



# Claytonia

Newsletter of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society

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[www.claytonvnps.org](http://www.claytonvnps.org)

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## Our Zoom meeting at 7 pm on March 16— Ashley Morgan on “Hoffler Creek: Path to Preservation”

In 1995, a handful of Portsmouth citizens envisioned an established wild-life preserve at Hoffler Creek. Their vision was both profound and simple. They sought to conserve the natural resources so abundant in the area and to create a wonderland where all people could interact with the beauty and complexity of the natural world. That vision took root and grew into Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation, which assumed responsibility for managing and developing the 142-acre Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve, established by the city of Portsmouth in 1997. Throughout its 25-year history, Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation has worked to fulfill its mission: to conserve the last parcel of wilderness in the Hoffler Creek watershed for environmental education, research, and recreation.



**Ashley Morgan** began working as Executive Director for HCWF in the fall of 2019; although new to her position, she is not new to the organization. From 1999 to 2013, she served as assistant to founding Executive Director Randi Strutton, helping develop the Preserve’s facilities and programs.

A 4th generation native of the area, Ashley joined the Hoffler Creek staff after receiving a Bachelor of Science in Coastal Natural Resources from North Carolina State University and a Master of Science in Environmental Education from Southern Oregon University. Now, more than twenty years later, she is honored to be working with the staff, Board of Directors, and countless community volunteers to conserve this special place as a haven for wildlife and people alike.

## From the President

As you may be aware, we are returning to a public sale this year in our previous location, the Williamsburg Community Building. We are excited to be back in the Williamsburg Community Building. Our 2023 Plant Sale will be on April 29, 2023. We liked having a sale in May but there were no dates available. We think that we will be able to have a great sale with, hopefully, our members joining in to help us again. It takes all of us to make it a success and I sincerely hope you can step up to the plate! Be on the lookout for potting party announcements to help pot the plants and, if possible, bring your plants and /or empty pots of at least 1 gallon size, so the volunteers can pot them for the sale. We hope that our enthusiasm will inspire you to join us to make this a memorable sale.

Last Sunday, I decided to participate in a Dragon Run hike up in Middlesex County. Since I am a member of the Friends of Dragon Run, I asked a friend to accompany me. The drive was long and we were promised a sunny day for that hike as we left. By the time we crossed the bridge on Rt 17, the weather forecast was totally different by the addition of rain—it was good that I had an umbrella in my car. Since the rain stopped for our walk, the umbrella was like a talisman. We walked for about two miles in beautiful areas of loblolly forest and then were in a hardwood forest. We saw areas of bogs and later were walking along the Dragon Run. Along its shores we saw many Swamp Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*). This tree is a keystone species in this area, meaning that the habitat depends on them. It is a wonderful habitat for woodpeckers. Its many interesting knees looking like little Hobbits standing in water. On the ground we saw many areas covered with Ground Cedar (*Diphasiastrum tristachyum*) also known as Blue Running Cedar. In spite of its name, it is, of course, not cedar—it is a member of the Clubmoss family. But that name is also very misleading as it is not a moss at all but an evergreen plant related to ferns. How, you say? It reproduces by spores. It is also evergreen and in areas formed an evergreen ground cover in February! It is also related to horsetail! We also saw many Common running Cedar (*Diphasiastrum digitatum*) also known as Common Running-pine, another type of Clubmoss. Clubmosses, like Horsetails, are ancient plants. Clubmoss grows in moist, well-drained soils which are highly acidic. As we walked, I noticed, along with the Clubmosses, under the dead leaves many Partridge-berries—some even had berries and even a flower still on them. Later in our walk we saw some interesting mosses or lichens which I photographed in the hope that someone may inform me of what they are. Our guide had Plant IDs which gave names not used in our Virginia Flora App. There were many IDs on trees which helped with identifying them in February. As we partook of hot cider and cookies the rain began again. We left, hoping to take another walk in Spring.

