

NATIVE

NOTES

Kate's Mountain Clover*

WEST VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 20:3

WINTER/SPRING 2012-13

Judy Dumke-Editor: E-mail-dumke@live.marshall.edu Phone 740-894-6859

FIELD TRIPS AND BOARD MEETING

Saturday, March 23, 2013

Elkins, West Virginia

Schedule of Events:

10:00 – 12:30 Board Meeting at Forest Service Office

12:30 – 1:00 Lunch and “Federally Threatened and Endangered Plants of West Virginia” Presentation (pizza or Subway will be delivered to the meeting)

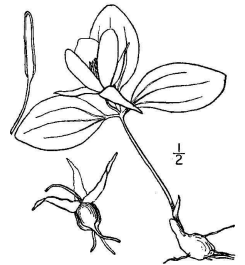
1:00 – 3:00 Travel to Site and First Trip

3:00 – 5:00 Groups Switch to Second Trip/Travel back to Elkins

5:00 - Adjourn

The lunch meeting will feature special presentations by P.J. Harmon, Rare and Endangered Species/ Natural Heritage Botanist with the WV Division of Natural Resources, followed by two exciting hikes.

In the afternoon, the participants will be divided into two smaller groups. Each group will have a chance to experience both of the field trips. One trip, led by Elizabeth Byers and Jim Vanderhorst from the WV Division of Natural Resources will hike up to see snow trilliums (*Trillium nivale* Riddell). Snow trillium is truly a harbinger of spring as this is one of the earliest flowers beginning to bloom as early as mid-March in West Virginia. This uncommon trillium is almost always associated with limestone in areas where leaf litter does not accumulate and cover the plants. But, you have to know where to look because these little beauties are usually less than six inches tall and only bloom for about two weeks. Jim warns that if the ground is wet, the habitat for snow trillium can get very slick, so everyone should be sure to wear sturdy footwear. This trip will last for about 1 ½ hours.



Elizabeth Byers is a vegetation ecologist with the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program. With a Bachelor's degree in geology (Brown University) and graduate studies in hydrology (New Mexico Tech) and ecology (Oregon State University), she is well suited to explore the relationships between native plants and their environments. Jim Vanderhorst was hired as a Community Ecologist for the Natural Heritage Program in 1999 and he is still busy classifying, describing, and mapping the vegetation of West Virginia.

* DRAWN BY Betsy Tramell after photographs by Charles Garrett, Warm Springs, Va

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The second trip will include a short walk to find a small population of the federally endangered running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum* Muhl ex. Eat.). Although this plant flowers between mid-April to June, it should be observable vegetatively at the time of this field trip. This trip will be led by Brian Streets, Botanist with the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

After viewing running buffalo clover, the group will have a chance to work on field identification of non-native invasive shrubs in winter with U.S. Forest Service Ecologist, Kent Karriker. Non-native species, such as autumn olive, bush honeysuckles, and Japanese barberry, are a significant threat to the biodiversity and natural resource-based economies of West Virginia. Learning to identify these species is vital to devising control measures to minimize their impacts and reduce their spread. Both snow trilliums and running buffalo clover, along with many other native plant species, are threatened by non-native invasive species. The second field trip will also last for about 1 ½ hours.

Don't miss out on these exciting hikes or the chance to see such rare wild flowers! We hope to see you in Elkins.

Directions:

From I-79 go east on US-33E/US-119N (about 37.4 miles). Turn right onto US-33/US-250/US-219 and travel 1.8 miles. Turn left onto Randolph Avenue/US-33/US-250/US-219. Take a left onto Sycamore Street (there is an iron statue of a man on a horse). You will travel about 0.03 miles on Sycamore Street passing the Elkins City Park. The Monongahela Supervisor's Office is a red brick building. **To enter please go around the back of the building to the parking lot and use the back door**

There are several places to stay in Elkins including the Holiday Inn at 50 Martin Street (304-630-2266), Elkins Motor Lodge at 830 Harrison Avenue (1-877-747-8713), Hampton Inn at 673 Glenmore Loop Road (304-630-7500), or Day's Inn at 1200 Harrison Avenue (304-637-4667). ♣

A 2012 Soggy Annual Meeting and Field Trip

Those attending the September annual meeting and field trip were greeted with .54" of rain (Sutton report). This resulted in some changes in plans and very wet attendees. There were nine at the meeting, with a few more on the trip up the Left Fork of the Holly River.

