

Marilyndica

Spring 2017

A Publication of the Maryland Native Plant Society

Volume 8, Issue 1



Marilandica

A Publication of the
Maryland Native Plant Society



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Our Mission

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,

Here I am, back again in two ways — as MNPS President and as your Marilandica editor. In the last issue, I expressed my doubts about whether continuing this print publication was a good use of the Society's money and my time. The response from readers and members gave me my answer. Thanks to all who communicated your interest in Marilandica, which continues for at least another year. If you appreciate receiving this publication, please let us know. Write to me at kh.johnson@ymail.com or to MNPS at info@mdflora.org. And think about whether you have something to contribute: A book review? An interesting field experience in Maryland? Invasive removal experience?

I can't get away without talking about it. We're now half a year into a brand new political climate. A climate in which policies and ideals that many of us hold dear are being challenged and sometimes rejected. I often hear people ask, "What can I do?" And I ask myself the same question. During the coming years I'll surely continue to ponder the question of my own personal responsibility. (Actually, regardless of contemporary events, I think this is the fundamental existential problem all of us face all the time.) But for the moment, I plan to redouble my ongoing efforts to work for the conservation of Maryland's native plants and habitats. The survival of our native biodiversity still has primary importance for me, even if it's farther away than ever from public discourse. As I've often said, you don't have to be a liberal or a conservative, or have any particular opinion on healthcare or a myriad of other topics in order to support the MNPS mission: Promoting awareness, appreciation and conservation of Maryland's native plants and their habitats. This is the commitment that unites all of us as MNPS members.

- Kirsten Johnson, President

Welcome New Board Members

We are delighted to welcome two new members to the MNPS Board of Directors.

Anne Denovo is a long-time wild edible and medicinal plant enthusiast. She leads field trips for MNPS, as well as scouting for new locations. She is a Montgomery Co Certified Weed Warrior and Weed-Warrior Supervisor. In her other life she is an attorney practicing in elder law, wills and estates.

Stephanie Mason is well known to plant and nature enthusiasts in Maryland for the many field trips she leads, both locally and abroad. She is Senior Naturalist for the Audubon Naturalist Society and has taught Introduction to Spring Wildflower ID and Eastern Forest Ecosystems in the USDA's Natural History Field Studies Program.

We were sorry to lose three long-time Board members: Carolyn Fulton, Mary Pat Rowan, and Ginny Yacovissi. Thanks to each of you for your service to MNPS. Please keep in touch.

Deer Season Report Affirms the Value of Sunday Hunting

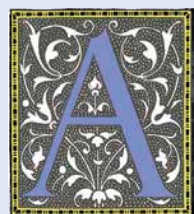
According to the recent report from DNR, Maryland hunters harvested over 85,000 deer during the 2016-2017 deer hunting season. The harvest exceeded the 2015-2016 total by more than 1,000 deer. Included in the total were 7,684 deer taken on the Sundays open for deer hunting, representing an increase of 19 percent compared to last year.

As virtually all MNPS members know, the overabundance of deer represents an extremely serious threat to our native and animal habitats, and the survival of our forests. Deer have no natural predators in Maryland other than humans.

Your membership dues and donations support all of Maryland Native Plant Society's activities, including speaker programs, field trips, conferences, publications, botanical research and conservation advocacy.

Wildflower in Focus - Hairy Snoutbean

Rhynchosia tomentosa (Linnaeus) Hooker & Arnott
Hairy (or twining) snoutbean



fter admiring the flower on the cover, you might have been surprised to learn its name. Hairy snoutbean? Kerry Wixted of the Wildlife and Heritage Service comments, “I love the common name! It does have a hairy bean that looks like a schnoz. ;)” This issue of *Mari-landica* features hairy snoutbean not only for its beauty and its odd name, but because it’s a member of the Pea Family (Fabaceae), and 2017 is the Maryland Native Plant Society’s *Year of the Pea*.

THE PEA FAMILY

The peas comprise the third largest plant family (after the asters and the orchids), with over 20,000 species worldwide. Maryland Plant Atlas lists 42 genera and 122 species present in Maryland, some herbaceous and some woody, some native and some exotic. Using the snoutbean as an example, let’s look at the characteristics typical of the Pea Family. Encountering this plant for the first time, how would you know it’s a pea? It has a square stem and an irregular flower. Could it be a mint? Nope. The leaves are alternate, not opposite like mints. The flower looks just like a butterfly. And the leaves are trifoliate. So it must be a pea.

