Virginia Natural History Society
5th General Meeting
14 November 2026
Averett University, Danville, Virginia

REFRESHMENTS AND REGISTRATION, SET UP POSTERS
9:30 - 10:00 am

ORAL PRESENTATION SESSION I
10:00 am - 11:45 am, Blount Chapel

10:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Jason Gibson
President, VNHS and conference host, Averett University

10:15 **Mexico or Bust!: Using Radio Transmitters to Track Migratory Monarchs**
Jennifer M. Weber and Shawn M. Kurtzman

10:30 **Raccoon Roundworm 'round the region: Demystifying Diagnostics and Documenting Distribution**
Karen Powers, Victoria Robbins, Rick Reynolds

10:45 **Habitat Suitability for the Southern Flying Squirrel (*Glaucomy volans*)**
Todd Fredericksen

11:00 - 11:10 Break

11:10 **Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Survey at Staunton River Battlefield State Park in Halifax and Charlotte Counties, Virginia.**
Nicholas Breen and Jason Gibson

11:25 **Hidden Diversity of Chordeumatidan Millipedes in Appalachian Virginia**
Carter Young

11:45 - 12:45 LUNCH, Cougar's Den Cafeteria

12:45 pm - 1:30 pm POSTER SESSION, Firth Hall 3rd floor

ORAL PRESENTATION SESSION II
1:40 pm - 4:00 pm, Blount Chapel

1:40 **Why Wildlife Rehabilitation Matters to Natural History**
Haley Olsen-Hodges

1:55 **Anthropogenic Articles in Raptor Nests: Evidence of Birds Practicing Safe Nesting**
Angel Salinas, Isaiah Adkins

2:10 **Shifting Spruce: Structural and Compositional Change over 30 Years in Central Appalachian Mountains Red Spruce–northern Hardwood Ecotones**
Abigail W. McKellips, P. Corey Green, Adam W. Rollins, Steven L. Stephenson, Christopher A. Harris, W. Mark Ford

2:25 **Recent Millipede and Centipede Discoveries from the Virginia Natural Heritage Program**
Derek A. Hennen

2:40 - 2:55 Break

2:55 **Habitat Connectivity for the Spineless: Fragmentation Hurts Invertebrates Too**
Benjamin C. Jantzen

3:10 **Breaking the Bottleneck: Wild Bee Body Size Richness Predicts Species Richness and May Be Incorporated in a Simplified Monitoring Protocol**
Ian F. McKellips, Tyler Shaw, Robert B. J. Ostrom, Roger Schürch, & Margaret J.
Couvillon

3:15 **Phylogenetic Revision of the Millipede Genus *Pachydesmus* (Polydesmida: Xystodesmidae)**
Alex S. Alvear, Paul Marek.

3:25 **Diving Headfirst into the Diverse and Enigmatic Millipede Genus *Pseudotremia***
Jackson Means, Derek Hennen, Matt Niemiller, Kal Ivanov

POSTER SESSION
12:45 pm - 1:30 pm, Frith Hall 3rd Floor

Current Status of Rare Virginia Tiger Beetles
C. Barry Knisley, Andrew Rapp

Observations of the Development of the Upland Chorus Frog *Pseudacris feriarum* (Baird, 1854)
Jason D Gibson, Kimberly Ofosu, Aubrey Hendrickson Stanley

The Madagascar Hissing Cockroach (*Gromphadorhina portentosa*) - Individual Recognition Ability
Hilary Adams

Population Structure of Common Pond Turtles at Ferrum College
Richard Marshall, Cooper Stanford, Makayla Smallwood, Madison Cox, Todd Fredericksen

Population Structure of Bluegills (*Lepomis macrochiris*) in Ponds at Ferrum College
Cooper Stanford, Richard Marshall, Makayla Smallwood, Madison Cox, Todd Fredericksen

Wildlife Use of Winter Cover in Conifer and Deciduous Forest Stands
Grady White, Todd Fredericksen, Mallory Kiser

Invasive Species Management Plan: What Manual Removal Can Accomplish in a Year
Alston Jones and Karen Powers

Striking Observations from Multiple Projects in Bird-window Collisions
Draven Vannoy and Karen Powers

Preliminary Analyses of Life-history Data for the Glassy Darter - *Etheostoma vitreum*
Brianna Schmidt and Steven Powers