

After being postponed as a result of extended rain, The **Ninth Annual Spring Fling** came together on May 23rd 2018. The good Lord blessed us with a sunny and delightful day at VOWA Member Jennifer Hensley and husband Thurman's home located adjacent to the Shenandoah National Park in Augusta County. Their mountainous property with its many ponds, streams, wildlife, and natural floral is always such a blessing to enjoy.

The day officially started at 10:00 AM with fresh baked biscuits complemented with wild turkey tenders, freshly brewed coffee, Danish rolls and many other assorted desserts.

After spending a delightful time of eating and sharing stories, the first official activity was a Wild Herb Walk led by Naturalist Jennifer Hensley. Some of the attending members and guests participated in this Nature Walk while others relaxed and shared more food and stories.

The morning flew by as the group separated to pursue different activities on the properties. One of these activities was participation in a fresh Oyster Rockefeller Demonstration presented by member Terry Lewis. Terry being from the Eastern shore, an Oysterman himself, shared some of his oysters. It was wonderful.

Around 4 PM an early supper meal was served consisting of steamed shrimp, corn on the cob, assorted vegetables, many salads and desserts. After sharing lots of delicious food and colorful stories the group broke for a new activity.

As it was homeowner Thurman Hensley's birthday the group sang "Happy Birthday" to Thurman. A number of laughs was enjoyed as he opened gag gifts and guests shared stories. This was followed with guitar playing and more singing by the group.

In closing, many VOWA members both old and new were joined by members of the Mason Dixon Outdoor Writers Association on this glorious day. All had a great time sharing the camaraderie of the "VOWA Spring Fling". As each person left for home the common theme was, "We are so looking forward to next year's Spring Fling."