Harris’s Sparrow and a Clay-colored Sparrow at Julie Metz Wetlands Preserve. It was doubly thrilling because these birds were both rare and also beautiful. I was a sparrow fan for life! I hope you enjoy seeing some of our local sparrows when you are out birding this fall and winter. They are worth checking out.

—Larry Meade

Winter Chincoteague Trip *from p.1*

The Refuge is loaded with wintering waterfowl while the CBBT is famous for wintering sea ducks. We typically find 90 to 100 species on this trip. Highlights from previous years have been Northern Gannets, Red-necked Grebes, Lesser Black-backed Gulls, Snow Geese, Brants, Common Goldeneyes, Long-tailed Ducks, Common Eiders, Harlequin Ducks, Purple Sandpipers, Great Cormorants and even Razorbills. Plans for the weekend include birding the Chincoteague area Friday afternoon starting at 3:15 pm. (optional) and Saturday starting at 7:30 am. Activities on Friday and Saturday include birding along Beach Road, Swan Cove, Tom’s Cove and around the Wildlife Loop. Time and tides permitting, we will also visit the Queen Sound Flats and Mariner’s Point. On Sunday, we will bird Kiptopeke State Park before our trip to CBBT Island #4. We will be limited to a one and a half hour visit on island #4 due to the construction of a new tunnel. The CBBT trip requires security forms in advance and an extra fee for the security escort, expected to be five dollars per person. The trip concludes at 12:30 pm on Sunday.

We have obtained a special rate of \$92 including taxes per night on fifteen rooms for Friday and Saturday nights at the Best Western Chincoteague Island Hotel on Maddox Boulevard. A two-night stay is usually required. Hotel reservations must be made by January 27 to get this special group rate. Participants should make their own reservations by calling 800-553-6117 and be sure to say they are with the Northern Virginia Bird Club. Check-in time is 3 pm on Friday, February 10, with a prior 48-hour notice policy for cancellation. Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge has an entrance fee per car.

—Elton Morel

Shorebirds at Huntley Meadows Park



Lesser Yellowlegs (above) photographed by Larry Meade

Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs (below) photographed by Neal Gause



CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

As in previous years, the Christmas Bird Count organizers intend to conduct the counts this year as safely as possible in light of any continuing pandemic issues, while still giving birders a chance to get out and enjoy doing the counts and contributing to this long-running tradition. Depending on the status of the Covid-19 pandemic at the time the bird counts are conducted, the organizers will identify any necessary COVID -19 protocols before the specified count date. Some CBC representatives may decide conditions warrant cancelling their circle count. Any cancellation decision should be made by November 15.

Thursday December 15, 2022

- **BROOKE, VA** (Stafford area, lower Potomac)
Contact coordinators and compiler, Laurel Bybell at lbybell@gmail.com or David Govoni at david.govoni@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 17, 2022

- **WASHINGTON D.C.**
Includes area of Virginia inside the Beltway and parts of Fairfax County south of Alexandria to include Dyke Marsh. To participate, email compiler, Larry Cartwright: prowarbler@verizon.net or contact the Audubon Naturalist Society through Carol Hayes at carol.hayes@anshome.org or call 301-652-9188 extension 10.

Sunday, December 18, 2022

- **MANASSAS-BULL RUN**
To participate, contact Phil Silas by December 8 at epsdewa@aol.com or 703-987-0817.

- **THE PLAINS/AIRLIE**

To participate, please register online at: <https://cliftoninstitute.org/event/christmas-bird-count-2/>. If you have questions or need help registering, please contact coordinator, Bridget Bradshaw (email: bbradshaw@cliftoninstitute.org, phone: 540-341-3651).

- **SENECA MD/VA**

Count has five Virginia sectors, ranging from Great Falls Park to the eastern corner of Loudoun County. To participate, email compiler Jim Nelson at kingfishers2@verizon.net.

Tuesday, December 27, 2022

- **NOKESVILLE**

For more information or to register, contact Kim Hosen at 703-499-4954 or kim@pwconserve.org.

