



Rivanna Naturalist News

A newsletter for Master Naturalists of Albemarle and surrounding Virginia counties.

Volume 2 No. 1

Mar-May 2009

The majority of you can access the internet. Some of the information is on the following websites. If you cannot get onto the internet and/or want it categorized, read about it all below.

- Our web site vmn-rivanna.org/index.html
- Va Naturalists Va Naturalists
- Va Native Plants Virginia Native Plant Society.
- Monticello Bird Club link from vmn web site above
- ICNA ivycreekfoundation.org/

The auto links may not work for you, particularly when using Firefox. Right click on the site name and select Edit. Copy the web address into your browsers address line.

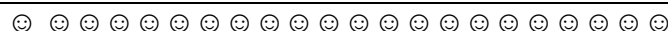


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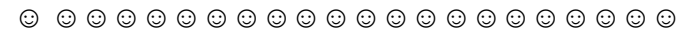
Chapter Advisors: Peter Warren & LoriAnne Barnett

- Committee Chairs:
- Volunteer Service Projects: Dorothy Tompkins
rivannamn.info@gmail.com
- Programs: Rose Brown and Tina Strealay-Colom
- Recruitment Committee: Dede Smith
- Curriculum: Tony Russell
- Hospitality: Rachel Bush



Volunteer Opportunities

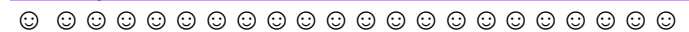
Designated below by this green color



Upcoming Meetings

- Board of Directors - next, 6 March, noon @ VCE
- General Meeting - June, in planning

Weekly RMN hikes - See below



Upcoming Education Opportunities

First Saturday bird walks @ ICNA, 7:30 am. Beginners always welcome. Meet in parking lot.

Va Native Plant Soc. - Normally 2nd Wed nights @ 7:30 pm, ICNA.

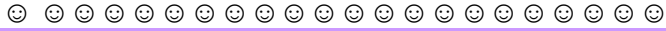
Monticello Bird Club - Normally 2nd Th nights @ 7:30 pm, ICNA.

Third Thursdays Brown Bag Lunch Forums
Bring your lunch to the forum and learn about a variety of topics important to the Rivanna River.
When: Third Thursday of each month @ 12:00PM - 1:00PM
Where: Jefferson-Madison Regional Library [\(MAP\)](#), 201 E. Market Street



Want Some Patches?

Ida Swenson has ordered the embroidered patches for those who responded to her. She ordered a few extra, so if you have changed your mind, ask her quickly! Her email is idathefriz@gmail.com. The cost is \$1.75. She will let everyone know when they arrive for delivery, but she should have them for sure by the June general meeting. You may pay her when you get them.



Weekly Walks

Now that the days are getting longer, it's time to restart our weekly walks! As a reminder, these informal walks are intended to get us outdoors to share the knowledge we each have on a variety of naturalist topics or just to enjoy the great outdoors! There are no pre-requisites to participate in the walks and no one is required to attend.

For the month of March, the walks will take place from 7 to 8 AM on Wednesday mornings at the location listed for each date below (times/dates from March 11 may change due to time change):

March 4: Riverview Park, located at the end of Chesapeake St at the eastern city limits.

March 11: Ragged Mountain Natural Area, south of the city, parking area located at 1730 Reservoir Rd, off Fontaine Ave, right before the entrance to Camp Holiday Trails.

March 18: Pen Park, located at the northeast corner of the city off east Rio Rd at Pen Park Rd.

March 25: Quarry Park, located at the southeastern city limits on Quarry Rd. Off street parking is available.

We hope that you will plan to participate!

If you have location suggestions for future walks, please forward them to the program committee!

