Summer 2013

Vol. 32, No. 3
ISSN 1085-9632

Bulletin

A publication of the VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Conserving wild flowers and wild places

http://www.vnps.org

Changing land use theme for Annual Meeting

The Jefferson Chapter invites you to the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Virginia Native Plant Society. Our theme this year is *How Habitats Change: From Unraveling Past Land Use to Establishing New Spaces for Natives to Thrive*. This suggests two goals for our field trips. One is to focus on changes to the landscape—to answer the question: What was the past geologic and human history of this land and how did it end up with its present plant assemblage? The other is to showcase a number of projects designed either to protect and encourage pre-existing populations of natives or to introduce them into new areas.

Charlottesville is a locale rich in history, and several trips will visit historical sites. At Montpelier, the home of James Madison, you will have the opportunity to explore the Landmark Forest, which has been designated a National Natural Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Here a variety of oaks, hickories, tulip trees and others have grown to an unusually large size on rich Davidson soil over greenstone. Although originally believed to be a largely old growth forest, recent research by Tom Dierauf has revealed evidence of cultivation up until about 1800 with subsequent grazing and timbering until around 1930. But for the past 80 years, the forest has been largely undisturbed

(See Annual Meeting, page 4)

A mushroom walk at Preddy Creek Park is one of the featured field trips at the September VNPS Annual Meeting. Participants might spot mushrooms such as the fungi on the left, Lepiota *sp. (Photo by Mary Lee Epps). Saturday evening's program will feature Nancy Adamson of the Xerxes Society speaking on Native Plants for Pollinators. Her photo at right features a sunflower bee on* Rudbeckia triloba.

Annual Meeting information & registration. See Special insert.

From the president

A hearty thanks to outgoing VNPS grassroots leaders

Our society requires the efforts of many dedicated volunteers to function. Our chapters have conservation activists, field trip leaders, plant sale organizers, newsletter editors, program presenters, invasive plant pullers, and other hands-on volunteers in addition to officers and boards of directors. We cannot thank them enough for the work they do at the grassroots level.

At the state level, we also have some remarkable people to further our mission of promoting the conservation of Virginia's native plants and habitats. I would like to highlight and thank some board members who recently completed their terms.

***Deanna LaValle High** of Manassas recently completed her term as a director-at-large and served as our webmaster. During her tenure on the board, the website underwent many changes and upgrades. While that process is still in transition as we proceed to our goal of online membership capabilities and more, Deanna added the considerable content that is available on our website. She personally added chapter newsletters to the web and scoured those newsletters to add events to the central repository on the home page. She also monitored the resource links to keep them as up to date as possible. She posted exquisite seasonal photos to ensure that our site was truly eye-catching. Once her term was complete and a new webmaster came on board, Deanna continued to help with the transition and offered her assistance. She continues to serve as the Prince William Wildflower Society's webmaster and newsletter editor.*

***Mary Ann Lawler** recently moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, from her longtime home in Arlington. She was our tireless conservation chair who stayed on the pulse of both federal and state legislative issues that affected native plants and native plant communities. She alerted members to pending legislation, recommended VNPS positions, and drafted letters. She also served on the board of NatureServe, the scientific arm of the Nature Conservancy. For many years she was the editor of the Potowmack Chapter's newsletter. While she may now live in another state, digital communication keeps her just a click away and we are fortunate that she is a life member.*

***Jan Newton** of Williamsburg stepped down as education chair in April. Jan has seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm, but family responsibilities limit her available time for the society. She presented programs in a large geographic region of the state and heralded the message of the importance of native plants to our ecosystem. She also instituted the digital recording of our annual workshop that can be shared with those unable to attend. Locally she continues to be active with the John Clayton Chapter and also works with a schoolyard habitat garden.*

***Bob Yacovissi** of Falls Church served as our membership chair and is responsible for having upgraded our membership records. A whiz with Access databases, he created data entry forms to enhance the accuracy of our records and ease of entry and report generation. He personally spent much time reviewing records and massaging the data. During the last few years, he analyzed membership trends and their significance. Bob continues to serve as the membership chair for the Potowmack Chapter, which has over 400 members and is our largest chapter.*

We have been so fortunate to have had board members such as Deanna, Mary Ann, Jan, and Bob and thank them for their service. We are always seeking active and engaged board members. If you are interested in serving in some capacity with the state, please contact our nominating committee chair Butch Kelly at butch2410@msn.com. I salute all of our volunteers at all levels.

