



The Skeeter



Newsletter of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association

Volume 72, No. 1

January, 2012

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On February 1-3, 2012, the VMCA will be hosting its 65th Annual meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Downtown Suffolk. The Executive Board and committees have worked hard over the past year putting this meeting together. We hope that everyone is able to attend. The annual meeting is a time where we can share our experiences over the past year, collaborate and exchange ideas with our colleagues, meet new people in the field, and hang out with old friends. I'm very excited about the annual meeting and hope to see everyone there. Information about the meeting is on the [VMCA website](#) and will be provided in this issue of *The Skeeter*.



Charles Abadam
VMCA President 2011

The past two years for the VMCA have definitely been an interesting challenge. I have had plenty of struggles learning how to lead such a diverse group of people. This journey has taught me a lot about the history of the VMCA, where the VMCA is, and its future direction. More importantly, I've learned a lot about myself and what it takes to preside over an organization such as the VMCA. I greatly appreciate the time that I have had to spend with the executive boards and committees over the past years. At times we struggled to get through some excruciatingly long meetings, but we made it through them, and the organization is better for it.

Throughout my tenure as President, I hope that I have guided the VMCA in a direction that allows for continued growth. If we continue to focus on our main purpose, we will never lose sight of what is most important to the VMCA:

Throughout my tenure as President, I hope that I have guided the VMCA in a direction that allows for continued growth. If we continue to focus on our main purpose, we will never lose sight of what is most important to the VMCA:

- Promoting environmentally sound mosquito control practices in Virginia;
- Keeping abreast of developments and methods in the mosquito field;
- Disseminating information and providing training to association members and other interested parties;
- Educating the general public;
- Uniting the common interests and objectives to further professionalism in the control of mosquitoes.

It has been a great experience being the VMCA president, and I know that it will continue to be a great organization. I look forward to seeing the organization grow and progress in the future. Thank you again for this great opportunity, and I'll see you all at the meeting in February.

Announcements

Recertification course, Categories 6, 8, and Registered Technician

Wednesday, January 18, 9:00 AM

Hampton Library, 4207 Victoria Blvd, Hampton, VA

See registration form on Page 8.

65th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association

Wednesday, February 1—Friday, February 3

Hilton Garden Inn, Suffolk, VA

See Page 3 for details.

37th Annual Conference of the Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association

Tuesday, February 21—Thursday, February 23

Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA

<http://www.mamca.org/conference.htm>

78th Annual Meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association

Sunday, February 26—Thursday, March 1

Austin, TX

<http://www.mosquito.org/annual-meeting>

Call for R. E. Dorer Award Nominations

The R. E. Dorer Award is the highest honor bestowed on one of its members by the VMCA. If you know someone who is deserving of this award, please forward your nomination to Jim Rindfleisch (Rindflej@YorkCounty.gov) by the end of January, 2012. See the Spring 2011 issue of *The Skeeter* for information on R. E. Dorer.

Not a member? Join us at:

<http://www.mosquito-va.org/membership.htm>

Annual dues for 2012 are:

Regular member	\$15
Organizational member	\$20
Associate member	\$10
Student member	\$10
Sustaining member	\$400

Previous Dorer Award Recipients

- * Harry West
- * Martin Shockley
- * William Zawicki
- 1987 Ralph Whitaker
- 1988 Larry Kase
- 1990 Leroy Bohn
- 1991 Gene Payne
- 1993 Dreda McCreary Symonds
- 1995 Tom Gallagher
- 2006 Bruce Harrison
- 2009 JoAnn Beasley
- 2011 Jim Rindfleisch

*Date unknown. If you have information, please send to janderson152@radford.edu.

VMCA Meeting Information

The 65th annual meeting of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association will be held February 1-3 at the Hilton Garden Inn, located at [100 East Constance Road](#) in Suffolk, VA.

Meeting registration forms are found on Pages 7 (members) and 8 (exhibitors).

Hotel room reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at (757) 925-1300 or by using the following link: http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/O/ORFSHGI-VMCA-20120131/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG. Be sure to mention you are with VMCA to get the discounted rate.