Through the rain Judi White was able to record the following plants (and read her resulting wet notes):

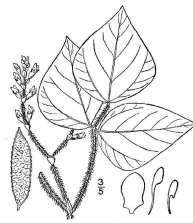
Natives *

Acer nigrum ‡ Black Sugar Maple

Aristolochia macrophylla ‡ Dutchman's Pipe

Elephantopus carolinianus Elephant Foot

Magnolia tripetala Umbrella Magnolia



Amphicarpaea bracteata

Amphicarpaea bracteata ‡ Hog Peanut

Cornus alternifolia Alternate Leaved Dogwood

Epifagus virginiana ‡ Beech Drops

Polygonum virginianum Virginia Knotweed, Rattail

Polymnia canadensis ‡ White Flowered Leaf Cup

Non Native

Dioscorea oppositifolia Potato vine, Cinnamon Vine

Prunella vulgaris Heal All, Self Heal

Undetermined (native status depends upon the variety)

Polygonum scandens False buckwheat

‡ **Braxton County Record**

* Status and nomenclature from Checklist and Atlas of the Vascular Flora of West Virginia Harmon, Ford=Wertz, Grafton ed. 2006 ♣

Join the 2013 Garlic Mustard Challenge!

Cynthia Sandero, Mon. National Forest

Are you looking for an opportunity to get the family outside for a day of fun? Then look no further than the *2013 Garlic Mustard Challenge*! The GMC is a series of events that seeks to provide your family with a day of free, outdoor fun while working to protect the beautiful forests of West Virginia we all love. The Garlic Mustard Challenge is brought to you by the Monongahela National Forest, Appalachian Forest Heritage Area, and the Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area.

During GMC events, participants will engage in hands-on learning activities which will teach about invasive species before competing in our annual garlic mustard pull. Fabulous PRIZES will be given to the top pullers of the day. And, the



It is Gone so we are happy

group pulling the most pounds of garlic mustard will win the highly coveted Garlic Mustard Challenge Trophy! This year, we have a goal of removing a staggering amount of garlic mustard - at least 50,000 pounds from our forests. Come out and help keep West Virginia wild and weed-free!

Garlic Mustard is a particularly nasty, nonnative invasive species. It rapidly spreads, often using waterways, into disturbed wooded habitats, and is making its way throughout the beautiful and diverse forest ecosystem of West Virginia. Garlic mustard can quickly take over an area pushing out our native plants. Many wildlife species, including wild game, depend on spring native plants for their pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds, and roots. Garlic mustard deprives wildlife of these important food sources when it becomes established.



Friends Helping Friends

Only an army of volunteers can help get rid of this invasive species! Please join us for the 2013 Garlic Mustard Challenge and together we can stop the spread of one of the most invasive species found in our state!

The dates and locations are:

- **April 20th** - Greenbrier State Forest
- **April 25th** - Fernow Experimental Forest
- **April 27th** - Seneca Rocks Discovery Center
- **April 27th** - Greenbrier State Forest
- **May 11th-12th** - Blue Bend Campground (*free camping in exchange for your hard work and dedication!*)
- **May 18th** - Pocahontas 4-H Camp

All GMC events begin at 10:00 a.m. For more information please visit us online at: <http://www.phcwpma.org/GarlicMustard.cfm> or contact Rebecca Urbanczyk at (304) 636-6182 or at rrurbanczyk@fs.fed.us. ❀

WV VAMPIRE

It crawls from the land of the dead and engulfs whole communities. It is *Vinca minor L.*, the common periwinkle.

This species was introduced from Europe in the 1700's as a medicinal and ornamental plant, eventually becoming a staple in nurseries' stock, spreading even more as a "pass along." It is a low growing vine which prefers shady



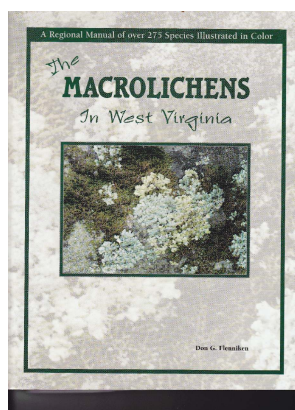
Vinca Minor

woodlands under fairly dense canopies, with neutral or acidic soils. Although fruit may occasionally be found, the seeds are generally infertile. Thus, almost all spread is vegetative. When present in abundance, it can smother native, woodland plant communities. Thus, a planting in an abandoned cemetery can easily spread vegetatively to adjacent woodlands. There is another species, *V. major*, also found in commerce, which can be equally invasive, depending upon variety. ❀