Your President, Nancy Vehrs

Ted Scott will be missed and remembered by all

Ted Scott—Theodore G. Scott, Jr.—came upon the VNPS scene more than two decades ago, bringing his respect and appreciation of plants and conservation of natural resources to help our society meet its mission to conserve wild flowers and wild places. He passed away on May 19 at the age of 94.

In 1991, Ted accepted the VNPS Conservation Director's position and quickly stated that he wanted a meeting to help him pick the most important project and the one with the greatest possibility of success. The eradication of invasive alien plants became his target especially *Lythrum salicaria* and his attack on that threat to our native plants was commenced with the careful sureness of a rifleman accustomed to only bull's eyes. He gathered evidence, worked with Natural Heritage and brought together a diverse group of leaders to join this effort. By 2000 no variety or hybrid of purple loosestrife could be sold or transported in the state of Virginia. It is the only VDACS listed noxious weed throughout the state. The legislation was accomplished by Virginia legislator Senator John Watkins, himself a nurseryman. Ted's leadership as VNPS Conservation Chair was key in gaining the support of Senator Watkins who then cham-

(See Scott, page 7)

Redbuds similar around the world

Like music, one of the hallmarks of biodiversity is theme and variation. Redbuds—species of the genus *Cercis*—from around the world illustrate this analogy well. Because all redbud species conform to a certain morphological theme, anyone familiar with one particular species of redbud should be able to recognize without hesitation any other redbud species as a member of the genus *Cercis*. In brief, the redbud theme consists of broad, basally-lobed, leaves with pulvinar petiole thickenings, and pea-like red-purple (rarely white) flowers that may arise on small twigs or main trunks. In fact, these plants are so distinctive, it would scarcely matter whether an unknown specimen were encountered in flower, before the leaves emerge, or later in the season, with just leaves and no flowers. The generic morphological theme is that strong. But with that theme come subtle variations from species to species.

Underlying plant form and ecology also contributes significant aspects of variation within the genus *Cercis*. Redbuds around the world occur in two distinctly different environments. Our familiar, local, eastern redbud, *Cercis canadensis*, the 2013 VNPS Wildflower of the Year, inhabits moist deciduous forests of eastern North America and five species of *Cercis* from China inhabit similar environments. On the other hand, the remaining species of *Cercis* have adapted to harsher, seasonally dry habitats that, in some cases, verge on desert conditions.

In the southwestern portion of its range, our eastern redbud offers a good example of the interplay between morphology and ecology found in the genus at large. In comparison to redbuds of Virginia's forests, Texas redbud (*Cercis canadensis* var. *texensis*) and Mexican redbud (*Cercis canadensis* var. *mexicana*) are smaller shrub-like plants tending to produce multiple stems rather than a single trunk; their leaves are smaller, glossier, hairier, have wavy/undulate margins and, further, they are found in shrub- (not tree-) dominated habitats. Of the two, var. *mexicana* represents the more extreme divergence from the "typical" morphology (technically known as var. *canadensis*). The divergent leaf characters of Texas and Mexican redbud are routinely interpreted as adaptations to withstand drought stress. And while our local redbuds are intolerant of wet, soggy, soils, the Texas and Mexican redbuds are even fussier in this regard. These two redbuds are sometimes recognized as distinct species, *Cercis reniformis* for the Texas redbud and *Cercis mexicana* for the Mexican redbud.

The leaves of the eastern redbud are heart shaped. (Photo courtesy John Hayden)

Further to the west, we find the western redbud, *Cercis occidentalis*, a characteristic species of the chaparral scrub vegetation of the coast range and western slopes of the Sierra Nevada of central to northern California. Chaparral vegetation develops in areas of Mediterranean-like climate, i.e., cool wet winters and hot dry summers. Western redbud is also found as widely scattered populations in truly desert regions of southern California, Arizona, Nevada and Utah, but only in restricted areas that are, compared with the surrounding desert, relatively moist. Morphologically, western redbud is very similar to eastern redbud; the leaves, however, are somewhat shorter with a more rounded apex, thus approaching a reniform (kidney-shaped) pattern more than the cordate (heart-shaped) form of eastern redbud.