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, February 1

8:00 Registration opens & refreshments
 9:30 - 12:00 Presentations
 12:00 - 1:30 Lunch (on your own)
 1:30 - 5:05 Presentations
 6:00 Ice Breaker

Thursday, February 2

7:45 Registration opens & refreshments
 8:15 - 12:05 Presentations
 12:05 - 1:30 Lunch Buffet and Awards
 1:30 - 5:00 Presentations
 6:30 Biting Time Social

Friday, February 3

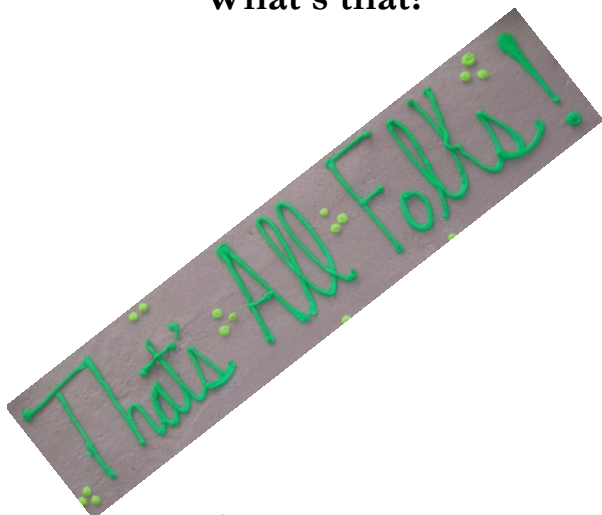
8:30 - 11:40 Presentations
 11:40 Business Meeting & Door Prizes



The Hilton Garden Inn

For a tentative schedule of presentations, see http://www.mosquito-va.org/pdfs/VMCA%20Draft%20Agenda_2012.pdf.

What's that?



Answer on page 4.

VMCA organizational mailing address

**Make sure you send all forms to the
proper address.**

Virginia Mosquito Control Association
 Penelope Smelser, Secretary/Treasurer
 2800 Tarrant Street
 Norfolk, VA 23509
 Phone (757) 683-8662

Email Penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov

Virginia Exotic Species

The following is noted on the Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation, Invasive Species Working Group's web page (http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/vaisc/about.htm):

The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation in 2009 that established the state's commitment to addressing the invasive species that threaten the Commonwealth. This commitment to addressing invasive species in Virginia is through cooperation and coordination of government agencies, the business community, conservation organizations, and public citizens. The legislation directs the Secretaries of Natural Resources and Agriculture and Forestry to "*coordinate the development of strategic actions to be taken by the Commonwealth, individual state and federal agencies, private business, and land-owners related to invasive species prevention, early detection and rapid response, control and management, research and risk assessment, and education and outreach.*"

In the minds of many mosquito and vector-control specialists, there appears to be a glaring lack of attention placed on our species of concern, including *Aedes albopictus*. For many citizens across the Commonwealth, there is no other invasive species that impacts their family during the summer months more than the Asian tiger mosquito.

We have often asked the question: "Why isn't there more attention given to invasive vector species?" The combination of responses often leave us shaking our heads... "the horse is already out of the barn, there's nothing that we can do now" or "It seems the Health Department would be handling this issue". Whatever the response, it is our responsibility as public health and vector-control specialists to push for greater recognition of exotic vector species. We should push for collaboration with other established groups, outside of the vector control community, to help spread our message.

The VMCA has accomplished a great step with the establishment of Virginia's Exotic Mosquito Vector Survey. Let's continue in that effort and start collaboration with those well established groups that can help us educate the public about becoming "MOSQUITO SMART" communities.

Submitted by Randy B. Buchanan
County of Henrico
Standing Water Initiative

What's that? Answer

That is the cake from the farewell celebration honoring Jim Rindfleisch and his 30 years at York County. Congratulations and best wishes, Jim!

Submitted by Tom Gallagher.



Suffolk Update

On December 22, 2011, Suffolk received a call from Sean Kelly of DCLS concerning a pool of *Culiseta melanura* that we found positive for EEE using the Vectest dipsticks. We had been waiting for DCLS to report any PCR results from this sample, and we were notified that the pool was, in fact, positive for EEE. They confirmed the pool using PCR, and Sean Kelly said it was undeniable that it was positive for EEE. This is exciting news for Suffolk and also for the Vectest testing strips. We are aware that mosquitoes raised in the lab and inoculated with EEE have produced EEE positive Vectest strips, but there has never been any wild mosquito samples from the field that have been identified as being positive for EEE using Vectest testing strips.

