



# Chesapeake Chat

Fall Edition

## Upcoming Event:

- **Interpreting the Night Sky**  
Monday,  
December 9, 2013  
6-8pm  
Raindate:  
Tuesday,  
December 10,  
2013  
Riverbend Park,  
Great Falls, VA

Are you thinking about starting astronomy programs at your site or want to generate ideas for interpreting the night sky? Then take part in our interpreter-led stations. Learn how to use a star chart, participate in a hands-on moon phase activity, and so much more.

To register or for more information, please contact Beltway Chapter Co-chair Mona Enquist-Johnston at [mogar@cox.net](mailto:mogar@cox.net).

## Director's Note

We're entering my favorite time of year. I often say that about the other seasons as well, but there's something magical about autumn. The sound of crickets trilling, the fading cacophony of katydids as the evening temperatures cool, and Indian summer sunsets that stretch on forever.

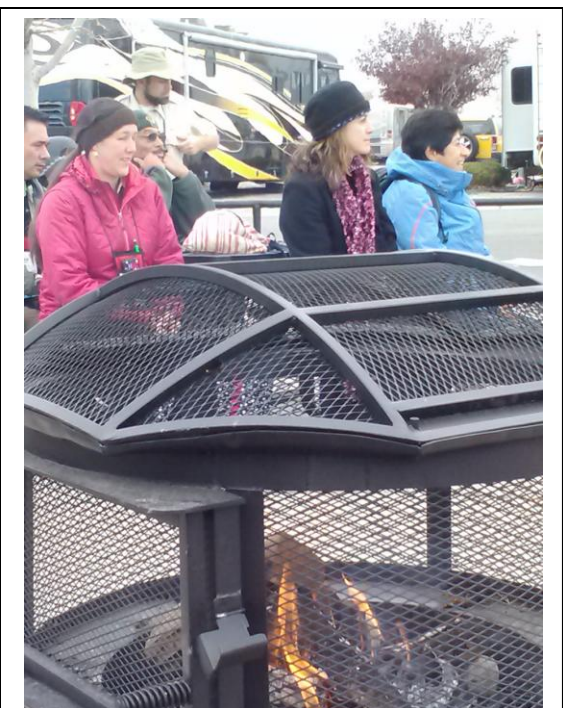
It's also one of the busiest times of the year for interpreters. School groups are returning for field trips, many of us have special events around Halloween, and the weather in this part of the country is often conducive to many interpretive excursions.

Make sure you take time to soak up the magic of autumn for yourself. Yesterday after work I took my kayak down to a creek off the

Potomac River. The water was glassy calm as I paddled for two solid hours, finally watching the sun slip beyond the horizon. Stopping by the wetland grasses, I pulled out my dinner and sat there mesmerized. A kingfisher flew to a snag with its own supper, a bald eagle surveyed the cove, and an osprey cried from a piling. I left renewed, invigorated.

Be good to yourselves and you'll be that much better to others.

Linda Bailey  
Region 2 Director  
Fredericksburg, Virginia



Angela Yau and other NAI members enjoying a campfire program.

## Region 2 Needs You

We are in need of the following Region 2 Board Members:

**Scholarship Chair** (assists with Scholarship Auction at regional workshops—March 2014, awards scholarship funds)

**State Rep for Delaware** (keeps board in the loop about state calendar items, training, and recruits state members)



Region 2 Members at the recent National Workshop

## Parks and Recreation Partnerships

By Linda Bailey

In my position as Nature Education Coordinator with the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, Department of Parks and Recreation, I collaborate frequently with community partners.

Following are some of the events and organizations we work with:

### *Earth Day Festival*

This annual event hosts over sixty community organizations who submit an exhibitor's application. We require that all booths have some type of interactive exhibit or activity. This makes our event very engaging, family-friendly and hugely successful for all ages. The event is planned with representatives

from about eight community environmental organizations. This includes the local chapter of the Sierra Club, Downtown Greens, the R-Board (local recycler), local chapters of the Virginia Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners, and our local Extension Office. These individuals contribute valuable ideas, and essential grunt labor!

### *Kids' Fishing Derby*

Every June we combine efforts with our local fishing club, the Weekend Bassers, to present a fabulous family fishing event. The local reservoir teems with about four hundred kids and adults, all eager to see junior catch the big one! The fishing club members assist with recruiting sponsors and donors, parking and fishing

instruction at the event, and much more. This partnership is essential to the event's success.

*Environmental Education for Underserved and At-Risk Youth*  
Several years ago we combined efforts with our local river preservation group, Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR), to write and secure a grant for providing environmental education to underserved and at-risk youth. This has been a highly successful endeavor! FOR has provided programming for half of the City K-6<sup>th</sup> graders and we have provided for the balance of students. As a part of this, we have collaborated to develop an advisory board of local organizations also working with

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this population.

*Additional Partnerships*

Other groups we have worked with include local troops of the Boy Scouts of America for trail work, storm clean-up, and Eagle Service Projects; Home School groups and local High School

students eager to get in volunteer hours by assisting with special events and trail work. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has also been invaluable with assistance in all events, education, and more.

Building relationships with others

in our community is nothing but a win-win situation and allows us all to combine our resources and thrive!



## NAI Awards

**Region 2 would like to congratulate local member Sara Lustbader, recipient of this year's Master Frontline Interpreter Award. If you didn't have a chance to see the awards newsletter we've reprinted the piece on Sara.**

**Sara Lustbader**  
Montgomery Parks,  
M-NCPPC  
*Master Frontline Interpreter*

Sara Lustbader has been an exemplar in front lines of interpretation for more than thirty five years. As a pioneer, Sara started in nature based early childhood educational programs over 30 years ago and they are still going to this day. Sara's creativity shines through in all of her diverse programming – including overnight biking trips for families, summer camping programs, night hikes, lightning bug programs, American Girl activities that link nature and history, craft activities and

so much more. In fact Sara has developed over 50 unique interpretive programs. Sara is also a talented writer and editor. She served as Associate Editor of Legacy Magazine and The Interpreter for 19 years where Sara regularly evaluated over 15 manuscripts per year. She continuously gives back to the profession by sharing her

experiences as a presenter at Regional and National Conferences. Whether it is planting seeds of nature awareness in the youngest of children, to nurturing environmental consciousness of the most senior adults, Sara has successfully reached those from all walks of life. -Linda Yemoto



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# Submitting Material for the Chesapeake Chat

## NAI Region 2:

Delaware  
 District of Columbia  
 Maryland  
 New Jersey  
 Pennsylvania  
 Virginia  
 West Virginia

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.interpnet.com/2](http://www.interpnet.com/2)

The main articles and the "Tips and Tricks" section will be theme-based for each edition so if you have something to contribute short or long refer to the table below for upcoming deadlines and themes. Submissions for other sections can be sent at any time but if it fits in with a particular theme send it by that edition's deadline otherwise it will be used for a future edition.

may be sent in the body of your email or as an attachment.

If you have any suggestions for a theme for future newsletters, please send your suggestions or requests. Themes can be anything related to interpretation that would be of interest to the region.

Newsletter submissions including calendar items should be sent to:

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

Pictures should be submitted as an attachment to your email. Other materials

	Deadline	Theme
Winter Newsletter	January 15	
Spring Newsletter	April 15	
Summer Newsletter	July 15	
Fall Newsletter	October 15	

## About Our Region...

### Region 2 Leadership

#### Executive Committee

#### Director

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