

Claytonia

Newsletter of the John Clayton Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

Volume 23, Number 5

October–December 2007



1984

*Claytonia
virginica*

Officers

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Secretary	Mary Turnbull 757/229-4046

Our next meeting

The John Clayton Chapter's next meeting is on November 15th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Quarterpath Recreation Center on Quarterpath Road in Williamsburg. Libbey Oliver will be the speaker, and her talk, "Williamsburg Farmers Market on its Fifth Anniversary," is about the challenges of sustainable agriculture in today's world.

Quarterpath Road is about a mile south of the convergence of Lafayette St., U.S. 60 Bypass, and York St. Heading east on York St. from that intersection, turn right onto Quarterpath Road at the Yorkshire Steak and Seafood Restaurant; Quarterpath Recreation Center is on the right, just a short distance down that road.

Welcome to new members:

Betty Clark, Donny Gilman (he is forming a new nursery in Gloucester), Wendy Homerosky, Kari Abbott (President, Virginia Master Naturalists), Rachel Price-Rayner, Phyllis Simonetta-Roth, Brenda Sullivan.

We hope to see you at our meetings and field trips!

Old growth forest field trip on October 26



Photo: David Girard

Mary Berg stands in front of a big ash tree during the Big Tree Drive in Gloucester in July.

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 26th to see the giant trees in the Cypress Bridge area near Courtland, Virginia. Mary Hyde Berg suggested this trip, and Byron Carmean, the veteran big-tree hunter, agreed to lead our group to this area of 2,000 year old trees, some as large as 12 feet in diameter.

If the water levels stay low, the canoe ride to the big trees is only 150 yards, and Byron can ferry 2–3 people across and back. Bring your own boat if you want to do further exploration of the habitat. There is some walking through the swampy (dry now, says Byron) areas, so wear old shoes that could get muddy. Byron tells me that with the drought, there are no mosquitoes, and he has not had problems with chiggers or ticks. See the VNPS Bulletin, November 2006, for a complete description of the site, and February 2007 for a photo of a visit by the South Hampton Roads Chapter during high water.

To register for this trip, call Helen in Williamsburg, 757/564-4494, or Mary Hyde Berg in Gloucester, 804/693-3568. We will be meeting Byron at his home near Chuckatuck at 10 am, and it's another 45 minutes to the site. Plan on a couple of hours among the big trees; bring your lunch. We will be arranging carpools among the registrants. Limit: 20 participants.

Helen Hamilton

The Annual Meeting was a big success

With over 150 participants, 14 field trips and 11 presentations in addition to the keynote speaker, the 25th anniversary of VNPS was the best ever! The partnership of John Clayton Chapter and Virginia Institute of Marine Science worked very well and has generated interest in future field trips with VIMS personnel.

Siting the Annual Meeting principally in the Gloucester area had the advantage of introducing VNPS people to areas not usually included on field trips, where we could see "something we hadn't seen before." The professionals of the VIMS staff presented talks that were all of high caliber, as were the speakers from other organizations and from our own chapter. We are so grateful to the Friends of Dragon Run, the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Grafton Ponds Natural Area Preserve, and the Bethel Beach Natural Area Preserve for allowing us access to these fascinating areas.

John Clayton Chapter members are very proud to have hosted this meeting and are gratified by the wonderful participation in the events of the weekend. Wasn't the party at the Freight Shed a lot of fun? Many thanks, Cynthia and your crew, for a classy dinner at a fabulous location!

Helen Hamilton

Highlights from Annual Meeting walks

Dragon Run walk

Our walk was led by Teta Kain of Friends of Dragon Run with the assistance of Virginia State Forester David Milby and Gorden Page, Co-Chairman for Dragon Run Paddle Trips. Unfortunately, the planned kayak trips were not possible due to the low water levels of the river. The walk started in King & Queen Co. with approx 1 mile tour through parts of the Williams, Revere and Big Island Tracts. The highlight of the trip took us down to the water's edge to view a section of the Dragon's Big Island, swamps and massive bald cypress with their curious knees protruding along the shoreline. The forester talked about the history of forestry in the coastal plain and the ever-changing forest succession. He pointed out specific trees and answered most of our questions as we walked along.