In similar environments a half world away, to the north and east of the Mediterranean Sea, one finds *Cercis siliquastrum*, the Judas tree. Like North America's western redbud, Judas tree is adapted to cool wet winters and hot dry summers, and like the western redbud it, too, has more or less reniform leaves. The common name, Judas tree, is either a corruption of "Judea's tree," the plant being native in Judea, or a reference to the legend that Judas Iscariot hanged himself from the branches of this tree. Judas tree is native from eastern Bulgaria and Turkey to Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Iran. It has been planted widely in other regions with Mediterranean climate, yet it has only rarely naturalized outside its native haunts.

Further to the east we find a rare and little known redbud. Afghan or Griffith's redbud (*Cercis griffithii*) is yet another multi-stemmed shrub from dry forests and rocky soils; it is found from the southern borders of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, into Afghanistan and perhaps also Pakistan and India. Some botanists prefer to interpret the Afghan redbud as merely the easternmost extreme form of Judas tree.

We turn to China to conclude this brief survey of global redbud diversity and, just as a great symphony reprises the opening theme before the finale, we find among the Chinese redbud plants that inhabit moist deciduous forests and bear striking similarity to our eastern redbud. Of the several redbuds from China, *Cercis chinensis* is one of the most widespread; it is also most frequently cultivated in other temperate countries where it can be found in botanical gardens and arboreta. Chinese redbud is shrub-like, forming multiple-stemmed clumps, whereas eastern

(See Redbuds, page 7)

Annual Meeting offers plenty of variety

(Continued from page 1)

and the area today boasts trees of exceptional size for Virginia's Piedmont.

Two other field trips with links to early American history involve visits to Secluded Farm and to Kemper Park. Both are at the base of Monticello Mountain on land managed by the Monticello Foundation. At Secluded Farm, Devin Floyd will lead a walk through an upland Piedmont woods focusing on how geology, soil drainage regimes, aspect, slope, elevation, and historic human land use work together to determine plant composition. Those interested in gardening with natives should find inspiration at Kemper Park, which features a pond planted with native wetland species as well as an arboretum of native trees and shrubs.

Still another field trip of historical interest is a visit to Bracketts Farm in the heart of the Green Springs Historical District as part of an all-day trip to Louisa County, east of Charlottesville. You will have an opportunity to visit a 20-acre pond, see environmentally sound farming practices, and walk a nature trail with many examples of medicinal native plants. The second part of the field trip will be a visit to Liquidambar, the 83-acre property of Will Shaw, an avid native plant enthusiast and Jefferson Chapter board member. Will has selectively allowed natives such as button bush, tea berry, and steeple bush to repopulate the second growth, mixed hardwoods forest.

Two trips to Shenandoah National Park are planned. An all-day Saturday trip will feature a flower, fern and geology walk with Chip Morgan in the morning followed by a car trip along the Skyline Drive with Tom Dierauf in the afternoon, stopping at various overlooks to check out the many fall blooming species. We will also offer a Sunday morning visit to the park led by Doug Coleman, Director of the Wintergreen Nature Foundation.

We are planning several walks at Preddy Creek Park and Ivy Creek Natural Area, two particularly diverse public parks. A group of Jefferson Chapter members and Master Naturalists under the leadership of Tim Williams and Tom Dierauf recently conducted vascular plant surveys of both parks and we have scheduled three different fern and wildflower walks there. Preddy Creek features an exceptionally diverse meadow that is ablaze in color in the fall while the Peninsula Trail at Ivy Creek, with extensive beaver damage and thin rocky soil, has a naturally sparse tree canopy that supports late blooming, sun-loving species. We also have a mushroom and plant ecology walk scheduled for Preddy Creek. This will be led by Mary Jane Epps, who recently completed a Ph.D. in ecology and has been a member of Jefferson Chapter since the age of 16. And on Sunday morning, Tom Dierauf will lead a forest ecology walk at Ivy Creek. Tom knows Ivy Creek intimately, is a master at detecting the history of past land use, and is a great storyteller and teacher.

