

November 2017 Newsletter

Falls of the James Group

Sierra Club

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



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



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."



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.

At the end of his presentation, Bill Murray has agreed to address other topics of interest to the membership. Please write down other issues you would like him to discuss and send to Gill at gill.sigmon1@gmail.com.



Spring, 2018

7:00 Science Museum of Virginia

"Outdoor Travel Experiences"

by you, our members

Have you particularly enjoyed an outdoor experience you'd be willing to share with the club at one of our General Meetings? We're considering a future program where, in lieu of the usual speaker, you can Share Your Adventures (trip or outing). Contact Gil, at gill.sigmon1@gmail.com for more information.

Sign Up Now:

FOJG HOLIDAY DINNER
TUESDAY, DEC. 12, 7:30



Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
Robins Room
\$39

Join the Falls of the James Group for fun, friendship and a festive

evening together with fellow Sierra Club members. Price includes complete meal, tax, and entrance fee to the GardenFest of Lights. Come early to enjoy the gift shop, conservatory, library, model trains and caroling.

Buffet dinner will include:

Season Vintner's Salad
Meriwether's Shrimp & Grits
Cinnamon Chipotle Roasted Pork Tenderloin
Spinach & Phyllo Casserole
Roasted Vegetables
Sweet Potato Mash
Bread Basket
Seasonal Fruit Cobbler
Iced Tea & Coffee

Payment must be made in advance. Only 50 reservations will be accepted, so make your check out to "FOJG Sierra Club" now. (No electronic payment method available.)

Please send with your name and guests' names to
Andrew Peacock
7669 Rockfalls Drive
Richmond, VA 23225



**VOTE NOV. 7--NEXT TUESDAY!
VOTE WISELY
VOTE GREEN**

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 on your voter registration card or at <http://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.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 phone banking or canvassing, contact Sierra Club staffer Amy Pieti (amypieti@gmail.com, 540-847-9725) or Political Field Director Will Sullivan (william.sullivan@sierraclub.org, 386-972-5517)

While this is not everyone's cup of tea, it's a part of the political process and you're sure to learn a ton from the experience--as well as contribute in a real way to a healthy environment.

CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED for 2018 Falls of the James Group Executive Committee

Four candidates have accepted the bid to fill the four positions available on the 2018 Executive Committee (ExCom). The Nominating Committee (Adele MacLean, Shavon Peacock and Anne Repp) is proud to announce Glen Besa, Steve Carter-Lovejoy, Bruce Tarr, and Steve Yarus. All have exceptional experience with environmental issues. Brief pictures and bios are below.

Ballots will be sent about December 1 by email to each FOJG member.

Please vote to confirm these new members at that time.



Glen Besa is the recently retired director of the Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. In his twenty years with the Sierra Club, he worked on issues as diverse as forest protection and toxics, coal ash and solar farms; he continues these efforts in his retirement. Glen has a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from the U. of Maryland-Baltimore County and a law degree from the U. of Baltimore.



Steve Carter-Lovejoy A long-time Sierra Club member, Steve spent 19 years working as a conservation biologist for the state and 10 years as a public librarian. Now retired, Steve serves on the FOJG Advocacy Committee and is active in the VA Chapter of the Sierra Club where he was recognized in September 2017 for Outstanding Achievement.



Bruce Tarr has been a member of the Falls of the James Group since 1990 and has served several terms on the Falls of the James Group's Executive Committee. He also is one of the core volunteers researching, recovering, and promoting the historic, overgrown Evergreen and East End Cemeteries.



Steve Yarus, a retired professional engineer, has been a member of the Club for five years. He has worked on the Big Yard Sale, the Environmental Film Festival, and participated in the DC Climate March last May. His reason for accepting the nomination: "The more active I can be in the Sierra Club, the better I can protect my grandchildren and civilization from global warming."



GRANTS AWARDED by FOJG

The Falls of the James Group of the Sierra Club periodically awards grants to groups participating in efforts to protect the environment, and we are accepting grant applications at this time. To find more information about the grants process (applications must be received by February 15), see the [Grant Guidelines](#) and [Grant Application Form](#) on the FOJG website.

Groups that have received a grant in the past year are

Virginia Farmers Market Association
United Parents Against Lead
Virginia Interfaith Power and Light
Enrichmond Foundation (for the Tree Lab)



Enrichmond TreeLab

Grant recipients from former years include the Richmond Hostel, RVA Clean Sweep, Partnership for Smarter Growth, and the Environmental Film Festival.

All members of FOJG can be proud that our efforts at the Big Yard Sale, the September Raise and, in past years, the Holiday Auction, allow us to financially support these wonderful local organizations.

2017 Nov. Schedule in Brief

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

NOV. 7 - Election Day

Nov. 14 - FOJG Meeting (above) "Let's Talk Politics" Harrison Wallace speaker.

Nov. 15 - Ethics Lessons from the Flint Water Crisis. 6:30-8:00. Science Museum of VA series

Various Nov. dates - Activities listed on the [Richmond Climate Calendar](#).

Nov. 16 - RVA Green Drinks. 5:30-7:30. Info on the calendar [HERE](#).

Dec. 1-15 - Fill out and return ballot (to be emailed) for new FOJG Executive Committee members. (above)

Dec. 12 - FOJG Holiday Dinner. 7:30. Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. (above)

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
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Steve Heinitz
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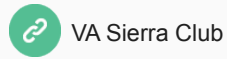
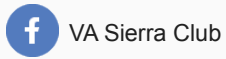
Daryl Downing (VA ExCom liaison)
dt Downing@comcast.net

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



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