

VSO Annual Meeting

Harrisonburg, Virginia May 13–15, 2011

The annual meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology will be held May 13 – 15 in Harrisonburg located in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Hosted by the Rockingham Bird Club and headquartered at the Holiday Inn the meeting will feature a banquet, field trips, exhibits, vendors, a technical paper session, and the VSO's annual business meeting. The banquet speaker will be Dan Cristol, Professor of Biology at the College of William and Mary.

Rockingham County lies astride the Shenandoah Valley extending from Shenandoah Mountain in the west to the Blue Ridge in the east. Both mountain ranges are flyways for spring migrants as well as breeding grounds for numerous species and should offer abundant opportunities for excellent birding along the ridge tops and in the foothills. Much of the lowlands in the valley are farmed providing good habitat for grassland birds and featuring numerous stock ponds that attract a variety of shorebirds. Lake Shenandoah, just east of Harrisonburg, is a popular year around birding spot.

The Holiday Inn at 1400 East Market Street will be the meeting headquarters (540 433-2523; www.holidayinn.com). A block of rooms has been reserved at a special rate of \$84, plus tax. Reservations must be made by May 1, using the code "RBC", to obtain the special rate. Other lodging options include the Jameson Inn (540 442-1515) and the Sleep Inn (540 433-7100).

All meals, other than the banquet, are on your own. A list of conveniently located restaurants will be provided at registration.

To register for the meeting and the banquet use the registration form on page 7 of the VSO newsletter or download the form from the Rockingham Bird Club website, www.rockinghambirdclub.com.

The registration deadline is May 1, 2011. Upon arrival registration packets can be picked up at the VSO table located in the Tropical Court at the motel. Participants may also sign up for field trips at that time. Direct questions to Elizabeth Ihle, 540-234-8296 or eliza51@aol.com.

http://www.vabirds.org/VSO_PDFs/VSO_Nwsltr_WI2010_2011.pdf