



# Claytonia

Newsletter of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society

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July–August 2015

[vnps.org/johnclayton](http://vnps.org/johnclayton)

## Officers

**President** Lucile Kossodo  
757/565-0769  
[lkossodo@cox.net](mailto:lkossodo@cox.net)

**Vice-President** Judith Kator  
757/229-0714  
[jandhkator@cox.net](mailto:jandhkator@cox.net)

**Treasurer** Patty Kipps  
757/564-3221  
[pattyk1943@widomaker.com](mailto:pattyk1943@widomaker.com)

**Secretary** Cortney Langley  
757/291-1500  
[clangley@plantrescue.org](mailto:clangley@plantrescue.org)

## Committee Chairs

**Awards** Donna Ware  
757/565-0657  
[dmeware@verizon.net](mailto:dmeware@verizon.net)

**Historian/Plant Walks (acting)**  
Helen Hamilton  
757/564-4494  
[helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net)

**Hospitality** Martha Smith  
757/566-0127  
[martha@hollyforks.com](mailto:martha@hollyforks.com)

**Membership** Fred Blystone  
757/229-4346  
[fredblystone@gmail.com](mailto:fredblystone@gmail.com)

**Newsletter** Louise Menges  
757/229-4346  
[louisemenges6@gmail.com](mailto:louisemenges6@gmail.com)

**Plant Rescue** Cortney Langley  
757/291-1500  
[clangley@plantrescue.org](mailto:clangley@plantrescue.org)

## Plant Sale Co-chairs

Joan Etchberger  
757-566-1884  
[jetchberger@cox.net](mailto:jetchberger@cox.net)

Patti Gray  
757/645-4164  
[patriciagray67@gmail.com](mailto:patriciagray67@gmail.com)

**Publicity (acting)** Judith Kator  
757/229-0714  
[jandhkator@cox.net](mailto:jandhkator@cox.net)

## Webmaster/Garden

Phillip Merritt  
352/727-1994  
[phillip.merritt@gmail.com](mailto:phillip.merritt@gmail.com)

## On July 16, Dr. Shawn Dash will speak to us on "Ecological Lessons to Be Learned from Plant and Insect Interactions."

Dr. Dash is from Baltimore, Maryland, where as a youngster he spent time exploring the natural world, devoting many hours to becoming familiar with the flora and fauna of the Maryland and surrounding areas and making collections of rocks, pinecones, insects, skulls, and footprint casts. Shawn's



An ant visits a Claytonia bloom.

(Photo provided by Shawn Dash)

passion for nature followed him through middle and high school and he attended the University of Delaware (majoring in both entomology and wildlife ecology), where he conducted research on cucumber beetle mating behaviors and helped with studies on hive beetles, box turtles, and other wildlife. As part of the University of Delaware reference collection laboratory, he developed an interest in faunistics and studied ant biodiversity and forest fragmentation. His Master's degree at Louisiana State University was the first formal survey of the ants of Louisiana. There he produced a guide to pest ants and led courses in ant identification for pest control operators and wildlife officials. Shawn completed a Ph.D. at the University of Texas (El Paso) in evolutionary biology on the systematics of an understudied Neotropical ant genus (*Hypoponera*) and continues to work on ants and soil invertebrates in the context of evolution and ecology. He has given numerous outreach programs on insect ecology for audiences ranging from elementary to college students as well as nature club programs. Shawn is finishing a paper on the ants of the Delmarva Peninsula and a project on the ants of Virginia. Shawn brings his passion for learning and understanding of biodiversity as a faculty member at Hampton University.

The meeting begins at **6:45 pm** at the **Newport News Public Library, 110 Main St., Newport News, VA 23061.** ([Note this meeting's location!](#))

## From the President

Now that the plant sale is over, what are you doing? I have added to my garden some native plants which I grew from seed: Meadow Parsnip, Leopard's Bane and Large Flowered Asters to name a few. Maybe you are unfamiliar with Meadow Parsnip. It looks a lot like Golden Alexander, but unlike Golden Alexander, it grows in areas that are in partial shade. It has the same yellow flowers and is also a butterfly host plant. This is why I chose to grow it and will have some at the next Plant Sale in 2016! As plants grow I hope they will bring more birds and butterflies to my garden. By bringing many violets in my garden, I now have seen some beautiful fritillary butterflies. I potted 150 baby plants I grew from seeds this past winter and spring for our 2016 Plant Sale. And I potted more than a dozen swamp milkweeds that Cynthia Long grew. New this year among the plants I grew are some pink flowered Red-Eyed Mallows, as well as the usual white Red-Eyed Mallows. Do not think that I was successful in growing everything I wanted, not at all. Sometimes it grows and sometimes nothing appears. For some strange reason, for the first time in years I was successful with Swamp Milkweed but not with Butterfly Weed.