Some of the trees pointed out to us were: bald cypress, swamp white oak, post oak, water oak, beech, black gum, sweet gum, American hornbeam, tulip poplar, loblolly pine, Virginia pine, red maple, American holly, sassafras, chinquapin oak (in fruit), eastern dogwood, and hickory species.

Following is a partial list of other plants seen in bloom: Maryland golden aster (*Chrysopsis mariana*), tickseed sunflower (*Bidens aristosa*), trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*), strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*), *Gerardia species*, meadow beauty (*Rhexia mariana* & *virginica*), joe-pye-weed (*Eupatorium species*), thoroughwort (*Eupatorium species*), lobelia (*Lobelia nuttallii*), daisy fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*), heal-all (*Prunella vulgaris*), spotted monarda (*Monarda punctata*), wingstem (*Actinomeris alternifolia*), St. Andrews cross (*Ascyrum hypericoides*), starry campion (*Silene stellata*), goldenrods (*Solidago species*), and various small white asters.

Plants in fruit or with past blooms: skullcap (*Scutellaria species*), wild yam (*Dioscorea villosa*), rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera species*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), sweet everlasting (*Gnaphalium obtusifolium*), pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*), devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*), wax myrtle/bayberry (*Myrica cerifera*), summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*), and spotted/striped wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*).

Other plant foliage seen: pink lady-slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), primrose-leaved violet (*Viola primulifolia*), black raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*), blackberry (*Rubus species*), shad bush (*Amelanchier arborea*), paw-paw (*Asimina triloba*), deer-tongue grass, muscadine grape, *Lycopodium sp.*, and reindeer moss. Ferns seen were: lady, sensitive, royal, New York, Christmas, and ebony spleenwort.

If you would like more information or are interested in future Paddle Trips on Dragon Run, check out their web site: www.dragonrun.org. A Dragon Run trip for our chapter is being planned for Spring 2008.

Eddie Bradbury

Grafton Ponds tour

Having lived in York County for 18 years, I of course knew where Grafton was, but I had no idea about a place called Grafton Ponds. It was one of the walks on Saturday during the VNP Conference in September, and I was fortunate to be one of the 15 touring the Grafton Ponds Natural Area Preserve. One of 50 Preserves in the state, it is a jewel in our backyards. Adjacent to Newport News Park, its 375 acres can be accessed where the abandoned part of Richneck Road is located. In addition to our leader, we had two botanists and a zoologist on our trip.

The ponds were formed when the shells of marine animals dissolved and depressions occurred in the earth. There may be up to 100 ponds within the Preserve's boundary lines; however, only three of them currently have any water in them. We could tell that water was recently in the ponds, though, because the bark of the trees in the pond areas was darkened up to the point where water had been. In addition to many plants, several frogs were also identified.

The Preserve, owned by the City of Newport News, is open to visitors; however, it is easy to lose your way. We followed some old roadbeds and pink ties placed in advance by our leader. Be sure to mark your calendar for the next walk in Grafton Ponds.

Mary Turnbull

Beaverdam walk

One of our field trips during the VNPS annual meeting was to Beaverdam Park in Gloucester County. Two groups of 15 persons each participated in a Birds and Plants Walk on Sunday morning, September 16. Group 1 visited Beaverdam Park via the main entrance, led by Joyce and Hayes Williams (birds) and Sid Sterling and Pat Baldwin (plants). Group 2 visited via the Route 606 entrance, led by Dave Hewitt of VIMS (birds) & Charlie Vannater (plants). The combined bird lists of both groups identified 42 species, two of which were new to the park bird list. They were Solitary Sandpiper and American Black Duck. We did not keep a list of the plants identified but significant plants were:

Dulichium arundinaceum (a sedge), *Ludwigia decurrens* (similar to water purslane), and *Hypericum walteri* (has pink flower similar to *virginicum*). Also seen were zig-zag goldenrod, great lobelia, arrow arum, field horsetail, and many others.

Both groups gathered at Joyce and Hayes' home at the end of the trip to see shadow-witch orchid, green-headed coneflower, turtle head (both white and pink), golden club and a few others not seen at Beaverdam Park. Doing birds and plants on the same trip is tough but everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Hayes Williams

Summerfield yarden, butterfly garden, ravine, creekside

This 42.9-acre tract is under Virginia Outdoors Foundation easement, which limits development to the present 2 dwellings. Variations in soil, slope, isolation and past use, and in width and salinity of the creek, marsh and swamp produce many microhabitats and edges. 2007 has been a very dry year, which affects the presence, size, and distribution of species.

