

NAPS News

Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship

"Northumberland is going to grow. Let's help it grow with order and beauty."

Spring 2018

Volume 27 Issue 2



Welcome to the Spring 2018 Edition of NAPS News.

Here's what happened this season, but first, please mark your calendars:

Sunday, September 30: NAPS Fall Creek Clean-up, Location TBD (see page 3 for more info)

Watch for an announcement for the NAPS Annual Fall Social

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To keep up with NAPS on a regular basis, check out our website: napsva.org.

– Gena McKinley, Editor

NAPS Awards Six Scholarships

Six Northumberland High School seniors received scholarships from the NAPS during the Senior Recognition presentation ceremony at the school auditorium, May 31, 2018.

Lucinda Wigfield received a special \$1,000 scholarship from the NAPS Endowment Fund in recognition of her past and future dedication to environmental education and science. The NAPS Endowment Fund was created from a generous gift from the estate of Charlie Fears and other NAPS members who have added contributions.

Five \$500 scholarships were awarded to Shannon Baker, Noah Hamilton, Lizzy Swann, Zachary Swift, and Morgan Wilson.

NAPS President Mike Ahart presented the scholarships along with Martha Tallent, chair of the NAPS Scholarship Committee. Ahart outlined many of the school and student projects and programs NAPS has created and sponsored, including building the outdoor classroom and nature trail features, and creating and

funding STEM projects such as a student-built solar panel and a virtual/augmented reality program. He added that NAPS takes students on Eco-Tours of the Chesapeake Bay – most recently on June 7 – and that NAPS again sponsored a middle school underwater robotics team at the SeaPerch national finals June 2 in Massachusetts.

"We had a fantastic group of students apply for scholarships," said Tallent. "Our committee chose eleven students to interview – and they went so well we had a difficult time paring it down to six."

Selection was based on a combination of environmental and community service, high school grades, college interest, and need.

To donate to the NAPS Scholarship Endowment Fund, visit napsva.org/scholarship-endowment – or mail a check payable to NAPS to P.O. Box 567, Heathsville, VA 22473. Please write "Scholarship Fund" in the memo line.



Congratulations to NAPS scholarship awardees (from left) Lucinda Wigfield, Morgan Wilson, Zachary Swift, Lizzy Swann, and Shannon Baker. Not pictured: Noah Hamilton.

38 Students Enjoy the Bay on NAPS-Sponsored Eco-Tour



Captain Crabbe teaches students about the tools and techniques of crabbing.

By Shauna McCranie

NAPS sponsored 38 5th-grade students, many of whom have never been on a boat, to experience the Chesapeake Bay aboard the Kit II, with Captain Danny Crabbe and Mate Ms. Bonnie on Thursday, June 7, 2018.

Students boarded from the dock at Tommy's Restaurant in Reedville and enjoyed a half day pulling crab pots, fishing for rockfish, viewing the Omega Protein plant and the famous "stack" from the boat, and sampling crab claws from Cockrell's Seafood Deli. They enjoyed lunch at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum under the pavilion.

The students were also given an informative tour of the Reedville Fishermen's

Museum. Highlights included the Walker House, the natural shoreline and, of course, the small model boats and the boat building areas.

Students said that they really enjoyed the day. The weather was wonderful and it was a fabulous way to wrap up elementary school with their graduation to middle school ceremony held that evening.



Students inspect a tiny crab before tossing it back. See complete color photo slideshow

Aided by NAPS, County Enacts Solar Zoning Amendments

With support from NAPS member, Lee Allain, the Northumberland County Planning Commission recently passed new Solar Zoning Amendments, set to take effect immediately. The Planning Commission began working on the amendments last fall and a final draft was sent to the Board of Supervisors in May 2018. A public hearing was held on June 14 to review the final draft of proposed regulations.

