

# October 2017 Newsletter

## Falls of the James Group

### Sierra Club

Recommended: [View this in your browser.](#)



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**FOJG meetings (below) -- with outstanding speakers --  
are free and open to the public!**

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**October 10, 2017**

7:00 Science Museum of Virginia

### ***"What We Can Learn from Germany's Transition to Renewable Energy"***

**Nora Löhle** is Program Director of Energy and Environment at Heinrich Böll Stiftung, a German think-tank which fosters renewable energy on both sides of the Atlantic. Nora will describe the German Energy Transition ("Energiewende") which pushed Germany towards renewables and also created an energy democracy for citizens to take part in the transformation process. She will challenge us to consider similar programs that might be adopted in the U.S.

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**November 14, 2017**



7:00 Science Museum of Virginia

## "Let's Talk Politics"

**Harrison Wallace**, *Policy Coordinator for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network*, describes his presentation:

*"We will start with an overview of CCAN's overall mission and our history in Virginia. Then we'll talk about the outcome of the election and its effect on climate policy in Virginia over the next couple of years. Finally, we'll dive deeper into one of Virginia's most progressive clean energy decisions of this decade: Executive Directive 11, which will eventually place a cap on our carbon emissions from power plants. We'll discuss the policy and how grassroots action can help us make the cap as strong and just as possible."*

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**January 9, 2018**

7:00 Science Museum of Virginia

## "Can We Support Renewable Energy Credits?"

**William L. "Bill" Murray**, *Vice President of State & Electric Public Policy at Dominion Energy* will explain renewable energy credits as offered by Dominion Energy and other entities.

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**JOIN THE GROUP:**

**Recreational Bike Ride  
on the VA Capital Trail**



image by Steren

Saturday, October 7. 10:00 am

Depart Charles City Grill (adjacent to the Capital Trail) at 10:00 am. Ride Capital Trail for about 90 minutes. Group lunch at Charles City Grill. Contact Andrew Peacock at [ShavonAndrew@verizon.net](mailto:ShavonAndrew@verizon.net).

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**SAVE THE DATE:**

**FOJG Holiday Dinner**  
**Tuesday, Dec.12, 7:30**  
*at Lewis Genter Botanical Garden*



\$39 includes dinner, taxes, gratuity and  
a ticket to the : Festival of Lights  
For reservations, write check to "FOJG Sierra Club"

Send c/o Andrew Peacock,  
7669 Rockfalls Drive, Richmond, VA 23225

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## CALL FOR INTERESTED PARTIES TO SERVE ON 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

All members of the Falls of the James Group of the Sierra Club are invited to consider running for a place on our nine-member Executive Committee. Four spaces need to be filled by January 2018. Elections will be held this coming December.

We seek dedicated persons as nominees who can meet the first Wednesday evening (6:30-8:30 p.m.) of each month to plan the direction and set policy and priorities for the Group.

We ask that anyone interested please join us this fall at one of our Executive Committee meetings at 6:30 pm on October 4 or November 1 at the Virginia State Chapter's office downtown, so that you can see what we are about. For more information, contact Adele MacLean, at [am7m@virginia.edu](mailto:am7m@virginia.edu).

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## VOTE WISELY -- VOTE GREEN VOTE NOV. 7

Deadline to register: October 16

Would you like a website with ratings and info on the Virginia candidates whose votes consistently support environmental ideals? There is one! Just click on <http://www.votegreenva.com/endorsements>

## A RINGING ENDORSEMENT

The Sierra Club is proud to announce its 2017 candidate endorsements.

To effectively use this website, you will need to know your House of Delegates district number--available at <http://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/>.

Note that there are no state senators on the ballot this year, but each of the 100 House of Delegates seats are up for election, as well as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General.

If you're interested in helping with the Richmond-area campaigns of [Schuyler VanValkenberg](#) (72<sup>nd</sup> house district) or [Dr. Dawn Adams](#) (68<sup>th</sup> house district) or with canvassing in general, contact Virginia Sierra Club staffer Amy Pieti ([amypieti@gmail.com](mailto:amypieti@gmail.com), 540-847-9725) or Will Sullivan ([william.sullivan@sierraclub.org](mailto:william.sullivan@sierraclub.org), 386-972-5517).

## 2017 October Schedule in Brief

For events scheduled by VA Sierra Club and other local groups, click on the Calendar at <http://www.sierraclub.org/virginia>.

**Oct. 4 - Letter to the Editor Writing Workshop**, 22 E Franklin St, Ste 302, 11.45-12-45. More info on [FOJG calendar](#).

**Oct. 7 - Recreational Bike Ride on Capital Trail**, 10:00 (see above).

**Oct.10 - FOJG Meeting (above) "What We Can Learn from Germany's Transition to Renewable Energy,"** Nora Lohle, speaker. 7:00.

**Oct.10 - DC to Richmond Rail Hearings**, 6:00 in Richmond / Oct. 11, 6:00 in Ashland. See [chapter calendar](#) for details. Visit <http://dc2rvarail.com/> to comment on draft environmental impact statement.

**Oct.14 - iNaturalist workshop** for James River Park fans. Learn to document species with digital photographs and sound. 9:00-12:00. Details at <http://www.jamesriverpark.org/calendar>.

**Oct.19 - RVA's Monthly Green Drinks**. 5:30-7:30. Info on the calendar at [www.sierraclub.org/virginia](http://www.sierraclub.org/virginia).

**Oct.21 - Faith, Politics and Environmental Racism Forum**. 10:00. VA Union University, More info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/295304560951142> .

**Nov. 7 - Election Day. See you at the polls!**

**Get involved!** Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the programs and activities of the Sierra Club's Falls of the James Group.

## FOJG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Joe Brancoli**, Chairperson  
omethid@hotmail.com

**Andrew Peacock**, Treasurer  
shavonandrew@verizon.net

**Mary Crutchfield**, Secretary  
marycrutchfield@verizon.net

**Scott Burger**  
scottburger@me.com

**Steve Heinitz**  
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**Adele MacLean**,  
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**Shavon Peacock**,  
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**Bruce Tarr**  
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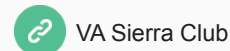
**Ralph R. White**  
ralphrwhite@aol.com

**Daryl Downing** (VA ExCom liaison)  
dtdowning@comcast.net

## FOJG Committee Structure

- **Communications Committee** comprises Enews, Website, Publicity and Social Media.
- **Conservation & Advocacy Committee** comprises Conservation, Legislative/Political, Pollinators, Bike/Ped. Meets 4th Wed. each month.
- **Membership Engagement Committee** comprises Membership, Programs, Outings, and Fundraising. Meets last Thursday of each month.

**New members welcome.**  
**Interested? Contact Gil Sigmon**, [gill.sigmon1@gmail.com](mailto:gill.sigmon1@gmail.com)



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