



# Fishin' Pole Pack'n Paddle

## Fall 2021

### FFV State Officers

**President: Erica Goode**

[Ericagoode10@gmail.com](mailto:Ericagoode10@gmail.com)

**Vice Presidents:**

- Tony Adams: [antonadams@comcast.net](mailto:antonadams@comcast.net)
- Bill Duncan: [wduncan311@yahoo.com](mailto:wduncan311@yahoo.com)
- Herb Coleman: [herb@clachanproperties.com](mailto:herb@clachanproperties.com)
- Bill Tanger: [riverdancer1943@gmail.com](mailto:riverdancer1943@gmail.com)

**Secretary: Lauren Jacobs**

[lorenjacobs@yahoo.com](mailto:lorenjacobs@yahoo.com)

**State Treasurer: Mitch Sims**

[mitchsims@yahoo.com](mailto:mitchsims@yahoo.com)

\*Chapter Treasurers, please e-mail deposit amounts to Mitch, each time you deposit in State Account.\*

**Membership Chair: Ginnie Peck**

\*\*Chapter Treasurers, please e-mail updated membership info to Ginnie @:

[ffvbusiness@gmail.com](mailto:ffvbusiness@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor: Jaime Baird**

[jaimenbaird@gmail.com](mailto:jaimenbaird@gmail.com)

**Webmaster: Traci Martin**

[traci.martin1970@gmail.com](mailto:traci.martin1970@gmail.com)

**Conservation Chair: Bill Tanger**

[riverdancer1943@gmail.com](mailto:riverdancer1943@gmail.com)

**Annual Dues:** Due January each year

- \$20 per Individual or per Family (spouse & children 0 – 18)
- Individual chapters may have additional annual dues.
- Contact your CHAPTER Treasurer to pay dues.
- Please, DO NOT send dues to Membership Chair or State Treasurer

**Chapter Treasurers:**

**George Dickel Chapter: Ginnie Peck**

[dickels.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:dickels.treasurer@gmail.com)

**Randy Carter Chapter: Ed Galloway**

[ewgalloway@verizon.net](mailto:ewgalloway@verizon.net)

**Roanoke Valley Chapter: Bill Tanger**

[riverdancer1943@gmail.com](mailto:riverdancer1943@gmail.com)

**Scotts Creek Chapter: Katherine Waller**

[kswaller@hotmail.com](mailto:kswaller@hotmail.com)

**Steve Keller Chapter: Larry Born**

[larry.born@yahoo.com](mailto:larry.born@yahoo.com)

For information on paying dues please see FFV Webpage:

<http://www.floatfishermen.org/officers.html>

### President's Paddle

Hey river family,

I am humbled, honored and excited to serve you all and the FFV. Looking back on my childhood, the weekends spent on the river were some of my most favorite and helped shape who I am today. I feel lucky that I got to grow up in the FFV and hope to pass that along to my kids and other new paddlers, both young and old.

We had a great paddling season this year! I was so happy to see so many new faces on the river and so many kids out there learning the ropes. We have talked for many years about how we can increase our membership and I look forward to working with you all to do just that.

I hope to see you all at the winter meeting which will be held at the Slate River on Saturday, December 4 at 11am! We will be planning the upcoming trip schedule, discuss some new ideas and talk about bringing the Kid Float back!

Please feel free to reach out to me any time with questions, ideas, etc.

See ya on the river,

Erica



## Currents & Eddies Courtesy of Bill Tanger

**James River – Balcony Falls Take-out (Amherst County):** FORVA is now working with an engineering firm in North Carolina to develop plans for a crossing of the CSX track at our Balcony Falls site. We will be doing survey work as there are no topo maps for the area!

--- Bill Tanger

**Roanoke River – Rutrough Point Access (Roanoke County):** Working on a revised environmental assessment for APCo due to the difficulty of planting anything along our rock wall.