According to County Planner, Stuart McKenzie, "nobody attended the meeting to support or oppose the proposed ordinance" so it was voted into law. As stated in the ordinance, its purpose is to "provide for the siting, development, and

decommissioning of solar energy projects in Northumberland County, subject to reasonable conditions that promote and protect the public health, safety and welfare of the community while promoting development of renewable energy resources." The ordinance covers regulations for small (residential), medium, and utility-scale facilities.

Allain was requested by McKenzie to provide expertise and technical support to the Planning Commission throughout the process of revising the solar ordinance. During the planning cycle, Allain attended the Commission meetings and worked with McKenzie and others to draft

regulations in support of solar technology. With his background as an Electrical Engineer and his personal experience in the Solar Energy field, Lee is well qualified to provide assistance. In fact, as part of recent NAPS STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activity, Allain mentored a NAPS Solar Grant to our local high school. Under the Grant, senior math students actually built a 120-watt solar panel that was subsequently used to charge their cell-phones. He has also written articles on solar collection for residences and is well familiar with solar's application from home use to utility-scale solar farms.

NAPS Highway Pickup Clears 17+ Bags of Trash



By Janice Mahoney

The spring NAPS highway pickup was held on Monday, April 9th, 2018. Thanks to the hard work of our road crew, 17 bags of trash and several large pieces of cardboard and tires were removed from the sides of our Adopt-A-Highway stretch of Route 200 (from Wicomico Church to the Tippers Bridge).

Special thanks to Susan Christopher for providing the group with coffee and snacks prior to the start.

Want to join the crew for the next NAPS Adopt-A-Highway pickup? Contact Janice Mahoney at 580-3154 or vervaville@yahoo.com.

Highway clean-up volunteers (from left, back row): Don Imbur, Alice Imbur, Mike Ahart, Bill Estell, Jeanne Stevens, Janice Mahoney, Alice Stieve, Joe Stieve. (Front): Martha Talent, Charles Smith.

NAPS Awarded Grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful for Creek Cleanup

The NAPS has been awarded a \$750 grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful in the Community Beautification category of its "30 in Thirty" grant program.

Grant funds will be used to purchase cleanup supplies and a dumpster rental for the NAPS Fall Creek Cleanup, scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018. NAPS anticipates that thousands of pounds of unsightly and dangerous trash will be removed from the waterways – not only for beautification, but to restore the habitat of both land and sea life.

The NAPS annual creek cleanup enlists area watermen to captain skiffs to ferry "pickers" – mostly students – to all areas of the shoreline to remove trash. Trash is boated back to the land base, usually offered by a boatyard or marina, where it is sorted for recycling or placed in a dumpster. Lunch is provided, and each participant receives a t-shirt.

Typically, more than 40 volunteers from all walks of life participate in the cleanup. The event provides a social opportunity and a learning experience for the community, as well as ridding trash from the our Chesapeake Bay estuaries. "Everyone seems

to really enjoy the creek cleanups," said Mike Ahart, NAPS president. "It's a dirty job, but a fun day on the water."

To participate in this year's cleanup – whether as a captain, picker, sorter, or lunch helper, please email stewardship@napsva.org.

Since 2011, Keep Virginia Beautiful has provided over \$178,000 to fund 230 environmental projects and programs all across the Commonwealth, due to the generosity this year of its partners at Altria and Keep America Beautiful. Government, non-profit, civic and service organizations in Virginia were invited to apply for grants for \$500 to \$1,000 describing how they plan to tackle an environmental concern in their community regarding Litter Prevention, Recycling, Cigarette Litter Prevention, or Community Beautification.



Students bringing in their haul with Captains Monty & Mary Deihl during the 2017 Creek Cleanup of the Little Wicomico River.

Save the Date!

NAPS Creek Cleanup, Sunday, Sept. 30

Join the 2018 NAPS Creek Cleanup! We'll get fueled up with a lunch for all participants, then we'll clean up the shorelines of the creeks using a small fleet of skiffs and lots of helping hands. Free t-shirt for each participant. Email stewardship@napsva.org and we'll put you on the list!

