Jessica Sims, Aileen Rivera, Lee Williams, shavonandrew@verizon.net

Joe Brancoli, 2022 Executive Committee Contacts

Ohio University.

Resolution with his students and Richmond policy makers.

caused by human activity, has resulted in a climate and ecological emergency. This resolution

Barry was the founding member of Extinction Rebellion (XR) Richmond. Barry was involved in

environmental justice issues. He's created many exhibits at galleries and at light installations,

University (VCU) Arts and working throughout Virginia as an organizer who centers on social and

pipelines. VECA advocated for environmental justice legislation which resulted in the

permit being denied which contributed to the defeat of that project.

Coast and Mountain Valley Pipelines. Environmental justice concerns with the Atlantic Coast

advocate for marginalized communities of color disproportionately impacted by both the Atlantic

scholar she has brought public attention to environmental injustices in Virginia and beyond. As

Mary would be the first to acknowledge that these victories are the result of front-line

establishment of an Environmental Justice Office in the Virginia Department of Environmental

Mary Finley-Brook

Photo Credit: University of Richmond

Claudia is a visionary and environmental champion improving the quality of life for people in the

organizations in the community, and advocates for her neighbors in the district.

uses it to create change in how we provide healthcare.

Claudia Spurill

Photo Credit: Sheri Shannon

In 2013, Claudia founded Seeds of Change Organization (SOCO) while living in Newport News,

Green Giant Awards will also be presented to Barry O'Keefe, Claudia Spurill, and Mary

with 

Devin Jefferson

FOJG Membership Engagement Committee Chair

Thank you,

Take a humorous and informative trip around our continent with these authors, and please

I am currently rereading “Wild America”, coauthored by Peterson and British author/naturalist

Robert Michael. Though not related to our newsletter theme, I found this book very enjoyable. For

the Sierra Club. In the meantime, I will try, with lots of help from Paige Wesselink, the VA

under the Salesforce cloud-based software company used to send emails and newsletters for

If anyone is interested in taking over the important volunteer role of FOJG newsletter

volunteering with FOJG in the time to come.”

help keep you all informed on the latest programs, outings, and advocacy news.

Thank You to Veronica Hayes, Former FOJG

Veronica Hayes. Enjoying life during our beautiful fall season in Virginia. Photo courtesy of

Devin Jefferson

FOJG Political Chair and Outings Leader:

FOJG Executive Committee Chair/Leadership Chair:

FOJG Advocacy Chair:

FOJG Executive Committee Member:

FOJG Executive Committee Member:

FOJG Executive Committee Member:

FOJG Secretary, Membership Engagement Chair, & Outings Leader:

Register here

100 W Franklin St, Mezzanine, Richmond, VA 23220-5048

FOJG Virtual Program: Adventures in Turkey, Germany, and

Ralph Grove hiking the Lycean Way in Turkey. Photo courtesy of Ralph Grove.

BioBlitzes and City Nature Challenges. We will also talk about ways to get involved in the

Virginia, will talk about biodiversity observations during community science events such as

will be at the Varina Library Meeting Room. Masks are required.

November 2022 Newsletter

Petersburg on October 8th. Participants picked up a lot of trash along the way. Photo courtesy of

FOJG members had a great hike on the Lower Appomattox River Trail from Ferndale Park in

FOJG Hike!

Lydia Pittman, and Camping and Paddling the Natural Wonders of Newfoundland Canada

Ralph Grove, Traveling in the Harz Mountains and the Romanesque Road of Germany with

12/13/2022 7 pm – 8 pm FOJG Virtual Program: Hiking the Lycean Way in Turkey with

Traveling in the Harz Mountains and The Romanesque Road - Hexen. Photo courtesy of Lydia

Ralph Grove, Traveling in the Harz Mountains and The Romanesque Road of Germany with

I am writing this newsletter from Home and would like to thank everyone for

11/15/2022 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm BioBlitzes and Community Science

A Christmas Carol, and a 1972 edition of Anna Karenina.

This is an in and out hike from the Courthouse Rd parking area to the lake. We’ll follow the

Swift Run Lake. Photo courtesy of Shavon Peacock

Check out the

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