



# 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 March 21 meeting: "The Ups and Downs of Large-Scale Habitat Restoration: Invasive Species Research in Compensatory Wetland Mitigation"

Our speaker will be **Dakota Hunter**, 2017 graduate in Biology and Environmental Science at William & Mary and currently a Master's candidate advised by Randy Chambers and Doug DeBerry. He describes his topic below:

Invasive plant species can alter natural communities and degrade ecosystem function, yet the factors influencing species' invasions are poorly understood. Compensatory wetland mitigation sites are wetlands that are restored, established, enhanced, or preserved in order to compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands during land development activities. These areas are highlighted as an epicenter for invasive plant colonization because wetlands offer favorable conditions for seed dispersal and establishment of invasive plants, and the initial disturbance associated with restoring or creating these habitats exacerbates the issue. While techniques such as chemical spraying and uprooting are often implemented to combat invasive species, these management techniques are costly and often fail to control the targeted species in the long term. After spending a field season and several additional weeks of work researching, sampling, and walking these sites, I hope to introduce to the VNPS the concepts behind mitigation banking, provide some insights into the pros and cons of the practice, and offer some hope for solving the ongoing invasive species problems that plague created and restored wetlands.

The meeting begins at **7:00 pm** at the **Yorktown Library** at the intersection of **Battle Road** and **Route 17** in Yorktown. **See you there!**



## From the President

It was so very cold last week and so nice this week in February, who knows what comes after this. It has not been a good winter as I have been ill most of January and this February. I am fighting it. This warm week I cut back the grasses and found out

that they have already begun to grow in some cases. Good to know it was not too early to begin. Spring seems closer if you begin your garden work. After all, as the groundhog in Pennsylvania said, spring is coming soon...

Good news. Thanks to the effort of **Susan Yaeger**, the John Clayton Chapter received a wonderful donation from Lowes in Williamsburg. Susan composed a letter explaining our chapter's mission and the purpose of the Plant Sale. She asked Lowe's if they would be willing to donate 10 big bags of potting soil to the John Clayton Chapter. Yesterday, I heard that request was accepted. Tim Costelloe and I will pick them up on Wednesday, March 6. This soil donation will be most useful in our potting endeavors. Speaking of early, our Plant Sale team has been busy in January and February. We are planning for our plant sale on **Saturday, April 20, 2019**. Our sale will be at the same location as last year, **Williamsburg Community Building** located at **401 North Boundary Street** across from the Williamsburg Library. One important change is the start time is earlier (**9:30 am**) but we will end at 2 pm as before. At our meeting, we also decided on new features for the Plant Sale List, which will allow us to use symbols sections such as the Sun, Part-shade and Shade as well as the section for what wildlife the plants attract. In the section of bloom, we will include months rather than seasons. This more modern feature will allow more space to describe features of the native plants and will match the Virginia Flora App. If you see **Adrienne Frank** and **Cathy Flanagan**, thank them for taking on this big job.

This winter, **Jim** and **Joan Etchberger** built a greenhouse that is big enough that we hope some of the slow to grow plants will emerge in time for our plant sale this year. Our sale being a week earlier than usual was a worry for the plant sale team. We are lucky to have such great supporters with a desire to help us. We have always used the Etchberger's yard as a staging and over-wintering area but this was a generous effort on his part to help our plant sale. It is our hope that in a greenhouse milkweeds, our biggest seller, will emerge earlier.



Here are two photos of the new greenhouse: *at left*, a view inside while under construction; *right*, its interior filled with potted native plants

Thank Jim and Joan Etchbeger who built it together in February. It is not a glass greenhouse but a sheet of plastic on a tent top about 6 ft high with a door to the outside. The greenhouse measures 10×20 ft. The ground in the interior of the greenhouse is covered with 3 inches of mulch, which will keep the pots warmer than the ground. On February 27, your plant sale team—**Sue Voigt, Adrienne Frank, Gary Driscole, Cathy Flanagan** and **myself**—spent two long hours picking up pots of milkweeds and other plants still dormant. We cleaned them and placed them on top of the mulch in the greenhouse. We probably placed about 300 plants inside the greenhouse. Today the plants were noticeably warmer than those outside. Volunteers are our heroes and we are all grateful to them. This plant sale is our only moneymaker and the source of our operating funds and ability to send students to Nature Camp.

Like last year, the sale will happen in one busy day: transport plants, set up the sale, sell, and clean up after the sale. Volunteers are essential to making this happen. Please consider helping us and volunteering to help with one of the aspects of the sale or, if you are a super hero, helping us all day. One thing is important for you to know, we love to have you bring plants from your gardens to sell. Please bring them to a spring potting party—we will announce the exact date in an email closer to the date. If you are unable to come to our future potting party, drop your plants off at my house, **229 West Queens Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185** (cell 757-784-2882). We absolutely cannot accept any plants on the day of the sale since there will be no time to label, price, and place plants in the appropriate location before the sale.

Recently I read an interesting article in *The Guardian*. Mark Cocker describes spotting and photographing an unfamiliar bloom hugging a slope of lichen-smothered schist 20 years ago while on a hike in Cairn Gorm National Park, Scotland. He has now, after all that time, finally identified it as a flower of the Scottish mountains, possibly found first by the Rev. John Lightfoot in 1772 and included in his *Flora Scotica* of 1778. It is Britain's only native azalea, which also occurs in the Alps, Pyrenees, and as far south as Croatia. Its five-lobed, cup-like pink corolla is 4 mm across. Alas, some of the companion plants Mark Cocker saw on that azalea day are not here now, but those mountain plants—humble, prostrate, and creeping—live long lives. In June, they flourish as a tiny procumbent patch of pink. Several of them form a habitat known as dwarf shrub heath—a kind of inch-high forest adapted to survive in the poorest soils, the highest rainfall, the bitterest winds and year-round cold. It is at once tenacious and heroic, yet also comfortable to walk over and easy to overlook. Somehow, the author overlooked the patch twice: once on that day in 1998 and on a recent visit. The second occasion he saw it and decided to identify it was as it lay as a neglected transparency in his study. At last in 2018 he scanned and recognized the plant. It was the trailing or dwarf azalea—*Kalmia procumbens*. This azalea waited 20 years to for the photographer to discover it. I wish you all a happy spring with many plant discoveries and rediscoveries.

**Lucile Kossodo**



## In Review: Native Shrub Encroachment on a Virginia Barrier Island

At the January meeting, our speaker was **Joey Thompson**, a 2014 graduate of William & Mary, and a 2016 graduate of VCU with a Master's in Biology. Joey is currently working for VHB, an engineering firm in Virginia, and conducts natural resource surveys for rare plants, natural communities, and wetlands.

The topic of his presentation concerned the recent encroachment of wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*) on Hog Island, part of the Virginia barrier islands under the protection of the Virginia Coast Reserve. It was the focus of his research for his thesis at VCU for which he received an NSF ecological research grant.

Joey began by stating that barrier islands are basically giant sand bars that breach the ocean surface and are created by wind and water-driven sediment. He explained that shrub encroachment or expansion (the terms are used synonymously) mean that the shrubs are moving into land where they didn't exist historically. This can result in them creating, perhaps, an alternate stable state, which means a complete change in the ecosystem and biome. Examples occur, Joey said, in prairie, woodland, and semi-arid ecosystems. While shrub expansion can be a result of successional change that is transitory, it can also occur suddenly and completely, for example by overgrazing cattle, fire suppression, or climate change. Shrubs can get thick from fire suppression and the thicket can decrease species diversity, alter the microclimate, and change the biome. He noted that wax myrtle has been expanding for the past 50 years and is in its maximum northern range.

Joey collected a lot of data with the goal of characterizing the effect the shrub thickets had on species diversity and microclimate. He measured leaf area index, litter depth, water content, organic matter, carbon, and nitrogen for the shrubs in the thicket, as well as three free-standing shrubs, and in the grassland. He also measured electron transport rate (ETR) of wax myrtle leaves to determine if the microclimate was beneficial to wax myrtle physiology. His hypothesis was that wax myrtle expansion would be reinforced by the favorable microclimate created by other wax myrtles. His results confirmed this by showing that species richness was lowest inside the thicket, that fall and winter minimum temperatures were higher in the thicket, and that summer and fall maximum temperatures were more moderate in the thicket. This meant that the shrubs expansion quickly impacted the microclimate and species diversity. The ETR results didn't indicate any particular benefit or disadvantage from the microclimate



Cathy Flanagan

Nature Camp Scholarship recipient Abigail Galli and Libbey Oliver at the January meeting

on the plant's physiology. Joey's presentation was interesting, full of data and analysis, and a real lesson (for me at least) in the science of ecology. I made the Virginia Coast Reserve a hyperlink as I think everyone would like to read about the importance of our barrier islands and the job The Nature Conservancy has done to protect them.

While the focus was the shrub encroachment, Joey did note some of the other species found on the island:

Dune Ground-cherry (*Physalis walteri*), which is a rare species

Yellow thistle (*Cirsium horridulum* Michx. var. *horridulum*)

Sea-beach needlegrass (*Aristida tuberculosa*), mostly restricted to the barrier islands

Seaside little blue stem (*Schizachrium littorale*), mostly restricted to scrub and grassland on barrier islands

Prickly pear (*Opuntia humifusa*) Very common

Cathy Flanagan

## New Members

We welcome new members **James Cooper** and **Anne Negus** of Henrico, **Rhona Flehinger**, **Jean Keating**, and **Lizzy Green**, all of Williamsburg, to the John Clayton Chapter!

## Upcoming events

### Saturday, April 20—Our 2019 Native Plant Sale

**9:30 am to 2:00 pm** at the **Williamsburg Community Building** across from the Williamsburg Library on N. Boundary St.

### From our Plant Sale Committee: Please contribute native plants to our Sale—



Dig your plants and bring them to us for our one **Spring Potting Party!**

If you have plants but cannot dig them, contact **Sue Voigt** at [svoigt1@cox.net](mailto:svoigt1@cox.net) or **Lucile Kossodo** at [lkossodo@cox.net](mailto:lkossodo@cox.net).

The **Spring Potting Party** will be held on **Saturday, March 23, 2019** at 10 am at **Jim and Joan Etchberger's** home, 100 Woodland Road, Wmsbg, VA 23188.

If you have any questions contact **Lucile Kossodo** at [lkossodo@cox.net](mailto:lkossodo@cox.net).

✿ **Saturday, March 23, 10 am—Early Spring in the Forest on the Wahrani Nature Trail, New Kent**

Join **Helen Hamilton** and **Gus Hall** searching the ravines, slopes, and streams for everything green in the different habitats in this park. Expect to see orchid plants, ferns, lichens, clubmosses, and many interesting moss and liverwort species, including the flat forms with visible reproductive bodies. Spring flowers should be emerging—we may see spring beauty, pennywort, and early “weeds” in the front lawn such as henbit, bluets, speedwell, bittercress, and dwarf dandelion. Dress for the weather and expect uneven trails and some muddy areas along the trail.

Please register so that, in case the walk has to be re-scheduled because of inclement weather, we will be able to let you know. To register, contact Helen Hamilton at 757-564-4494 or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net).

For more information, directions, GPS coordinates and a map, visit [www.hikingupward.com/ovh/wahrani](http://www.hikingupward.com/ovh/wahrani).

✿ **Saturday, April 13, 10 am.—Spring in the Forest of Longhill Swamp at Lafayette High School**

Spring Beauty and Cinnamon Fern should be emerging along with Golden Ragwort, Pink Lady’s Slipper and Adder’s Tongue fern. Some of the more interesting mosses and liverworts are common, often growing on the paths. The walk is on and off the trail and boardwalks and the bottomland can be muddy, so wear appropriate clothing for the habitat and weather. Meet **Helen Hamilton** in the parking lot at the front of Lafayette High School, which has easy access to the school’s Nature Trail.

Register with Helen Hamilton, 757-564-4494, or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net).

✿ **Saturday, April 27, 10 am—Spring Woodland Flowers on White Oak Trail, Newport News Park**

Peninsula Master Naturalist **Susie Yager** will lead a walk through this lakeside woodland area to see Pink Lady’s-Slipper Orchid, Partridgeberry, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Yellow Star-Grass, and several other spring flowers as well as several ferns. Meet at Newport News Park’s Discovery Center, Constitution Way. Use the NNPark entrance at Constitution Way. From Jefferson Ave, turn onto Constitution Way; drive 0.9 mile; the Discovery Center will be on the right (GPS coordinates 37.181682, -76.537173); additional parking is nearby along Constitution Way if needed. The round-trip walk will be about 2.6 miles. The Discovery Center has restrooms.

Contact Susie Yager to register at [soozigus@cox.net](mailto:soozigus@cox.net).

## Wildflowers of the Month: Pears and Cherries

Soon spring will come with flowering fruit trees—serviceberry, pears, apples, cherries—all members of the Rose family, so the flowers look quite similar, with 5 white or pink petals and many stamens in the center.

First to bloom is serviceberry, a somewhat crooked small tree or shrub with slender flower petals. When flowering begins, the leaves are still folded, only about half-grown, and covered with a fine, soft gray fuzz; later the leaves are smooth and dark green. The flowers produce many small, red, sweet and juicy fruits resembling tiny apples, often well-hidden by the leaves. These fruits would be popular with people were they not so quickly consumed by birds and other wildlife. Two species of *Amelanchier* grow in the Coastal Plain, distinguished by the sepals that are erect and spreading in *A. canadensis*, or curved downward in *A. arborea*.

Early colonists noticed the tree blooming when the shad were running, hence one of its common names, shadbush. It was also known as “serviceberry” since the local ministers could visit winter-bound homes as the roads became passable, performing weddings and funerals and other services.

However, in our area, serviceberry has been largely replaced by the introduced Bradford or Callery pear, *Pyrus calleryana*. This tree has a distinctive pyramidal shape covered with dense clusters of white flowers. Appearing before the leaves, the five-petaled flowers cover the tree in abundance, although many people find the odor of the flowers unpleasant. Flowers pollinated primarily by flies, not bees and other insects, always have a fetid smell.

Much has been written about the invasive character of Bradford pear. Native to China and Vietnam, it was named for the Chinese scholar Joseph-Marie Callery, who sent specimens of the tree to Europe from China. The species first came to this country in 1909, and in 1916 the U.S. Department of Agriculture brought in the plant to try to combat fire blight, which was devastating the commercial pear industry. Initially used as rootstock for common pear, it quickly became



Blossoms of Serviceberry (above) and Bradford Pear (below)





interesting as an ornamental. Various cultivars from China were also introduced and grafted onto rootstocks, and the cultivar ‘Bradford’ is one of the results.

Originally bred to be sterile, Bradford pear is now cross-pollinating with other pears, subsequently producing fruits and seeds that are relished by birds, which spread the seeds in their defecations. They grow in dense populations, especially in disturbed areas and along roadways, and are displacing native trees.

This tree grows quickly, to fifteen feet in ten years, but the crown is dense and the branches are long, making it susceptible to damage by wind and ice damage. The tree will split, fall apart, or uproot in strong winds or heavy ice. Because this tree does not have a long life, is damaged by storms, and outcompetes native species, it should not be planted in any residential or commercial landscapes. Unfortunately, nurseries offer the plant for sale, and many developments, seeking to enhance their entranceways, will plant the tree in rows along the median.

Serviceberry and pears bloom in March through early April and can be separated by (1) somewhat straggly appearance of the trunks of serviceberry and (2) the pyramidal shape of Bradford pear and the unpleasant odor of its flowers.

Apples and cherries bloom a little later, in late April or May. Southern crabapple, *Malus angustifolia*, is native in the Coastal Plain and the introduced Common Apple, *Malus pumila*, has been cultivated and is now widely naturalized across the state.

Apples and cherries can be separated by their tree trunks—on cherry trees the bark is dark and shiny with horizontal lens-shaped spots (lenticels), whereas the bark of crabapples is light-colored and the branchlets are thorny.

These 4 genera—serviceberry, pears, apples, and cherries—can be separated also by flower structure.

Apples, pears, and serviceberry all have inferior ovaries, closely surrounded by other tissues; the ovary becomes the core of the fruit and the part we eat is derived from the fleshy flower cup that adheres to the ovary as the fruit develops. The dried remnants of the flower—tips of sepals, stamens and pistils—can often be seen at the top of apples and pears, opposite the stem.

Among these 4 genera, only the cherries (*Prunus* sp) have superior ovaries, that is, when the flower is dissected, the ovary can be seen free at the bottom of the flower. There is no scar at the top of cherries, nor central core, since the superior ovary alone becomes the fleshy fruit we eat.

Many cultivars of these blooming fruit trees are widely planted for their spring flowers and colorful foliage. In autumn the native serviceberry shows a variety of colorful hues, from yellow and gold to orange and deep red. This plant is striking when placed in a mixed shrubbery border where its brilliant white blooms and fall color stand out nicely against a background of evergreen shrubs.

**Helen Hamilton**



## Denise Greene is retiring Sassafras Farm

Our long-time member Denise Greene will be retiring and moving to Kilmarnock. Denise has owned Sassafras Farm, where she has grown native plants, for a very long time. When we need to sell native plants that we cannot find in our gardens, we have turned to Denise for them. She has been in charge of the Native Plant Sale and an active member of the John Clayton Chapter, and has provided native plants for many years since the early 2000s. In those early days, the John Clayton plant sale was at the Virginia Living Museum together with the Museum's own sale. Back in those days, Denise used to save her extra seedlings, and John Clayton Chapter members would come to her nursery and pot them up for the plant sale. She would grow them for the Chapter at her farm and bring them to the museum along with the plants she sold to the museum. Her nursery was also the holding site for plants donated by other members. Unfortunately, as her business grew, Denise did not have the time or space to do that anymore. Since then, John Clayton Chapter began buying plants from her to supplement the ones members potted. It has continued to be beneficial to have a local source providing great plants for our sale. It has been a long relationship and we shall really miss her when she leaves us. In addition, I can remember two very interesting programs that Denise presented to us. The first was most influential for me. She taught us how to divide and grow the different native plants from seed and how to do the various techniques which they required for their growth to emerge. That is when I began growing some plants for the sale. The second program theme was about butterflies and their host plants. This information was the beginning my long relationship with how to attract more butterflies to my garden. Denise has always been a source of inspiration to lead many of us to plant more plants that are native. Many of you have also been customers at the Farmers Market in the summer months long after our sale, when you found another native plant you had to have in your yard.

Denise plans to stay at Sassafras Farm and continue to operate the nursery until it sells. Have you ever considered moving to Gloucester or farming native plants? If so, you might be interested in her farm that now is for sale. A link to the sale listing can be found at this address: [www.sassafrasfarmnatives.com](http://www.sassafrasfarmnatives.com).

Join me in wishing her good luck in her new endeavors.

**Lucile Kossodo**



## From Out in Left Field— Why I hate English Ivy and you should, too.

Oh, sure, it's so cute when you bring it home from the nursery, tuck it into the soil around the edge of...something...and watch it send up its cute little light-green leaves.

And then it starts to fill up the space you've allotted to it. And then it goes a little farther. Everything is fine, until you get distracted, or you move somewhere and the person who buys your house doesn't really care that much.

That's the moment the ivy has been waiting for. It sneaks out, looking for something to climb up. A wall, a tree, a phone pole, a mailbox. Anything will do. As it grows upward, and gets a few more years under its belt, it enters a new stage in its life cycle. The No Ivy League's web site puts it this way: "*A physiological change occurs when the juvenile form receives enough light and resources, transitioning to a mature form that spirals outward from the trunk of its host tree. Through this process ivy may further alter the composition of light reaching the forest below and in extreme cases from the host tree itself.*"

At that point, it starts to produce fruit, which birds will eat. The problem is that when the fruit exits their digestive system, it is still a viable seed. Just waiting to hit the ground as the bird flies over the neighbor's yard, the edge of the highway, the parking lot, whatever.

I have seen this in action in my back yard over the past 30 years, as my neighbors' ivy took off over the ground and up the trees. I could keep it from creeping into my yard at ground level by conducting "border patrol" a couple of times a year, but the trees? Harder to get access.

The No Ivy League, in Portland, OR, reports that the ivy spreads faster from seed dispersal than across the ground. "The mature form of ivy is able to produce berries and distribute seeds, with the help of birds, expanding across a greater range than by vegetative growth alone." So, if you have to prioritize your ivy removal efforts, get it out of the trees.



A cute baby sprout.

Two winters ago, I counted the number of English ivy seedlings I pulled out of my wooded back yard. In a little over a quarter of an acre. I counted them in groups of ten, so it was easier to keep track. At 200, I just quit counting.

I knew what I needed to know. Get the ivy out of those trees. But they're not mine!

This winter, I contacted the owner of the house next door to me (it's rented out), and got his permission to remove the ivy from the trees in his back yard. No problem. That's done. If you're interested, I have a video on how to do it. Not a big deal, really, unless the vines are so large that you mindlessly give yourself (I did this) tennis elbow sawing them by hand. Or get poison ivy in the dead of winter. Done that, too.



English ivy, in its mature form. (Fell out of a tree-top.)



What we call an "ivy desert." Which is really unfair to deserts.



Next, I went over and met another neighbor; a new homeowner. She was open to the idea of letting me kill the ivy in her trees, and even to hosting a No Ivy Day on her property. Now I just have to schedule it. And get the word out. Before the ticks go nuts. I will let everyone know when we find a date.

So, just making friends (and enemies for ivy). There's no better therapy for residual anxiety, seasonal affective disorder, or frustration than killing something and feeling good about it. You even get to watch it die a slow, anguishing death of starvation. Maybe it's a way to channel your dark side while doing good deeds! Yes!

Here's a group of William and Mary Students a few years ago on No Ivy League Day, removing ivy from the front of McGlothlin Hall. They really enjoyed the break from studying, and the teamwork required to yank this root out of the ground...

Well, I think I've taken up enough space for one newsletter. If you have any questions, or know someone who would like a demo of a "tree rescue," let me know. I have my supplies in the back of my car at all times.

**Kathi Mestayer**    [kwren@widomaker.com](mailto:kwren@widomaker.com)



The students



Flowering dogwood was the VNPS 2018 Wildflower of the Year, and these photos Cathy Flanagan submitted to the Colonial Nature Photography Club earned her second and third place in its novice flora category.

### A note from Helen—

**SALE!** *Wildflowers and Grasses of Virginia's Coastal Plain* is now on sale at half price...only \$12.50 from BRIT (the publisher) or call Helen at 757-564-4494 to arrange mailing or pickup.

Our book has been on the market since fall 2013, and BRIT needs the space in their warehouse. We ordered 2,500 copies and I think 500 remain, which we are trying to sell now.

Note: Amazon and Barnes & Noble will be charging full price for a few more weeks.



## John Clayton Chapter Calendar

**Thursday,  
March 17**

**7:00 pm: John Clayton Chapter meeting** at the **Yorktown Library** at the intersection of Battle Road and Route 17 in Yorktown.

Our speaker is **Dakota Hunter**, whose topic will be **"The Ups and Downs of Large-scale Habitat Restoration: Invasive Species Research in Compensatory Wetland Mitigation."**  
(See Page 1.)

**Saturday,  
March 23**

**10:00 am: Spring Potting Party** at **Joan and Jim Etchberger's home**, 100 Woodland Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188  
(See Page 5.)

**Saturday,  
March 23**

**10:00 am: Early Spring in the Forest**  
**Helen Hamilton** and **Gus Hall** will lead a walk on the **Wahrani Nature Trail in New Kent**. Please register so that, in case the walk has to be re-scheduled because of inclement weather, we will be able to let you know.  
To register, contact Helen Hamilton at 757-564-4494 or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net).  
(More info and directions are on Page 6.)

**Saturday,  
April 13**

**10:00 am: Spring in the Forest—Longhill Swamp at Lafayette Swamp at Longhill H.S.**  
Meet **Helen Hamilton** in the parking lot at the front of Lafayette High School, which has easy access to the school's Nature Trail. Plan to see Pink Lady's Slipper, Golden Ragwort, and many interesting mosses and ferns.  
Register with Helen Hamilton, 757/564-4494, or [helen48@cox.net](mailto:helen48@cox.net).  
(See Page 6.)

**Saturday,  
April 20**

**John Clayton Chapter's 2019 Plant Sale at the Williamsburg Community Building at 401 North Boundary Street**, across from the Williamsburg Library, from **9:30 am to 2 pm**.  
(See Page 2 and Page 5 for more about the sale.)

**Saturday,  
April 27**

**10:00 am: Spring Woodland Flowers on White Oak Trail, Newport News Park**  
Peninsula Master Naturalist **Susie Yager** will lead a walk through this lakeside woodland area to see Pink Lady's-Slipper Orchid, Partridgeberry, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Yellow Star-Grass, and several other spring flowers, as well as several ferns. Meet at Newport News Park's Discovery Center, Constitution Way.  
(More info and directions are on Page 6.)

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



Below is a membership renewal form. Please contact Membership Chair **Cathy Flanagan** at 757-879-1997 or at **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