Check napsva.org for updates, including the location (TBD). A special thanks to Keep Virginia Beautiful for a generous grant to help fund the event (see article above).

NAPS-Sponsored Robotics Team Takes 8th in the Nation



Luke Swann and Channing Reynolds, who make up Team Poseidon Version Two (TPV2), did an amazing job again at the 2018 International SeaPerch Challenge competition held June 2nd-3rd at University of Massachusetts at North Dartmouth.

Luke and Channing, both 8th graders at Northumberland Middle School, qualified for this competition for the 3rd year in a row, and they were thrilled when the final results were released as each year they get better and better. Coming in 8th overall for the Middle School Division (85 schools competing from all over the world), TPV2 took 6th place for the Underwater Puzzle Challenge, 7th

for the Underwater Rings Obstacle, and 26th for the Engineering Notebook requirement.

Luke and Channing are looking forward to entering the high school division next year, and are already thinking of new ways to make their SeaPerch vehicle faster as well as improve their Engineering Notebook submission. They are very thankful to Northumberland County Schools, Shauna McCranie (ATAG instructor), NAPS, their parents and the local community for supporting their efforts in STEM!



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Total paid memberships for 2018 have increased by 16 since the March report.

Fifty-five of our members have been with NAPS for ten years or more. Mary Lou Butler, who was a founder of NAPS in 1989, has been with us the longest.

| Membership Level | 2018 Paid | 2017 |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Business | 1 | 2 |
| Family | 38 | 49 |
| Individual | 21 | 24 |
| Patron | 2 | 2 |
| Sustaining | 21 | 21 |
| Student | 1 | 6 |
| Total | 84 | 104 |

Welcome new NAPS members!
 Arthur Carver III
 Mr. & Mrs. Hap Duffey
 Lesley Newman & Casey Boettcher
 Bonnie Reif & Carolyn Plummer
 Willis Robertson, Jr.
 Alice & Joe Stieve

By Gena McKinley

There was electricity in the air at the 4th annual Earth Day Festival in Heathsville on Saturday, April 21, 2018. Shoppers, runners, sightseers, activists, children and dogs all mingled harmoniously on the brisk but sunny morning. Hosted by NAPS and in conjunction with the first Farmer's Market of the season, the eco-friendly event brought everyone together for a common mission – to celebrate the natural beauty of the Northern Neck and share ideas for preserving and protecting it. More than a dozen environmental organizations lined up along the sides of the grassy lawn with their hands-on activities and exhibits.



Parked at the end was Northumberland Public Library's TechMobile, first introduced to locals about six months ago. A state-of-the-art computer lab on wheels, "Big Blue" travels around the county to provide patrons with internet connection, a copy and fax machine, as well as books and movies. At the center of it the festival was arguably the most popular attraction:

Two fully-electric Tesla cars on display, with the owners on hand to answer questions (see sidebar article: 'It's Electric' – Earth Day EV Exhibit Draws a Crowd).

The Earth Day Festival kicked off with a 5K run to benefit area schools. Organizers were extremely pleased with the turnout, counting approximately 100 participants – an increase over last year. A "Tot Trot" for kids aged five and under proved to be popular with families.

The NAPS Earth Day Pledge Tree greeted attendees at the entrance to the festival, where young and old alike added paper leaves to the tree with their individual pledges to help the environment. Each person who made a pledge received a complimentary NAPS reusable grocery bag.



Those who joined NAPS were given an LED light bulb and pointed to the next booth down – The Northern Neck Electric Cooperative. A newcomer to the festival, the Co-op showcased a visually stunning display of light bulbs hooked up to a meter, demonstrating the meager amount of electricity LED bulbs use as compared to the traditional incandescent bulbs. "Think of it as sipping electricity versus drinking it," said NNEC Public Relations Manager, Jay Garner. "Something as simple as changing a light bulb can make such a big difference," Garner added.

