Ten undergraduates from six states plus Puerto Rico spent their summer at Blandy conducting mentored research in the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program, which is supported by the National Science Foundation.
**Annual Report • FY2019 • Blandy Experimental Farm and the Foundation of the State Arboretum • 11**

**From the Director**

**The Year of the Tree**

By David Carr

Director, Blandy Experimental Farm

It was a busy, productive year at the State Arboretum of Virginia, with a great deal of effort focused on raising the profile of the tree collection. On Arbor Day in April 2019, the State Arboretum of Virginia proclaimed the Eastern Redbud the “State Arboretum’s Tree of the Year.” It was a new idea to highlight one of the wonderful native trees of Virginia and to remind everyone of our historic focus on trees.

In keeping with the theme, this summer, Caroline Bowman, our horticulture intern, logged GPS coordinates for 593 trees to include them in our online Arboretum mapping program. Ten horticulture interns, including the Table Mountain Pine, Arizona Cypress, and Japanese Umbrella Pine. And our beautiful and popular Ginkgo Grove did not disappoint as its brilliant golden colors again attracted thousands of visitors in the fall - some of whom were making their first trip to the Arboretum.

Surprisingly, in retrospect, there is nothing in Graham Blandy’s 1926 bequest to the University of Virginia to suggest that Blandy Experimental Farm could host the State Arboretum of Virginia. That was not the plan. I doubt that it was the plan when Blandy’s first Director, Dr. Orland E. White, accessioned his first tree here (a pawpaw from seeds received in 1926, for those who are curious). He was building a research collection, but he arrived at the University of Virginia from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. He undoubtedly had a sense of how to put together an arboretum. His collection had design and purpose. The trees were arranged in family groups – the conifers (Pinaceae), the oaks and beeches (Fagaceae), the maples (Aceraceae), and so on. The family groups were arranged in the same way that an herbarium was arranged in that day – by the Engler-Prantl system.

The collection started with the most primitive families and proceeded through what were regarded as increasingly more advanced families. In arranging this system, he took advantage of the local topography and the view to the east of the Blue Ridge Mountains to create something on the landscape that inspired.

When Dr. White retired in 1955, the University honored him by formally naming his collection – a professional labor of 28 years – the Orland E. White Arboretum. It was still not the State Arboretum, however. In fact, Blandy and the Orland E. White Arboretum went through a period of relative neglect after the retirement of Blandy’s second Director, Dr. Ralph Singleton, in 1965. It stayed in that state for over a decade.

In the early 1980s, Blandy began a rebirth. Dr. Ed Connor of the Department of Horticulture, and in the same way that an herbarium groups – the conifers (Pinaceae), the oaks and beeches (Fagaceae), the maples (Aceraceae), and so on. The family groups were arranged in the same way that an herbarium was arranged in that day – by the Engler-Prantl system.

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In the early 1980s, Blandy began a rebirth. Dr. Ed Connor of the Department of Environmental Sciences proposed using Blandy as an ecological field station in 1982, and an organization called “The Friends of Blandy” incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1984 “for the promotion of research, education, and community service.” The Friends of Blandy worked to make the Orland E. White Arboretum a more valuable public resource, and to this end, persuaded the Virginia General Assembly to designate it as the State Arboretum of Virginia in 1986. In 1997, the Friends of Blandy formally became the Foundation we know today.

The State Arboretum of Virginia now includes over 5,000 trees and shrubs spread over 172 of Blandy’s 700 acres. The collection includes over 1,000 species and varieties. The most distinctive parts of the Arboretum still date to the Orland White era. These include the magnificent conifer collection that greets you as you pass through the archway, the Cedar of Lebanon Allee along Tuleyries Lane, and our famous Ginkgo Grove, mentioned earlier, that bursts into a golden glow to mark the end of every autumn.

The 33 years as the State Arboretum of Virginia has allowed us to build on Orland White’s legacy and transform Blandy into the environmental research and education center that it is today. The designation has enabled us to highlight the Commonwealth’s rich diversity of trees. The designation has also allowed us to take on new environmental education and research challenges, putting nature first every day.
Blandy's Education Team Expands its Programming

A Watershed Moment
New Partnership Immerses Students in Watershed

By Candace Lutzow-Felling
Director of Education

We had another wonderful and busy year engaging preschool through high school students in outdoor investigations at the State Arboretum. Over 6,000 students learned about plants and their pollinators; dug into soil and examined rocks; studied bird, insect, reptile, and mammal adaptations and searched the Arboretum for evidence of these creatures. Others were immersed in scientific investigations focused on our wetlands, succession fields, woodlands, and meadow ecosystems. The expertise of our education instructors and alignment of our programs with state learning objectives, in addition to the diverse, safe learning environment, are the main reasons why teachers bring their students to the Arboretum for our education programs.