The RMN program committee: Rose Brown email: rose@streamwatch.org or phone 434-962-3527; Tina Colom email: ronceverte_63@yahoo.com or phone 434-297-1765

Master Naturalist nugget of the month: "Everywhere is walking distance if you have the time." -Steven Wright

Tina & Rose



Monthly Meetings: Dec, Jan & Feb

One of the big events at our December 14th general meeting was the presentation of the hours awards. Ida Swenson received a 500 hour pin. Here's what one looks like:



Sorry, I did an Oops and shifted the "500" part of the "500 hours" tag underneath the other part and didn't catch it on my camera review.

Some of us came away with some book exchanges and door prizes.



See what you missed if you weren't there?

Here're the co-horts who put a lot into organizing the meeting, Tina and Rose. Thanks a bunch.



I (Ralph) had a good time at our educational meeting about birds on January 25th as well, since I'm kind of a dummy on bird knowledge. I thought Jenny Gaden did a grrreat! job in challenging us to identify the birds by their songs and calls and by sight. Most of us followed along by looking them up in guide books placed at each setting on the tables. Birds sing their songs, to show their happiness; I guess. However, their calls are to attract mates.

Thanks again to Rose and Tina for organizing January's wonderful program on birds. Jenny Gaden did a great job of teaching us about the bird calls we are likely to hear right now. It should be a good preparation for the annual "Backyard Bird Count" from Cornell U. (and an approved project for volunteer hours under 'citizen science'!!)

It occurred to me (Ida) that I should give the website where I found the pictures and calls I used in the bingo. It is www.mangoverde.com/birdsound/. They were really among the best pictures and the only bird calls I found while surfing.

Tina and Rose are busy planning some great programs for spring. Keep your ears peeled!

On February 7th, we enjoyed another educational session at Ivy Creek. Amy Gilmer informed us about geological hazards to look out for in Virginia. David Spears illustrated how geologic formations affect what grows in certain areas of the state.

Ralph Hall/Ida Swenson

Further Bird IDing

I came across this neat new resource that I wanted to share with Master Naturalists. It is an online database for bird feather ID. www.lab.fws.gov/featheratlas/index.php They have scanned in flight feathers for 100+ species of North American birds and you can browse through them or look up individual species. I often see feathers on the trail while I'm hiking and I'm excited to use this tool to help me identify them.

Remember, of course, that without a permit we are not permitted to collect feathers due to state and federal laws, so a good field sketch or a digital photo is the way to go. See www.dgif.virginia.gov/education/wildlife-laws-educators.pdf for more details.

Michelle Prysby

Tree Walk, Dec 13th

Tony Russell took us on a tree walk on December 13th. We met at the intersection of River Road and 250 Bypass in the Cosner's parking lot on the SE corner. The Rivanna Trail goes underneath the bridge there.

Tony proved to be very knowledgeable in tree lore. Here he is explaining a few points.



Ralph Hall/Jackie Heath

Invasives at Sugar Hollow

Here are some pictures from the invasives workday at Sugar Hollow with SNP Ranger Jake Hughes, lead biological science technician, on 1/10/09 (Jake 2nd from right).

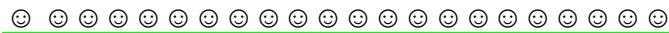


Here's the group that helped.



Left to right: Margie Seigel, Francis Lee-Vandell, Jackie Heath, Keggie Mallett, Tana Herndon & Margie Giuliano

Jackie Heath

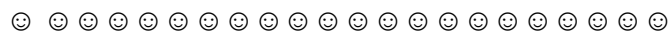


Preddy Creek Trails

On January 24, 80-90 community volunteers, including members of the Rivanna Master Naturalists, got to work at Preddy Creek, a new park area in northern Albemarle County. This area encompasses 452 acres (purchased in 1968 by Albemarle Co. for a future reservoir, but determined unsuitable) and then turned over to the Parks Department when a survey revealed that hiking/natural areas was the #1 thing that park users wanted.