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

- **CENTRAL LOUDOUN**

Sign up at www.loudounwildlife.org or contact compiler, Joe Coleman: 540-554-2542 or jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org or Bryan Henson at bhenson@loudounwildlife.org.

Saturday, December 31, 2022

- **CALMES NECK**

Parts of western Loudoun and eastern Clarke counties. The cutoff date to join up to participate is December 18. Contact compiler, Margaret Wester at margaretwester@hotmail.com.

- **FORT BELVOIR**

To volunteer, contact compiler, Kurt Gaskill at kurtcapt87@verizon.net or 703-768-2172.

Monday, January 2, 2023

- **SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN**

Lucketts Sector is in northern Loudoun County. Sector leader, Gerco Hoogeweg at drgerco@hotmail.com

- **WALKERTON**

Count area is primarily in Middle Peninsula. Contact by December 13. Contact compiler, Fred Atwood at fredatwood@yahoo.com.



**More Shorebirds at
Huntley Meadows**

Photographed by Larry Meade

Killdeer



Least Sandpiper

Audubon Society of Northern Virginia Winter Waterfowl Survey

On Saturday, February 11 and Sunday, February 12, 2023, birders of all skill levels will join up to count waterfowl in Fairfax, Arlington, and Prince William counties, including the Potomac and Occoquan watersheds. Novice birders will be paired with expert bird enthusiasts. Larry Cartwright continues as the volunteer compiler for this year's count. For more information and to join the team, email info@audubonva.org, call 703-438-6008, or secure your spot by registering through the Audubon Society for Northern Virginia website. Protocols for COVID will be determined in the future.

Upcoming Trips and Events

Compiled by Elton Morel

Note:

- Beginning birders are welcome on all trips.
- When reservations are required, please call one of the trip leaders. Phone numbers are below.
- If in doubt about a trip because of weather, please call one of the leaders.
- Check the NVBC website for updated information about trips: <http://www.nvabc.org/trips.htm>.
- To receive email notices, join the NVBC eMail Exchange. For sign-up directions see back page of the newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																				
<u>November</u>			2 8:30 AM Long Branch Tom Nardone Dixie Sommers			5 8 AM Silver Lake RP Toby Hardwick Ed LeGrand																				
<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Trip Leaders</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Jeremy Beck</td> <td>703-517-1816</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toby Hardwick</td> <td>703-201-1517</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ed LeGrand</td> <td>908-268-6627</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larry Meade</td> <td>571-275-2523</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mer Mietzelfeld</td> <td>607-643-8307</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elton Morel</td> <td>703-907-9951</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tom Nardone</td> <td>703-946-7738</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phil Silas</td> <td>703-987-0817</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dixie Sommers</td> <td>703-969-7931</td> </tr> </table>			Trip Leaders		Jeremy Beck	703-517-1816	Toby Hardwick	703-201-1517	Ed LeGrand	908-268-6627	Larry Meade	571-275-2523	Mer Mietzelfeld	607-643-8307	Elton Morel	703-907-9951	Tom Nardone	703-946-7738	Phil Silas	703-987-0817	Dixie Sommers	703-969-7931	9 8:30 AM Dyke Marsh Tom Nardone			12 8 AM Aquia Landing Park Elton Morel
Trip Leaders																										
Jeremy Beck	703-517-1816																									
Toby Hardwick	703-201-1517																									
Ed LeGrand	908-268-6627																									
Larry Meade	571-275-2523																									
Mer Mietzelfeld	607-643-8307																									
Elton Morel	703-907-9951																									
Tom Nardone	703-946-7738																									
Phil Silas	703-987-0817																									
Dixie Sommers	703-969-7931																									
			16 8:30 AM Huntley Meadows Park Tom Nardone	17 NVBC Meeting 8 PM		19 8 AM Leopold's Preserve Ed LeGrand Toby Hardwick																				
						26 8:30 AM Blandy Farm Elton Morel Ed LeGrand																				
			29 8:30 AM Veterans Memorial Park Phil Silas	<u>December</u>		3 8 AM Occoquan NWR Phil Silas																				
			7 8:30 AM Long Branch Tom Nardone			10 8:30 AM Mason Neck SP Larry Meade Dixie Sommers																				
			14 8:30 AM Dyke Marsh Tom Nardone																							
December 14, 2022 - January 5, 2023— CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS (NORTHERN VIRGINIA CBC See p. 3)																										

