



<p>NEWS & NOTES from the Board <i>December</i> 2021</p> <p><small>Virginia Master Naturalists</small> <i>shared by Camille</i></p>	<p>NN</p> <p>MN</p>
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Our Chapter has 2022 Officers!

The Nominating Committee was able to find volunteers for the four Executive Board positions, and the election was held on Sunday, December 12, 2021, at our Holiday Social in Warsaw. Serving on the Executive Board will be:

- Treasurer – Debby Tupper
- Secretary – Lee Arslan
- Vice President – Eric Hentges
- President – Camille Grabb

Some committee chair roles are filled, but not all. The committee chairs are voting members of the Board and are present at meetings so that there is a quorum and business can be conducted. The 2022 Board Committee Chairs are:

- Past President – Charlene Talcott
- Membership – Pat McMurray
- Outreach – (vacant)
- Activities – Audrey Vaughn
- BTC – (vacant; may be co-chaired)
- Continuing Ed – (vacant)
- Communications – (vacant)
- Hospitality – Anne Clewell
- Historian – Temple Moore
- Webmaster – Anne Clewell

Please, if any of you would like to serve the chapter in one of these vacant positions, let

me know. If you do not wish to be a chair but would like to serve on one of the committees, please contact the committee chair to offer your support.



**January 2022
 Board & General
 Meetings:**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022
Look for email with times and location (or by Zoom) when determined.



ALL NNMNs need to put 2021 hours into Better Impact as soon as possible but prior to December 31, which is rapidly approaching. If you need assistance, please contact Membership Chair, Pat McMurray (patunia46@aol.com) or John Narney, VMN Liaison (jnarney@verizon.net). Both are very willing and able to assist!

Remember, the hours not only accrue for your personal milestone achievements but are used by the State office to show to our sponsoring organizations the immense value that is provided to their individual programs by having Virginia Master Naturalists perform the volunteer work for their agencies! You may “opt out” of your personal recognitions, but

please provide your hours so that they are counted in the State totals! Thank you!

MORE



Northern Neck Master Naturalists' Holiday Social is the Biggest Bash of 2021!

New York, Las Vegas, and Hollywood have nothing on us when it comes to having good food and good times! The holiday social, combined with the BTC graduation, was a festive and fun affair. Over 60 people attended the bash that was held at St. John's Church in Warsaw. Decorative holiday greenery was provided and artfully arranged by Lucy Hottle and her team of "elves" recruited by Anne Clewell.

Following appetizers and beverages, the BTC trainees were honored with their NNMN name badges and certificates. At the conclusion of this, everyone heaped plates of food from the well-provisioned buffet. A large quantity of dessert offerings, including the BTC graduation cake, concluded the meal. The social time was much appreciated, as we were all able to reconnect with chapter friends with whom we haven't had much contact in the past almost two years.

Our sincere appreciation to Anne Clewell for once again pulling off the social event of the year for us. Her organization, attitude,

recruitment of helpers, and attention to detail are unparalleled. THANK YOU, ANNE! See thank you from Anne and photos by Anne and Alice on the following pages.

And EVEN MORE



Eighteen NNMN trainees were recognized for completing the BTC Course during the holiday social. These are very enthusiastic and eager volunteers who are going to be a joy for all of us to get to know and with whom to complete activities. Please reach out to them with volunteer and continuing opportunities so that they may quickly acquire their initial "40 hours and 8" for certification. They are unique individuals who bring so much to our chapter. Special thanks go to all the mentors who assisted the trainees throughout the course! Your support was so beneficial to the trainees.

Welcome, New Northern Neck Master Naturalist Members:

Carole Alexander	Andy Bailey
Hannah Donnelly	Bob Dunstan
Polly Foote	Pat Harris
Ryan Harriss	Ellen Hunter
Chip Jones	Christine Watlington-Jones
Terry Jordan	Betsy Maddux
Luke McCormack	Kathy Moffitt
Anne Parker	Marie Pinto
Joyce Reimherr	Alita Thomas

Andy Bailey and **Anne Parker** were recognized during the celebration as having achieved initial certification by completing

and **logging into BI** their 40 volunteer and 8 CE hours. They are now working on their “20 & 4” for 2022 recertification. Since the gathering, **Pat Harris** has also reached the initial certification requirements and is continuing to accrue hours for 2022. Special congratulations to these folks for achieving this milestone so quickly!



Photo credit Anne Clewell

**Northern Neck Audubon Society
Announces the Cancellation of the
Annual New Year’s Day
Hickory Hollow Walk
for January 1, 2022
due to the recent rise in Covid Cases**

Visit

<https://northernneckaudubon.squarespace.com/>
for details and a link to a virtual Hickory Hollow
Skunk Cabbage Walk.

