



THE NATURALIST

*The monthly newsletter of the Historic Rivers Chapter
Virginia Master Naturalist Program*

<http://historicrivers.org>

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Virginia Master Naturalists

We're Virginia Master Naturalists

Staunch environmentalists

Who make no apology

For promoting sound ecology

Reaching out to all ages

From classrooms, booths, and stages

Our goal is that we should

Get all children in the woods

Being good stewards of the land

Doing whatever things we can

Mustering our forces

Saving natural resources

Getting involved in citizen science

Letting researchers place reliance

On a much greater yield

Of data from the field

Worthy projects do abound

Involving air, sea, and ground

Biodiversity is our call

Fur, feathers, scales, and all

Flora too are our concern

Teaching others to discern

Reasons to combat invasives

And encourage use of natives

So master naturalists deserve

Respect from those whom we serve

Jointly protecting nature's health

Throughout our own Commonwealth

By Larry Riddick, Sr.

Chapter Board of Directors 2011-2012

Officers

Barbara Boyer, President

Ted Sargent, Vice President

*Patty Maloney and Lois Ullman,
Secretary*

Thad Hecht, Treasurer

Felice Bond, Member-at-Large

Kathi Mestayer, Member-at-Large

Nancy Norton, Member-at-Large

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*Jennifer Trevino and Sharon
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Shirley Devan, Membership

*Susan Powell and Cherie
Aukland, Volunteer Service
Projects*

*Adrienne Frank and Gary
Driscole, Advanced Training*

Ted Sargent, Programs

Patty Riddick, Newsletter

Janet Curtis, Host

Janette Navia, Webmistress

*Dean Shostak and Les Lawrence,
Field Trip Coordinators*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I step down from the position of President of the Board of the Historic Rivers Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalist, I am simply amazed at what a wonderful group of people make up our chapter. Our Board is one of the most dynamic and involved group of people I have ever been a part of. I regret not being able to fill the position of President another year, but our Board deserves a president who can devote more time and energy than I can at this time. I have no doubt that the new President will do a far better job and be more involved than I have been able to be.

I would like to take this time to thank all of the board members who have served so enthusiastically and with such dedication. It has been a joy working with them, and I feel honored to have served our chapter with them. We have worked through some issues and gave serious consideration to several aspects of our activities. We have very talented people and very thoughtful people helping shape our chapter.

Our chapter's active membership continues to climb, and it does my heart good to see new members stepping up to join the board. I feel that our chapter is in excellent shape to continue to grow and expand our influence over our jurisdiction. Thank you again Board members and chapter members for being so dedicated and so active. It has been a real pleasure!

Barbara W. Boyer

March, 2012

Barbara W. Boyer

President, Historic Rivers Chapter

Virginia Master Naturalist

Notes from the Board

All meetings of the Board of Directors are open to members.

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HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Greetings,

>

> The following slate of nominees will be presented for a vote at the HRC annual Meeting, March 14, 2012.

>

> Officers:

>

> President: Patty Maloney

> Vice President, Programs: Kathi Mestayer

> Co-Secretary: Jan Lockwood

> Co-Secretary: Ruth Gordon

> Treasurer: Thad Hecht

> Member-at-Large: Nancy Norton

> Member-at-Large: Dean Shostak

> Member-at-Large: Hart Haynes

>

>

> Committee Chairs:

>

> Historian: Felice Bond

> Publicity and Outreach: Shirley Devan

> Basic Training, Co-Chairs: Jennifer Trevino and Sharon Plocher

> Membership: Susan Powell

> Volunteer Service Projects: Lois Ullman

> Advanced Training: Adrienne Frank and Gary Driscole

> Programs: Kathi Mestayer

> Newsletter: Patty Riddick

> Host: Janet Curtis

> Field Trips: Les Lawrence

>

> NOTE: Nominations can be submitted from the floor at the meeting. The Nominating Committee request that you receive permission from the person(s) you plan to nominate.