In California there is a beautiful native plant sight to see this year! It is the desert hillsides and valleys awash with vibrant orange color. It really looks like it only



happens when the soil is doused with abundant rain. What plant is it? It is the beautiful native California Poppy. Where is it, you ask? It is 60 miles southeast of Los Angeles in the town of Lake Elsinore. Alas, as Gabrielle Cannon reports in the Guardian on February 19, 2023, the town is going to close this beauty in 2023. Why? The last time it happened in 2019, the town resembled Woodstock at its worst. In 2019 apparently the blooms were so abundant that they could be seen from space. Some visitors “came unprepared for a hike, resulting in injuries”, said Natasha Johnson, mayor of Lake Elsinore. They actually had about 100,00 visitors in a weekend, resulting in people parking along the freeway, and neighborhoods were gridlocked so that people could not go downtown to shop or work. Emergency vehicles could not pass. In the end too many people destroyed the habitat they had so wanted to see and enjoy. The curse of such beauty has caused the town to close all parking in the area as well as to saturate the area with patrols to ensure no one sneaks in. Riverside County Sheriff, Chad Bianco, warned that cars parking there would receive citations and be towed away. How sad that we will be deprived from being able to see it, but understandable after what the town has endured. Lake Elsinore poppies will be free to bloom in peace in their habitat,

Lucile Kossodo

## New Members

We welcome new members **Anita Angelone**, **Gary Streb**, and **Zach McFartridge** of Williamsburg,, **William Baumgartner** of Newport News, **Matthew Hobart** of Yorktown, and **Marcie Ford** of Bruington, VA to the John Clayton Chapter.

## Upcoming Plant Walks...



### **Saturday April 1, 10 am: Exploring the Springtime Woods at Wahrani Nature Trail in New Kent Co.**

Join **Scott Hemler** to explore the ravines, slopes and streams at Wahrani Nature Trail looking for everything green and growing in the different habitats in the park. We will be looking for Ferns and Clubmosses as well as emerging wildflowers such as Spring Beauty. We will also be identifying the trees that make up the forest. The trail is somewhat hilly in spots and can be muddy in places. We will meet in the parking lot at the trailhead; the walk should last around two hours..

The trail is located at 17485 Eltham Rd., Lanexa VA. It is on Rt 33 near West Point. Directions from Williamsburg: Take I 64 west towards Richmond. Take the second West Point exit (exit# 220) Travel approximately 4 miles on Rt. 33. Trail entrance will be on the right-hand side. Look for the brown signs.

Email Scott at [sahemler@yahoo.com](mailto:sahemler@yahoo.com) to register for the walk. In the event of inclement weather, he will email everyone registered if we have to cancel.

## Our Annual Native Plant Sale is on April 29!

Have you noticed that many plants this year are blooming earlier? Behind us—or so we hope—are the below-freezing temperatures crisping every stem, seedhead, and leaf we dutifully left in place the last season, as these may very well be overwintering spots for beneficial insects and food for wild birds.

We know better, of course; winter's not quite done with us, but spring's arrival is certain. The lengthening days and the warmer air bring visions of new plants, new color combinations and new designs (or design tweaks, at least) for our gardens. We do hope your plans include native plants.

We are here to help! The Annual Native Plant Sale is also a little early this year, on April 29, 9:00 am–2 pm at the Williamsburg Community Building, 401 N. Boundary St. in Williamsburg. If you need a flyer to send to a friend, please contact Emilia Godwin at [jccvnps2@gmail.com](mailto:jccvnps2@gmail.com).

We are working on finalizing the plant list and making sure all details are thought through. Visit our website [www.vnps.org/johnclayton](http://www.vnps.org/johnclayton) and our Facebook page for updates.

This long-anticipated event would be impossible without the involvement of many chapter members and friends. As you are marking your calendars for this exciting opportunity, please also consider volunteering at the event. As a non-profit organization, each year the John Clayton chapter relies on dedicated volunteer support to organize this event and can use your help this year again. Whether you love potting up new plants, can lend a hand transporting plants to the community building or can unload them on the day of the plant sale, we would be grateful. Contact us as soon as you know your availability at [jccvnps1@gmail.com](mailto:jccvnps1@gmail.com) to sign up or get your questions answered. The box to the right lists a number of volunteer opportunities.

An event like our plant sale has many moving parts and details may change daily. Do get in touch with us at the email addresses listed above or through our Facebook page if you can help or if you have questions.



### Plant Donations

Native plants you have and would like to donate are appreciated, as are empty pots for transplanting them.

### Potting Parties

For those of you who enjoy potting up plants in a pleasant company we will have several opportunities which will be communicated to you in an email or through our website. If joining a potting party, please bring any empty pots you may spare and come have fun with others who enjoy planting as much as you do. Contact [jccvnps1@gmail.com](mailto:jccvnps1@gmail.com) for details.

