

# *Marilandica*

Fall/Winter 2013

A Publication of the Maryland Native Plant Society

Volume 4, Issue 3



# Marilandica

A Publication of the  
Maryland Native Plant Society



www.mdflora.org

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Our mission is to promote awareness, appreciation and conservation of Maryland's native plants and their habitats. We pursue our mission through education, research, advocacy, and service activities.

## Letter from the President

Dear Members,

Great conference! Thanks to all who attended and contributed. Our lineup of speakers was particularly impressive. The work they do is also impressive, especially given the lack of funding available for botanical research and conservation in Maryland and throughout the United States.

As I write, the federal government shut-down and threat of default continue, with all sides demonizing the others. And we see Republicans turning their animosity inward to condemn members of their own party. Unfortunately, this is a common phenomenon in groups with strongly held beliefs, and historically we've seen it among Democrats too. Someone in the group isn't quite as pure as the rest, and then some variation on orthodoxy gets defined as heresy.

Luckily the Maryland Native Plant Society has thus far escaped that fate. We're united by our commitment to conservation of native plants and their habitats. You don't have to be a member of any particular political persuasion to share that commitment. Our members span the political spectrum from the Tea Party to the far left. We have disagreements: Is it acceptable to plant cultivars of native plants? When is 'plant rescue' appropriate? How to reduce our burgeoning deer populations? When and where are invasive removal projects warranted? What about herbicides? We've resisted developing official policies on a lot of issues, not wanting the Society to get bogged down in potentially divisive and distracting arguments, but at the same time, continuing the conversation on all those difficult questions.

I'm very much looking forward to our fall and winter field trips, chatting with the diverse nature enthusiasts who come along, and so happy that we in the Maryland Native Plant Society have that one thing on which we all agree. Conserve our native plant habitats.

- Kirsten Johnson

## Grant Awarded for Urban Biodiversity Project

We're delighted to announce that the first research grant ever awarded by MNPS, in the amount of \$2000, went to Anna Johnson, a PhD candidate at the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

The project will be carried out in an urban area of Baltimore City with high levels of vacancy that is currently the focus of many urban ecology and greening projects. Vacant lots will be cleared and fenced, and then sown with native seed mixes of differing levels of functional and phylogenetic diversity. The first growing season (2014) will only require basic monitoring and maintenance. The first round of data related to diversity, biomass, plant fitness and pollinator visitation rates will be collected at the end of the summer of 2015, to be analyzed, published academically, and shared with city residents later in 2015. The same data will continue to be collected for as long as the experiments run (ideally 5-10 years), and seeds will be collected from the urban locations to be raised in more controlled greenhouse settings alongside non-urban "control" seed sources, to compare fitness and functional trait distributions.

To accomplish such an ambitious restoration experiment, the project team is partnering with the MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, to train crews of pre-release inmates to perform pre-dispersal weed removal, seed broadcasting and annual monitoring tasks, alongside researchers. A small pilot program, involving 13 female inmates, was carried out at the MD Correctional Institute for Women (MCIW), in which successful small-scale versions of the restoration experiments have been established on the prison grounds. MNPS is not the only source of funds for this project. Our grant will cover reseeding in the fall of 2014, greenhouse supplies and signage for the lots.

Thank you to our Research Grant Committee for their careful evaluation of the applications we received. Committee members are Brett McMillan (Chair), Joyce Bailey, Vanessa Beauchamp, Sunshine Brosi, Joan Maloof, Marla McIntosh, and Matt Salo. Anna's primary research adviser is Dr. Chris Swan of the Department of Geography and Environmental Systems/Baltimore Ecosystem Study at UMBC.

Your membership dues and donations help support projects like this one. We received a number of worthy applications that we could not fund. Your contributions can make a real difference to botanical and ecological research, and to all of the Society's activities.

On the Cover: *Wintergreen*, courtesy of photographer and MNPS member Janice Browne. For more of her work, see [www.janicebrowne.com](http://www.janicebrowne.com).

# Wildflower in Focus – Wintergreen (Checkerberry, Teaberry)

*Gaultheria procumbens* L.