>

> Thank you to the nominees above who have stepped up to serve our Chapter on the Board and as Committee Chairs. Many thanks to the REST of you who will be working on committees and projects to support these good folks and our Chapter's efforts.

>

> Remember: RSVP to Dean Shostak via his EVite if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, March 14, 6-9 pm.

>

> See you then if not before!

>

> Shirley Devan, Jennifer Trevino, Sharon Plocher -- Nominating Committee
Historic Rivers Chapter Virginia Master Naturalist

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

CREATING AN OYSTER REEF

By Les Lawrence

At the February chapter meeting, we listened to an important message from Jackie Shannon about the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's efforts to restore oyster reefs as part of their endeavor to cleanse the Bay's watershed. Well, on February 14, I got to celebrate Valentine's Day in a unique way – helping to establish the foundation for yet another new oyster reef. This one is in the Lafayette River along the shoreline near Norfolk's Hermitage Museum.

Our day began early by VIMS waterside, where four of us loaded 56 bushels of unfertilized oyster shells onto the 32' Chesapeake Gold. This included Tommy Leggett, a marine scientist, a long-time oysterman and CBF's lead for this project; Jackie, an environmental scientist also from CBF; "Rich," a frequent fellow volunteer to the CBF/VIMS project; and this HRC Master Naturalist. After loading, Rich and I were expecting a chilly one-and-one-half hour boat ride to the Lafayette River, but resourceful Tommy brought out four foul weather suits he had salvaged from the U.S. Coast Guard. Being cold was not an issue!



The ride over was long but smooth, and we had an interesting experience as we neared the mouth of the James River. A USN aircraft carrier was approaching the entrance, bound for the Naval Yard. Our boat received a close examination by both a helicopter overhead and by a Coast Guard "fast-mover" which covered us from behind. Obviously, we were no threat, so we continued on our way into the Lafayette River.

Continued on next page.....

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

When we arrived on-site, we had to wait for our two other volunteers, along with a CBF reporter and a photographer, so we stopped by the neighboring Norfolk Yacht Club for a warming cup of hot coffee. Shortly afterwards, the others arrived, and the tide was right to approach the bed site.

Up to this point we did not realize that planting the oyster shells meant getting into the cold water! How?!? Tommy brought out five pairs of insulated waders. I really wanted to do this part but, unfortunately, (and this is somewhat embarrassing to say) none of the waders had feet big enough. My role was to stay aboard and pass the bushels of shells to the people in the water. Still, 56 bushels at about 50 pounds each was not too easy a task. While we were laying the foundation, a number of people peered over the museum wall, watching the whole episode of crazy people wading in the frigid water and dumping oyster shells near the shore. From their viewpoint, it must have been quite a spectacle.



Our boat ride home was uneventful, just somewhat long and more choppy than the ride over. Jackie, who proudly obtained her Captain's license last fall, was our helmsman for the day.

It was a tiring but rewarding day.



"Through the Eye of a Naturalist" Exhibition Virginia Master Naturalists, Historic Rivers Chapter

Opening Reception February 4, 2010

Exhibition Artists, Group Photo

Front Row: Linda Miller, Kathi Mestayer, Clyde Marsteller, Inge Curtis, Angier Brock, Felice Bond

Back Row: Hart Hayes, Stephanie Schmuck, Mike Millin, Larry Riddick, Seig Kopinitz, Gary Driscoll

Not featured: Jim Booth, Ted Sargent

More photos on following
pages.....



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

A New Bluebird Trail at Freedom Park



Photo left -Chapter Members Nancy Gore and Jan Lockwood are pictured with bluebird boxes, poles, and baffles retrieved from former trails that will be used to establish a new Bluebird Trail at Freedom Park. (On the scene but not included in the picture were Ginny Carey and Shirley Devan.)

Photo right – Nancy Gore and Shirley Devan dismantle a bluebird box installation.

