

JUNE 2004

# Catoctin Mountain Happenings At ThorpeWood



## HOT Calendar

Items:

*Third Thursday at  
ThorpeWood  
Thursday  
June 17th  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*Fly Fishing  
Workshops  
Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup>  
1:00p -4:30 p  
\$15 per workshop*

*Community Dinner:  
Sunday,  
June 27<sup>th</sup>  
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

*Check out our website  
for more details  
regarding these  
programs and more!*



Our Community Dinners  
are sponsored in part by a  
grant from the  
**Chesapeake Bay Trust**

## Community Potluck Dinner "Rattlesnake"

Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 pm

Well, it looks like another very interesting topic for our next Community Dinner: RATTLESNAKES!

We are very fortunate to have as our guest, Marty Martin, reported to be the East Coasts leading expert on the Timber Rattlesnake. Marty will share his vast knowledge with us and even bring a couple of rattlesnakes with him! If the rattlesnake is a creature you know nothing about, or you and your family are terrified of snakes, this is a topic for you! Come and learn all about the rattlesnake...how to avoid them, what to do when you come upon one in the woods, where they hibernate and how long, and many more amazing facts! This is a wonderful opportunity for many of you to get a real education on the life of a rattlesnake here on Catoctin Mountain!

As always, it is our goal through the coming year to be a community center for you, to keep you informed on what is happening in your watershed, and involve you in the process. Come to the dinner on the 27<sup>th</sup> to share food and good conversation.

**Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 301-271-2823.** When calling please indicate the the number of people coming with you and the food you will bring to share according to the list below. Please prepare enough for your family plus 6 people:

- Appetizers (chips, dips, veggies, etc.)
- Main Dish (pasta, ham, fish, etc.)
- Side Dish (salads, casseroles, etc.)
- Desserts

Remember to bring your recipe along with your dish!!



Marty during a recent outing on Catoctin Mountain

Meredith speaking to group



## April 2004 Community Dinner

We had the privilege to have Meredith Lathbury, *Potomac Conservancy, Director of Land Protection and General Counsel* as our guest speaker to enlighten us about Donated Conservation Easements.

About 30 *Friends of ThorpeWood* joined the staff for a wonderful potluck dinner and a very interesting discussion on conserving the land around us...from small lots, up to hundreds of acres! Meredith shared a slide presentation with pictures of property in and around Frederick county and even some property owners. There were many questions from those in attendance and several attendees have contacted Meredith and CLT to discuss ways to place their property in a conservation easement.

If you would like more information on land conservation, please contact Don Briggs or Sam Castleman at Catoctin Land Trust, 301-447-3110 or 301-271-2823. You may also access information from the CLT website: <http://www.catoctinlandtrust.org>.

## THANK YOU!!!

ThorpeWood would like to extend a huge thank you to Marsh-McBirney, Inc. for their recent donation of a Flow-Mate Model 2000. This equipment instantly provides accurate and dependable flow velocity measurements in rivers and streams. This donation will greatly assist us in our educational programming here at ThorpeWood. Check out their website for more info: <http://www.marsh-mcBirney.com>

Interested in making a contribution to ThorpeWood? We encourage you to check out our Support Thorpe Foundation link on our website OR better yet, drop a Donation in our "Donation"

Blue Bird House at the center.

It is through the generosity of many that Thorpe Foundation ("ThorpeWood") is able to continue our support of youth, educational, environmental and scientific groups. Merle Thorpe, Jr. Charitable Trust is a 501(c)3 organization and contributions are tax deductible. Your tax advisor should counsel you as to the extent of your deduction.



Chris Pax,  
Native Plant Specialist

### ThorpeWood clothing has arrived!

T-shirts, Hats, and more! If interested, give us a call or stop by. We hope to have an order page up on our website soon!



### Intern Corner

We extend our warmest congratulations to two of our recent interns who have graduated! Whitney Neilson graduated from Middletown High School and Missy Cross from Hood College.

We welcome our newest intern, Brian Macik, a student at the Univ. of Pittsburgh, where he is majoring in environmental studies.



**THORPEWOOD**  
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301-271-2823  
info@thorpewood.org

### Mission Statement

Thorpe Foundation, a not for profit organization, serves youth, local and regional communities by modeling stewardship of natural resources and providing environmental education through hands on learning opportunities.

## ThorpeWood's Native Plant Garden

By Chris Pax

The first meeting of ThorpeWood's *Native Plant Garden Group* was held on Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

After a brief talk on native ferns and their use in the garden, the group went outside and learned to use a key to identify ferns in ThorpeWood's native fern garden (on the lower level near the screen porch).

Right now, the Group is small, so there's plenty of room for more who are interested in using native plants in personal garden settings. The group meets on Thursday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at ThorpeWood. Be sure to bring your gloves...we usually start with a talk and finish by helping maintain the beautiful native plant gardens that surround the lodge.

If interested, please call and leave a message for Chris Pax, 301-271-2823.

### What's happening in and around the garden?

For those of you itching to get your hands dirty, here's a preview of what is to happen in and around ThorpeWood's garden. If any of it appeals to your gardening wiles, please give us a call and we will be thrilled to have your help!

Have you always dreamt of planting a **gigantic pumpkin patch**? Well, now is your chance! Join us for this fun planting experience this summer, and come back in the fall to witness the fruits of your labor.

Don't know what a **Three Sister's Garden** is? Come out early this summer and we will teach you this simple-to-install method of companion-planting that has been utilized by Native Americans for centuries. Give Terra a call at 301-271-2823!

## Stephen Dodge Chestnut Orchard Manager

ThorpeWood's Chestnut Orchard was established in 1999 and is uniquely tied to The American Chestnut Foundation's (TACF) ongoing efforts to restore the American chestnut to its original ecological role in the hardwood forests of Eastern North America.

Stephen Dodge, ThorpeWood's orchard manager, recently, accepted the position of Intermediate Director (instructor) for the adolescent program at Butler School in Darnestown, Maryland where he will be teaching science to 12 and 13 year olds.

We are pleased that Stephen will continue as our orchard manager. This is definitely a win-win situation! He will continue to work closely with the Maryland and Pennsylvania chapters of the American Chestnut Foundation and also oversee many volunteer projects related to the chestnut orchard.

### Congratulations Stephen!!



Terra preparing Herb boxes volunteers