

Northern Neck Chapter, Virginia Master Naturalists

NEWS & NOTES for Members November 2022 Virginia Master Naturalists shared by Camille

In Memory Lee G. Scripture, Jr. April 2, 1935-November 8, 2022



Virginia Master Naturalist, Northern Neck Chapter (2016) Pastor, Wicomico Baptist Church

“Before I met him, he was the nice man in the yellow sweater we waved at when he was walking his dogs near our place down there. He used to bring all sorts of cookies to share at the meetings. He will be missed with lots of fondness.”

Alison Sowa, NNMN

Visitation at Currie Funeral Home, Kilmarnock Thursday, November 17, 6:00-8:00 pm

Funeral at Currie Funeral Home, Saturday, November 19, 10:00 am



2023 Executive Board Elected on November 1, 2022 President – Paula Boundy Vice President – Polly Foote Secretary – Karen Williams Treasurer – Debby Tupper

The members present at the November Election meeting selected the Nominating Committee’s slate of officers for the coming year. Thank you to Charlene, Chair of the Nominating Committee, for her diligence in pursuing nominees. Thank you to the new officers for agreeing to serve our chapter in this much-needed way. And thank you to our members who attended the meeting and socialized afterwards at our potluck. Special thanks to Jerry Fairman for opening the Cat Point Creek lodge for our meeting and for cleaning up afterwards.

In addition to electing and socializing, other chapter business was conducted. Lee Arslan shared potential new activities for us, as she and Wendy had talked about how the Chapter might be able to support the work of our main sponsor, VCE. With 4-H programs and adult education focused on environmental concerns,

we should be able to assist them in this work. Lee will serve as the point person and will send information through BI email when volunteer NNMNs are needed for VCE programs.

Debby Tupper presented the September and October treasurer's reports (current balance is \$5,015.73). She then presented the Board's recommendation to raise chapter dues to \$30 per year, and this was approved by the membership. Debby also shared information about **members making donations to the chapter**. She will be including this information in an email to the membership when she sends the dues renewal information.

Hospitality Chair Anne Clewell shared that the holiday social will be held on Sunday, December 4, at St. John's Church in Warsaw. Since this is the Chapter's 15th anniversary, she is planning this as a reunion for ALL former NNMN members, whether currently active or not. She will need help setting up on Saturday, Dec. 3, and members will be asked to contribute a side to complement the main entrees that the Chapter will provide. The invitation was sent through BI email to all members on November 3. Please RSVP by November 30.

Next Chapter Board Meeting:



**Tuesday,
December 13
1:00 pm**

Richmond County
Classroom behind VCE
building in Warsaw
2022 & 2023 Boards:
Turning over the Files!

2023

will be here soon! Have you been logging your volunteer and continuing education hours?

Please visit



TODAY and enter all those hours!

www.MyImpactPage.com

**November = VMN
Leadership Month 2022**



Last Call! Final Sessions:

Monday, November 14

Part 1 - 6:30-7:30 pm: Leadership Succession - Cultivating Future Chapter Leaders

Part 2 - 7:45-8:45 pm: Engaging with Our Sponsoring Agencies

View descriptions and register at:

<http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/leadership-month-2022.html>

**Northern Neck Master Naturalists
3rd Quarter Volunteer Hours Report:**

| Report Group | Hours | Volunteers | %Total |
|----------------------------|-------|------------|--------|
| VMN Chapter Administration | 103 | 9 | 8.9 |
| VMN Citizen Science | 489 | 23 | 42.3 |
| VMN Continuing Education | 161 | 32 | |
| VMN Education and Outreach | 387 | 24 | 33.4 |
| VMN Stewardship | 178 | 17 | 15.3 |
| Total Volunteer Hours | 1157 | | |
| Total Hours | 1318 | | |

Provided by Patricia McMurray, Membership

Northern Neck Master Naturalist 2023 Basic Training Course begins January 21, 2023



Photo by Andy Bailey

wonderful way to share information and spend time with our colleagues. It was super informative.” Andy remarked, “The prewalk was really good, getting out to meet people and spend some time in the woods.”

