

Agenda from Sunday Oct 8 Quarterly Meeting

Sunday October 8, 2pm @ DEQ Office

***The month of October is a great time to get caught up on hours! We have three weekends in a row of outreach education at public venues to introduce ourselves to the public (and each other), sign up potential new members for the 2018 class and share the knowledge, especially the importance of planting natives to support local native biodiversity. See which weekend you can spend a few hours with us and email Donna at [mgmom@outlook.com](mailto:mgmom@outlook.com) or look for an email with the information for that specific event. But most importantly: GET INVOLVED NOW! Thank You.***

## **Agenda**

### **Board Reports:**

Secretary's Report: Laurel Riddle: Minutes from last meeting approved as emailed

President's Report: Fall activities

State Conference Review: We had seven Members attend the conference: Roanoke Valley Master Naturalists at the VMN State Conference 9/16/17

(l to r) Susan Black, Tammi Cascone, Donna Haley, Ellen Holtman,

Gail Macfarland (not pictured) Laurel Riddle and Megan Robinson. Great Conference! We will share more throughout the year!

**Go FEST** Oct 13-15 See separate sign up sheet email coming soon!

**Explore Park Invasives:** Oct 21 9am-3pm Megan Robinson, coordinator [rmegan686@gmail.com](mailto:rmegan686@gmail.com)  
201-919-4380. We will help county citizens ID invasive species and provide information on controlling them.

Remember, "master" does not mean we know it all; but it does mean we can research and get the answers!

*Craspedacusta sowerbii* is a freshwater jellyfish in the phylum Cnidaria. Luckily

for us, **freshwater** jellies are quite small - an adult is the size of a quarter - and **there** isn't any hard evidence that suggests that they can penetrate through our skin to hurt us the way larger, marine **jellyfish** could. Freshwater jellyfish typically eat zooplankton from the water column. Using their **nemocysts**, they sting prey in the water, stunning it and allowing for easy entry into the animal's body.



**Zoo Boo:** Saturday, Oct. 28, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Mill Mountain Zoo -

This is a community outreach and volunteer opportunity. We'll set up an information table like at Go Fest (activities or something interactive???) and bring Halloween candy to hand out to the trick-or-treaters that day.

**CITS:** Date TBA Freyja Williams [freyja58@gmail.com](mailto:freyja58@gmail.com) [540-362-3239](tel:540-362-3239)

**The Virginia Museum of Natural History** and Reynolds Homestead are pleased to announce a wonderful teacher professional development opportunity. **On Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>** we will host a Project Learning Tree workshop from 9:00 am-3:30 pm at VMNH. Project Learning Tree (<https://www.plt.org/>) is an award-winning environmental education program designed for formal and informal educators. During the workshop you will earn your PLT educator certification as we explore environmental topics through hands on indoor and outdoor activities. Upon completion, you will receive PLT's PreK-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide, which is correlated to national and state academic standards. The workshop fee (\$10) has been generously waived for the first 20 participants through Virginia Tech's College Access Collaborative. Please register by following the link on the attached flyer. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to seeing you at the workshop! Contact:

Christy Deatherage, Education Manager, Virginia Museum Of Natural History

(276) 634-4187 [Christy.deatherage@vmnh.virginia.gov](mailto:Christy.deatherage@vmnh.virginia.gov)

**Vice-President's Vacancy: has been filled! Thank you Tammi Cascone! Contact:**  
[tammicascone@yahoo.com](mailto:tammicascone@yahoo.com) [440-342-0761](tel:440-342-0761)

*We are forming committees for:*

**Education** – Annual Training, Continuing Education opportunities and speakers for meetings

**Outreach** – including a standing group who are responsible for Go Fest, Earth Day and other non-regular events

**Citizen Science Projects** – coordinating current ones as well as looking for new, reviewing potential plans, etc.

**Membership** -- including recruiting, keeping track of potential members, newsletter, web stuff, posting information, communication

**If you have a passion to be on one of these, or all of these committees, please contact Donna ([mgmom@outlook.com](mailto:mgmom@outlook.com)) with your interest. Thank You!**

### **2018 Training Class**

Nancy Fabian 2018 basic class >>

Tammi Cascone [tammicascone@yahoo.com](mailto:tammicascone@yahoo.com) [440-342-0761](tel:440-342-0761)

Susan Black [sblack8@cox.net](mailto:sblack8@cox.net) [540-797-7607](tel:540-797-7607)

Treasurer's Report: Frank Sellers (N/A)

### **Team Reports:**

Continuing Education: Robyn Jordan will coordinate quarterly speakers with committee help