Species of plants seen in the areas time permitted us to visit included:

In the yarden (mostly introduced species):

Sedum ternatum (a mountain species, but naturalized on wall at Ware Episcopal Church), *Elephantopus sp.* (elephant foot), *Aquilegia canadensis* (columbine), *Silphium perfoliatum* (cup leaf), *Silphium trifoliatum* (whorled rosinweed), *Verbesina sp.* (wingstem), *Viola papilionacea* (common blue violet), *Aster concolor* (calico aster), *Smilax bononox* (“the really pretty one”), *Smilax rotundifolia* (heart-leafed greenbriar), *Polygonum virginianum* (Virginia knotweed), *Aster divaricatus* (mountain aster), *Helianthus divaricatus* (dry shade sunflower), *Viburnum prunifolium* (black haw), *Rubus sp.* (raspberry), *Dichondra carolinensis* (dainty ground cover), *Conoclinium coelestinum* (mist flower), *Asparagus officinalis*, *Euphorbia sp.* (field weed spurge), *Aster pilosus* (frostweed aster), *Asclepias tuberosum* (orange milkweed), *Aronia arbutifolia* (red chokeberry), *Amelanchier arborea* (serviceberry), *Cassia marilandica*, *Lechea sp.* (pinweed), *Aster grandiflorus* (great southern aster), *Heterotheca mariana* (Maryland golden aster), *Oenothera sp.* (evening primrose), *Polymna uvadalia* (bear’s paws), *Eupatorium serotina*, *Catalpa speciosa* (monkey cigar tree or northern catalpa), *Ipomea coccinea* (cardinal vine), *Aster patens*

At the butterfly garden—power cut: dry end

Andropogon ternarius (blue stem), *Andropogon sp.* (blue stem), *Heterotheca graminifolia* (grass leaved golden aster), *Desmodium sp.*, St. Andrews cross, *Solidago pinetorum* (tough, early blooming goldenrod), *Diodia teres* (poor joe), *Asclepias syriaca* (common milkweed), *Phytolacca americana* (pokeweed), *Calycarpa americana* (beautyberry), *Helianthus mollis* (downy sunflower)

Wet area of butterfly garden

Lathyrus latifolius (non-native sweetpea), *Bidens cernua* (burr marigold), *Mikania scandens* (hemp vine), *Rudbeckia laciniata* (green coneflower), *Eupatorium perfoliatum* (boneset), *Aster sp.* (a big one; blue flowers), *Vernonia sp.* (not New England ironweed)

Behind the homeplace, woods, along creek

Bidens bipinosa (Spanish needles), *Microstegium vimineum* (Japanese stiltgrass), *Ligustrum sinense* (privet), *Polygonum cespitosum* (wretched redweed), *Magnolia virginiana* (sweet bay), *Kosteleskya virginica* (little pink marshmallow), *Chimaphilia maculata* (wintergreen), *Lobelia cardinalis* (cardinal flower), *Hexastylis virginica* (Virginia wild ginger), *Ilex verticillata* (deciduous holly), *Spartina alternifolia* (salt marsh grass), *Pluchea sp.*, *Solidago sempervirens* (seaside goldenrod), *Atriplex arenaria* (orach), *Typha latifolia* (cattail), *Echinochloa walteri* (a coarse grass of coastal wet areas), *Amaranthus cannabinus* (water hemp), *Sparganium americanum* (bur-reed)

Some trees:

Pinus taeda (loblolly pine), *Diospyros virginiana* (persimmon— an ebony), *Nyssa sylvatica* (black gum; females with fruit)

Tripetela Magnolia site walk

This woods is much richer in biomass and species than the sandy woods of Summerfield due to a thin shell strata and more water. It is part of the Haynes Pond watershed, which is generally rich in mountain disjunct species and Spring ephemerals. Most notable are *Magnolia tripetala*, *Adiantum pedatum* (maidenhair fern), *Ponthieva racemosa* (shadow-witch orchid) and state champion mockernut hickory.

