

Board Meeting Held Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Our Advisors Advise...that we continue to follow the Covid Phase III Guidelines and complete Covid Checklists for every activity involving two or more Master Naturalists! We are not “out of the woods” yet with this illness.



Vice President Porter Reported that the Communication Committee is working diligently to overhaul the website and give it an entirely new look. While this is happening, the website is **NOT AVAILABLE**. The committee hopes to have the new and improved version online by May. Also, work is ongoing in revising the “categories” descriptions (formerly “projects”), and these will be available in Better Impact.

Our Secretary, Buz Cox, reports that he is entering the minutes on Better Impact now. They are available when you go into the “profile” tab on the home screen, then go close to the bottom of the list and click “Files”. The list of all saved chapter documents is there, including the meeting minutes from 2020 and 2021.



NEWS and NOTES from the Board


March 2021

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Treasurer Audrey Vaughn reports no change in the bank balance from the previous month.



Programs Chair Kevin Howe confirmed that our program for tonight is Dr. Shawn Dash, an entomologist at Hampton University, presenting on “50 Shades of Pollination.” In May, we will learn about dragonflies, damselflies, and 17-year cicadas with Dr. Richard Groover.



Outreach Chair Nancy Joel expects to be taking the “booth” to events this spring and summer as the pandemic lessens. She will be seeking volunteers to help with these outreach opportunities.

Continuing Education Chair Betsy Washington shared that the approval form for continuing education needed to be revised. It was not working as she had hoped it would. Many CE opportunities have been sent to MNs as they are found and approved by the committee. Betsy also reported that MN Dana Smook is planning to start a book club, so that we can read a book and have a discussion that serves as an hour of CE credit.

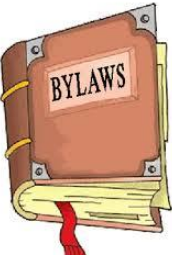


Camille Grabb, BTC co-chair, stated that the classes are on track to begin on August 3, 2021. Considering our desire for more diversity in the chapter and the economic hardships some are experiencing due to Covid, the BTC committee asked if the chapter would support having scholarships for those who may need the assistance. The Board passed the motion unanimously. Two Board members immediately offered to provide full scholarships to one trainee each. The BTC committee will keep the chapter informed if these, and additional scholarships (partial or full), are needed. THANK YOU ALL for making this possible!

Anne Clewell, Hospitality Chair, is anxiously awaiting the day when she can plan our next Chapter social event; and we are all eagerly awaiting said event!



Historian Temple Moore has started a file for the chapter "scrapbook." He is collecting articles from the local newspapers and other sources. Please share anything of historical significance with him. Temple will also write a brief history of our chapter for the website.



The Chapter Membership approved the 2020 revision of the bylaws on March 9, 2021.



- ALL NNMN MEMBERS NEED TO LOG ON TO BETTER IMPACT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE and**
- 1 – look at your profile and update as needed;**
 - 2 – check your lifetime hours; †**
 - 3 – LOG YOUR 2021 HOURS!**

Contact John Narney with questions or concerns.



**Honoring the Currently Active
Members of the Charter (2007)
Class of The Northern Neck Chapter
of Virginia Master Naturalists:**

**Faye Andrashko Paula Boundy
Maggie Gerdts Darleen Nelson
Earline Walker
Temple Moore (Historian)
Charlene Talcott (Past President)**



**VMN Laurels- Winter 2021
announced February 14, 2021**

Pat McMurray, Membership Chair,
reported that 44 members of our chapter
achieved recertification and announced the
Northern Neck Master Naturalists who
received “Milestone” awards from VMN.

