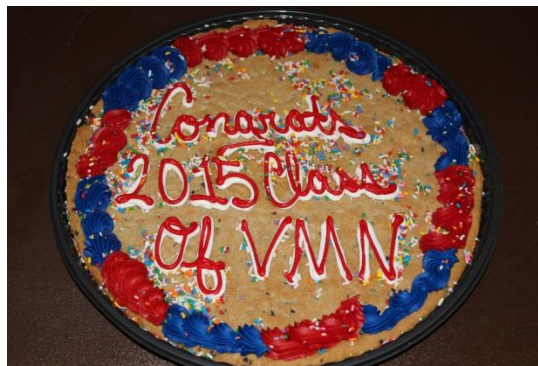




Congratulations to the 2015 class of Virginia Master Naturalist

Job well done



Quarterly Meeting 4 April 2015

Attendance: Bill Fabian, Nancy Fabian, Bill Dwyer, Nicole Bird, Bill Moore, Mike Crowder, Robin Jordan, Bonnie, Scott Karns, Bill Wilkinson, Freyja Lynn, Gwinn Firing, bob Garst, Dennis Woodson, pat, Taylor, Gail Mac Farland, Frank Sellers, Scott Spangler, Laurie Spangler, Larry Bredfield

14:00 call to order: Bill Fabian

Treasurer's Report given by Mike Crowder... read and accepted, Bill Dwyer Sec by Gail Mac farland

Secretary's Report, giver by Bill Dwyer accepted as written approval of Minutes. Nicole Bird, Sec by Gwinn Firir

Old Business: Freyja Williams. The invasive removal event at **Explorer** Park was a great success.

There will be more opportunities at the park so come on over

Earth Day was a washout, cold and wet. We still managed to hand out 250. Black Cherry Trees that were given to us by DOF.

SW Regional meeting will be held at hungry Mother State Park, on Spet.26 2015

Be advised that there is an Email with all the booking information. If you have not received it I will post it to all members.

Watershed Education at Carvin cove with Nikki Dandridge. Nikki informed me that the kids love playing in the stream and collecting "BUGS"

Support for education bluebird is awaiting approval.

The work between Mountain Castles Soil and Water Conservation District and VMN is pending

Subcommittee Reports:

Membership/Marketing committee Report was not available.

Curriculum Committee Report: Nancy Fabian

Save Our Streams Field trip will be held next week.

The final exam will be given on the 20th of June.

Advance Training Committee Report:

Ann Stinnet has resigned from this position. We will be looking for members to fill this position.

NEW BUSINESS:

Friends of the Blue Ridge, held a work shop on Outdoor meth lab hazards at Explorer Park.

Aug 4th downtown at the Main Library 4PM till 7Pm. VMN will have a booth , for Sustaining Roanoke. Come on down and get some hours.

Bill Fabian requested trainers for the SOS Monitroing field trip.

Volunteers will be needed for the July Picnic.

Any ideas for advanced training? Let us know .send your suggestions to us via Email

Submitted by Bill Dwyer Secretary

Below is a copy of the information needed for booking at Hungry Mother State Park

Lodging Information for Southwest Region Conference @ Hungry Mother State Park

September 26, 2015 at the Hemlock Haven Conference Center in Hungry Mother State Park (380 Hemlock Haven Lane, Marion, VA 24354)

Event Description

☑ This 1-day Training Conference that will take place from 9:00am – 5:00pm on Saturday, September 26, 2015.

☑ There will be 2 Training Sessions as part of the conference.

☑ The Program begins at 9:00am; Training sessions will begin at 9:45am.

☑ You can attend the Training sessions without having to attend the optional plenary session that begins at 9:00

Event Registration

☑ Registration for each of our Regional Conferences across the state will initially be limited to only VMNs from that particular region.

☑ Registration for the Northern Region will be limited to 14 people per each chapter in the region

☑ Here are the registration dates:

o July 27 – Phase 1: Early Registration Opens (chapter liaisons and conference volunteers)

o August 3 – Phase 2: Restricted Registration Opens (limited spaces per chapter)

o August 24 – Phase 3: Regional Registration Opens (if space allows, registration will open to everyone in your region)

o September 7 – State Registration Opens (if space allows, registration will open to any VMN in the state)

o September 13 – Registration Closes

Lodging (optional)

☑ Given the timeline for the registrations, you may choose to reserve your lodging before you are able to register for the conference.

☑ Recognize that the conference may overfill and you may not be able to register.

☑ Be sure to inquire about cancellation policies for any lodging you book.

If you would like to stay in the area the night of Friday, September 25 we have blocked 10 cabins inside Hungry Mother State Park.

☒ They will be available at the usual rates.

☒ HOWEVER! HMSP has agreed to waive the usual 2-night minimum requirement for our conference participants.

☒ Here is how you reserve a cabin for 1 night at Hungry Mother State Park:

o Reservations may be made by calling the Hungry Mother Park Office at 276-781-7400

☒ NOTE!! Do not use the online central state park booking system for this reservation

o Ask for Ann Pickle or Diane Charapich

o Reference 'Tiffany Brown' for your group code.

o These cabins will be available until August 21, 2015 or until they have all been reserved.

o Individual cancellations are required 72 hours in advance of scheduled arrival.

Camping

☒ There are camp sites inside Hungry Mother SP.

☒ They are reserved through the state park central booking here: <http://www.reserveamerica.com/va/hungry-mother-state-park/campground/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=VA&parkId=140174> ☒ Phone reservations: 1-800-933-PARK

There are also several hotels in Marion, Virginia.

☒ Please note that we are not blocking any rooms at these locations but you may feel free to call and inquire about their availability: o Lodging in Marion o Econo Lodge 276-783-6031 o Americas Best Value Inn 276-378-0481 o General Francis Marion Hotel 276-783-4800 o The Collins House Inn 276-781-0250