The new trail is being developed just weeks after Freedom Park staff asked whether HRC would be interested in setting up and maintaining a trail to serve and sustain the bluebird population in the park. Enter Ginny Carey and Nancy Gore of Cohort VI. They took the lead and secured the commitment of their fellow Cohort members to contribute their time, skills, and resources to fabricating and repairing boxes, gathering supplies, monitoring the trail, and generally doing whatever is needed to meet the goal of placing up to 15 boxes in the park by mid-March.

The Freedom Park Trail Team is most grateful for the knowledge and expertise it has received from other area bluebird trails and for the efforts of Chapter Members, Gary Driscole, Shirley Devan, and Geoff Giles, who secured generous donations of equipment from the Williamsburg Botanical Garden, the College of William and Mary, and Wild Birds Unlimited. This response typifies the Chapter's abilities to cooperatively fill needs in our natural community.

Jan Lockwood

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



Jan Newton of VNPS led naturalists on a “VNPS Evergreen Walk” on February 2nd. Several CVI members were among the group.

Tom Dougherty, Jessica Ebers, and Nancy Barnhart, (left to right).



Photos submitted by Tom Dougherty

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Nomina Latina Herbarum*

When it comes to Latin plant names, I just figure that my overcrowded memory can retain (best-case scenario) *either* the Latin one *or* the common one. And I leave it to my brain to decide. Whichever one pops out at the appropriate time is okay with me, as long as it's kind of correct.

But I've always been fascinated by the Latin names; they just roll off the tongues of native-plant people like multisyllabic music. Eunymous americanis? Helianthus microcephalis! Hieracium venosum? Uvularia perfoliata!

I was talking to Clayton VNPS member Louise Menges a couple of weeks ago, and she mentioned that she is working with Helen Hamilton of the (Hamilton) on a book about native plants. I asked her if she had ever seen a guide to the English meanings of Latin plant names. Within a couple of hours, I had an email from Louise with just that:

<http://theseedsite.co.uk/latin.html>

It has a list (partial, but 3 pages single-spaced) list of Latin words used in plant names and their (in some cases, approximate) meanings in English. Now, I know that *digitata* connotes a plant with leaves like a hand (according to the guide, with 5 lobes); *glabra* means smooth; *vulgaris* means common; and *venosum* means poisonous.

I'm hoping that this will give me a little better way of remembering the names of all those plants. Or not.



Here's Uvularia perfoliata, perfoliate bellwort, a grapelike flower with a perforated leaf!

*Latin Plant Names

By Kathi Mestayer

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

New Chapter P.O. Box!

PO Box 5026

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

Greetings,

Membership dues of \$25 are now due for 2012. Please make your check payable to HRC VMN and mail to PO Box 5026, Williamsburg, VA 23188.

Cohort VI is exempt from paying dues this year. Their tuition for Basic Training included 2012 membership dues.

Please pay by March 31, 2012.

ALSO, NOTE CHANGE in accounting for Travel Time for Volunteer Service Projects. Here is the official word from Michelle Prysby:

"Starting January 1, 2012, VMN volunteers may count time spent on travel to conduct volunteer service towards the certification requirements and milestone achievements. Volunteers are strongly encouraged to choose service opportunities close to their communities, rather than choosing projects that have very high travel time compared to the actual service time. Volunteers must log travel time as a separate project in the online reporting system so that it is possible for chapters to report the percentage of volunteer time that was spent on travel each year. In addition, Master Naturalists may want to track their mileage on all projects for tax purposes, and the online reporting system provides a field for tracking this information. Only the travel time to and from volunteer service counts towards certification; travel time to and from training (whether the basic training course or advanced training events) does not qualify."

A line item has been added to the Projects List in the Volunteer Management System: "A Travel Time for Volunteer Service Projects Only" at the top of the project list. Remember that you will need to make two entries for a Volunteer Service Project if you travel: (1) to record your time for the specific project, and (2) to record your TRAVEL time to and from the project.

