

## Training Coordinators Report

My Name is Norman Pierce I was born and raised here in Brunswick Co. Va. I am the new Trapping Training Coordinator for the Virginia Trappers Association. Trapping goes back to the Years of the Native Americans, Snares, Pits traps, Dead falls , Spring poles . It was their way to feed themselves and shield their bodies from the cold. With the arrival of the white man the early explorers made note of the many different animals and too, there abundance. So be it then the History of the Virginia Trappers Begins.

Fur Trading, Trapping and Virginia's abundance of wild animal's dates back here in Brunswick, Co. as early as 1650 Col. Abraham Wood and Edward Bland set out possibly down the Tuscarora Indian path looking for new trade with more Native Americans. More of Wood's men James Needham and Gabriel Arthur left Fort Henry (Now Petersburg, Va.) in 1673 down the Occoneechee Indian Path (Rt 1) in search of trade and exploring the land and they went as far as the New River. Pelts were in great demand in England and many Men such as these and William Byrd made a good bit of their moneys from fur pelts.

Our Ancestors Explored, Traded and Trapped for Animals Pelts, opened Farm land and built this Country. Be proud you can be a large part of what they did to build our State. With the coming of Our 50th Virginia Trappers Assoc. Anniversary in the year of 2016. I am proud to be a part of a team of trappers wanting to Honor the past trappers of our state and help educate the future trappers for the years to come. In 2016 I ask each of you to join in a Virginia Trappers Ed Class, if you have taken a class,(Good) you are still welcome to Join in with another class and learn more or just help if you wish . Thank You

Norman Pierce

Look up and read some of Virginia's history. Here in Brunswick Co. Va., in 1739 Drury Stith Jr. brought in one young wolf and 23 old wolves as in the day there was a Bounty on them. He was paid 4690 pounds of tobacco. Then they dug pits and trapped the wild animals.. O and he still holds the county record for Wolves ... LOL !