



Northern Neck
Chapter,
Virginia
Master
Naturalists
northernneckvmn.org

NEWS & NOTES
for Members
December
2022



Virginia Master Naturalists
shared by Camille

December Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 1:00 PM
Richmond County VCE, Warsaw

The last meeting of the 2022 Board was held with incoming 2023 Board members attending. Announcements from the meeting include the following:

- The VMN Annual Report from our chapter is due in early January. The activities from this year that we felt were most impactful and to be included were Caterpillars Count (citizen science), Chilton Woods trail maintenance (stewardship), Girl Scout weekend at BISP (Education/Outreach), and YCC at BISP (Education/Outreach). If anyone has a picture from any of these, please send it to me for inclusion with the report. Please identify the people in the photo and the photographer.
- **Polly Foote** (Vice President) announced that the January program meeting will be in-person and "Zoomed" for those who prefer to join in from home. The topic is *Crassostrea virginica*, the Eastern oyster, presented by Karen Hudson from VIMS. The date is Tuesday, January 10, 6:45-7:45 pm, Lancaster Library in Kilmarnock.
- **Debby Tupper**, Treasurer, shared that 41 members have paid 2023 dues to date, and 24 have re-enrolled (NEW VMN requirement). All officers and committee chairs should have their 2023 budget requests ready for the January 10 Board meeting, which will be held via Zoom from 3:00-4:30 pm on January 10.
- **Charlene Talcott** ('22 Nominating Chair) urged all members to join the chapter committees and become more involved with chapter

administration so that *YOU* can step into an Officer or Committee Chair role in 2024! We all should take a turn on the NNMN Board of Directors!

- **Pat McMurray** (Membership) encouraged all members intending to volunteer in 2023 to go into Better Impact and answer the few re-enrollment questions (found in "Profile").
- **Lesley Newman**, BTC Chair, announced that the 2023 BTC kicks off on Saturday, January 21 with 15 students.
- **Audrey Vaughn** reported for the Communications Committee that thus far in 2022 our Postmaster, Alice Stieve, has sent 85 all-member emails!
- **Charlene** (Continuing Education) reminded us that the more lead time the committee has for approving CE opportunities, the sooner the approved CE may be announced to all members.
- **Charlene** stated that she would like for someone to take on the role of Diversity & Inclusion Chair. Anyone interested please contact Charlene and/or Paula.



TWO IMPORTANT TASKS ALL NNMN MEMBERS SHOULD COMPLETE PRIOR to DECEMBER 31, 2022:

- **LOG ALL 2022 VOLUNTEER & CE HOURS**
- **COMPLETE VMN RE-ENROLLMENT**

Contact jnarney@verizon.net or patunia46@aol.com for assistance with either!



Pam and John Narney
 named
 Virginia Bluebird Society
 County Coordinators of the Year!

By Charlene Talcott

Northern Neck Chapter, VMN

President	Paula Boundy
Vice President	Polly Foote
Secretary	Karen Williams
Treasurer	Debby Tupper
Past President	Camille Grabb
Membership Chair	Pat McMurray
Activities Chair	Audrey Vaughn
BTC Chair	Lesley Newman
Communication Chair	Alice Stieve
Continuing Ed Chair	Charlene Talcott
Diversity/Inclusion Chair	Charlene Talcott
Historian	Temple Moore
Hospitality Chair	Faye Andrashko
Outreach Chair	Terry Jordan

Additional Positions

Chapter Advisors: Tara Brent, Wendy Herdman
 Better Impact Liaison: John Narney
 Webmaster: Anne Clewell



**...to our
 outgoing Board
 members for
 serving the
 Chapter so well:**

Eric Hentges, Vice President
Lee Arslan, Secretary
Anne Clewell, Hospitality
Nancy Joel, Outreach