Not visible to the eye is another characteristic of most Pea Family members—their ability to fix nitrogen in the soil. This ability is not unique to the Pea Family, as it is shared by a few members of other plant families. Nitrogen fixation is an elegant example of the interaction and interdependence of different organisms. Because nitrogen is a component of protein, all plants and animals need it for survival, and they need it in a biologically accessible form; they can’t take it from the air. Nitrogen-fixing plants and other organisms provide the solution by synthesizing usable nitrogen compounds. Meanwhile, the nitrogen-fixation in plants like the peas is actually accomplished by symbiotic bacteria in root nodules—not by the plant tissue itself.

HAIRY SNOUTBEAN

Hairy Snoutbean can be found growing on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, on ancient, low, pine-covered sand dunes that were formed between 30,000 and



Rhynchosia tomentosa (Linnaeus)



13,000 years ago. The Maryland Plant Atlas shows records from Calvert and Anne Arundel Counties. It is native from Maryland south into Florida and west into Texas. Interestingly, Tennessee and Kentucky are included in its range, indicating that it is not strictly a coastal plain species.

Hairy snoutbean is ranked S2, State Threatened, primarily because of habitat loss due to conversion to agriculture, residential development, and timber management. According to the Conservation/Ecology note in the RTE list, “this species quickly responded to prescribed fire management at one site, appearing robustly in the new habitat (apparently from the seed bed).” (See the article on page 5 to learn about the RTE List.)

One reason why Maryland has so many rare plants is that it is located at the southern end of northern ecosystems and at the northern end of southern ecosystems. Hairy snoutbean is an example of this phenomenon; Maryland is at the northern periphery of its range. If a species is doing fine in other areas, why bother to preserve it in Maryland? In fact, conserving peripheral populations can be especially important. This is because peripheral populations often diverge genetically from central populations as a result of isolation, genetic drift, and natural selection. The survival of species may depend upon the existence of genetically distinct populations that can thrive under changing conditions. (See, e.g., P. Lesica and F.W. Allendorf. 1995. When Are Peripheral Populations Valuable for Conservation? *Conservation Biology* 9:753-760.)

- Kirsten Johnson

Pea Family Visible Characteristics

- Leaves alternate and stipulate.
- Flowers papilionaceous (shaped like a butterfly), in racemes, spikes or heads.
- 5 sepals, usually forming a short basal tube.
- Compound leaves, often trifoliate.
- Petiole and petiolules with swollen bases
- Fruit a legume

Pictured Left: Rhynchosia tomentosa. USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database/ Britton, NL, and A Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions.* 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 2: 422.

Field Trip Leader Profile ~ Sujata Roy



Sujata Roy wears many hats, all of them laced with wildflowers. She teaches the popular Spring and Summer Wildflower ID courses for Audubon Naturalist Society in Chevy Chase and has developed a new course—Botany for Naturalists—that will debut this Spring. She's also a volunteer naturalist for Montgomery County Parks, and in 2016 she joined the Board of the Maryland Native Plant Society. Recently, Sujata has taken the helm of the MNPS Field Trip Committee and is one of the Society's most active field trip leaders. She kindly agreed to discuss her passion for plants, her new role as Field Trip Chair, and a new hike series that she helped launch.

Carole Bergmann

Sujata Roy at Little Bennett.

Sujata chats with MNPS Board member, Tenley Wurglitz

How did you get interested in plants? When and why did you get involved with MNPS?

I've always liked plants, as long as I can remember. It was just a part of life. When I was in elementary school I had a garden and raised monarchs on the milkweed and walked to school through an apple orchard.

When I was in Chicago for college there wasn't a lot of green space nearby, much less native forests, for a person without a car. Without really planning to, I would walk by the gardens and alleys with plants on my way to and from my apartment. Also, I always had flowers in my dorm room, even though I was on a very tight budget. Sometimes it was just one stem of mini-carnations.

So I guess I can't really remember when I started being interested; it was just always part of me.

When did you start leading walks? Do you remember the first one you led?

