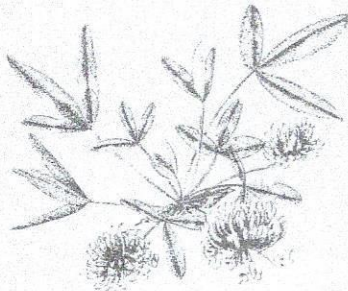


Native Notes



Kate's Mountain Clover

The West Virginia Native Plant Society

Volume 1 Number 2

Getting Started Again, Field Trips, Running Buffalo Clover

June 1993

WVNPS is In Full Bloom!

The West Virginia Native Plant Society came back into active existence with a reorganizational meeting on February 6, 1993. About 20 past members and newly interested folks met to share their dreams for an organization of people interested in the native flora of West Virginia.

It has been a very long time since the club has held a meeting, yet because Linda Rader, Curator of the state herbarium at West Virginia University, has continued to turn in the required forms to the IRS each year, the club was legally still active throughout our hiatus. So a task force of several interested people organized a meeting on February 6, 1993 to get WVNPS active again.

P. J. Harmon lead the group in a review of the by-laws, then a discussion about what happened to WVNPS that caused the society to become inactive. P. J. highlighted the fact that leaders of non-profit organizations have two over-riding jobs: **getting the job of the organization done and keeping the group together**. All of us at the reorganizational meeting agreed that we want to have our leadership focus as much attention on helping members feel welcomed and involved, as they do on accomplishing the purposes of the WVNPS. To help us clarify our objectives as a society, the group was lead in a brainstorming session about what its dreams for the WVNPS might be. Here are some of the ideas that members of the group shared:

- Generate educational programs for the general public on

the use of native plants in the landscape

- Educate amateurs about native species of West Virginia
- Present talks on floristic research, stewardship, and conservation.
- Carry out an education program to schools, county extension services, planners and state level government on native plant identification and needs. This could be done with a speaker's bureau
- Develop a network of active botanists to improve our knowledge of West Virginia flora
- Encourage the revision of the *Flora of West Virginia* and encourage volunteer heritage botanists to look for rare element occurrences
- Be open to variety in the program of the society
- Create an excellent newsletter for members and subscribers
- Run workshops on various aspects of botany, including how to collect and prepare specimens; encourage good, professional collections and environmentally sound plant collecting

We don't want to become an elitist organization but one that emphasizes programs, meetings, and newsletter articles for all levels of knowledge, experience, and interest, with a careful eye out for beginners and an enthusiasm for sharing information with one-another.

A slate of nominees for state officers was presented by the task-force, and they and one nominee from the floor were elected by acclamation. For the names of the new officers, see the article on p. 2.

It was decided that the mailing address of the organization will be P. O. Box 2755, Elkins, WV 26241, that a general distribution membership brochure would be developed, and that it and a member questionnaire would be sent to those on the interest list as well as new members. It was recommended by the task force and

The purposes of the West Virginia Native Plant Society are to promote the preservation and conservation of the native plants and vegetation of West Virginia and to further the education of the general public on the values of native plants and vegetation.

agreed by those in attendance that for 1993, the dues of the state organization would remain at the level they were in the past, \$8 for an individual, \$12 for a family, and \$5 for a student.

Meet the New Officers and Board of Directors Members-at-Large:

John Northeimer of Davis, West Virginia, was elected our new **President**. John is Naturalist at Canaan Valley State Park, a native of West Virginia, and enthusiastic about our state's native flora! He has 16 years experience in natural resource management and conservation, and brings to his new position a lot of organizational skills, experience with working with people, a keen eye and enthusiasm for plants, and a commitment to making the WVNPS "user friendly".

Vice President, Bill Grafton, from Morgantown, West Virginia, is no stranger to Botany in our state, either! Bill has been tramping through our hills and valleys, looking for rare and beautiful vascular plants for many years. Bill has a degree in forestry from WV University, and works at WVU as an administrator in the Extension Service, and leads many wildflower hikes around the state. Bill says he is especially excited about raising people's consciousness about rare, threatened and endangered plants of West Virginia.