On October 27, 2011, we set traps in the Great Dismal Swamp. They were collected on October 28 and speciated as normal. I decided not to test because the number of pools that we received that day were minimal so testing would resume the following Monday. Not being very attentive on a Friday afternoon at the end of the work day, I forgot to put the samples in the refrigerator over the weekend. So Friday's samples were left out in room temperature for two days. On Monday, Jay Kiser, my biologist, realized that the pools were left out over the weekend and placed them in the refrigerator that morning. Other responsibilities kept me from testing the pools this day, so I made it a priority to test the pools on Tuesday. The results from the tests showed a positive line on the dipstick, but, being a skeptic of the EEE testing strip up to this point, I was very critical of this line. Both Jay and I verified the result with another testing strip. The strip came up positive again, but much more faintly. With our suspicions looming, I was dead set on having the sample verified via PCR by DCLS. The pool tested was number 813, and it contained 46 *Cs. melanura*. It was tested using the WNV/EEE/SLE Vectest testing strip and came up positive for two different strips. The sample was sent to DCLS, and it took two months before we knew anything.

After it was verified the sample was deemed a selective agent. Having this distinction is wrought with various regulations that I did not think would complicate anything, but it was something to consider. I was asked by DCLS to describe how I handled the sample from the surveillance trap to the final Vectest testing vial. I wasn't aware that precautions had to be taken because, at the time of processing, we weren't aware that the sample was positive. The main point to the questioning was to make sure that we had not exposed ourselves to the virus. I did not believe we did, and the all questions were quelled. The sample was then marked to be destroyed within 7 days of our results because of its select agent status. This rule factors out any further testing that an institution can perform on the test and stops any further knowledge you can gain from testing for viral load or sequencing. Select agents at this point are only able to be taken away from destruction if they are handled and received by an institution that is federally approved to hold select agents such as EEE. Luckily with the connection I made with Alexandra Spring I was able to find an institution that would take the sample, and we are in the process of getting the sample sequenced to determine the identity of the virus using its RNA sequence and comparing this data to all known sequences in GenBank. If it is verified in this way, it would be the second confirmation that the sample is, in fact, positive for EEE and the third type of testing that acknowledged the presence of EEE in the sample.

What is interesting is that it was the last week that I was to test any pools, and it was in the second to last testing group. It is also a late positive coming at the end of October. To say that we are excited is an understatement.

Submitted by Charles Abadam

VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

2012 VMCA RE-CERTIFICATION COURSE

Dear Members,

The Virginia Mosquito Control Association is sponsoring a re-certification course for Categories 6, 8 & Registered Technician (60) on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. It will be held at the Hampton Library, 4207 Victoria Blvd, Hampton, Virginia. Registration is at 9:00 AM. Please be on time!

The fee for this course is **\$10.00 for VMCA Members, \$15.00 for non-members (applicators not for hire), and \$30.00 for non-members (applicators for hire). There will be a \$2.00 late fee after January 9, 2011.**

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact either Lisa Wagenbrenner at (757) 673-3932 or Penelope Smelser at (757) 683-8662.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

CERTIFICATE NUMBER: _____

AFFILIATION/ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Please make check payable to VMCA.

Mail or fax form to: Penelope Smelser, Interim Secretary/Treasurer, 2800 Tarrant Street, Norfolk, VA 23509.
Phone: 757-683-8662, Cell: 757-478-0504, Fax: 757-683-2500, Email: penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov

Directions

Location: Hampton Library

Address: 4207 Victoria Blvd, City of Hampton, Virginia

Phone: (757) 727-1154 (Library)

Parking: Please park at the stadium parking lot across the street.

Coming from I-64 West

Take exit 267, make a left on Settlers Landing Road, proceed to bridge and through town, make a left on Kecoughtan Road, go two blocks, Hampton Library on your left. (Library is on the corner of Kecoughtan and Victoria Road).

Coming from I-64 East

Take exit 265A to Lasalle Avenue, make a right, go to Settlers Landing Road, make a left, go to Kecoughtan Road, make a right and go two blocks, Hampton Library will be on the left.