John and Pam Narney of Colonial Beach were awarded the Barbara Chambers Memorial Award at the Virginia Bluebird Society biennial conference on November 12. The award is given to County Coordinators who go the extra mile to organize, inspire and further bluebird conservation in their counties. The Narneys lead, train, and encourage bluebird monitors in Richmond and Westmoreland Counties. John manages three trails : Westmoreland State Park, Menokin, and Stratford Hall. Menokin was formerly managed by the Boy Scouts but the trail had fallen into disrepair. When the Narneys acquired it, they refurbished the trail and replaced boxes. John then took on the monitoring by himself for 5 years, then recruited and trained volunteer monitors. The managers at Stratford Hall wanted to refurbish a trail that consisted of forty boxes. They called on Pam and John for help who quickly agreed. Little did they realize at the time how long the process would be. All the boxes had to be rehabbed and relocated to new locations established with the help of volunteers they recruited and trained. The Narneys are also members of the Virginia Master Naturalist Northern Neck Chapter and are pivotal volunteers at the Virginia Osprey Festival in Colonial Beach.

nesters. Their goals include promoting bluebird conservation projects, establishing bluebird trails, and developing educational materials and nest boxes for schools, parks, and other public areas. For more information visit www.virginiabluebirds.org.



**Mark your
2023 calendars
NOW for these
upcoming
events:**



Photo credit: Doug Rogers

From left, Virginia Bluebird Society President Valerie Gaffney Kenyon with John & Pam

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- January 1, 2023, 1:00 pm – Audubon New Year’s Day Walk at Hickory Hollow NAP
- January 10, 6:45 pm, Chapter Program Meeting at Lancaster Library
- February 4 & 5 - Winter Waterfowl Count

Expect BI emails with all the details!



God rest you merry gardeners
Let nothing ye dismay,
For Spring is soon to come again
With lengthening of days,
The sun will warm the soil once more
And send Jack Frost away.
Oh tidings of composting and JOY!
Compost and joy!
Oh tidings of composting and joy!
(author unknown)

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*In Loving Memory
of our friends
Rest in Peace.*

January

- 10 – NNMN Annual Report submitted to VMN
- 11 – Chapter Board Meeting
(via Zoom)
- 31 – Winter Waterfowl ID Workshop

February

- 5 & 6 – Winter Waterfowl Count
- 8 – Chapter Board Meeting
(via Zoom)

March

- 40 NNMNs recertified &
4 gained initial certification!**
- 8 – Chapter Board & Program Meetings (via Zoom) – Adam Lynch, sharing Friends of Rappahannock and Northern Neck Land Conservancy partnership
- 26 – Outreach - Northern Neck Master Gardeners Seminar

April

- 9 – Outreach – Colonial Beach Osprey Fest
- 16 – Outreach – NAPS Earth Day Celebration (Heathsville)
- 19 – Chapter Board Meeting – IN PERSON!
- 22 – Outreach - “Earth Day” Dug-In Farms

May

- 10 – Chapter Board & Program Meetings – IN PERSON
- Pam Narney shared “Sibling Rivalry in Osprey Nests”

June

- Five more BTC members achieved initial certification!**
- 4 – National Trails Day – Chapter Challenge!
- 12 – Annual Chapter Picnic at Grapewood Farms, Montross
- Youth Conservation Corps at BISP; NNMNs presented 6 topics to the 12 teens

*Earline Walker
February 1940-March 2022
Lee Scripture, Jr.
April 1935-November 2022*

* * * * *

July

- 12 – Chapter Board Meeting & Ice Cream Social

August

September

- Two more BTC members achieved initial certification!**
- 10 – Girl Scouts Weekend at BISP
- 10 – Outreach @Ebenezer UMC
- 9-11 – VMN State Conference
- 13 – Chapter Board & Program Meetings Friends of the RRVNWR

October

- 8 – BISP Fall Festival

November

- October 31 – Chapter Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 1 – Annual Election Meeting & Potluck Social – Cat Point Creek Lodge

December

- 4 – Annual Holiday Social
- 13 – Chapter Board Meeting
- 20 – Audubon Christmas Bird Count

...and Walks on the Wild Side, Butterfly and Caterpillar Counts, Trail Maintenance, Native Plant Gardens, etc.

BEST WISHES FOR 2023!