

Sessions & Locations

Natural History (NH) - Cultural History (CH)
Management & Planning (MP) – Interpretive Skills (IS)

Wednesday, 10am-12pm

Weeds, Woodstore, and Wildwoods

Wisdom – Doug Elliott (NH)

Explore the park grounds looking at wildlife, weeds for your needs, and other nature observations. (Program repeated Wed. afternoon.)

Location: Amphitheater

Interpretation and Trail Tips, Tricks and

Techniques – Alonso Abugattas (IS)

Regardless of how experienced an interpreter you are, it's always great to get new ideas and reinforce the basics of conducting programs and trail walks. Learn classroom and trail tips and resource ideas to provide the best edutainment possible!

Location: Murphy Hall

Fabulous Fungi

Rachael Tolman & Jennifer Soles (NH)

Explore some of the many workings of mysterious mushrooms, from natural history to basic identification and interpretation techniques. You may want to bring mushrooms for ID, a knife, basket, paper bags, guides, and loupe.

Location: Visitor Center

Wednesday, 1:30-3:30pm

Weeds, Woodstore, and Wildwoods

Wisdom – Doug Elliott (NH)

Explore the park grounds looking at wildlife, weeds for your needs, and other nature observations. (Repeat of morning program)

Location: Amphitheater

Interpreting Cultural Resource Issues

Using Facilitated Dialogue as a

Technique – Kimble Talley (IS)

An interpretive experience is much more than sharing the ranger's personal site meanings and significance. The interpreter should not simply dictate a top-down

(Continued)...

model of what the public should receive...new approaches require new skills. This session will introduce you to the suite of techniques known as facilitated dialogue.

Location: Murphy Hall

Teaching the Teachers: Outdoor Play Every Day for Mission and Revenue

Suzanne Holland (MP)

From developing healthy, academically prepared preschoolers to creating future stewards, outdoor play every day is vital. Reaching the family day care providers and preschool teachers and overcoming apprehensions is rewarding, both for your site's mission and the financial bottom line.

Location: Visitor Center

Thursday, 9:30-11:30am

Look Out for the Roving Ranger!

Kathy Budnie (IS)

Roving interpreters meet park visitors wherever they congregate. They welcome them, engage them in hands-on interpretation, promote programs, and answer questions about the park. For frontline interpreters and their supervisors, this session will present the rationale and benefits of Roving Ranger programs, and include an opportunity to create and present a short program, and take a walk to look for appropriate program subjects.

Location: Visitor Center

Native Plants for Survival – Vickie Shufer (CH)

An introduction to the native plants of the region and how they were traditionally used for food, medicine, and other survival needs. Following the presentation will be a short walk to ID plants that can be used for survival.

Location: Amphitheater

Thursday, 9:30-10:30am

Fake it 'til You Make It

Parker McMullen-Bushman (MP)

Non-profits often have to operate large programs on small budgets. Learn helpful tips for advertising, staffing, and programming on a shoe-string budget. Using the Chincoteague Bay Field State as an example, we'll brainstorm ideas on how to apply our methods to your site.

Location: Murphy Hall

Thursday, 10:40-11:40am

Grabbing Predators Bare Handed: Expand Your Interpretation by Including What

Raptors Teach Us – John Shafer (NH)

Banding raptors can reveal a wealth of environmental information. Current research, videos, photos, field notes, and interpretive techniques will be shared that can be applied to a wide spectrum of natural and cultural history topics.

Location: Murphy Hall



Thursday, 1:30-2:30pm

Mammal Skull and Scat ID: From the Top

Down! – Linda Bailey (NH)

Learn several ways to identify mammal scat and skulls you find along the trail. Recreate realistic-looking scat and eat a scat treat. Then sink your teeth into activities to identify skulls and jaws of native mammals. Hands-on and packed with ideas for kids of all ages.

Location: Murphy Hall

Visitor Experience Planning

Christen Miller (MP)

A comprehensive look at a brief history of VA State Parks and its continued success, our master planning and resource planning processes, the inception and evolution of the VA State Park Visitor Experience planning process, and how these three plans work together to guide park managers and staff in making best practices from facilities to resources to interpretive planning.

Location: Visitor Center

Civil War Soldier – David Farnier (CH)

Attention! A uniformed interpreter will demonstrate techniques used to teach elementary school students about the life of an American Civil War soldier by showing equipment used and leading participants in basic infantry skills.

Location: Amphitheater



Don't Miss "Interpreters Gone Wild!"

Wednesday at 3:45 in Murphy Hall

Workshop Schedule

Tuesday

- 9:30 Registration & Coffee
- 10:30-3:30 Pre-Workshop - Doug Elliott
- 4pm on... Dinner on your own
- Stargazing, Music



Wednesday

- 7-8am Early Bird Walk
- Meet in front of Murphy Hall
- 8-9am Breakfast/Registration*
- 9am Keynote - Doug Elliott
- 9:30am Session Break
- Silent Auction Bidding
- 10am-12pm Concurrent Sessions
- 12-1pm Region 2 Lunch & Awards
- 1:30-3:30pm Concurrent Sessions
- 3:45-4:30pm "Interpreters Gone Wild!"
- 4:30pm Silent Auction Bidding
- 6:30-8:30pm Dinner & Entertainment at Stratford Hall
- 9pm... Night Hike, Stars, Music...

Thursday

- 7-8am Early Bird Walk
- 8-9am Continental Breakfast
- 9:30-11:30am Concurrent Sessions
- 12pm Lunch & Region 2 Meeting
- 1:30-2:30pm Concurrent Sessions
- 2:30-5:30pm Free Time! (Hike, explore)
- 3pm Silent Auction Ends
- 5:30pm Seafood Boil & Watermen Presentation
- 7:30-8:30pm Scholarship Auction
- 9pm... Night Hike, Stars, Music...

Friday

- 7-8am Continental Breakfast
- 8am-Noon Stratford Fossil Offsite
- 9am-1pm Geo. Wash. Birthplace Offsite
- 9am-1pm Rap. River Valley NWR Offsite

*Breakfast & Lunch by Art of Coffee, Montross, VA

National Association for Interpretation Chesapeake Region 2

NAI is a non-profit professional association for those involved in the interpretation of natural and cultural heritage resources in settings such as parks, zoos, museums, nature centers, historical sites and more! For over fifty years, NAI has encouraged networking and training in support of our mission: **inspiring leadership and excellence to advance heritage interpretation as a profession.**

Our growing network of members includes people like YOU: volunteers, docents, guides, interpreters, naturalists, historians, rangers, historians, program directors, planners, consultants, and others. Based in Fort Collins, CO, NAI has over 5,000 members in over 30 countries and ten regions around the nation. Region 2, the Chesapeake, encompasses VA, DE, MD, NJ, PA, WV & DC.

Visit our website: <http://nairegion2.weebly.com/>

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Thank You!

Workshop Planning Committee

- Charlene Talcott – Chair
- Alonso Abugattas
- Linda Bailey
- Tess Belcher
- Tania Gale
- Yvonne Johnson
- Dodie Lewis
- Christen Miller
- Parker McMullen-Bushman
- Cynthia Rabbers
- Margo Carlock – Executive Director, NAI
- Doug Elliott – Interpreter Extraordinaire
- Virginia State Parks – Westmoreland State Park
- Stratford Hall–Jon Bachman / Geo. Wash. Birthplace NIM
- Acorn Naturalists – Tidewater Oyster Growers Assoc.
- Calico Jack – Workshop Participants!



Spring Workshop

March 12-14, 2014



Westmoreland State Park, Virginia