Linda Rader, our **Treasurer**, also from Morgantown, is the curator of the state's Herbarium at West Virginia University. Linda is the person who kept the paper work going to the IRS all these years of inactivity, insuring that we actually still are a legally recognized non-profit organization! Linda enjoys identifying the "weedy" things of the state that keep popping up from time to time, and she says that she is anxious to teach a workshop soon on the best methods in plant collecting and documentation.

Terry Harmon of Elkins, West Virginia, has been elected the **Corresponding Secretary**. Besides being a very busy mother of a very active 23-month-old, she will be keeping up with all the new memberships, up-dating the database, forwarding dues to Linda, and seeing that letters to the club are answered promptly. Terry was a legal secretary for 9 years and has her own word-processing business in Elkins.

All those minutes of all those meetings are the responsibility of **Recording Secretary, Dr. Tina Hall**. It made sense ... she was the one with the notebook computer at the reorganizational meeting! Tina is

Director of Science and Stewardship for the West Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She lives in Elkins, loves caving, new age music and West Virginia, and is particularly interested in encouraging people to care about the biodiversity of West Virginia.

Our **Board of Directors Members-at-Large** are first, **Dr. Charlie Baer**. Charlie is a retired ecologist from WVU, lives in Morgantown, and has been a key mover and shaker in conservation in our state for many years. Charlie brings years of experience working with non-profit organizations and knows what it takes to make a good organization better. Charlie especially wants to see WVNPS become a focus of information exchange about the natural history of the Mountain State.

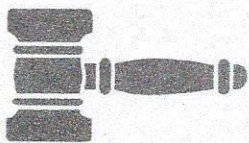
Next, **Dr. Dan Evans** is a professor of Vascular Plant Taxonomy at Marshall University and also curator of the Herbarium there. Dan's loves include floristics, the systematics of rare vascular plants, and the genus *Carex* (sedges). Dan and his students have recently done a lot of work on the wetlands along the Ohio River, including embayments along the river and the Greenbottom Swamp area. He wants to see WVNPS become the organization where people can learn and enjoy the state's diverse flora and says, "Helping to get this club going is one of the most exciting things I'm doing."

P. J. Harmon is Botanist for the state's Natural Heritage Program. In that capacity, he tries to keep track of the location and status of the rare, threatened and endangered plants of West Virginia, all 370+ of them! He is currently writing a book with botanist and Professor Emeritus, John W. Thieret of Northern Kentucky University and botanist John Baird of Columbus, OH, on the wetland vascular plants of West Virginia. P. J. wants to see us teach each other and the public about the rich floristic diversity in the Mountain State. When he is not botanizing around the state, P. J. is the editor of our newsletter, **Native Notes**.

Brian McDonald, the prior president of the WVNPS is also a member of the BoD. Brian is Coordinator of the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program. He's currently writing a book on the top 100 rarest plants of the state.

Editor's note: The by-laws define that other members of the Board-of-Directors include the immediate past President, and the current president of each chapter or their designated representative.

WVNPS Board of Directors Meets Twice in '93



The Board of Directors (BoD) met on March 5, 1993 at the Western Steer in Flatwoods, WV, and on April 3, 1993 at the Elkins Western Steer. Here are some of the highlights of the meetings. If you would

like copies of the minutes of those meetings, you can get them from Tina Hall, Recording Secretary, at the WVNPS address given below.

May 5, 1993

1. It was decided that state dues shall be pro-rated for new members only. Past members will pay the full amount when their memberships have been in arrears.
2. It was decided that chapter membership will be determined by payment of a chapter fee and membership in the state organization. Chapters will set their own Chapter dues, collect those dues and maintain their own complete financial records. In accordance with the Society's by-laws, the Board of Directors will continue to have oversight of the chapters.
3. The Board noted that one of the most important purposes of Chapters is to have local field trips, and local activities, which should be advertised in state and chapter correspondence and newsletters, so that any state member may attend. It was decided that it is desirable that field trips be as inexpensive as possible.