The following species are listed in approximately the order first seen:

Phryma leptostachya, *Botrychium* (rattlesnake fern), *Geum canadense* (white avens), *Sanicula canadensis* (sanicula) *Polygonum virginianum* (Virginia knotweed), *Sanguinaria canadensis* (bloodroot), *Asimina triloba* (pawpaw), *Verbesina occidentalis* (needy wingstem), *Dicanthelium sp.* (a native grass), *Quercus rubra* (northern red oak), *Mitchella repens* (partridgeberry), *Senecio aureus* (golden ragwort), *Gallium spp.* (native bedstraw), *Euonymus Americana* (hearts-a-busting), *Viola Affinis* (Leconet’s violet), *Oxydendrum Arboreum* (sourwood), *Magnolia tripetala*, *Phegopteris Hexagonoptera* (broad beech fern), *Fraxinus Pennsylvanica* (green ash), *Saururus Cernuus* (lizard’s tail), *Boehmeria Cylindrica* (false nettle), *Lindera Benzoinis* (spice bush), *Adiantum Pedatum* (maidenhair fern), *Viburnum dentatum* (arrow wood viburnum), *Desmodium glutinosum* (beggar’s tick), *Desmodium sp.* (small white desmodium), *Mikania scandens* (hemp vine), *Goodyera pubescens* (rattlesnake orchid), *Onoclea sensiaulis* (sensitive fern)

Mary Hyde Berg

Here are some photos taken during the annual meeting and on the field trips:



Photo: Helen Hamilton

Louise Menges, Gloria Diggs, Patti Gray and Bland Blackford hand out box lunches to attendees Saturday.



Photo: Helen Hamilton

Pat Richardson led a trip to Bethel Beach.



Photo: Helen Hamilton

Dorothy Whitfield enjoys her lunch outside Waterman's Hall.



Photo: Helen Hamilton

Libbey Oliver arranges beauty-berry at the Freight Shed in Yorktown.



Phillip Merritt took these photos of Allegheny chinkapin (*Castanea pumila*) and starry campion (*Silene stellata*) on the Dragon Run trip. Of course, they look even better in color on our website!

Upcoming walks

Chapter field trip to Grafton Ponds Natural Area Preserve Wednesday, October 17, 8:30 am –12 noon

Rebecca Wilson, the Chesapeake Bay Region Steward of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, will lead a trip for John Clayton chapter members to the Grafton sinkhole ponds, which are Virginia's best remaining example of a coastal plain pond complex. The many ponds here were formed by dissolution of the underlying calcareous marine deposits of the Yorktown Formation. This wetland complex supports several rare plants and animals for Virginia, including Harper's fimbriatilis, pond spice, Cuthbert turtlehead, Mabee's salamander and barking treefrog. Wear good shoes, be in fairly good physical condition and expect to walk off trail. Meet at the Yorktown Library on Rt. 17 and Battle Rd. at 8:30 am. **Advanced registration is required by calling Jan Newton at 757/566-3646 (jnewton110@cox.net). Limit: 15 people.** Medium to difficult.

For more info information about Grafton Ponds visit http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/natural_area_preserves/grafon.shtml.

Jan Newton



Photo: Sue Voigt

Vicky Schwartz from Arlington, Judy Roehling from Va. Beach and Patricia Salamone from Alexandria visit the Water Wise Garden at the James City County Human Services Center.

**Jamestown Island walk Saturday, October 20,
9 am–12 noon**

Tall, charismatic grasses will be featured on this foray to Jamestown Island (Historic Jamestowne, not Jamestown Settlement). The trip will include Black Point, the portion of the island first sighted by the colonists, and comments on tree species reported by Captain John Smith. Species of interest include northern wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*), big cordgrass (*Spartina cynosuroides*), gama grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*), plume grass (*Saccharum giganteum*), cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*), red bay (*Persea palustris*), and mosquito fern (*Azolla caroliniana*). Botanist Donna Ware will lead the walk, which is sponsored by the John Clayton chapter and open to the public. Please bring your National Park Service pass, if you have one, and register in advance to get meeting location. 757/565-0657

Donna Ware

**Colonial Williamsburg Native Tree and Shrub walk
Saturday, November 3, 10 am–12 noon**

Landscape architect Phillip Merritt will lead a native tree and shrub walk through the historic streets and gardens of Colonial Williamsburg. This 300-acre museum is a beautiful early example of the use of native shrubs, trees, and perennials in landscape design. Colonial Williamsburg Admission tickets or Good Neighbor passes are required to enter the Gardens—be sure to bring one. Limited to 15 people. Please register in advance to get meeting location at 757/259-0386.