Heath Family (Ericaceae)

by Melanie Choukas-Bradley



**M**arilandica's Wildflower in Focus closes the Year of the Heath with a delicate "sub-shrub" that was observed on several fall conference field trips in the western mountains of Garrett County. During October, I came upon several wintergreen plants, with their glossy leaves and berry-like scarlet fruits, growing on a northern slope of Frederick County's Sugarloaf Mountain. They created a charming tableau with golden black birch leaves whirling down and landing all around them. Wintergreen, checkerberry or teaberry is common in northern woodlands of the U. S. and Canada, extending south to Georgia and Alabama in the mountains. It is the state herb of Maine.

**Flowers:** White, waxy, bell-shaped and drooping, ending in 5 tiny lobes. Flowers ¼ - ½" long, dangling singly or in small clusters.

**Fruit:** A showy bright red "berry" (technically a capsule surrounded by a fleshy calyx). Edible and tasting of wintergreen.

**Leaves:** Alternate, simple, shiny evergreen, leathery and glabrous, with a strong wintergreen flavor. Elliptic or obovate, shallowly toothed or entire, ¾–2" long.



Wintergreen, *Gaultheria procumbens*, fall conference field trip to Fifteen Mile Creek. Photo: Ginny Yacovisi.

**Height and Growth Habit:** 2–6"; in the words of Brown and Brown *Woody Plants of Maryland*: "Aromatic, soft-woody shrub(s), the short, upright, leafy branches from horizontal, running stems just under the soil surface."

**Habitat and Range:** Dry or moist acidic woods; Newfoundland to Manitoba, south to Georgia and Alabama (in the mountains) and Kentucky. MNPS board member and plant ecologist Rod Simmons reports: "Eastern Teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*) is a characteristic plant of sandy, dry to mesic soils of northern coastal plain pineland communities of the New Jersey Pine Barrens and is fairly common in the floristically similar, mesic Oak-Heath-Pine Forest communities of northeastern Anne Arundel County, including springy areas around seepage wetlands.

These globally-rare communities of Maryland's Western Shore are considered ancient outliers of the New Jersey Pine Barrens and occur at the southernmost extent of their range on the vast, deep Cretaceous sand deposits that extend from northeastern Prince George's County through northern Anne Arundel County to the area of the headwaters of the Magothy River.

Eastern Teaberry occurs with Dangleberry (*Gaylussacia frondosa*) and a diversity of ericads, including New Jersey Blueberry (*Vaccinium caesariense*), Highbush Blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), Deerberry (*Vaccinium stamineum*), Sheep Laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), Fetterbush (*Eubotrys racemosus*), Black Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*), Trailing Arbutus (*Epigaea repens*), and others in pristine, sandy Oak-Pine-Heath Forest at Sawmill Creek Park above Sawmill Creek near the eastern end of Dorsey Road in Glen Burnie, Anne Arundel County (above site of historic Glen Burnie Bog).

Apart from the northern Western Shore – and some infrequent occurrences in woodland seeps around Fall Line Magnolia Bog communities, such as the Ammendale Bog in Prince George's County—Eastern

Teaberry is common in the Ridge and Valley and mountains...

"At the fall line, I've seen Eastern Teaberry in just a few places locally (all Oak-Heath Forest)..."

Maryland DNR state botanist Chris Frye adds: "*G. procumbens* is a common associate in the dry, sandy soils of inland dune and sand ridge forests and woodlands from Caroline County south on the Peninsula to Worcester County (probably other isolated sites up the peninsula as well). It may occur at high cover in disturbed forests under *Pinus echinata*, *P. rigidalserotina*."

**Herbal Lore:** Once the source of oil of wintergreen, this plant has been used in liniments and other medicines. Steven Foster and James Duke warn that the pure essential oil has highly toxic properties. They write: "Traditionally, leaf tea used for colds, headaches, stomachaches, fevers, kidney ailments... Experimentally [wintergreen is] analgesic, carminative, anti-inflammatory, antiseptic. In experiments, small amounts have delayed the onset of tumors." Alonso Abugattas, Natural Resources Manager for Arlington, County, VA, tells Wildflower in Focus: "According to noted ethnobotanist Daniel Moerman, 'Eastern Teaberry' (it was used during the Revolutionary War especially as a substitute for tea) was used medicinally by numerous Native American Indian tribes. Algonquian speaking Canadian tribes used an infusion for headaches and colds and a general tonic tea was also used widely. The Tete-de-Boule used it for stomach aches as well. The Cherokee had similar uses, including chewing the leaves for dysentery and indigestion, and even to treat painful gums. The Chippewa thought a decoction taken in spring or fall would treat the blood. The Delaware would mix it with pokeweed roots, mullein leaves, cherry, and black cohosh to treat rheumatism (it has methyl salicylate) and used it pure for kidney issues."