Also on a Friday in May, I joined Cynthia Long and Sara Lewis in planting some of the plants we gave to New Quarter Park's Quail Habitat. I also joined Phillip Merritt in weeding at Stonehouse Habitat Garden on a Saturday. There I saw Sue Voigt planting Common Milkweeds from her garden in a section in Stonehouse—thank you, Sue. I saw Cortney Langley and Travis Will weeding very intensely. I even made the acquaintance of a new member, Shirley Ferguson, who was working there. What a great new member, who came all the way from Richmond to help out! If you wish to see what native plants you can grow in which area of your garden, you can learn a lot by a morning of working there. You can learn to identify native plants from weeds. I still have trouble identifying plants from seeing the leaves, even after being a member for so long. I am learning, though. It was relaxing to work in the garden and help Stonehouse. Phillip Merritt has been in charge of Stonehouse Garden and he has made some wonderful additions to its landscaping. He has created some new areas and organized plants in ways which only a landscaper's eyes could create. Visit it and see the good changes. Many thanks to the many volunteers; your work is important to our chapter. Phillip could use more helpers. Back to my garden: I have seen some baby shrubs which I am hoping to pot in the Fall to add to the sale.



Finally, I would like to thank Martha Smith for being such a great Hospitality Chair for the past three years. Her snacks were delicious and she was a great help. The social time after meetings is always a happy time and great conversations occur. Sadly no one has yet volunteered to do this job so we may have meetings with no snacks or beverages.

**Lucile Kossodo**

### Cortney's notes

The board met during the first week of May, well before the current sweltering heat wave and though members took no significant action, a number of agenda items are worth sharing:

Despite a drizzly morning, the Spring Plant Sale went off without a hitch and still managed to attract a decent crowd and plenty of volunteers. This annual sale is the chapter's largest fundraising effort—the only one, really—and requires a full year of planning, including organizing potting parties, procuring stock from members and vendors (sometimes over-wintering it), finding tents and tables, and partnering with the other organizations that host the sale. This year, all of this effort paid off in a net gain of \$3,350 to the chapter for the year. The money funds various projects and initiatives throughout the year, plus a number of Nature Camp Scholarships.

One of the main sources of plants is the Stonehouse Elementary Habitat Garden in upper James City County. Almost every Saturday morning, Phillip Merritt is tending to the garden. It's a great place to volunteer. Whether you have 30 minutes or three hours to spare, your help will be appreciated.

Two board members recently attended a Virginia Native Plants Marketing Partnership meeting. This is the organization that, with Coastal Zone Management and the support of VNPS chapters as well as other agencies, has been publishing the luscious native plant guides in different regions of the state. You might have seen them on the Eastern Shore, the Northern Neck or Northern Virginia (and the Piedmont's is coming out soon). The organization is trying also to publish one for the Hampton Roads region. Expect to hear more about this in the coming months. In the meantime, visit <http://ow.ly/OECBi> to learn more.

The Turk's cap lilies are about ready to bloom. Enjoy the summer!

**Cortney Langley**, Secretary



Cortney passed along this photo of William and Mary students working on the installation of a rain garden at the Keck Lab near Lake Matoaka.

*Photo: Eva Goldberg*

## New Members

Welcome to new members **Amy Baker** of Williamsburg, **Joseph Brown** of Gloucester, **Dot Bryant** of Williamsburg, **Stephanie Cruz** of Poquoson, **Hannah Goddard** of Mathews, **Marlene Krein** of Devil's Lake, ND, and **Melanie Remple** of Hutchinson, MN. (Marlene and Melanie are direct descendants of John Clayton!)

## Stonehouse Habitat workday on July 18

**Phillip Merritt** has scheduled a workday at Stonehouse Elementary's Habitat Garden for Saturday, July 18 from 8 to 11 am—come give him a hand!