MEMORIES OF DON FLENNIKEN: A TRIBUTE

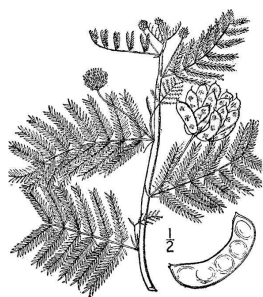
Sue Moyle Studlar, WVU Biology

West Virginia botanists and naturalists lost a great colleague, leading lichenologist, and friend this fall with the death of Don Flenniken of Wooster, Ohio (born 1933, died October 20, 2012). I first met Don when he came to the WVU Herbarium to study our lichen collection for his book project. In 1999 Don published the “Macrolichens of West Virginia,” a clearly written, well-illustrated guide and the only book exclusively devoted to WV lichens. In 2009, Don kindly agreed to help me lead a Lichen, Moss, and Fern Walk for the WV Botanic Garden. It was a wonderful event, attracting many enthusiastic participants. Don enchanted the group with impromptu discussions of the diverse lichens of the Botanic Garden: more than 40 lichens in a walk less than one mile long on sticks, bark, rocks and earth. He good-naturedly answered questions written out on sheets of paper, since he was very hard of hearing. (Indeed, that was why he had to give up a rewarding 10-year career in teaching high school biology). Every year since 2009, our fall walks at the Botanic Garden have been enriched by Don’s contribution – we do our best to recognize the 40+ species and even add a few. Don and I have also collaborated on the National Park Service-sponsored study of Recreation Impacts on the Cliff Ecosystems of the New River Gorge (MS project of Geography Graduate student Pete Clark). Don served as the Lichen Consultant, and identified several thousand lichen samples that Pete collected– many in difficult crustose genera. Don made good use of his many contacts in the world of professional lichenologists (where he was highly regarded) and incorporated recent taxonomic revisions into his determinations. A byproduct of the New River



project (for which I am the Bryophyte Consultant) is that my students and I worked on organizing and curating the historic Lichen Collection at WVU, so the New River collections could be integrated into a functional lichen herbarium. Volunteer Bob Burrell (who unfortunately died in July of this year) and I spent many hours doing our best to update determinations that were 50 years old. Don was a great resource for both Bob and me. We emailed Don detailed questions about lichen ID, and Don always responded promptly with patient, detailed answers, and kind words of encouragement. We also relied on an advance copy (that Don graciously provided) of his as yet unpublished book “A Field Guide to the Eastern Lichens.” This useful guide includes both microlichens and macrolichens of the Eastern U.S.A., with a succinct Diagnosis for each species, to help lichen enthusiasts make tentative field ID’s. Fortunately, for the past several years I have had student interns who are enthusiastic about learning lichen species as well as processing specimens. My students often consult Don’s two books – a hopeful sign that Don’s enthusiasm for lichens will continue to inspire the next generation of naturalists! ❀

New Plant for West Virginia



On August 13, 2012, Romie Hughert filled in a blank spot in the distribution map, found on Plants USA, for the Illinois, or prairie, Bundleflower, *Desmanthus illinoensis* (Michx.) MacMill. Ex B. L. Rob. & Fernald, which had not been documented in West Virginia. Romie’s find was located at the junction of Dock’s Creek Road and Rt. 52 in Wayne County. A

voucher was submitted to the WVU herbarium. It will be interesting to see if other populations can be found. In Virginia it is considered to be a waif, this population may also be a rather accidental introduction, as the location has heavy traffic and is near a rail line.

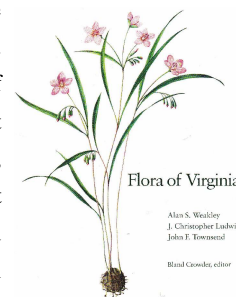


Photo Romie Hughert



New Flora for Virginia

At a recent Natural Areas Association meeting in Norfolk, Va. I had the opportunity to participate in a field trip led by the authors of the new Flora of Virginia. They clearly demonstrated their familiarity with the plants of the region and their communication skills. The book weighs 6.8 lbs., has 1554 pages, covers approximately 200 families and 3,200 species with ca. 1,400 line drawings of plants, or parts thereof. They assured that me that at least 90% of the flora would overlap that of West Virginia. I am now the pleased, proud, owner of a copy having won it at a silent auction. The descriptions are detailed and the location of relevant information is indicated in bold face, a small, but helpful visual clues, for quickly finding what you want to know. The cost is \$79.99 + \$6.50 shipping. It is available from the publisher: BRIT press (a very responsible botanical publisher) (817) 332-4441 <http://www.britpress.org> or Amazon. ❀ Judy Dumke



Geum We Got Geum

This issue will feature a genus in which all reported species are native to West Virginia. It is a genus that is well dispersed in the state, but often dismissed as "Oh, that's Geum" without determining which one it is, this may be a guide to a Rosaceae of lesser stature and lead to further documentation of the distribution of the species within this genus.

