

# THE SKEETER

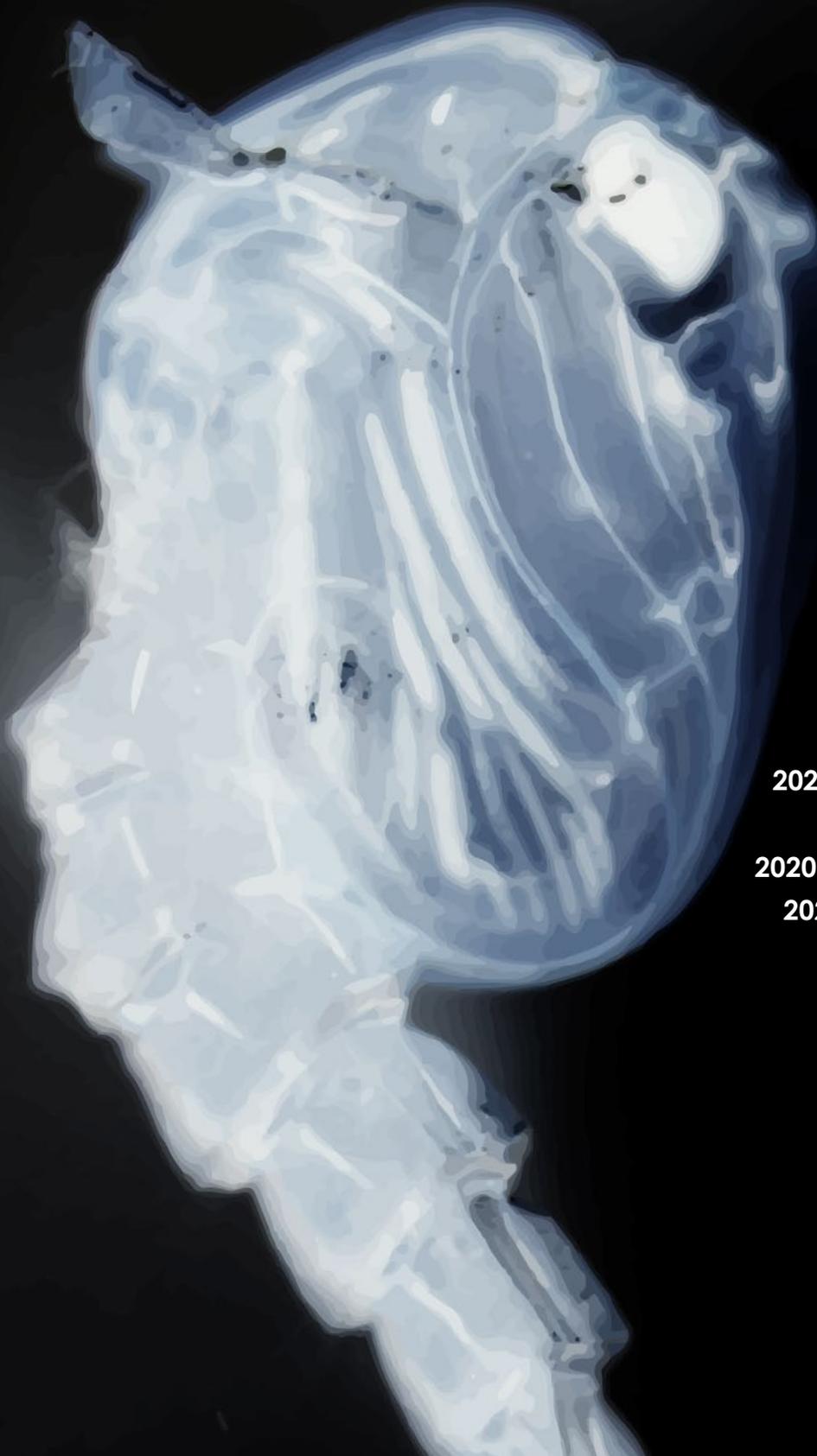
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2020 Winter Newsletter



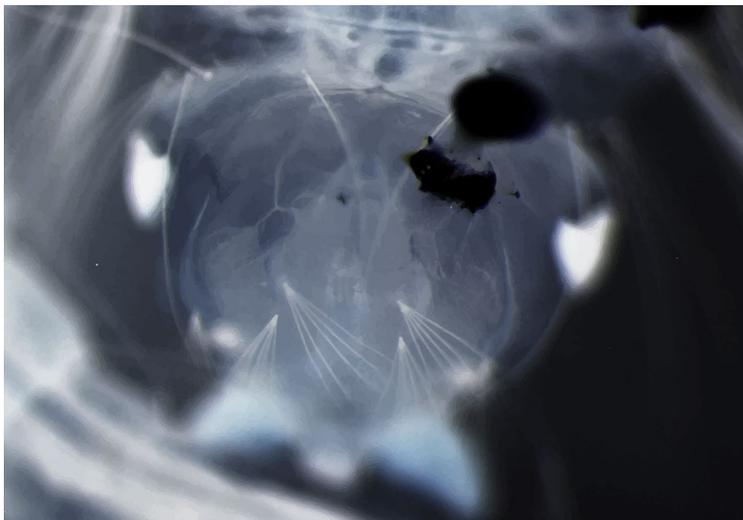
Official Newsletter of the Virginia  
Mosquito Control Association