Project Committee: Feed watch starts Nov. 11; Fall CVC waterway clean up 10/7

reports on various continuing projects

Riparian Buffer Project (George) maintenance date to be determined

Marketing and Membership: David Williamson

### **New Business:**

National Wildlife Federation Project (Donna)

Mill Mountain Zoo Project (Laurie)

Neighborhood Natives w/Mary Roby/Hunter Hartley (Ellen)

DGIF/Foresrty Trails to be monitored/inventoried (Robin)

### **Old Business:**

Virtual warehouse inventory

Booth Set Up; table skirt

### **Save the Dates:**

#### **2018 Meeting Dates:**

Sundays 2pm:

Jan 14<sup>th</sup>,

Apr 15<sup>th</sup>, Earth Day, Plan Picnic/Photo Contest

July 15<sup>th</sup>, Picnic

Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, Go Fest 2018

Bio Monitoring & Stream Assessment: 0.5 hrs CE (with George Devlin)

*If you want to go to any of the following; email the group and see if anyone wants to meet up, ride share, etc. Thanks!*

## **2ND THURSDAY SCIENCE TALKS**

### **@ Natural History Museum, Martinsville**

*November 9, 2017*

**Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

\*Please join us for a special presentation at the Museum & Archives of Rockingham County in Reidsville, NC from 6 to 8 p.m. as we celebrate the opening of a joint exhibit highlighting the natural history of the Dan River Basin.

2nd Thursday Science Talks take place on the second Thursday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m., October through May. Attendance is free thanks to generous contributions of all sizes to the VMNH Discovery Fund. Presentations are delivered by VMNH curators, research associates and collaborating scientists. Geared towards audiences with a keen interest in science, the presentations also increase awareness of the varied and unique scientific career paths available for local students.

#### **October 12**

Brian Williams, Virginia Program Manager, Dan River Basin Association

#### **November 9**

Please join us for a special presentation at the Museum & Archives of Rockingham County in Reidsville, NC from 6 to 8 p.m. as we celebrate the opening of a joint exhibit highlighting the natural history of the Dan River Basin.

#### **December 14**

*Dr. Nancy Moncrief, Curator of Mammalogy, VMNH*

#### **January 11, 2018**

*Dr. DorothyBelle Poli, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Roanoke College*

#### **February 8, 2018**

Dr. Alex Hastings, Assistant Curator of Paleontology, VMNH

#### **March 8, 2018**

Dr. Jim Beard, Senior Curator of Earth Sciences

#### **April 12, 2018**

Dr. Kal Ivanov, Assistant Curator of Recent Invertebrates

**May 10, 2018**

Dr. Elizabeth Moore, Curator of Archaeology

# "FARMERS, WARRIORS, BUILDERS: THE HIDDEN LIFE OF ANTS" PUBLIC OPENING

*December 8, 2017*

Time: 12:00 AM

**Opening December 8, 2017 (Members, reporters reception December 7)**

Small yet abundant, with complex and wildly diverse lifestyles, ants are everywhere, living lives mostly hidden from our view. What if we could see into their world . . . on their level? What would we learn? What parallels could we draw between them and us? Now, with the aid of a macro lens and the insights of ant experts at the Virginia Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian Institution, SITES (Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Services) and the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History present the world of ants. *Farmers, Warriors, Builders* was one of NMNH's most popular exhibitions, and we are pleased to unveil the exhibit at the Virginia Museum of Natural History on \*December 8, 2017.

\*We will host a VMNH Members' preview reception on Thursday, December 7. If you are not yet a Member please consider joining for invitations to this and other special events.

Stunning macro photographs by renowned ant expert Dr. Mark Moffett tell incredible stories about the lives of ants—hunting, communicating, dealing with disease and agriculture—and chronicle the work of entomologists in the field.

This exhibition was donated to the Virginia Museum of Natural History for educational purposes by the Smithsonian Institution at the end of its national tour in 2016. The original tour ran from 2011 to 2016.

## ICE AGE FESTIVAL

*January 20, 2018*

**Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Bundle up as you make your way to the Virginia Museum of Natural History on Saturday, January 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Ice Age Festival, featuring mammoth-sized (literally) displays from the Ice Age.

### **Spectacular displays:**

- Witness the full skeleton cast of a *Stegodon*, a nearly 30 foot-long extinct relative of mammoths and mastodons that lived during the last Ice Age.
  - A cast skeleton of a saber-toothed cat will also greet visitors!  
The VMNH Paleontology Department will have a variety of specimens and displays on hand. Meet

the VMNH scientists and learn about their work in the field and in the labs!

**Presenters:**

To be announced

**Activities:**

The VMNH Department of Education & Public Programs will present a variety of hands-on activities, games and crafts for children and families throughout the festival (exciting details to be announced!)

**Visiting exhibitors and presenters:**

To be announced