Claytonia

Newsletter of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society

Volume 30, Number 3 May-June 2014 www.claytonvnps.org

Our May 15 Meeting: Helen Hamilton on "Sex in Our Gardens"

While animal sex occurs when two receptive individuals contact each other, plants are rooted in the ground, and most require some assistance to reproduce. Some plants just release their pollen to the wind, but others produce attractive petals and scents to lure specific insects, birds and mammals. Many have ingenious mechanisms to insure their male parts are carried to female parts on different flowers. A brief look at the astonishing variety of interactions between plants and their pollinators to set seed and produce fruit, including 75% of our staple food crops.

Helen Hamilton taught biology in local high schools, worked as a plant technician for the National Park Service, and completed Master Gardening training in 2004. Currently she is past-president of the John Clayton Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society and Publicity Chair for the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. Her book, *Wildflowers and Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain,* is available for purchase.

The meeting begins at 6:45 pm at the **Williamsburg Regional Library, 516 Scotland St., Williamsburg.** There will be a reception and book signing in the Gallery after the meeting.
See you there! **(Note different meeting location!)**

From the President

Now that the annual plant sale is over, we can all relax. (For a little bit anyway.) Lets all give a big round of applause to the members of the plant sale committee: Sue Voigt, Patti Gray, and Lucile Kossodo. And thanks to Joan and Jim Etchberger as well as Joyce and Hayes Williams, who hosted potting parties at their homes. And thank you everybody who came to help dig plants at the potting parties or helped get the word out about the sale.

Even though this year's sale is over, we can start to make some progress towards next year's sale. As you'll see in the calendar section of the newsletter, I have two work days scheduled for the Stonehouse Habitat at the Stonehouse Elementary school in Toano. In addition to

being a valuable teaching resource, the garden is an important source of plants for our sales, so I hope people will be able to spend some time helping to maintain it. There's always a bit weeding, mulching and dividing that can be done. Come out for a couple hours or just 15 minutes. Every bit of help is greatly appreciated.

By the way, good luck with all the new plants you purchased at the sale! And be sure to keep them watered! Dealing with clients at my work, I've found watering to be one of the biggest issues affecting the success of new plantings. I'm often asked "How much should I water?", and I'll say "Well, not too much, and not too little." Pretty helpful, huh? But it varies so much from plant to plant. For most plants, I usually recommend about 5–10 seconds of a steady stream of water from a hose. For most plants you want to keep the soil moist, but not sopping wet. And be careful not to let them dry out completely between watering. Just baby your plants along for the first summer and fall, and they should be fairly well established by their second year in your garden. **Phillip Merritt**

Dragon Run was the topic at the March meeting

Teta Kain, naturalist extraordinaire, presented a program about the natural life of Dragon Run, accompanied by her photos. Dragon Run is a 40-mile-long river lined with freshwater swamps that runs through Virginia's Middle Peninsula and is the headwaters of the Piankatank River. It is home to many wild plants, including some that are unique to its environment.

As its website (www.dragonrun.org) states, Friends of Dragon Run was organized by a group of Virginia's Middle Peninsula citizens who generously donated funds to purchase and preserve a 203 acre tract of Dragon swampland near Churchview in Middlesex County. With assistance from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation staff and an affiliation with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the purchase was made possible with tax deductible contributions. The organization now independently owns and manages this and additional wild areas (a total of 11 parcels, encompassing about 600 acres). Its members and the public enjoy the use of the property for purposes consistent with conservation and education.

The Dragon wilderness is a unique ecosystem which has been ranked second in ecological significance among 232 areas investigated in a Smithsonian Institution study covering 12,600 square miles of the Chesapeake Bay region. The unique character of the Dragon wilderness and its awesome natural beauty exist primarily because it is remote. Several highway bridges cross its 35 mile run to the Piankatank

River. Most access points are, however, only reached by way of nearly a mile trek over rugged back country. This natural protection of the million year old swamp has contributed to its abundance of wild life.