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# Announcements



## VMCA Organizational Mailing Address

Virginia Mosquito Control Association  
Jay Kiser, Secretary/Treasurer  
800 Carolina Rd  
Suffolk, VA 23434  
Phone: (757) 514-7608  
Email: [virginiamosquito@gmail.com](mailto:virginiamosquito@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

### VMCA Annual [Meeting](#)

January 28-30, 2020  
Virginia Beach, VA

### MAMCA/SCMCA Joint Annual [Meeting](#)

February 19-21, 2020  
Greenville, SC

### AMCA 86th Annual [Meeting](#)

March 16-20, 2020  
Portland, OR

### 21st Annual Washington [Conference](#)

May 14-15, 2020  
Washington, DC

### National Mosquito Control Awareness [Week](#)

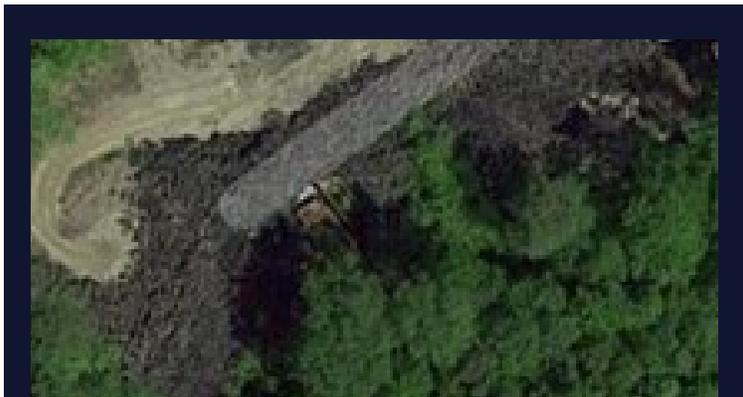
June 21-27, 2020

### [Entomology 2020](#) (ESA)

November 15-18, 2020  
Orlando, FL



**You can sign up for or renew your VMCA membership online! Visit our website and fill out the form [here](#)**



## What's That...?

Answer on [page 15](#)



## Tuesday, January 28, 2020

11:00 AM **Registration**

*Presiding: LaToya White*

1:00 PM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

LaToya White | lnwhite@nngov.com  
*City of Newport News Public Works*

1:10 PM **Virginia Arboviral Surveillance 2019**

Elena Diskin | elena.diskin@gmail.com  
*VDH*

1:40 PM **West Nile Virus: Trends in Human and Mosquito Populations in Fairfax County**

Dr. John Orr | john.orr@fairfaxcounty.gov  
*Fairfax County Health Department*

2:10 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*ADAPCO*

2:15 PM **What Has the Latest EEE Outbreak Taught us About Protecting Public Health?**

Jeff Hottenstein | jhottenstein@clarke.com  
*Clarke*

2:35 PM **Sugar Feeding by Invasive Mosquitoes on Ornamental Plants**

Forde Upshur | uforde96@vt.edu  
*Virginia Tech*

2:50 PM **Controlling Culex**

Penelope Smelser | penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov  
*Norfolk Department of Public Health*

3:05 PM **Break**

*Presiding: Tim DuBois*

3:35 PM **Bats: Natural Pest-Control That You'll Go Batty For**

Christoper Rannefors / Sarah Carey  
sarah@batbnb.com / christopher@batbnb.com  
*Bat BnB*

3:55 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Central Life Sciences*

4:00 PM **Tour de Skeeter**

Karen Akaratovic | kakaratovic@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

4:10 PM **This Old Trap: In-House Equipment Repair**

Daniel Sherwood | daniel.sherwood@fairfaxcounty.gov  
*Fairfax County Health Department*

4:30 PM **Integrating GIS with Mosquito Control and Stormwater Management**

Janice Pulver | janice.pulver@yorkcounty.gov  
*York County Department of Public Works*

4:55 PM **BG-Pro Tips**

Jay Kiser | jkiser@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

5:05 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Univar Environmental Services*

5:30 PM **Ice Breaker (Vendor Room, Monarch 4/5)**

7:00 PM **Hospitality Suite (Next to room 1520)**

## Wednesday, January 29, 2020

7:00 AM **Registration and Light Breakfast**

*Presiding: Andy Lima*

8:00 AM **VDACS Update**

Rodrickus Knight  
rodrickus.knight@vdacs.virginia.gov  
*VDACS*

8:30 AM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Target Specialty Products*