We also have several trips for those interested in native plant gardening. These range in scale from Phil Stokes' 50-acre tree farm, where he has planted many native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers while nurturing others already growing on site; to a moderately-sized wildflower meadow near Charlottesville, developed and installed by JW Townsend Landscapes; to the more modest-sized gardens of Jefferson Chapter members Cole Burrell, Fran Boninti, and Dorothy Tompkins. Also on Saturday afternoon Lara Gastinger, principal illustrator of the *Flora of Virginia*, will be at Dorothy's garden to give a drawing lesson.

Although this does not exhaust the list of field trips we plan to offer in September, it should give you an idea of the wide range of options we are scheduling. We also have two talented and captivating speakers. Friday night Lara Gastinger will discuss her experiences as principal illustrator of the *Flora of Virginia*, and on Saturday Nancy Adamson, with the Xerxes Society, will present Native Plants for Pollinators. Please join us September 13-15 for an exciting weekend exploring the many botanical and historical resources of the Charlottesville area.

Mary Lee Epps, Jefferson Chapter

*The Jefferson Chapter will be offering several different field trips to Preddy Creek. VNPSers might spot autumn coral root (*Corallorhiza odontorhiza*) at left, striped gentian (*Gentiana villosa*), middle, or birds nest fungi. (Photos by Mary Lee Epps)*

Smoky Mountains provide dazzling show for VNPS group

On April 7, 26 lucky VNPS members gathered in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, to begin a week of wildflower viewing in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Led by veteran Smoky Mountains explorers, Butch and Betty Kelly (Blue Ridge Chapter) with the assistance of former VNPS president, Sally Anderson, the group spent six beautifully organized days (thank you Butch, Betty and Sally) gaping at what may be the most stunning display of spring wildflowers the temperate zones of planet Earth offers up! While walking carefully laid-out trails along river cove forests, hardwood cove forests and limestone sinkholes, the diversity of the flowers and their numbers, size and robustness astounded the professional botanists among us right alongside the dazzled amateurs.

On our first morning, we walked the Cove Hardwood Trail in the Chimney's picnic area. The cove contained large examples of yellow buckeye and Carolina silverbell trees just beginning to bud out with a literal carpet at their feet of sharp-lobed hepatica! The hepatica went on for acres! Also blooming were hundreds of Catesby's trillium as well as beautiful examples of white trillium (*grandiflorum*), trout lily, lettuceleaf saxifrage (*Saxifraga micranthidifolia*), thousands of Carolina spring beauty (*Claytonia caroliniana*), walking fern and wild ginger.

The next day we visited the Tapocca Trail, a little known walk that is in the Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness adjacent to the North Carolina side of the park. We were led on this walk by Dan Pittillo, retired curator of the herbarium at Western Carolina University. Here the diversity of both the tree and herb species was outstanding. Along a trail that ran 100 feet above and along Calderwood Lake (created when the Little Tennessee River was dammed up in the 1920s), we saw dozens of five different trilliums in bloom: red (*Trillium erectum*), yellow (*Trillium luteum*), white (*Trillium grandiflorum*), sweet white (*Trillium simile*), and sweet Betsy (*Trillium cuneatum*). We also saw many clusters of pretty white Canada violets, purple phacelia (*Phacelia bipinnitifida*), a few examples of blooming yellow mandarin (*Disporum lanuginosum*), drifts of blooming blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*), and drifts of false Solomon's seal (*Maianthemum racemosum*). In addition, there were many examples of Carey's saxifrage and slender toothwort (*Cardamine diphylla*).