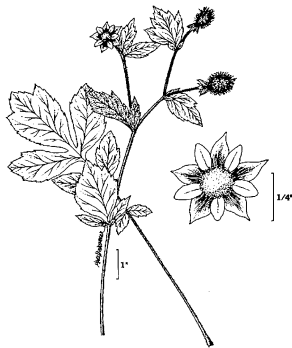
***Geum aleppicum* Jacq.** Yellow Avens was listed as *G. strictum* Ait. in the *Flora of West Virginia*. It is reported from 2 current and 5 historic records (records refer to county occurrences), primarily in the northern part of the state. It is found in wet moist meadows blooming from May to June. It may be distinguished by the small bright yellow to orange petals which extend just beyond the sepals. In fruit the pedicel and receptacles are densely hairy to short pilose. The head consists of more than 150 achenes. This is a circumboreal species.



Geum canadense* Jacq. var. *canadense White Avens This avens is widely distributed in WV with 45 total records, 16 of which are recent. This species will primarily be found in woods, either dry or moist, often along streams or roadsides. It blooms from May to August, being more common earlier in the season. The main stem is glabrous or with short hairs, concentrated toward the flowering head, with time the stem may be lax. The petals are white, oblong, equal to, or longer than, the calyx lobes. The receptacle, after achenes have fallen, will be seen to be densely white villous.



Geum laciniatum* Murr. var. *laciniatum Rough Avens This avens has 6 older and 6 newer records, primarily from along the borders of WV. This white flowered avens has very small petals, much smaller than the sepals, and as the name suggests hairy, stout stems. It is likely to be found in damp to wet areas blooming in June and July. The peduncles are quite hairy, but the receptacles are glabrous or nearly so.



All Illustrations not otherwise credited in this edition are from: Britton, N.L., 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. Courtesy of Kentucky Native Plant Society. Scanned by Omnitek Inc.

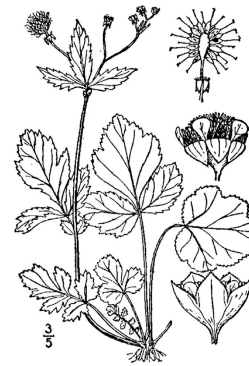
***Geum rivale* L.** Purple Avens

There are three recent records from the northern mountain counties and one older one from Preston County. This Geum is distinctive in a flower, as it is the only purple flowered species in WV. The purple color is present not only in the flower but also in the sepals. In some plants the petals may appear yellowish but they will have purple veins. The campanulate flowers are nodding. An alternative common name is water avens which gives a strong hint as to its preference for swamps, bogs and peaty meadows and glades. In WV look for it in higher elevations in June-August.



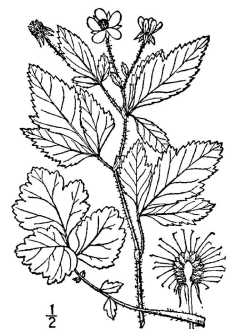
***Geum vernum* (Raf.) Torr. & Gray** Spring Avens

This early Geum is distributed throughout WV, but concentrated in the more western portions, with 12 current and 13 old records. Spring does indeed describe this species, it may be found in from early April into June, growing in damp woods and moist locations. The flowers are quite small (4mm), with yellow/cream petals. The basal leaves are cordate, roundish and may be 3-5 lobed. The stems are graceful and slightly arched. The flowers and fruits are elevated well beyond the leaves. The stalked ovary/fruit head is distinctive.



***Geum virginianum* L.** Virginia avens

This plant of the mountains and northern WV clearly needs additional collecting. There are 16 old county records and only 4 recent ones. This is another small (2-4 mm) petaled yellow-greenish to a cream-colored flower with sepals longer than petals. The overall appearance is somewhat coarse. It will be found in woods from June-August. ♣



n.b. Recent treatments include the Barren Strawberry, *Waldsteinia fragarioides* as a Geum, *G. fragarioides*.

