

Native News

Newsletter of the Maryland Native Plant Society

January/February 2003

Volume 3 Number 1

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Upcoming Monthly Meetings

“The Diversity of Maryland’s Carnivorous Plant Bogs and Atlantic White Cedar Communities”

Tuesday, January 28, 7:30 pm

Aspen Hill Library

Montgomery County

Phil Sheridan, biologist and director of the Meadowview Biological Research Station, will give a presentation on the flora, ecology, and distribution of Maryland’s carnivorous plant bogs and Atlantic White Cedar communities, with emphasis on relic populations of the western shore. Recent genetic work on several species and what it reveals about the migration and distribution of coastal plain flora in Maryland after the last Ice Age will also be discussed.

Directions: From the Washington Beltway (495) take Connecticut Avenue North to Aspen Hill Road. Turn left onto Aspen Hill Road. Library is about 2 ½ miles on right, just past stoplight at Parkland Drive and Aspen Hill Road. You will see a large parking lot.

“Winter Evergreen Plant ID”

Tuesday, February 25, 7:30 pm

Aspen Hill Library

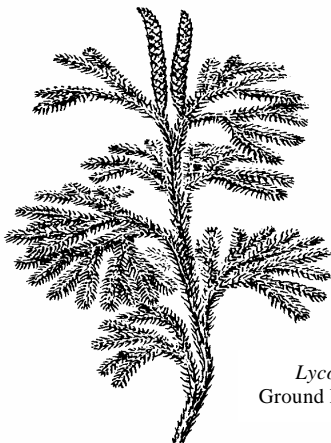
Montgomery County

Join Maryland botanist John Parrish for an in-depth look at the diversity of evergreen plants which can be found throughout Maryland. Plant identification characteristics, using cuttings of live material, and community associations will also be discussed.

Directions above.

Refreshments served and door prizes awarded at each monthly meeting. Potluck refreshments are welcomed.

Please also see the upcoming Chapter Events on Page 3.



Lycopodium obscurum
Ground Pine or Tree Clubmoss

Chapter Events & Updates

Catoctin Chapter

Our first evening meeting will be in February, probably the second week. The speaker(s), subject, location, day and time will be determined in a meeting before you receive this. The information will automatically be emailed or mailed (postcard) to all current members in Frederick, Washington, and eastern Carroll Counties and to adjacent counties in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Virginia. It will also be advertised within this area. If you are not in this area and wish to know the details of the meeting, check the MNPS website or use the contact information at the end. Meetings will be scheduled every two months and, unless there is a major conflict, will be on the same day (i.e. 2nd Thursday) as the first meeting.

There will be at least two field trips this spring in the area. The first will be at Sugarloaf Mountain around the second or third weekend in March and will concentrate on evergreen ferns. The second will be to Annapolis Rock on the Appalachian Trail in late April or early May in hopes of seeing Large White Trillium. Details will be in later additions of *Native News* and on the MNPS website.

On our field trip to the Audrey Carroll Audubon Sanctuary on September 29, 2002, the three in attendance, the leaders (Dave Smith and myself) and Pete McClurkin, saw 144 species of plants with almost 120 being native. We will try to schedule more field trips to the Audrey Carroll Audubon Sanctuary near New Market in Frederick County as well as the other Central Maryland Audubon Society site, also near New Market.

I currently know of 17 memberships in Frederick County, 3 memberships in Pennsylvania, and 4 memberships in West Virginia. I expect this number to increase as former members in the area are contacted.

~ Joe Metzger

For information about the Catoctin Chapter, please contact Jim and Teresa Gallion at 301-898-0678 or jimbo21793@aol.com, or Joe Metzger at 410-775-7737 or jmetzger50@hotmail.com.

Greater Baltimore Chapter

Ann Lundy (aplundy@attglobal.net) is now Chair of the Steering Committee, which is open to all MNPS members who can make a commitment to help run the chapter. Bill Morgante will be the Chapter Liaison to the Board. Joyce Holmes is coordinating Programming, and Jackie Flegner Publicity. Rob Mardiney is our liaison to Irvine, where he is Education Director.

Southern Maryland Chapter

The Southern Maryland Chapter of MNPS held its second evening meeting on Thursday, October 24 at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick. Mary Alves, Horticulture/Landscape Manager for Historic St. Mary's City, spoke on Native Plants of Calvert County. Mary has been with Historic St. Mary's City, an 800-acre outdoor museum at the site of Maryland's first capital, for 7 years. She also served as the 1993 Lahr intern in the Native Plant Collection at the National Arboretum. Her talk showed that if you pay attention to your everyday surroundings, you are bound to see noteworthy natives growing in familiar places, for instance, hemlocks at the transfer station, a Wye Oak descendant at the Calvert Marine Museum, huge hickories at the cemetery, and many more! Mary has a wealth of knowledge about the area's native plants, and she shared information about their history, unique characteristics, and even many excellent suggestions about using them in home landscaping to increase diversity and food and habitat for wildlife. For more information about the Southern Maryland Chapter (active in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties), please contact: Karyn Molines kmolines@chesapeake.net or Marc Imlay (Charles County) ialm@erols.com or 301-283-0808.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Greater Baltimore Chapter's January Program

Date: Wednesday, January 15 **Time:** 7:30 pm

Location: Irvine Nature Center

The topic will be the status of native plants and natural areas in the current legislative climate. As always, the Steering Committee will meet at 6:00 and the bookstore will be open from 7:00 to 7:30 pm.