Another way to save money while protecting the environment is to install solar panels. NAPS member Lee Allain was on hand with a solar array demonstration. Allain answered questions about the benefits of solar energy and explained to interested environmentalists how they might incorporate the technology into their homes and businesses.



Several members of the Virginia Native Plant Society tended a booth at the festival and their message was a familiar one to

NAPS Earth Day Festival Sparks Excitement about the Environment



Earth Day participants – what's good for the environment often benefits the homeowner as well. Integrating native plants into your landscape not only protects species native to the Northern Neck, but it will save you time and money, as these plants tend to be hardy and low-maintenance, president Kevin Howe explained. Additionally, since our region's plants and insects "co-evolved" native plants are crucial to the survival of many beneficial insects.

The kid-friendly display of the Northern Neck Chapter of the National Audubon Society echoed the theme of nature as a unified system. Visitors to their booth leafed through nature books for children and studied a brightly colored poster illustrating birds native to the Northern Neck. "It's important for children to understand the world around them," said Porter Washington, Educational Outreach Coordinator for the Chapter. To that end, local Audubon member Kim Schmidt, in conjunction with other groups represented at the Earth Day Festival, has begun organizing an educational presentation for children to emphasize the interconnectedness



of the natural world. The Northumberland Elementary School "Problem Solvers" greeted guests at their display table. They participated in NAPS' Fall Creek Cleanup and a shoreline cleanup at Kohl's Island last year, as well as producing an entertaining skit for the NAPS "Earth Day in February" environmental symposium this year. Channing Reynolds and Luke Swann showed off their SeaPerch underwater robotic projects, including the newest robot they are taking to the national competition in Massachusetts this year. NAPS has proudly helped sponsor students in the SeaPerch Challenge for several years.



The Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends also had a catchy display promoting their annual "Go Wild" event, coming up on May 20th. The organization's mission is to raise awareness of the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge through education and support. According to Friends president Ann Graziano,



they hoped to have a life-size model of an eagle's nest for the festival but they were not able to repair the cart to bring it. However, they did have some pelts and several stuffed animals, including an authentic-looking wolf that intrigued children and startled a few visiting dogs.



TOGA (Tidewater Oyster Gardeners Association) featured its familiar tank demonstrating how oysters purify the water. Visitors to the exhibit also learned about classes on oyster gardening in Virginia. TOGA currently has 450 active members in the region. Bill Armstrong and Al Withers of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy, familiar faces at NAPS events, spoke to visitors about the Conservancy's mission to preserve the rural heritage of the Northern Neck by conserving its land. They have successfully placed over 2000 acres into easements in this area, meaning the land will be protected in perpetuity. "Contrary to what some people believe," Armstrong explained, "an easement can make your property more valuable."



First-time exhibitor at the Earth Day Festival, Keep Virginia Beautiful, has partnered with the Virginia Department of Transportation to increase participation in the well-known Adopt-a-Highway program. "VDOT has provided an extensive list of potential contacts for the program," said Roger Etelman, regional director. An offshoot of Keep America Beautiful, the Virginia branch has announced it is accepting 30 grants to support programs and projects in the Commonwealth to advance environmental objectives.

Another new exhibitor, the George Washington Birthplace National Monument is a favorite environmental venue for master naturalists and bird watchers. In addition to its educational mission, the organization has launched an initiative to reduce shoreline erosion using native plants.



One booth over, the Northern Neck Master Gardeners, regular participants in the Earth Day Festival, promoted a similar shoreline project directed by Sue Lindsey. The Northern Neck Master Naturalists, also a return exhibitor to the festival, described their upcoming Master Naturalist courses. For more information about the courses and other outreach efforts, visit its website.

Visitors to the Earth Day Festival left energized about efforts to protect our pristine environment.



'It's Electric' – Earth Day EV Exhibit Draws a Crowd

It didn't take long for crowds to gather around the centerpiece of the Earth Day Festival, one that might have left you humming the tune of the 1980's hit "Electric Slide" – two shiny, fully-electric Tesla vehicles. Curious onlookers circled the cars and peered into each "frunk" – a second trunk space in the front of the vehicle made possible by the absence of an engine.