Around 2003, Denise Gibbs started a training program at Black Hill Regional Park (Montgomery County) for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer naturalist. I think this program grew into the Master Naturalist training. I remember my first training session was on meadows and streams and the first program I conducted was a stream survey at Little Bennett Regional Park in Montgomery County. So much fun showing people how to catch (and release) crayfish!

Since MNPS is celebrating the *Year of the Pea*, do you have a favorite pea family member?

If I had to pick just one, it would be black locust. It's one of those trees that has naturalized around the Beltway and when it's in full bloom you can see the white panicles swaying and lighting up the edges of the highway. It's just so graceful and fragrant and has a wonderful presence.

What spring ephemeral are you most looking forward to seeing?

I never get tired of trout lily: the spotted leaves, the graceful lily flower, anthers that in some plants are red and some yellow. It is one

of the brief joys of spring to see a mass of trout lilies in bloom. In the last few years, the National Park Service's efforts to control Lesser Celandine at Boundary Bridge in Rock Creek Park have led to a glorious resurgence of trout lily in the floodplain. Leaves are expected in late March, flowers in early April, and fruits develop shortly thereafter, with the whole plant fading away by mid-May.



Jim Brighton

*Sujata's favorite member of the Pea Family:
Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia).*

What's your favorite place to botanize in Maryland?

Hmm, every place has a great plant or great season. And there are so many I haven't been to!

If you could take a trip anywhere in the world to botanize, where would it be?

Mountains are great - there are so many habitats to explore at each elevation. Last summer I took a trip with family to Lassen National Volcanic Park in the southern Cascades. This was in mid-July and one of the main trails was still closed because of snow. It was just entering peak season for wildflowers and the trails were full of lupines (many

Profile continued)

species), snow plants, orchids in the wet meadows, and I had to stop and investigate them all. As we were leaving the park, I looked back and there was a whole hillside of plants that I hadn't seen in the previous 3 days of hiking. Fortunately, there was a safe place to pull over so I could run back for a good look and lots of pictures. I would love to go back there. Also - snowballs in July!



*Sujata's favorite spring ephemeral:
Yellow trout lily (Erythronium americanum).*

Do you have a special teacher who's mentored you in your study of plants?

Definitely Denise Gibbs, the former senior naturalist at Black Hills. My first exposure to Newcomb's Wildflower Guide was with Stephanie Mason at an early spring wildflower ID class, and, of course, Cris Fleming and Melanie Choukas-Bradley who know all the Maryland plants!

What are your goals as the new Field Trip Chair?

Lots of walks! If you, dear reader, have a great spot where you love to enjoy the plants and you wouldn't mind having a few MNPS friends with you, please contact me!

Tell us about the new walk series that you and Liz Jones have spearheaded at Little Bennett Regional Park in northern Montgomery County.

My favorite thing about Little Bennett is that it has so much native plant life in every season. The diversity of trees in winter, spring flowers (mostly at Kingsley and Hyattstown Mill), summer flowers in all of the meadows, lovely goldenrods and fall colors. There are several gravel trails that are good in wet weather too.

Little Bennett is the largest, wildest park in Montgomery County. For the project, we started with three goals: (1) more people should come and enjoy the park; (2) its plant diversity should be documented; and (3) because we are getting to know it better all the time, it can be a training ground for new field trip leaders. We've had several MNPS walks there since we started last spring and we've got a great plant list going so far. I think it could be a model for other walk series too.

Conservation Advocacy Part of Our Mission

"We pursue our mission through education, research, advocacy and service activities."

MNPS frequently receives requests from individuals and organizations to comment in writing or in person on conservation issues. For each of them, we carefully consider whether there is a sufficient connection with our mission. As an all-volunteer, charitable organization, MNPS has only a limited ability to research particular issues or to engage in lobbying. So we depend on our members to let us know when our input would be helpful. This is especially true with regard to county government actions. If you know about a conservation issue where MNPS might help, please tell us. Write to info@mdflora.org, and include as many details as you can.

Here is a summary of our conservation advocacy in 2016 and through today. Particularly heart-breaking was the decision of University of Maryland officials to essentially shut down the Norton Brown Herbarium.