This year, we also began a three-year partnership with Clarke County Public Schools training elementary, middle, and high school teachers in watershed education and working in collaboration with them to create multi-disciplinary curricular units focused on our local and regional watersheds. This ambitious project is funded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Bay Watershed and Education Program (NOAA B-WET). During the 2018-19 school year, Blandy educators, in partnership with Clarke County teachers, taught 12 watershed-based programs at Blandy to 677 Clarke County grade 4-6 students. Teachers served 86 hours of instruction during 23 professional development sessions offered throughout the school year. One of these was a three-day intensive watershed institute held at UVA's Antiochus-Bohigian Ecological Research station on the Eastern Shore. Teachers explored Chesapeake Bay wetland and coastal strand habitats, collected soil and water samples to analyze in the research station’s lab, and experienced the unique culture and agricultural economy of the Eastern Shore Bay area.

High school students learn how to collect macroinvertebrates provided 86 hours of instruction during 23 professional development sessions offered throughout the school year. One of these was a three-day intensive watershed institute held at UVA’s Antiochus-Bohigian Ecological Research station on the Eastern Shore. Teachers explored Chesapeake Bay wetland and coastal strand habitats, collected soil and water samples to analyze in the research station’s lab, and experienced the unique culture and agricultural economy of the Eastern Shore Bay area.

Students had a chance encounter with a Bluebird Trail volunteer as they were conducting an active game to study bird migration. 4th grade students, May 2019

Students served by Blandy’s Education Program (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. 22 School Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Programs</td>
<td>84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students Served</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers attending</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Schools Served</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public School</td>
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<td>Private school</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Scientist Professional Development, # attending</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td># teachers served</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td># undergraduates served</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td># adult community served</td>
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Total Outreach Impact (B served)

High school students map invasive organisms in Rattlesnake Spring, March 2019

Students served by Blandy’s Education Program (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)

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Total Outreach Impact (B served)

Governor’s school students mapping invasive organisms in Rattlesnake Spring, March 2019
From the President

FOSA: Revitalizing and Ready To Grow

By Steve Bauserman

Looking back on the past year, the Foundation of the State Arboretum has made many exciting changes. I know this report is for a fiscal year, but forgive me if I slip into the next fiscal year as I share our ongoing projects.

With any organization, significant personnel changes can bring not only uncertainty but also an opportunity for reflection and improvement on goals and objectives. Last year, I explained that long-time director Martha Bjelland retired and, midway through the fiscal year, we hired Robin Coachard Cardillo. This past summer, Anne Heacock, FOSA’s treasurer and paid CPA, moved to Richmond and resigned her positions. With no reflection on the jobs and commitments these individuals performed for FOSA, the officers and board took the opportunity to review procedures and goals and re dedicate ourselves to the mission of supporting the State Arboretum and the educational efforts of Blandy for students and the public. Sometimes it is helpful to periodically review how we do things simply to confirm we are on track, or that we need to change course.

Robin, a director with prior non-profit experience and familiarity with Blandy, has been an energizer for exploring new ideas to increase membership, FOSA income, and educational opportunities for our members, the public, and students.

Last year, I mentioned our major undertaking to re purpose the extremely small gift shop into the hub of an information/educational outreach center on campus. While this idea started a couple of years ago, this past year has seen a concerted effort to move the project forward. We have been working with the virtual reality team at Shenandoah University with the objective of providing a modern, up-to-date, and dynamic center featuring an interactive information wall, as well as a low-tech tactile display for children. Lots more needs to be finalized, but the objective is to have a compact, yet highly flexible center that is user-friendly to folks of various levels of technology expertise and easily upgradable as technology changes.

Losing the income from the shop as well as our decision to replace a harvesting fall Arboretum with the new Nature Nurseries fundraising event have had the obvious negative impact on our ability to meet our financial obligations to Blandy and our mission. In looking more closely at finances, we recognized our membership categories, both the level of benefits and the costs, needed updating. We believe they are now competitive with similar organizations and better reward our members.