Events and Opportunities

Field Trips

West Virginia Native Plant Society

Date: **Saturday, April 13, 2013**

Location: Peter's Creek Falls in The Gauley River National Recreation Area. Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: State Capitol Cultural Center Parking Lot

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Hike Leader: Chris Gatens 304/458-2533

The group will car pool and depart from the Cultural Center Parking Lot, driving approximately 1.5 hours to the falls area located off of Rt. 39 near Lockwood in Nicholas County. Please prepare for seasonal weather conditions, pack a lunch, and bring sufficient water for a hike into the mid-afternoon. We will make record plant species in the area, which will include Sweet Pepperbush, *Clethra accuminata* and Galax, *Galax aphylla*. We also expect to find many songbird species that have returned to their natural breeding range so binoculars are recommended for the trip. Registration is not required, but a notification to the leader by phone is requested before the field trip date. ❀

Tri- State Chapter

February 23. 10:30 a.m.. Winter Tree identification hike. Beech Fork Lake, marina end. Meet at the parking lot next to the office. For more information, contact Romie Hughart - 304-523-1049.

March 7. 6 p.m.. Molecular Taxonomy lecture. Meet Prof. Emily Gillespie, the new botanist and herbarium curator. Marshall University Science Hall, 2nd floor.

For more information, contact Romie Hughart 304-523-1049. ❀

Kanawha Valley Chapter WVNPS Eastern Panhandle Native Plant Society

These two chapters are in the process of being reactivated. There are currently no events for which details are available. As a result, dues to the chapters are not being charged; however, to become a member you must be a member of the WVNPS and circle the chapter name on the dues payment form when submitting WVNPS dues. If reactivated, the dues for the Eastern Panhandle chapter will be \$10 and that of the Kanawha Valley \$6. For more information, or to offer to help in the reorganization efforts, please contact Steve Mace, sdmace@frontiernet.net ❀

Changes

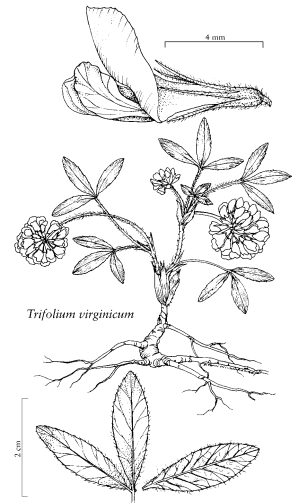
Power Point is Up

At long last the power point **Native Plants for West Virginia Gardening** is up on the web for your use, either personally or to use with a group. If you want to use natives but aren't sure what would grow in WV or what they might look like in a gardening setting this is what you need. Please feel free to go to the web site: www.wvnps.org/GWNP.pdf and download this resource. The Society's thanks are due to Betsy Trammell and her helpers in putting this resource together for everyone's use.



New Logo

The WVNPS sponsored a drawing of our own Kates Mountain Clover for the Volume 10 or 11 of the *Flora of North America* (Fabaceae). We have permission to reuse the image in our work. As a result, part of the drawing will replace the current drawing in the masthead of Native Notes in the next issue. If you have any ideas as to appropriate uses of the image for the benefit of the WVNPS, please contact any board member. The reproduction of the drawing and the digital image are in the WVU herbarium. ❀



Board Changes

The West Virginia Native Plant Society would like to extend its appreciation to Cynthia Sandeno for her services as recording secretary and to Mae Ellen Wilson for keeping track of our funds so well as treasurer. We are sure that neither of them will cease to be active in some role in the future. Indeed, Cynthia organized the March 23 meeting this year and will be serving on the field trip/events committee. The transition of Judi White, a former board member, to treasurer assures that the well being of the WVNPS financial aspects will continue to be as well done as in the past. The WVNPS would like to welcome a long term member, Dan Stevenson as the new recording secretary, and former board member and officer, Steve Mace as vice president. Steve is spearheading the revitalization of two chapters. Both have assumed their roles with vigor and enthusiasm. ❀