DIRECTIONS

NVBC Meeting (11/17) St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Ln, Arlington 22207, at the intersection of Lorcom Ln and Military Rd. From the intersection of Spout Run Pkwy and Lorcom Ln, go about a half mile on Lorcom to the second traffic light. Turn left onto Military and enter the first driveway on the right. There is

some parking near the Church's back entrance and a bigger lot up the driveway. There is on-street parking. Enter at the back door facing Military Rd which leads to the Undercroft where the meeting is held

Aquia Landing Park (11/12, 1/21)
2846 Brooke Rd, Stafford 22554
From southbound I-95 towards

Stafford, take exit 140 to Stafford, then left (east) on Courthouse Rd (Rt 630), go 3.5 mi. and turn right on Andrew Chapel Rd (Rt 629), go 0.9 mi. and under the railroad bridge to a slight left onto Brooke Rd (Rt 608), go 4.4 mi. to the park entrance, continue past park entrance gate to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet in the parking lot.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>January</u>			4 8:30 AM Long Branch Tom Nardone Dixie Sommers			7 8 AM Northern Neck X-trip Members only/ email leader to register Larry Meade
			11 8:30 AM Burke Lake Park Tom Nardone			14 8:30 AM Riverbend RP Jeremy Beck Mer Mietzelfeld
			18 8:30 AM Neabsco Regional Park - Boardwalk Phil Silas			21 8 AM Aquia Landing Park Elton Morel
			25 8:30 AM Huntley Meadows Park Tom Nardone Dixie Sommers			28 8 AM Silver Lake RP Toby Hardwick
			<u>February 1</u> 8:30 AM Long Branch Tom Nardone Dixie Sommers			4 8 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Larry Meade
						10-12 Chincoteague Weekend Members only Sign up via email starting on November 16, 2022 at 6 am Elton Morel

Blandy Experimental Farm/State Arboretum of Virginia (11/26) 400 Blandy Farm Ln, Boyce, 22620 Take I-66 west to Rt 17 north (Exit 23, Delaplane/Paris). Follow Rt 17 north to junction with Rt 50 west. Turn left at traffic light onto Rt 50/17; go 7.8 mi., turn left onto Rt 750 to the Arboretum.

Burke Lake Park (1/11) 7315 Ox Rd, Fairfax Station 22039 From I-495, take exit 54 west (Braddock Rd). If coming from the North, stay in right lane of exit. Go 1.5 mi. on Braddock Rd then left onto Burke Lake Rd. Go 4.7 mi. and turn left onto Rt 123 (Ox Rd). Turn left at second traffic light (big park signs), and turn left immediately after the entrance booth. Park in the first lot on the right (by the mini-golf course).

Dyke Marsh (11/9, 12/14) 6401 George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Alexandria 22307 (Belle Haven Park and Marina) From Alexandria, take

George Washington Pkwy south. Cross I-495; continue 1.2 mi. to Belle Haven Park entrance on the left. Meet at south parking lot.

Huntley Meadows Park (11/16, 1/25) 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria 22306 From I-495, take Rt 1 south 3 mi. to Lockheed Blvd. Right on Lockheed; go 0.5 mi. to Harrison Ln, park entrance on left. Meet in parking lot.

Leopold's Preserve (11/19) 16283 Thoroughfare Rd, Haymarket 20169 From I-66 west, take exit 40 to Rt 15 toward Haymarket/Leesburg. Turn left onto Rt 15 south. Turn right onto Rt 55 and go 1.7 mi. to Thoroughfare Rd. Turn left onto Thoroughfare and go 0.3 mi. There are parking lots on both sides of the road. Meet in the right hand (west) parking lot. The left hand (east) parking lot can be used for overflow parking.