8:35 AM **AMCA Update**

Dr. Brian Byrd | bdbyrd@email.wcu.edu  
*Western Carolina University*

8:45 AM **Larvicide Field Trials**

Lisa Wagenbrenner  
lwagenbrenner@CityOfChesapeake.net  
*Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission*

9:15 AM **State of the World of Ticks and Tick-borne Pathogens**

Dr. Holly Gaff | hgaff@odu.edu  
*Old Dominion University*

9:35 AM **Storm drains: Creating, How They Work, and What Happens When We Treat Them?**

Antonio Jordan | ajordan@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

9:55 AM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Clarke*

10:00 AM **BREAK--Q&A Poster Session**

10:30 AM **Temporal and Spatial Variation of *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* in the Lone Star Tick**

Olivia Spencer | omspencer@email.wm.edu  
Student Poster Competition Winner  
*College of William & Mary*

10:50 AM **La Crosse Encephalitis Risk Persists at the Residential level**

Dr. Brian Byrd | bdbyrd@email.wcu.edu  
*Western Carolina University*

11:10 AM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Valent Biosciences Inc.*

11:15 AM **Panel—Thresholds and Actions for Adult Mosquito Control**

Mitch Burcham | mitchell.burcham@us.af.mil  
*Langley Air Force Base Pest Control*

Charles Abadam | cabadam@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk*

Eli Hosen | ehosen@pwcgov.org  
*Prince William County*

Ryan Levering | lev004@henrico.us  
*Henrico County*

Brian Prendergast | brian.prendergast@maryland.gov  
*Maryland Department of Agriculture*

12:00 PM **Luncheon and Award Ceremony**

*Presiding: Wes Robertson*

1:30 PM **BeeCheck/FieldWatch Program Available to Applicators**

Keith Tignor | keith.tignor@vdacs.virginia.gov  
*VDACS*

1:45 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Summit Chemical*

1:50 PM **The Buzz About Rainwater Harvesting Systems and Mosquitoes: Is There a Problem and What Do We Do About It?**

Dr. Kathy DeBusk Gee | geekd@longwood.edu  
*Longwood University*

2:10 PM **So Your Mosquitoes are Resistant: Now What?**

Charles Abadam | cabadam@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

2:30 PM **A Different Kind of Sprayer**

Ann Herring | mherring@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

2:40 PM **Alpha-gal syndrome**

Elena Diskin | elena.diskin@gmail.com  
*Virginia Department of Health (VDH)*

2:55 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Co Diagnostics*

3:00 PM **Break (Final silent auction bids due)**

*Presiding: Betsy Hodson*

3:40 PM **Maricopa County, AZ: a Mosquito Crossroads in the West**

Jim Will | james.will@maricopa.gov  
*Maricopa County Environmental Services*

4:05 PM **Is LiDAR an Effective Tool for Accurate Flood Plain Aerial Larvicide Treatments? A Trial Run from the Neponset River Flood Plain in Massachusetts**

Nate Boonisar | nate.boonisar@norfolkcountymosquito.org  
*Norfolk County, MA Mosquito Control District*

4:30 PM **Sustaining Member Presentation**

*Morrell Instrument Company, Inc.*

4:35 PM **Ecology of Emerging Tick Disease Vectors**

Amanda Whitlow | amandamw19@vt.edu  
*Virginia Tech*

4:55 PM **Host Blood Meal Analysis of *Aedes albopictus* in Suffolk, VA 2017-2019**

Karen Akaratovic | kakaratovic@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

5:05 PM **Winning 50:50 Raffle Ticket Selected**

5:30 PM **Hospitality Suite (Next to Suite 1520)**

## Thursday, January 30, 2020

*Presiding: Ted Bean*

7:00 AM **Breakfast Buffet**

8:00 AM **Hampton Environmental Service 311 Requests**

Joshua Snyder | joshua.snyder@hampton.gov  
*City of Hampton Public Works*

8:30 AM **Dr. Bruce Harrison Research Award**

Jennifer Barritt | jbarritt@vb.gov.com  
*City of Virginia Beach Public Works*

8:35 AM **Vendor Presentation**

*Bayer Environmental Science*

⚡ **Lightning Round** ⚡

8:40 AM **Lone Star Ticks** Tori Rose | trose004@odu.edu  
*Old Dominion Univ.*

8:44 AM **Blacklegged Ticks** Kasey Parker / Anna Phan |  
kpark010@odu.edu / aphan001@odu.edu  
*Old Dominion Univ.*

8:48 AM **American Dog Ticks** Alexandra Cumbie |  
acumb002@odu.edu *Old Dominion Univ.*

8:52 AM **Gulf Coast Ticks** Christina Espada |  
cespa001@odu.edu *Old Dominion Univ.*

8:56 AM **Other Ticks of Hampton Roads**  
Sara Simmons | smcdo010@odu.edu  
*Old Dominion Univ.*

