





















the Atlantic coast) to move 3 miles off the coast and remove their operation out of the Chesapeake Bay. It should be noted the attorneys with the CLA donate their services and expertise.

National Audubon signed the above mentioned petition.

WRIC TV in Richmond broadcasted a report on the state of the Bay and the threats to osprey and menhaden.

A Facebook page was developed "Little Fish Big Deal"

Multiple organizations throughout the state have come together to work as one for a common goal

A website and Facebook page "Save our Menhaden" was formed.

The Northampton County (on the eastern shore) Board of supervisors just approved a resolution on a menhaden moratorium.

Read-don't scroll. Become informed, tell a friend about the criticality in the Chesapeake Bay.

Belong to other organizations...? Ask me about the Bill McKeever film being shown to your boy scouts, girl scouts, students, garden clubs or whatever you may be involved in away from RAS.

Attend the Osprey festival at Colonial Beach April 13, 2024

<https://colonialbeach.org/events/#!event/2024/4/13/annual-osprey-festival>

Attend a VMRC meeting the 4th Tuesday of every month <https://www.mrc.virginia.gov/>

Join Osprey Watch Nest Monitoring Program <https://www.osprey-watch.org/>

Donate to Osprey Watch Nest Monitoring Program

Put up an osprey platform

Sign up for the Virginia Conservation Network (VCN) lobby days

<https://engage.vcnva.org/event/water-and-conservation-lobby-day/e538976>

Write your delegate and the Governor of Virginia

Review the mission statement of Richmond Audubon..."

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As a good friend told me "every single person counts."

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The meetings are at 9:30 am:

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380 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe, VA 23651

Free and plentiful parking. Easy access to building.

Also our March meeting will be presented by Michael Academia in addition to the showing of the 37 minute documentary by William McKeever 'The Biggest Little Fish You've Never Seen.'

Thank you for your attention and support.  
Make Virginia known for protecting the Chesapeake Bay.

Julie Kacmarcik  
Conservation Chair  
804.691.0570  
[juliekazz@comcast.net](mailto:juliekazz@comcast.net)

## Meet our Members

This section will be about our fabulous members! We have so many talented people in our chapter and it would be great to get to know them. Please send in your information about your illustrious careers, where you've been, what you do, etc. Maybe you can help someone with your knowledge your career and your life. Please don't be shy! Here is our first member!

### **Eagle Eyes** by Kathy Butler Springsteen

The large bird caught my eye.  
It swooped down the canal.  
"It's an eagle" I said.  
Then it landed in a pine by the male.  
"There are two!"  
So near, they turned their white heads  
And peered through the glass pane  
Straight into my soul.

Kathy is a long-time Richmond Audubon member, nature lover. A retired newspaper writer and farm publication editor. She is a Fan landlord and handy with construction and kitchen tools. She grew up on a peanut farm that straddled the old Nansemond County and Isle of Wight County lines. The farm's address is in the City of Suffolk now. Kathy rode a Chincoteague pony until going away to college. She would be lost for hours in the woods, playing in a stream. She'd sneak out of her window at night with a blanket to cover the dew and watch for shooting stars across the still incredibly dark sky above the family farm, where her father, Steve Butler, 93, still cleans out ditches, maintains a big yard and finds interesting hollow limbs to create bird houses. She is glad to have her husband, Rex, Dad and many cousins.. Kathy is also an awesome event planner



## It is Never Too Late to Learn

It is always a great time to expand our knowledge and learn some fun facts. Check out the following videos.

Have you often wondered how Barn Owls mate and bring up their babies? Here is a delightful video on that.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0Lx7EOJFNE>

Here is a wonderful collection of our owls and their calls. “Owls of North America and Their Calls”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzbmj6vuMw8>

Here is video that includes sounds and pictures to help you identify your local birds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gSiH4fAXk14>

You could watch this video as a game and try to guess the sound before they show the bird,

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7\\_D0DopQW4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7_D0DopQW4)

If you need to see spectrographs with the sound here is one from Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xH2GjHKYj0>

10 Fun Facts About Chickadees | Smart, Tough, & Friendly

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KdvPp1\\_JeI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KdvPp1_JeI)

10 Fun Facts About Cardinals | Smart, Tough & Friendly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mevWgPIIVhc>

10 Facts about Bluejays <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPta-zaYnaQ>

5 reasons to like Crows <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPTtowjXBVM>