Long Branch Nature Area (11/2, 12/7, 1/4, 2/1) 625 S Carlin Springs

Rd, Arlington 22204 Take Rt 50, east from Fairfax or west from Rosslyn to Carlin Springs exit. Go south on Carlin Springs 0.5 mi. to Nature Center on left, just south of N. Va Community Hospital on left. Meet at Nature Center parking lot.

Mason Neck State Park (12/10) 7301 High Point Rd, Lorton 22079 From I-495, take I-95 south 7 mi. to Lortoeexit. Left on Rt 642 to Rt 1. Right on Rt 1 to Rt 242 (Gunston Rd.). Left on Rt 242; go 4 mi. to Mason Neck Management Area. Turn right, follow paved road to end at Visitor Center. State fee area.

Neabsco Regional Park - Boardwalk (1/18) 15125 Blackburn Rd, Woodbridge 22191 From I-495, take I-95 south about 14 mi. to exit 156 (Dale City/Rippon Landing/Rt. 784). Take it 156A for Rt 784 east toward Rippon Landing. Continue 0.7 mi. across Rt 1 where Dale Blvd becomes Rippon Blvd and continue down the

Trip Directions from page 4

Neabsco Regional Park - Boardwalk hill another 0.4 mi. to a stop light and turn right on Blackburn Rd. The park parking lot is then 0.2 mi. away on the left.

Northern Neck X-trip (1/7) Meet at the Silver Diner, 6592 Springfield Mall. From the Beltway, take I-95 south to exit 169A (Springfield/Franconia) (Rt 644E). From exit ramp, turn right onto Franconia Rd E. Stay in the right lane. Go about 0.3 mi. on Franconia Rd E, past Loisdale Rd, and turn right into Springfield Mall. Go about 325 ft; turn left and go about 150 ft; then turn left again and go another 200 ft to the Silver Diner on the left.

Ocoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge (12/3, 2/4) 13950 Dawson Beach Rd, Woodbridge 22192 From I-495, take I-95 south 9 mi. to (left) exit 161 (Woodbridge). Go south on Rt 1 about 2 mi. to left turn onto Dawson Beach Rd. Continue on Dawson Beach 0.7 mi. to entrance gate. Meet in parking lot.

Riverbend Park (Visitor Center) (1/14) 8700 Potomac Hills St, Great Falls 22066 From I-495, take Rt. 193 west 5 mi. to Rt 603 (Riverbend Rd). Turn right onto Rt 603; go 2 mi. to Jeffery Rd. Turn right onto Jeffery; and go 0.8 mi. to main park entrance sign on right. Turn right and continue 0.5 mi. to Visitor Center parking lot. Meet in front of Visitor Center.

Silver Lake RP (11/5, 1/28) 16198 Silver Lake Rd, Haymarket 20169 From I-495, take I-66 west 24 mi. to exit 40 (Rt 15). Turn south onto Rt 15 (toward Haymarket) and go 0.3 miles to Rt 55. Turn right onto Rt 55 and go 0.9 mi. to Antioch Rd. Turn right onto Antioch and go 1.3 mi. to Silver Lake Rd. Turn right and proceed to park entrance and continue to parking lot next to the lake. Meet in parking lot.

Veterans Memorial Park (11/29) 14300 Veterans Dr, Woodbridge, 22191 From I-495, take I-95 south 9 mi. to (left) exit 161 (Woodbridge). Go south on Rt 1 about 3.5 mi. to left turn onto Featherstone Rd. Continue on Featherstone about a mile and cross the RR tracks, turn left and proceed about 1 mile to the community center on the left, meet near Veterans Drive in front of the center.