After that spectacular, diverse display, Professor Pittillo took us next to the big tree section of the Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness Area. This national treasure has an interesting history. Early in the 20th century, loggers began to rapidly cull the big, old growth trees in the Smoky Mountains and in the areas nearby along the Slickrock Creek watershed. Their operations were stopped cold in 1922 with the completion of the Calderwood dam and the resulting flooding of the logging railroad. This prevented a sizable old growth area from being destroyed. A decade later, the Veterans of Foreign Wars sought to establish a forest memorial to Joyce Kilmer, a poet and journalist who had been killed in WWI. After considering millions of acres of forest across the U.S., the Forest Service chose an undisturbed 3,800-acre area of old growth trees along the Little Santeetlah Creek in the Slickrock Creek watershed and established the reserve in 1936. It was this area that we visited. The tree species were very large, sometimes six feet in diameter and one hundred feet tall, and diverse. We saw, along a three-mile walk, hemlock, yellow buckeye, red and white oaks, basswood, beech, silverbell, poplar and sycamore.

Here is Kilmer's poem that inspired the dedication of the reserve in his memory:

Professor Dan Pittillo stands between two giant poplars in the Joyce Kilmer Reserve.

Professor Pittillo leads a group along a trail. Present are Butch Kelly, trip organizer, Marjorie Prochaska, Cliff Gay, Dwight Johnson and Larry Barry. (Photos by Marcia Mabee and Sharon Samford)

Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer

(See Smokies, page 6)

• Smokies

(Continued from page 5)

The next day we hiked three miles along Porter's Creek Trail to visit a fairyland. But first we had to cross a troll-like bridge over a raging creek. The bridge, dubbed "the bridge of death" by some in our group, was only 15 inches wide, had just one leaned-out railing to grasp, and took a little turn to the left halfway across. The test of nerves only made the fairyland visit more rewarding. On the other side of the bridge were several acres of blooming fringed phacelia–millions of little lacy white blooms forming a soft carpet under mature trees hungrily reaching for the sunlight before their tall hosts leafed out and cast them into shade. The bees and butterflies were everywhere.

The next day of trail walks took us along Middle Prong Trail next to a beautiful, white water river and a logged over area that is in the middle stages of growing back to maturity. Along this trail, we saw Fraser's sedge (*Cymophyllus fraserianus*) in bloom and a patch of 40 or 50 puttyroot leaves! That will be a spectacular orchid display in a couple of months.

On the final day we visited the Siegrists, a couple who are miniaturist artists that live next to Smoky Mountain National Park. We visited their studio in their home and saw their amazingly intricate artwork done in opaque watercolors with brushes that are thinned to a width of three hairs. We also toured their thriving native plant garden.

They led us on a walk down a trail in the park that is not yet formally marked on park service maps. The trail led to a series of limestone sinkholes and the surrounding valley floor that was covered with a thick matt of blue phlox (*Phlox divaricata*). The phlox was not yet in full bloom, but was starting its show in many sunny spots flanked by thousands of shiny new May apples. Here and there among the phlox were white shooting stars.

It was hard to finish this trip to the Smoky Mountains, my first, and leave behind the beauty of the most diverse, stunning display of spring ephemerals I will probably ever see. I hope you will get a chance to experience a visit to the Great Smoky Mountains in April.

Submitted by VNPS member Marcia Mabee Bell who writes a blog about living in the middle of one of Virginia's Natural Area Preserves. Find her blog at www.nakedmountain.net.

Workshop explored wonders of the Piedmont

We gathered at the University of Richmond on March 16 for our Annual Workshop, and our topic was the plant life and special places in the Piedmont province. Having had previous workshops on the Coastal Plain (2010) and the Mountains (2009), we felt we owed equal time to this substantial part of Virginia. I know I came away feeling like a new world had been opened for me.

First, the geologic formation of the Piedmont landforms was explained in clear language and graphics, plus special arm movements. Having been on a field trip the previous week with our speaker, Callan Benley from Northern Virginia Community College, I was getting the information for a second time. This was a great help to me, since it is such a complex topic. Formation of two supercontinents, the origin of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and how they resulted in today's landforms were most interesting.

This was followed by several aspects of the Piedmont flora and habitats. Chris Ludwig, Chief Biologist for the Virginia Natural Heritage Program and *Flora of Virginia* author, outlined the major Piedmont habitats such as mixed oak/heath, acid oak/hickory and basic oak/hickory forests, and told us about the special granitic flatrock areas. He concentrated on the endemics (plants that grow only in a certain range) or near endemics that frequently occur in these particular habitats. While preparing the *Flora of Virginia*, new species were discovered during the study of plants from these habitats.