Directions: From I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) take the Greenspring Ave exit north. Irvine is on the left @ 1 mile north of the beltway.

Southern Maryland Chapter's January Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 23 **Time:** 7:00 pm

Location: Phillips House in Prince Frederick

Marcy Damon, Habitat Restoration Trainer at Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and Carolyn Fulton, a Master Gardener, will discuss Bay-friendly gardening techniques.

Directions: From Rt. 2-4 in Prince Frederick (Calvert County), turn east onto Duke Street (one block south of Rt. 231). Turn left into Library parking lot. Park in upper lot and take the walkway to the Phillips House.

Catoctin Chapter's February Meeting

All information will be announced at a later date via the MNPS website and by mail and/or email.

Report on Recent Board Activities

Over the past four years the number of invasive removal/habitat enhancement projects has increased from two to over forty! One of our Society's primary goals is to restore overall ecosystem health. Invasive plant control is only one aspect of this effort. Avoiding further damage to what remains of an original ecosystem is also essential to successful restoration. A great potential exists to expand into a larger regional effort, with MNPS becoming a leader for expertise, advice and assistance. We are honored to be recognized for our efforts, yet realize that we must hold ourselves up to a standard which we want others to emulate.

Therefore, at the November Board meeting we began a process to formalize our invasive removal efforts and develop standards that we expect each project to achieve. We are eager to have the membership provide their knowledge and expertise as we create a viable and effective ecosystem restoration program. It's premature to say what the exact outcome of this initiative will be but here are examples of what we hope for:

- 1) MNPS will develop a manual for volunteer invasive plant management projects that will cover:
 - a. Techniques for site assessment, including value of site; degree of invasion, and which invasive species are present or poised to invade from off-site; health of ecosystem, and list of stressors; risks of erosion from physical characteristics of site, and from human use.
 - b. Management methods approved by the committee and ultimately by the board, and criteria for using each, including risks to humans and the environment, effectiveness under various conditions, by type of invasive species (e.g., woody vines), by degree of establishment and size of infestation, by site characteristics (e.g., steepness of slope, looseness of soil), by training level of volunteers available.
 - c. Monitoring protocols for evaluating the effectiveness of all types of removal efforts and the impacts on native vegetation. The impact of "no action" must be evaluated as well.
- 2) Project volunteers will monitor their activities on effectiveness of invasives control and non-target effects (e.g. native plants and animals; soil impacts) and submit regular progress reports to the Board.
- 3) Project leaders will periodically re-assess the site and modify the management plans as needed.
- 4) MNPS will recruit, screen, train, supervise, provide feedback to, re-train, and if necessary replace project leaders.
- 5) MNPS is debating whether we can endorse or condemn the use of herbicide. Several points under consideration include:
 - a) Current industry trends and research related to herbicides and their environmental effects.
 - b) Herbicide should be employed only as a method of last resort against specifically targeted species, using techniques that maximize effects on the target but that minimize risk to the surrounding ecosystem.
 - c) MNPS will work with Maryland Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources to develop and require

pesticide training for project leaders and volunteers, in order for them to be authorized to use herbicide in our projects.
6) MNPS will develop public education materials and outreach programs on invasive species.

Habitat Stewardship Program Update

In the July/August 2002 issue of *Native News*, we announced a proposal to develop a partnership with Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), The Nature Conservancy, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Master Gardeners, and other groups. This opportunity will create a strong coalition to manage the invasive plant populations within state lands, and to work towards maintaining and restoring our public lands into viable ecological communities. In November, MNPS President Karyn Molines met with Jonathan McKnight, Director of DNR's new Habitat Conservation Division, and Edith Thompson, Invasive Species Specialist, to further this initiative. A "Matrix Team" of DNR staff will be convened to develop appropriate strategies to tackle the ever-increasing problem of invasive species. Several workshops are being developed for land managers to educate them on invasive species, methods used to control them, and how to successfully involve volunteer groups in restoration efforts. They have asked for MNPS assistance in these workshops. The cooperative efforts of MNPS, and other groups, with DNR land managers furthers our complementary goals of protection and stewardship of Maryland's native species, habitats, and natural areas.

Volunteer Needs

Needed: Someone to Transport *Native News* to the Rockville Post Office

The Publications Committee would like to find an individual or individuals who are interested in volunteering at mailing parties and then transporting bulk mail to the Rockville Post Office, which is where the Society has its bulk mail permit. *Native News* is mailed out six times per year. If you think you might be interested in doing this one or more times a year, please contact Meghan at 301-809-0139 or nativenews@mdflora.org or contact Karyn Molines at kmolines@chesapeake.net. We need your help! Thank you.