9:00 AM **Spotted Lanternfly** Brian Prendergast |  
brian.prendergast@maryland.gov  
*Maryland Department of Agriculture*

9:04 AM **Surveillance of the Asian Longhorned Tick in Virginia** Joshua Bernick | Josh-  
ua.Bernick@vdh.virginia.gov *Virginia Department of Health (VDH)*

9:08 AM **Using Population and GIS Data Tools to Create Ideal Trap Sites** Maddie Moore |  
mmoore@pwcgov.org *Prince William County*

9:12 AM **Larval Habitats Diorama**  
Kaitlyn Price | kprice@suffolkva.us  
Cassidy McKelvie | cmckelvie@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

9:16 AM **Now and Then: Retracing the Steps of Mosquito Control Pros from the 1930s**  
Tim DuBois | duboist@portsmouthva.gov  
*City of Portsmouth Public Works*

9:20 AM **Salinity Tolerance of *Culex pipiens* and *Culex restuans* Larvae**  
Penelope Smelser |  
penelpe.smelser@norfolk.gov  
*Norfolk Department of Public Health*

9:24 AM **Crane Island-A Unique *Aedes sollicitans* Habitat**  
Tim DuBois | duboist@portsmouthva.gov  
*City of Portsmouth Public Works*

9:28 AM **Combined Sewer Inlets and Mosquito Production: What's next?**  
Ryan Levering | lev004@henrico.us  
*Henrico County Public Works*

9:32 AM **Mosquitoes, finding a meaning to life**  
Jay Kiser | jkiser@suffolkva.us  
*City of Suffolk Department of Public Works*

9:36 AM **Etymology in Entomology--What's in a [species] Name?** Andy Lima |  
Andrew.Lima@fairfaxcounty.gov  
*Fairfax County Health Department*

9:40 AM **Bringing Mindfulness and Cognition to Inspections, Treatments, and Communication**  
Eli Hosen | ehosen@pwcgov.org  
*Prince William County*

10:00 AM **BREAK (hotel check-out)**

10:45 AM **Vendor Presentation**  
*TBD*

10:50 AM ***Ae. aegypti* Has an Unlikely Foothold in Metropolitan Washington, D.C.**  
Andy Lima | Andrew.Lima@fairfaxcounty.gov  
*Fairfax County Health Department*

11:00 AM **VMCA Business Meeting and Door Prizes**

12:00 PM **Adjournment**

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS

**ADAPCO** (tbean@myadapco.com)

**Bayer Environmental Science**  
(kurt.vandock@bayer.com)

**Central Life Sciences** (joneill@central.com)

**Clarke** (jhottenstein@clarke.com)

**Co Diagnostics** (breynolds@leateam.com)

**Morrell Instrument Company**  
(chatcher@morrellonline.com)

**Summit Chemical Company**  
(zcohen@summitchemical.com)

**Target Specialty Products**  
(Steve.Molnar@Target-specialty.com)

**Univar Environmental Sciences**  
(John.Singleary@Univar.com)

**Valent Biosciences** (James.Andrews@valent.com)

## VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

### 2019-2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

#### President

LaToya White, City of Newport News Public Works

#### President Elect

Andy Lima, Fairfax Co. Health Department

#### Vice President

Tim DuBois, City of Portsmouth Public Works

#### 1st Vice President

Wes Robertson, Henrico County Public Works

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Jay Kiser, City of Suffolk Public Works

#### Past President

George Wojcik, City of Portsmouth Public Works

#### Mid-Atlantic Representative

Elizabeth Hodson, York Co. Public Works



# 2020 Annual Conference of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association

January 28 - January 30, 2020

The Westin Virginia Beach  
Town Center

Virginia Beach, Virginia

# SILENT AUCTION 2020

## PLEASE DONATE

All proceeds benefit the VMCA Student Poster Competition

**Fourth Annual Silent Auction taking place during  
the 2020 VMCA Annual Meeting  
January 28-30, 2020**

**Please drop off items at the meeting registration desk by Noon,  
January 28, 2020**

We are looking for a variety of new or gently used items of good quality  
including, but not limited to:

**Vector themed items Tools**  
**Artwork Antiques/Historical items**  
**Gift certificates Treasures**  
**Themed prize baskets Apparel**

Group donations by committee, agency, or vendors are always appreciated.

Items may also be sent/dropped off before the meeting to:

Suffolk Mosquito Control, 800 Carolina Road, Suffolk, VA 23434

For more information please contact: [Ann Herring mherring@suffolkva.us](mailto:Ann.Herring@suffolkva.us)



# Nominations for First Vice President

## Luz Grant First Vice President Candidate #1

My name is Luz Grant. I am the singular administration personnel for City of Norfolk Vector Control Division in Norfolk, VA since 2014. I consider myself a highly organized individual who will excel in the position of 1st Vice President. Since starting in 2014 I have gained a considerable amount of knowledge in the mosquito world. My education also helps me in this position. My Education is as follows: I have a Master's degree in Public Administration, and a Bachelor of Arts in Human Resources Management, Associate of Arts in Accounting. I have volunteered on several committees in the VMCA since 2015. I have been the key person for hosting the TMVCC Oyster roast in Norfolk since 2016.