Hospitality
Thank You
and
Remarks
From
Anne
Clewell



Photo credit Anne Clewell

I hope those who attended the recent BTC ‘21 Celebration & Chapter Holiday Potluck had a good time. In all we were 50-strong! It was fun pulling it together. I love how the Hospitality Committee expands and contracts as needed. I never really have a worry that there won’t be enough hands, enough food (*though I do!*) or enough enthusiasm. I was reminded on Sunday how much this group likes to be together. Seeing and being seen. Sharing nature stories and adventures, inviting others to join in an activity, and looking forward to the next volunteer opportunity.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the afternoon so enjoyable. I’ve received quite a number of thank you’s, both in person and by email, and wish to extend the gratitude along to all the chefs, set up crew, kitchen organizers and clean-up crew; to Lucy Hottle for spearheading the flower arrangements and providing enough greenery for additional window decorations; to Nancy Joel for setting up one of the chapter education tables for our families to see; to the kitchen helpers who earned the dish pan hands and no-leftovers-are-coming-home-with-me awards; to Camille and Pat (and Andy for technical support) for the lovely introductions of our newest members; to St. John’s Episcopal Church for hosting us; to our advisors for managing the contract signatures we needed; and to all who brought wonderful food and a good spirit for all of us to enjoy. Like Camille said...It takes a Village.

Here’s to a healthy and happy 2022 full of volunteering in support of our area natural resources!

-Anne



Photo credit Anne Clewell

New NNMN member Joyce Reimherr was engrossed in the Outreach Booth set up by Nancy Joel on “Northern Neck Invasives”, one of several booths Nancy has created for the Chapter.



Left – The tables were set by the chimney with care,
 In hopes that friends would soon be sitting there.
 Below – Camille began the BTC 2021 ceremony with
 recognition of all the NNMNs who played a role in the
 course: committee members, field leaders, mentors, and
 course presenters.

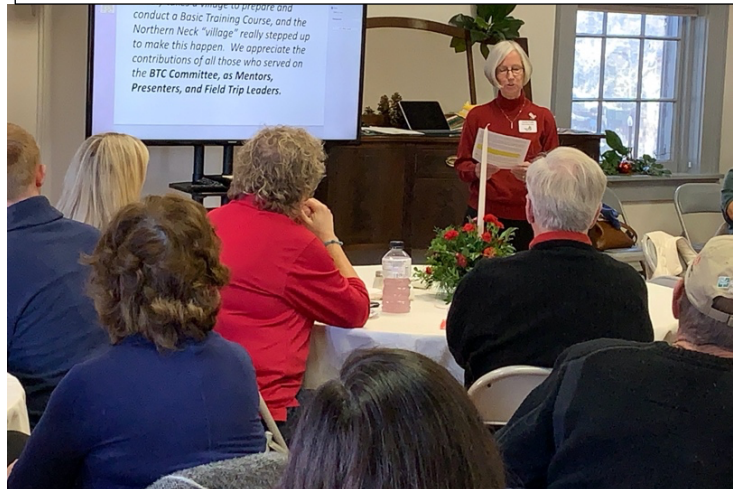


Photo credits Anne Clewell



Alphabetical order is still in use; therefore, Carole Alexander was the first BTC graduate recognized.

She was followed by Andy Bailey. Andy is scrutinizing his certificate to make sure Pat did not add any "special conditions" to it. Thank you to Andy for his technology assistance!

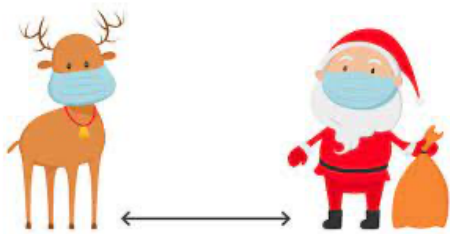
Photo credits Anne Clewell





Friends enjoy hearing about the newest NNMN members as they are called forward to be recognized. The appetizers were just enough to stave off hunger through the BTC presentation!

Photo credits Anne Clewell



Hannah is so thrilled to have her certificate and new VMN name badge that she may be caught at Westmoreland State Park wearing her VMN badge instead of her official DCR one! Who could fault her for that? Wear it proudly, Hannah; you ALL worked hard to earn them.

Photo credit Anne Clewell



Happy Holidays

Right - Chip and Christine came up together so they could be with each other as they received their certificates and badges. Now that Chip has returned from his year-long deployment with the National Guard, they are doing everything together again. We are thrilled that their plans include volunteering as Master Naturalists in our Chapter! Below – Marie’s joy at receiving her certificate and badge is quite evident!



Photo credits Anne Clewell



Photo credit Anne Clewell



Below - Members, spouses, and trainees enjoy their beverages and appetizers as the newest NNMN members are honored for finishing the 2021 BTC. Below, left – Alita Thomas was the final new member recognized.



Photo credit Anne Clewell



Photo credit Alice Stieve

Right - With formalities over, the buffet line was opened! Ryan notices that this does not look anything like the mess deck on his ship. The barbecue looks way better!



Photo credit Anne Clewell