*continued on page 4*

# Hybrids, Cultivars and Ecovars

*“It is now within the power of individual gardeners to do something that we all dream of doing: ‘to make a difference.’ In this case, the ‘difference’ will be to the future of biodiversity, to the native plants and animals of North America and the ecosystems that sustain them.”*

- Doug Tallamy, *Bringing Nature Home*

The mission of the Native Plant Society is to promote awareness, appreciation and conservation of Maryland’s native plants and their natural habitats. Of course, gardens are not natural habitats but we know that gardeners have an impact on our environment by the plants they choose. So let’s discuss the sometimes difficult question of the value of cultivars and how they fit in (or not).

The National Wildlife Federation describes native plants as adapted to the conditions of the area where they have evolved, including precipitation, temperature range, soil, water and other species (plant or animal). Native plants are the foundation of the entire food web, whether on public or private property. They support native insects, which are the most important food source for most native birds. These insects are also needed for pollination of many plants. Ecovars (short for ecological variety) are species of native plants that have been bred from seed collected from diverse populations of plants in a specific region. Their genetic diversity reflects the natural diversity within a given region. Cultivars (short for cultivated variety) are plant varieties that have been developed by humans through selection or genetic manipulation. An individual native plant may be selected because of an unusual trait such as a dense growth habit, or an unusual color variation. But hybrids are plants that are the result of interbreeding between two or more species of plants.

Hybrids can be created using local species, but often the parentage is unknown because the interbreeding happened so long ago. Hybrids can also be created by breeding closely related species from different parts of the country or even the world. When cultivars are selected or hybrids created, their special traits must often be maintained by continual

selection or cloning (cuttings, division, tissue culture). These are plants that generally would not be found in quantity in the wild and, in many cases, would not persist without human intervention.

Gardeners need to realize when they consider purchasing cultivars that the leaf chemistry may differ from the species making the plant unpalatable to native insects. A plant that has been bred to have more showy blossoms may be less accessible to pollinators. Double-flowered cultivars have extra petals that usually replace or hide the nectar-producing flower parts, making them undesirable to pollinators.

Cultivars are often selected to serve a particular need in our gardens such as “Little Joe” Joe-Pye weed for a small space. Or we may be attracted to a color palette and seek out plants with purple foliage like Forest Pansy redbud. There are many reasons why gardeners may choose cultivars, but one goal may eclipse another.

A thriving pollinator-friendly garden can include cultivars. Each cultivar is going to be different and we simply do not know which ones do or do not serve a particular ecological function. There has

been little research so we must take it on a case-by-case basis, making our own observations. Are birds eating the fruit on the Red Sprite Winterberry Holly? Are pollinators passing by those showy hybrid flowers? Will the insects that many birds need in their diet be able to digest the leaves of a particular cultivar? When a cultivar is touted as ‘pest-resistant’, that should be a warning sign to gardeners who want a wildlife habitat.

If a plant isn’t a hybrid or a cultivar, it is open-pollinated. Some trees and most grasses and ferns are wind pollinated and windborne seeds have an



*Hollowstem Joe Pye weed, Eutrochium fistulosum, visited by a buckeye butterfly and a bumblebee.*



*Spotted mint, Monarda punctata*



*Common milkweed, Asclepias syriaca, visited by a great spangled fritillary*



*Cardinal flower, Lobelia cardinalis, visited by a ruby-throated hummingbird*



*Cardinal flower, Lobelia cardinalis, and an American goldfinch.*



Cupflower, *Silphium perfoliatum*, with a Spicebush swallowtail.

Photos page 3&4: Rochelle Bartolomei

extensive gene pool; but many plants are pollinated by insects and have a limited geographical distribution. So it would be more important to acquire herbaceous plants that are locally-sourced. Genetic diversity is important because it ensures a healthier plant population. Most hybrids have less genetic diversity than seed-grown plants because hybrids are propagated in a way that preserves their special traits. Genetic clones will have exactly the same DNA.