## Betsy Hodson First Vice President Candidate #2

Elizabeth "Betsy" Hodson, hired as York County Mosquito Control Biologist 2012, is the Operations Superintendent. She is a graduate of Christopher Newport University and holds a BA in Biology. She taught in the public school system as well as at the Virginia Living Museum, and served on the board of the Tidewater Mosquito Vector Control Council. She is the State Director of Virginia for the Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association. Elizabeth is a certified Master Oyster Gardner and Virginia Master Naturalist. She is a licensed Commercial and Public Health Pesticide Applicator. She is also Virginia state certified as a Stormwater Inspector.



Your Vote Counts!!

Please take the time to vote! The VMCA relies on member participation to keep our organization running smoothly.

**YOUR**  
 **VOTE**  
**COUNTS**

# 2020 Executive Board Candidates

## Place your vote!

The Virginia Mosquito Control Association is governed by a dedicated group of individuals on the Executive Board. Please take the time to vote in our upcoming 2020 election. The link at the bottom of [this page](#) will take you to an online ballot. Please enter your unique voter ID number in the space at the top of the ballot and place a check mark next to your selection for *each* office. The Office of First Vice President has two candidates, please select *only one*.

You will need your unique voter ID number that will be emailed to you by Penelope Smelser, VMCA Ballot Committee. Please contact [virginiamosquito@gmail.com](mailto:virginiamosquito@gmail.com) if you are a VMCA member and do not receive an email with that information.

VMCA thanks you for your participation!

## Kurt Vandock Industry Representative Candidate

Kurt Vandock worked his way into pest management from a completely different field, the United States Armed Forces. After his commission in the US Army, he served as an Army Entomologist. That's where he was exposed to vector control, and where he's been ever since. Kurt's passion for public health powers his work as Head of Community Health for Bayer.



## Jay Kiser Secretary/Treasurer Re-election Candidate

Jay Kiser has been member of VMCA and a student of mosquito biology for over 10 years. He started his path at George Mason University and Old Dominion University where he received a Bachelors and Masters Degree (respectively) in biology. In 2007, he started his mosquito career as a biology intern for the City of Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission, and since January 2008, he has been a biologist for the City of Suffolk Mosquito Control. During this time, he has remained active in local and state mosquito control associations: Coordinator for Tidewater Regional Arboviral Surveillance Team (TRAST) from 2011 to 2013, on the board of Tidewater Mosquito and Vector Control Council (TMVCC) from 2011 to 2013, and on the executive board of Virginia Mosquito Control Association (VMCA) from 2012 to 2016. As a VMCA member, he has contributed numerous presentations during the annual meetings, participated in several committees, and helped created VMCA's first student competition.



**Continued on next page**

# 2020 Executive Board Candidates

## Andy Lima President

Andy Lima, M.S. Entomology  
Fairfax County Health Department  
Disease-Carrying Insects Program  
Environmental Health Specialist III  
Mosquito/Tick specialist

- Collecting and curating insects for 20 years
- B.S. of Environmental Management, Indiana University, 2004
- M.S. of Entomology, University of Florida, 2012
- Laboratory Supervisor, Clarke, 2004–2013
- Environmental Health Specialist III, Fairfax County Health Department Disease Carrying Insects Program, 2014–present
- Specializes in the use of music, photography, and videography to convey public health messages
- Hip Hop alter ego known as MC Bugg-Z, premier entomologist rapper on the planet



*Entomologically makin' impressions on this profession  
Insects immortalized in my collection like resurrection  
You'd never guess it but I'm utilizin' chemical weapons  
For the control of all these mo-squi-toes  
Call it Culicid suppression and please don't question  
My professional direction it's a six-legged obsession*

## Tim DuBois President Elect

Tim DuBois is the Biologist for the Environmental Services Division in Hampton, VA. He started his career in mosquito control as a seasonal worker for Suffolk Mosquito Control in 2001 while looking to finish his Associates in Biology from Paul D. Camp Community College. In Suffolk, he assisted with larviciding and adulticiding efforts, while learning surveillance techniques and identification whenever available. After two years in Suffolk, he landed a full time job working for Norfolk Vector Control as a technician, and eventually moved into the assistant biologist job where he translated his years of experience in the field to the lab. In 2006, Newport News Vector Control offered him a position with the intent to build a full surveillance program that included testing in-house for vector-borne diseases. Having a chance to build a surveillance program, he immersed himself in his work both for the city and in the Hampton Roads area becoming TRAST Coordinator from 2006-2010 and on



*Continued on next page*

# 2020 Executive Board Candidates

the TMVCC Board from 2009-2010. After three years of experience in the program, he was offered the Biologist position where he currently works, Hampton Environmental Services.

