



FOJG Fall 2018 Newsletter

**Outstanding speakers are featured at monthly meetings
at the Science Museum of VA.
All are free and open to the public.**

**Bring your old batteries (all kinds) and printer cartridges.
We'll recycle what your recycler won't!**

Lou Verner

Tues. Sept. 11, 7:00

Resiliency or Climate Change: Building an Ark or Rearranging Deck Chairs?

Dr. Lou Verner's career as a teacher and biologist in Texas and Virginia led to his interest in conservation and climate change. Inspired by a series of lectures at the Science Museum of Virginia in 2016, he was challenged and will challenge us to consider our two human responses to climate change: 1) resiliency, attacking the *symptoms* of climate change (for example, NY's protecting the harbor by building storm surge barriers) and 2) attacking the *causes* of climate change (example, reducing carbon automobile emissions.) Can we have one without the other?

Please bring your insights, questions and opinions for a vigorous discussion.



Lou Verner

Harrison Wallace

Tues. Oct. 9, 7:00

Let's Talk Politics

Director of Chesapeake Climate Action Network in Virginia, Harrison Wallace manages CCAN's grassroots campaigns around the Commonwealth and advocates for strong climate policy. Seeing climate change as a moral issue, he works on

keeping our elected leaders knowledgeable and accountable. Although he was unable to address FOJG last year, he closely follows the political scene and will be able to update us on current trends and CCAN's efforts in combatting climate change.



Harrison Wallace

Bob Schamerhorn

Tues. Nov. 13, 7:00

Attracting Birds With Water

Bob Schamerhorn is a professional nature photographer whose images of nature have won many awards and appeared in numerous publications. His frequent talks have gotten enthusiastic reviews, and his website www.iphotobirds.com is a must for all bird-lovers to explore. The multimedia program he will present for FOJG will include photographs, video clips and birdsongs with the message that water can attract birds to back yard environments.



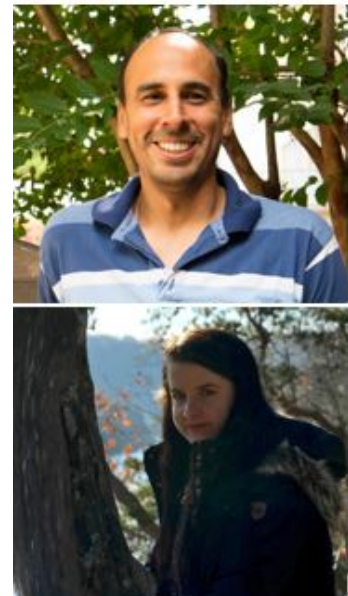
Bob Schamerhorn

Gustavo Angeles & Alexis Szepesy

Tues. Jan. 8, 2019, 7:00

Environmental Justice

Both presenters work with the Virginia Sierra Club Chapter: Gustavo, as Environmental Justice Program Coordinator, and Alexis as an Environmental Justice Chairperson. They will explain what Environmental Justice encompasses by providing examples of issues in our area. Their successful efforts have included integrating non-traditional members and conducting local campaigns to further their EJ goals.



*Gustavo Angeles
& Alexis Szepesy*

HOLIDAY DINNER

Tues. Dec. 11, 6:00

Positive Vibe Café

Friendly, casual and known for employing and training folks with disabilities, Positive Vibe Café can host up to 60 guests in a private party. FOJG reserved the space for December 11 anticipating a fun, relaxed evening. Put this date on your calendar and join other Sierrans for a positive vibe to start the holidays!



FOJG GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Sierra Club Falls of the James Group periodically awards grants to worthy organizations. Grant requests are accepted each year from September 1 through February 15. For more information about this process as well as the needed application forms, please see our online Guidelines and Application. ([Word Document](#) or [PDF](#)).

2018 SEPTEMBER RAISE

Wed. Sept.12, (6 am)

through Sun. Sept.16, (6 pm)

Let's do it again!

Here is a great opportunity for those who would like to see their Sierra Club contributions earmarked for education and conservation efforts within the Falls of the James area! Supporting such impressive projects as the Environmental Film Festival, watershed restoration and local speakers, your donation is a tax deductible donation to the Sierra Club Foundation.

This year FOJG's *September Raise* lasts from **Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 6 am, through Sunday, Sept. 16, at 6 pm** -- that's 108 hours to contribute toward the goal of \$3,000. Whether you're an Early Bird or a Procrastinator every donation is appreciated. (We suggest contributions of \$25 or more.) Click on the button below for instructions. **All donations can be made by credit card or check.**

Thanks in advance for your donation!

Donate now!

WILDLIFE REFUGE SPECIES COUNT

Saturday, Sept. 29

8:00 am - noon

Help collect data on wildlife in a newly acquired unit of the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Here is an opportunity to identify plant and animal species in a small but lovely refuge that is about a 1 ½-hour drive from Richmond.