Scheduled to open later this summer or early fall, the plan is to allow hiking, biking and horseback riding with 10-11 miles of trails to be built, mainly through volunteer efforts. Please check your e-mails for the next workday. (There was another one 2/21; **next one is March 21, 9-12**)

Jackie Heath and Tucker Rollins



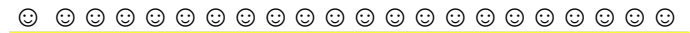
Upcoming Ed Events

On Sunday, March 15, from 1 to 4 pm at the Ivy Creek Education Building, Ruth Douglas will present "Two Biological Pilgrimages: Australia and The Galapagos" in which she will share with us her travel experiences over the past year to these two biologically diverse regions of the planet.

On Sunday, March 22, from 12 to 4 pm at the Ivy Creek Education Building, Garnett Mellen will be present on rainwater harvesting followed by a rain

barrel workshop. Participants will have the opportunity to purchase rain barrels at a cost of \$45 each. In order to purchase a rain barrel, ****please RSVP to garnett.mellen@vaswcd.org to let us know how many rain barrels you are planning to purchase so that Garnett can bring the number requested

Tina Stealy



Virginia Native Plant Society Meetings @ICNA

Wednesday, March 11, 7:30 pm

Hear Martin Johnson, Urban Conservation Specialist with Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation, discuss riparian buffers in our area.

Wednesday, April 8, 7:30 pm

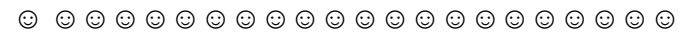
Come hear Philip Coulling, the camp director for Nature Camp near Vesuvius, VA speak about the facilities and natural history.

Sunday, April 26, 1:00 pm

Don't miss the unique opportunity to purchase garden grown native wildflowers, trees, and ferns. Plant sale & earth history for kids, combined.

Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 pm

Hear Sallie Brown's presentation titled "The Trees of the WPA Bird and Wildflower Sanctuary in McIntire Park".



Monticello Bird Club Meetings @ICNA

Thursday, March 12, 7:30 pm

Hear Jim Nix's presentation on birds of Ecuador. While in the Andean highlands Jim and his wife Phyllis saw nearly 150 bird species including 34 hummingbirds, 20 tanagers and three species of strange and secretive antpittas. Ecuador is a land of spectacular scenery and fascinating culture as well as incredible birds.

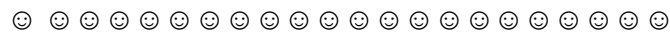
Saturday, April 4, 9:00 am

After the bird walk, join members of the Monticello Bird Club in the Education Building for binocular "show and tell." Individuals are encouraged to bring their binoculars and to learn about other models currently available.

Thursday, April 9, 7:30 pm

Join us as Dr. Marshall Faintich presents Birding Wintergreen. He has taken more than 35,000 wildlife photos since December 2006, and has photographed 126 species of birds in the

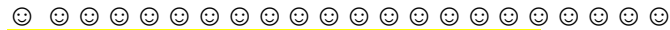
Wintergreen area, as well as other species of birds outside the area.



Digital Nature Photography

Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm

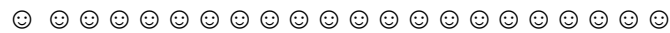
Victoria Dye, professional nature photographer will teach a workshop for digital nature photography in the Education Building.



Ivy Creek Volunteer Guide Training

Tuesday, March 17, 9:30 am

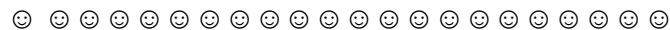
Become a volunteer guide! Learn the trails and how to be a basic naturalist. Topics covered include mammals, reptiles, amphibians, trees, plants, birds, and the history of River View Farm. Meet every Tuesday morning. We'll start in the Education Building. Free. For more information contact Bruce Gatling-Austin at rograms@ivycreekfoundation.org



Digital Nature Photography@ICNA

Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm

Victoria Dye, professional nature photographer will teach a workshop for digital nature photography. Meet in the Education Building.



Tracking and the Earth @ICNA

Saturdays, March 21 & Apr 18 & May 3, 9:00 am

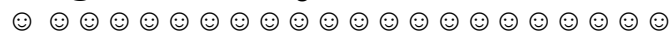
Join Hub Knott outdoors to search for signs of wildlife activity. Learn how to read the story of animal life in the landscape of Ivy Creek. Meet at the barn.



