



**Memorial Day 2021
Always Remember**

**Board Meeting Highlights – May 11, 2021
From Our Advisors...**

Wendy shared that Contracts/Agreements between NNMNs and any organization or person for any reason (farmer's markets, fairs, venues for programs, speakers, etc.) **MUST NOT BE SIGNED BY INDIVIDUALS – EVER!** All such paperwork *must be given to an advisor* who will send it for review and authorization by the VT legal department. This is for our protection, so that we are not held liable for anything for any reason. This process will take time, though.

Please allow *at least two weeks* for the application to be approved **BEFORE** advertising for the event begins. Plan ahead!
This has **ALWAYS** been the VMN policy, and we all need to be aware of it.

COVID Updates

In spite of the vaccination progress being made in our state and nation, we are not out of the Covid woods quite yet. New guidelines have been received for the Extension programs. The ones directly related to us are:

- **Indoor and Outdoor programs: group size 50% occupancy of the event space with 6' social distancing maintained.**
- **ALL program participants, indoors and outdoors, youth and adult, are required to wear appropriate face covering/masks.**
- **Event checklist must be completed, signed, and returned to an advisor.**

NEWS & NOTES
from the Board
MAY
2021
shared by Camille



**SUNDAY, JUNE 13
AFTERNOON
HOSPITALITY
EVENT!**

We knew Anne would be eager to get us together as soon as people were vaccinated and Covid restrictions were eased.

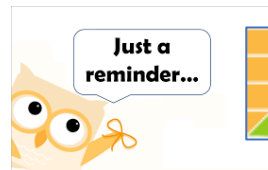
STAY TUNED!



The Outreach Committee has been busily constructing displays for the NNMN booth for upcoming community events.

Now it is time for **VOLUNTEERS** to come forward to **HELP** with these events! if you are comfortable going to a public event (Covid protocols in place) and willing to staff the booth for an hour or two, please get in touch with Nancy (joeln@wmlcps.org) to offer your time. Current Dates and Venues:

- June 5** – Irvington Farmers Market
- July 17** – Heathsville Farmers Market (Kids' Day)
- August 21** – Tappahannock Farmers Market
- September 4** – Irvington Farmers Market
- September 4** – Heathsville – St. Stephens Episcopal Church Homecoming





KUDOS and THANK YOU

to all members who have logged into our new management system! Our membership chair, Pat

McMurray, reports that there are **TWELVE** Northern Neck Master Naturalists who have not yet logged in. If you are one of the twelve, we ask that you please address this immediately. This is one of our responsibilities as a member of VMN. If you need assistance with logging in, please contact Pat (patunia46@aol.com) or John Narney (jnarney@verizon.net).



SALUTING THE NNMN BTC CLASS of 2009

The Northern Neck Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists was formed in 2007. The second BTC Course was held in 2009. There were 16 “graduates” of that class. Eight are still **ACTIVE** members today:

- *Bill Arnold
- *Margaret Ann Fohl
- *Beth Kendrick
- *Pam Narney
- *Bobbie Burton
- *Nancy Garvey
- *Ted Munns
- *Lolly Riley

Several of these have held various chapter positions since they became Master Naturalists. The chapter was so young that sometimes they held two roles at the same time, in order to get everything done!

- *Bill Arnold – 2012 At-Large member, Board
- *Bobbie Burton – 2020 Continuing Education Chair

*Nancy Garvey – 2014 Secretary

*Pam Narney – 2012 & 2013 President;
2014 Past President;

2013, 2016, 2017 VMN/VMS Coordinator;
2016 Membership Chair;
2020 & 2021 BTC Chair

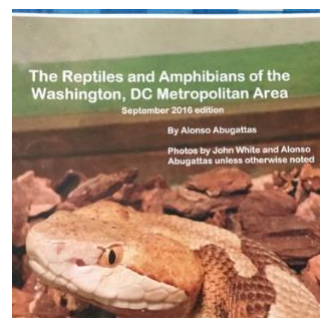
(Note that records for 2015 could not be found. If anyone has information for that year, please send it to Camille so that the information can be added to what we have for other years. Thank you!)



Special July Program Meeting!

Ah, the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer! We all enjoy our summertime activities, but this year the Northern Neck Master Naturalists will be treated to a special program on HERPS! Our Program Chair, Kevin, has arranged for “The Capitol Naturalist,” Alonso Abugattas, to speak to us (via Zoom) on July 13, 2021.