Many hybrids can and do reproduce by seed, but the plants that result will most likely not have the unique characteristics of the original hybrid. Cultivars may be another story. “Chocolate” white snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima* Chocolate) does grow true to seed and reports are that it can displace or outpace the ecotype if the two plants are grown in the same area.

One benefit of cultivated plants purchased at a garden center is that we know they haven’t been collected from the wild. They are readily available and they offer the gardener many choices (for instance a more compact plant). But open pollinated indigenous plants are adapted to our soil and climate, have the most genetic diversity and ensure plant/soil/ insect compatibility. So these indigenous plants will be high on the list of many of the MNPS gardeners. But how do we find them? A good place to start is the resources section of the MNPS website [mdflora.org/publications/nurseries.html](http://mdflora.org/publications/nurseries.html). We also list native plant sales in the spring and fall. And if you are shopping at area nurseries, start asking questions based on the information in this article. The more we ask for truly native plants the more they will become available.

## Plant ID Quiz

This quiz features a tree, a shrub, and an herbaceous plant, characteristic of Maryland’s mountains. Each is likely to have been seen on conference field trips last month. Answers on page 7.

1. This white-flowered composite is common in sunny areas of the mountains. The ID giveaway is that the upper stem leaves are larger than the lower ones, and usually appear whorled around the stem, in a pattern called ‘pseudo-whorls.’
2. This smallish deciduous shrub has the ‘look’ of an azalea, but it is easily distinguished. The hairy leaves have pale mucronate tips and their underside vein feels prickly. The flowers that appear in spring and summer are bell-shaped. It is endemic to the southern and central Appalachian Mountains.
3. This understory tree is common in mountain forests. The leaves are opposite. The bark is smooth, and striped with varying shades of green, white and brown.

*Congratulations to long-time MNPS member, Jane Hill, who won a free ticket to the conference when her entry was selected from among the correct entries for the quiz in the summer issue.*

*Here are the answers to the Plant ID Quiz in our summer issue:*

1. *Quercus montana*, Chestnut Oak, Fagaceae (Beech Family)
2. *Asplenium platyneuron*, Ebony Spleenwort, Aspleciaceae (Spleenwort Family)
3. *Epigaea repens*, Trailing Arbutus, Ericaceae (Heath Family).

*Wildflower in Focus—Wintergreen cont. from pg 1*

**Wildlife Lore:** According to Brown and Brown: “The fruits are eaten by ruffed grouse, wild turkey and other birds. Deer and black bear eat the twigs, leaves and fruits.”

**Similar Species:** In the absence of flowers or fruit, use the glossy glabrous leaves to separate wintergreen from trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*). MNPS board member and science teacher Dr. Brett McMillan notes that wintergreen is “often in the same sort of habitat you’d see mountain laurel, and it’s sometimes tricky to tell it apart from laurel seedlings” (which are very toxic). The wintergreen leaf and fruit flavor is diagnostic, but this plant is too scarce in many parts of Maryland to nibble, and plant gathering is prohibited in public parks.

**Blooming Time:** June–August.

**Fruiting Time:** Maturing in late summer or early fall; remaining on the plant through winter.

**Locations:** In addition to the locations noted throughout the article, Dwight Johnson finds it in Gunpowder State Park, Brett McMillan finds it “to be pretty common on acidic banks throughout Baltimore County,” and Carole Bergmann sees it in Montgomery County’s Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park and McKnew Conservation Park.

Visit [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org) for more information on wintergreen from MNPS board members and friends.

*Thank you to everyone who contributed to this article, including: Alonso Abugattas, Carole Bergmann, Cris Fleming, Chris Frye, Dwight Johnson, Kirsten Johnson, Brett A. McMillan & Rod Simmons.*

# MNPS Fall 2013 Conference



R.H. Simmons



R.H. Simmons

Above: Kirsten and Dwight Johnson (left) and Dianne Simmons (right) take a break amidst lush colonies of Hay-scented Fern (*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*) in damp, mixed coniferous forest at the North Cherry Creek Bog site. Right: "Nurse log" with bryophytes and seedling of Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*).