StreamWatch Training Workshop @ICNA Ed. Bldg

Saturday, March 21, 10 am to 4 pm

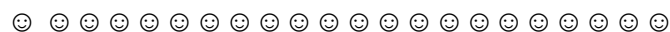
In this StreamWatch introductory training, learn the fundamentals of benthic invertebrate sampling to gauge water quality and stream health. Class size is limited, and a reservation is required. Contact Rose Brown at 962-3527 or rose@streamwatch.org.



The Songs of Frogs and Toads @ICNA

Wednesday, March 25, 7 pm

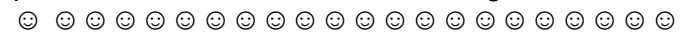
What better way to celebrate the new season than to learn the sounds of spring? Michelle Prysby will present a program on local frogs and toads and how to identify their songs and calls. By the end of the evening you'll be participating in an amphibian musical band.



Changing Forests @ICNA Ed. Bldg

Sunday, April 5, 2:00 pm

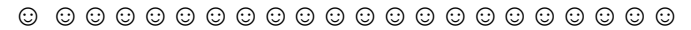
Hear Tony Russell talk about our changing forests and the impacts of invasives, pests and climate change. This presentation is free and open to the public. Meet in the Education Building.



Butterflies of Ivy Creek

Friday, May 17, 1:00 pm

Join Mike Scott for the first butterfly walk of 2009. Start by meeting in the Education Building to see Mike's impressive display of the butterflies of Ivy Creek and for an introduction to identification skills.



Learning the Native Trees of Ivy Creek

Sunday, May 31, 2:00 pm

Learn the trees of Ivy Creek using leaf, bark, branching, seed, flower, and other distinguishing characteristics. Join Ellen Powell of the Virginia Department of Forestry on a Spring Walk. Meet by the kiosk.



Habitat Training

We received a lengthy e-mail from Carol Heisler about Habitats and Habitat training. If you didn't get this and want it, contact Jackie Heath or your editor. Below are some Habitat training session coming up.

Regional Habitat Training Workshop Dates & Locations (training content is the SAME at each):

- Thurs., June 4, 2009 on the Eastern Shore [Location & Lunch arrangements TBA]
- Sat., June 20, 2009 at the Heritage Preservation Center (Museum) in Wytheville, Wythe County [Lunch arrangements TBA]
- Wed., July 8, 2009 at The Nelson Center in Lovingston, Nelson County [Lunch arrangements TBA]

Workshops are 8:15 a.m.-4:00 p.m., rain or shine—be prepared to go outside.

Carol A. Heisler



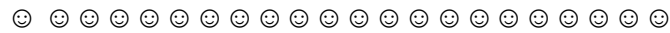
Earth Week

Earth Week at the downtown pavilion will be Saturday, April 18th. This can be both an educational affair if you attend, but it can also be a volunteer effort if you wish to work our booth there. Ida is looking for volunteers to man our table. We want to involve the visitors in activities to educate them on our environment. If you have any

ideas for activities for adults or children, please let Ida know.

Speakers, exhibitors & music from 11am - 3pm; TR3 will perform from 3pm - 5pm.

Ida Swenson, idthefriz@gmail.com, to volunteer



Birding and Wildlife Trails

2009 marks the 5-year anniversary of the completion of the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail (VBWT), the nation's first statewide viewing trail. While we trust many of you have made use of the Trail to enhance and expand your own nature-based experiences, we are seeking your cooperation in introducing the VBWT to interested nature enthusiasts across the Commonwealth.

