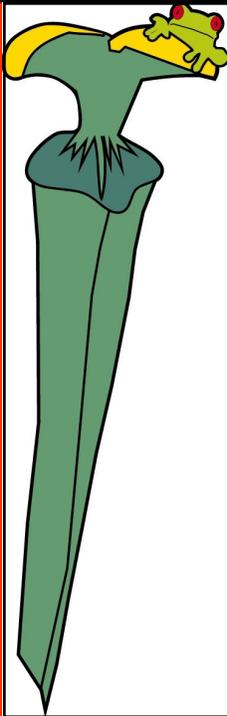


The Center for Biodiversity Purchased at Joseph Pines Preserve!!!



A non-profit
501(c)(3)
organization

On August 15, 2014 Meadowview closed on the purchase of the Center for Biodiversity at Joseph Pines Preserve. The purchase was accomplished with a \$50,000 grant from the Mary Morton Parsons Foundation, member donations, revenue from selective timber harvest for longleaf pine restoration, and a \$140,000 mortgage loan from Union First Market Bank. Donations are welcome to support the monthly mortgage loan of \$917.

We had originally hoped to purchase the 51 acre Schwartz tract as the biodiversity center, but lost our purchase option due to activation of a kick out clause by a competing buyer. We simply weren't able to raise enough foundation or donor support in a timely manner to acquire the Schwartz property (see spring 2014 newsletter for why we need enhanced fund raising for land acquisition). However, in an ironic twist of fate, the same day the Schwartz contract negotiations fell through, another property meeting most of our needs came up for sale. We consulted with The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation and our grant award was reapplied to purchase this property.

The Center for Biodiversity at Joseph Pines Preserve is located at 22515 Cabin Point Rd. and adjoins our 36 acre Conservation Forestry tract. A grand opening was held on October 11. We have a number of events and activities planned for 2015. Details about the center are on the "Prospectus" link on our Joseph Pines section at www.pitcherplant.org. The Center is now completely furnished, thanks to several member donations. We're

already busy flagging and cutting the trails from the Center into the Joseph Pines Preserve for our next tour.



“...your work with pitcher plants and the long leaf pine was very interesting. We tend to wipe out native species without a second thought. It is refreshing to discover someone like yourself who is working hard to preserve them.” Nov. 11, 2014 grant award letter from Rossie Carter Hutcheson, President, Beirne Carter Foundation.

Propagation

2014 was the first year, ever, that the National *Sarracenia* Collection at Meadowview received a complete grooming. This feat was accomplished because we finally had a full time horticulturist, Richard Curzon, and he had an excellent summer staff to assist him. Mr. Curzon and volunteers also filled remaining bed space with plant divisions.

Propagation of Venus' flytrap seed, *Sarracenia* seed, *Drosera* cuttings, and *Nepenthes* cuttings intensified and we are now at full capacity in the glass-house.



Simret Asgedom
repotting flytrap
seedlings

Recent grants and donations

- \$700 from Vonda Delawie for gutters on biodiversity center
- Sofa bed and glass coffee table for biodiversity center from Vonda Delawie
- Refrigerator for Meadowview from Mike Hammond
- 3 piece living room set, end tables, and coffee table from Jon and Heidi Davis for biodiversity center
- Husquarna riding mower for Meadowview from Drs. Peter & Genivieve Sheridan
- \$1000 from American Conifer Society for longleaf pine nursery
- \$2500 from Duff McDuff Green Jr. Fund of the Community Foundation of the Rappahannock River Region for 30 h.p. DR Chipper
- \$2000 from Norcross Foundation for 30 h.p. DR chipper
- \$7500 from Dominion Foundation for used 55 h.p. Kioti tractor with implements
- \$10,000 from Beirne Carter Foundation for used 55 h.p. Kioti tractor with implements

Needs

- Good, safe used car that gets high mileage
- Chainsaws and weed trimmers (Stihl brand or equivalent)
- Pressure washer
- Dump trailer

We're "Small But Mighty" in the Community Give

Meadowview received over \$13,000 in donations and prizes for land conservation in the Community Give on May 6, 2014 (see <https://www.thecommunitygive.org/#leaderboard>). The event was hosted by the Community Foundation of the Rappahannock River Region as part of a one day "crowd fund-raising event" for local non-profits. Meadowview won the "Small But Mighty" prize of \$1000 plus two \$1000 prizes in the Honeywell Charitable Fund "Golden Ticket" award. The "Small But Mighty" prize was given to three non-profits that raised the most amount of money and have no more than one full time employee.

The Community Foundation will host another Community Give on May 5, 2015. Please mark this date on your calendar as THE day to donate to Meadowview for land conservation. We'll have more details as we get closer to the event but your participation is critical to make us eligible for SIGNIFICANT cash prizes. We just missed winning a \$5000 prize because supporters either failed to donate, or donated in ways that didn't meet the GIVE guidelines (e.g. donating on PayPal the day before the event and not through the GIVE portal). We'll work hard to make sure that everyone understands how to donate to Meadowview for the Community Give on the May 5, 2015.

Improvements in Meadowview Infrastructure

2014 was an amazing year for infrastructure upgrades at Meadowview. Thanks to some generous donations from one of our board members we are able to hire D&W Fence Inc. to install the security fence and gates at Meadowview, complete the solar shed encapsulating and protecting the wood furnace, add two more solar hot water collectors on solar shed, and put a new metal roof over the kitchen and sunroom. The solar shed is also providing additional storage for equipment and tools.



Highland and propagation shed



Solar shed over wood furnace



New grow beds and security fence



Refurbished 1969 John Deere garden tractor

One of our more ambitious late summer and fall projects was the construction of the highland chamber and propagation shed. This project involved running water, electricity, and heater lines over 150 feet, disassembly and reassembly of the shed, and construction of the highland chamber and propagation benches. A side benefit of the project was providing water and electricity at the potting area.

We were also blessed to obtain the remarkable, full time volunteer Theresa Smith. Theresa almost single handedly has been able to refurbish and paint a number of rooms and pieces of equipment at Meadowview. Theresa's efforts have given Meadowview a major facelift.

Job Openings

Vice President, Preserve Manager, Summer Interns

We're still looking for someone to fill the important Vice President position at Meadowview. We also have an opening for a preserve manager to handle our two nature preserves totaling over 250 acres. Summer internships are also available. Please contact us if you, or someone you know, is interested in applying for these positions.



Did you know?:

HEALTHY PITCHER PLANTS

MEANS

HEALTHY WATER!

Graphic by
Wayne Jenski

Pitcher plants are not only amazing, beautiful, carnivorous plants but they often times occur in headwater seepage bogs, or springs, where water first emerges from the ground. These habitats have high biological diversity and the species found there require a pristine environment. Therefore, pitcher plants are biological indicators of high environmental quality. Preserving the habitats where pitcher plants occur helps ensure that valuable ecosystem services, like an abundance of clean drinking water, are maintained. The seepage bogs themselves, typically composed of silica sand and a layer of peat and peat mosses, also play a valuable role in filtering the spring water as it makes its way to larger order streams.



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