Bird Walks at Local Parks

- **Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, second Saturdays, 8 am.** Meet at the parking lot. Visit the Loudoun Wildlife web site, www.loudounwildlife.org/events/
- **Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship, fourth Saturday, 8 am** Meet at Education Center. www.loudounwildlife.org/events/
- **Dyke Marsh, Sundays, 8 am** See directions. Visit the Friends of Dyke Marsh web site, www.fodm.org
- **Great Falls National Park, Sundays, 8 am** Meet in the main parking lot near the Park Visitor Center.
- **Huntley Meadows Park, Mondays, 7 am (Mar-Oct) 8 am (Nov-Feb)** Meet in parking lot. Leader: Harry Glasgow
- **Merrimac Farm, last Sunday, 8 am** Meet at Merrimac Farm Stone House. www.pwconserve.org/eventsindex.html#bird
- **Riverbend Park, first and third Fridays, 8 am, beginning May 6 to October 7.** Meet at the Nature Center parking lot off Jeffrey Road. No fee but call Riverbend Park at 703-759-9018 to register. Leader: Robin Duska

*White Ibis at Huntley Meadows
photographed by Neal Gause*



Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2022

The Club 2022 Financial Report follows. Membership remained strong as did donations to the Val Kitchens Memorial Education Grant funds. Once again the Club gave a grant to the Community Cloud Forest Conservation organization. In addition, the Club donated \$500 to the VA Breeding Bird Atlas publishing efforts and pledged the same amount for the next 3 years. Meeting expenses were low due to the use of virtual meetings. Printing costs were higher than previous years due to the decision to continue to print the Siskin in color in response to member enthusiasm..

At the close of the year, the Club had \$15,448 in total assets, including those reserved for future years dues (\$3,975) and for future grants (\$848).

Income received

Dues for 2022	5,500
Bird Watcher's Digest & pin sales	0
Donations,	660
Amazon Smile	85
Total Income	\$6,245

Expenses

Organizational costs (includes fees for web host PO box, VA, Paypal, etc)	\$830
Meeting expenses (includes hall rental, speaker honorariums, prizes, refreshments)	612
Printing and postage	3,289
Educational Grants	500
Atlas Donation	500
Total expenses	\$5,731

Net for 2022 \$514

—Jean Tatalias, Treasurer

Maiden Pelagic Trip

Like many of you, I got the VA-BIRD notice from Andrew Rapp about a Summer Rudee Pelagic Trip. Angst set in. I had stood on shorelines all over Virginia Beach where Great Shearwaters had been reported on eBird, hoping to spot these large seabirds, without luck or clear ID confidence. Dare I get on a boat, spend a long day with other unknown birders and maybe feel dizzy and seasick in front of strangers? I signed up and then backed out. A few days before the trip, there were new openings and Alex Capaldi and Sophie Bodrog, fellow NVBC birders, said they were going and signed me up for the trip. I am so happy to have trusted them both. My first pelagic trip was so much fun.

The nearly 15 hour boat trip started at 4 am, on August 28, with calm waters, under a new moon and pitch black sky. Fifty people were aboard the 75-foot Rudee Mariner. We were headed to Norfolk Canyon, 70 miles out, 5 hours each way. Even in the dark I practiced focusing on the horizon, but not staring too much, and staying outside the cabin. Two and a half hours out, we started to see Cory's Shearwaters, then Wilson's Storm Petrels and many Red-necked Phalaropes. We saw Pilot Whales and later two other dolphin species. It was so exciting to be jumping from one side of the boat to the other, we had great 360 degree views. I could see the birds and some field marks most of time. I had imagined I would only see distant tiny silhouettes like hawks over mountains at hawk watches. Our captain, would maneuver the boat close to birds, backtrack when necessary, and move closer to investigate other marine life.

Four hours out a Yellow-breasted Chat flew over my head. Five hours out we saw Audubon's Shearwaters floating near the side of the boat and a Pomarine Jaeger fly by. Both subspecies of Cory's Shearwater, the *Scopoli's* and *Borealis*, were seen out at the Canyon area midday, along with Long-tailed Jaegers, and my boat trip inspiration bird, the Great Shearwater.