Maryland Native Plant Society –

- Wrote to the Montgomery County Board of Appeals in support of the application of Audubon Naturalist Society to construct a deer fence around the Woodend property.
- Commended the Department of Natural Resources on the new State Wildlife Action Plan.
- Protested the decision of University of Maryland officials to lay off the staff of the Norton Brown Herbarium, effectively shuttering the herbarium.
- Commented on Montgomery County's Draft Countywide Park Trails Amendment, urging the county to limit the use of trails in relatively unspoiled natural areas to hiking only.
- Commented on Prince George's County's Preliminary Resource Plan, urging the inclusion of Buck Lodge and Adelphi Community Parks as Special Conservation Areas; restricting building in parks and preservation areas; and prioritizing preservation of the tree canopy.
- Co-signed the Smarter Growth Alliance for Frederick County's comment on the County's Legislative Package, supporting proposed changes in Maryland's Public Ethics Law, and urging continuation of the ban on fracking.
- Joined with many other organizations to urge the General Assembly to permanently ban fracking in Maryland.
- Co-signed with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to urge the establishment of new marine sanctuaries including Mallows Bay-Potomac River.
- Joined the Stormwater Partners Network of Montgomery County, a coalition of organizations advocating responsible measures for stormwater control.
- Became a partner in the March for Science, a coalition of scientists and organizations marching and advocating for evidence-based policy-making.

Updated and Expanded List of Maryland's Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

Please download and peruse the updated and expanded list of Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants of Maryland, prepared by the Wildlife and Heritage Service (WHS) of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR). It is a fascinating portrait of the rich diversity of our state's rare plants, as well as a sad tale of their ongoing decline. Download at http://dnr2.maryland.gov/wildlife/Documents/rte_Plant_List_expanded.pdf

These lists, affectionately known as "RTE Lists," identify the native Maryland species that are the rarest and most in need of conservation. It includes species on the federal list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants, species currently on the State's Threatened and Endangered Species list, and additional species that are considered rare or under assessment by WHS. Prepared by a team under the direction of State Botanist, Christopher Fry, the list is a result of more than 35 years of effort to gather, research, and analyze data from numerous sources, such as herbaria, scientific literature, unpublished documents, reports from botanists and amateur naturalists, and extensive field work conducted by DNR. The last version of the RTE list, published in 2010, contained 710 species, comprising about 28% of Maryland's native flora. The new list has 744 species, or about 30% of the flora.

The new expanded list is an extremely impressive document. Unlike previous versions, which were simple lists, it contains detailed notations for each species, pertaining to taxonomy, conservation,

habitat, distribution, and flowering time. (See below for a representative page.) Thus, a reader learns not only that a plant species is rare, but also the reasons for its rarity, such as deer browse, fire suppression, and/or invasive species. In some cases we also learn about measures being taken for conservation.

Also of interest is the appendix that explains why certain plant species previously thought to be part of the Maryland flora are now understood either to have been falsely reported or to have been extirpated. Each entry represents hours of patient and diligent detective work on the part of WHS staff as they traced historical records and scoured herbarium records for evidence. Because of their work, no further attempts to locate those species need be undertaken in Maryland.

Citizens can take part in recording Maryland's rare species by reporting sightings to DNR, according to the instructions on the agency's website. Photo records can also be submitted on line to the Maryland Biodiversity Project: Marylandbiodiversity.com. The information there and in the companion site, Maryland Plant Atlas at Marylandplantatlas.org, is now updated to conform to the new RTE list.

Come hear State Botanist Chris Fry describe the creation of new RTE list – June 27, 7:30 PM at the Kensington Park Library.



Left: Tall Lespedeza (*Lespedeza stuevei*) (S3, Watchlist)
Below: Representation page of RTE lists

Although active conservation efforts can be successful, especially if supported by research, it is often impossible to do otherwise than simply observe and record the permanent disappearance of our botanical heritage.

~ Report of the Maryland Botanical Heritage Workgroup, 2014.