--- Bill Tanger

**Pigg River Dam Removal (Franklin County):** Working on removal of one huge 250-ton logjam! Planning a chainsaw party soon to cut a channel.

Bill Tanger FFV: Mo Byrd, Duck Stanley, Jim Pickel, Ray Williams & Pat Williams

**New River - Price Park (Montgomery County):** The 50-acre park along Stroubles Creek in Montgomery County is open. Starting plans for a pedestrian bridge across Stroubles Creek.

Volunteers welcome. --- Randi Lemmon and Bill Tanger

**Blackwater River (Franklin County):** FORVA just won a \$90,000 grant to improve a river access at Round Hill in Franklin County. FORVA also bought 4 acres for an access on the Blackwater River at Blue Bend. Waiting to hear about a grant on Nov 15. ----- Bill Tanger

**Roanoke River – Blueway (Roanoke County):** FORVA is co-chair of the Roanoke River Blueway Committee. Working on an improved access at the Salem Wayside location.

--- Bill Tanger & FFV Roanoke Chapter

**Big Otter River (Bedford County):** We are giving up on the Big Otter site. The owner does not seem interested. We should look elsewhere. --- Tanger; Kirkland; Mick & Maryann Overstreet;

**Tinker Creek Restoration: (Roanoke City):** Dam removal has hit a snag as we have found an active sewerline that would be exposed if we removed a downstream dam! But we may be able to remove another one further upstream...

----- Bill Tanger

**Blackwater River (Franklin County):** Bought an acre of land at the Rt 122 crossing of the Blackwater River to provide better river access. Just did a survey of the acre.

----- Bill Tanger; FFV: Pat Williams, Ray Williams; Creek Freaks of Franklin County

**Blackwater River (Franklin County):** Working on removing a dam on the Blackwater River. Just finished doing a survey and should have a permit soon. We have the funds already to go.



# River Access Fees Update

## Courtesy of Bill Tanger

November 2, 2021

### The DWR River Access Fees: Repeal is on its Way

The battle is almost done, and we have won. The final report on the DWR access fees will go to the legislature in January and it should be adopted without problem.

The stakeholders committee did an outstanding job of evaluating the situation and came to a unanimous consensus on the issues. We got essentially everything.

A bill to repeal HB1604. A bill to raise the cap on the Watercraft Sales and Use tax given to DWR. And a promise to develop a paddler advisory process to provide communication with DWR on paddle boating.

Our efforts have been a resounding success.

Most credit should go, frankly, to FORVA and John Mays of Twin River Outfitters.

Here are the final recommendations:

In partnership and collaboration with the VDWR, the VDWR Stakeholder Workgroup on Access Fees for Human-Powered Crafts presents the following recommendations for the General Assembly's consideration:

- 1) Repeal HB 1604 to remove the user access fees directive.** Lifting this mandate will ensure funding policies continue to promote, rather than prohibit, recreational usage of waterways by all Virginians wanting to participate in outdoor activities that enrich overall health and wellness.
- 2) Revise Budget Bill 1800 to guarantee all authorized funds,** including any excess WSU and other Sales and Use tax revenues from HB 38 (WCSU and HB 38 transfers are referenced together Item 384(A) of the Budget Bill), **are appropriated in full to the VDWR** on an annual basis (See Appendix B).
- 3) Remove any legislative barriers that might make it more difficult for the VDWR to receive excess WSU and HB 38 revenue moving forward. This will help ensure the dedicated revenue source solution proposed by the workgroup continues to be effective long term.
- 4) Consider adjustment of the \$13 million cap on HB 38 transfers found in §58.1-638(E) to \$16 million, the appropriate value based on current methodology.
- 5) Consider other alternatives for funding only after items 2, 3, and 4 above have been implemented and revenues are found to be insufficient.
- 6) If fees of any kind are considered, the workgroup recommends offering exemptions to nonprofit and educational organizations.**
- 7) The workgroup recommends that VDWR consider the formation of a Paddler Advisory or other means of enhancing input by the paddling community to the agency.**

----- Bill, your stakeholder member

DWR access fees - FFV news – 11-1-21

[Click here to view full report \(web only\)](#)



# James River Cleanup

From the Richmond Times Dispatch

## Richmonders can now track the cleanliness of the James River in real time

Richmond's outdated sewer system floods dozens of times each year, sending sewage into the James River and making it unsafe for swimmers and tubers.