## North Cherry Creek, Finzel Swamp, and Fort Hill are Nature Conservancy Sites



Kirsten Johnson



Kirsten Johnson



Kirsten Johnson

Above center: Rainy field trip at New Germany State Park: Thickets of Rosebay Rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*) along a small stream. Left: Common Tree-clubmoss (*Dendrolycopodium obscurum*). Right: Whorled Aster (*Oclemea acuminata*).

# Field Trips are the Core of the Maryland Native Plant Society



R.H. Simmons

Top: Field trip leader Kevin Dodge (center) giving expert instruction in dendrology on the MNPS North Cherry Creek Bog and environs field trip.



Kevin Johnson

Common Clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*) at New Germany St Park.



Ginny Yacovissi



Ginny Yacovissi

Top: Pod of a Milkvine (*Matelea* sp.) Fort Hill  
Bottom: Wild Calla (*Calla palustris*) Finzel Swamp



Bob Yacovissi

Tall Flat-topped White Aster (*Doellingeria umbellata*) growing in colonies near large pond, Finzel Swamp.

## MNPS ON-LINE

**MNPS has a strong presence on line.  
Are you familiar with all these sites?**

### **mdflora.org.**

Go to our website for events, announcements, and tons of information and links about native plants of our region. There's also a ride-share feature, accessible from the Events menu on the homepage. Thanks to Karyn Molines and Iris Mars.

### **NativePlantseast.**

Did you know that MNPS has a listserv? Kathy Michels started it 10 years ago and it's still going strong, with frequent postings by native plant enthusiasts all over the Maryland/DC/Virginia region. Members of the listserv discuss gardening, invasive plants, plant ID, local events and other native plant related topics. To join, go to Yahoo!, click on Groups, search for Native-Plantseast, and follow directions for joining the group.

### **Facebook.**

Need a quick fix of native plant photos, facts and announcements? Visit our FB page. Thanks to administrators, Jane Hill and Karyn Molines, our FB page is gathering new likes and readers every day.

### **Meetup.**

Our Meetup group provides an alternate way to sign up for MNPS events, and serves as an outreach to the broader natural history community. To join, go to [meetup.com](http://meetup.com). Thanks to administrator Matt Cohen.

### Plant ID Quiz – Answers

1. *Oclemena acuminata* (Michaux) Greene, also known as *Aster acuminatus*; Whorled Aster; Asteraceae (Composite Family)

2. *Menziesia pilosa* (Michaux) Antoine Laurent de Jussieu; Minnie-bush; Ericaceae (Heath Family). Interestingly, Allen Weakley's draft *Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States* calls this plant *Rhododendron pilosum* (Michaux) Craven, based on molecular evidence, whereas *Flora of Virginia*, of which he is an author, sticks with *Menziesia*. The Weakley Flora can be downloaded at [www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm](http://www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm).

3. *Acer pensylvanicum* L; Striped Maple; Sapindaceae (Soapberry Family). Note that *Flora of Virginia* includes Aceraceae (Maple Family) within Sapindaceae.



*Nodding Ladies Tresses* (*Spiranthes cernua*)  
along the lake at New Germany St Park



# Conservation Watch

ACTION ALERT: The Water Supply for 4.3 Million Washington Area Residents is in Danger

John Muir said, "Nothing dollarable is safe," and that is certainly true of the Ten Mile Creek Watershed in upper Montgomery County, Maryland. This watershed feeds the Little Seneca Reservoir which is an emergency water supply for 4.3 million residents in the Washington, D.C. area. These are people served by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), the Washington Aqueduct and the Fairfax County Water Authority (FCWA) as follows:

- WSSC serves about 1.8 million people in Montgomery County and Prince George's County.
- Washington Aqueduct serves about 1 million people in Washington, D.C., Arlington County, the city of Falls Church, and part of Fairfax County (particularly McLean).
- FCWA serves about 1.5 million people in Fairfax County, Alexandria, Prince William County, and Loudoun County.

Several developers want to build a huge number of homes and businesses (such as outlet malls) in this watershed. The science (see the reports on the Save Ten Mile Creek Coalition web site below) says that any development in the Ten Mile Creek watershed will pollute Little Seneca Reservoir.