Jan Newton

Aliens in your backyard

Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*) is now popping up everywhere – birds and the wind have distributed



Caught in the act!

seeds far from the ditches and edges of woods where you see growing populations each year. This harmless-looking grass, not more than a foot tall, but straggly, is a very nasty invasive. It furnishes no nutritive value to wildlife and rapidly outcompetes all natives. Deer won't eat it, does that tell us something?? Like Kudzu, it has heavily infested national parks, roadsides, and homeowners' properties.

Please pull this plant wherever you see it, or mow before it sets seed. Soon it will be releasing millions of seeds which remain viable for **many years** in the soil, so it must be pulled or mowed for 3-5 years before exhausting one seed

drop. There is a native, non-invasive look-alike called deer-tongue grass which is well-anchored in the soil. Stiltgrass is an annual, the roots are shallow, and is very easy to pull.

Don't let this invasive in your property! If a population sets seed, it will take over, and you will be fighting it for years!

Helen Hamilton



Photo: Jan Newton

Beth Chambers, Mary Turnbull, Carol Ann Ellett and Jan Newton (not pictured) manned the John Clayton Chapter booth on invasive plants and their look-a-likes at the Williamsburg Farmer's Market on August 18.

Raffle a big success!

A tableful of items generated over \$350 cash, which will be used toward sponsoring participants in Nature Camp 2008. Many thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets, which occupied your president for at least 30 minutes to read all the numbers. While there was some trading back and forth of the goodies, everyone seemed happy with all the choices available. And thanks to all the generous donors to this very popular event!

Helen Hamilton

Getting ready for the Plant Sale

Anyone who is interested in helping to dig, divide, and repot shrubs and perennials, please call Cynthia Long, 757/259-9559, after October 22. We will schedule work as help is available.

If someone has a greenhouse or some way to watch after potted plants during the winter, Jan Newton will need help digging and potting New York ironweed, soldier mallows, purple muhly and *Panicum virgatum* grasses, and other perennials from the Stonehouse Elementary Habitat garden for the chapter's plant sale in April.

Please call Jan at 757/566-3646 or email her at jnewton110@cox.net if you have a way to watch the plants during the winter and/or if you would help dig and pot plants this fall.

Cynthia Long

A big thank you to Cynthia Long

Cynthia was president of John Clayton Chapter in 1984 when we first hosted an Annual Meeting, and throughout the years of the Chapter's history has continued to furnish leadership, direction, and focus. Her latest seed propagation project has earned her the title of "Seed Queen" and a front-page article in the Daily Press.

When John Clayton Chapter reorganized two years ago, Cynthia was the spark-plug – pushing, inspiring, directing, and taking over the dual roles of Membership Chairman and Newsletter Editor. From paper records, Cynthia moved us into the electronic age, learning to keep records on an Excel spreadsheet. Newsletters were timely and interesting—Cynthia claimed she had printer's ink instead of blood, and it was truly a labor of love.

Without Cynthia at the end of the telephone, prodding, suggesting, and gently reminding, I could never have made it through the first year, and beyond. Thank you, Cynthia, for always being there whenever I needed help. The John Clayton Botany Award for this year is yours, and richly deserved.

Helen Hamilton



Photo: Jan Newton

Cynthia Long acknowledging the John Clayton chapter for the John Clayton Botany Award she was honored with during the VNPS 2007 Annual Meeting for serving the chapter as Charter Member, past president, membership chair, newsletter chair, and endless other jobs, and for her enthusiasm and love for the conservation of native plants and spreading the word to the public.

...and one from her!