Alonso is a well-known metropolitan DC naturalist, environmental educator, and storyteller while earning a real living as the Natural Resources Manager for Arlington County Parks, VA. He has been trained as a master gardener and was instrumental in helping to start and subsequently teach for **two** Virginia Master Naturalist chapters in Northern Virginia. He is a co-founder of the Washington Area Butterfly Club, held several offices, including president, for the Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society, and authored a book on The Reptiles and Amphibians of the Washington, DC, Metropolitan Area. Most outstanding is his personal blog and Facebook group, “Capital Naturalist,” both of which contain an immense amount of natural history information. He has won many awards for his natural history knowledge and skills and is an all-around great guy!



2021 BASIC TRAINING COURSE COMING SOON!

The Northern Neck Master Naturalist BTC will begin August 3 and continue through November 16. The classes will be conducted via Zoom, 6:30-9:00 pm. Field experiences will take place outdoors.

At this time, speakers and field experiences are being confirmed. As many of you realize from previous BTCs, it takes a LOT of MEMBERS to volunteer their assistance to provide the trainees with the experiences they deserve. Many have already stepped forward to volunteer as **mentors**. We're so grateful for all of you. We do anticipate needing a few more, however; so if you would like to help a future master naturalist by serving in this role, please contact our mentor chair, Alice Stieve (alice.stieve@me.com).

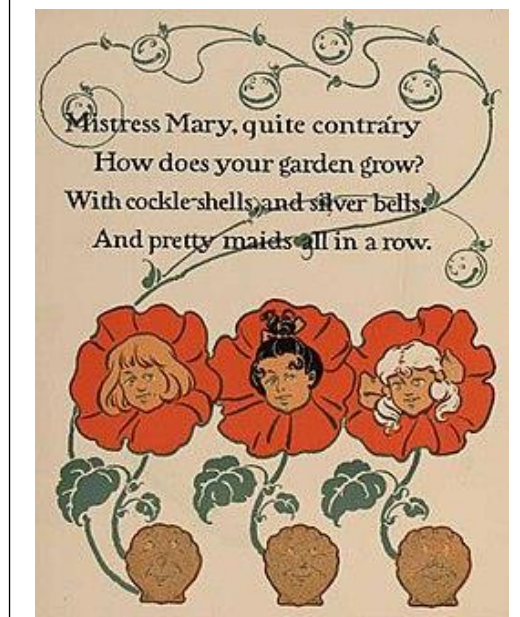
Another area in need of NNMNs is the **field work**. There are five field experiences planned (on Saturdays), and three of those will require **leaders** in a specific topic area. We plan to have small groups of students with a topic leader (not necessarily an "expert", but a very knowledgeable and passionate "amateur") and a **facilitator** (to make sure everyone has what they need, is engaging with the topic, and doesn't get left on the trail). Don't be shy about volunteering in your area of expertise; if you don't volunteer yourself, one of your friends may recommend you anyway! And if you don't feel competent enough to be the leader, please offer to be the facilitator for a group. Contact Buz Cox (nmnsecretary@gmail.com), Field Coordinator, to volunteer for a field position.

Following the content information shared for the various topics during the Zoom class, we plan to have **MN volunteers share an activity** related to the night's topic about which they are passionate. This is to be a very brief (10 minutes max) presentation by the volunteer, perhaps with a few "action" photos, just to give the trainees an idea of what kinds of activities are available to us. If you have a favorite activity that you'd be willing to share, please let either Pam or Camille know of your interest and we can give you the date that your activity would fit.

IMPORTANT BTC INFORMATION

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 6:30 –
ZOOM INFORMATION MEETING

COURSE REGISTRAR – NANCY JOEL
registrarnnmnbtc21@gmail.com



[William Wallace Denslow's](#) rendition of the poem, 1901

I don't know "Mistress Mary" and don't really care about her garden, but I do care about Master Nat's gardens. I doubt any of you are growing cockle shells, silver bells, or pretty maids (in rows or not), but I am wondering how those pollinator seeds we were given are doing in your plots. If your seeds have germinated into plants, please send me a picture of your pollinator garden plot. If they haven't grown enough yet, send them when they're flowering. I'll post them in the June "Page" and perhaps send them along to the Turf Grass Council as well, so they can see how beautifully Northern Neck Master Nat utilized them!

**NOTICE
OF
BOARD
MEETING**

**JUNE BOARD
MEETING
TUESDAY, June 8
1:00 pm via Zoom**