Coming from I-664

Take exit 265A to Lasalle Avenue, make a right, go to Settlers Landing Road, make a left, go to Kecoughtan Road, make a right, go two blocks, Hampton Library is on the left.

**VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 1-3, 2012
Hilton Garden Inn, Suffolk**

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE

CHECK ONE

Regular Member	\$90.00	_____
Organizational Member	\$90.00	_____
Non-member	\$100.00	_____
Full-time Student	\$25.00	_____
One Day Fee (includes banquet)	\$55.00	_____
One Day Fee (excludes banquet)	\$25.00	_____

Registration fee includes coffee breaks, banquet, and socials

Registration at the door will be:

Regular & Organization Members \$100.00 _____

Non-members \$110.00 _____

Please fill out form completely and e-mail, mail, or fax to:

Virginia Mosquito Control Association
Attn: Penelope Smelser, Interim Secretary/Treasurer
2800 Tarrant Street
Norfolk, VA 23509
Email: Penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov
Phone: 757-683-8662
Cell: 757-478-0504
Fax: 757-683-2500

Include payment (made payable to the VMCA) with registration form by January 10, 2012.

*This form is for Annual Meeting registration only, use separate form for membership.

**VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION/EXHIBITOR FORM
ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 1-3, 2012
Hilton Garden Inn, Suffolk**

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: (WORK) _____ (HOME) _____

REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

Please check below:

Sustaining Member: \$400.00 (Full commercial package) _____

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.

Exhibit space and meeting registration: \$150.00 plus \$90.00 per representative.

_____ For those who only wish to exhibit; may reserve a space for \$150.00 plus registration

Registration fee includes coffee breaks, banquet and socials.

Please return this form with payment by JANUARY 3, 2012 to:

Virginia Mosquito Control Association
Penelope Smelser, Interim Secretary/Treasurer
2800 Tarrant Street
Norfolk, VA 23509
Phone: 757-683-8662, 757-478-0504 (cell) Fax: 757-683-2500
E-mail: penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov

Please make check payable to: **VIRGINIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION**

COMMERCIAL INFORMATION

Number of Tables: _____

Number of Extension cords: _____

Participation in door prize: (Y) _____ (N) _____

2011 Sustaining Members

The VMCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sustaining members for 2011. 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!

<p>Ted Bean (814) 671-6516 tbean@myadapco.com</p> 	<p>Peter Connelly (772) 563-0606 peterc@amvac.net</p> 
<p>Don Botkin (919) 549-2534 don.botkin@bayer.com</p> 	<p>Charlie Pate (706) 338-4734 cpate@central.com</p> 
<p>Jeff Hottenstein (703) 498-9362 jhottenstein@clarke.com</p> 	<p>Matt Crabbe (804) 334-7370 crabav@gmail.com</p>
<p>Caleb Stitely (540) 828-6070 cstitely@dynamicaviation.com</p> 	<p>Ryan Pierson (208) 324-8006 elecdata@elecdata.com</p> 
<p>Doug Hill (804) 512-2676 dhill@nikon.net</p> 	<p>Zachary Cohen (800) 227-8664 zcohen@summitchemical.com</p> 
<p>Al Kent (804) 615-8648 al.kent@univarusa.com</p> 	<p>Jim Andrews (910) 547-8070 j.andrews@valent.com</p>

