



## **Recognition of Marika Byrd as a Life Member of the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association**

**Whereas:** *Marika Byrd has been a member in good standing of the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association (VOWA) since November 1999;*

**Whereas:** *Marika began working with VOWA President Carl (Spike) Knuth on the VOWA News in 1999 and continued her dedicated work on the newsletter until mid 2012. During her tenure the newsletter changed from a black and white, one column paper publication to three columns, with color photos and clip art, disseminated via our web site, resulting in significant savings in printing and mailing;*

**Whereas:** *Marika served as VOWA secretary for many years, once as secretary-treasurer, and one as treasurer. During this time she prepared thorough agendas and minutes presented at board and annual meetings and served as the conduit for dissemination of information to the entire membership on pertinent issues, as well as helping to send group communications with and among the membership;*

**Whereas:** *Marika served as the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) agency representative on the VOWA Board for several years in which capacity she attended VDGIF Board meetings and relayed pertinent information to the membership so they could be updated on issues through the VDGIF web site;*

**Whereas:** *Marika coordinated with Lee Walker and VDGIF to create a mechanism so their media releases were provided to the VOWA membership at the same time the general news media received their releases--a practice which continues today;*

**Whereas:** *Marika played a vital role for the pre- and on-site event registrations; prepared name tags, kept the accounting of silent auctions, and prepared receipts and handled money exchanges for several annual membership meetings;*

**Be It Now Resolved:** *Marika Byrd, as of January 2014, is bestowed the Honor of Life Membership for her many years of dedicated and selfless service to the betterment of the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association.*

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*Terry Lewis, VOWA Chair of the Board*

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*Marie Majorov, VOWA President*

**March 16, 2013, Staunton, Virginia**