## Upcoming JCC walks...

### Saturday, July 25, 9:30 a.m. to noon: Ford's Colony Trailblazer's Swamp boardwalk (Longhill Swamp)

Congregate in the parking lot of Wellspring United Methodist Church, 4871 Longhill Road (a short distance east of the 7-Eleven store at Old Town Rd. and Longhill Rd.) to carpool. We may leave the boardwalk at times, so it would be a good idea to wear rubber boots unless summer has been droughty. Among the species we will see are log fern (*Dryopteris celsa*), Southern lobelia (*Lobelia georgiana*), climbing hydrangea (*Decumaria barbara*), swamp black gum (*Nyssa biflora*), overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*), cherrybark oak (*Q. pagoda*), and swamp chestnut oak (*Q. michauxii*).

Please contact **Donna Ware** at [dmeware@verizon.net](mailto:dmeware@verizon.net) or 757-565-0657 to register.

### Saturday, August 22, 10 am: Butterflies in your garden

Learn how to attract and identify local butterflies, and how to grow the plants that will feed their young to make more butterflies. **Helen Hamilton** will give a talk in the Freedom Park Interpretive Center with powerpoint slides and handouts, followed with a walk through the Botanical Garden to see butterflies feeding on their favorite flowers.

Contact Helen 564-4494 or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net) for more information.

### Saturday, September 5, 9:30 am: Shrubs galore on the Noland Trail

**Susie Yager**, Virginia Horticulturist and Peninsula Master Naturalist, will lead a walk on a portion of this trail heading eastward from the Lion's Bridge, for about a mile. Expect to see many native shrubs, lots of ferns, and herbaceous plants such as striped wintergreen and galax. Meet in the parking lot near the Peninsula Fine Arts Center to carpool.

Contact Susie at [soozigus@cox.net](mailto:soozigus@cox.net) for more information.



## ...and some recent ones

### A tree tour of the William & Mary campus on May 2

May 2 was a beautiful day, the walk had been widely publicized, and our group was quite large. More than 55 people turned out to follow retired W&M biology professor Marty Mathes as he identified notable trees on campus, many with interesting stories.

Among the scenic locations on campus are more than 300 species and varieties of woody plants. This collection represents a living archive that also supports research and teaching by faculty and students from both within and outside of the College, and is known as “The Baldwin Memorial Collection of Woody Species” after John T. (J.T.) Baldwin, Jr., professor of biology from 1946 to 1974. Professor Mathes for many years led the walking tours originated by his former colleague.

We began near our meeting place at PBK Hall, where he pointed out ginkos, flowering cherries, cryptomeria, and variegated box elder. As we continued past the Integrated Science Center, we saw sawtooth oak and Atlantic cedar, and crossing Campus Drive to the Old Campus, momi fir, China fir, horse chestnut, a large, sprawling old mulberry,

and a newly-planted monkey-puzzle tree. Tucked into a protected corner of Ewell Hall are two windmill palms, which would not have survived in our climate without the shelter of that spot. Not far away were a blooming saucer magnolia, a large American elm which has been treated for, and so far survived, Dutch elm disease (a second old elm growing nearby succumbed and had to be removed a number of years ago), and a contorted hazelnut. Dr. Mathes showed us the Sunken “Garden” in the center of the Old Campus, created in the mid-1930s by CCC workers and designed to provide a grassy vista towards Crim Dell at one



Louise Menges

Dr. Mathes addresses the large crowd before we set off.



Louise Menges

The bicolored leaves of a variegated box elder (*Acer negundo*, a maple)



end. Lining the brick walks on either side are allées of large American beeches, probably planted a decade earlier. At the foot of that space is a pair of towering dawn redwoods, grown from seed Dr. Baldwin brought back from a visit to Belgium's national botanical garden in 1948. Until plant explorers located living trees in 1946 in Szechuan, China, this species was thought to have been extinct for more than 13 million years. Near a statue of Thomas Jefferson between Washington and McGlothlin Halls are hybrid oaks also planted by Dr. Baldwin. The group continued through Crim Dell, but by that time I had fallen so far behind our leader in that large crowd that I missed Dr. Mathes' comments about the trees there. It was a great walk for a tree-hugger, though, and I patted a number of trunks affectionately as I passed them.