Many thanks to all who worked so hard planning, preparing, executing and cleaning up after our VNPS dinner at the Freight Shed. Laurie Houghland, Lucile Kossodo, Shaun Reams, and Helen Hamilton managed the raffle, which yielded more than \$330 for our nature camp scholarship. Tanya and Sid Wilson, and Lee Bristow, along with Bob Long and yours truly, loaded, hauled, unloaded, and carried, loaded hauled and unloaded again extra tables and chairs from the Williamsburg United Methodist Church to the Freight Shed. Joan Etchberger carried flowers to Yorktown, and helped with the tables, along with many other willing workers. The Backfin catered a lovely dinner, with the main dish symbolizing "Where the Water meets the Land"—chicken breasts suffed with crab meat. Betsy Guckeyson brought her delicious cookies, and advised us on the cake, which was a gorgeous offering decorated with a Jamestown lily, for the 25th birthday of the VNPS. Gale Roberts and Libbey Oliver collaborated on large flower arrangements, and Tanya Wilson and yours truly did table bouquets with wildflowers from our gardens. Bill Cole furnished brochures for a walking tour of Yorktown, which noted native plants along the riverfront, landscaped by Joan Chapman. Jan Newton was our official photographer. It was a lovely evening.

Special thanks to John Clayton Chapter for honoring me with the John Clayton Botany Award. I will always cherish it, and the special memories of 23 years of wildflower friends who made it all happen. It has been a team effort. The most important thing is that John Clayton Chapter is alive and strong and well.

Cynthia Long

Hello from your new editor

Be careful what you volunteer for—your offer may be accepted! Until joining a year or so ago, I was for many years a solitary observer of wild plants (especially fungi, I must confess), and so, entirely self-taught. I have a lot to learn, but many good teachers at hand.

Cynthia Long has set a high standard as newsletter editor, and I hope she will be willing to continue to serve as a resource as I try to get up to speed. In fact, I would appreciate suggestions and comments from any of you about the newsletter, and be grateful to receive news or items you think the membership will find interesting. As you can see, beginning with this issue we are incorporating some photos as well.

You can reach me by phone at 757/229-4346 (after 6 pm on weekdays), or at ltmeng@verizon.net. I look forward to hearing from you!

Louise Menges

Newsletter—paper version or online version?

We are planning to do our small part to help reduce the amount of unnecessary paper cluttering our recycling boxes by posting the JCC newsletters on our website. Go to www.claytonvnps.org to see this quarter's newsletter already online. Please return the form below to indicate that you prefer to continue receiving a paper copy of the newsletter. If you'd rather read your newsletter online, please let us know with an email to helen44@earthlink.net. If you select the online version, you will receive a regular email reminder to look for the quarterly newsletter on the website. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Helen Hamilton at 757/564-4494.

I would like to continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email	Phone	

Please mail to:

John Clayton Chapter/VNPS PO Box 677 Yorktown, VA 23690

Deadline for submissions for the February newsletter is January 15.



Membership Form for VNPS (Place checks in the boxes below next to your selections.)

Yes, I want to **join** **renew** my membership in the John Clayton Chapter.

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
email	Phone	

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 VPNS to John Clayton Chapter

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

Calendar

October 6	Walk at Stonehouse Elementary School's Habitat Garden from 10 am until 12 noon, led by Jan Newton. For info call 757/566-3646.
October 17	Chapter Field Trip to Grafton Ponds, 8:30 am–12 Noon. Please call or email Jan Newton to register and get meeting location: 757/566-3646 or jnewton110@cox.net. (see Page 5).
October 20	Jamestown Island walk led by Donna Ware; call Donna at 757/565-0657 to register (more on page 5).
October 26	Old growth forest field trip near Courtland, Virginia. Register by calling Helen Hamilton in Williamsburg, 757/564-4494, or Mary Hyde Berg in Gloucester, 804/693-3568 (before 8:30 pm). (More information about this trip is on Page 1.)
November 1	Board meeting at Williamsburg Regional Library, Room C, at 7 pm (Thursday)
November 3	Colonial Williamsburg Native Tree and Shrub walk from 10 am to 12 noon, led by Phillip Merritt. Limited to 15 people; please call 757/259-0386 to register.
November 15	John Clayton Chapter meeting at Quarterpath Recreation Center on Quarterpath Road in Williamsburg at 7 pm (see Page 1 for directions)
January 3	Board meeting at Williamsburg Regional Library, Room C, at 7 pm (Thursday)

Please check our website for added field trips and news about current events. Our newsletter will be published quarterly, but up-to-date information will be posted on the website. And for our members without computer access, could we form a "buddy" system to keep everyone informed by telephone and snail mail?

Helen Hamilton



John Clayton Chapter
 Virginia Native Plant Society
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Note expiration date; please renew as needed.
 Renewal form page 7