One of the ways the Watchable Wildlife Program of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries would like to celebrate the VBWT's 5th Anniversary is by promoting its value and accessibility through a series of year-long "Getting To Know You" tours. We're hoping to partner with experienced naturalists, birders, and all manner of wildlife observers who would be willing to lead one or more such tours. We are certainly hoping that many Master Naturalist volunteers would fall into this category. Individuals/Chapters that choose to participate need not have an intimate knowledge of the specific sites being visited, although a general familiarity with them and the VBWT would certainly be advantageous. We are primarily interested in partnering with those who have the interest and ability to share their observational and interpretive skills with the public. Rather than have this be a top-down initiative, we're willing to offer you assistance as needed while leaving you the flexibility to plan your own local "Getting To Know You" tours with regard to the specifics of numbers of tours, dates, times, etc.

If your Chapter or any of its members is interested in participating in this program, DGIF's Watchable Wildlife staff will assist you in the following ways:

- o Provide you, free of charge, with sufficient "Discover Our Wild Side" VBWT Trail Guides to give to all participants.
- o Assist you in identifying VBWT sites in your area that would be amenable to your tours. Possible options you might want to consider would be to whet beginner's appetites with a

visit to the top two or three VBWT sites in your area, or perhaps exploring all the sites within a given loop over the course of several weekends.

Seek to make arrangements with available site managers to meet and greet the group during your visit. We will also be exploring ways in which local Tourism, Chambers of Commerce and/or hospitality representatives may be willing provide additional amenities that will enhance your "Getting To Know You" tours.

- o Keep an updated listing of all such "Getting To Know You" tours on our web site, indicating dates, trip leaders, and host organizations as well as trip specifics.

We view these "Getting To Know You" tours as a win-win for all involved. Your Chapter will have the opportunity to meet new individuals with an interest in learning more about the natural world and perhaps in becoming a Master Naturalist. Participants will have the opportunity to discover and explore the VBWT and its many venues for enjoying nature, birding, and wildlife observation. We hope that all will come away with a better appreciation for the benefits associated with conserving wildlife habitat in their community.

Please contact me (Lou.Verner@dgif.virginia.gov) if your Chapter, or anyone in your Chapter, is interested in participating in this year's "Getting To Know You" tour program. Jeff Trollinger, Steve Living, or I will be happy to serve as facilitators to make sure your involvement in these tours is a positive one. Feel free to address any questions or suggestions you might have directly to me.

Thank you – We are looking forward to hearing from you and working with you!

Here's the link to the [Birding and Wildlife Trail](#). We have trails on both the Piedmont and the Mountain sections. On the [Piedmont trail](#), look under Monticello and James River. On the mountain trail, look under [Thomas Jefferson](#)

It would be fun to do not only birding but other wildlife themes..... tracking, frogs, insects

Dede Smith & Lou Verner



Forestry For the Bay

This came from Craig Highfield from Forestry For the Bay. These are still valid.

What's in the 2008 Farm Bill for Family Forest Owners?

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 has many new opportunities for forest landowners and also expands forestland eligibility in some traditional USDA working lands programs. <http://www.forestrycenter.org/headlines.cfm?refID=104555>

Tax tips for forest landowners for the 2008 tax year <http://www.interfacesouth.org/swuinet/files/TaxTips08-1.pdf>

Innovative web-tool has a new name thanks to FFB members.

Thanks to all of those members that participated in the survey to rename the Spatial Land Registry tool (see the FFB news page <http://www.forestryforthebay.org/news.cfm> for a description of the tool.) The most popular choice, which is now the new name, was LandServer. Regardless of the name, this free web tool will help many landowners create accurate maps of their property and help them determine their eligibility for the conservation incentive programs and ecosystem service markets. LandServer will be piloted in MD and DE sometime this winter and will eventually be available in the other bay watershed states. LandServer will be accessible from our site. I'll keep you posted.

Craig Highfield

Library Project, March 28th

This came through our e-mails from Idette Charlie (albemarle121@yahoo.com): I am emailing on the type of area to focus on this education program. the focus is on two events one on february 14 and march 28...these events are on saturday the 14th is on 10 am -11:30 and the 28 is on 12:15 - 1:30 pm..the topic on trees, turtles, flowers , other relating to nature..a presentation on reading a poem and a slide show...i will be emailing Rob at the virngina forestry department to bring a presentation as in slides or powerpoint...