Below is just a partial list of trees and shrubs growing along the Dragon which Teta described and illustrated with photos:
1,000-year-old bald cypress trees; other trees such as red maple, river birch, American sycamore, tulip poplar, chestnut and red oak; sweet pepperbush, silky dogwood, fetterbush, buttonbush, swamp rose, cross-vine, pawpaw, mountain laurel and pinxterflower; in the swamp are wild celery, mosquito fern, bladderwort, resurrection fern (growing on tree trunks), royal fern, arrow arum, spatterdock, pickerel weed, American featherfoil (rare except on Dragon Run), white turtlehead, turk's cap lily, Virginia blue flag and marsh hibiscus. **Louise Menges**

New members

We welcome back Beverly Levinson of Williamsburg and new members Dot Field of Exmore, Virginia, Mr. & Mrs. Martin Zahn of Williamsburg, and Walter & Gwendolyn Harris of Yorktown.

Recent JCC walks

A naked plant walk in the Williamsburg Botanical Garden on March 9

It was a lovely sunny day with temperatures in the upper fifties, but I was sure it would be only the plants who stayed naked. **Helen Hamilton**, our leader, was easy to spot with her green hair topped with an equally bright green cap. She came equipped with the book she has written on the native plants of this area along with extra prints showing what these plants will look like when they are clothed with their full complement of leaves and flowers. That was very helpful in imagining what to expect from these little green whorls and brown stalks we were seeing. About 18 people set out from the parking lot and were joined by probably ten more as we wandered the fenced garden. Many seemed to be Master Naturalists or Master Gardeners, dedicated John Clayton Society members, and some just interested amateurs like myself who had seen the picture in the Gazette.

Helen describes some of the Park's grasses to the group.

The very first plant that was pointed out was the villain I had just seen yesterday popping up in my garden. I had seen plenty of it there but I did

not have a name for it. Now I know it is a hairy bittercress and makes enough seeds to spread like wildfire. That piece of information I had actually learned by experience, but now I am even more determined to get it out before it has time to make too many seeds. Of course, a weed is just a plant in the wrong place, and some of them really are pretty.

We passed an interesting lichen, a combination of fungus and alga, whose fruiting tips were bright red, giving it its name of British Soldiers. Then we circled into the main garden and Helen pointed out all the stems remaining from last year's growth. They can be attractive and are homes for lots of baby insects so they should not be destroyed. In nature the new growth would just come up alongside them but if a tidy gardener cannot stand to leave them alone they can be cut and left laying.

I discovered the name for another self-appointed bush in my yard which deer do not eat. It is apparently a type of *Ilex*. Talking of deer, which are always hungry, I found it interesting that the Botanical Garden had erected a low visibility fence but then had to make it more obvious so the deer would not keep running into it! Daffodils, which deer do not eat, border the fence.

Grasses survive well and were especially useful when the garden started with no outside source of water. It took very dedicated volunteers to hand carry water in the early days.The river oats grass is pretty but can be invasive, little bluestem is better, and there is one which forms tumbleweeds (purple lovegrass). Muhly grass is also attractive and easy to grow. Natives which find a spot they like can really flourish and have to be tamed. The goldenrod was a case in point. Native wild strawberries have white flowers. I realize the things overrunning my yard have yellow flowers! Monarda is another valuable plant to have. It is always good to have native vegetation for native wild life and the butterfly garden has been given special attention. We also saw the reblooming iris beds and the herb areas. There are raised beds for therapeutic gardening. Volunteers arrange programs for school children to grow food. There were strawberry plants in that section. In the shade we saw ferns with the spores on the undersides of the leaves and the chain fern with a separate sporangium. We had faith that the elephant's foot would have large green leaves when it is visible.

Today I learned that a marsh has bushes where a swamp does not. I confess I had used those words interchangeably for anywhere my feet sank in mud! Overall I learned a good bit on this walk and am most appreciative of Helen for giving her time and of all the volunteers who make the Williamsburg Botanical Garden possible. **Hazel Farkas**

April 12 walk at Beaverdam Park

Pat Baldwin led a group along the wooded paths around Gloucester's Beaverdam Reservoir in search of spring wildflowers, cautioning as we set out that there might be little for us to see, since this year's cold spring had delayed spring wildflowers' bloom. He had scouted the route just three days earlier, but what a difference three days had made!

Here is a list of the blooming plants we saw:

Bloodroot	Wild Field Pansy
Henbit	Purple Dead Nettle
Dove's-foot Geranium	Spicebush
Jack-in-the-pulpit	Golden Ragwort
Kidneyleaf Buttercup	Spring Cress
Jacob's Ladder	Wild Oats
Pawpaw	Common Violet
Mayapple	Spring Beauty (lots & lots!)