**Louise Menges**

### Edie's two for one walk on May 30

On a lovely sunny Saturday in May, **Edie Bradbury** led 13 of us on a fact-filled stroll through her property. She has collected a great variety of plants, and many others have "just appeared"—donated by a bird or the wind or other critters.

In a large bed near the driveway we saw dwarf trillium, stinking camphorweed, golden alexander, downy lobelia, perfoliate bellwort, purple and swamp milkweed. Pots and plots elsewhere held helmet skullcap, white beardtongue, wild ginger, bluestem goldenrod, Carolina bushpea, and sundrops. Edith urged us to help her control a large patch of mountain-mint, and several small plants with roots found their way into the trunks of some of our vehicles.



Participants at the base of a dawn redwood near Crim Dell.

*Louise Menges*



*Helen Hamilton*

A group photo taken near one of Edie's flower beds



Edie said she did not have time to point out many more plants that she has and she loves. In bloom now are mountain laurel, balsam ragwort (*Packera paupercula*), yellow butterflyweed, white and pink beardtongue, sundrops, heuchera, foamflower, phacelia, daisy fleabane, jack-in-the-pulpit, spiderwort, dogbane, and partridge berry. All the usual spring ephemerals were in seed.

Also, there are various species of violets, coneflowers, rudbeckias, asters, solidagos, sunflowers and liatris. One large natural patch has at least 4 species of ferns, with 2 more at other areas. There 4 species of orchids not currently in bloom, over 20 species of trees, and more than 10 species of shrubs. At least 60 species of birds have been identified here. Many more potted plants are destined for the spring plant sale.

It was nice to see members of the chapter who go way back in our history, like Hayes Williams, who was treasurer for many years. He and his wife Joyce will schedule a plant walk in September to see shadow witch orchid growing on their property.

It started to get hot, so a carpool was formed to drive to Brent and Becky's Bulbs, a few minutes from Edie's house. Before exploring the outside gardens, we gathered inside the "Chesapeake Lounge" adjacent to the shop where Edie offered us a very welcome snack/lunch and cold water. George McClellan joined us there and led a quick walk through the many gardens established by Brent and Becky. George, who works two days a week

in the gardens, told us the plants are all thriving in several inches of compost on top of hardpan soil, mostly clay. One of the largest areas is made up of what George called "weeds"—all straight Coastal Plain native plants, 5 feet tall and growing, with emerging buds. In a few weeks the area should be covered with bees and butterflies. He pointed out how the dense meadow absorbed nutrients from the large drainfield to clean the



A young longleaf pine  
(*Pinus palustris*)



Sylvia Sterling discovered a yellow form of coral honeysuckle growing in Edie's yard.



George McClellan led a tour of the gardens at Brent and Becky's.

water and become its own ecosystem. Most of the robust garden we see now is planted directly over the early spring bulbs for which Brent and Becky are famous.

**Helen Hamilton**

### A "covered tree" walk on June 6



Charlie points out features of a loblolly pine's bark.

Starting at the large boat ramp, we went east for about a third of a mile. In that time Charlie showed us over 19 plant species, from ground covering vines to the oldest trees in the park. Our small group of twelve applauded Charlie's efforts at the end and invited him back for an encore performance.

**Rick Gardner**

On 6 June 2015, we met with acclaimed, award winning Jamestown High School science teacher **Charlie Dubay** at Chickahominy Riverfront Park, and followed him as he took us through the woods that bordered the riverfront.



Notes are taken as Charlie describes a red oak whose leaves he is holding.



Happy hikers, from left: Meegan Wallace, Jeff Honig, Chuck Deffenbaugh, Carol Fryer, Helen Hamilton, Roy Gordon, Charlie Dubay, Gary Streb, Kendra Swann, Patsy McGrady, and Patty Kipps



### Grafton Ponds walk on June 13

On Saturday, June 13 **Meegan Wallace** and **Chuck Deffenbaugh** led eight members of the Virginia Native Plant Society through Newport News Park, along the “old” Fort Eustis Boulevard that ended on Siegen Lane. Their destination was one of several Grafton Ponds (37.187218, -76.512168), south off the road. During the walk they identified over 40 species of vines, plants, ferns, and trees. Along the road, in small



*Rick Gardner*

The group looks at plants along the pond's edge.