Please let me know if you have questions. See you soon I hope.

Shirley Devan, Membership Chair
Historic Rivers Chapter
Virginia Master Naturalist
Ph.: 757.813.1322
I'm now on Facebook ...

Great Backyard Bird Count completed at **York River State Park!**

By Geoff Giles

For the 2012 GBBC, York River State Park hosted bird counts for the public each of the four days, from 17-20 February. Bird counts on each of those days were led by members of the **Historic Rivers Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalist** and of the **Williamsburg Bird Club**. Some of the count days saw many species active and more participants in counts and others were blustery winter days where many species were not as active. Throughout the count, the park demonstrated its importance as a habitat and a sanctuary for wildfowl, birds and other wildlife, and a beautiful place for visitors to enjoy the outdoors and connect with nature!

Count data from the park will be entered in citizen science databases of the National Audubon Society and the nation's foremost bird studies institution, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. This data will be used to further scientific findings on the effects of climate change, habitat loss and degradation and other factors on patterns of bird population fluctuations and migration.

Very evident from our count was the importance as habitat of the park for species recovering from near extinction, including the canvasback and ruddy ducks, and our national symbol, the bald eagle. Happily, during the count there were many sightings of the majestic eagles fishing, hunting and soaring along the banks of our park on the historic York River. We plan to offer periodic opportunities for the public to join skilled birders from the Williamsburg area to join us on guided bird walks through the park, and to come out year round to enjoy our nature!

Walks were led on Friday and Sunday by Jim Corliss, on Saturday by Shirley Devan and on Monday by Geoff Giles. Other VMN and bird club members also lent their eyes and ears to the successful count. Among the highlights were sights and sounds of **bald eagles**, a barred owl, hundreds of **canvas-back** ducks and thousands of **ruddy ducks**, plus appearances by the Williamsburg Bird Club poster bird, the **red-headed woodpecker!!**

A Note and Picture from Cohort VI Member, Tom Dougherty.....

“Les and I saw this example of Mahonia (also Beale's Barberry) at YRSP yesterday while doing some bluebird box maintenance work.” 2/10/12



Vernal Pool Search by Alice Kopinitz



Photos on this page by Seig Kopinitz

On Saturday, February 17, Felice and Tom Bond along with Seig and Alice Kopinitz took off to Nottoway County officially listed as Group 7 of the Historic Rivers 2012 Vernal Pool Project. Last year was somewhat disappointing for us, but we were looking forward to new pools in a new county.

Our first stop was at NOT_9. Here was a good sized pool visible from the road and wonder of wonders – IT WAS UNDER THE POWER LINES! After a little victory dance at finding a pool of water and in a location we could approach, we took a look.



First off, a salamander larva was plucked from the water. He is a handsome fellow with spots and if you look closely, you can see the gold spots just past his gills. Here was the critter we were searching for!

What else was in the pool?? Felice, “The 2011 I get Around Gal”, put on her boots and began exploring other parts of the pool. What did she find--EGG MASSES-- not just one, but note the plural—EGG MASSES--this made us think there were probably more, but we did not want to tread on any potential salamanders.

Continued on next page....

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Other wildlife we found using the pool was a cricket frog.

What a beginning! NOT_9 was a site that we plan to visit again and do some water quality testing.

The other Nottoway sites were less exciting--one vernal pool and two non-pools.

So begins the 2012 Vernal Pool Project. You just never know what you may find.



Photos above by Seig Kopinitz

Photos below by Tom Bond



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Meet Jesse Nelson, Recipient of HRC's First Scholarship to Attend Nature Camp!
Submitted by Shirley Devan



Geoff Giles, Jeanette Navia, Jesse Nelson, Les Lawrence, Shirley Devan and Adrienne Frank (Left to right) (Photo by Linda Miller)

Jesse is in Grade 7 at Hornsby Middle School. This will be his first year attending two-week Nature Camp. Here is a photo taken at the Library Feb 4 when Jesse and his mother and father came by to see the exhibit and the Chapter members and to say thank you.