### Volunteering Assistance Before, During and After the Plant Sale

There are plenty of opportunities on the day of the event for you to help make this year's plant sale a great success: set-up and clean-up, cashiers, plant experts, plant table monitors, display literature.

### Plant Transportation

We need people with a van, truck, or SUV to help transport plants to the plant sale site, Williamsburg Community Building, on Saturday, April 29.



Thank you to all who sign up for assisting with this year's plant sale. Each year, we strive to bring as many native plants as possible to our members and friends. And each year, the proceeds from the sale go toward Nature Camp scholarships for school-age kids from our region. Spreading the love for nature and native plants is our purpose and we are counting on you, our members, to make this year's plant sale a gratifying success, and a memorable day for all who participate.

**Emilia Godwin**

## Leading Kids Back to Nature

Oftentimes parents and other adults worry that kids nowadays don't spend much time outdoors—playing, socializing, learning, and just enjoying nature. Whether it's due to human environments constantly encroaching into natural places and pushing them further away from urban and suburban kids, or due to kids being left alone to choose between easy digital entertainment and a natural world for which they have no role-models and guides, the reasons for kids getting alienated from the beauty of Nature are many.

So, it's encouraging and inspiring to see more schools engaging kids in garden-making, in food-growing, and just reconnecting with soil, plants and the wildlife that visits them.

The Stonehouse Elementary School in Williamsburg has maintained a small oasis for children and faculty interactions with nature since 2004, when a native plant garden was developed by the school community, parents, and volunteers. Recognized as a Certified Wildlife Habitat, it has won numerous awards through the years for being such a great example of an outdoor classroom and a thriving environment for wildlife. It is part of the Virginia Native Plant Society, John Clayton Chapter. In 2022, after many years of exemplary service, **Sue Voigt** stepped down as the Stonehouse Schoolyard Habitat Facilitator and **Jennifer Myers** took over.

As the Facilitator, Jennifer is a gardener, teacher, collaborator, and student herself. As the Gardener, she tends the garden throughout the seasons and arranges for volunteers to help prune, weed, clean, and tidy the garden as needed. There is always work to be done in a garden! As the Teacher, she collaborates with students and other teachers to make sure they understand that this garden is the most important classroom they have in the entire school. Making sure they have access to it and are using it is very important to her—both for the students and the faculty.



Summer 2022 World's Best Volunteers in the Garden—cleaning, mulching, weeding, being awesome! L to R: Jeanette and Keith Navia, Adrienne Frank, Jennifer Meyers, Gary Frank, Bill Dichtel

Jennifer is also co-leading the Garden Club in 2023, along with **Liz Callan**, Culinary and Garden Educator, School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) from Williamsburg and James City County Public Schools. The club has been meeting since February and will continue through the first week of April, and is a School Health Initiative Program (SHIP). It provides opportunities to 20 students from 3rd to 5th grade to plant, grow, take care of plants and a garden, but also learn about the natural world and about themselves.

As the Collaborator and Student, Jennifer Myers likes to listen to the plants and learn from them as they are our true teachers. The native plant garden is a continuous demonstration of resilience, incredible beauty, and a continuous source of ecological lessons. There is much to know about the interconnectedness of nature and how important the native plants really are. Lessons can be also learned about how little native plants need from us to truly thrive and support habitats—an inspirational lesson that more people need to learn.

An endeavor like the native plant garden at Stonehouse Elementary School cannot thrive without the dedicated help of students, teachers, volunteers, and friends. If you are a seasoned gardener, a student of gardening, or just like to be outdoors in the company of others who love to take care of nature, you will find many opportunities to help throughout the year. If you have time and energy to volunteer, contact Jennifer at [jennifernaglemeyers@gmail.com](mailto:jennifernaglemeyers@gmail.com), and be prepared to have a lovely time and maybe learn something new at the native plant garden.

**Emilia Godwin and Jennifer Meyers**

## From Helen...

### Mosses Grow Anywhere (almost)

“Does salt kill moss”? someone asked me recently. “Well, of course”, I said. “Mosses are living plants—put salt on sidewalks in winter and when dissolved in water, the runoff kills nearby lawn grass.”

And then I wondered why she was asking. Turns out she wants to kill the moss growing on her pretty paving stones. I was not happy and told her about all the virtues of mosses—no care lawns, grow anywhere, never need watering, fertilizing, mowing, etc. How there are firms selling rolls of cultivated or collected mosses to use in establishing green areas where nothing else will grow. All mosses but one are native here, none are toxic, and they are natural air purifiers. Mosses do not release acids that harm concrete and brick wall; they are pioneer species, creating spaces where other plants can get a start.