April 3, 1993

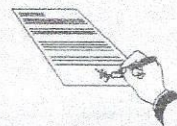
1. It was decided that notices received about field trips and other events sponsored by other organizations would not be included in their entirety in the *Native Notes*, but an invitation to WVNPS members to feel free to attend with a contact address would be printed when space permitted.
2. Linda Rader provided a written financial report. The Society is solvent.

3. The BOD approved John Northeimer and a committee including Frank Pellurie and Bill Grafton to complete the Shrubs of West Virginia booklet for which WVNPS received a grant of \$500 several years ago from the WV Non-game Program
4. The BOD approved the following committees: Field Trips, Education & Outreach, Membership, Natural Landscaping and Propagation, Field Studies. It is desirable that as many members who are not on the BOD be chairpersons and members of these committees as possible.
5. The BOD approved Tom Allen's design for the official WVNPS logo: an illustration of Kate's Mountain Clover (*Trifolium virginicum*) without written text.

A Letter From the President

by John Northeimer

Over the last four years as a naturalist at Canaan Valley State Park I have come in contact with many people in a variety of situations. Occasionally I receive correspondence from a visitor who participated in one of our interpretive programs. This usually involves a request to identify a plant or animal that the person has observed "back home".



I remember one particular letter in which the author asked me to identify a butterfly he had seen. A complete description of behavior and a sketch were included! It turned out to be a fairly common species in the spring - the mourning cloak - and I responded by saying so.

I certainly didn't expect the response I got from the writer, who said, "It isn't common if you have never seen it before!" What a revelation on the writers part, and what a missed opportunity for me to exploit his obvious enthusiasm! I had focused on the ability to name the butterfly while the writer had observed, sketched, and described a part of its life history without even knowing its name.

From such experiences a sensitivity to different viewpoints and perspectives is born. This is what I hope to bring to the West Virginia native Plant Society as your

president.

Our society needs to focus collectively on the desires and experience levels of all its members. We'll do that best through clear and open communication with each other and, more importantly, through your active participation in the processes of the organization.

There are many avenues for direct involvement in charting our course. The membership questionnaire is a good way to begin. Each completed form submitted helps your Board of Directors to select activities that appeal to a broader membership base. You can serve on one of our new committees, such as education and outreach, field trips, and field studies. The society newsletter, *Native Notes*, is open to appropriate articles from members, and is the forum for exchanging ideas through letters to the editor.

You can get involved in a local chapter, or help one get started in your part of the state. I welcome the Kanawha Valley chapter to the society! You certainly have plenty of enthusiasm for becoming a strong chapter! Local chapters will serve as springboards for ideas, activities, and involvement. They also present a more uniform geographical representation to the Board of Directors.

Conversations with members have all been positive and enthusiastic. I have also learned that expectations are quite varied, embracing many different aspects, including aesthetics, curiosity and the technical. In other words, some members just like to look at and enjoy our native plants while others are resigned to intense study. You can do either or both in WVNPS.

As we define what we are as a society, many ingredients will be incorporated into the recipe. Just remember that the organization is the mixing bowl, but you, the member, are the most important ingredient!

Chapter News

Kanawha Valley Chapter

A hearty "how do!" to the newly formed Kanawha Valley Chapter, the very first chapter in our reorganized WVNPS! As required in our by-laws, the chapter has more than the 15 members of WVNPS required to become a chapter. There are a lot of enthusiastic, "anxious to get going"



folks in that chapter. They've held a number of chapter meetings, most in favorite hiking areas. This is definitely a group for the field-oriented member! They've decided to hold their meetings in successive local parks and to make their focus looking at plants **outside!** If you're a member or if you're thinking about becoming a member and you live in the Charleston area, you're in luck. A strong, active chapter is under way and you can be a part of it by calling Gay Brown at 304/744-8344.

Huntington Area

Jim Arnold and Dan Evans are working to organize a chapter in the Huntington area. More than 15 students at Marshall as well as nature enthusiasts and birders have expressed an interest. If you'd like to help start a chapter in southwestern West Virginia, please give Dan a call at 304/696-6467.

Elkins / Canaan Valley Area

There are a number of members who live in the vicinity of Elkins who may wish to get involved in an Allegheny Highlands chapter. Give John Northeimer a call at 304/259-5377 if you too are interested!

What about the Rest of the State?

Anyone who would like to get a chapter going in your neck of the woods, please contact President John Northeimer at 304/259-5377 for details on how to do it!

Flora of West Virginia Is Back in Print ... But It's Not a Revision!

Rumors have been flying for several months that Strausbaugh & Core's *Flora of West Virginia*, the classic manual to the vascular plants of our state, has been revised. The truth of the matter is that there may have been some corrections made, but no botanist has reviewed any specimens at West Virginia University or Marshall University Herbaria or rewritten any keys, yet. However, you can get a reprinted copy of the one-volume 1977 work now! For the present, one of the best sources for "the Flora" is the student bookstores at Marshall University and West Virginia University. The Board of Directors are investigating selling the book as a way of making it more readily available to members and as a way of making money for the society. We'll keep you informed through *Native Notes* as this opportunity is

finalized. In the meantime, the retail cost at each bookstore is about \$40 + tax + \$3 shipping.

More Running Buffalo Clover Found in KY and WV

by P. J. Harmon

Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*), one of the few clovers native to West Virginia, was once thought to be extinct until Rodney Bartgis, formerly of the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program and an original organizer of the WVNPS, found a small population in the New River Gorge at Cotton Hill, Fayette Co., West Virginia in 1984. Within a few years, several populations had been found in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. By 1989, the plant had been declared a federally endangered species and there was a little money available from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to search for new populations of Running Buffalo clover (RBC). Since this species had once been associated with sizeable herds of bison, elk and deer that grazed in savannas of the clover and prairie grasses, we of the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program decided to investigate the possibilities of this species being associated with game trails in West Virginia. We wanted to know, "Where were the large herbivores feeding and traveling across West Virginia at the time the first trappers and surveyors came into our state? Were there any references to RBC in the earliest journals of the early explorers of that hugely forested wilderness?"

To help us answer these questions, in 1989, we hired Linda Smith to search the historical archives of our larger libraries to find any references she could to "bison", "buffalo", "salt licks", "elk", "clover", and more. We asked her in the end to create a coarse map of the known major game and indian trails across West Virginia at the time of settlement. One of the more helpful references Linda found was a Ph.D. dissertation about the early salt industry in the Ohio Valley and associated tributaries. She also found important journals like those of George Washington when he first came surveying down the Ohio River. Washington reported that thousands of bison, elk, and deer were seen grazing in a large savanna near present Letart, West Virginia, and that the prairie-like open woods was filled in part with a lush white clover. At the time Washington came down the Ohio, it is reasonable to assume that clover was not yet the introduced white european clover but the native Running Buffalo Clover.

In the fall of that same year, a group of birders with the Brooks Bird Club stumbled onto two small clumps of the species in the middle of an old road on Rich Mountain West (there are two in Randolph County)! We confirmed it, and the adrenalin began to soar!

The following year, we sent 6 seasonal botanists across the state to search for this elusive native clover, but after a month, no new sites had been found. Finally, Bill Roody and Donna Mitchell found a sizeable patch along a jeep trail on Laurel Mountain along the Barbour / Randolph border, and we began to focus our attention in Randolph County at disturbed sites. By the end of the summer, four more populations had been discovered in Randolph county, all at sites that had been recently grazed by cattle or deer or in old roads or relatively new logging roads. In 1992, Linda Smith lead us to a new site along a US Forest Service road on McGowan Mountain and we subsequently found four more populations in the same general area. The amazing fact about these most recent sites is that they occur in the middle of access roads that are annually mowed for wildlife or logging haul roads and skidder trails!

In a recent meeting held in Cincinnati, Ohio with researchers who are investigating and protecting Running Buffalo Clover, it was reported that this species has a very low genetic diversity throughout its range with the notable exception of a few populations in West Virginia and Kentucky! This may mean that the species is in serious long-range trouble, but that those genetically diverse populations in West Virginia could indicate that the center of this species' distribution could be the Allegheny Mountains.