Tim Spira of Clemson University in South Carolina focused on the ecology and interactions of specific plants that are more common in the eastern U.S., including the Piedmont. The details are fascinating. Who knew that it took three spicebush (*Lindera benzoin)*leaves to raise a spicebush swallowtail butterfly? Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*) produces lots of nectar, but has little scent, because, unlike many insects, birds do not depend on a sense of smell. Dogwood (*Cornus canadensis*) leaves are rich in calcium, and decaying leaves deposit calcium in the soil, hence more snails are found under dogwood trees.

Finally Ryan Klopf, one of the Virginia Natural Heritage Program's preserve stewards, gave historical reasons for the existence of Piedmont prairies, and discussed their preservation and maintenance by the Natural Heritage Program, particularly by the use of controlled burns. He showed us the science used to chart progress in restorations and provided information on plant adaptations to fire. He spoke primarily about two preserves–Grassy Hill and Difficult Creek. Grassy Hill is open to the public and has hiking trails. Be sure to visit if you get the opportunity. Our Natural Area Preserves are really very special places.

Our thanks go out to the Pocahontas Chapter for its usual good job in providing refreshments, and to Botany Chair and University of Richmond professor John Hayden for his logistical skills. Thanks to good weather, we were able to picnic in the common area with the nice lake view too.

Sally Anderson, VNPS Past President

• Ted Scott

(Continued from page 2)

pioned the listing of *Lythrum salicaria*.

There were other aspects to Ted's love of the natural world. Sone of those remembered by many in the society revolved around his trips to visit Canadian flora at the Bruce Peninsula on the Niagara Escarpment. In the Bruce he gave many of us memories never forgotten such as the opportunity to see orchids growing naturally in the roadside ditches. Even now, the Bruce beckons one to return, based on memories of the wonders Ted led us to visit.

Ted enjoyed propagating plants. He led a workshop for VNPS to share his vast experience and knowledge. In retirement, while living in Orange, he volunteered at nearby Montpelier, working with their plant care and propagation.

Photography was another of his accomplished skills. He has shared many of his images with the Virginia Natural Heritage staff for their files. Many of us have enjoyed his slide shows that were educational and beautiful.

He received awards of recognition from the Garden Club of Virginia, Piedmont Environmental Council and the Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Ted once shared that he had been in the field with Lawrence Newcomb, author of *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide.* On a recent visit with Ted and Carolyn, he showed me an original 16 x 20 inch scratch board—an impressive re-creation of a raptor flying through a dark woods that had been produced by Gordon Morrison, illustrator for Newcomb's book.

Nancy Ross Hugo, an educator and

(See Scott memories, page 8)

• Redbuds

(Continued from page 3)

redbud is tree-like, usually producing just a single trunk.

Other Chinese species of redbud include *Cercis chingii*, notable for its thick, leathery, leaves and thick-walled dehiscent seed pods—other redbuds have indehiscent fruits. Also distinctive is a group of species (*C. chuniana*, *C. racemosa*, and *C. glabra*) that are characterized by flowers borne on elongate racemes, as opposed to the sessile umbel-like clusters characteristic of all other redbuds. Of the raceme-bearing redbuds, *Cercis chuniana* is further distinguished by virtue of its ovate-rhombic leaves with somewhat asymmetric tapered bases; it is the redbud species with leaves most different from the heart- or kidney-shaped leaves of most species. Finally, there are hints of an enigmatic redbud from China called *Cercis gigantea*. Despite the fact that this name pops up from time to time in horticultural and systematics literature, *Cercis gigantea* is a completely informal name, never having been published, and lacking both a designated type specimen and formal description. It seems reasonable to suppose that there is a remarkably large redbud lurking somewhere in China, awaiting careful study—and on this mysterious note we conclude our survey of redbuds around the world.

Clearly, redbuds illustrate recurring patterns of form and ecological adaptation, species-level variations that play out across the globe, overlain on a pervasive generic theme: this is the music of redbud biodiversity.