*Helen Hamilton*

Moss growing on a piece of concrete

In the Andes mountains moss species trap moisture from fog, rain, and melting glaciers, store it in the soil and release it gradually to the lowlands, supplying 70% of Colombia's fresh water. A device that uses moss to filter microplastics as been developed by students.

Dried moss can be used to create indoor art and outside, live moss walls can be used as privacy screens. Look for “moss walls” on Amazon.

But this is not what she wanted to hear. Weeds are plants growing in the wrong places, so on expensive paving stones, moss is a weed!

### **Mosses and The College Woods**

While I was collecting bryophytes throughout the Coastal Plain, I visited areas in the College Woods frequently. Eventually a long list of mosses and liverworts growing in the woods and campus emerged. Remembering the several surveys of college property for vascular plants, I asked Donna Ware if she would be interested in my list of bryophytes. She was, so I sent her a list with habitat and location information. Sometime later Donna was talking about publication of my list.

I was reluctant to do so, until Gus pointed out that a published list of my finds would help legitimize the College Woods as a vital research area, principally by William and Mary faculty and students. I had not thought of the political side of this story, so I started a little report last January. Sent it off the journal *Banisteria* for peer review. The only reviewer had a long list of suggestions, mostly about expanding and enhancing the language.

O my. Over the next 11 months, I wrote and wrote and re-wrote, with massive help from Donna and Stewart. I had no idea how to write a research paper, and these two botanists have had much experience with their students who needed their help also.

Finally, in early November it was accepted by *Banisteria* and with a few minor revisions, achieved publication 21 November 2022. *Banisteria* is revising their website, so it is not yet available online, but here is the title page:

#### **BRYOPHYTE SURVEY OF THE COLLEGE WOODS AND CAMPUS OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY**

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**Helen Hamilton**

## From Betsy Washington, Northern Neck Chapter

### Plant of the Month for January 2023:

#### Cranefly Orchid, *Tipularia Discolor*

As we celebrated the New Year with our annual New Year's Day walk at Hickory Hollow NAP, many participants were intrigued by a small, common terrestrial orchid, the Cranefly Orchid, *Tipularia discolor*, that greeted us along the paths. Some were even more surprised to realize they had this orchid growing on their own properties! Oddly, this orchid is unique in having dark green leaves that appear in mid fall and remain handsome and dark green through the winter months despite the vagaries of winter weather and then wither away in late spring and early summer when the canopy closes overhead. This allows this forest floor dweller to soak up all the sunlight and accumulate energy stores during the winter while the canopies are bare, and sunlight can readily reach the forest floor. The single to sometimes large patches of oval dark leaves stand out against the brown and tan leaf litter in winter woods adding welcome color and life to a woodland landscape. Each leaf is smooth, about 3" long and wide with a pointed tip and if you look closely, you will notice the parallel veins running from the base to the tip as is characteristic of orchids and other monocots like lilies and irises. The leaves are smooth and dark green above with a slightly pleated appearance usually with purplish dimpled spots or bumps. Flip a leaf over and you may be surprised to find it is a rich dark purple – giving rise to the Latin specific name "discolor", referring to the two distinct colors of the leaves. Research suggests this purple coloration on the bottom of the leaf may redirect energy-giving light waves back into the leaf tissue giving the chlorophyll another chance to use the otherwise escaping light. This intriguing orchid is found throughout the Eastern United States but is most abundant in the central part of its range. In Virginia it is most common in moist but well drained somewhat acidic forests in the coastal Plain and Piedmont and is limited to low elevations in the mountain province.

Each fall a single leaf emerges from an underground corm (storage organ) and if the corm has stored enough energy over the winter, a delicate leafless flower stalk rises from the bare ground in July and August. Loose, airy cluster of 30 – 40 pale greenish yellow to purplish brown flowers appear on the upper half of the stems, with each flower held on a slender drooping stalk so that they face downwards. The delicate flowering stem reaches only about 15–18" high and the small flowers are less than one inch wide. The flowers themselves are slightly asymmetrical, unusual for an orchid, with the narrow sepals and petals slightly angled towards one side – all to accommodate their pollinators. The slender sepals and petals and 3-lobed lip are nearly translucent - green to light purple. A long slender spur extends down behind each flower adding to the illusion of the long spindly legs of a crane fly giving this or-





chid its distinctive common name—Crane-fly Orchid. These small flowers are cryptically colored and very hard to spot against the dappled shade of the forest floor in summer and often go completely unnoticed. The best way to find Crane-fly Orchids to observe their delicate beauty in bloom is to get out in winter and look for the distinctive oval leaves with purple undersides and mark the spot so you can return in Mid-July to August to admire them. After the flowers are pollinated, numerous tiny dust-like seeds are contained in slender ribbed capsules that droop close to the stem and often remain standing well into the next fall and winter.