*Rick Gardner*

Meegan examines a fern frond with a hand lens.



The Grafton Ponds trekkers

pools of water, they found evidence of frogs and tadpoles. Also discovered were the burrows of crayfish, and at the end of the hike an osprey was spotted eating its lunch in a tree. Overall, it was a miserable hot day (too hot and humid) and at the end, all participants could not wait to sit in their air conditioned cars.

**Rick Gardner**



*Rick Gardner*

Interesting “weeds” grow in the unpaved roadway, too.



## A walk around the Stonehouse Habitat Garden on June 20

On June 20, a sunny Saturday morning, **Phillip Merritt** took time out from weeding and maintenance at the Habitat garden to host a native plant walk through the garden. Before we began the walk, Sue Voigt invited the other participants to take some plant ID signs and as Phillip led us through the garden we had a “pseudo treasure hunt” finding plants in need of proper identification.

In the shade garden, the green of the Christmas fern and Jacob’s ladder contrasted with the blooming wild bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximia*). In the north end of the courtyard Soldier Mallow was already over 6 feet tall and Wild Quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*) was in full white bloom. The Scarlet Beebalm (*Monarda didyma*) in the northwest corner of the courtyard was encroaching on some garden benches (some serious weeding is called for). We passed golden yellow coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) in front of the Sweet Pepper Bush (*Clethra alnifolia*) before crossing the little bridge. Some spiderwort (*Tradescantia virginiana*) were still in bloom along with many purple coneflowers (non-native *Echinacea purpurea*).

South of the courtyard the Canada lily (*Lilium canadense*) was blooming. Also in bloom were more Coreopsis and Beebalm, Meadow beauty (*Rhexia mariana*), Wild petunia (*Ruellia humilis*), red and yellow honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*, “John Clayton”), and a great expanse of Hoary mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum incanum*) that Phillip said had been planted by Jan Newton as a possible deer repellent.

Plants developing seeds from earlier blooms included Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), Beardtongue (*Penstemon canescens*), wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), Lyre-leaf sage (*Salvia lyrata*), Foam flower (*Tiaraella cordifolia*), and Sundrops (*Oenothera perennis*).



Phillip shows Martha Smith and Dot Bryant some of the flowering natives in the Habitat Garden.



In the foreground, Canada Lily, left, blooms next to a Yucca which had flowered earlier. Coreopsis and Beebalm can be seen behind them.



It takes regular attention to maintain this lovely certified schoolyard habitat and Phillip usually spends part of each Saturday morning working in the habitat. For example, he has refurbished some beds, grouping like plants together for a colorful display at bloom time, such as the spectacular Sundrops in May, and upcoming blooms of Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*) and a new bed of common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*).

VNPS members and friends are invited to join Phillip on a Saturday morning for a wonderful chance to weed and to learn more about native plants and their cultivation (and maybe be rewarded with a stray seedling to take home). Contact Phillip if you are willing to help.

**Sue Voigt**

## Plant profile

### Evening-primroses, or Sundrops (Family *Onograceae*, Genus *Oenothera*)

These plants are widespread across Virginia, and easily recognized by clear yellow blossoms with 4 petals and a large 4-sided stigma in the center.

Narrow-leaf Sundrops (*O. fruticosa*) blooms early in the year, often in April, with flowers that open in the morning and close in the evening. These erect plants are under 3 feet tall with somewhat hairy, usually branching, stems. They prefer moist, well-drained soil in full to part sun. This is a perennial wildflower that attracts hummingbirds for nectar and goldfinches for seeds.

Three other species in our area open their flowers in the evening and close at dawn. Cutleaf Evening-primrose (*O. laciniata*) is early, blooming in March and continuing through October, while Common Evening-primrose (*O. biennis*) appears later, May



Narrow-leaf Sundrops



Common Evening-primrose

through October. Both have a bright nectar guide pattern that is visible to night-flying insects, the principal pollinator being the large sphinx moths. The species name of Common Evening-primrose

refers to its biennial blooming habit (blooming the second year); it can be a short-lived perennial. Cutleaf Evening-primrose is an annual or biennial. Both species like full sun.

