



Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists Quarterly Meeting
Sunday October 21, 2012
Virginia Department of Forestry, Salem

Attendance: Nancy Fabian, Bill Fabian, Dennis Woodson, Christina Koomen, Denny McCarthy, Sharon Vest, Larry Bradfield (7)

Call to Order: The general membership meeting was called to order at 3:09 PM by Nancy Fabian.

Old Business:

- **Treasurer's Report (Bill Fabian for Ann Stinnett)** - Ann, reported by proxy a current balance of \$2,547.51, as a result of \$2,200.00 deposited from class dues added to a balance carried forward from the last meeting of \$347.51. Outstanding invoices not yet paid included \$40.00 for the purchase of the tree books for the 2012 class. Nametags ordered for members newly certified were available, but none of the members due nametags were at the meeting.

- **Secretary's Report (Bill Fabian)** – The minutes for the third quarter meeting had been forwarded to all members and corrections made according to comments received. Sharon made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed; Larry seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously. Bill then went over the old action items, and announced which ones were closed, and which ones were still in progress.

- In the April meeting, Ryan Knopf had brought up an idea for a project that could also be used as a fund raising event for the Chapter. He volunteered to coordinate a metal collection event at the Grassy Hill NAP in Franklin County off of Thimble Lane in Rocky Mount. In addition to cleaning up the environment, the collected metal could be sold to the scrap yard to add funds to the Chapter treasury. Although Ryan was unable to attend the meeting, the project was discussed, and Denny volunteered to contact Ryan to see if that was still a feasible potential project.

- The action to price out t-shirts and polo shirts with the Master Naturalist logo, and had went Bill an e-mail with her results. T-shirts would cost roughly \$7.00 - \$10.00 depending on how many colors we used on the shirt, and that Polos would be roughly \$15.00 - \$20.00 depending on the logo and quality of the shirt. Bill Fabian will canvas the Chapter for interest and preorder numbers.

- Lynda Lynda Calkins had an action to review work needed for the Icimani Girl Scout Camp, and as of the last meeting had contacted the Girl Scouts to see what work was needed. They had said it still needs some follow on work and reiterated the offer for use of the area for things like our practical exam. Lynda was not able to attend the meeting to provide an update on what , if any, work had been scheduled or accomplished. Sharon said that at one point they had mentioned that there were some trees that were misidentified and



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needed to have new signs made for them, but wasn't sure of the status of that action or who to talk to about which trees needed correction.

- **Other old business** - Nancy reported that the new version of the Virginia Native Plant guide printing had been completed, and that our preorder of 100 copies was ready for shipment as soon as they received payment. She proposed to put it on her credit card and submit the invoice to Ann for re-imbursement, as the most expeditious way to get them. The executive committee had previously agreed to make these books available to the current basic course attendees, and to sell them roughly at cost to others who wanted a copy. Sharon made a motion to have Nancy go ahead and use her credit card, and Christina seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Subcommittee Reports:

- **Executive Committee Report (Nancy Fabian)** – The executive committee did not have anything new to report.
- **Membership/Marketing Committee Report (Christina Koomen)**- Christina discussed an article that she published in the Roanoke Times on the Garlic Mustard Pull that our chapter had participated in earlier, from a write-up that Sharon vest had done. She stated that it really came out well. She also stated that she would like to go over the re-design the web site to make it more appealing and more user-friendly during new business. Bill suggested that she use Nancy as a beta test user of the redesigned pages, since she had a proclivity to want web applications and navigation to be intuitive, with little or no training/practice required to do what you wanted and/or find what you were looking for.
- **Curriculum Committee Report (Nancy Fabian)** Nancy said the class was underway and the curriculum and instructors were all a success so far according to all reports form students and instructors both. We have 22 people in the new class, and most of them bring a lot of expertise to chapter. Bill mentioned that the Salem library was giving excellent support, and that we should try to settle on next year's class dates very early so we could reserve the room to have all our classes in the same place.
- **Advanced Training/Project committee report (Fred Walters).** Fred was unable to attend the meeting, so no committee report was available, however, opportunities for advanced training and project work was discussed. Bill mentioned a number of new projects had been added to the VMS, that were somewhat general in nature with no specified dates, and that participation would be event/opportunity based. The idea behind these projects was that individuals could volunteer for published events without having to write up a new project proposal for each occurrence. He said he



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would go over them when he presented the tutorial on the Volunteer Management System (VMS) under new business.

- Nancy suggested that we needed to get some service projects organized and scheduled
- Bill highlighted new projects that had been approved and added to the VMS system that were now available for members to charge their volunteer hours against including a cooperative effort in support of the American Chestnut foundation which had recently opened a Roanoke/New River Valley Branch.
- Nancy asked for ideas for advanced training, and the following thoughts were presented;
 - Christina brought up the idea of getting someone to give a talk about mushroom ID.
 - Sharon suggested that Rich Crites could give a talk on spring ephemerals.
 - Dennis suggested that a winter woody plant ID class would be a good course, to help members ID trees and shrubs when their leaves were not present.
 - Larry talked about a class that would educate us on pesticides and the effects on both land use and the environment.

New Business:

- Christina Koomen reviewed the new Roanoke Valley Master Naturalist web site
- Bill Fabian provided a tutorial on how to use the Virginia Master Naturalist Volunteer Management System (VMN VMS), for the features it had for selective e-mails, document posting, picture sharing, and most importantly demonstrated how to add hours for volunteer service and administrative time.

Proposed Meeting dates for 2013 (third Sunday of listed month):

Generally, the Executive committee meets at 2:30 and general membership meeting is at 3 PM.

- 1st Quarter 20 January 2013
- 2nd Quarter 21 February 2013
- 3rd Quarter 21 July 2013
- 4th Quarter 20 October 2013

Adjournment of Meeting:



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With no further new business, Sharon motioned to adjourn the meeting, Larry Bradfield seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by
Bill Fabian, Secretary
Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists