



Claytonia

Newsletter of the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society

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www.claytonvnps.org

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Gary Cote will talk about Lichens at our July 17 meeting

Gary Cote is a professor of Cell Biology at Radford University. He obtained his B.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. from the University

of California, San Diego, where his thesis was on cellular aspects of daily rhythms in a fungus, *Neurospora*. His postdoctoral work was in plant cell signal transduction; he was involved in demonstrating the existence of inositol lipid signaling in plants. Currently he is studying the cells in plants that synthesize crystals of calcium oxalate.

Gary has taught undergraduate Cell Biology and Biochemistry since 1993, at the University of Connecticut, Millikin University, and finally at Radford University, where he has been on the faculty since 1999. He is a member of the Council on Undergraduate Research and is the liaison between the Council and the University. Gary is also an amateur botanist and has collected plants in southern California, New England, and the Arctic. He maintains the biodiversity webpages for Wildwood Park in Radford.

The meeting begins at **6:45 pm** at the **Yorktown Public Library** at the intersection of Battle Road and Route 17 in Yorktown. **See you there!**

From the President

Well, I spent my birthday this June at a VNPS state board meeting at the Library of Richmond. It was hard to concentrate while thinking about the cake I was going to have later in the day, but one thing that did get my attention was the new library exhibition on Virginia native plants that our chapter helped

fund. It is a beautiful exhibit, so please be sure to stop by the library to see it. I was especially knocked out by the incredibly detailed ceramic still lifes sculptures which incorporated native flowers and other wildlife. There were works by two amazing artists: Patrick O'Hara and Lou Greiner. You definitely have to see these works in person to appreciate all the details. If you can't make it to Richmond, parts of the exhibit will be traveling around the state once it's finished its run at the



library. But certainly not those delicate ceramics, so see them while you can! The Library of Richmond will be taking requests for for the traveling exhibit...I wonder what the best location in our area would be? If anyone is interested in helping to get the exhibit shown locally, please let me know and we'll see what we can arrange.

Phillip Merritt



Phillip's photographs of ceramic sculptures on display at the Library.

"Sex in our gardens" was the topic at our May 15 meeting

Helen Hamilton delivered a fascinating talk about the clever strategies by which flowering plants use the services of insects and other animals to accomplish their sexual reproduction. In fact, seventy-five percent of flowering plants and one third of the plants we depend upon for our food require the intervention of animals for pollination.



Phillip and Helen pose near our photo display in the gallery.

Helen had also arranged with the Williamsburg Library for a display during May of native plant photographs taken by JCC members, and after the meeting everyone was invited to view them in the Library's gallery outside the auditorium while we enjoyed refreshments.

The chapter is very grateful to the His-

toric Rivers Master Naturalists for allowing us to use their frames for our exhibit.

Louise Menges

New Members

We welcome new members **Beverly Bracken** and **Patricia Paquette**, both of Williamsburg.

2014 Nature Camp Scholarship awardees

The Nature Camp Scholarship Committee—**Libbey Oliver**, **Martha Smith**, **Joan Etchberger**, **Beth Chambers**, and **Patti Gray**—reviewed



Flowers are the sex organs of flowering plants.

How do flowers attract pollinators?

- Shape—to fit the pollinator
- Size matters!
- Color
- Fragrance
- Electrical field



13 applications and selected the following applicants to receive our four scholarships for Summer 2014:

Jesse Nelson, Jamestown HS, 9th grade, Williamsburg

Trey Outlaw, St. Andrews, 5th grade, Newport News

Eli Pritchard, Hornsby Middle School, 7th grade, Williamsburg

Caleb Renn, Gloucester HS, 9th grade, Gloucester

Recent JCC plant walks...

On May 4, a walk on Sue Voigt's property

On a lovely Sunday afternoon, I led a group of 9 members and Master Naturalists on a tour of native plants throughout my one acre of landscape and woods overlooking the Diascund Creek in Lanexa. The trees surrounding the house are mixed hardwoods with many American holly and native dogwood and redbud. Beds along the driveway and the small plots of lawn include a mix of azaleas, rhododendron, and many native shrubs including blooming sweet shrub, deerberry, sparkleberry and huckleberry, and budding mountain laurel, as well as ferns, perennials and native plants, including spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) and native columbine. Behind the house is a view of a baldcypress swamp and the Diascund creek and a stairway leading down to a small dock. The steep bank along the creek was cleared 16 years ago for erosion control and now this "Resource Protection Area" has fully recovered, including 10 large mountain laurels grown back from root balls rescued from the clearing. Other native trees and shrubs have voluntarily grown up on



Sue Voigt

A fetterbush flowers near the creek.



Sue Voigt

Participants enjoy the view from Sue's deck.



Sue Voigt

Sparkleberry blossoms



Sue Voigt

Highbush blueberry fruit

the bank, including horse-sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), bayberry, native high bush blueberry, water oak, loblolly pine, Virginia red cedar, tulip poplar, American holly, baldcypress, smooth alder, swamp rose, silky dogwood, sweetspire, rose mallow and fetterbush. Native plants that have been added include coral honeysuckle, crossvine, buttonbush, joe-pye-weed, spiderwort, blue star and penstemon.

Sue Voigt

A May 25 walk in Deer Park

Phillip Merritt led this walk in Deer Park, located off Jefferson Avenue near its intersection with J. Clyde Morris Boulevard, the wooded trails offering respite from the traffic of Newport News' busy city streets. Forty years ago, I was living quite near this park, but this was probably my first visit since moving to Williamsburg in 1974.

In the grassy area adjacent to our parking area we spotted some blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium* spp.)



Virginia sweetspire blooms at the edge of a stream.



Mulberries

and field madder (*Galium sherardia*), as well as a red mulberry tree (*Morus rubra*) with lots of juicy ripe fruit within reach (yum!). As we strolled along the park's paths, we saw blooming strawberry bush or hearts a'bustin (*Euonymus americanus*), Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*), and the leaves of mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) and crane-fly orchid (*Tipularia discolor*). Of course, we also identified many trees, including majestic beeches, oaks, tulip poplars and gums.

Louise Menges



Phillip holds up the leaf of a sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*).



We admire one of those majestic trees.

Sandy Bottom Park walk on June 8

Here's a quick report on this summer's second Newport News native plant walk. This time it was at Sandy Bottom Park. The park isn't the most botanically diverse area, but it is close to a lot of people and a good park for beginning plant enthusiasts. In addition to the typical assortment of maples, sweetgums and oaks, there are some more interesting trees to see. We saw a sweetbay magnolia in bloom as well as serviceberries in fruit, although they were infected with rust. Not very appetizing. One of the field trippers asked about paw paws, and we did manage to find one small one so they could get a look at its large, almost tropical looking leaves. The park is also a good place to see horse sugar, but because that tree's leaves are so generic looking, it's much easier to spot when it's in bloom in the early spring.

For a nature park, there are a surprising number of non-natives (like nandina, mahonia and vinca) used as ornamentals around the developed areas. But I suppose it's helpful to learn those along with the natives. There was, however, a nice artificial pond with pickerel weed in bloom.

Luckily, Pat Baldwin was there to point out some things I probably would have overlooked. One of the non-native invasives Pat found was a non-native blue-eyed grass. He pointed out that the non-native one has dark blue color ringing the inside of the flower, while the native species don't. Good to know!

Pat also led us to a very nice clump of fifteen or more wintergreens in bloom. I've never seen such a vigorous patch before! Usually they seem



Flowering pickerel weed



Bladderwort

to grow singly or very scattered. Not far away, along the edge of a small lake, Pat found a patch of bladderwort in bloom. Only the yellow flowers of this plant poke out above the water; it would have been almost impossible to see otherwise. This interesting carnivorous plant catches tiny fish in the air bladders along its roots.

At the back of the property there were lots of non-native nodding thistle and vetch. In the wetlands we could just make out water plantain in bloom and also duckweed. **Phillip Merritt**

Editor's note: Pat Baldwin's June 28 walk on the Warhill Trail didn't make this issue, but look for it in the September–October Claytonia.

Upcoming JCC activities

A field trip to Fernald's Pond on Saturday, July 12, 9 am–11 am

Donna Ware will take us to “Fernald’s Pond” on Longhill Road to see very old pond lilies (*Nuphar advena*) with thigh-sized rhizomes, stands of bur-reed (*Sparganium*), tussocks of stool sedge (*Carex seorsa*) broad enough to sit on, pygmy black gums (*Nyssa sylvatica*) with buttressed bases, tall highbush blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.) overhead, tangles of red-berried smilax (*Smilax walteri*), beds of *Sphagnum*, and many other wonders.



Pond lily

Fernald’s Pond is on Ford’s Colony property and parking arrangements are pending. Participants will learn where to park by registering with Donna Ware after July 6th at dmeware@verizon.net or at 757-565-0657 (leave a message with your phone number for a return call). We will **NOT** be permitted to park along Longhill Road or along Ford’s Colony Drive. Long pants and shoes that can get somewhat muddy will suit the situation.

A walk on Bassett Hall’s Nature Trail in Williamsburg on Saturday, July 26

Join **Helen Hamilton** and **Gus Hall** at **10:30 am** for a walk along the Bassett Hall Nature Trail, where umbrella magnolia is common. From upland woods, the trail goes through bottomland and back up to a



Mountain camellia

ridge dominated by many sizable hardwoods such as oak, beech and hickory. The rare mountain camellia (*Stewartia ovata*) has been seen on this ridge; it has an unusual distribution in Virginia, only occurring in 3 counties in the far southwest Piedmont and 3 in the Coastal Plain. A plant of the Cumberland Plateau in Kentucky and Tennessee, it has been found in only a few scattered counties in North Carolina.

Bassett Hall is at 522 Francis Street. Park in Bassett Hall Parking, near the end of Francis Street before its intersection with Route 60. Look for the “Bassett Hall” sign and then one marked “Parking Entrance”.

The nature trail starts in the woods after a long walk past the house and through a field on a graveled path.

Email Helen at helen48@cox.net or call her at 757-564-4494 to register.

Stonehouse Habitat needs you!

We had two workdays at the Stonehouse Habitat this spring, one in May and one in June. Sue Voigt and I showed up to do some much-needed weeding, but we sure could have used some extra hands! Thanks to Lucile Kossodo who came for about an hour in May. The garden is an important source of plants for our sale and helps fund chapter activities. This school habitat also provides an outreach to the community and a science laboratory for the students. The next work day will be **Saturday morning, July 19th from 8:00-10:00**. Any and all help is greatly appreciated (and for those who show up, we might be able to spare a plant or two from the garden). If you can't make it on that day, you're always welcome to stop by the garden whenever it's convenient for you. Just talk to me or to Sue to find out what needs to be done. Be aware though, if you go during school hours, you'll need to check in at the front desk. Thanks!

Phillip Merritt

Doug Tallamy takes on the New York Times

Kathi Mestayer emailed me the following letter from Doug Tallamy, which he had sent to the New York Times in response to an article in its Sunday, May 3 edition. The Times did not choose to print his comments, but Kathi and I thought them worth including here.

Ed.

Subject: Misinterpretation/factual errors in article on Gardening for Climate Change

Dear Editor:

I am writing to correct the latest error in an article in the New York Times about native and nonnative flora and fauna, and their roles in our ecosystems.

In yesterday's Sunday Review section, an article entitled "Gardening for Climate Change" discussed the value of nonnative plants in urban settings. The author made an error in interpreting the implications of a study by UC Davis, which led him to a wrong conclusion. The fact that butterflies in the urban setting they studied were using nonnatives as host plants does not logically lead to the conclusion that we should plant more nonnatives in our developed areas.



In fact, the study cited is accurate, but the way it's presented is a bit misleading. All of the butterflies in that study are "specialists" (*i.e.* they can only metabolize plants in a given plant family). They are using those nonnative ornamental relatives as hosts because their native host has been wiped out. It's similar to our Black swallowtail using dill as a host. Dill is not native, but it is a close relative of native members of the carrot family. If we take away those natives and provide dill, the swallowtail can't tell the difference because the leaf chemistry of the dill and the native carrots is nearly identical. This happens, but it is hardly the rule. In suburban California, the only butterflies to survive when the natives are eliminated (which includes most of suburban California) are ones that can use the close ornamental relatives of their native hosts. So, this does happen. However, for every example where it happens, there are 100 examples where it doesn't.

The author asks, "What's the big fuss about native plants?" implying that the "fuss" is overblown. But his own example of monarchs needing milkweeds is a perfect example of what the big fuss is all about. If natives weren't important, monarchs and the great majority of other butterflies could use any plant. But they can't. The ones found in the UC Davis study were there because they had some flexibility in what they could eat. The reason most of them can eat nonnatives is not that butterflies are more flexible than we thought; it is that only those few with more flexibility can now survive in areas where there are no natives. (By the way, it is not primarily the weather that has hammered the monarchs, as the author claims. It's the elimination of milkweed from the midwest farming belt. Because of that, the monarch population has been shrunk to such a tiny size that it is now highly vulnerable to environmental events like weather.)

Frankly, the implication that evolution has made everything OK in our ecosystems is totally false, and it is not helpful to promote that view among your readership. First, it was Verlyn Klinkenborg (Sept 8, 2013, "Hey, you calling me an invasive species?"), then it was the Ethicist (March 23, 2014, "Should we privilege wild horses?"). And that's just Sundays.

Next time you are considering publishing something on this topic, I would be happy to review it prior to publication, or to refer you to someone in the correct discipline to help with fact-checking. It is not a service to the public, or to our environment, to propagate the belief that the native *vs.* nonnative issues are over and done with. Unfortunately, the slow pace of evolution and the rapid pace of environmental disturbances means that we are just getting started.

Doug Tallamy, Author, *Bringing Nature Home*
 Professor & Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology
 250 Townsend Hall, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology
 University of Delaware

Here is a link to the NYT article which prompted Tallamy's letter to the editor:
http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/04/opinion/sunday/gardening-for-climate-change.html?_r=0

If you plant them, they will come!

The milkweed is blooming, but where are the butterflies? If some winter-hardy plants did not survive, perhaps the butterflies were also affected by the cold winter. Depending on the species, butterflies and moths overwinter as eggs, caterpillars, or pupae in protected surroundings such as leaf litter, brush piles or dense vegetation, often on the tree or shrub that will feed the larvae. The metamorphosis from pupa to adult requires warm temperatures and some humidity.

Monarch butterflies escape cold winters by migrating south to California and Mexico, where they live for six to eight months. In February and March they emerge from hibernation, mate and migrate north and east. In March and April they lay eggs on milkweed plants which hatch into baby caterpillars about four days later. The adults emerge about 4 weeks later, feeding on flowers until they die two to six weeks later, after laying eggs. The adults of the second generation appear in May and June, and the third generation in July and August. The fourth generation that migrates is born in September and October.

As hosts for monarch butterflies and other swallowtails, milkweeds are highly desirable in the home garden. These perennials usually have milky sap, opposite leaves, and rounded flower heads densely packed with small blooms. Adult butterflies lay their eggs on the leaves and stems, which furnish food for their caterpillars.

Eight species of milkweed occur in our area, five are very common. Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), with light orange to brick red small flowers, prefers dry sandy soil in full sun and is drought tolerant. The pink-flowered swamp milkweed (*A. incarnata*) grows in moist ground in open areas. Also with deep-pink flowers, clasping milkweed (*A. amplexicaulis*) is found in dry woodlands. Common milkweed (*A. syriaca*) has pink flowers and grows all over Virginia in fields, meadows, open woods and along roadsides. White milkweed (*A. variegata*) occurs in upland woods and thickets.



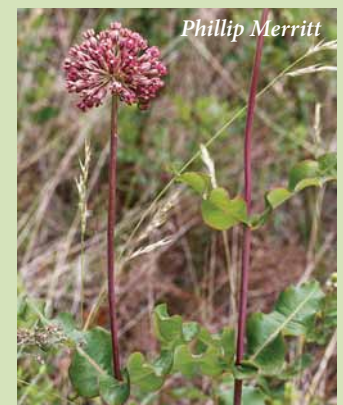
Ellis Squires

Butterfly weed



Teta Kain

Swamp milkweed



Phillip Merritt

Clasping milkweed



Jan Newton

Common milkweed



Phillip Merritt

White milkweed

Less common in our area are three other species. Purple milkweed (*A. purpurascens*) has deep purple flowers, grows in moist woodlands and swampy areas, often in limy soils, but is rare throughout the state. The leaves of green milkweed (*A. viridiflora*) are pale green; the plant prefers the dry soil of fields and roadsides. It is common the Piedmont and some mountain valleys, but rare in the Coastal Plain. Whorled milkweed (*A. verticillata*) is distinguished by very narrow leaves in whorls along the stems; the flowers are greenish-white. This species is rare in our area and not common elsewhere.

Over 75% of all flowering plant species need animals to move their pollen, allowing fertilization and seed set. Most pollinators are beneficial insects such as flies, beetles, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths and especially, bees. But populations of pollinators are declining due to human activities—development, agriculture, pesticide use, habitat fragmentation. Recognizing the crucial role that pollinators play in natural ecosystems and in our food crops, seven years ago the U.S. Senate designated a week in June as National Pollinator Week. Joining many other states, Gov. McAuliffe issued a proclamation declaring the week of June 16–22 as Virginia Pollinator Week.

So, until the weather cooperates, and the adult butterflies emerge, our gardens should be pollinator-friendly habitats, supplying pollinators with nectar, pollen and homes. Using our book *Wildflowers and Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain*, websites such as www.pollinator.org and www.xerces.org, I have created a list of local native plants (on www.claytonvnps.org) that have high pollinator value, meaning they will attract and feed a wide variety of pollinating insects.

Many designs for pollinator habitats are available—the Williamsburg Botanical Garden has installed a large “Pollinator Palace,” built with wooden pallets, bricks, bamboo and other plant stems, to attract native mason bees, leafcutter bees and miner bees. Bare ground under trees provides homes for ground-nesting native bees. **Helen Hamilton**



Helen Hamilton

The Botanical Garden's Pollinator Palace.

From left field

Dear Ms. Field:

I have a question about the proper way to comport oneself around nonnative invasives in other peoples' gardens.

During a recent visit with relatives in Louisiana, my sister-in-law, an avid gardener, was showing me around her lovely back yard, where the dappled light flickered under the centuries-old live oaks in the antebellum breeze.

Our first stop was the bamboo, which had turned brown in the frigid winter. She asked what I thought she should do about it. "Dig it up!" I replied helpfully (or so I thought). It turns out she was just asking if she should prune it to aid in its recovery. "And it's the clumping kind, not the invasive kind," she said, revealing that she does, indeed, have my number.

Then came the lovely ceramic pot of english ivy. "Look at this nice english ivy!" she said. This time, I managed to keep quiet, but apparently my silence (or that right eyebrow) gave me away. "You don't like english ivy?" she asked. "Well, it's really invasive where I live, but probably not way down here," I lied, desperately trying to recover. "You're right, I've never seen it get out of control here," she gracefully replied.

"Gee, I think I need to refresh my drink," I said lamely, trying to avoid the impending lantana.

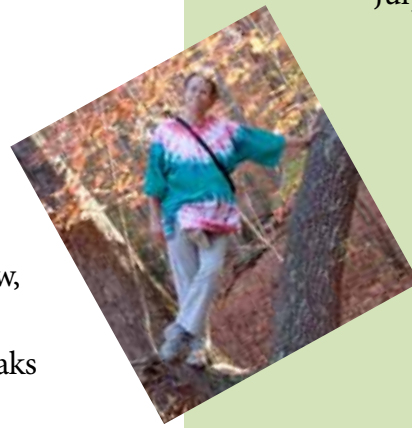
Do you have any advice for me in the event that I find myself in this situation (or a similar one) again?

Signed,
Flustered

Dear Flustered:

This is a common situation, one that Ms. Field has found herself in countless times. Being at your sister-in-law's makes the stakes higher. Add to that the fact that she's an avid gardener means that you're walking on eggshells. Free-range eggshells.

Because you never know when nonnative invasives will pop up, you must always be prepared. First, take a deep breath, roll your eyes around (once clockwise and once anti-clockwise) to get your bearings and be in the moment. Follow your tour guide, listen, smile, and nod appreciatively. Remember, not everyone shares our garden aesthetic and values.



The fact is you never know when a gardener who trusts you will ask (finally) for advice about killing that lovely vinca that was so cute when she brought it home from the nursery. That's your chance. It will come. And always keep that little vial of Roundup in your purse for emergencies/acts of compassion. Ms. Field keeps hers in a vintage "My Sin" spray bottle.

Best of luck!

Ms. Left Field

Kathi Mestayer

A call for nominations: 2014 John Clayton Botany Award and John Clayton Community or Chapter Service Award:

The **John Clayton Botany Award** is given to a person (a JCC member or someone in the community at large) who has excelled in teaching others about the wonders of the plant world, whether through presenting lectures, leading field trips, contributions to the Newsletter, or by other means.

The **John Clayton Community or Chapter Service Award** goes to a person (JCC member or someone in the community at large) whose work has protected natural diversity by preventing habitat degradation, reclaiming habitats, rescuing plants, creating butterfly-friendly native plant gardens, etc., or to a Chapter member who has done superlative work serving as an officer of the Chapter or as a committee chair.

Please send a one paragraph (or up to one page long) recommendation to Donna Ware at 14 Buford Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23188 or dmeware@verizon.net by **August 15th**.

Please note that no one can be considered for an award unless a written recommendation has been submitted by the cut-off date. If awards are given this year, they will be presented at the September membership meeting.

Donna Ware

Odds and ends...

JCC's website

The chapter is looking for someone interested in helping with its website, specifically to manage our WordPress site by adding events and other chapter news. It's fairly easy to do and there are some online tutorials. Please contact Phillip Merritt at phillip.merritt@gmail.com. if you can lend a hand.

Free elderberry bushes, anyone?

Mary Hyde Berg will be removing elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) from her property in Gloucester to make more room for other plants, and asks if any JCC members might like to take some of them off her hands. Anyone who is interested can reach Mary at 804/693-3568 (best time to call is between 8 am and 4 pm). She also has an abundance of elephant's foot (*Elephantopus tomentosus*) to share.

...and butterfly weed for the taking!

Cynthia Long feels like the Old Woman in the Shoe—she has so many butterfly weed seedlings she doesn't know what to do, and is hoping members (and any other interested parties) will come and get as many as they like to plant in their own gardens. Give Cynthia a call at 757-259-9559 and help her find homes for her little ones!

A request from Mary Berg

Mary is embroiled in a battle with the (county? state?), whose plans for the roadside past her property in Gloucester will mean the destruction of native lupine which blooms there every year, but unfortunately is not in bloom right now. She would be most grateful if any members who have taken photos of these plants in flower along Creekwood Lane in Gloucester would give her a call at 804/693-3568—she's looking for ammunition!

Another successful plant sale for the John Clayton Chapter!

Our annual plant sale was held on Saturday, April 26 at Jamestown Beach Park in James City County (near the Jamestown-Scotland ferry.) Two other organizations (the James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardeners and the Williamsburg Botanical Garden) also held plant sales at the same site that day. Thanks to 35 chapter members who came and volunteered Friday and/or Saturday, we had a very successful sale. Head cashier (and chapter treasurer) Phyllis Putnam reports a profit of \$4,154.22 from the sale that the chapter can use for Nature Camp scholarships and outreach programs. Also, we had very courteous help during the sale from two nature camp scholarship recipients and lots of Boy Scouts (under the supervision of “Hike Master” Jim Etchberger), assisting customers by delivering their plant purchases to their vehicles.

Our sale offered over 100 native perennials, ferns and vines displayed on 20 tables, as well as many varieties of trees and shrubs. Our free 5-page list of 179 native plants for our local area was a popular item as well.

A big thank you to all who donated plants, helped at potting parties, transported plants and helped set up and take down the tents, tables, plants and signs. A special thanks to Patti Gray and Lucile Kossodo, my leadership partners for the 2014 plant sale. This summer, take some time to look around for possible plants to donate next spring for the 2015 sale!

Susan Voigt, 2014 plant sale co-chair

Some pictures Phillip took during this year's plant sale...(more on next page)



Gary Driscoll assures a customer that yes, there is a viable plant in that pot!



Treasurer Phyllis Putnam at the cashier's table.



Bill Morris and I did do some work... honest!

John Clayton Chapter Calendar

Saturday, July 12

9–11 am: Donna Ware will lead a field trip to “Fernald’s Pond” on Longhill Road to see pond lilies and more.

Fernald’s Pond is on Ford’s Colony property and parking arrangements are pending. Participants will learn where to park by registering with Donna Ware after July 6th at dmeware@verizon.net or at 757-565-0657 (leave a message with your phone number for a return call). (See Page 6 for more details.)

Thursday, July 17

6:45 pm: John Clayton Chapter meeting at the Yorktown Public Library.

Our speaker is **Gary Cote**, whose topic will be **“Lichens.”** (See Page 1.)

The Library is located at the intersection of Battle Rd. and Rt. 17 in Yorktown.

Saturday, July 19

8:00–10:00 am: Stonehouse Habitat Garden work day—please come help!

(See Page 6.)

Saturday, July 26

10:30 am: A walk on Bassett Hall’s Nature Trail in Williamsburg.

Join **Helen Hamilton** and **Gus Hall** at **10:30 am** for a walk along Bassett Hall Nature Trail, where umbrella magnolia is common. Meet in the Bassett Hall parking lot. (See Page 6.)

Email Helen at helen48@cox.net or call her at 757-564-4494 to register.

There may be walks in the works which did not make this issue, so keep a eye out for announcements about additional walks and other events on our website at www.claytonvnps.org and in the local newspapers.



A 2014 Nature Camper assists a visitor with her purchases.



Shoppers look over our offerings.



Lucile Kossodo makes sure our plants are correctly placed and labeled.

Below is a membership renewal form. Please contact Membership Chair **Fred Blystone** at 757/229-4346 or 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*	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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