Trip explained: <http://www.nnkgreen.org/bioblitz-on-the-national-wildlife-refuge-sept-29>

Link to the refuge:

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Rappahannock_River_Valley/about.html

Interested? Contact Shavon Peacock (shavonandrew@verizon.net) for more information on the event and possible carpooling.

CALENDAR IN BRIEF

FOJG-sponsored activities below.

Click [HERE](#) to see these and many other green activities within the Falls of the James Group area.

Tues. Sept.11 – Speaker Lou Verner at FOJG meeting. 7:00 (see above)

Wed.-Sun. Sept.12-16 – September Raise. (see above)

Thurs. Sept.20 – Green Drinks. 5:30. Info [HERE](#)

Sat. Sept.29 -- Wildlife survey volunteers needed. (see above)

Sat.-Sun. Oct.6-7 -- Richmond Solar Home Tour. Visit local homes that have gone solar and talk with owners. Info & sign up [HERE](#)

Tues. Oct.9 – Speaker Harrison Wallace at FOJG meeting. 7:00. (see above)

Tues. Nov.13 – Speaker Bob Schamerhorn at FOJG meeting. 7:00. (see above)

Tues. Dec.11 – FOJG Holiday Dinner. (see above)

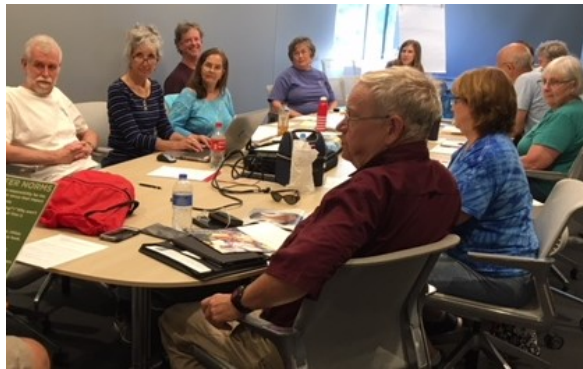
Tues. Jan.8 -- Environmental Justice topic at FOJG meeting. 7:00. (see above)

LOOKING BACK AT SUMMER 2018 . . .



BIG YARD SALE

In spite of rainy weather and smaller sales space, the 2018 BYS was a success again! As always, we thank the 100+ volunteers, the University of Richmond, and Goodwill.



RETREAT

The Executive Committee of Falls of the James Group met on Saturday July 14 at the Varina Area Library to discuss plans and strategies for the coming year.

ENERGY FILM

On July 22, the Byrd Theatre aired the Virginia Sierra Club film *Reinventing Power: America's Renewable Energy Boom*. The film's producer Brennon Edwards was a featured guest. In addition, as folks approached the theater, they were treated to a display of solar vehicles.

BRYAN PARK GATHERING

Twenty Sierrans gathered at Bryan Park's Nature Center on June 12 for ice cream and a presentation by John Zeugner. The property adjoining the Nature Center, which was cleaned partly by FOJG funds, is being considered for incorporation into the Bryan Park system.

PUT SCHOOLS FIRST

In last November's election, 90% of the city's voters supported a change of City Charter that would require the Mayor to come up with a plan to improve the Richmond City Schools. FOJG supported this and celebrated the win on June 28 with a gathering at a local restaurant.

LETTERS

The FOJG Executive Committee has twice voted to submit written opinions on environmental issues affecting our area. The first expressed disapproval of certain aspects of the renovation of Monroe Park near of VCU. The other was to support retention of the train station at Ettrick.

2018 FOJG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Joe Brancoli, Chair:

omethid@hotmail.com

Andrew Peacock, Treasurer:

shavonandrew@verizon.net

Shavon Peacock, Secretary:

shavonandrew@verizon.net

Glen Besa:

glenbesa@gmail.com

Scott Burger:

scottburger@me.com

Steve Carter-Lovejoy:

scarterlovejoy53@msn.com

Mary Crutchfield:

marycrutchfield@verizon.net

Bruce Tarr:

bruce.tarr@comcast.net

Steve Yarus:

hsyarus@gmail.com

Daryl Downing, FOJG liaison to, and

Vice Chair of, the Virginia Chapter:

dtdowning@comcast.net

FOJG Committee Structure

Communications Committee

comprises e-news, website, publicity and social media.

Conservation & Advocacy

Committee comprises conservation, legislative/political, pollinators, bike/pedestrian issues. Meets on the fourth Wednesday each month.

Membership Engagement

Committee comprises membership, programs, outings and fundraising. Meets on the last Thursday of each month.

New members are welcome.

Falls of the James Group



Facebook

Sierra Club Virginia Chapter



Facebook

Websites: [Falls of the James Group](#) | [Virginia Chapter](#)

Copyright © 2018 Fall of the James Group, Sierra Club, All rights reserved.

This email was sent by the [Sierra Club Virginia Chapter](#)
100 W Franklin St, Mezzanine Richmond, VA 23220-5048