Here is the essay he wrote for his application:

“I think I would be a great candidate for the Nature Camp Scholarship. I have a love for birds and other animals. I want to go to Nature Camp so I can major in ornithology. I hope to experience birds in a different way.

“I have worked with bluebirds during last summer when my mother and I checked bluebird boxes at York County's New Quarter Park for the Williamsburg Area Counties, Virginia Bluebird Society. It was also a part of a project for the Historic Rivers Chapter, Virginia Master Naturalist. When I monitored bluebird boxes I went around to about sixteen bird houses to see if there was a nest. If there was a nest then I would count the eggs or see if there were any babies. Then I recorded the data. Sometime there were chickadees in the nests.

Continued on next page...

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

“Here are some other examples of my love for birds: first, I went to Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge to watch the snow geese migration. The park opens for people to watch the birds. The road is only open one day per year. And we haven't missed it for two years straight. Plus my mother and I took pictures of an Osprey family for five hours over two days. When I came back from Boy Scout camp the nest was gone, and we found out it was swept away in a big wind storm. This inspired me. When I am ready for my Boy Scout eagle project, I want to fix up the osprey nests along the river to give them a more stable nesting place.

“In conclusion though I have not been to Nature Camp my sister has gone for the six years and I help drop her off. I think it looks like fun and I think I am a good candidate for a scholarship.”

Essay by Jesse Nelson



Cohort VI Field Trip to New Kent Forestry Center
Photo taken by Sharon Plocher.

PERMITS, PERMITS, PERMITS!

By Patty Riddick

Many of you may be unaware that the Historic Rivers Chapter has been salvaging, collecting, and exhibiting artifacts and live animals illegally. We appeared at Earth Day with insect collections, we dipped Macro Invertebrates for class use, we shared deer antlers and turtle shells with visitors at display booths, and we rolled logs to see if salamanders were residing there. All of these activities require permits issued by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF). Who knew? Well, now we do know the correct method and the requirements for carrying out our mission as Citizen Scientists, Stewards, and Educators in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Clyde Marsteller and I met with Michelle Prysby, VMN State Coordinator, and representatives of DGIF in late November for a training session on the permits our Chapter needs to be in compliance. We will need three permits: a Salvage Permit, a Collection and Research Permit, and an Exhibitor's Permit.

The Salvage Permit allows us to collect items such as deer antlers, raccoon skulls, and turtle shells to use in our displays.

The Scientific Collection/Research/Survey Permit allows us, for example, to sample streams by collecting macro invertebrates, roll logs to count salamanders, and call birds into the vicinity using artificial call devices. Basically this permit covers any activity which will disturb and/or temporarily remove live animals from their natural environment.

The Exhibitor's Permit allows us to exhibit live animals for educational purposes.

None of these permits allows collection, salvaging, or exhibiting any threatened or endangered species or migratory bird species without additional approval and special Federal and State Permits..

At this time the Chapter is in the application process. I wanted to share this preliminary information with you all, but please know that more information will be forthcoming.

And now, a little quiz to get you thinking!

Q. You find the bones of a fox in the woods behind your house. Can you keep them?

A. Yes, as long as you have a State Salvage Permit authorizing "mammals, found dead".

Q. Your kids are playing in the pond on your property and bring home a frog they named Boomer. Can you keep it?

A. Yes, if it is for Private Use Only.

Q. After Hurricane Earl passed you found a pigeon nest on the ground. Can you keep it?

A. Yes, pigeons are a nuisance species.

Q. You are walking along the beach and find a sea turtle rib washed up on the shore. Can you keep it?

A. No. All sea turtles are listed as T & E (Threatened and Endangered).

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Cohort VI in Fishes Class with Virginia Living Museum's Chris Crippen

Photos and Text by Shirley Devan



Ruth Gordon and Nancy Gore and the flounder.