Dryopteris intermedia
Evergreen Wood Fern



Editor's Note:

The editor of *Native News* would like to apologize to Cathy Weber whose name appeared incorrectly as Kathy in the November/December issue. Cathy co-led a field trip to Piney Orchard Nature Preserve. Please send any corrections to: nativenews@mdflora.org

Winter Field Trips

Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (19th in the Series)

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Date: Sunday, January 12 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

We will explore part of the forest above the Bolling Air Force Base just south of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in the SE Quadrant of Washington D.C., in the vicinity of Fort Carroll.

Directions: Access from D.C. or Maryland: From the north, take I-295 south past Suitland Parkway to exit #2-Bolling Air Force Base/Malcolm X St. Bear right onto exit ramp and turn left at light onto Malcolm X (formerly Portland Street).

Drive up hill about 3 blocks and park on Malcolm X St. near Newcomb St. From the south, take I-295 from the Beltway, proceed past South Capitol Street (no exit) to Malcolm X, exit on right and proceed as above.

Bring: Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk.

Drizzle or snow is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

Contact: Mary Pat Rowan blair-rowan@starpower.net or 202-526-8821.

Cheverly Forest Tour and Open House ~ 4 miles, Prince George's County

Leaders: Mary Vogel and Friends

Date: Saturday, January 25 **Time:** 10:00 – 2:00 +

Find one of Cheverly's hidden streams as it emerges into a riparian coastal plain forest. Then, head through the neighborhood to another forested part of Cheverly to see the location of a spring used in the Revolutionary War and a lovely oak-hickory forest. In both forests, we'll take a quick survey of what we can find in January. Then, on to Mary's house (along another hidden stream) for a hot drink and snack and some conversation with the locals before heading back to the starting point. We expect to have the Chair of Cheverly's Planning Commission who has instigated new trail planning for Cheverly. We'll see if we can find Mary's hidden stream with dowsing rods too.

Directions: Meet two blocks from Cheverly Metro Station at the western entrance to Cheverly – Cheverly Avenue and Columbia Park Road, 20785. Take Rt. 50 east, Cheverly exit (first one in MD), turn Left onto Columbia Park Road. Cross over Rt. 50 and turn Right onto Cheverly Avenue. Similar directions if you are coming via Metro, as the station is adjacent to the off ramp. From Beltway, take Rt. 50 towards D.C. then Hwy 202 towards Bladensburg (Right). Take Left onto Cheverly Avenue at bottom of hill at traffic light. Go ~1 mile to the other end of Cheverly Ave. The BW Parkway will also get you to the same place more efficiently if you are coming from the north.

Bring: Waterproof nametag, water, lunch, boots, winter field guide, hand lens, binoculars, etc.

Note: Cheverly Station is on the Orange Line Metro. Take it if you can. Save our air; save earth's climate.

Contact: maryvogel@yahoo.com or 301-772-9276.

Cedarville Natural Resources Management Area Natural History Hike, Charles/Prince George's Counties

Leader: Bob Pickett

Date: Sunday, January 26 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm +

This is a 3.9 mile hike through a coastal plain woodland with small streams, containing various species of club mosses, grape ferns, and heaths. While the focus will certainly be on woody plants, we will cover many aspects of natural history, including birds, mammals, amphibians, and geology as we hike. For those who are interested, after this hike, we'll explore the wetlands surrounding a 50 year-old reservoir, containing two species of (introduced) pitcher plants, native grasses and wintering birds.

Directions: We'll meet at the Visitor Center parking lot in Cedarville NRMA. To reach this point from the Beltway (I-95), take Exit 7A south on Branch Avenue (Route 5), 11.5 miles to Cedarville Road (at the traffic light, with a new Sheetz on the right). This is about two miles beyond where Route 301 joins Route 5. Turn left on Cedarville Road and travel about 2.5 miles to park entrance on the right (Bee Oak Road). The Visitor Center is found after about a mile on the right.

Bring: Lunch, water, field guides and appropriate layers.

Contact: Bob Pickett 301-681-1511.



Salem Oak, Salem, New Jersey

Tree Variety: White Oak

Circumference: 21'6" or 258" at 4¼ foot height

Height: 61'

Maximum span East to West: Approximately 86'

Maximum span North to South: Approximately 122'

Longitude: 39° 34' 23.03"

Latitude: 75° 28' 13.46"

Elevation: 12.4'

Age: 415 years (2000)

Photo borrowed from the Salem County Historical Society website:
www.salemcounty.com

Old Tree Tour of East/Central Montgomery County

Leaders: John Parrish & Rg Steinman

Date: Saturday, February 1 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

We will leisurely hop, skip, and jump to three sites to visit old-growth trees and learn about their ecological values. Our first stop is at the famous "Big Tree" tulip poplar. This magnificent tree is famous because it is the largest tree in the way of building the Inter-County Connector (ICC) highway. This giant tree is over 18' circumference and nearly 6' diameter at breast height. The bark displays exceptional old-growth characteristics. The roots resemble anacondas snaking across the forest floor. It is a home for many animals including amphibians (toad, spring peeper, and red-backed salamander), mammals (raccoon, bat, and squirrel), birds, and insects. Several very old red, white, and black oaks grow here too. The second stop is five miles south at Bel Pre Park (just off Georgia Avenue where Hewitt Ave and Rippling Brook Drive intersect at Bel Pre Elementary School) to see groves of ancient American beech and pignut hickory trees. Please note that our first two stops provide easy access to the old trees with less than a five-minute walk. The last stop is in Northwest Branch Park (less than 2 miles from the second stop) at the intersection of Bonifant Road and Alderton Drive. We will hike to visit four official Montgomery County champion trees (swamp white oak - 17' circ, pin oak, black oak, and bitternut hickory) and we will also see large butternut, black birch, and red oak. This area is heavily forested and has good examples of mature upland and bottomland forest habitat including an old-growth forest remnant on a slope above Northwest Branch. Expect to see or hear pileated woodpecker, barred owl, red-shouldered hawk, and other forest dwelling animals.