Contact Idette if you're interested in doing a presentation for the March 28th event at the downtown library.

Ralph Hall via LoriAnne

Project Budburst

http://www.windows.ucar.edu/citizen_science/budburst/plantlist.php

Join the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research in collecting important climate change data on the timing of leafing and flowering in our area through Project BudBurst! This national field campaign targets native tree and flower species in the United States. Be a part of something really big across the country. With our help, they will compile valuable environmental and climate change information around the US.

Leslie Middleton

Master Naturalist Photos

Wanna share photos of what you've been doing as a master naturalist. One source is to post them on smugmug: <http://virginiamasternaturalist.smugmug.com>

Michelle Prysby has put together instructions for posting your own pictures there. We have unlimited space there.

Contact your editor or Rose for Michelle's instructions.

Ralph Hall & Rose Brown

Ida's Winning Entry

Here's Ida's winning entry in the "Virginia Festival of the Book 'Favorite Place to Read a Book'" contest that was put into vabook.wordpress.com/2009/01/14/name-a-great-place-to-read-a-book/

A mossy green log, preferably over a shady stream - not too far from the March Hare's hole preferably-with dragonflies zooming by to carry away any mosquitoes - THAT's the place to read. A place where civil war battles and hoop skirts seem not too far. Or knights in shining armor searching for medieval castles could step out of the woods at any minute. The dampness of the log would ease any pain from staying in one position too long, and the drowsy hum of the bees in the meadow nearby would would soon bring the dreams of the book into the reality of slumber.

R. Hall relaying Ida Swenson's entry

Wildlife Center of Virginia “On the Road”

If you found a baby bird chirping and hopping beneath a tree, would you know what to do?

If, like me, you're not sure, the Wildlife Center of Virginia, located in Waynesboro, offers classes taught “on the road” in the care and transport of injured wildlife that could give you the expert help you need. The classes are for people who want to become more knowledgeable about how they can aid animals in the wild that appear to be injured and vulnerable.

Some who sign up for these classes are heading for their wildlife rehabilitator's license, but others just want to learn more about what to do when they come across an animal that might be hurt. The introductory class entitled “Wildlife Capture, Restraint, Handling, and Transport,” taught by an experienced rehabilitator, includes a number of great photographs and video clips that illustrate a number of techniques. I attended this class recently at Tonsler Park in Charlottesville, and in two hours I learned a lot about what to do—and what *not* to do.

There were tips on how to deal with some of the most common baby animals found in our region—birds, squirrels, deer, opossums, and rabbits—and precautions to be taken with the species that are at highest risk for carrying rabies—bats, groundhogs, raccoons, skunks, and foxes.

Keeping an injured animal dry and warm is very important. A lidded box or crate with a towel on the floor can serve as a good container for transporting to the Wildlife Center or a rehabilitator. You can provide some warmth by filling a sock with rice or beans, heating in a microwave, and placing it under the towel.

Don't worry about food and water—unless an experienced rehabilitator has told you otherwise. In our class the presenter emphasized the point with a bit of logic: if you were in an accident, you wouldn't want people making a run to McDonald's a priority. Animals have very specialized digestive systems, and if they ate something you offered, the chance is it would do more harm than good. A water dish inside the transport box could tip and cause a chill.

Try to be sure that your rescue really is a rescue. Many baby animals are brought to the Wildlife Center that would have done better without any

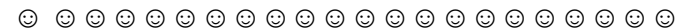
human “help.” If there's no visible injury, don't always assume the worst. You can call the Wildlife Center (540 942-9453 from 9-5 daily or 540-241-4045 after hours) for advice on what to do, or the website at www.wildlifecenter.org and click on I NEED RESCUE ADVICE.