The research continues! Over 50 volunteers throughout West Virginia have been trained in the identification of Running Buffalo Clover and are looking for it throughout much of the state. If you would like to keep an eye out for this interesting endangered species, here's what to do: look along jeep trails, old roads, historical home sites and cemeteries, or similar habitats where partial to filtered sunlight reaches the ground and the area is generally moist. The plant can be identified by its long runners (stolons), large, pointed bracts at the base of its leaves (stipules), and A flowering head on a stalk that arise from between a pair of leaves which in turn arise from a larger stalk off a runner (please see Figure 1). Wouldn't it be exciting to find a population in a county where we didn't have a record for it? If you want to see what this fascinating species looks like, join us for a WVNPS hike at Fernow Experimental Forest (see details, page 8).

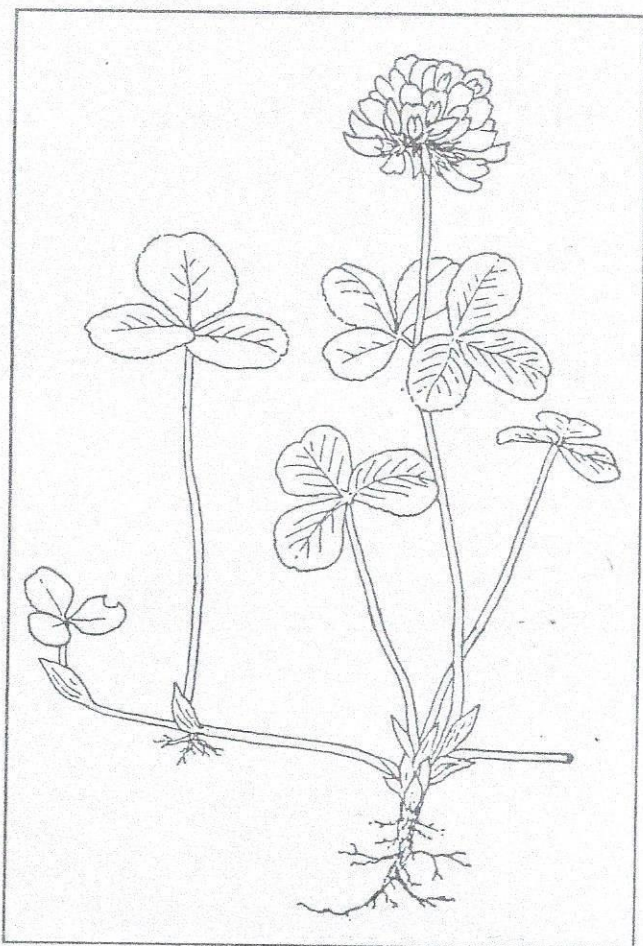


Figure 1 Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) (illustration by Sam Norris).

Volunteer Botanists Seek Rare Plants Across the State for the WV Natural Heritage Program

by Barbara Sargent

The West Virginia Natural Heritage Program (WVHP) maintains a database which includes over 2275 occurrences of rare plants. Of these populations, about 1550 of them were last seen before 1970. With the help of 49 volunteer botanists covering over half of the state, the WVHP is hoping to update many of these records, plus update records from the 1970's and 1980's as well. Our volunteers (with the exception of a few first-timers) are preparing to begin their second field season searching for rare plants. To kick off the field season the WVHP had a volunteer botanist training workshop in March. Though all the results from last year's work are not in, a few records were updated last year, including Glade

Spurge (*Euphorbia purpurea*) from near Lake Terra Alta (last seen in 1962), Round-leaved Catchfly (*Silene rotundifolia*) from Cabwaylingo State Forest (last seen in 1938), and Small Purple-fringed Orchid (*Platanthera psycodes*) from near Danese (last seen in 1977). If you'd like to learn more about volunteering for the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program, contact Barbara Sargent at 304/637-0245 or write her at WV Natural Heritage Program, DNR, P. O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241.

Editor's note: WVNPS is organizing a committee to conduct these kinds of research projects around the state in cooperation with WVHP. Keep watching *Native Notes* for more details, or call Clete Smith at 412/561-7267 if you'd like to get involved.