The December walk, “Nature’s Preppers: Surviving Winter Life”, will be held very early in December.

You will receive email notification of the exact date.



Photo by Andy Bailey

Belle Isle State Park Wild Side Walks for NNMNs

On Tuesday, November 8, **ELEVEN** chapter members met at the park for the monthly Wild Side Walk for Continuing Education. The topic was “Lichen and Fungi”, and our leaders, Kevin, Anne P, and Andy, really put the FUN into fungi! Mud Creek and White Oak Swamp Trails yielded plenty of specimens. There was lots of laughter, friendly banter about identifying what we were seeing, and accommodating all off-task behavior everyone exhibited, typical when you get a group of naturalists together. The day was gorgeous, and there were so many wonderful gifts of nature everywhere we looked that we all had to stop and admire those, too. The beauty-berries were especially stunning in their own “forest”, their light green leaves and brilliant purple-hot pink berries a surprising contrast to the other colors nearby. The two-hour walk morphed into three, and we reluctantly returned to our cars, all in good spirits following a morning spent in nature with like-minded friends. As Bryna put it, “This is a



Photo by Patricia McMurray; This was her favorite of the day!

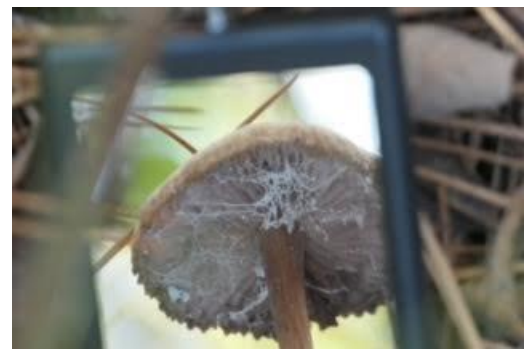


Photo by Andy Bailey

Anne and Andy came equipped with mirrors to see the undersides of the mushrooms.



Picture from <https://www.eekwi.org/winter-birds>

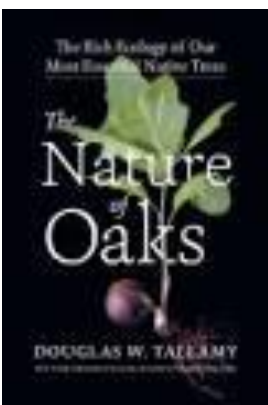
Have you Joined Project FeederWatch? This is a great way to contribute to citizen science (yes, volunteer hours!) throughout the winter and into spring. Visit feederwatch@cornell.edu to learn more!

And speaking of birds...

**Audubon Christmas Bird Count:
Tuesday, December 20, 2022**

Put the date on your calendar; more information will be coming.

HAVE YOU READ THIS BOOK YET?



We all know that according to Tallamy, oaks are the most habitat-beneficial trees of all. In this book, as easy to read as his others, he takes us on a monthly visit to a large white oak in his own

yard. Not only does he richly describe the seasonal changes to the tree, he includes compelling information about the birds and insects that are using that oak tree for their home, food, and protection. Beautiful photos

enrich the engaging text that Tallamy provides. Once again, Tallamy gives us hope that nature can and will recover and thrive and shows us how we can help.



PUMPKINS may get prime attention in October, but they are popular in November, too. I have one more pumpkin story to share.

One Thanksgiving 6-year-old Elise was having the “I love you-I love you more” debate with her Pop. This went on for several exchanges until Pop said, “I love YOU more, because I am bigger.” There was a pause as Elise considered this. Quickly recovering, she rebounded with, “That’s not true. At school, we cut two pumpkins open and took out all the seeds. Then we counted the seeds that were in each. *The little pumpkin had more seeds than the big one.*”

Obviously, she won the debate. Who can argue with first grade logic?



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