The state has given the city a deadline of 2035 for overhauling the sewer system, but Mayor Levar Stoney has asked for help from the state, saying it will cost nearly \$900 million. Until then, residents can use a new map from the city's Department of Public Utilities to determine in real time whether any pipes have overflowed and which parts of the river are mixed with human waste and bacteria.

The department has installed dozens of rain gauges, meters to measure the flow in each pipe, and level sensors inside the drains to determine their water capacity. The **map indicates if any of the 25 outfall points along the James** have overflowed recently.

"It's real data in real time available whenever the residents want it," said Grace LeRose, a policy adviser for the utilities department.



Red triangles mark which sewer lines have overflowed in the past 48 hours. Residents are advised to stay out of the river downstream from any overflow for at least two days after the overflow.

## **Rainfall wasn't understood**

The city's sewer system is more than 60 years old, and it combines stormwater with sewage beneath a third of the city. After significant rainfall, the system overflows, which happens 50 to 60 times a year if there's a normal amount of rainfall. One inch of rain is typically enough to overflow the system.

In the past, the utilities department had to make educated guesses about the sewer system and the health of the river. If it rained one-tenth of an inch at the airport, the department assumed the system overflowed.

But since installing the gauges, meters and sensors in 2018, it learned that rain doesn't fall on the city evenly. When Scott's Addition flooded this past summer, it barely rained at all in South Side, meaning those pipes didn't overflow.

"Rainfall was not very well understood," LeRose said.

The sewer system's experts came to learn that some pipes will overflow while others won't, and the upstream portion of the river can be safer than downstream. Their tools predict how likely a pipe is to overflow and how long the overflow lasts. The intensity of the rain matters. A half-inch of rain in 30 minutes will cause an overflow, but a slow, gentle rain may not.

On the publicly accessible map, a red triangle indicates there has been a recent overflow. A green triangle means there hasn't, and a yellow square means there isn't current data. Each pipe is numbered and labeled with the letters CSO, which stands for Combined Sewer Overflow.