What's Happening Around the State?

Herbaria are the institutions that house collections of plants for use in research and for hours of relaxing perusal. The Marshall University Herbarium Curator, Dr. Dan Evans, reports these activities happening through the Marshall Herbarium:

1. Flora and Vegetation of Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, WV
2. Flora and Vegetation of Selected Embayments Along the Middle Ohio River, OH, KY, WV
3. Flora of Three Watersheds and the Effects of Acidification on the Herb Layer
4. Flora of the New River Gorge
5. Bryophyte Communities of the Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, WV
6. Ethnobotanical Studies of the Shuar and Achuar of Southeastern Ecuador

Linda Rader, curator of the State Herbarium at West Virginia University, reports that she continues to receive numerous researchers and conservation botanists at the herbarium who use it in their studies. Linda continues to receive weekly requests for specimen loans, plant identifications, and assistance on various publications.

Editor's note: you may visit and make use of either of these herbaria by contacting their curators in advance of your visit. Watch for an article in future *Native Notes* for a feature article on these institutions.

Clete Smith, chairperson of the Field Studies committee asks that members help them out with a little information. Using both field experience and herbarium records, Clete

has seen what has probably been dismissed as Large Purple Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera grandifolia*), and thinks the plant is potentially *P. andrewsii*, a hybrid between *P. grandifolia* and *P. lacera* (Ragged Fringed Orchid). Any bloom after July 15th. and going into August has real potential to be *P. andrewsii*. The committee would also like to know about the Three Bird Orchid (*Triphora trianthophora*). If anyone has any records or sightings, please contact Clete Smith at 412/561-7267, or 332 Fieldbrook Drive, Pittsburg, PA 15228.

The Philadelphia Botanical Club invites any WVNPS member who happens to be in the area of one of their field trips to feel welcome to attend. A complete list of trips is available from the club by writing: The Philadelphia Botanical Club, 19th and the Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Field Trips and Workshops

Here we go folks . . . a chance to get into the field with people who know the flora of the state! For each field trip or workshop there is information on the name, date, time, description, directions, where to meet, who the leader is, what you are to bring, and any limits or special information for that field trip or workshop. Field trips are meant to be in-the-field, hands-on hikes, while workshops may involve more in-door lessons as well as hands-on work and may or may not involve going outside. All registrations must be in writing, using the field trip registration form included below. Some field trips or workshops may involve a registration fee, but most programs are free or have a very minimum fee. Stated limits of number of participants will be observed especially in fragile habitats. For further information, contact Bill Grafton at 304/293-4797 extension 493.

Field Trip: Running Buffalo Clover Population at Fernow Experimental Forest.

Date: 26 June, 1993 Time: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Description: Fernow is site of one of the most recently discovered and significant populations of the federally endangered species, Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*). This trip will involve car pooling from the parking lot of the US Forest Service Timber & Watershed Lab in Parsons, WV, followed by easy to moderate hikes within the nearby experimental forest.

The most accessible site for RBC will be visited.

Directions: The U.S. Forest Timber and Watershed Laboratory is located approx. .25 mile north of Parsons on U.S. Route 219. The entrance is just north of a large bridge across the Cheat River (watch for the USFS sign). Follow the long driveway to the office parking area.

What to bring: Most hiking will be either along gravel roads or wide trails over moderate to mildly steep terrain. Hiking boots are recommended, but some may prefer tennis shoes. Bring a sack lunch, drink, and insect repellent. A camera and binoculars might be nice!

Limit: 20

Field Trip: Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area

Date: 10 July, 1993 Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Description: Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area (Cabell County, WV) is one of the nicest wetland areas in the Ohio River floodplain. The most distinctive feature is the button bush swamp covering 100 acres in size. Additionally, new wetlands are being constructed and techniques and methodologies can be observed. The terrain is flat and it's easy to walk from place to place.

Directions: Located along WV Route 2 at Homestead, WV. The General Jenkins Home (civil war era) is a well known and easily seen landmark. The home is part of the management area, 20 miles north of Huntington, WV via State Route 2.