Ravens and Crows the difference <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9-wTnqlidY>

**Treasurer's Report, 9/1/2023-12/31/2023**  
 Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Balance Over from 8/31/2023 Treasurer's Report **\$52,595.03**

**Income**

Donations \$75.00  
 Kroger \$47.31

**Total Income: \$122.31**

**Expenses**

CBBT Field Trip \$100.00  
 Insurance (quarterly installment) \$453.35  
 VCN Membership \$100.00  
 Godaddy renewal \$191.88  
 PO Box Renewal \$332.00  
 Meetup renewal \$98.94  
 Zoom renewal \$157.40

**Total Expenses: \$1,433.57**

**Closing Balance: \$51,283.77**

Paypal Balance: \$431.01 As of 12/31/2023  
 Vanguard Account Balance: \$31,938.63 As of 12/31/2023

**Total Assets: \$83,653.41**

**Restricted Funds**

RAS Kids Outdoor Foundation Grant - PPDC \$302.41  
 Camp Younks Foundation Saw-whet Owls Grant \$1,402.20  
 VAC Funds \$8,536.87  
 O'Bryan Trust \$3,836.53

\$14,178.01

**Available Unrestricted Funds: \$37,105.78**

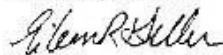
**Bank Statement Reconciliation**

Closing Statement Balance \$51,738.87

Check 483 - Hospitality (reissued check from 8/2022) \$123.10  
 PO Box Renewal \$332.00

**Closing checkbook balance \$51,283.77**

Respectfully submitted,



Eileen Geller, Treasurer

# Newsletter

Photo by Diane Jadowski



“The Thrasher” is issued bimonthly (January, March, May, July, September, November.)

Articles and photo submissions are due by the 10th of the month prior. Articles can be trips, backyard experiences, stories, etc

All newsletters are available for download (PDF) online at <https://richmondaudubon.org/newsletter>

All articles are excerpts from internet unless byline is noted.

Please send any suggestions, comments, or ideas to [thrasher@richmondaudubon.org](mailto:thrasher@richmondaudubon.org)

Thanks and have a great birding day!  
Diane Jadowski  
Editor

# OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE RICHMOND AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## Officers:

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Vice President Mary Elfner

Secretary Pam Scrima

Treasurer VACANT

Conservation Chair | Julie Kacmarcik

Field Trips Chair | Matt Brooks

Hospitality Chair | Portnoy Johnson

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Past President | Mary Elfner

Programs Chair | Mary Elfner

Publicity Chair | Mario Grasso

Thrasher Editor | Diane Jادلowski

Member-at-Large | John Ditto

Member-at-Large | Patty Bell

Development Chair | VACANT

Education Chair | VACANT

Technology Chair | VACANT

## ABOUT THE RICHMOND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Mission Statement: The purpose and objectives of this Society shall be to promote the enjoyment, understanding and preservations of birds, other wildlife and habitat through birding, education, advocacy and fellowship, while engaging in any such educational, scientific, investigative and charitable pursuits as may be part of the stated purposes of the National Audubon Society, of which this Society shall function as a Chapter.

RAS MEMBER MEETINGS: Third Thursday of the month except June, July, August and December

RAS BOARD MEETINGS: Second Thursdays of January, March, May, July (August annual strategic planning session), September, and November. Board Meeting start times and locations will vary. Members are welcome to attend, contact the President or Secretary in advance.

For information on late breaking news, meetings, and field trips check the RAS Freelist or the RAS website. Join our FACEBOOK page or MEET-UP group.

WEBSITE: [www.RichmondAudubon.org](http://www.RichmondAudubon.org)

FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/RichmondAudubon/](http://www.facebook.com/RichmondAudubon/)

MEETUP GROUP: [www.meetup.com/RAS-Meetup/](http://www.meetup.com/RAS-Meetup/)

FREELIST: [www.freelists.org/list/va-richmond-general](http://www.freelists.org/list/va-richmond-general)

## RICHMOND AUDUBON SOCIETY Membership

Go to <https://richmondaudubon.org/join>

NONPROFIT: RAS is a registered nonprofit 501 (C) (3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Richmond Audubon Society respects the individuality of each member of our community, and we are committed to an environment free of any kind of discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, national or ethnic origin, politics, or veteran status.