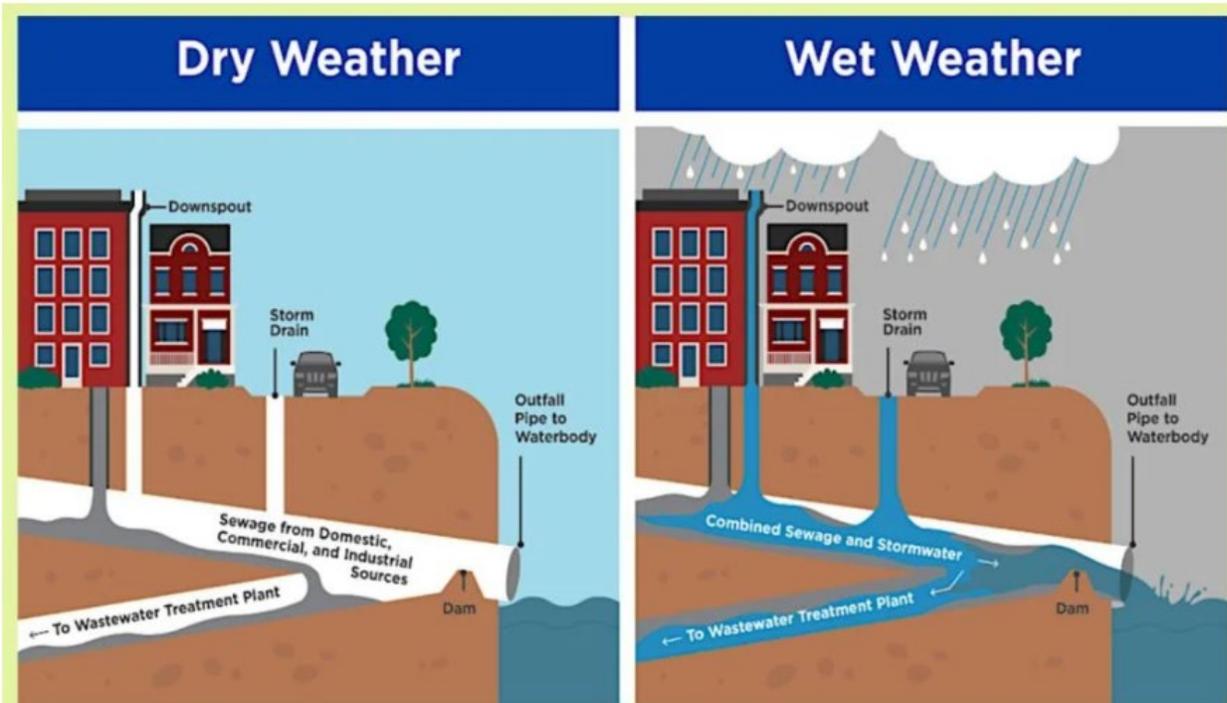
The department has been gathering data on which sewer pipes overflow since 2019. Last month, it made real-time status updates available to the public.

One day in October, CSO 11 at the base of Hollywood Cemetery had overflowed from a recent storm. So had six other pipes downstream. But all the pipes upstream from Belle Isle were clear, meaning that part of the river was safe for entry.

The department recommends rivergoers stay out of the James two to three days after an overflow at any point downstream from the spill. The map shows if a pipe has overflowed in the past 48 hours and when it occurred.

In July, a sewer line in Goochland County ruptured, sending 300,000 gallons of raw sewage into Tuckahoe Creek, which feeds into the river. The Virginia Department of Health advised against entering the water for almost a week.

Sewage contains fecal bacteria, including E. coli, and swallowing it can cause stomach illness, vomiting, diarrhea and nausea. Touching it can infect the ears, nose, throat and skin.



City of Richmond

A warning sign is posted at the city's Shockoe Creek Outfall. A map shows whether any of 25 outfall points have overflowed.

BOB BROWN

## Upstream is cleaner

With data telling experts which pipes overflow often and which don't, they've learned that upstream is often cleaner than downstream. CSO 20, located near the Powhite Parkway, rarely overflows, LeRose said. Neither does CSO 33, which is located in Byrd Park.

But CSO 6, which is downstream, near South 14th Street, is a frequent offender. The volume of water there is huge, LeRose said, with more than 70 million gallons of water flowing through the pipe on a rainy day. Capitol Hill and Church Hill both drain into Shockoe Valley. Even some water from Henrico County ends up there.

Climate change is seemingly dumping bigger, more concentrated storms on Richmond, said Pat Bradley, deputy director for the utilities department. In 2018 and 2020, Richmond experienced near-record

rainfall, causing the sewer systems to overflow more often. Mother Nature dumped 63.7 inches of rain on the city in 2018, the highest total since the 1880s. Two years later, the city received 63.5 inches.

Yet the James has gotten cleaner over time, Bradley said, thanks to numerous pollution control projects by the Department of Public Works and other organizations that advocate for a healthy James River, including RVAH2O and the James River Alliance. Authorities have cracked down on industrial sites near the water and on farms letting cows graze in streams.

The James was helped significantly when the capacity of the city's water treatment plant was nearly doubled, a project completed in 2020. It can now treat 140 million gallons of combined sewage and stormwater per day, LeRose said.