A white Tesla Model S and red Tesla Model 3 sat in the fairway of the Earth Day Festival, April 21, 2018, in Heathsville. Maureen and Paul Fairbrother were on hand to talk about their Model S.

If you met the owner of the red Model 3, Steve Ahart, you probably learned that he and his brother, Dave, were about to set off for a long road trip to raise awareness of EVs, and raise money for Boys & Girls Clubs of America. They hoped to break a couple Guinness World Records as well.

They set out from Northern Virginia on May 6, 2018, to see a full game in every Major League Baseball stadium in less than 30 days. They missed this world record by a week due to several rainouts. However, they far surpassed the Guinness World Record for "Longest Voyage by Electric Vehicle." With the success of an increasing number of long-range models, and convenient quick-charging stations cropping up everywhere, they probably won't hold that record long.

They also managed to raise almost \$10,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs of America – so far. They hope the completion of the trip will spark some news coverage, which will continue to raise donations and EV awareness.

An amazing coincidence to add to their successful trip: Steve & Dave fin-



ished up on the West Coast and had an extra day before catching a game in Denver. Their beloved home hockey team – the Washington Capitals – just happened to be playing in Las Vegas that night. Yes...game 5 of the Stanley Cup Finals! They bought (very expensive) tickets and attended the game. The Caps won the game and the Stanley Cup that night – first time in its 40-plus-year history.

Congratulations to Steve and Dave for proving that all-electric cars aren't just for commuting – it's a quiet, fun, comfortable, and less-expensive way to travel long-distances. Visit EpicEVRoadtrip.com on the internet, or @EpicEVRoadtrip on Facebook or Twitter, to learn more about their trip, donate to Boys & Girls Clubs, or pledge to take an EV test drive.



New NAPS member Lesley Newman shows visitors our reusable grocery bag display at the Strawberry Festival, May 26.

NAPS Out and About

NAPS was everywhere this spring, including the Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar in White Stone, Farm & Field Day at Northumberland High School, the Strawberry Festival in Heathsville, and NAPS' own Earth Day Festival (see pg. 4-5).

Gena McKinley and Janice Mahoney show off a NAPS reusable grocery bag at the Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar on March 24.



A toddler decides on a pledge to help the environment at Farm & Field Day, April 14.



Dejour Taylor and Latasha Lee visit the NAPS Pledge Tree at Farm & Field Day.

Watermen in the Classroom



Commercial crabber and NAPS member Ida Hall presented a "Watermen in the Classroom" seminar to a group of 35-40 6th- and 7th-graders at Lancaster Middle School, along with science teacher Damien Chrissy on March 12, 2018. The 70-minute class introduced the students to commercial crabbing, the crab life cycle,

water quality, environmental stewardship, and the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The students were most interested in the "hands on" experiences. They tried on waterman's oilskins and gloves. They examined crab and peeler pots, measuring sticks, and bushel baskets. Students had the opportunity to hold peelers, inspect a partially-shed soft crab, learn to identify male and female crabs, and learn about crab sheds and sea horses. Hall provided a dirty crab pot to show students what the pots look like after remaining in the water an entire season. She also showed the students a photo demonstrating the different colors of the sponge crab egg sack. One student asked, "That crab has a sponge in it?" Hall replied, "The sponge-like mass are fertilized crab eggs. The darkest color indicates that the crab will soon release its millions of eggs into the water."

Hall showed the students a 1987 Landsat photo showing brown water running from the tributaries into the Bay, and compared it to a 2015 satellite photo showing no brown water. Chrissy and Hall then asked several students to take a cup of water and pour part of it down a bare board and the other half down a board covered with vegetation. The water ran slower down the vegetated board than the bare board. This was to demonstrate the importance of vegetated buffers reducing runoff into the Bay and demonstrating that what we do on the land impacts the water quality. Several students mentioned they had planted trees to help control runoff, and some said they raise oysters. Oysters can also help water quality since they constantly filter the water.