Heading back was a very long ride with few bird sightings but close views of Manta rays, Loggerhead and Leather-backed sea turtles, Atlantic flying fish and absolutely great conversation. All seats were taken on the shady side of boat. I ventured to the top level, held on tight as the boat pitched more up there. I also squeezed in between the photographers and spotters on the bow. Thanks to Will Goode keeping me focused on the terns close to shore, I saw a Black Tern, elusive for me in Virginia. This pelagic trip added six life birds to my list.

To prepare for the pelagic I took Dramamine but also packed three types of dry ginger crackers, ginger chews, special nausea bags, and a change of clothes. Happily zero of my motion fears occurred. I am definitely birding at sea again. Hope this inspires you to cast off soon.

—Joan Mashburn



Photographs by Ken Sardegna

Header: Long-tailed Jaeger

Above

Cory's Shearwater

Audubon's Shearwater

Great Shearwater

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BIRD CLUB
P.O. BOX 5812
ARLINGTON, VA 22205-0812

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dulles, VA
Permit No. 400



**DATED
MATERIAL**

JOIN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA BIRD CLUB

Northern Virginia Bird Club dues for 2023 are \$10 for Individual and \$15 for Family Membership. Members receive our quarterly newsletter, *The Siskin*. Checks for dues should be sent to Northern Virginia Bird Club, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 5812, Arlington, VA 22205-0812. Or join or renew online at the club's web site, <http://www.nvabc.org/join/>.

If you miss an issue of *The Siskin* or need to report an address or ZIP Code change, please send an email message to lgmeade@gmail.com or leave a message for Elizabeth Fenton at 703-533-0851.

Please note: NVBC does not exchange, give away, or sell its membership lists.

NVBC ON THE WEB

Current information and special notices about NVBC meetings, field trips, and other activities, along with a printable membership form, are posted on the club's website, www.nvabc.org.

If you have information or pictures you would like to see on the website,

please email the webmaster, Jeremy Beck at jghyll+nvabc@gmail.com.

NVBC eMail Exchange

By participating in the club's email exchange, you can get email notices of late updates to *The Siskin* and the field trip schedule. To join the exchange, send an email to lgmeade@gmail.com. Put "EXCHANGE" in the subject field and your full name in the message area. You will receive a response from nvbc-exchange@googlegroups.com. The list is for NVBC members' use only.

General Meeting Dates: November 17, 2022, February 16 and April 20, 2023.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, December 1, 2022, 7:30 pm. To join the Zoom board meeting or to have items put on the agenda, please email lgmeade@gmail.com.

Deadline for next issue of *The Siskin*: The February issue will include activities through April 2023. Please send items for publication by January 1, 2023, to the editors at siskineditor@verizon.net.

CLUB CONTACTS

President: Larry Meade, 571-275-2523

Vice President, Programs: Phil Silas, 703-987-0817

Vice President, Field Activities: Elton Morel, 703-907-9951

Secretary: Diane Marton, 703-527-7360

Treasurer: Jean Tatalias, 703-281-6099

Directors: Jeremy Beck, 703-517-1816
Joan Mashburn, 703-209-8678

Joanna Taylor, 703-243-5989

Directors Emeritus: Len Alfredson, Charlotte Friend, Don Wiesnet

Membership: Elizabeth Fenton, 703-533-0851

Webmaster, www.nvabc.org: Jeremy Beck, jghyll+nvabc@gmail.com

Editors, *The Siskin*: Pat and Neal Gause, 703-476-3903

Administrator, NVBC Facebook Group: Allie Guidry (please contact through Facebook page)

NVBC email: lgmeade@gmail.com



Wilson's Snipe photographed by Seth Honig



Wilson's Snipe photographed by Seth Honig



Long-billed Dowitcher photographed by Seth Honig



Pectoral Sandpiper and Huntley Meadows Park landscape header photographed by Neal Gause



Short-billed Dowitcher photographed by Seth Honig



Least Sandpiper photographed by Elton Morel (May 2018)



Semipalmated Sandpiper photographed by Neal Gause



Killdeer photographed by Neal Gause



Semipalmated Plover photographed by Neal Gause



Solitary Sandpiper photographed by Neal Gause



Spotted Sandpiper photographed by Seth Honig