Although only a single leaf emerges from a corm, one to several new corms may branch off the current year's creating a series of connected underground corms, surrounded by a mass of roots. Each corm throws up a single leaf in winter and a flowering stalk the following summer; together they can create a large colony over time.

Like other orchids, Crane-fly Orchid pollen is contained in tiny sacs called pollinia. All orchids have evolved specific and fascinating relationships for their flowers to be pollinated. Recent research has shown that small nocturnal moths, known as Owlet moths (family Noctuidae), pollinate the flowers by moving the tiny pollinia (which becomes attached to their eyes) from flower to flower as they seek nectar. There is some research evidence that specific owlet moth species have coevolved with orchid species as has been found in so many plants.

I am sure we would all love to have this unique orchid in our gardens but like many orchids, Crane-fly Orchid is not a plant that can be easily grown. It cannot germinate and grow without specific mycorrhizal (fungal) partners, in this case, fungi that decompose rotting wood. So, if you have acidic woods on your property, be sure to leave some logs, branches or other woody debris along your paths and woods. You may well encourage a Crane-fly Orchid to take up residence in your garden while the decaying wood also provides food, shelter, and habitat for a diverse array of insects and pollinators which in turn provide food for birds and other wildlife. This little orchid speaks to the amazing mysteries and connections that are everywhere in our forests and natural areas so get out and investigate the woods on your property or take a walk at Hickory Hollow or another natural area and marvel at the plants and their connections even in the depths of winter.

## Plant of the Month for February 2023:

### Round-lobed Hepatica, *Hepatica americana*

One of the earliest signs of spring is the bloom of the Round-lobed Hepatica or Liverleaf, *Hepatica americana*. The lovely small flowers of this woodland wildflower look fragile but this hardy perennial blooms in the face of winter often as early as February. An array of adaptations helps it to survive this period of winter-spring. The leathery leaves are often partially hidden under a blanket of insulating forest duff and the flowers emerge through this duff. The evergreen leaves are able to photosynthesize during the winter as the sun reaches the forest floor, giving Hepaticas a head start over other early wildflowers. Although various early pollinators (solitary bees and flies) seek pollen from Hepaticas, the flowers themselves lack nectar, and instead sometimes rely on self-pollination; an amazing adaptation that saves energy and guarantees pollination in the fickle early spring weather when pollinators are often scarce. Further, the flowers close during the night and on rainy days thereby preserving their pollen and open only when pollinators are flying in fair weather. Once the flowers are pollinated, they develop into round seedheads with a tiny nutritious bundle of fats and protein (an elaiosome) attached to each seed. This nutritious bundle is irresistible to ants which eagerly carry the bundle along with the seed back to their nests. There they eagerly devour the elaiosome and then discard the seeds in their refuse piles, essentially planting them in the rich soil safely hidden from herbivores. What a marvelous web of adaptations and relationships in one small wildflower!

Round-lobed Hepaticas are found throughout eastern North America in both dry to moist upland forests, on rich wooded slopes, ravines, in well drained floodplains and on mossy banks. In Virginia, they are found in nearly every county except on eastern shore. Although they are common in the Mountain and Piedmont provinces, they are infrequent in the Coastal Plain, making them that much more exciting to find. Look for Hepaticas in rich woods, uplands, and well drained bottomlands. You can find several along the Cabin Swamp trail at Hickory Hollow or on rich ravine slopes above the Dragon Run Swamp.