In 2010, Tim joined the Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association as the state representative for Virginia for two terms. He was then elected to serve on the MAMCA Executive Board and is currently President-Elect. He has also served as the MAMCA representative on the VMCA Executive Board and is on multiple committees including Education, Photography, Merchandise, Newsletter, and is the Historian.

When he is not working, Tim enjoys all things beer, MMA, gaming, and dabbling into making his own podcast. He also enjoys hanging out with his wife, Jessica, and their three cats, Jynx, Dakota, and Oswald.

## **Wes Robertson** **Vice President**

Wes Robertson is a medical entomologist who works as a Senior Environmental Inspector/ Medical Entomologist with the Henrico County Standing Water Initiative (SWI). Wes joined the Henrico County Department of Public Works SWI team in 2013. He works to actively identify, monitor, test, and analyze mosquito species. He also works as a public and private educator on pathogen transmission, insect identification, and IPM best practices. He advises and aids the local cooperative extension office, health department, and Henrico County Schools on insect identification and control methodologies. In 2016 Wes was integral in developing and implementing the Henrico County Zika Working Group and Task Force. His dedication, as the Henrico County Zika Mosquito Task Force Manager, resulted in his reception of the 2017 NaCo and VaCo Achievement Awards and the establishment of the Henrico County Arboviral Working Group. He is also a regular contributor to various academic and general publications. His professional experiences include working as a volunteer instructor/trainer for the Virginia Master Naturalist Training Certification Program, the Governor's School for Medicine and the Health Sciences, and the Henrico, Hanover, and Chickahominy Health Districts. Wes also has experience as an Avian Point-Count Technician, Biological Community Coordinator, and Entomology Field and Laboratory Technician.



Wes started studying mosquitoes while working with Dr. Kevin Caillouett and Dr. Lesley Bulluck on vector contact rates on Eastern Bluebird nestlings. As an undergraduate student at Virginia Commonwealth University, Wes received an honors degree for his contributions, research, and publications on West Nile Virus transmission in Henrico County and the effects of avian predation on mosquito driven West Nile Virus transmission. Wes' passion for insects and education deepened during his time as a graduate student at the University of Florida where he received a certification in medical entomology from the University of Florida's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences in 2015 and a master's degree in medical and veterinary entomology in 2017. He regularly speaks to various interest groups, clubs, associations, and conference audiences about mosquitoes, pathogens, and other arthropod/insect related topics. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family, teaching classes, reading, World War II model diorama building, collecting insects, playing chess, and watching sports.

## Student Competition Committee's 50/50 Raffle

The winner of \$83.50 is Katherine Reutt. She was the lucky ticket holder of the 50/50 raffle drawing that took place during the final 2019 meeting of the Tidewater Mosquito and Vector Control Council (TMVCC). The total amount of the sale of the tickets was \$167.00. The raffle was conducted in support of the Student Competition Committee.

The Student Competition Committee will be holding a silent auction during the upcoming VMCA annual meeting on January 28th–30th so if you have a new or gently used item that you would like to donate, contact me at [mherring@suffolkva.us](mailto:mherring@suffolkva.us) to arrange for delivery or pick-up by January 17, 2020.

**A 50/50 raffle will be held again this year at the annual meeting. Make sure to bring cash!**

Submitted by Ann Herring,  
Member of the Student Competition Committee



## New Merchandise for 2020!

A new year brings a new hoodie design to the annual meeting! This year we are offering a mosquito lifecycle design drawn by Rachel Kempf of Prince William County. We also have plenty of merch from past years available! Find us at the meeting, look us up on the VMCA [website](#), or email the new merchandise committee chair [Penelope Smelser](#) for ordering information.



**Virginia Mosquito Control Association**  
New Membership & Member Renewal Application

**MEMBERSHIP TYPE: ( ) RENEWAL ( ) NEW**  
Mark an "X" in the appropriate box

If you register for the annual meeting, membership will be complimentary and this form/ payment is not needed. If you don't plan on attending the Annual Meeting, please fill out this form.

NAME:	Regular \$15	
PHONE:	Associate \$10	
ADDRESS:	Student \$10 *Enclose proof of student status	
EMAIL:		
ORGANIZATION:		
	Total Submitted	

Questions or comments can be directed to Jay Kiser, Secretary-Treasurer, 757-514-7608 or email to: [Virginiamosquito@gmail.com](mailto:Virginiamosquito@gmail.com)

The VMCA accepts cash, check, and credit card. Membership forms and payments are accepted on our website at [www.mosquito-va.org](http://www.mosquito-va.org).

**Jay Kiser**  
VMCA Secretary-Treasurer  
800 Carolina Rd  
Suffolk, VA 23434  
757-514-7608 office phone  
757-923-2484 office fax

**Regular Member** - VMCA Newsletter, hold office, serve on committees, propose motions, vote, and participate in business meetings.