Directions: From I-495/Washington Beltway go north on Route 97/Georgia Ave. Head toward Olney – stay on Georgia Ave for 8 to 9 miles. Turn left onto Emory Lane. Emory Lane is the first light after crossing Route 28/Norbeck Road. Go a little over one mile on Emory and turn left onto Pinetree Road. Proceed to end of Pinetree Road and park at dead end.

Bring: Warm clothes, snacks, and camera.

Contact: John Parrish & Rg Steinman at 301-565-2025 or lifeonearth@juno.com

Monocacy Natural Resources Management Area Natural History Hike, Frederick County

Leader: Bob Pickett

Date: Saturday, February 8 **Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

We'll hike about 5 miles through this historically interesting area including two granite quarries used to build the Monocacy River C&O Canal aqueduct a few miles away. Join us as we learn about the cultural and geological history of the region and how it has influenced the plant communities we find today. Bring waterproof shoes as we will have numerous stream crossings. As time allows, we can drive

down to the Monocacy Aqueduct and observe the final product of the visited quarries.

Directions: We will meet in the parking area on the north side of Route 28, just east of Monocacy River Bridge. To get there, take I-270 north from the Beltway 6 miles to Route 28 west. Travel 22 miles on Route 28 from the Beltway to the bridge.

Bring: Waterproof boots, lunch, and appropriate layers.

Note: This is a moderately difficult hike.

Contact: Bob Pickett 301-681-1511.

Civil War Fort Sites in the Washington, D.C. Region (20th in the Series)

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Date: Sunday, February 9 **Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

We will return to the Ft. Dupont/Ft. Stanton connector on the Ft. Circle to finish exploring the forested sections. The site is generally rolling and of good quality forest.

Directions: Meet at Park Drive and 32nd Place SE just off of Branch Ave SE (Route 5 in Md.); access via Penn. Ave to Branch Ave (@ 4 short blocks southeast of this intersection). Edge of connector is called Park Drive on one side of Branch Ave and U Street on the other side. We will carpool to actual walk site. **Bring:** Lunch and water. **Note:** Easy to moderate walk. Drizzle or snow is fine but canceled if rain is heavy.

Contact: Mary Pat Rowan blair-rowan@starpower.net or 202-526-8821.

Winter Tree Identification Workshop, Calvert County

Leader: Karyn Molines

Date: Sunday, February 23 **Time:** 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Location: Phillips House, Prince Frederick, Calvert County

This will be a hands-on workshop geared for beginning botanists. We'll begin with an indoor lesson on how to identify winter trees by their twigs and bark characteristics. Then we'll head outdoors to identify the trees found on the grounds of the Phillips House and surrounding area.

Directions: From Route 2-4 in Prince Frederick (Calvert County) turn onto Duke Street. This is the first left turn south of the light at Route 231. Turn left into the Library and park in the upper lot. Follow the path to the Phillips House.

Bring: Hand lens, field guides (although some will be available to borrow), and dress for the weather.

Note: Registration is required as group size is limited.

Contact: Karyn Molines 410-286-2928 or kmolines@chesapeake.net (preferred).



Invasive Exotic Plant Removal Workdays

Chapman Forest/Ruth Swann Park, Charles Co.

Dates: First Sunday, monthly (January 5 and February 2)

Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Come discover the recently preserved Chapman Forest ecosystem and participate in its stewardship. We'll remove invasive growth to uncover native species, some of which are rare. Emphasis will initially be on the 700-acre North Tract of Chapman Forest and the 200-acre Swann Park where excellent progress has been made in the past three years. Five-ten% invaded now, these parks will become 30-50% invaded unless we help in a timely manner. Eradicate alien invasive plants from most of the old-growth area of Chapman Forest and Swann Park. Learn a remarkably efficacious new technique for Japanese honeysuckle. Participating organizations include MNPS and Sierra Club. There will also be time for plant identification and a beautiful beach lunch.

Directions: Meet at the Ruth B. Swann Park-Potomac Branch Library parking lot, 20 miles south of Washington Beltway (I-495) on Rt. 210 (Indian Head Hwy). Give yourself 30 to 40 minutes from the Beltway.

Bring: Gloves, boots, lunch, water, and wear layers.

Contact: Marc Imlay 301-283-0808.

Northwest Branch of the Anacostia, Montgomery County

Dates: Saturdays, January 18 and February 15

Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 or 2:00 pm

Please join us near 4-Corners in Silver Spring to remove patches of the invasive multiflora rose from areas along Northwest Branch.