Chris Crippen wrestles with the paddlefish.



Spanish Mackerel (with the beautiful green spots).

Some people took home mackerel filets for dinner.

Continued on next page...

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Fishes Class, continued-

Chris Crippen is the Curator of Fish at the Virginia Living Museum. Chris attended William and Mary, and worked at VIMS as a field tech, lab specialist, then professionally as a scientist after graduating until he became a student there. Throughout his time as an employee at VIMS, he worked on the following surveys: Pfiesteria Cohort, American Eel, Striped Bass, Juvenile Finfish Abundance, Blue Crab Tagging, Striped Bass Tagging, Bluefish Abundance, etc. He then attended VIMS as a full-time fisheries student, left on a leave of absence after completing his curriculum to take the position of Senior Aquarist at the Virginia Living Museum in December 2004. He became Curator in 2008. He has since attended George Mason University for a Masters in Conservation Education that he will complete in Fall 2012. He has lived in Virginia his entire life and has fished for, collected, and raised native fishes for over 35 years.

Two assistants:

Jennifer Curtis - Senior Aquarist at the VLM since June 2011. She graduated from Mary Washington BS Biology May 2011. She was a long-time volunteer at VLM prior to her current position. [Jennifer is the daughter of HRC members Janet & Chris Curtis.]

Patrycja Lawryniuk - Aquarist at the VLM since October 2010 and a volunteer since May 2009. She graduated from James Madison BS Biology 2010.

Shirley Devan

Tomorrow's Landscapes: More Birds, Butterflies and Bees for YOUR Garden...

Piedmont/Blue Ridge Horticulture Society is partnering with the Environmental Studies Department at Shenandoah University to present: Tomorrow's Landscapes: More Birds, Butterflies, and Bees for YOUR Garden.

Shenandoah University Environmental Studies & Biology professor, Dr. Woody Bousquet, will moderate the conference. Speakers include: Doug Tallamy, Janet Davis, Vincent Simeone, Jeff Lowenfels, Jim McCormac.

The April 14 full-day conference is at Shenandoah University, Winchester VA.

Cost is \$99 including box lunch - see link for details <http://www.pbrhs.org/landscape/index.html>

Pre-register online at the link.

Shared by Kathi Mestayer who calls attention to Doug Tallamy as one of the speakers—in case anyone has missed him!

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



Greetings,

Mark your calendar for **Wednesday, March 14**, for the **Annual Meeting** for our **Historic Rivers Chapter of VMN**.

TIME: 6:00 pm -- Human Services Building, 5249 Olde Towne Road, Williamsburg, VA (our usual building). We'll meet in the Auditorium and enjoy our light refreshments in the Multi-purpose Room.

Members are encouraged to bring a friend or spouse.

Dean Shostak has sent out an **EVite** so check your email, save the date on your calendar and please plan to be there!!

This is an important event in our Chapter's year. We'll focus on the following (not necessarily in this order!):

- **Election of Chapter Officers for 2012**
- **Graduation of Cohort VI from Basic Training**
- Recognize newly **Certified Master Naturalists, Members' Milestones and Recertifications**
- Learn (i.e., Advanced Training!) from our **Guest Speaker, Dr. John Swaddle** about noise pollution and birds. The title of his presentation is: "**Far from the deafening crowd.**" He'll discuss what noise pollution is and why it's important to birds, focusing on some local studies that indicate that even fairly moderate amounts of human-produced noise can have significant effects on bird populations. Dr. Swaddle came to W&M in 2001 and his areas of study are: Sexual selection, animal learning and cognition, environmental stress and conservation, avian molt and body composition. Read more about his research and studies on his web site: <http://jpswad.people.wm.edu/>