News of the West Virginia Native Plant Society

Highlights of the Annual Meeting

- ! The annual meeting of the West Virginia Native Plant Society was held September 8, 2012 at the Gerald Freeman Campground, Sutton Lake, Braxton Co. WV.
- ! Three board members, four members and one visitor attended. The meeting was followed by a field trip on the Left Fork of Holly River.
- ! New Officers were selected, see the sidebar.
- ! Cynthia Sandeno intends to scan to PDF format all of the known historical Native Notes for a current record.
- ! Donations to the following herbaria were approved including: \$1,000 to WVU; \$250 to Marshall; and \$100 to WV Wesleyan.
- ! The Society has received the illustration of Kate's Mountain Clover that WVNPS sponsored for inclusion in Flora North America. A digital copy and permission to use it, as we choose, for our organization, were included. ❀

Welcome to New Members

Richard and Whitney Bradley	Elkins WV
Russell and Sue Flowers	Williamstown WV
Athey Lutz	Davis WV
Sabrina Okomura-Johnson	Sacramento CA
<i>A new life member who will be relocating to</i>	<i>Monroe County WV</i>
Jean Palmer	Wheeling WV
Betsy Reeder	Jumping Branch WV
Janet Stone	Harpers Ferry WV

TIME TO PAY DUES FOR 2013

On page 8 you will find the dues form. There is a new treasurer so be sure it goes to the right person. To reduce the number of bank trips she must make, please do it promptly. Even if there are no dues stated for a chapter, you must indicate your chapter(s) interest. ❀

West Virginia Native Plant Society Officers

President -Romie Hughart
rch25704@yahoo.com
(304)-52 3-1049

Past President - Lawrence Beckerle
lawrencebeckerle@yahoo.com
(304)-742-3639

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sdmace@frontiernet.net
(304)-674-5522

Corresponding Secretary
Helen Gibbins
Gibbins@frontier.com
(304)-736-3287

Recording Secretary-Dan Stevenson
d Stevenson101@gmail.com
(304)-633-0800

Treasurer - Judi White
Judiwhite@suddenlink.net
304-863-8352

Directors

Campbell, Kevin (2 year term)
hazwaste99@hotmail.com

Chris Gatens (1 year term)
(304)-458-2533

Donna Ford-Werntz(3 year term)
dford2@wvu.edu
(304)-293-0794

Tri State Chapter-Romie Hughart
See above

Kanawha Valley & Eastern Panhandle -Steve Mace see above

Editor Judith Dumke
dumke@live.marshall.edu

Events of Interest

West Virginia State Parks

March 23 Winter Tree Identification Workshop, Cacapon State Park, Berkeley Springs 304-258-1022

April 20 Osbra Eye Memorial Walk, Kanawha State Forest, Charleston 304-558-3500

April 20 Master Naturalist Hike, Tygart Lake State Park Grafton 304-265-6148

May 9-12 52nd Annual WV Wildflower Pilgrimage, Blackwater Falls State Park Davis 304-558-2754

June 21-23 Mountain BioDiversity Weekend, Blackwater Falls State Park Davis 304-259-5216.

Additional Information and links will be found on the WVParks web site www.wvstateparks.com/calendar



April 6 WV Academy of Science, Canaan Valley Institute, Davis, WV
www.marshall.edu/wvas/meeting2013.htm ❀

Related Events Near by

March 28, Native Plant Cultivation, Pomeroy, Ohio
www.Meigs.osu.edu

April 5 Ohio Botanical Symposium, Columbus Ohio
www.cmnh.org/siste/obs.aspx

April 10-13 Annual meeting Association of Southeastern Biologists, Charleston WV
www.sebiologists.org/meetings.html

April 11-13 Wild Flower Week end Natural Bridge State Park. Slade, Ky.

April 19-21 Kentucky NPS Weekend Natural Bridge State Park Slade, Ky. <http://www.knps.org>

May 4 Wild Flower Hike Carter Caves State Park Olive Hill Ky KNPS event register 859-757-6093

June 23 and 24, Open House, Hunt Museum Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, (What we collect exhibit featuring botanical art) 21 March - 30 June. www.huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu ❀

2013 WVNPS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OR INITIATION

Name(s) _____	CATEGORIES	
Address _____	Life	\$200
_____	Regular	12
_____	Student	8
Chapter affiliations (please circle)	Tri-State Chapter	6
	Kanawha Valley	0
	Eastern Panhandle	0
E-Mail _____		
I prefer to receive the Native Notes by mail _____ e-mail _____		

You must be a member of the statewide WVNPS in order to be a member of a local chapter.

Please make the check payable to West Virginia Native Plant Society;
Include local chapter dues, if pertinent. Dues are for one calendar year.

Send dues to: Judi White
WVNPS Treasurer
148 Wellesley Dr.
Washington WV 26181