Above, Jacob's Ladder *(Polemonium caeruleum).* Top right, Spring Cress *(Cardamine bulbosa).* Bottom right, Kidneyleaf Buttercup *(Ranunculus abortivus).*
Photos: Louise Menges

April 20 walk through Crim Dell

Phillip Merritt was the leader for a tour of the flora of Crim Dell on the campus of William and Mary this lovely Easter Sunday sfternoon, and there were many things to be seen along those shady paths. Among plants in flower were Spring Beauty, Golden Ragwort, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Eastern Columbine, Pennywort, Common Violet, Virginia Bluebells, Red Buckeye, Fothergilla and Pawpaw, and Phillip pointed out the foliage of Puttyroot and Cranefly orchids, Skunk Cabbage, Wild Comfrey, Round-lobed Hepatica and several ferns.

Louise Menges

Top, Spring Beauty *(Claytonia virginica).* Bottom left, a grape fern. Bottom right, Golden Ragwort *(Packera aurea).*
Photos: Louise Menges

Upcoming JCC activities

Sunday, May 4 at 1:30—Plant walk at Horse Sugar Hill

Take a walk around the Lanexa property of VNPS Plant Sale Chairperson **Sue Voigt**. Her property overlooks the Diascund Creek and features a mixed hardwood upland forest with mountain laurel, wax myrtle, holly, dogwood and *Simplocus tinctoria* (Horse Sugar). Along the creek we'll see alder, bald cypress, Virginia rose, Rose mallow, silky dogwood, button bush, and more. 701 Colony Trail, Lanexa, in the Colonies off Waterside Drive (Route 627) off US 60 in Lanexa. Call 757/229-6513 to register.

Saturday, May 17th, 8:00 to 10:00— Stonehouse Habitat work day

Help support the **Stonehouse Habitat Garden** by doing some general cleanup, mulching and planting. In addition to being a great teaching resource, the habitat provides many of the plants sold at the chapter's annual native plant sale, which in turn helps fund the chapter's activities and scholarships.
3651 Rochambeau Dr., Williamsburg, VA 23188 in Toano.
Email phillip.merritt@gmail.com to register.

Sunday, May 25th at 1:30— Plant walk at Deer Park in Newport News

Phillip Merritt will lead a walk along the wooded trails of this city park at 11523 Jefferson Avenue.
Email phillip.merritt@gmail.com to register.

Sunday, June 8th, at 1:00— Plant walk at Sandy Bottom Park in Hampton

Phillip Merritt will lead a walk along the trails of this wooded park at 1255 Big Bethel Road.
Email phillip.merritt@gmail.com to register.

Saturday, June 14th, 8:00 to 10:00— Stonehouse Habitat work day

Help support the **Stonehouse Habitat Garden** by doing some general cleanup, mulching and planting. In addition to being a great teaching resource, the habitat provides many of the plants sold at the chapter's annual native plant sale, which in turn helps fund the chapter's activities and scholarships.
3651 Rochambeau Dr., Williamsburg, VA 23188 in Toano.
Email phillip.merritt@gmail.com to register.

Saturday, June 28 at 10:00— Plant walk on the Warhill Trail in James City County

Pat Baldwin will lead this walk and predicts sightings of Horsemint *(Monarda punctata)*, Blue Curls *(Trichostema* sp.*)* and White Milkweed *(Asclepias variegata)*. Meet in the first parking lot for the trail at 10 am. Please call Pat at 757-838-2064 for information and to register.

A Plant is a plant for a'that

Spanish Moss (Tree Moss; Florida Moss; Long-Moss; Crape-Moss; Wool Crape; Old Man's Beard)

Family Bromeliaceae

Spanish Moss *(Tillandsia usneoides L., Dendropogan usneoides Raf: Renealmia usneoides)* is a native, perennial, epiphytic herb. The flowering plant has slender, wiry, long branched stems that attach themselves to trees for support. It uses silver-gray scales, part of a primitive vascular system, to absorb water and derive nutrients from rainfall, detritus and dust. Blooms in late spring with fragrant numerous, solitary blue-green flowers with 3 petals 6 to 8 mm long growing in the leaf axils. It grows in full sunlight or shade but does not easily bloom in cultivation without careful pruning. The plant needs a relative humidity of at least 63% and plenty of rainfall and will not thrive under heavy frost conditions. Favorite habitats are *Quercus virginiana, Quercus geminata, Quercus bicolor, Quercus minima*, pines, cypress, and sweet gum.