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Global Rank | State Rank | State Status | Federal Status |
|--|---|-------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| <i>Lemma trisulca</i> Linnaeus Lemnaceae (Duckweed Family) | Star Duckweed | G5 | S1 | E | |
| Cons/Econote: Occurring in Maryland in a few scattered stations; this species' habitat is very restricted in comparison to its widespread and common congener <i>L. minor</i> Linnaeus. Inventory of this species is made difficult due to the habit of the plant to float just underneath the water surface (J. Hall, pers. comm). | | | | | |
| Habitat: Ponds, canals, baymouth barrier wetlands (Sipple 1982). | | | | | |
| Distr. CP, RV (Allegany, Calvert). | | | | | |
| <i>Lespedeza frutescens</i> (Linnaeus) Elliott Fabaceae (Legume Family) | Violet Lespedeza | G5 | S3 | | |
| Syn: <i>L. violacea</i> (Linnaeus) Persoon | | | | | |
| Habitat: Dry, open woodland borders, occasionally rocky scour bars along large rivers. | | | | | |
| Distr. RV (Allegany, Frederick, Washington). | | | | | |
| Flw: mid Aug-early Sept; Fr: Sept-Nov. | | | | | |
| <i>Lespedeza stuevei</i> Nuttall Fabaceae (Legume Family) | Silky Lespedeza | G5 | S3 | | |
| Habitat: Sand ridge woodlands, roadsides in dry sandy soils. | | | | | |
| Distr. CP (Anne Arundel, Baltimore*), Calvert, Caroline, Charles*, Dorchester, Prince George's, Wicomico, Worcester). | | | | | |
| Flw: mid Aug-mid Sept; Fr: Sept-Nov. | | | | | |
| <i>Liatris helleri</i> T. C. Porter Asteraceae (Aster Family) | Heller's Blazing Star Shale-barren Blazing Star Turgid Gayfeather | G3 | SH | X | |
| Syn: <i>L. turgida</i> Gaiser | | | | | |
| Taxnote: The species was long-known as <i>L. turgida</i> but now is included in a broadened concept of <i>L. helleri</i> . | | | | | |
| Cons/Econote: Last collected in 1968 (by Eduard Baltus) from a single station at the northern range limit for the species. | | | | | |
| Habitat: Shale barren. | | | | | |
| Distr. RV* (Allegany*). | | | | | |
| <i>Liatris spicata</i> (Linnaeus) Willdenow Asteraceae (Aster Family) | Prairie Blazing Star | G5 | S1 | | |
| Taxnote: Maryland plants are var. <i>spicata</i> ; var. <i>resinosa</i> (Nuttall) Gaiser is to be expected. | | | | | |
| Cons/Econote: Highly restricted and localized but frequent in habitat. Populations have been greatly reduced by heavy browse of white-tailed deer and fire exclusion. | | | | | |
| Habitat: Serpentine grasslands. | | | | | |

In Memoriam: David Culp

Our dear friend David Culp died in February. David was an energetic advocate for the natural areas of Washington DC's extensive, but little known, national parks. In his professional life, he was a lobbyist on nuclear issues for the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Mary Pat Rowan remembers how she first met David: "About 10 years ago, Lou Aronica and I were leading a walk at Fort Dupont, when a hiker approached us and asked who we were. Soon David was joining us for many of the Washington, DC walks, and after Lou moved to Pennsylvania, David began co-leading with me. In his spare time, David hiked Fort Dupont and



*David and Mary Pat:
"Is it alternate or opposite?"*

other Civil War Fort Parks in Washington, spotting birds and eventually concentrating on the oaks in the upland forests of these parks. His interest in oaks was sparked by our Wild Washington field trips but he pursued this interest independently, taking courses and developing oak species lists that he would share on our field trips. He would print out maps of the areas we were exploring and share these with participants.

"David was always taking the trips 'up a notch' by suggesting trips outside of the Forts to Roosevelt Island, Tregaron Conservancy, the National Arboretum and other natural or semi-natural areas in the city. These were often the best attended trips."



Chestnut oak furrowed bark.



Memorial gathering for David at Fort Totten.



Scarlet oak leaf.



Fort Totten.

Wild Washington Walks Continue

David would be pleased to know that the Wild Washington Walks are continuing under the leadership of Claudine Lebeau and Allen Browne. (Mary Pat is out of the country this year.) This is by far the longest series of exploratory field trips in the history of the Society. In 2002 Lou Aronica announced a "systematic survey and inventory" of the Fort Circle Parks, speculating that the project might last "more than a year."

Lou explained, "During the 1860s, more than four dozen forts were created as part of the Civil War defenses of the capital. In the early 1900s Congress purchased and turned over to the National Park Service not only the fort sites, but also substantial parklands surrounding many of the forts, as well as narrow connecting tracts. Some of these [parks] contain fairly intact forests, which serve not only as havens for diverse plant and animal species, but—most importantly—form the basis of a connecting corridor for biotic movement."

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“The Civil War fort sites were established on higher elevation points which, as it turns out, happen to be places where erosion has not yet removed and lowered the sand, gravel and clay mix deposited by the Potomac River as various glaciation episodes retreated farther to the north. These sites, referred to as terrace gravel deposits, are acidic and low in nutrients. They support plants such as chestnut oak, shadbush and various Ericaceous (Heath Family) species that tolerate such conditions. All of the areas surrounding the fort emplacements were deforested to provide sightlines for defense purposes. Even though the trees were cut to the ground, the stumps and roots remained and many resprouted, especially chestnut oaks. This has resulted in many multi-trunked trees.

“Many of the parks surrounding the fort sites are cut by ravines as the



Deerberry (Vaccinium stamineum) at Fort Chaplin.



Pinxter azalea (Rhododendron periclymenoides) at Fort DuPont.

elevation drops from the crests. Here, the subsurface soils are varied and patchy, supporting substantial stands of mountain laurel and, in moister areas, spicebush and arrow wood. Sweetbay magnolia is found in low spots in several locations, including one that constitutes a magnolia bog.” L. Aronica. 2001. Civil War Fort Sites from the 1860s. Native News 1(2):1,5.

The following forts are visited regularly in the Wild Washington series of field trips: Bayard, Chaplin, DeRussey, Dupont, Mahan, Slocum and Stanton. Only at Fort Totten are remnants of the old civil war earthen-works still visible.

The walk at Fort Totten in February was 147th in the series.

Mountain Maryland Notes

Snow still lingers on the landscape when you begin your search. In Garrett County, the time-frame is typically the first week in April. You know where to look: the old, dirt lane that vehicles stopped using long ago or the rocky, abandoned pasture dotted with mountain laurel, broom-sedge, and assorted lichen. These different locations share the common denominator of dry, acidic soil. Deciduous leaves blown from adjacent woods clutter the ground, so you look carefully. You spot the dark green, leathery leaves first. And then you spy a patch of white here, a patch of pink over there. You drop to your knees and press your face close to the ground to inhale the incredible perfume. Despite a winter of atypical and ever-changing weather, trailing arbutus has bloomed again.



Liz McDowell



Jim Siasz

Trailing arbutus (Epigaea repens) pink and white variations.

Also known as mayflower and ground laurel, the scientific name for this woody, ground vine is *Epigaea repens*, which roughly translated means “creeping on the earth”. It is a member of the Heath Family that includes rhododendron and mountain laurel. The oval, evergreen leaves range from 1-3” in length. The waxy, tubular blooms which are less than ¾” long, spread into five petals. The flowers are clustered in the leaf axils and at the end of the hairy stems.

Trailing arbutus has been reported as a minor food for ruffed grouse. The hoary elfin butterfly, a Maryland endangered species, uses it as a larval host plant. Native Americans and early settlers brewed a leaf tea from it for kidney disorders. Its use to treat kidney stones earned it the name “gravel plant”. Arbutin, the active ingredient, contains a urinary antiseptic, but it also undergoes chemical reactions that make it toxic.

Trailing arbutus is an uncommon sight, though not as scarce as it was at the turn of the last century. The fragrant scent of these delicate white to pink flowers was so well loved, there was concern that it would be harvested to extinction. In response, protective laws were enacted in many states and at least one native plant society was formed.

You can help ensure that trailing arbutus and other wildflowers are here for future generations to enjoy by following ethical guidelines when obtaining native plants for your garden. Before your next native plant purchase read “How to Shop for Native Plants” at <http://www.mdflora.org/Resources/Publications/howtoplantshop.pdf>

~ Liz McDowell, Western Mountains Chair

PLANT IDENTIFICATION

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PEA FAMILY

Match the photo with the species.



All of these photos are records of the Maryland Biodiversity Project, marylandbiodiversity.com

- A. *Amphicarpa bracteata*, Hog peanut
- B. *Robinia pseudoacacia*, Black locust
- C. *Lupinus perennis*, Sundial lupine
- D. *Cercis canadensis*, Redbud
- E. *Pueraria montana*, Kudzu
- F. *Tephrosia virginia*, Goat's rue

Answers: 1A, 2E, 3D, 4B, 5E, 6C

Would you like to serve on the MNPS Board of Directors? Do you know someone who would be a good candidate?
Please contact Nominating Committee Chair, Beth Johnson, info@mdflora.org.