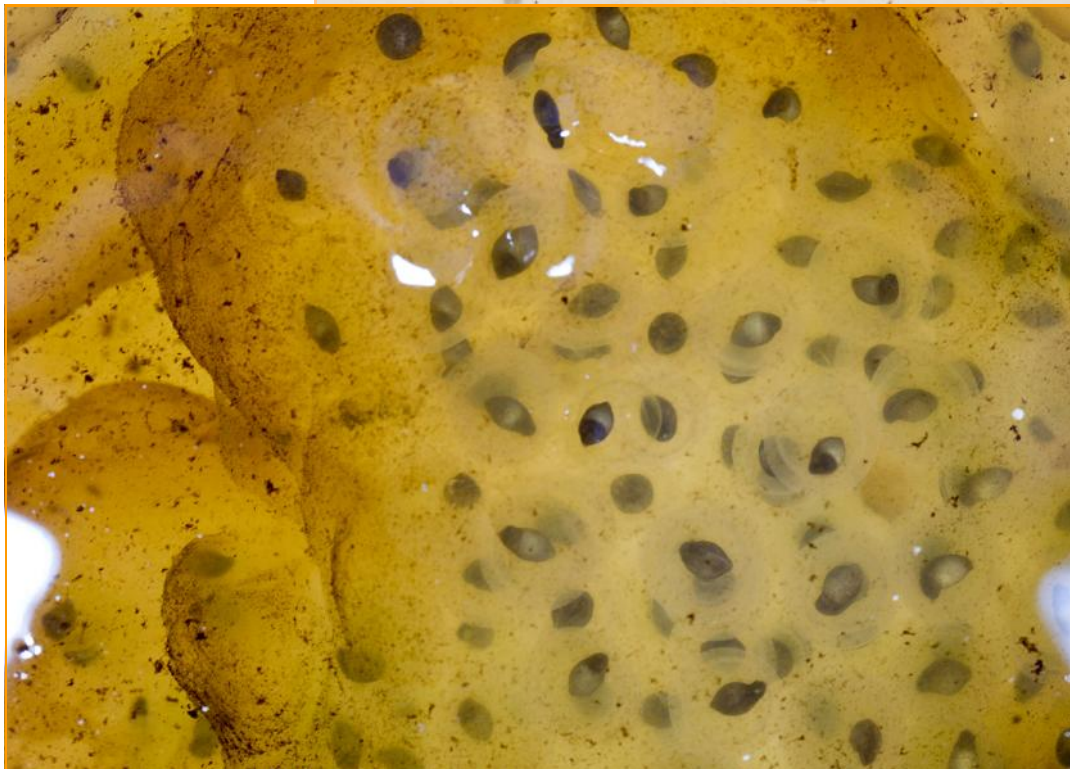
Thanks!

Shirley Devan, Membership Chair
Historic Rivers Chapter
Virginia Master Naturalist
Ph: 757.813.1322

HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Patty Maloney and I, Vernal Pools Committee Co-Chairs, attended a meeting at Rice Center and picked up our teams' materials for 2012. We got to visit one of the pools on the property and saw marbled salamander larvae, spotted salamander eggs, and a variety of aquatic invertebrates.