This diminutive member of the Buttercup family is easy to miss since the evergreen leaves are often hidden beneath an insulating blanket of leaf litter. Hepaticas are stemless and grow only 4–8" tall with distinctive rounded basal leaves up to 3" wide. Each leathery leaf has three rounded lobes, supposedly resembling a liver in shape. After flowering, new leaves covered with silky white hairs emerge. The delicate white, blue, lavender or even pink flowers are stunning and will stop you in your tracks and warm your floral heart even the coldest spring days. The delicate flowers are only 1" wide and held on slender silky stalks above the leaves. Each flower has from 5–12 petal-like sepals that surround a showy burst of pale whitish stamens and anthers



and are particularly beautiful framed against the leathery basal leaves, often mottled with burgundy from winter cold. Round-lobed Hepaticas may bloom anytime from February to early April. A closely related species, Sharp-lobed Hepatica, occurs only in the mountains in western Virginia and can be further distinguished by its acute or pointed lobed leaves. It also blooms in early spring.

The Latin name *Hepatica* and common name “Liverleaf” both refer to Hepatica’s purported resemblance in shape and winter color to liver. Writings from the Middle Ages, referred to as the “Doctrine of Signatures,” held that the shape or look of a plant indicated its healing properties, thus early settlers made an herbal tea with the leaves of Hepaticas to treat various liver ailments. Apparently, many followed this false science and fell ill and even died.

Today it is far better and safer to enjoy this precocious wildflower while hiking in rich woodlands or to grow it in our own woodland garden. Hepaticas prefer rich well drained soils beneath deciduous trees where they can soak up winter light. The well branched roots dislike transplanting but once established Hepaticas tolerate both dry and moist soils but are happiest with consistent moisture. When happy they may seed themselves into large drifts creating an early spring spectacle. Like other members of the Buttercup family, they are unpalatable to deer—an added bonus for the garden. Plant them in a spot at the front of the border or along a path away from crowding neighbors and competition. This is the perfect way to admire their precocious blooms; blooms that will surely lift your spirits and assure you that spring is on its way. Take a walk to Cabin Swamp Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve in the coming weeks and look just off the trails for this lovely late winter bloomer

**Betsy Washington**

## Notes from Left Field...

### Has spring sprung?

Well, not as I write this, but by the time you read it, we’ll be pretty close.

Wandering around my yard, looking for anything showing signs of life,



I haven’t found much other than the cute daffodils and a few irises. Nothing native, until this morning (!) when I was walking up to the front door and noticed the coral honeysuckle. It’s ready to launch itself up the makeshift arbor that we put together last year... thanks so much to the Chapter native plant sales!

Then, there’s the native persimmons. We got a couple of sprouts going last year, and it’s looking like they’re alive! Since we started our persimmon project, I’ve been getting much, much better at spotting them by their bark pattern, so I’ve got an internal map of quite a few in the area. Two of the best are right down the



street from us. This fall, I started visiting them, picking the fruit up off the ground, and eating it on my way back home. I know, I know, I should've washed them first. Now, we've got about 15 seeds planted, and hope they sprout.

And there's the elderberries! I got the first one from a Claytonia Native Plant Sale a few years ago, and was warned by the person who donated them that they can get out of control. So, I have only myself to blame that they got a little...out of control. Last year, I moved a few to a better spot (more sun) and placed some barriers in the soil on one side. We shall see.

### **A Swamp Surprise!**

Last year, we were in south Louisiana, on a little boat tour in the Atchafalaya Basin. Our tour leader described himself as a "bayou-ologist," and showed us a spanish moss flower! What a shock! Here it is, on his shoulder:

As my Cajun husband, Mac, likes to say, "We may be lost, but at least we're in the swamp!"

**Kathi Mestayer**



The neighborhood persimmons



Early elderberry sprout



Spanish moss, in bloom!



## John Clayton Chapter Calendar

**Thursday, March 16**    **7:00–9:00 pm: Our March Zoom Meeting—  
Ashley Morgan on “Hoffler Creek: Path to Preservation”**    (See Page 1.)

**Saturday, April 1**    **10:00 am: Exploring the Springtime Woods at Wahrani Nature Trail in New Kent Co.  
with Scott Hemler**    (See Page 3 for details)

**Saturday, April 29**    **9:30 am: 2023 Native Plant Sale at the Williamsburg Community Building**  
(See Page 4 for details.)

Keep a lookout for announcements about any additional walks or other events in the local newspapers  
and on our website at [www.vnps.org/johnclayton](http://www.vnps.org/johnclayton).

Renew online at [www.vnps.org](http://www.vnps.org) or use the membership renewal form below.  
Please contact Membership Chair **Cathy Flanagan** at 757-879-1997 or at [flanagan.catherine@gmail.com](mailto:flanagan.catherine@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