PROGRAMS

All MNPS programs are free and open to the public. For details and up to date listings, see mdflora.org.

May 30, Tuesday, 7:30 PM*

Fabaceae (Pea Family) of Our Region

Kensington Park Library

Speaker: Rod Simmons

June 27, Tuesday 7:30 PM*

Transforming the Natural Heritage Plant List

Kensington Park Library

Speaker: Christopher Frye, Maryland State Botanist

July 25, Tuesday, 7:30 PM*

Kensington Park Library

Speaker TBA

August 29, Tuesday, 7:30 PM*

Fabaceae (Pea Family) Continued

Kensington Park Library

Speaker: Christopher Puttock

September 26, Tuesday, 7:30 PM*

Kensington Park Library

Speaker TBA

October 19, Thursday, 7:00 PM

Topic TBA

Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD

Speaker: Karyn Johnson, FSU Grad Student

November 16, Thursday, 7:00 PM

Topic TBA

Frostburg State University, Frostburg MD

Speaker: Erica Duda, FSU Grad Student

***doors open at 7:00 for programs at Kensington Library**



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 19 – 21, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

US Fish & Wildlife Conference Center, Shepardsdown, WV

Nature Knows No Boundaries

Celebrating Twenty Five Years

There is an arbitrary quality to the practice of celebrating five-year anniversaries. What if we had a base-12 numbering system? Would it then be every six years? But enough quibbling. Let's joyfully acknowledge that 2017 is the Maryland Native Plant Society's twenty-fifth year. It was in 1992 that Karyn Molines, Jil Swearingen and Barbara Medina drew up the Articles of Incorporation and became the Society's first Board of Directors. Karyn continues as an active Board member. The first conference occurred that same year, with the title, *Restoring Their Habitats, Beautifying Our Yards*.

We still have thirty-two members who joined in that first year or in the following year. Thanks to all of you!

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mary Alves | Karyn Molines & Gary Pendleton |
| Lou Aronica | Carol Robertson |
| Carole Bergmann | Mary Pat Rowan & Phil Blair |
| Janet Crampton | Brenda Skarphol |
| Charlie & Linda Davis | Joanne & Robert Solem |
| Richard Falcone | Mary Stevenson |
| Joan Feely | Jil Swearingen |
| Cris Fleming | Patricia Tice |
| Jessie Harris | Will and Robin Tress |
| Mary and Joe Howard | Charmane Truesdell |
| Barbara Knapp | Mary Lou & John Winder |
| Joe Metzger | Jan Worthley |
| Kathy Michels | |

The first issue of the Society's publication, *Native News*, came out in March 1993. Here are some of the events of the Society's first ten years that caught my eye while browsing through my collection of old *Native News* and *Marilandicas*.

March 1993: President Barbara Medina writes, "We are exploring the possibility of some type of computer network . . . Let us know if you have access to a computer."

May 1995: Joe Metzger leads a field trip in Catoctin Mountain Park, possibly his first for MNPS. The most recent one took place in April this year. Later in 1995, the ultimately successful campaign to save Chapman's Landing begins.

December 1995: President Rod Simmons writes, "This has been an especially trying year . . . Anti-environmental forces in congress have persistently attempted to dismantle our national park system and environmental protection laws with a series of short-sighted bills to close parks, end the listing of endangered species, open park lands to extensive mining, grazing and logging, disarm the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, and so on."

Fall 1997: John Parrish describes the rare and diverse habitats lying in the path of the proposed Inter-county Connector (the present Route 200).

Summer 1998: The state of Maryland agrees to purchase much of Chapman Forest, now a park and the site of many MNPS field trips.

Spring 1999: President Clinton signs an Executive Order requiring all Federal agencies to "prevent the introduction of invasive species."

Spring 2001: Fort Circle field trips in DC begin. (See details pages 6-7.)

Winter/Spring 2001: Short reports from MNPS field trips and other member surveys are provided, describing the less common plants seen at Blockhouse Point, Boyds Diabase area, Clara Barton Parkway, Forts Stanton and Chaplin, Little Paint Branch bogs, Northwest Branch, Rock Creek Park, and Upper Paint Branch.

