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THE NATURALIST

THE HISTORIC RIVERS CHAPTER OF VIRGINIA MASTER NATURALISTS

President's Message

by Rick Brown

Here are a few upcoming events to jot down on your calendars and a couple of reminders:

1. The next Chapter meeting for July is scheduled for Wednesday, July 14th at 6:30 PM. It will be on Zoom and an invitation will be sent to everyone prior to the meeting. This may be our last Chapter meeting by Zoom for the foreseeable future.
2. The August Chapter meeting will be our first in-person meeting since March 11, 2020. We will be back at the Williamsburg Library at 7770 Croaker Road, near Toano. The meeting is scheduled to start at 6:00 PM, on August 18th. Please note, this is an earlier starting time and is the 3rd Wednesday of the month because that was the only Wednesday evening available to us. The library building closes at 8:00 PM necessitating the earlier starting time. We are also working on using available technology to record and broadcast the meeting to those who cannot attend. We hope you can come to socialize and see everyone again, in-person.

3. The remainder of our meetings, through June 2022, will be held in the same library location on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 6:00 PM as was the custom before the shutdown.

4. For the foreseeable future, the HRC Board will continue to meet by Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM until we decide to return to Williamsburg Landing. All members of the Chapter are always welcome to attend any Board meeting. Just contact any Board member for the Zoom invitation link for admission.

5. We are planning to have the annual Chapter Picnic at Ted & Judy Sargent's picturesque home on the Chickahominy. Once a date has been selected an invitation will go out to all our members and their guests. This will be another great occasion to get together again. The Hospitality Committee is already making plans. If you would like to help or have an activity to suggest please contact Valerie Shostak or Brynn Ullrich. The picnic is always a fun day



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and a good time.

6. The Hospitality Committee is also laying plans for our annual Holiday Party at Legacy Hall in New Town. This will be held in December in lieu of a December chapter meeting. More details will follow as we get closer to the date.

7. At this writing we have 16 applicants for Cohort XV. The application process will close on June 30th and the Basic Training Committee will swing into action after a year's hiatus to select and begin to train the next batch of Master Naturalists. Training sessions are once again located through the generosity of and at the Williamsburg Community Chapel on John Tyler Road. A welcoming session to meet and get acquainted with the trainees will be held August 24th at the Williamsburg Regional Library downtown. The first class is scheduled for early September. Hats off and a big thank you to all the members of the Basic Training Committee for their flexibility, planning and hard work this past year to make this happen during these uncertain times.

8. This is our last Chapter newsletter until September. We are giving Adam

Ferguson our Editor a well-deserved rest please save up and send your articles and photos this summer to Adam by September 15th for inclusion in the next edition.

9. Finally, several members who have not paid dues for 2021, or entered any hours during 2020, will be removed from the mailing list and access to Better Impact effective June 30th, as required by our bylaws and the VMN Program Director's guidelines. If you are one of those members and would like to continue as an active member of the chapter, please contact the Membership Chair, Shirley Devan, for the requirements to be reinstated. We do not want to lose touch with anyone who wishes to remain actively involved in our chapter.

Our projects, field trips, training program, meetings and fun social events are now fully operational again and we hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities to attend, volunteer and participate. It's been a long 15 months and I look forward to seeing everyone at these and the other events that we have planned.

-Rick

Field Trip to Machicomoco, June 25th 2021

Photos by Mike Millin



Photo: Mike Millin



Photo: Mike Millin

A few small creatures from a mid-summer garden...

Photos by Adam Ferguson



Green Lynx Spider (Peucetia viridans) | Photo: Adam Ferguson



Bold Jumping Spider (Phidippus audax) | Photo: Adam Ferguson



Great Black Wasp (Sphex pensylvanicus) | Photo: Adam Ferguson



Elephant Mosquito (Toxorhynchites rutilus) | Photo: Adam Ferguson

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Painted Skimmer (Libellula semifasciata) | Photo: Adam Ferguson



Zabulon Skipper (Lon zabulon) | Photo: Adam Ferguson



Eight-toothed Cuckoo Leaf-cutter Bee (Coelioxys octodentatus) |
Photo: Adam Ferguson



Louisiana Painted-Dark Bee (Stelis louisae) | Photo: Adam Ferguson

The Naturalist is the monthly newsletter of the Historic Rivers Chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists. It is a membership benefit for current members of HRC.

Newsletter contributions are due by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the issue distributed to the HRC Google Group by the end of the month. Send your ready-to-publish photos, notices, stories, or reports to The Naturalist's newsletter editor at:

HRcenewsletter@gmail.com

Make sure your work is formatted and labeled properly. Please make sure your copy is error-free. We are happy to help you if you have questions!

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