W. John Hayden, VNPS Botany Chair

See the address label for your membership expiration date

VNPS Membership/Renewal Form

Name(s)_____
Address_____
City_____State_____Zip_____

___Individual $30
___Family $40
___Patron $50
___Student $15
___Associate (groups) $40*
___Sustaining $100
___Life $500

*Please designate one person as delegate for Associate membership

To give a gift membership or join additional chapters: Enclose dues, name, address, and chapter (non-voting memberships in any other than your primary chapter are $5)

I wish to make an additional contribution to ___VNPS or_____Chapter in the amount of ___$10___$25___$50___$100___$(Other)_____
_____Check if you do not wish your name to be exchanged with similar organizations
_____Check if you do not wish your name to be listed in a chapter directory

Which chapter do you wish to join? (See www.vnps.org)_____
Paying by credit card? ___MC ___Visa ___Discover Exp. date_____
Card #_____Security code_____ Signature_____

Make check payable to VNPS and mail to:
VNPS Membership Chair, Blandy Experimental Farm, 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2, Boyce, VA 22620

Membership dues are tax deductible in the amount they exceed $5. Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

The ***Bulletin***
ISSN 1085-9632
is published five times a year
(Feb., April, June, August, Nov.)
by the

Virginia Native Plant Society
Blandy Experimental Farm
400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2
Boyce, VA 22620

(540) 837-1600
vnpsofc@shentel.net
www.vnps.org

Nancy Vehrs, President
Nancy Sorrells, Editor

The deadline for the next issue is **July 15, 2013.**

•Scott memories

(Continued from page 7)

writer who focuses on native plants, had this to say about Ted: "Let me tell you this story about Ted, because you'll appreciate it. Ted came to Flower Camp once and helped me identify all sorts of wildflowers, but the funniest thing happened when I mentioned that I had zebra swallowtail butterflies, and knew that must mean I had pawpaws (their caterpillar host plant), but I hadn't found any paw paws on the property. "Look up," said Ted. Turns out we were standing in a grove of pawpaws! I was looking for something shrubby, and these were tall!

"Ted also put me to shame on that walk by stopping to pull up every autumn olive seedling he saw. John and I had long since given up on removing this invasive from our property, but Ted, who was about 80 at the time, was not so easily discouraged. I was also so impressed with the propagation lecture he gave at the Winter Workshop once. We've been lucky to have such plant friends!"

Doug Coleman, executive director of the Wintergreen Nature Foundation, remembers greatly enjoying co-leading the Bruce Peninsula trips with Ted and having a toddy with him in the evenings after the botanical explorations. "His father was friends with one of my great uncles and apparently they fox hunted and drank brandy together. Ted contributed much to the discipline of conservation and will be missed," said Coleman.

Long-time VNPS board member Ruth Douglas added her own recollections: "...in the late 1990s VNPS was looking for someone to take over Ted's work on invasive plants and I volunteered. He was incredibly helpful in introducing me to some of the people I would work with at two state agencies and at the Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association. Those connections have been invaluable to me."

Stan Shetler, retired Smithsonian botanist, summed him up thusly, "He has been a longtime warrior for the cause who will be sorely missed."

Those who visit the Nancy Larrick Native Plant Trail at the Virginia State Arboretum in Boyce will see a sturdy white oak (*Quercus alba*) reaching toward the heavens. It was planted in 2000 in honor of Ted and his years of conserving native plant habitats. Each of us who shared native plants with Ted has a wealth of memories to visit when we pass a flower that reminds us of enjoying a walk with Theodore G. Scott, Jr., a gentleman, conservationist and pleasant company.

Nicky Staunton, VNPS Past President

Ted Scott's white oak tree at Blandy

Virginia's rare insects featured in atlas

RICHMOND — Learning about some of the rarest winged insects that occur in Virginia becomes easier recently with the launch of a new electronic atlas according to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The "Atlas of Rare Butterflies, Skippers, Moths, Dragonflies and Damselflies of Virginia" is available at www.vararespecies.org. It's free for anyone to use and contains information on 193 species. All are rare to Virginia, and many are rare nationally and globally.

Users can look up insects by name, type or the county in which species have been observed. Searches generate details about each insect. Information is presented in a printable fact sheet.

Smoky Mountain Bonus Page Photos by Sharon Samford and Marcia Mabee