2011 Organizational Members

<p>Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission Joe Simmons 900 Hollowell Lane, Chesapeake VA 23320 jsimmons@cityofchesapeake.net (757) 382-3450 http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/Government/Boards-Commissions/Full-Listing/Mosquito.htm</p>	<p>City of Emporia Linwood Pope 201 S. Main Street Emporia, VA 23841 publicutilities@telpage.net (434) 634-4500</p>	<p>City of Hampton Timothy DuBois 419 N. Armistead Ave. Hampton, VA 23669 tdubois@hampton.gov (757) 727-2807 http://www.hampton.gov/publicworks/mosquito/index.html</p>
<p>City of Newport News Marcus Leeper 513 Oyster Point Rd. Newport News, VA 23602 jleeper@nngov.com (757) 269-2884 http://www.nngov.com/public-works/storm/resources/stwvector</p>	<p>City of Richmond Horace Todd 400 Jefferson Davis Hwy Richmond, VA 23224 tiffany.patron@richmondgov.com (804) 646-5271</p>	<p>City of Suffolk Charles Abadam 866 Carolina Rd Suffolk, VA 23434 cabadam@city.suffolk.va.us (757) 514-7609 http://www.suffolkva.us/pub_wks/mosquitoe/s/program.html</p>
<p>Fairfax County Health Department Jorge Arias 10777 Main St., Suite 100 Fairfax, VA 22030 Jorge.arias@fairfaxcounty.gov (703) 246-8474 http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/westnile/</p>	<p>Fort Eustis Yardley Butt 733 MSG Civil Eng. Bldg 1407 Fort Eustis, VA 23604 yardley.butt@us.army.mil (757) 237-3721</p>	<p>Gloucester County James Diggs P. O. Box 329, Gloucester, VA 23061 jdiggs@gloucesterva.info (804) 693-5250 http://www.gloucesterva.info/PublicWorks/MosquitoControl/tabid/838/Default.aspx</p>
<p>Henrico County Randy Buchanan P.O. Box 90775 Henrico, VA 23273 buc06@co.henrico.va.us (804) 349-3201</p>	<p>US Air Force James Will 1CES/CEOIE 37 Sweeney Blvd Langley AFB, VA James.will@langley.af.mil (757) 869-7292</p>	<p>Langley AFB Mitchell Burcham 7154 Chapman Dr. Hayes, VA 23072 mitchell.burcham@langley.af.mil (757) 358-1205</p>
<p>Virginia Department of Health Dr. David Gaines 109 Governor Street Richmond, VA 23218 david.gaines@vdh.Virginia.gov (804) 864-8112 http://www.vdh.state.va.us/</p>	<p>York County Thomas Gallagher P.O. Box 532 Yorktown, VA 23690 Gallagher@yorkcounty.gov (757) 890-3791 http://www.yorkcounty.gov/Default.aspx?alias=www.yorkcounty.gov/mosquitocontrol</p>	<p>Town of Boykins Richard Edwards, Jr. P.O. Box 363 Boykins, VA 23827 boykins@townofboykinsva.com (757) 654-6361</p>

Are you a director, manager, lead mosquito control person in your area? Consider signing up as an organizational member; the cost is only \$20 and includes one regular membership.

Submissions wanted!

Have something you'd like to include in the next issue of *The Skeeter*? We are looking for organizational updates, operational news, education and other outreach activities, pictures, stories, or other vaguely vector-related items to include in an upcoming newsletter.

Please send all items to Justin Anderson at janderson152@radford.edu.

The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is: **March 31, 2012.**

The Skeeter
Newsletter of
The Virginia Mosquito
Control Association

Justin Anderson
Department of Biology, Box 6931
Radford University
Radford, VA 24142
Phone (540) 831-5639
Fax (540) 831-5129



www.mosquito-va.org

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

2011 Virginia Mosquito Control Association Officers

President Charles Abadam	(757) 514-7609 cabadam@city.suffolk.va.us
President Elect: Lisa Wagenbrenner	(757) 673-3932 lwagenbrenner@cityofchesapeake.net
Vice President: Joe Simmons	(757) 382-3450 jsimmons@cityofchesapeake.net
1st Vice President: James Will	(757) 869-7292 james.will@langley.af.mil
Secretary / Treasurer: Penelope Smelser	(757) 683-8662 Penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov
Past President: LCDR Brian Prendergast	(757) 953-1031 Brian.Prendergast@med.navy.mil
*TMVCC Representative: Ann Herring	(757) 514-7609 MHerring@suffolkva.us
*MAMCA Representative: Tim DuBois	(757) 727-2808 tdubois@hampton.gov
*Non-voting member of the Board	

The Skeeter is the official publication 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 Justin Anderson at skeeter@radford.edu.

Committee Chair / Production: Justin Anderson, Radford University

Distribution: Jennifer Pierce, Virginia Beach

Regular Contributors: Dr. Jorge Arias, Dr. David Gaines, Dr. Bruce Harrison, CAPT Stan Cope

Editorial review: All the members of the board.

Production advisor: George Wojcik, City of Portsmouth