**Associate Member** - VMCA Newsletter, participate in business meetings.

**Student Member** - VMCA Newsletter, serve on committees and participate in business meetings. (Student must be enrolled as part-time or more in an accredited college or university. Student must produce valid College or University ID Card).

**Sustaining Member** - Exhibit space during the annual meeting and registration for one person. VMCA Newsletter, participation in commercial presentation session, listing in VMCA Newsletter and meeting program, listing on VMCA website.

Online submission form can be found [here](#)

# Merchandise Sales Continue!

*Didn't get what you wanted at the VMCA Annual Meeting?  
 Couldn't attend due to weather, funding, time?*

**There's still time to get all that mosquito swag you just have to have!**



2019 Blue T-shirt  
 Sic Semper Design

\$15



2019 Blue Heather  
 Alt Mosquito Zip-  
 up Hoodie

\$30



2018 VMCA  
 Lettered T-shirt  
 Design

\$15



2018 VMCA Flying  
 Mosquito Zip-up  
 Hoodie

\$15



2017 Gray T-shirt  
 with MAMCA/  
 VMCA Design

\$10



2017 Gray Hoodie  
 with MAMCA/  
 VMCA Design

\$20



Heat Sensitive Color  
 Changing Mug with  
 Blood-Filled  
 Mosquito Design

\$5



VMCA pint glass  
 with Etched Sic  
 Semper Design

\$8



Stemless Wine Glass  
 with Albopictus  
 Design

\$8



Blue Can Coolie  
 with Mosquito  
 Silhouette

\$2



Black Leatherette  
 Portfolio with  
 VMCA Design (pad  
 & pen included)

\$5



2017 MAMCA/  
 VMCA tumbler

\$5



2018 VMCA  
 lettered logo cork  
 coaster set

\$4



VMCA sticker with  
 Aedes albopictus  
 design

\$2



Messenger Bag  
 with VMCA  
 Crossbones Logo

\$15

The Merchandise Committee is continuing to sell the items listed through local pickup or shipment. If you have any questions or are interested in purchasing something, please contact VMCA Merchandise Chair, Penelope Smelser ([penelope.smelser@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:penelope.smelser@vdh.virginia.gov)). Payments can be made by cash (local pickup only), check, or credit card. Shipping will be paid by the purchaser and will be done through the lowest cost method (unless otherwise requested). This information is also available [online](#).

# What's That? Answer

## ***That is one huge tire pile!***

In August 2019, the Suffolk Fire Marshal and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality alerted Suffolk Public Works staff to a situation in the downtown area concerning a massive tire pile. Upon inspection, it was evident that the problem was quite extensive. The DEQ inspector said it was the worst he had seen in decades on the job, estimating over 100,000 tires. The photos we have do not do justice the full magnitude of what we saw first-hand. The pile of tires was over two stories tall, at least half a football field wide, and spread over a quarter mile long into the surrounding woods.



With the site being directly across from a suburban neighborhood, it was not only a huge concern as a fire hazard, but also as a mosquito breeding ground. Therefore, Suffolk Mosquito Control's biology team was asked to conduct surveillance. A quick walk into the outskirts of the tire pile, and everyone was covered head to toe with the infamous *Aedes albopictus*, desperately trying to seek a blood meal. The first setting of a BG-Sentinel resulted in a trap malfunction (which seemed suspicious) during a night of bad weather (overnight low in the 50s) but still yielded over 1,000 *Ae. albopictus*, the largest trap of this species any of us have ever seen. This number, however, was tripled after our second trap yielded almost 4,000 *Ae. albopictus*. These numbers are unprecedented (for us) for this species in a single trap night. Subsequent trapping at the end of September and into October showed the numbers went down slightly as the weather cooled but still remained the highest for this species in Suffolk's history. As our mosquito season wrapped up, we left our surveillance information with the DEQ and Fire Marshall handling the case. Here's to hoping the problem will be cleaned up by next season!



# 2019 VMCA Committee List

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The VMCA is successful because its members get involved in the operations of the association. Below are the current committees and their chairs. Please join a committee by contacting any executive board member listed on the last page of this edition of The Skeeter!