Directions: From the intersection of 29 (Colesville Road) and University Blvd in Silver Spring, go east on University and turn (there's only left) on Williamsburg Drive. Stay on Williamsburg at the first fork you come to (bear left), then at the second fork (Williamsburg N. vs. S.) bear left again. Williamsburg turns into Big Rock Road at the bottom of the hill. 10204 Big Rock Road.

Bring: Water and gloves. Veggie lunch provided.

Contact: Jane Osburn 301-754-1564.

All members of MNPS welcome and there is no need to register. Space is limited for non-members of MNPS; please register in advance by phone. No email registration.

Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, Montgomery Co.

Weed Warriors needed for the forested areas surrounding the gardens. You will be given directions to work independently on your schedule, weekends or weekdays. There has been a tremendous amount of work done by volunteers and Brookside staff, but we still need help in maintaining these areas to keep the invasive weed population under control.

Contact: Stacy Parsons 301-962-1417 or stacy.parsons@mncppc-mc.org

Websites: www.BrooksideGardens.org and/or www.MC-MNCPPC.org/environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm



Sarracenia purpurea
Northern Pitcher Plant

Sligo Creek Park, Montgomery County

Friends of Sligo Creek welcome your help with invasives in this 8-mile tributary of the Anacostia, running from Silver Spring south into D.C. Work is usually organized by section stewards and features protection of ponds, floodplains, upland woods, as well as narrow, urbanized sections. In cooperation with M-NCPPC staff and the Weed Warrior program, Sligo Friends sponsor work parties and many small-group opportunities to work together to uncover Sligo's many treasures and to work out techniques for dealing with the usual range of invasives.

Contact: Sally Gagne sgagne@erols.com or Laura Mol 301-681-9686 for more information.

WEED WARRIORS WANTED

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) Forest Ecologist is assembling a team of volunteers (Weed Warriors) to monitor and remove non-native invasive plant species in Montgomery County Parks, and we need your help! As a Weed Warrior volunteer, you will receive a short training session from the Forest Ecologist in the identification of, removal and control techniques for non-native invasive plants. Weed Warriors can then work at their own pace and choose a schedule that best suits them. Many current Weed Warriors live near a M-NCPPC Stream Valley Park or Regional Park and do their volunteer work while walking their dogs or taking an occasional hike through their neighborhood park. Whether you choose to work individually or in a group, your efforts will contribute to the control of non-native vegetation in the 28,000 acres of Montgomery County parkland.

Contact: Carole Bergmann, M-NCPPC Forest Ecologist, at 301-949-2818 for more info or to sign up.

Announcements

In Memory

MNPS received, from the staff of Rock Creek Park, a donation in memory of Laura Nell Ita who passed away in September. She was the mother of Sue Salmons, an employee of the Park. Our condolences to Sue and her family.

MAGIC (Maryland Alliance for Greenway Improvement and Conservation) and MNPS would like to invite people to sign onto the petition to "**Protect State Forests in Maryland.**"

The petition is on the web at:

www.PetitionOnline.com/TREEMGIC/petition

At least 385 people had signed onto it as of Dec 21. Please also visit the MAGIC website at: www.magicalliance.org

The 2002 Fall Conference Committee would like to personally thank Alysia Intili, Catering Liaison, and Diana Evans, Marketing Specialist/Community Liaison, both of Whole Foods Market in Annapolis for their much needed assistance with organizing breakfast and lunch preparation. Thank you! Alysia can be contacted by calling 410-573-1800 or by email: annapolis.catering@wholefoods.com

Now Available

The *Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants of the Washington-Baltimore Area: Part I* (Fern, Fern Allies, Gymnosperms and Dicotyledons) and Part II (Monocotyledons) are available at no charge. Contact Stanwyn Shetler or Sylvia Orli by mail, phone, fax, or email and indicate how many copies you would like.

NMNH Botany Section, MRC 0166

Smithsonian Institution

P. O. Box 37012

Washington, DC 20013-7012

Phone: 202-786-2995

Fax: 202-786-2563

Email: stone.sylvia@nmnh.si.edu



Carex gracillima
Graceful Sedge

Carex Atlas

MNPS is offering copies of *The Maryland Naturalist: Volume 44, Number 2, Winter 2001*, which features Atlas and Annotated List of *Carex* (Cyperaceae) of Maryland and the District of Columbia by Christopher T. Frye and Christopher Lea. The atlas contains Latin and common names, authorities, descriptions, synonymy, and county dot range maps for each species. Several copies are available. *The Maryland Naturalist* is a publication of the Natural History Society of Maryland. Please contact Meghan Tice at 301-809-0139 or cecropia13@msn.com for purchase information and availability. Copies are \$12.00 mailed (includes MD sales tax and mailing charges).

The **Anacostia Watershed Society**, a nine-person nonprofit based in Bladensburg, is starting a wild rice restoration project on the tidal portions of the river. *Zizania aquatica* was once a dominant plant on the pre-European Anacostia, but now only a tiny remnant remains. AWS's work will use local seed and will be patterned after the successful rice restoration work at Jug Bay on the Patuxent River led by the M-NCPPC's Greg Kearns and the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center's Mike Haramis. As with all of our work, we welcome the participation of any interested people. We also plan to involve local schoolchildren in the propagation, transplanting, and protection of new rice stands from an overpopulation of resident Canada geese on the river. (The DC government's Environmental Health Administration is in the early stages of forming a resident Canada goose management plan---contact Peter Hill, 202-535-2691.) For further information about the wild rice restoration project, call AWS Horticulturist, Steve McKindley-Ward, at 301-699-6204.