Phillip Merritt

A thick tangle of Spanish Moss hangs from the branches of a tree.

The fruit capsule, appearing late summer through December if there is no frost, contains up to 12 seeds. While some of the seeds remain in the opened capsule and germinate, other seeds behave differently because of hairs that act like a parachute covered with tiny barbs. The seeds then grab or latch onto trees while they are sailing like paratroopers through the air. Hurricane paths in the Southern states account for the distribution of the plant in our coastal plain. It is easily pruned back so that it does not damage tree limbs and can be trellis-trained. The plant grows laterally to form a new plant on the old branch, thus growing at one end as it dies at the other end. One just needs to know where it starts and where it ends.

Spanish Moss hosts the Yellow-throated Warbler *(Setophaga dominica)* and Northern Parula *(Setophaga americana)* for food and nesting. The Yellow-Rumped Warbler *(Setophaga coronata)* eats the insects and the jumping spider *Petegrina Tillandsiae*, only found on *Tillandsia usenoides*.

It is a host plant to many moths; Gulf Fritillary has been found laying eggs on it. The thick, matting hair-like quality of the plant provides habitat for three different Vespertilionidae evening bats of a sub-order called microchiroptera (microbats) which rely upon echolocation. Having small noses, they "shout" through their open mouths to project their ultrasound beam. The Eastern Pipistrelle *(Perimyotis subflavus)* hangs about 1.5 to 6.1 meters above the growth in the southwest side of trees, clinging to the inside of green clumps of the moss. The space below the moss is clear of other branches, thus allowing the bats to drop down to begin their flight. The moss also reduces the amount of sunlight on the bats while they hang. A frigid winter will induce a stupor-like coma in the bats, with some of them surviving in a condition similar to hibernation; this condition does not occur unless the temperature drops for a sustained time. While on hikes, I have seen these Pipistrelles fluttering around the Spanish Moss out at False Cape, Back Bay and other refuges where the last of their habitat exists. At first glance, I had thought they were some sort of strange small bird or large butterfly. They have a fluttering insect-like flight which serves to their advantage, as some people will confuse all bats with vampire bats carrying rabies. The microbat *(Lasiurus intermedius)* prefers the Spanish Moss in live oak *(Quercus virginiana)*, which provides habitat for those breeding bats as maternity colonies. The Seminole bat *(Lasiurus Seminolus)* also lives in moss in the scrub oak, pine, long leaf white pine *(Pinus palustris)* and Pond Pine *(Pinus serotina)* that are now being restored to the coastal plains.

Tillandsia, researched since 1952, shows estrogenic and antibacterial properties, and contains Vitamins A, C and carotene. Brazil and Mexico use it medicinally for abscesses, tumors and blend it with fat as an ointment for external wounds. It also yields a wax that can be used for auto and furniture polish. Growing up to 30 meters long, it was once used as upholstery. Indigenous southeast peoples used it in fire arrows, and it has been found in 3,000 year-old fire-tempered pottery. I have boiled it and dried it to find that it makes a very fine outdoor moss bed. **Kathryn Peterson-Lambert**

A regional guide to identifying native grapes

(from a National Park Service publication for the National Capital Region Network by John Parrish)

Importance

Grapes are the most abundant vines native to the National Capital Region Network (NCRN). They support wildlife in many ways. Tangles of grapevines provide excellent cover and nesting sites for songbirds

as well as stringy bark for nesting material. Most importantly, grapevines produce plentiful quantities of fresh fruit consumed by birds and mammals from late summer through fall. Persistent dried raisins of the winter and summer grape are a substantial food source for winter resident songbirds such as the bluebirds, cedar waxwings, hermit thrushes, mockingbirds, and robins. In addition, grape leaves serve as a primary food source for the larval stage of several native moth species.

Basics

There are about 60 species of grapes *(Vitis)* native to temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere. Of twelve species native to eastern North America, seven occur in the NCRN. Grapes are vines that climb using tendrils that grasp onto branches and other supporting objects. Many species can grow more than 100 feet in height and live to be more than 100 years old. In fact, the oldest grapevine in the world is thought to be around 400 years old.