We are fortunate to have outside contributions for funding center activities, such as the 2019 sponsorship of Caroline Bowman by the Faulconer and Loudoun Garden Club as a Public Gardens Intern. Bowman is an undergraduate at Virginia Tech. Additionally, the James R. Wilkins Charitable Trust graciously continues its annual commitment to sponsor two local high school students – this year, Laurel Tucker from John Handley High School and Cyle DeHaven from James Wood High School – to work with the REU summer college students and faculty at Blandy. And FOSA continues to fund one graduate-level researcher at Blandy, with the help of the Luminescence Foundation.

Other events we’re excited about include our first Tree of the Year award. As the State Arboretum of Virginia, we felt it only fitting to promote one of our native trees. On Arbor Day 2019, we named the Eastern Red Bud as the Arboretum’s Grand Tree of the Year. A relatively small tree, the Eastern Red Bud makes a spectacular statement each spring with its early, easily identified blossoms. If you are doing landscaping, give this tree a good look.

We also welcomed several new board members, voting in at our June Annual Meeting and preparing them to assume their roles in July: Thom Flory (who grew up on Blandy farm), Celine Harris, Alex Newhart, and Tracey Smith. Each has joined FOSA committees and is already contributing to moving us forward.

We honored Neil Myers as our Volunteer of the Year and recognized our other volunteers for their tireless donation of time to our mission (which, by the way, Virginia values at over $50,000 for the year). Well done to all!

Grants, Awards, and Fellowships


Annual Forum Highlights

Summer Research Program

The annual summer research forum included 10 undergraduate students presenting the results of their work in Blandy’s Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program.

Two students received Tom Callahan Undergraduate Research Awards, and for the first time, the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao swept the awards presentations. Madariz Serrano-Perez, under the guidance of Kyle Haynes as mentor, won Best Presentation for “Effects of Artificial Light at Night on the Behavior and Performance of the Monarch Butterfly Caterpillar.” Adalberto Ubina, mentored by T’ai Roulston, won Most Creative Presentation for “Buzzing at Night? Understanding Overhanging Behavior in Bumble Bees and its Causes.” Blandy’s REU program is funded by the National Science Foundation and with Blandy internal funds. The program provides a summer of mentored research experience with an established researcher. The Callahan Award is given in memory of former FOSA Board Member and NSF researcher Tom Callahan, who lost his battle with cancer in 1999.
Continued from Page 7

In Memory of Gordon Hosmer MacDougall
Barbara Elades

In Memory of Matthew Mackay-Smith
Donna and Bruce Downing

In Memory of Andy Miller
Janel and Thomas Melgaard

In Memory of Jessica Orozco, REU Class of 2011
Kate LeCroy

In Honor of Carrie Whitacre
Sue Balc

In Memory of Joan Symmes
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt

In Honor of Jim Wyatt
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt

In Honor of Jim Wyatt
Cynthia Wyatt

Gift In Kind
Chuck Ashcroft
Sue Balc
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt
Mrs. H. Hugh Heelo
Linda and Rob Humphrey
iHeart Media
Panera Bread
Purple Fern Photography
Sweet Tooth Bakery
The Virginia Farm Market
Sharon Winstead

FOSA sincerely attempts to acknowledge all gifts received. Though we appreciate any size donation, those under $25 are not printed to conserve paper (and our trees). We regret any errors or omissions in compiling this donor list.

Summer Nature Camps
American Woodmark Foundation
Greenway Garden Club
Town and Country Garden Club (Virginia)
Virginia Native Plant Society, Piedmont Chapter
Winchester-Clarke Garden Club

Restricted Gifts
Equestrian Trail
In Memory of Melanie Stiers
Drs. Sarah and David McLellan
Peace & Quiet Farm
Anne Watkins
Sylvia Wilson

Honorary/Memorial Benches
In Memory of George Vasjuta
Susanne Vasjuta

Honorary/Memorial Trees
In Memory of William Hines and Judith Randal
Judith Randal Hines
In Memory of Kemblyne White
Julie Dodson

Endowment
Permanent Endowment
In Memory of Joan Symmes
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt

In Honor of Jim Wyatt
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt

Foundation of the State Arboretum

Without
Donor
Restrictions
With Donor
Restrictions
Total

Net Assets as of 7/1/18
16,466
949,748
966,214

Net Assets as of 6/30/19
-59,712
-31,455
-91,167

Change in Net Assets
-43,246
938,293
895,047

Revenue and Support

Contributions
72,092
14,894
85,986

Membership
17,617
17,617

Investment Return, Net
5,589
27,801
33,390

Public Program Fees
19,242
19,242

Fundraising Events, Net of Expenses of $17,501
59,762
59,762

Total
227,465
-11,455
215,990

Functional Expenses

Administrative Expenses
53,497
53,497

Collection and Grounds Improvement
12,284
12,284

Research Experience
494
494

Public Information Services
7,499
7,499

Support of Blandy and State Arboretum
159,590
8,125
167,715

Total
229,364
55,885
285,250

Liabilities and Assets

Liabilities, accounts payable
11,054

Net Assets
-43,246

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions as of
398,293

6/30/19
6/30/19

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions as of
895,047

6/30/19
6/30/19

Total Net Assets
006,701

This summary is based on the Foundation’s audited financial statements, which are available upon request.