Last year, Gov. Ralph Northam signed into law a bill requiring cities to develop plans to mitigate sewage spills as they wait for newer systems to be built over the next 15 years. Lynchburg and Alexandria also have combined systems.

The sensors allow the utilities department to better manage its current system, closing off pipes with capacity when possible, creating 180 million gallons of storage space. Richmond will spend less than \$50 million on the interim plan, while Alexandria will spend between \$300 million and \$600 million building tunnels and a larger storage basin, LeRose said.



Overflow from the Combined Sewer Overflow 6, Shockoe Creek Outfall enters the James River in Richmond, VA Friday, Oct. 29, 2021. The overflow is located next to the 14th Street Takeout, a ramp where boats, kayaks or canoes can either enter or exit the James River.  
BOB BROWN

## **Rafting tours**

Much of the pollution takes place near 14th Street, which is where RVA Paddlesports ends its rafting and kayaking trips.

When the boats draw near this segment of the river, the guides tell their guests not to jump in the water even if there hasn't been a recent overflow, said Patrick Griffin, the company's founder. On days when the sewers have overflowed, the smell wafts into the air. If there's been a recent spill, RVA Paddlesports still runs trips.

Extra information about river contamination will inform more people and lead to fixing the problem, Griffin said. City residents should embrace paying their stormwater utility bills, he said, because that money eventually will pay for a new system and a cleaner river.

But overflows won't stop anytime soon. Apartments are being built along the south bank of the James, with more toilets and more water going into the pipes. Without large-scale improvements, the new meters and sensors can only do so much, he added. "It's good, but it's not a fix."



## Chapter Update: Randy Carter

Courtesy of Ed Galloway

Randy Carter had their "Last Blast" annual meeting and weekend, the weekend of 10/23/2021. Approximately 25 people were present and conducted the annual meeting and election of officers. Elected officers will remain Steve Smith, President, and Ed Galloway, Treasurer.

We discussed upcoming events for the chapter and set dates for our member activities.

After the meeting, we enjoyed President Steve Smith's pulled pork butt and chicken thighs and other items brought and shared in a covered dish dinner (picture attached of Dutch oven cooking).

Some members camped at R5 for the weekend.

Last Blast is our last scheduled event each year and includes putting the ramp to the river away, putting away picnic tables and keeping up the property.

Randy Carter Chapter includes members from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina. We typically have 4-5 events per year which are planned and other events which are unplanned!





# Trip Pics: Solitude

Courtesy of Bill Tanger, from the Solitude Event on Labor Day Weekend, 2021



James River Cow Pollution!



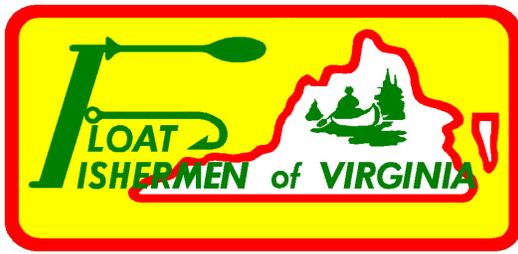
Helping Hands



Motley Crew



Wiffle Ball at Solitude



# Trip Pics: July 3 - Nov. 5

Courtesy of Erica Goode





# Waterways of Virginia: A Quiz

from the Chesapeake Bay Journal

How much do you know about the rivers of Virginia? Match the waterway with its description. [Here are the answers!](#) Original questions are included below.

## Answers

1. Yeocomico

2. Pope's Creek

3. Matttox

4. Rapidan

5. Mattaponi

6. Pamunkey

7. Warwick

8. Chickahominy

9. Appomattox

10. Tye

1: The Native American name of this tributary to the Potomac River roughly translates to "tossed to and fro by the water." It marks the boundary between Westmoreland and Northumberland counties.

2: George Washington Birthplace National Monument is located on the estuary of this waterway. It was once renowned for its white perch runs. Capt. John Smith and his men encountered one such run during their explorations and used frying pans to scoop the fish out of the water.