Grape products are familiar to people as table grapes, raisins, jams, jellies, juices, and wines. Most commercial grape products are derived from the common grape *(Vitis vinifera)* which is native to Europe and southwest Asia. However, many domesticated North American species are popular in trade too. The human use of grapes for food and wine dates back thousands of years.

John Parrish and an ancient, 1½-ft CBH* Winter Grape *(Vitis vulpina)* at Pimmit Run Park—the Arlington County champion. *Photo: Greg Zell*

** circumference at breast height, 54 inches above the ground*

Distinguishing Traits

All grape species in the NCR except for the muscadine have mature bark that shreds and exfoliates. The size of the grape fruit varies from as small as three millimeters in the winter grape to as large as 2.5 centimeters in the fox and muscadine grapes. The presence or absence of a glaucous (bluish-whitish) bloom on the fruit varies from species to species. Leaf undersides are substantially hairy in the fox, possum, and summer grapes and essentially hairless in the muscadine, riverbank, winter, and rock grapes.

A common grape look-alike is the non-native invasive porcelain berry *(Ampelopsis brevipedunculata)* vine. Porcelain berry is an Asian member of the grape family with leaves that closely resemble grape leaves. However, its bark never shreds or exfoliates and the pith inside the stem is white (instead of brown like grapes). The small (6–8 mm) speckled porcelain berry fruits turn pink, purple, and blue when ripening (http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/ambr1.htm).

Native Grape Species

Winter Grape *(Vitis vulpina)* is by far the most common species of grape across the NCRN. It is found in moist upland and bottomland habitats. The black shiny fruits are small (3–9 mm) and persist on the vine into winter. The leaves are smooth and green on the underside. Due to its abundance, the winter grape is a significant source of food for wildlife in our region.

Summer Grape *(Vitis aestivalis)* is found in upland forests and is our second most abundant grape. It is readily identified by the glaucous color on the underside of the leaves. The moderately glaucous fruits are 5–12 mm in diameter and persist on the vine. This species is plentiful at Catoctin and Harpers Ferry. The Norton wine grape is derived from this species and is said to be the oldest domesticated American grape.

Possum Grape *(Vitis cinerea)* is an uncommon species usually found on river bottomlands but occasionally in moist to wet upland sites. The 4–8 mm fruits are black with a slight glaucous bloom. Possum grape resembles summer grape except the underside of the leaves are not glaucous and the fruits are only slightly glaucous. This southern species is found mostly along the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers. (Editor's note: Not present in Virginia's Coastal Plain except in Sussex Co., according to the *Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora*.)

Jim Hurley examining Riverbank Grape *(Vitis riparia)* or Possum Grape *(Vitis cinerea)* in a bottomland swamp forest remnant at the outflow of Strawberry Run in the Eisenhower Valley of Alexandria, Virginia. Much more botanical work needs to be done to determine the full extent of these species in northern Virginia.

Photo: R.H. Simmons

Fox Grape *(Vitis labrusca)* is a wide ranging but uncommon species usually associated with wetlands. The fox grape is distinguished by its large fruits (1–2.5 cm) and a dense fuzz (pubescence) that conceals the undersurface of the leaves. No other grape in our area has a dense felt covering the entire leaf undersurface. The fruits drop soon after ripening. The Concord grape is derived from this species.

Riverbank Grape *(Vitis riparia)* is usually found on alluvial soils of large streams and rivers. The 8–13 mm fruits have a heavy glaucous bloom. This species and summer grape are our only blue colored grapes. However, riverbank grape lacks the glaucous color found on the underside of the leaves of the summer grape. This species is used as a rootstock for many wine grape cultivars.

Rock Grape *(Vitis rupestris)* is a rare species that grows in calcareous sands of scoured rocky riverbanks along the Potomac River. It is

a somewhat shrubby, low climbing, sprawling species that bears few if any tendrils. Rock grapes have black, slightly glaucous fruits 6–10 mm diameter that drop when ripe. Like the riverbank grape, rock grape serves as an important rootstock for many wine grapes. (Editor's note: Not present in Virginia's Coastal Plain, according to the *Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora*.)