Hall showed the students a bag of trash, mostly plastic bags and bottles found on the shoreline near her residence. She emphasized the impor-

tance of using less plastic so that less ends up in the watershed. Students received reusable shopping bags donated by Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship (NAPS). The bags also contained information on water quality from VIMS, stewardship tips from the Chesapeake Bay Program and its Bay Barometer, brochures from NAPS and The Wetlands Project, and issues of Virginia's Coastal Zone Management.

Students were quizzed briefly on what they had learned and awarded prizes for correct answers. The most popular prize was a 2018 waterman calendar won by 12-year-old Northumberland student, Sarah Haynie.

The "Watermen in the Classroom" educational experience was well-received by the students and teachers. Hopefully more funding will be available and more schools and watermen will be able to participate. If interested in getting involved, contact your local school or contact Paula Jasinski, paula@greenfinstudio.com.

During February and March of this year, the Waterman Heritage Ecotourism Program expanded into the classroom. Paula Jasinski, co-owner of Green Fin Studio, helps coordinate the Waterman Ecotourism Program and received limited funding to bring four watermen into four classrooms to educate 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students about the waterman's lifestyle, environmental stewardship, and the Chesapeake Bay.

The four watermen were selected on a first-come first-serve basis from those who have participated in an ecotourism training program offered at Rappahannock Community College. Those chosen were: J.C. Hudgins (VA Waterman's Association president), Lee Deihl, Joey Williams, and Ida Hall. The four schools participating were from Gloucester, Mathews, Lancaster, and Richmond counties.

The curriculum guidelines were based on the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Agreement Environmental Literacy Goal to "Enable every student in the region to graduate with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly to protect and restore their local watershed." It further states that "the well-being of the Chesapeake Bay watershed will soon rest in the hands of its youngest citizens – the more than three million students in kindergarten through twelfth grade." The proposed target hopes to provide "at least one meaningful watershed educational experience (MWEE) in elementary, middle, and high school." The curriculum also included waterman's input and science SOL goals related to natural processes and human interactions that affect watershed systems and understanding the location of Virginia's watershed systems.

Making Space for a MakerSpace

By Liz Hood

MakerSpace, FabLab, HackerSpace, STEM Lab, Think Tank...

No matter the title, a "MakerSpace" contains resources for designing, constructing, building, programming and creating, bringing together diverse subject areas that have left many students perplexed about their value. The goal of a "makerspace" is to provide hands-on creative ways for students to design, experiment, build and invent as they engage in tinkering.

As Northumberland Middle/High School's library media specialist, I recognize that one of the major challenges of educators is to provide engaging, meaningful activities for students. I have long been aware that students can become bored and lackadaisical in the traditional school environment. Worse, they seldom understand the relationship between curriculum and real-world applications. The quest, therefore, becomes finding ways to use meaningful play and experimentation to heighten motivation while providing learning that is relevant to students' interests and identities.

Research shows that personalized, hands-on lessons engage students more actively in learning. Educators know that when students are using their hands and creating something, they are engaged. When students can see, touch, show, explain and use the physical results of their efforts, they know they have accomplished something valuable. Hands-on activities also help learners expand their critical thinking and problem solving skills.

I find it encouraging when members of the school community pool their resources to help students make connections between home, school, community and world. Keeping all this in mind, I have created the rudiments of a MakerSpace which I have entitled "Think Tank" to provide a physical location where ALL students and teachers can engage in a variety of activities:

Hue Animation

One PC is dedicated to creating video animation utilizing the Hue Animation camera and software. This program enables students to easily create stop-motion animation, incorporating a variety of effects, including chromakey.

Raspberry Pi

A dedicated HDMI monitor connected to a Raspberry Pi 3 affords students the opportunity to explore and experiment with a variety of coding and programming: Raspbian SCRATCH, Python. Intuitive and user-friendly, the Raspberry Pi allows students to experience and modify existing programs as well as create their own programs.