Environmental Concern, Inc.

WINTER CLASSES 2003:

Winter Woody Plant ID

This 2.5-day course will help give the professional a competitive edge on winter plant identification. Taxonomic keys and field excursions will be utilized to identify over 80 woody species. *Woody Plants in Winter* by Core and Ammons included. Background in botany preferred but not necessary.

Instructor: Bill Sipple

Location: Environmental Concern, St. Michael's, MD

Date: February 6-8

Cost: \$475

Winter Delineation

Designed for professionals already familiar with the Corps of Engineers wetland delineation method looking to further enhance their skills. A mixture of field and class work will help students conquer the difficulties in delineating after leaf drop along with unpredictable soil and hydrology conditions. Environmental Concern is an accredited training facility for the USCOE.

Instructor: Albert McCullough, III, P.E.

Location: Patuxent National Wildlife Visitor's Center, Laurel, MD

Date: February 18-20

Cost: \$575

WINTER LECTURE SERIES 2003:

Looking for something to do on Thursday evenings this winter, look no further. Environmental Concern, Inc. is hosting a Lecture Series dedicated to our favorite ecosystem, wetlands. As productive as rainforests and coral reefs, wetlands are vital components to our quality of life, especially here on the Eastern Shore. Whether you already love wetlands or need a little convincing, come and learn more. The lectures are designed for the layperson interested

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in increasing their personal knowledge base. Each lecture will run from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm and costs \$5 for non-members and is free for members. Light refreshments will be served. For more information please contact Bronwyn Mitchell at 410-745-9620 or visit Environmental Concern on-line at www.wetland.org. We look forward to meeting you.

January 23: Wetland Ecology:

You keep hearing how it is important to save and restore wetlands. Discover why life without wetlands is no life at all. Come learn about the functions and values of wetlands.

February 6: Wetland Protection, A Brief History:

Investigate why the U.S. has lost over 50% of its wetland resources and find out what is being done to reverse this trend.

February 20: Wetland Tour

Let EC take you on a tour of the many different and fascinating wetlands of the world. Stops to include the Okavango Delta and mangroves of the South Pacific. For more information on classes and lectures, please contact Bronwyn Mitchell, Education Director, Environmental Concern, Inc. at: dir.educate@wetland.org

BLOMQUIST BRYOLOGICAL FORAY

February 7-9

The 2003 Blomquist Foray will be held in southern Georgia at the Broxton Rocks Ecological Preserve in Coffee County. We will be led by Frankie Snow (South Georgia College, Douglas) and Bill Buck. Broxton Rocks is an area of sandstone outcrops owned by The Nature Conservancy. The area contains a great diversity of micro-environments including shaded flood plains, permanent and seasonal streams, waterfalls, exposed boulders, and shallow caves, among others. At this time of year we should be able to collect some of the early-fruiting bryophytes such as *Bruchia* and *Pleuridium*. Other species of note to be found there include *Brachymerium systylium*, *Eccremidium floridanum*, *Sphagnum microcarpum*, *Cephaloziella byssacea*, and *Gymnocolea inflata*. Except for a survey done by Snow, Buck, and Dana Griffin in 1993, this area is under-collected for bryophytes and lichens.

We will be staying in the nearby town of Douglas, and Peterson Road is the main road through the town. There are several motels located on Peterson, with prices ranging from about \$64-\$80 per night, double occupancy. We are asking that you make your own reservations. Please see www.douglasga.org for a list with phone numbers. Also available are dorm rooms on the campus of South Georgia College for \$10-15 per person per day. Please call Dawn Lott at 912-389-4213 for reservations. You will have to bring your own sheets and towels and share a bathroom. There are two twin beds to a room. Make reservations by January 24th and pay when you arrive.

Although temperatures can vary widely during February, for anyone interested in camping, General Coffee State Park is just outside Douglas (912-384-7082; <http://members.tripod.com/gcstatepark/campground.htm>).

There are many restaurants in Douglas, convenient to the motels and campus. On Saturday, please plan to bring your own lunch.

The registration fee is \$8.00 per person to cover miscellaneous administrative costs. Please send a check to the Cryptogamic Herbarium, Department of Biology, Box 90338, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0338, payable to Duke University, before February 1st.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at: Molly McMullen, Curatorial Associate, Department of Biology, Box 90338, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0338, or mmcm@duke.edu, or 919-660-7300, or FAX 919-660-7293.

The leaves of this orchid can be seen on the forest floor throughout the winter months. They are green above and bright purple beneath. Leaves emerge in October and then wither by the time the flowers bloom in summer.



Tipularia discolor
Crane-fly Orchid

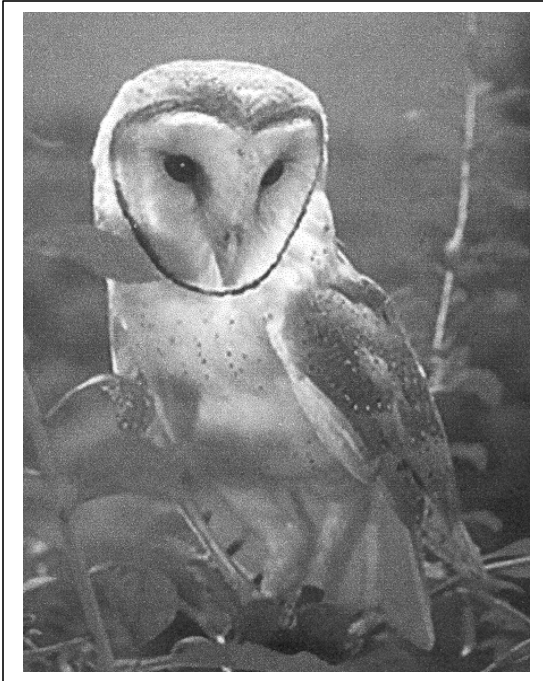
Welcome New Members!

The following are new members of the Society:

Clint Allen, Heather Amos, Beth Babikow, Virginia Brightwell, Joan Casey, Leslie Cronin, Nancy Everds, Patricia Felner, Jackie Fliegner, Melissa Gerber, T. Gwynn, Paula Hallberg, John Harrison, Susan Harrison, Barbara Hopkins, Kathleen Huvane, Alex Kaufman, Eleanor Kaufman, Bunny LaDouceur, Sandra Lindsay, Peter Mann, Rick Moreland, Mike O'Mara, Lowell Owens, Jim Pierce, Roland Price, Helen Price, Kurt Radermacher, Holly Richardson, Gary Rzepecki, Anne Marie Schmoltner, Mary Shortridge, John Slater, Robert Smith, Amy Svrjcek, Michael Thompson, John Wiley, and Elizabeth Zimmer.

Our membership has been growing each month. We currently have 533 members! As of press deadline, the 2003 Membership Directory is being produced and will be mailed to current members (hopefully when you receive this issue of *Native News*). Thank you everyone for your support and to all current members for their timely renewals.

WANTED



Does this bird nest in your silo? For centuries the Barn Owl has lived cooperatively with farmers, hunting mice in nearby fields and using farm structures as nesting platforms. However, the bird seems to be declining throughout its historic range in Frederick County. To try to determine how many Barn Owls still breed in Frederick County, the Maryland Ornithological Society, a non-profit organization interested in the bird life of Maryland, is seeking your help. As part of a statewide project to determine which bird species breed in the many habitats throughout Maryland, the MOS is conducting a breeding bird atlas project. The project will continue for five years and will seek to cover as much of the state as possible. Volunteer bird watchers will be in the field looking for evidence of breeding in as many different species of birds as possible during this five-year period. However, private citizens can also help the cause by reporting breeding birds. That is where you can help us with the Barn Owl.

Since most Barn Owls nest on private farm properties, to document their breeding success will require your assistance. If you see these birds nesting in your buildings, please let us know. Neither the state nor federal government lists the Barn Owl as an endangered species, so people reporting their presence need not fear restrictions on use of their land. Our intent is to learn whether and where this species still resides in Maryland. If you think that you have Barn Owls nesting on your land, please call Walter Ellison (410-778-9568). If you would also be willing to allow a volunteer to walk your property to look for other breeding birds, let us know. Without the help of many people like you, a project of this magnitude cannot succeed.

Events at Olmsted Woods, Washington National Cathedral

Programs focus on the Olmsted Woods Restoration and Stewardship campaign launched by All Hallows Guild in 1997. The Guild, founded in 1916, is responsible for "the care and beautification of the Cathedral gardens, grounds and woodlands." Each Woods Walk begins at 10:00 am and each Bird Walk begins at 9:00 am. Participants for all Walks meet at the George Washington Statue on Pilgrim Road, just off Wisconsin Avenue on the south side of the Cathedral except where noted. For the tours: Please wear sturdy waterproof shoes. No reservations are required and all programs are free. Programs will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain. Questions: Call the Olmsted Woods information line 202-537-2319.

WOODS WALKS

Thursday, January 16, 10:00 am -- *Eco-Engineering in the Olmsted Woods*. Cathedral staff will explain the ecologically sensitive engineering measures undertaken to restore the ravine and control water run-off in the Woods.

Thursday, February 20, 10:00 am -- *Can You Identify This Tree?* There are over 700 trees in the Olmsted Woods and this walk will point out ways to identify them such as buds, bark, and shape. Join us as we continue to hone our identification skills during the winter months.

Thursday, March 13, 10:00 am -- *Frederick Law Olmsted and the Olmsted Woods*. This tour will begin at the South Plaza (Garfield Street entrance to the Woods) and trek up the hillside in keeping with Olmsted's vision. Along the way, we will explore the visionary landscape architect's plans for the Cathedral Close, with particular attention to the Olmsted Woods.

BIRD WALKS will take place in May.