3: During the Civil War, a Confederate supply base was located on this waterway. In March 1865, a battle took place when patrolling Union ships attempted to blockade the supply route. Aaron Anderson, a Union Navy sailor became one of the first African Americans to receive a U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery in that battle. Today, actions on the waterway are much more peaceful: boating, fishing and swimming. The area is also home to bald eagles, ospreys, herons, beavers and other wildlife.

4: This waterway - the largest tributary of the Rappahannock River - witnessed a lot of action in the Civil War, including the Battle of the Wilderness. It is ranked #38 in Trout Unlimited's Guide to America's 100 Best Trout Streams.

5: This waterway's name contains the four streams that combine to create it. It, in turn, joins the Pamunkey River to form the York River.

6: This tributary of the York River is formed by the confluence of the North Anna and South Anna rivers. The White House Plantation, where George Washington and Martha Custis were married, was located nearby.

7: This 14.4-mile-long waterway, a tributary of the James River, is located almost entirely in Newport News. The upper reaches of this river were dammed to create freshwater reservoirs that serve nearby communities.

8: Capt. John Smith was exploring this tributary to the James River when natives from a tribe that shares its name with the waterway captured and took him to the Chief Powhatan, where he met and was rescued by Pocahontas. The tidal portion of this river is known for its largemouth bass. It flows through marshes and swamps and in the past, easily flooded. One such flood hampered efforts on both sides in the Battle of Seven Pines during the Peninsula Campaign of the Civil War.

9: This James River tributary is about 157 miles long. The early English colonists tried to rename this waterway the Bristoll River, but were unsuccessful, and it retained its Native American name. This waterway lends its name to a nearby court house that was the site of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender in the Civil War.

10: This 35.4-mile-long tributary to the James River was part of Virginia's worst natural disasters. The remnants of Hurricane Camille stalled over the area on Aug. 19, 1969, while residents slept, and in three hours dumped 27 inches over Nelson County. The resulting flash floods and mud slides left in their wake: 113 deaths, 39 missing and presumed dead, and \$116 million in damages. Witnesses said the volume of water that flowed down this waterway during this storm forced the James River to flow backward.



## Meet a Member!



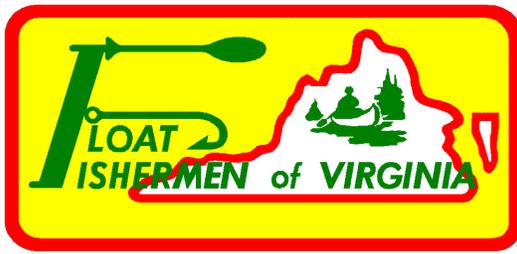
### Seth and Becky Partin

Seth and Becky Partin live in Richmond, Virginia with their two dogs, Happy and Kya. Seth works at Printing and Graphics of Virginia, where he is the lead pressman. Becky is a graduate student at William and Mary, where she is pursuing a degree in School Psychology.

Chapter: Scott's Creek

Members Since: 2012

**Most Memorable Paddle:** Our favorite paddle was Kids Float 8 in 2014, which was a partnership with Charlottesville Parks and Rec to bring underprivileged kids to join FFV for a float on the James.



# Meeting Minutes

## Courtesy of Rick Mattox

***FLOAT FISHERMEN OF VIRGINIA, INC.***  
***BUSINESS MEETING***  
***September 5, 2021***  
***Minutes by Rick Mattox on behalf of Loren Jacobs***