Muscadine Grape *(Vitis rotundifolia)* is native to sandy soils of the Coastal Plain. Although not known from any NCR park, this southern grape grows at Chapman State Park just downriver from Piscataway Park (NACE) and is known from Arlington County, Virginia. The muscadine is our only grape without forked tendrils or stringy bark. The large (1.2–2.5 cm) fruits drop when ripe. This species is grown commercially for wine and table grapes in the southern states. Published reports of this species from Antietam, Monocacy, and Prince William are based on misidentifications.

Many thanks to Rod Simmons, who gave his permission to share this interesting information and provided the accompanying photos.

NOVA is not alone in having big grape vines!

This grapevine's "trunk" is about 20½ inches in circumference, which translates to more than 6½ inches in diameter.

Inspired by Rod's article, I've become interested in the grape vines visible from the roads in our area. One day in mid-April my husband and I drove around the Loop Road on Jamestown Island where, armed with a camera and a measuring tape, I photographed and measured the circumference of a number of large vines in woods along the road (must remember bug spray next time). Many of them measured between 14 and 20 inches around, and two were more than 20 inches!

Another of the big grapevines on Jamestown Island, this one probably 13–14 inches around.

I suppose established trees on the long-uninhabited portions of the island must have been around for many years in order for grapevines of that size

to grow on them. That may also be the case along the Colonial Parkway between Yorktown and Williamsburg; a number of vines visible in the woods between King's Creek and Felgate's Creek also look pretty burly, but lack of nearby parking has so far prevented me from any closer examination of them. **Louise Menges**

And speaking of bugs, a request from Mary Hyde Berg

We are now in full tick season, and Mary would like to hear from other members the techniques they have found to work for keeping ticks at bay. She finds herself sensitive to the compounds used in commercial products she has tried, and hopes some of you will be able to suggest other compounds or strategies.

We have just lost two longtime members;

Susan Barrick on April 20,

Mary Berg drew my attention to an obituary in the April 22 Daily Press for longtime John Clayton Chapter member Susan Oliver Barrick, who passed away on April 20 at 81. Susan, who had lived in Cobbs Creek since 1974, retired from VIMS as a Research Librarian, where she was credited for establishing the Institute's library. Susan was a lifelong learner and always found blessings in everyone and everything.

Louise Menges

and Sid Sterling on April 26.

We mourn the passing of our beloved member, Charles "Sid" Sterling. Sid and his wife Sylvia were charter members of the John Clayton Chapter, and he was one of the early treasurers of our chapter. Both Sid and Sylvia attended many of the State Meetings. Sid and Sylvia were both very involved in our early Plant Sales, and they contributed very generous amounts of the shrubs, vines and perennials many of us bought for our gardens. It is especially sad that he left us on April 26, the day of a plant sale.

Sid and Sylvia are the ones who discovered, propagated and registered the John Clayton Honeysuckle, which is now so well-known. Sid had a wonderful sense of humor and tact. He was always ready to welcome members and those interested in native plants to his home, and it was a pleasure to attend their potting parties. Gordon Chappel described Sid and Sylvia as "the heart and soul of our chapter." He will be greatly missed.

Lucile Kossodo & Cynthia Long

John Clayton Chapter Calendar

Sunday, May 4 — **1:30 pm:** A walk around **Sue Voigt's** property overlooking Diascund Creek in Lanexa. Call 757/229-6513 to register and for directions.

(See Page 6.)

Thursday, May 15 — **6:45 pm: John Clayton Chapter meeting** at the **Williamsburg Regional Library**, 516 Scotland St., Williamsburg. **(Note different meeting location!)**
Our speaker is **Helen Hamilton**, who will speak about **"Sex in Our Gardens."**

(See Page 1.)

Saturday, May 17 — **8:00 to 10:00 am: Stonehouse Habitat work day.** Stonehouse Elementary is at 3651 Rochambeau Dr.,Williamsburg 23188. Email phillip.merritt@gmail.com to register.

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(See Page 6.)

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(See Page 7.)

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 **www.claytonvnps.org** and in the local newspapers.

Below is a membership renewal form. **If your renewal date is 2/28/14 or earlier**, this is the last newsletter issue you will receive until you renew.

Please contact Membership Chair **Fred Blystone** at 757/229-4346 or at *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