Makey Make

We are currently in need of a dedicated PC for the Makey Make; however, this electronic kit can be connected to the Animation Station PC. Makey Make began as a project by two MIT students in 2010. This electronic kit uses a circuit board, alligator clips and a USB cable to send closed loop electronic signals keyboard or mouse stroke signals to the computer.

Arduino Starter Kit

Arduino is an open-source programming platform that enables users to build electronics projects. The kit allows students to build and program both basic and more complex electronic projects. The collaborative nature of the open-source platform easily allows students to contribute and share within the Arduino community.

Ozobot

A pocket size coding robot that allows students to learn the basics of coding. Beginning with color coding and expanding to blockly coding, the Ozobot enables students to use both a physical coding environment such as paper as well as a digital coding environment.

Books and Magazines

Several books and magazines on robotics, digital design, animation, gaming, creativity and industry careers are dis-



played in the THINK TANK for perusal and circulation.

Manipulatives and Materials

Most of these resources benefit from the incorporation of manipulatives and materials such as blocks, pipe cleaners, glue, paper, markers and figurines. Students can explore and tinker with physical, electronic and digital items to create unique products.

Future Acquisitions

Future acquisitions will include more arts and crafts supplies (such as colored duct tape, craft sticks and pipe cleaners), claymation supplies, more print materials for student self-directed learning, a 3D printer as well as dedicated computers. My goal is to continue providing a welcoming, collaborative, user-friendly environment where all members of the school community can:

1. Inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge.
2. Draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge.
3. Share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society.
4. Pursue personal and aesthetic growth.

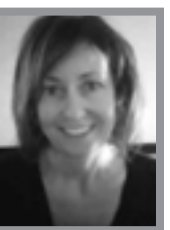
("National School Library Standards - AASL <http://standards.aasl.org/>)

Tinkering, collaborative learning, play, conversations for learning, intergenerational learning, experimentation, inquiry, the act of creation, and problem solving—these are just some of the qualities that can happen in our Think Tank and encourage participatory learning.

Come and see! Better yet—come and create!

Liz Hood is the school library media specialist at NHS/NMS. Passionate and enthusiastic, she is dedicated to best practice education for 21st Century Learners. Learn more about Liz at www.cybrarianliz.com.

NAPS continues to develop, conduct and sponsor nature and STEM learning programs and projects in local schools.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Revenues from dues have increased by \$450 since the 5/11/18 report. Expenses increased by \$5620, primarily due to scholarships and the 7 June Eco-Tour.

The Wells Fargo endowment account is down by \$122.73 for the year, although asset value has increased by \$51.65 in the past month. We have made no withdrawals from the account in 2018.

Submitted by: Roger Gruben, Treasurer; 6-15-2018

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Starting Balance 1/1/2018 | \$11,325.35 |
| REVENUES: | |
| Dues | \$3,940.00 |
| Endowment | \$0.00 |
| Other | \$15.00 |
| Total Revenues | \$3,955.00 |
| EXPENSES: | |
| Administration | \$1,060.96 |
| Donations & Scholarships | \$4,000.00 |
| Membership & Newsletter | \$111.85 |
| Events | \$1,913.79 |
| Projects | \$0.00 |
| Other | \$0.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$7,086.60 |
| CURRENT YEAR NET | -\$3,131.60 |
| Current Cash Balance | \$8,193.75 |
| Other Assets | |
| Endowment | \$20,660.04 |
| Total Other Assets: | \$20,660.04 |
| Total Assets | \$28,853.79 |



Memo from Mike

After a great early start to 2018, NAPS really turned up the volume this spring – perhaps too much to fit in this newsletter! Thank you to all members who helped with our events this season, especially our 4th Annual Earth Day Festival.