Have fun vernal-pooling! Felice Bond



Photos by Felice Bond

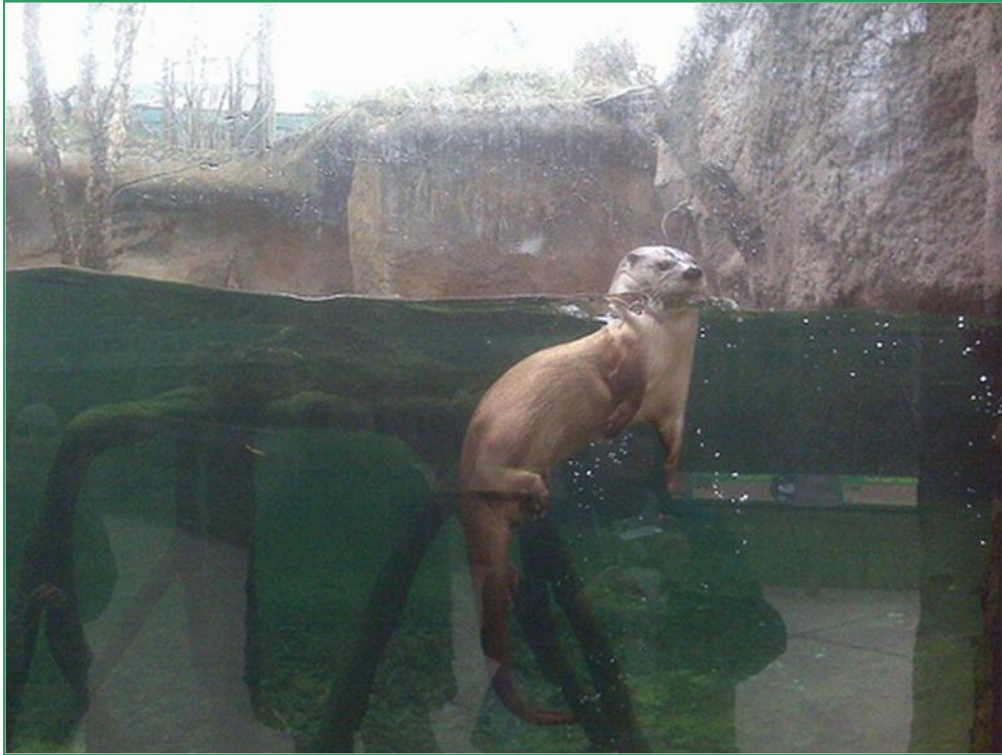
HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER

Members of Cohort VI (along with several Chapter members who couldn't resist!) spent the day at the Virginia Living Museum as part of Basic Training. They joined Bo Baker in his lab for a session on Mammals. Then some members stayed for a tour of the museum. A fun day of learning!

Here are some photos taken by Shirley Devan and Tom Dougherty.



HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER



March Advanced Training Opportunities - For more information about AT opportunities go to:
<http://www.historicrivers.org>

[AT] Save our Streams training for volunteers with JCC County Stormwater Division! - **March 3, 2012** from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm – Train-the-trainer event

[AT] Let's Go Fishing - **March 3, 2012** from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at New Quarter Park

[AT] HRBC Bird Walk - **March 4, 2012** from 7:00 am to 10:00 am at Newport News City Park

[AT] Woodland Management for Landowners Short Online Course - **March 5, 2012** all day at On-line, in the comfort of your own home or **March 6, 2012** from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at McHugh Auditorium, VIMS, Gloucester Point, Virginia

CLASS: Ecology Concepts - **March 6, 2012** from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Human Services Building, 5249 Olde Towne Rd., Williamsburg, VA

[AT] The Nature of Trees and Other Related Thoughts - **March 7, 2012** all day conference in Roanoke

[AT] WBC Bird Walk at New Quarter Park - **March 10, 2012** from 8:00 am to 10:00 am at New Quarter Park, 1000 Lakeshead Dr., Williamsburg

Graduation for Cohort VI - **March 14, 2012** from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at JCC Human Services Bldg., 5249 Olde Towne Rd., Williamsburg

[AT] Richard Louv "nature-deficit disorder" - **March 15, 2012** from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Paramount Theater, 215 East Main Street Charlottesville, VA 22902

[AT] From the Earth: Environment in VA's Past & Future - **March 16, 2012** from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia

[AT] WBC Field Trip - **March 17, 2012** from 7:00 am to 1:30 pm at WBC Field Trip

[AT] HRBC Bird Walk - **March 18, 2012** from 7:00-10:00 am at Newport News City Park

[AT] Bird Walk at New Quarter Park - **March 24, 2012** from 7:00 am to 9:00 am at New Quarter Park, 1000 Lakeshead Dr., Queens Lake

By Adrienne Frank & Gary Driscole