Initial Certifications

**Roger Gruben
Eric Hentges**

250 Hours

**Anne Clewell
Camille Grabb
Porter Washington**

500 Hours

**Anne Atkins
Carla Bangs
Lise Maring**

1,000 Hours

**Kevin Howe
Betsy Washington**

2,500 Hours

Jeff Wright



**Anne Clewell
“Winter Nature Challenge”**

**Betsy Washington and Kevin Howe
“Hickory Hollow Nature Preserve,
A Winter View”**

**John Narney
“A Chapter Leader Who Always
Steps Up”**



Read the full articles about these honored
volunteers on the VMN homepage,
virginiamasternaturalist.org



NEXT NNMN MEETINGS
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Via Zoom
BOARD –1:00 pm
GENERAL & PROGRAM
(evening; times TBD)

UPCOMING:

Continuing Education Opportunities

(approved; as reported by Betsy Washington, chair)

Plant Virginia Natives (*Note these webinars are ongoing through the spring and again next fall with a total of 12 talks.*)

2021 Spring and Fall Landscaping with Virginia Natives Webinar Series All are from 6:30 – 8:00.

- March 5, 6:30 – 8:30 – Doug Tallamy, Nature’s Best Hope
- Mar. 9 Layering Your Landscape, Learn Where, Which, How and Why to Use Native Plants, Janet Davis, Hill House Nursery
- March 23, Landscaping with Layers, Trish Imrich
- April 6, Plight of the Pollinators, How to Support Pollinators, Celia Vuocolo
- April 20, Common Invasive Plants in Virginia, How to Identify and Control with Beth Mizell
- May 6, The Right Plant in the Right Place, by John Magee
- Sept. 1, The Humane Gardener, Nancy Lawson
- Sept. 14, Native Shrubs, the Critical Layer, by Peggy Singleton, Maymont, Host of VA Homegrown
- Sept. 28, Native Trees, How to Select and Plant and Care for Trees, by Jim McGlone, VDF

And more... check the weblink below to see all of the great line up!

Sign-up for all 12 webinars for just \$10!

For more details and to register, go to:

<https://www.plantvirginianatives.org/webinars-landscaping-with-virginia-natives>

Aldo Leopold Film ‘Greenfire’
Center of Humans and Nature and U.S. Forest Service have made the FULL FILM available FREE to everyone! *Although we don’t often approve documentaries, this one comes highly recommended, was used in previous BTC classes, and fits well with our curriculum mandate to study Naturalists of note.* An entertaining and enlightening documentary that explores the life and

transformation of Aldo Leopold's thinking, and the dawn of a land ethic for all.

The film describes the formation and evolution of Leopold’s idea, exploring how it changed one man and later permeated all arenas of conservation. By presenting examples of the deep impact of his thinking on current conservation projects around the world, the film challenges viewers to contemplate their own relationship with the natural world.

Green Fire uses photographs, correspondence, and other documents from the voluminous [Leopold Archives](#), along with historical and contemporary film footage of important Leopold landscapes. Also featured is commentary from many influential conservation leaders, including three of Leopold’s children – Nina, Carl, and Estella – and renowned scholars, environmental writers, scientists, policy makers, and business and non-profit leaders.

<http://bit.ly/2YPN9FE>

Partner and Sponsor Programs:

March 18, 2021 at 1:00 pm – NNNPS zoom webinar: *Native Plants and Their Pollinators.*

Betsy Washington will present this with a focus on Northern Neck native plants that support our native pollinators and how we can make our landscapes more pollinator friendly. Email nnvnps@gmail.com to register and receive the Zoom link.

March 20, 2021

Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar “Be Intentional: Create Livable, Edible, Sustainable Garden Spaces” (Zoom)

9:00 - Nancy Lawson, Author of the book and popular Blog: *The Humane Gardener: “Nurturing Habitats for Wildlife” (This talk by Nancy Lawson, “Nurturing Habitats for Wildlife- approved for CE credit.)*

- 10:30 - Brie Arthur: Bestselling Author and Horticulturist – “Foodscaping in the Northern Neck”

- 1:00 - Vincent Simone, “Grow More with Less: Sustainable Gardening Methods”

(We grant conditional approval for the other two programs, asking each MN to use their best judgement as to whether these talks are relevant to NNMN and build on the BTC curriculum).

For more information and to register go to: [Gardening in the Northern Neck | Northern Neck Master Gardeners \(nmg.org\)](#) (\$25.00 fee)