Committee	Chair(s)	Members	Projects
Annual Meeting (Local Arrangements)	Charles Abadam, Tim DuBois	George Wojcik, Ann Herring, Josh Smith, Ryan Levering, Stephen Rehak	Decides location of future meetings
Annual Meeting (Program/Agenda)	Andy Lima	Jay Kiser, Charles Abadam, Tim Dubois, Mitch Burcham	Organize annual meeting program
Annual Meeting (Vendor Planning)	Ted Bean	Caitlin Sculli, George Wojcik	Vendor correspondence/setup
Audit	Mitch Burcham	Michel Bowry, Penelope Smelser	Annual audit of financial record
Bylaws	Jay Kiser	Charles Abadam, Luz Grant, George Wojcik	Bylaw revision/maintenance
Education	Karen Akaratovic, Lisa Wagenbrenner	Jay Kiser, Ann Herring, Wes Robertson, Jennifer Barritt, Ryan Levering	Recertification, Adult ID course
Elections	LaToya White	Luz Grant, Penelope Smelser	Sets up online voting, sends out voter information, counts votes, announces winners during annual business meeting
Historian	Tim DuBois	John Orr	Historical Archives
Hospitality Room	Luz Grant	MonaLisa Smith	Annual meeting hospitality room
Information	Rachel Kempf, Karen Akaratovic	Charles Abadam	The Skeeter, Facebook, Instagram
Legislative	Randy Buchanan		NPDES, VPDES, PESP
Membership	Jay Kiser	Ann Herring	Keeps updated list of membership
Merchandise	Penelope Smelser	MonaLisa Smith, Ann Herring, Luz Grant, Lisa Wagenbrenner, Rachel Kempf	Coordinating sales merchandise for annual meeting
Nominating	George Wojcik		Finds candidates for election, prepares/gathers profiles of nominees for ballots
Photography	Janice Gardner	Caitlin Sculli	Takes photos of VMCA-related events for website, The Skeeter, Facebook, and Instagram
Public Relations	Ann Herring	Ryan Levering	Mosquito Awareness Week/Outreach & Education
Special Awards	Jennifer Barritt	Charles Abadam, Karen Akaratovic, Dreda Symonds, Phil Meekins	Annual meeting awards– R.E. Dorer, Outstanding Service
Student Competition	Jay Kiser	Charles Abadam, Karen Akaratovic, Ann Herring, Ryan Levering, John Orr, Wes Robertson, Dennis Salmen, Francis Valera, George Wojcik	Organizes a student research/poster project competition with an award to be given at the annual meeting, raises funds for award
Technical Support	Charles Abadam	Eli Hosen, Ciro Monaco	Maintains/advises on VMCA hardware/software; operates computer/projector during annual meeting
Website	Karen Akaratovic	Penelope Smelser	Maintains/revises website

# 2019 VMCA Sustaining Member List

The VMCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sustaining members for 2019. Without their generous contributions, much of what we do would not be possible. Please do not hesitate to contact them. They are here to help you!



Bayer Environmental Science



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# Virginia Mosquito Control Jurisdictions & Other Resources

As a result of revisions to the VMCA By-Laws, the organizational member category was eliminated. In order to facilitate communication among mosquito control programs, jurisdictions with known mosquito and vector control programs are listed below. If there are other jurisdictions that should be listed, please submit them to the editor.

## Virginia Mosquito Control Jurisdictions

[Alexandria Health Department](#)

Boykins, Town of

[Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission](#)

[Chincoteague Mosquito Control](#)

[Fairfax County Health Department](#)

Fort Eustis

[Gloucester County Mosquito Control](#)

[Hampton Environmental Services](#)

[Henrico County](#)

[Newport News Vector Control](#)

[Norfolk Vector Control](#)

[Poquoson Mosquito and Drainage](#)

[Portsmouth Mosquito Control](#)

[Prince William County Mosquito & Forest Pest Management](#)

[Suffolk Mosquito Control](#)

US Air Force / Langley Air Force Base

[Virginia Beach Mosquito Control](#)

[Williamsburg Mosquito Control](#)

[York County Mosquito Control](#)

## Other Mosquito Control Organizations

[American Mosquito Control Association](#)

[Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association](#)

## Other Resources

[Virginia Department of Health](#)

[Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

[Fairfax County Education and Outreach Materials](#)

# Wanted: Submissions!

Do you have information you'd like to include in the next issue of The Skeeter or a photo you'd like to share? We are always looking for organizational updates, operational news, education and outreach activities, pictures, stories, and anything remotely vector-related to include in upcoming newsletters as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Please send all items to the Skeeter editor, Rachel Kempf at [rkempf@pwcgov.org](mailto:rkempf@pwcgov.org)

**THE SKEETER**

Newsletter of the [Virginia Mosquito Control Association](#)

Virginia

Mosquito Control Association

Founded 1947

**2019 Virginia Mosquito Control Association Executive Board**

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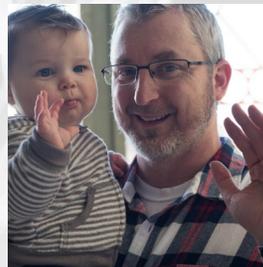
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**Take the time to volunteer on a committee! An active membership makes for a stronger organization. Contact anyone on the Board to participate.**

The Skeeter is the official production of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association. The VMCA membership is encouraged to submit articles, reviews, and any other interesting facts or tidbits for publication. Submissions can be sent to Rachel Kempf at [rkempf@pwcgov.org](mailto:rkempf@pwcgov.org) or Karen Akaratovic at [kakaratovic@suffolkva.us](mailto:kakaratovic@suffolkva.us)