Summer/Fall 2002: John Parrish's list of the Native Woody Plants of Montgomery County and where to find them.

Do you have old issues of *Native News* or *Marilandica* from before 2000? We are missing some, and we would love to complete our archive. Please contact Kirsten.

FIELD TRIPS & OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

MNPS events are free and open to the public, unless noted. Pre-registration is required for many field trips, and early registration is usually offered to members. For up to date listings and details, and to register, see mdflora.org. Unless otherwise indicated, MNPS field trips are geared to adults.

April 15, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

April Blooms in Northwest Branch, Montgomery Co

Leaders: Marney Bruce and Mike Ellis

April 15, Saturday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Spring Tree ID at Carderock, Montgomery Co

Co-sponsored by C&O Canal Association

Leader: Ralph Buglass

April 21, Friday 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

River Trail at Great Falls, MD, Montgomery Co

Leaders: Marney Bruce and Anne Denovo

April 23, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Gunpowder State Park, Hereford Area

Baltimore Co

Leader: Dwight Johnson

April 23, Sunday, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Seneca Creek Greenway Trail, Montgomery Co

Leaders: Marney Bruce and Anne Denovo

April 23, Sunday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

SERC Flora Survey Project

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

Anne Arundel Co

Leaders: Dennis Whigham and Karyn Molines

April 24, Monday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Catoctin Wildflowers 101

Catoctin Mountain Park, Frederick Co

Leaders: Becky Lancosky and Anne Denovo

April 24, Monday, 8:30 – 11:30 AM

Invasive Removal: Battling Botanical Bullies at Bear Pen

Garrett Co

Leader: Ron Boyer

April 28, Friday, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Wildflower Workshop ID for Beginners

Flag Ponds Nature Park, Calvert Co

Co-sponsored by Calvert Nature Society
and Calvert Natural Resources Division

Leader: Karyn Molines

April 29, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Search for Orchids

Catoctin Mountain Park, Frederick Co

Leader: Joe Metzger

April 30, Sunday, 9:45 AM – 3:00 PM

Iris and Trillium Walk at Front Royal, VA

Leader: Joe Metzger

May 5, Friday, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Weed or Wildflower? Work and Learn

New Germany State Park, Garrett Co

Leaders: Christine Campe-Price, Liz McDowell

May 6, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Over the Ridge and Back Through Pawpaw Tunnel

Allegheny Co

Leader: Joe Metzger

May 9, Tuesday, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Evening Plant Walk at Don Miller Forest, Howard Co

Cosponsored by Natural History Society of MD

Leader: Heidi Pringle

May 12, Friday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hellen Creek Hemlock Preserve, Calvert Co

Co-sponsored by Calvert Nature Society

Leader: Karyn Molines

May 13, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Mountain Maryland Native Plant Festival

New Germany State Park, Garrett Co

Plant Sale and Educational Activities

May 14, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Gunpowder State Park, Hereford Area

Baltimore Co

Leader: Dwight Johnson

May 19, Friday, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Greenbrier State Park, Frederick Co

Leaders: Sandra Bloom and Gary Delise

May 20, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Fernclyff Peninsula Natural Area

Chiopyle State Park, PA

Co-sponsored with Western PA Botanical Society

Leader: Joe Metzger

June 2, Friday, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Weed or Wildflower? Work and Learn

New Germany State Park, Garrett Co

Leaders: Christine Campe-Price, Liz McDowell

July 7 and July 14, Fridays, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Wildflower ID for Beginners (\$50 fee), Garrett Co

Leader: Liz McDowell

October 15, Sunday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Exploring Elk Ridge in Fall, Garrett Co

Leaders: Liz McDowell and Ron Boyer

Become a member. Join online: www.mdflora.org.

Marilandica

A Publication of the Maryland Native Plant Society



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Silver Spring, MD 20914

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Tristate Regional Conference in Shepardstown, WV
Friday, Saturday & Sunday, September 29th – October 1st



Nature Knows No Boundaries

Sponsored by:

Maryland Native Plant Society

Virginia Native Plant Society and

West Virginia Native Plant Society

For details and to register, see mdflora.org.