Every stream in Montgomery County has been degraded by overdevelopment except one: Ten Mile Creek. Einstein's definition of insanity was doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different outcome. If more development is allowed in the Ten Mile Creek Watershed, do we really expect a different outcome this time? After every stream in Montgomery County, except one, has been polluted by overdevelopment, the developers tell us, "This time will be different. For the first

time in history, we finally know what we're doing. Trust us," they say. The developers would like decision makers to ignore the "inconvenient truths" presented by those of us who don't stand to make any money from the outcome – those of us who care about clean drinking water, quality of life, and healthy ecosystems.

Concerned citizens should tell their elected representatives that the decision makers should listen to the science and not the promises of developers. This time, we can't

afford to simply trust the developers. This time, the decision makers should value the drinking water quality for 4.3 million citizens over corporate profits.

What can you do?

1. Here is the link to the Save Ten Mile Creek Coalition: <http://www.savetenmilecreek.com>. At this site, you can view upcoming events, background reports, sign petitions, etc. You can also sign up to get on their mailing list.

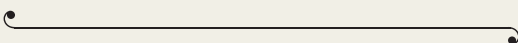
Organizations that want to join the current 15 member organizations (including Audubon Naturalist Society, Sierra Club, and Maryland Native Plant Society to name a few) can contact Violet Tsagkas at [violet@turnerstrategies.com](mailto:violet@turnerstrategies.com) (please copy [dianecameron60@gmail.com](mailto:dianecameron60@gmail.com)).

2. Contact your legislators to demand that your water supply not be polluted by developers. A decision could be made as early as November.

3) Write letters to the editor of your local papers, etc.

Your emergency water supply is in imminent danger of being polluted. *Please act now.*

-Ken Bawer



## Additional Maryland Wildlands Possible

DNR (Department of Natural Resources) is seeking public input on the proposed creation of 10 new Wildlands and the expansion of 17 existing Wildlands. This would mean added protection for Chapman Forest, Dans Mountain, Sideling Hill, Mattawoman Natural Environmental Area, Parker's Creek and others. **For details and maps see [dnr.maryland.gov/land/stewardship/wildland.asp](http://dnr.maryland.gov/land/stewardship/wildland.asp).** The proposals pertain to areas already owned by the state; they do not affect private property.

Maryland Wildlands are areas that have retained their wilderness character, contain rare species, or have other features worthy of preservation. Only "passive" recreation is permitted, such as hiking, hunting, fishing,

and horseback riding. Currently, state-owned land in 15 counties are designated as Wildlands, totaling 43,779 acres. They include portions of Savage Mountain, Cunningham Falls State Park, Gunpowder Falls State Park, Soldiers Delight, Calvert Cliffs, Pocomoke River and 23 more.

**Please support this initiative.** Starting in late October, DNR has been holding public meetings in to collect public input. By the time you read this, the public meetings will have occurred. You can comment by email to [Wildlands@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:Wildlands@dnr.state.md.us) or by mail to: Wildlands Comments; Attn: Rich Norling; Maryland Department of Natural Resources; 580 Taylor Ave., C4; Annapolis, MD 21401.

*Please support this initiative. The comment deadline is December 9, 2013.*

# MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Many MNPS members have thought of the monthly programs in Montgomery County – usually at the Kensington Library, Knowles Avenue, in Kensington – as the regular programs of the Maryland Native Plant Society. MNPS's other chapters hold programs as well; all the programs known at press time are listed chronologically. Please see [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org) for details.

## **November 26, Tuesday – 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00**

### ***Members Share***

Montgomery County, location: Kensington Library

After a brief business meeting we will view members' slides from their local field trips. We hope we'll have plenty to see from the conference field trips, since we cannot attend all of them. But photos from any time and place in our region are invited.

## **January 28, Tuesday – 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00**

### ***An Introduction to the Rose Family***

Montgomery County, location: Kensington Library

Speaker: Chris Puttock

To begin our celebration of the Year of the Rose, MNPS's theme plant family for 2014, Chris Puttock will introduce us to the Rosaceae, a ubiquitous plant family that includes strawberry, serviceberry, chokeberry, black cherry, and many more of our most beautiful, interesting native plants – including herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees.

## **February 25, Tuesday – 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00**

### ***The Maryland Biodiversity Project***

Montgomery County, location: Kensington Library

Speakers: Bill Hubick and Jim Brighton

The Maryland Biodiversity Project is an ambitious effort to catalog all the living things of Maryland. See [marylandbiodiversity.com](http://marylandbiodiversity.com). The project's goals include promoting conservation, supporting nature education, and helping to build a large and vibrant Maryland nature study community. Bill Hubick and Jim Brighton's presentation will summarize the project's work and the critical importance of biodiversity.

## **March 25, Tuesday – 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00**

### ***To Be Announced***

Montgomery County, location: Kensington Library

## **April 29, Tuesday – 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00**

### ***To Be Announced***

Montgomery County, location: Kensington Library



# FIELD TRIPS

These are the field trips scheduled at press time. For up to date news of MNPS field trips and activities please see our website, [mdflora.org](http://mdflora.org) and find us at [meetup.com](http://meetup.com). Unless otherwise indicated, MNPS field trips are generally geared to adults. Please see the information provided for individual field trips, some of which may welcome children. If you have questions, contact the field trip leader.

## **December 8, Sunday, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

### ***Fort Bayard, Washington, DC***

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Fort Bayard is a small fort so this will be a short field trip. This fort appears not to be a terrace gravel high site, but rather exposed bedrock with a surprising collection of old trees which we do not often see in other high fort sites.

## **December 15, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Solstice Field Trip & Hooley, Chapman Forest, Charles County

Leaders: Rod Simmons, Jim Long, John Burke, Alan Ford, Richard Murray, Carole Bergmann, and Greg Zell

Co-sponsors: MNPS, Botanical Society of Washington, Mattawoman Watershed Society, Potowmack Chapter of Virginia NPS.

This annual event celebrates the winter season at Chapman Forest (Chapman State Park) with its spectacular scenery and remarkable diversity of native plants, wildlife, and natural communities. This year we will visit the old-age forest section from the extensive Water-willow Shrublands along the Potomac River to the marl cliffs and ravines near Glymont.

## **January 5, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

### ***Civil War Fort Sites in Washington, DC***

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Please check the MNPS website, [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org), for more information about the January Fort Circle field trip.

## **February 2, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

### ***Civil War Fort Sites in Washington, DC***

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Please check the MNPS website, [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org), for more information about the February Fort Circle field trip.

## **March 2, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

### ***Civil War Fort Sites in Washington, DC***

Leaders: Mary Pat Rowan and Lou Aronica

Please check the MNPS website, [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org), for more information about the March Fort Circle field trip.

# Maryland Native Plant Society

## Nominees for 2013 Officers and Board of Directors

### President

#### Kirsten Johnson ~ Baltimore City

Current President, having served since 2009; retired attorney; lifelong interest in natural history.

### Vice Presidents

#### Marney Bruce\* ~ Montgomery County

Current VP; Founder, Simplicity Matters Earth Inst; weed warrior for Montgomery Co, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), ANS (Audubon Naturalist Society); Montgomery Co Master Gardener; NWF Habitat Steward; Conference, Monthly Meeting & Conservation Committees.

#### Marc Imlay ~ PhD, Charles County

Current VP; Conservation Biologist; Habitat Stewardship Comm Chair Sierra Club MD; consultant, Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council; Conservation Biologist, M-NCPPC.

### Treasurer

#### Matthew Cohen ~ Montgomery County

Current Treasurer. Owner of Matt's Habitats, a certified Montgomery Co Green Landscaping Business focusing on landscaping with native plants, edibles & environmental strategies. Leads frequent field trips through his business & MNPS.

### Secretary

#### Ginny Yacovissi ~ Northern Virginia

Current Secretary. Monthly Meeting Comm. Volunteer at native plant propagation beds for Potomack Chapter of VA Native Plant Soc'y.

### Board of Directors

#### Ken Bawer ~ Montgomery County

Current Board Member; IT specialist; Montgomery Co Weed Warrior Supervisor; TNC Weed Warrior; Board member Watts Branch Watershed Alliance; pursuing Natural History Field Studies Certificate, Grad School USA; BS Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, U Mich.