Leaders: Dr. Dan K. Evans, Mr. Tim Stark, Marshall University

What to bring: short to long boots; some areas are wet but can be avoided; bug repellent!

Limit: 20 participants (10 per leader)

Map: One will be sent upon registration.

Field Trip: Greenland Gap, Scherr, Grant County

Date: 16 October, 1993 Time: 9:30/10:30/1:30

Description: this joint trip with The Nature Conservancy to the Greenland Gap/Falls Gap geologic structure presents a broad range of ecological niches for unusual plant and animal species and spectacular scenery. Fall color should be at its best and migratory bird life should be abundant. The 300 acre Gap Nature Preserve was established in 1973 by TNC through a generous gift from the D. Allen Burt family. Three guided trips ranging from rugged to leisurely interpretive roadside walks are

planned.

Directions: Trip #1: an up-hill climb to the 800 ft. crest of the gap is rugged and not recommended for young children or physically limited people. Meet at the BP Gas Station near the junction of WV Routes 42 and 93 just west of the gap at 9:30 AM. Trip #2 (10:30 AM) & #3 (1:30 PM): will meet at the bridge mid-way through the gap and preserve, 1 mi east of Scherr, at the base of the Allegheny Front.

What to bring: Wear rugged footwear for dry trails, bag lunches and drink, cameras & binoculars. Camping Friday and/or Saturday nights, is possible, early reservations are advised. Call Charlie Baer (304/291-0403) or the TNC office (304/345-4350) for details.

Limit: 20 participants

Editor's Note: You may have sent announcements about interesting events that aren't included here. The limitations of cost and space prevent us from including everything we would like. It was important to get a lot of text into this issue to inform the membership about our reorganization. We'll do our best in future issues to include more illustrations and event information. The next *Native Notes* is to come out the end of August. Deadline for material to the editor: July 31, 1993.

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone, Day: _____

Program Name: _____

No. Participants: _____ Fee (if any): _____

Mailing address: _____

WVNPS
Corresponding Secretary
P. O. Box 2755
Elkins, WV 26241

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WVNPS
Corresponding Secretary
P. O. Box 2755
Elkins, WV 26241



*Judy Dumke
RR1, Box 148
Chesapeake, Ohio 45619*

further information, contact Bill Grafton at 304/293-4797 extension 493.

Workshop: An Introduction to Bryophytes of West Virginia (mosses & liverworts)

Date: February, 19, 1994 **Time:** 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Description: Dr. Tom Weaks and P. J. Harmon will introduce us to the mosses and liverworts of West Virginia -- the "bryophytes"! They're an exciting and fascinating group and one can botanize for them throughout the whole year. Using slides, microscopes, and specimens from the Marshall collection, we'll start off inside the lab until 11:30 AM. Then, Dr. Dan Evans will give us a brief tour of Marshall's herbarium, followed by lunch. Afterwards, we'll be off to hunt the bryophytes with a hand lense in the field for the rest of the afternoon.

Directions: The workshop will begin in Marshall's Science Building, Rm. 361, located just off 3rd. Ave., in Huntington, between 17th. street and Hal Green Blvd. Participants will not need to register for guest parking, and the most convenient parking lot is immediately across 3rd. Ave. from the Science Building.

Leaders: Dr. Tom Weaks, Prof. of Biology, & Paul J. Harmon, Botanist, WV Natural Heritage Program

What to bring: Dress warmly! A hand lense is required, and the recommended text to be used is How to Know the Mosses, by H. Conard (available through the Marshall University Bookstore). Bring a sack lunch.

Limit: 20 participants

Map: available upon request

Workshop: Rare Plant Roundup!

Date: March 19, 1994 **Time:** 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Description: This is a new idea that is designed to help people catch up with one another about what exciting plants they saw last season, and at the same time, it helps the Conservation Committee get rare plant information into the WV Natural Heritage Program database. We'll snack, swap stories, share some slides, and get the details onto paper and locations mapped. If you're not sure how to gather conservation botanical data, we'll show you how, or if you're interested, but don't have anything specific to share, come have fun learning about this exciting new field of botany!