- Call to order: Rock  
The meeting was called to order by president Rock Willoughby at 9:05AM.
  - Secretary Report (Approve minutes): Loren Jacobs  
Minutes of the Memorial Day business meeting were approved as distributed.
  - Treasurer's Report: Bryon Jones  
Treasurer's report accepted: The Treasurer's Report indicated a beginning balance as of the end of April in the amount of \$13,115 and an ending balance as of the end of July in the amount of \$13,431, for a net gain of \$316. The club also has 2 CDs totaling \$8,630.
- Thanks and appreciation to Bryon Jones for serving as treasurer for the past couple of years.
- Membership Report:  
Ginnie Peck reported current membership at 127 members with 5 more people joining this weekend, for a total of 132.
  - Newsletter Report: Jaime Baird  
Please continue sending articles and photos to Jaime to include in the newsletter.
  - Webmaster Report: Traci Martin  
The FFV website is up to date.
  - Conservation Chair Report: Bill Tanger  
Balcony Falls access – VDOT has issued a permit, the Forest Service has approved the project and CSX has approved. We are currently looking for an engineering firm to provide specs for constructing a tunnel under the railroad tracks as well as a feasibility study.

Bill is currently working on three access sites in Franklin County as well as additional access on the Roanoke River.

He is also working with Bob Borne and FORVA on removing a dam in Dickenson County on the McClure River.

Bill is also developing support for Scenic River status for the Roanoke River.

Bill provided an update on the DWR access fee legislation passed during the 2020 session of the General Assembly, then delayed in 2121 to conduct further study. Bill distributed copies of the Stakeholder Workgroup Report published in August. The report indicated that boater related revenue exceeded expenses for 2019, 2020 and 2021. In September, there will be a follow-up meeting with the user group. Bill is a member of the user group and is encouraging everyone to contact their state delegate and senator requesting that this bill be repealed in the 2022 session of the General Assembly. Bill will send a sample email to use when notifying your senator or delegate.

- FFV Foundation Report: Bill Tanger  
The owner of the Big Otter River property was sent a draft lease to allow FFV and FORVA to use the property. There has been no response from owner.
- Old Business:  
Much thanks to Mr. Tanger and the owners of the Solitude property for hosting our Labor Day weekend gathering.
- New Business:  
Bill Tanger reported that the cost to order new FFV brochures is \$300 for 500 brochures.

Bill Tanger reported on 5 fatalities on the Dan River. Nine tubers went over a dam in high water resulting in the 5 fatalities. As a result, there is an effort to pass legislation requiring ropes across rivers above dams to help prevent future drownings.

- Nominating Committee Report:

***The following members were elected as FFV officers for 2021/2022:***

<b>President:</b>	<b>Erica Goode</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Mitch Simms</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Loren Jacobs</b>
<b>Vice President/Conservation Chair:</b>	<b>Bill Tanger</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Bill Duncan</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Tony Adams</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Herb Coleman</b>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	<b>Ginnie Peck</b>
<b>Newsletter Chair:</b>	<b>Jaime Baird</b>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<b>Traci Martin</b>

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30.

# Editor's Note

## Call for Content!

Any member of FFV is welcome to submit content for the newsletter. Did you take a fun trip down a river in Virginia (or somewhere else)? Send me pictures! Did you read a good article about conservation efforts for our waterways? Send me a link! Are you an artist who has made work inspired by a river or paddling? Send me a picture of your work, your poem, or short story and we'll gladly include it in the newsletter.

Submissions are accepted year-round and can be sent to [jaimenbaird@gmail.com](mailto:jaimenbaird@gmail.com), or you can text them to me at 845-464-6855.

The opinions expressed in FPP&P are those of the author's and not necessarily those of FFV or its members. The editor is responsible for editing the content of the newsletter and its construction. Members are responsible for providing content. Please send submissions to the editor via email attachment. The newsletter goes out quarterly: Feb 1, May 1, August 1, Nov 1. All Submissions MUST be received by the 15th of the preceding month.

If you receive this newsletter via US Mail, we do not have a current email address for you. Contact your local treasurer or the Membership Chair to update your information.

FFV Membership Chair  
794 Farrar Bridge Lane  
Shipman, VA 22971