Land Ethics Symposium: Creative Approaches For Ecological Landscaping

Sponsored by Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve

Thursday, February 20

This exciting day-long Symposium is designed to bring the most current information about the design and installation of ecologically sound landscapes to professionals whose work and decisions impact this area's land use. Emphasis is on the native plant palette of the Delaware Valley Region. For a complete brochure contact:

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve
P.O. Box 685, New Hope, PA 18938-0685
215-862-2924

17th Annual Lahr Symposium and Native Plant Sale Native Plants: The Future of Earth's Garden

Saturday, March 29, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Native Plant Sale: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: National Arboretum

For program brochures, fees, and symposium registration form, call 202-245-5898 or visit www.usna.usda.gov.

Native News

Brickbats & Kudos

Brickbats

- Brickbats to the newly elected Montgomery County Council for passing a resolution in support of the Inter County Connector (ICC) and to County Executive Doug Duncan (D) for pushing the process along, including “helping to assemble” a pro-ICC council. Nancy Floreen (D), Michael Knapp (D), George Leventhal (D), Michael Subin (D), Steven Silverman (D), and Howard Denis (R) voted in favor of the project. “Marilyn Praisner (D), Philip Andrews (D), and Tom Perez (D) opposed the connector road.” (*Washington Post*, December 4, 2002)

Duncan also recently appealed to the Federal Dept. of Transportation (DOT) for a streamlined environmental review of the ICC. The option to disregard the environmental restrictions of road construction in ecologically-sensitive areas is now possible thanks to a new Executive Order signed into effect by President Bush on September 18 (Environmental Stewardship and Transportation Infrastructure Project Review) that allows DOT to expedite and circumvent the environmental review process for highway projects.

- Brickbats to the Bush administration for postponing any substantial government action towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions from industry and vehicles that directly contribute to global warming. The administration opposes any mandatory limits on industrial emissions, putting corporate concerns first, and has called instead for a decade of research on global warming before committing to any restrictions or solutions to the problem.

Over the past decade, extensive data has been gathered by the scientific community, including the National Academy of Sciences and the U.N.-sponsored Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to substantiate dire “warnings of the potential for large-scale and irreversible changes” to the global environment. (*Washington Post*, December 4, 2002)

The United States leads the world by far in per capita energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

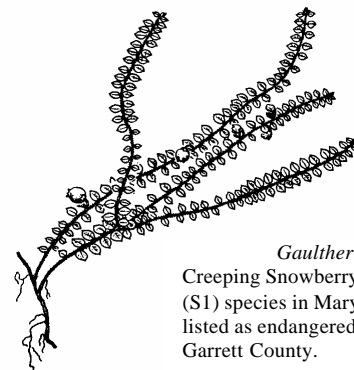
- Brickbats to Charles County commissioners president Murray Levy (D) and the Charles County government for relentlessly advocating the construction of large-scale ballfields and sports complexes on the 2,200 acre Chapman Forest site, despite many suitable locations elsewhere in the county. Chapman Forest is “nationally recognized” for its exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological features and was purchased by the state to preserve those values (Maryland DNR *Draft Chapman’s Forest Land Unit Plan*, December 2002). The entire Chapman Forest site is a totally inappropriate location for ballfields and other large-scale, active recreational uses.

Kudos

- Kudos to the northern Virginia voters who voted overwhelmingly on November 5th against the regional Transportation Tax referendum, which would have provided funds to extend roadways and urban sprawl farther out into rural areas like western Loudoun County. Voters were particularly concerned about advancing sprawl, tax increases, and the “government’s ability to spend revenue prudently.” (*Washington Post*, November 6, 2002) Proponents of the referendum included, among others, a vast array of mostly pro-growth businesses, real estate developers, many of the region’s elected officials, and Governor Mark Warner (D). Increased sprawl, especially within the greater D.C. metro area, in either Maryland or Virginia ultimately threatens the neighboring state by increasing the demand on natural resources shared by both states, such as water supply from the Potomac River, and by furthering sprawl and environmental degradation.

Virginia voters on November 5 voted strongly in favor of the \$119 million Virginia Parks and Natural Areas bond referendum, which provides funds to purchase three new parks and natural areas, additional land adjacent to existing parks and preserves, and improvements to park facilities.

- Kudos to the Washington County commissioners who voted 3 to 2 in favor of a moratorium on “big new housing developments in rural areas for up to a year to shield farmland and water supplies from a growth wave spilling over South Mountain from Frederick County,” and to Commissioner Paul Swartz who “proposed the measure.” (*Washington Post*, October 31, 2002)



Gaultheria hispidula
Creeping Snowberry is a highly state rare (S1) species in Maryland and is also state listed as endangered. The plant occurs in Garrett County.

Note: The Potomac Watershed Partnership along with MNPS had been urging the John S. Ayton State Forest Tree Nursery to drop both species of *Elaeagnus* (Russian and autumn olive) from their inventory and they have. Kudos! Next we’ve got to convince them to stop growing sawtooth oak, another invasive exotic, which produces large crops of acorns and matures earlier than our native oaks. Check them out at: www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/nursery



Maryland Native Plant Society

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The Maryland Native Plant Society is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible. V3N1J/F03

Membership Dues:

Individual: \$25.00/year

Double: \$35.00/year

Student/low income: \$15.00/year

Lifetime: \$250.00

Additional Donation _____

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