Another perennial Evening-primrose is found only on beaches and dunes on the western shore of Chesapeake Bay. Sea-beach Evening-primrose (*O. humifusa*) has somewhat woody stems and lemon yellow flowers darkening with age.

Blooming in May through August, large white or pink flowers characterize the Pink Evening-primrose (*O. speciosa*). This plant is originally native to the grasslands of Missouri and Nebraska south through Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas to northeastern Mexico. It is considered introduced in the southern Coastal Plain, commonly cultivated and naturalized. In the northern part of its range the flowers will open in the evening but in southern regions, flowers appear in the morning and close in the evening.

A few other species of Evening-primroses are found in specialized locations in Virginia. Shale Barren Evening-primrose (*O. argillicola*) and Small Sundrops (*O. perennis*) occur only in the mountains, and Prairie Sundrops (*O. pilosella*) is scattered and rare in Virginia.

Both the roots and new leaves have been used as salads or cooked vegetables. Native Americans used the root for various ailments; recent research suggests the seed oil may be used for eczema, asthma, migraines, and other disorders.

The oil contains fatty acids which seem to help decrease inflammation related to certain conditions. While approved in Britain for treatment of eczema, premenstrual syndrome and prostatitis, research has not positively identified benefits from its use. Oil of *Oenothera* is used in soaps and many cosmetics, including lipstick.

The scientific name of the family is derived from *onager*, the Greek word for “wild ass,” beasts who threw stones with their hind legs when agitated. The stone-throwing catapult known as an onager in ancient times paralleled these plants which fling seeds far and wide.

The genus name *Oenothera* comes from a Greek word meaning “wine,” since extracts from the roots of some members of this family were combined with wines. Enology (Oenology) is the science of wine-making.

**Helen Hamilton**



Helen Hamilton

Sea-beach Evening-primrose



Helen Hamilton

Prairie Sundrops



## Final figures from our 2015 Plant Sale

Income from sales	\$5923.00	
Less Expenses		– \$3003.88
Net		\$2919.12
Credit from Sandy's Plants for 2016		+ \$434.70
Net plus credit		<b>\$3353.82</b>

Patty Kipps, Treasurer

## Notae ex agro sinistro (Notes from Left Field)

Having started taking notice of native plants in middle age, I was able to remember either the botanical name or the common name. Rarely, if ever, both. And, increasingly, neither. I have resigned myself to that.

Then, a month or so ago, I found my list of Latin words used in botanical plant names. It had slipped behind the floor-to-ceiling shelves in my office, which is a really good hiding place. I got the list at a VNPS event, and had treasured it, hoping that the similarity of the Latin words to the English ones (like *asurea* = blue) would help me remember them. The listmakers describe it as “Latin specific epithets often applied to plants,” which makes me want to adopt a certain tone when using one.

So, list in hand, I ran down the Latin and English words. Some were no-brainers, like *autumnalis* (of autumn), *densiflora* (dense-flowered), *foetida* (with an unpleasant smell), *magenta* (magenta), *pygmaea* (small), and *grandis* (big). But there were a lot of words that puzzled me. So I walked across the street catty-cornered (*catea cornera* = on a diagonal), and asked my neighbor, Ward Jones (former Classics Professor at W&M), to help me figure some of them out.

One was *maculata*, which the list defined as “spotted.” Ward looked it up, and we found *macula* (the noun) means a spot, mark, or stain. When you add the “ta” to the end of *macula*, you get the adjective version. You’d think that would be good enough, wouldn’t you? But, since I had an appointment with my retinologist today, I popped the question. “What’s the Latin meaning of “Macula” in the context of your practice?” Since one of his areas of expertise is macular degeneration, I thought it would be a no-brainer. I got an embarrassed silence, so I gave him the plant meaning. “Aha!” he said, “the macula is the spot on your retina where the damage occurs.” Good recovery. He specifically asked not to be named.



Another was *glabra* (smooth), which caused Ward's brow to furrow. "The last time I saw that word, it was a Roman proper name," he said, so we dove back into the dictionary. "Glabra: without hair" (noun: "young beardless favored slave"). Ward thought there might be a back-story there; he said that, in Latin, you might have an ancestor with a characteristic that ends up as part of your name. Like Cicero, which means chickpea. One theory is that Cicero had an ancestor with a big chickpea-like growth on his nose. Think he was happy with that name in Junior High?