#### Matthew Bazar ~ Cecil County

Current Board Member; biologist; environmental scientist, US Army; Cecil Co Forestry Bd; volunteer land steward for Lancaster Co Conservancy (PA); interested in development issues, habitat & open space preservation.

#### Carole Bergmann ~ Montgomery County

Current Board Member; past President; M-NCPPC Forest Ecologist, founder of Weed Warriors; Montgomery Co Forestry Board member; instructor for Grad School USA; Conference Comm; field trip leader for MNPS & ANS.

#### Melanie Choukas-Bradley ~ Montgomery Co.

Current Board Member; past VP; Nominating Comm; author of *City of Trees* and *Sugarloaf* books; field trip leader for many orgs; Grad School USA Natural History Field Studies instructor. *Wildflower in Focus* column for Marilandica.

#### Cris Fleming ~ Montgomery County

Current Board Member; past President; Botany, Conference, Nominating, Conservation Committees; former instructor, plant identification courses, Grad School USA; field trip leader for MNPS, VNPS, ANS; author, *Finding Wildflowers in the Washington-Baltimore Area*. Former field botanist/ecologist for the MD Natural Heritage Program.

#### Carolyn Fulton ~ Baltimore City

Current Board Member; past Secretary; Marilandica Editor; Nursery & Finance Committees.

#### Beth Johnson ~ Montgomery County

Current Board Member; past Treasurer; tax professional/IRS Enrolled Agent; interest in Lepidoptera and Odonata; organizer Howard Co Dragonfly Count.

#### Liz Jones ~ Montgomery County

Current Board Member; Chair Field Trip Comm; Coordinator for the Audubon Naturalist Soc'y's Blair Native Plant Garden; Montgomery Co Master Gardener; numerous Natural History Field Studies courses, Grad School, USA.

#### Brett A. McMillan, PhD, Baltimore City

Current Board Member; Upper School Science Teacher, The Bryn Mawr School. MS, U FL; PhD, Old Dominion U. PhD research on environmental variables/plant distribution, dunes of barrier islands on VA eastern shore.

#### Karyn Molines ~ Calvert County

Current Board Member and Membership Chair; past President, VP, Secretary, Conference Chair; Southern MD Chapter; Division Chief, Calvert Co Nat Resources Div.

#### Christopher F. Puttock, PhD ~ Prince Georges Co.

Current Board Member. Research Associate at the Smithsonian Inst Nat'l Museum of Natural History. 2012 Pres of Botanical Soc'y of Washington, VP Chesapeake Natives, Board Member of Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Foundation. Trained in systematics and with broad interests in landscape restoration and wetland plants.

#### Mary Pat Rowan ~ Washington, DC

Current Board Member; landscape architect; Conservation Comm; MNPS field trip leader; Washington, DC Chapter Chair.

#### Matt T. Salo ~ PhD, Prince Georges County

Current MNPS board member; leader of the PG/AA Co chapter. Main author of the *Cheverly Green Infrastructure Plan*. Director of Cheverly animal and plant surveys; organizer of Cheverly's first BioBlitz. Cheverly representative to Baltimore/Washington Partners in Forest Stewardship, MD Invasive Species Council and as forest steward for M-NCPPC. Served on Environmental Advisory Comm for WSSC; volunteer for Chesapeake Natives, UMD Arboretum and Botanical Gardens.

#### Roderick Simmons ~ Northern Virginia

Current Board Member; past President; Field trip leader for several organizations. Natural Resource Specialist & Plant Ecologist for City of Alexandria. Smithsonian Research Collaborator; Contract Botanist for NatureServe & NPS; Botany dendrology instructor, field trip leader for Arlington Regional Master Naturalists. Past president Botanical Soc'y of Washington; VNPS Board.

Become a member, join online: [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org).

# Marilandica

A Publication of the Maryland Native Plant Society



Year of the Heath

Maryland Native Plant Society  
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## Give the Gift of a Membership

Sign up on-line at [www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org)  
or by mail at the address below.



## Maryland Native Plant Society

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### Annual Membership Dues

- Individual \$25     Organization \$50
- Double \$35         Student/Limited Income \$15
- Lifetime \$350       Optional Donation \$

Make checks payable to: Maryland Native Plant Society or MNPS

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[www.mdflora.org](http://www.mdflora.org)

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