When well-meaning people see a fully feathered baby bird hopping on the ground but unable to fly, it's probably just going through one of the two or three challenging days when it's ready to leave the nest but not quite ready for flight. If you can prevent cats, dogs, and children from getting at it, leaving it where it is would give the animal its best chance of survival. One of my biggest wildlife myths dating from childhood was struck down: I always thought that if I touched a baby bird that had fallen out of its nest, the mother would abandon it. Now I know to warm the bird in my hand for a few minutes and put it back in the nest. Most birds, particularly songbirds, have a poor sense of smell. The mother will probably never know there was an intruder and will continue to care for the airlifted offspring.

If I'm ever lucky enough to spy a sleeping fawn in the woods, now I'll no longer automatically worry about it, complete with images of orphans from *Bambi* or *The Yearling*. Fawns were made to be able to hide in a nest of leaves to wait for the mother deer while she's out foraging. The mother will very likely make it back, as long as you're not hovering nearby.

Since the opening of the Wildlife Center of Virginia in 1982, it has taken in and treated thousands of animals—about 2,500 each year—and educated many people in proper care of wildlife. To protect the wellbeing of its wild patients, the Center is only open to the public for a few days each spring and fall. If you'd like to tour the wildlife emergency room and hospital and see some of the residents, open houses are scheduled in March and April. See the Center's website for details.

Rebecca Barns



Nearsighted Owl

There's a myth that owls are nocturnal animals. When we lived in Baton Rouge, we'd hear them during the daytime, and I've heard them along Ivy Creek here in Virginia. Do they see well in the daytime though? I wonder. One source said they

hunt mostly by sound. In my experience, they may be just a bit nearsighted.

In Baton Rouge, our house had a great barn. It was really a workshop but made to look like a barn. Here's a picture.



Sorry, I don't have a good picture of the overall view of it. It had a loft with a doorway. I had a pulley there where we could lift stuff up into it like a bale of hay. I'll bet my wooden oar, hand-carved from Singapore, may be up there, as I seem to have lost it.

Anyway, back to the story about the nearsighted owl. I made an outside shower off the right rear of the barn. A 5 gallon heater inside the barn provided heat, and some old Mexican tiles kept the dirt off my feet. You can see that the back side of the barn had a lot of trees overlooking it. Well, I was showering one day and found that I was being observed by an owl on a tree branch.



Could it have been a Barred Owl? (from <http://www.flickr.com/photos/monarch/2334290016/>) Could have been.



Or a Burrowing Owl? (from [fsu.holzman site](http://fsu.holzman.site)) Not likely, because this one's habitat doesn't encompass Baton Rouge. (These actually live in burrows in the ground.)



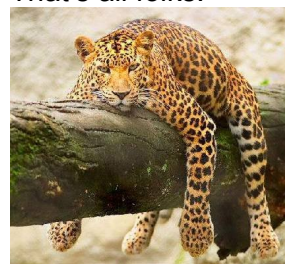
Or a Great Horned Owl? (from <http://atowhee.wordpress.com/2008/02/29/daytime-owls-and-flights-of-wonder/>) I think it looked like this one.

Okay, back to the story. That owl watched me as I got wet, soaped up, washed off and then toweled off. It was then that he gave me a scare. He must have seen something that on closer approach didn't look that good. He swooped down to get it. About 10 or 20 feet from me, he swooped back up, hit the eave on the barn, almost fell to earth and finally flew away, very embarrassed; I'm sure. I was very relieved.

Incidentally, you don't need a 5 gallon heater for an outdoor shower; I've a 2.5 gallon one here that'll do 2 showers if preheated with a hose loop in the sun. Oh, I don't recommend that TroyBilt Tomahawk in the picture. It's a beast to maintain. A MacKissic is a MUCH better choice.

Ralph Hall

That's all folks!



Deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is the **26th of the month before the next quarter (June)**. Please submit any announcements or articles of interest to be included in the next issue to *Rivanna Naturalist Notes* Editor, Ralph Hall, preferably by [e-mail](#), by facsimile 434-297-1962 or by USPS mail to 420 Ivy Farm Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901-8841.