I had a theory of my own, which was that *nana* (small) had something to do with the nickname for grandmother in English. Turned out that Nana was the daughter of Sagittarius, and the word was also used for female dwarf, small horse, and shallow water vessel. Maybe it comes from a small grandmother born under the astrological sign of Sagittarius? Who rode a little horse?

The final word pair we looked at was *sempervira* and *rediviva*. I got interested in them because they had the same definition (perennial). The Latin dictionary says *redivia* means "returning to life," and *sempervira* means "always living." It seems to suggest that a *sempervira* plant would never die, like an evergreen. I've just spent half an hour googling Latin plant names to parse the difference clearly in plant terms, and didn't get anywhere. If you figure it out, or know already, would you share it? Inquiring minds...can be extremely time-consuming.

Here's the link to the list, so you can look at it yourself.

<http://theseedsite.co.uk/latin.html>

...and another great site that divides the plant terms by categories like flower color, flower shape, leaf type, etc.

<http://theroadtoreading.co.uk/wwlatin.html>

*Saepe erro, numquam dubito.* (Often wrong, never in doubt.)

**Kathi Mestayer**



## John Clayton Chapter Calendar

- Thursday, Jul. 16** 6:45 pm: **John Clayton Chapter meeting** at the **Newport News Public Library, 110 Main St., Newport News, VA 23061**. Speaker **Shawn Dash's** topic will be **"Ecological Lessons to Be Learned from Plant and Insect Interactions."** (See Page 1.)
- Saturday, July 18** 8:00 to 11:00 am: Join **Phillip Merrit** for a workday at **Stonehouse Elementary Habitat Garden**, 3651 Rochambeau Drive, Williamsburg.
- Saturday, Jul. 25** 9:30am to noon: **Ford's Colony Trailblazer's swamp boardwalk (Longhill Swamp)** led by **Donna Ware**. (See Page 4.)
- Saturday, Aug. 22** 10:00 am: **Butterflies in your garden**, a talk and walk at **Freedom Park** led by **Helen Hamilton**. Local butterflies and the native plants that attract them. (See Page 4.)
- Saturday, Sept. 5** 9:30 am: **Shrubs galore on the Noland Trail**, a walk led by **Susie Yager**, Virginia Horticulturist and Peninsula Master Naturalist. Contact Susie at [soozigus@cox.net](mailto:soozigus@cox.net) for more information. (See Page 4.)
- Saturday, Sept. 19** 10:00 am: **Lisa Deaton**, Forest Education Specialist, will lead a walk on the one-mile trail at the **New Kent Forestry Center** to look for unusual plants. Contact Helen 564-4494 or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net) for more information.  
(More about this walk in the Sept.–Oct. *Claytonia*.)

There may be walks in the works which did not make this issue, so keep a lookout for announcements about additional walks and other events on our website at [vnps.org/johnclayton](http://vnps.org/johnclayton) and in the local newspapers.

Below is a membership renewal form. Please contact Membership Chair **Fred Blystone** at 757/229-4346 or at [fredblystone@gmail.com](mailto:fredblystone@gmail.com) with questions about your membership.

## Membership Form for John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society

(Place checks in the boxes below next to your selections.)

I am a ☐ **new member** of the John Clayton Chapter ☐ **renewing member** of the John Clayton Chapter

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email*	Phone*	

☐ I would like to receive my newsletters electronically at the email address above.

### Membership dues

☐ Individual (\$30) ☐ Family (\$40) ☐ Patron (\$50) ☐ Sustaining (\$100) ☐ Life (\$500)

☐ Student (\$15) ☐ Associate (\$40) —for groups who designate one person as delegate

I wish to make an additional contribution in the amount of \$  ☐ to John Clayton Chapter ☐ to VNPS

☐ This is a gift membership; please include a card with my name as donor.

I have ☐ time ☐ a little time ☐ no time to help with activities.

☐ I do not wish to be listed in a chapter directory.

*\*Please Note:* John Clayton Chapter does not distribute any of our membership information to other organizations.  
It is used only by the officers and chairpersons of our chapter.

Make your check payable to **VNPS** and mail to: VNPS Membership Chair  
400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2  
Boyce, VA 22610