Although we have few events in the heat of the summer, we are hard at work planning a couple new initiatives, as well as getting ready for a busy fall season. We’re planning another big creek cleanup event (Sept. 30), and, of course, the NAPS Annual Fall Social where we present the Distinguished Citizen Award (date TBD). See calendar below for other scheduled events, and check napsva.org/naps-calendar for updates.

We must give a big “thank you” and “so long” to a couple of our most active and effective NAPS members – Sandy and John Henbest – who have moved out of the area. Both have regularly led or served on committees, participated in projects and events, and served the community in so many other ways. Most recently, Sandy has been serving on the NAPS Board of Directors. She also spearheaded the “Too-good-to-throw-away shed” project at the Horsehead transfer station. Sandy and John will be sorely missed.

We would like to thank everyone who renewed their NAPS memberships this year – your dues are critical to ensuring we can continue to pursue important projects and programs – every dollar goes a long way. If you have not yet renewed, please do as soon as possible so that we can plan the budget for the fall and winter. If you lost your renewal notice and we didn’t enclose one in this newsletter, don’t fret – you can renew online with secure payment by credit card, debit card, or PayPal – just go to napsva.org/join-help... and please urge your friends and neighbors to help our community by joining NAPS! If you’d rather send a check, you can send the online form and mail a check to NAPS, P.O. Box 567, Heathsville VA 22473.

Please enjoy the summer, and we hope to see many of you this fall. If you’re on Facebook or Twitter, please follow NAPS (@NAPSva).

Best to you and yours...

Sincerely, Mike Ahart, President

NAPS Officers & Board Members

NAPS Officers

| | | |
|---|----------|-------------------------|
| President.....Mike Ahart | 313-0274 | mikeahart@kaballero.com |
| Vice President.....Janice Mahoney | 580-3154 | vervaville@yahoo.com |
| Secretary.....Shauna McCranie..... | 580-8032 | smccranie@nucps.net |
| Treasurer.....Roger Gruben..... | 435-1863 | rogergruben@gmail.com |

NAPS Board of Directors

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Janice Mahoney | (Term Expires 2/2019) | 580-3154 | vervaville@yahoo.com |
| Shauna McCranie | (Term Expires 2/2019) | 580-8032 | smccranie@nucps.net |
| Mike Ahart | (Term Expires 2/2019) | 313-0274 | mikeahart@kaballero.com |
| Roger Gruben | (Term Expires 2/2020) | 435-1863 | rogergruben@gmail.com |
| Gena McKinley..... | (Term Expires 2/2020) .. | 910-617-9491 | gmckinley2016@gmail.com |
| (vacant) | (Term Expires 2/2020) | | |
| Rita Johnson | (Term Expires 2/2021) | 580-3052 | rita@kaballero.com |
| Eliot Levinson..... | (Term Expires 2/2021) | 580-2995 | eliot.levinson@gmail.com |
| Martha Tallent..... | (Term Expires 2/2021) | 453-6832 | |

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|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| News Editor | Gena McKinley | 910-617-9491 | rgmckinley2016@gmail.com |
| Production | Mike Ahart | 313-0274 | mikeahart@kaballero.com |

NAPS Calendar

NAPS Board meetings will be held on the second Friday of the month at the Union Bank on Route 360 in Burgess starting at 10 a.m., unless rescheduled – see updates at napsva.org/naps-calendar

- July 13, Fri. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 10 a.m.
- Aug. 10, Fri. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 10 a.m.
- Sept. 14, Fri. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 10 a.m.
- Sept. 22, Sat. NAPS Booth at Reedville Fishermen’s Museum Cleanup Event
- Sept. 23, Sun. NAPS Booth at Boots & BBQ, Historic Heathsville Town Square
- Sept. 30, Sun. NAPS Fall Creek Cleanup (location TBD)
- Oct. 12, Fri. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 10 a.m.
- Oct. (TBD), Sat. NAPS Annual Fall Social and Distinguished Citizen Award
- Nov. 9, Fri. NAPS Board Meeting, Union Bank at 10 a.m.