Directions: The Roundup will be held at the Division

of Natural Resources' Operations Center, in Elkins. From the junction of U.S. Rts. 33, 250 and 219 at McDonald's in Elkins, travel south on U.S. Rts. 250/219 2 miles to Ward Road (immediately opposite the entrance to Wal-Mart). Turn right, and follow Ward Road about 1.5 miles West. The Operations Center is on the hill to the right at the DNR entrance sign.

Leaders: Bill Grafton, Clete Smith, & P. J. Harmon

What to bring: Bring any notes or documentation you have for any rare plant locations you want to register. You might want to bring any interesting slides, photos, or specimens you want to share. Also, bring a sack lunch and something to drink. The Society will provide some snacks for the morning and afternoon. Since we're an out-door-oriented group, you may want to bring some field clothes along in case we want to take a short hike between indoor sessions.

Limit: none

Map: available upon request

Workshop: Winter Twig Identification

Date: March 26, 1994 **Time:** 12:30-3:30 PM

Description: Dr. Roland Guthrie, formerly professor of Biology at West Virginia University, will show us how to identify woody plants in winter condition. The workshop will be conducted at the Core Arboretum, located near the Collesum off the Evansdale Campus. There is plenty of parking at the arboretum.

Directions: If you're traveling along I-79 north from the Clarksburg area, take the Star City exit, and travel along the access road to U.S. Rt. 7. Turn right, then travel east along Rt. 7 as if you were heading for downtown Morgantown. The parking for the arboretum will be on your right at the crest of a hill, just beyond the colleseum (approx. 1 mi).

Leaders: Dr. Roland Guthrie taught dendrology at WVU for many years, and knows the Core Arboretum trails extraordinarily well!

What to bring: A hand lens or large magnifying glass and a sharp knife will be very helpful. Dress warmly. Sturdy hiking shoes are recommended, and a small container of drinking water.

Limit: 20

Map: available upon request

Field Trip: Cranberry Glades

Date: June 25, 1994 **Time:** 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Description: Following our Board of Directors meeting at 10:00 AM, we'll enjoy a leisurely walk along the boardwalk at this most famous of all our "bogs" or acidic fens. Footing is easy, as we will skirt the edge of two fens along the wooden boardwalk. We'll see bog rosemary, tiny cranberries, mats of *Sphagnum* moss, grass pink and rose pogonia, many in bloom at that time of the year, too!

Directions: Cranberry Glades Botanical Area is located within the Gauley Ranger District of the Monongahela National Forest, in Pocahontas County. The drive to the boardwalk is located approx. 2 miles east of the Cranberry Visitor Center along U.S. Rt. 55, approx. 8 miles west of Mill Point, WV.

Leaders: Bill Grafton, & P. J. Harmon.

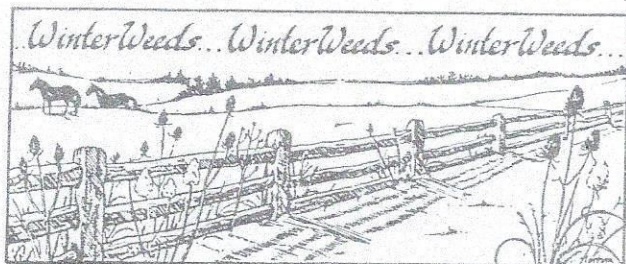
What to bring: Tennis shoes are appropriate. A hand lense is helpful; binoculars add a nice touch.

Limit: none

Map: available upon request

There's More to Come ...

With the next newsletter (due out in March), you'll find more great field trips, workshops, and opportunities to enjoy WVNPS activities. However, if you have an idea



Compliments of Cincinnati Nature Center

for an event, drop a line to Bill Grafton, Vice President and Chairman of the Field Trips Committee and share it with him. See you "in the field"!

Membership Dues ... are Due!

January 1, 1994 began a new calendar year and a new fiscal year for the WVNPS. Membership dues for 1994 are due and payable immediately.

Members who have not paid dues by April 1, 1994 will be notified by the Society in writing that they are ineligible to vote or to be a candidate for office in Society elections. Termination of membership