Foundation of the State Arboretum

Board of Directors
July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 (End of term in parentheses)

David Carr  (ex officio)
Karen McGlothery  (ex officio)
Josephine “Jolly” de Givel  (6/30/20)
Jonathan “Jay” Monroe  (6/30/21)
Heather Dudley  (6/30/21)
Chris Oldham  (6/30/19)
Karla Etten  (6/30/20)
Frederick “Fritz” Rester III  (6/30/21)
Christie Green  (6/30/19)
Polly Rowley  (6/30/22)
Susan Harris  (ex officio)
Roma Sherman  (6/30/19)
Frank “Hank” Hartz  (6/30/20)
Marianne Stanley  (6/30/20)
Kevin Hessberg  (6/30/21)
Nancy Takahashi  (6/30/22)
Scott Johnson  (6/30/20)
Steve Balc  (6/30/21)
Teatrice von Gontard  (6/30/21)
Michelle Jones  (6/30/21)
Robert Wever  (6/30/19)
G. Robert Lee  (6/30/20)
Sandy Wilson  (6/30/21)

Officers
J. Stephen Bauserman
President
Elise Wilson Thompson
Vice President
Anne H. Heacock
Treasurer
Mary Olien
Secretary
Christine Perdue
Immediate Past President

Committee Chairs
Arboretum Collections
Nancy Takahashi
Development & Membership
Michelle Jones Morris
Education
Brenda Wiens
Equestrian
Sylvia Wilson
Events
Bill Powers
Finance
Marianne Stanley
Anne Heacock
Government Relations
Bob Lee
Nominating
Jolly de Givel
Public Programs
Christine Perdue

FOSA

Development & Membership
Michelle Jones Morris
Education
Brenda Wiens
Equestrian
Sylvia Wilson
Events
Bill Powers
Finance
Marianne Stanley
Anne Heacock
Government Relations
Bob Lee
Nominating
Jolly de Givel
Public Programs
Christine Perdue

Thank You to Our Donors!
July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Ginkgo Guild
($85,000+ Unrestricted Giving)
Appreciation of Earth and Animal Foundation
Botanical Artists for Education and the Environment
Luminescence Foundation, Inc.
Elise Wilson Thompson
Wise Foundation

Blandy Society
($1,000,000+ Unrestricted Giving)
William M. Backer Foundation
Deborah and J. Stephen Bauserman
Peter Bullough
Jack and Page Carter Fund of the Community Foundation of the Northern Shenandoah Valley
Kathy Clark and Jim Wyatt
Andrew U. Ferrari Foundation
Thomas R. Flory
Michael Goldfarb
Sandra and Theodore Guarriello
Anne H. Henscock
Josephine “Jolly” de Give
Anne H. Heacock
Sandra and Theodore Guarriello
Michael Goldfarb
Thomas R. Flory
Andrew U. Ferrari Foundation
Northern Shenandoah Valley Community Foundation of the
Christine Perdue and Turner Smith
Mildred Koehler
Josephine "Jolly" de Give
Anne H. Heacock
Sandra and Theodore Guarriello
Michael Goldfarb
Thomas R. Flory
Andrew U. Ferrari Foundation
Northern Shenandoah Valley Community Foundation of the
Christine Perdue and Turner Smith
Mildred Koehler

Unrestricted Giving

Beatrice von Gontard
Nancy Takahashi
Mrs. Harrison Symmes
Roma and John Sherman
Patricia Robinson
Polly Rowley
Roma and John Sherman
Mrs. Harrison Symmes
Nancy Takahashi
Laurie Volk
Beatrice von Gontard
Melissa Zwick and Patrick Crumrine

Unrestricted Honorary/Memorials
In Honor of Steve Bauserman
Donna and Bruce Downing

In Honor of Steve Carroll
Garden Club of Warren County
Glen Burnie Garden Club
In Honor of Steve Carroll
Garden Club of Warren County
Glen Burnie Garden Club

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