

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE YEWS

✦ Experience Learning, Recreation, and Living Well in Appalachia ✦

Yew Mountain Center

Year Two at the Yew



It's our sophomore year at the Yew Mountain Center. We're bringing back some popular programs and trying some new things. Hope to see you!

2018 PROGRAMS

April 13 **Forest Farming Meeting** at 5:30 presented by Grow Appalachia, Rural Action, and United Plant Savers

April 14 **Wildflower Festival** 10-7 Celebrate spring in the forest!

May 4-6 **Introduction to Beekeeping** with John Lewis. Build a hive.

May 18-20 **Breeding Birds of WV** with Casey Rucker.

July 6-8 **Forest Herbs** wild plant stories, identification, uses, and forest farming with Paul Strauss and others.

July 28 **Mushroom Foray** forage for and identify mushrooms, enjoy a mushroom dinner and live music.

August 11 **Midsummer Strings**--workshops and concert for classical and mountain music.

September 8 **Fermentation Festival** workshops, feasting, and fun.

Sept 21-23 **Wild Wonderful Women in the Woods**, a women's retreat.

November 2-4 **Living Well Festival** workshops, art, music, and food.

Visit our website or find us on Facebook to for the most up-to-date list.

THE UNDERSTORY

Under the trees, the forest holds stories for each season. Winter witch hazel, spring ephemerals, summer mushrooms, and fall roots are characters in seasonal wildlife dramas. Our forests bear the stories of humans too. We are writing a new chapter in our woods with our educational forest farming project. By enhancing the understory flora with native plantings we aim to enhance and protect the wild ecology of our forests. The sustainable cultivation of sought-after plants like goldenseal, Solomon's seal, and ginseng reduces harvest pressure on wild populations and replaces valuable pieces of the forest's intricate web of life. Join us throughout the seasons to learn how to take your green thumbs into the woods.



*This newsletter is brought to you by the halberd-leaved violet, *Viola hastata*. It takes its scientific and common names from a weapon but is a delicate and sweet treat in early spring.*

MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

2017 Donors

Jeff & Cherie Austin, Margaret Baker, John Bailey, Dawn Baldwin Barrett, Tine Beam, Ruthana & Ken Beezley, Katie Brown, Dennis & Dianne Condon, Sandy Cowan, Bob Crawford and Betty Burke, Eric Domboski, Patrick Gabbert, Susan Grant, Greater Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation, Russell Edwards, Charles Garratt, Dave & Helena Gondry, Mary Harberl, Rebecca Hartman-Huenink, Susan Holtzman, Bill & Woody Hornbeck, Julia Huffman, Janet Hunt, Wayne & Michelle Jeffers, Amy Vernon-Jones, Vaughn Judson, Sharon & Larry Kearns, Dave Kucera, Lou Ella Lewis, David & Carroll Lipps, Beth Little, George Little, Lucky Marks, Paolo & Erica Marks, Julian Martin, Caspar Martin, Henry McLaughlin & Virginia Tyack, Trish McNaull, Jay Miller & Sioux Groves, Nancy Morgan, Megan Moriarty, Bob & Ginger Must, Everett James O'Flaherty, Anna Osborne, Pocahontas County Commission, Arla Ralston, Angelo Ratini, Megan Ratini, Christine Smith, Marilyn Skipworth, Snowshoe Foundation, Matthew Tate, Woodie Walker, Brenda Walters, and Linda Woolford.

2017 Volunteers

Dawn Baldwin-Barrett, Ruthana, Ken, Silas, & Eli Beezley, Wolfgang Boyer, Katie Brown, Joanna Burt-Kinderman, Blair Campbell, Adam Cate, Clay Condon, Danette & Michael Condon, Mary Dawson, Dick Evans, Charles Garratt, Laura Finch, Bonnie Gifford, Mac Gray, Natan Harel, Nan Holmes, Janet Junt, Jane Huppert, Paul Jacoby, Karline Jensen, Mike Jolly, Vaughn Judson, Rick Keener, Gibbs Kinderman, Joanna Burt-Kinderman, Margaret Baker & Neal Krakover, Ginny Lane, Christine LaPorte, Lou Ella Lewis, Will Lewis, Beth Little, George Little, Rebecca Loudermilk, Amy McIntire, Paolo, Erica, Asa & Sal Marks, Mark Massey, Marlyn McClendon, Yong McClendon, John Meyer, Tanja Mothes, Katie Mullins, Andrew Must, Bob & Ginger Must, Molly Must, Anna Osborne, Betty Rogers, Phil Rolleston, Robert Rush, Kara Squires, Marie Starceski, Paul Strauss, Emily Sullivan, Ron Swanberg, Travelin' Appalachians Revue, Robin & Ken Tywoniw, Jasper Waugh-Quesbarth, Margaret Worth.

LITTLE TRAILS DEDICATED

In 2017, with the help of volunteers and interns, we created two trails near the lodge. We called them the "new little trails," until we came up with the real names. When we decided to honor two of our supporters who were key to the success of our first year, we didn't have to change the names very much.

Starting at the lodge, the George Little Trail winds down to the Woods Playground and on to the frog pond. It's a favorite with the children whose forts and fairy gardens are seen along its sides—a suitable tribute to George Little who is an ardent supporter of programs for youth.

Cross our lane to traverse the Beth Little Trail and peer over the wildflower carpeted slope to the waterfalls of the South Fork of Rush Run. Beth Little has dedicated her life to preserving wild and beautiful places such as this one.

We are grateful to the generous, community minded brother-sister duo of George and Beth Little. May we be inspired by their examples on as we stroll along the Little Trails.



Yew People (L to R): Erica Marks, Katie Brown, Ruthana Beezley, Adam Cate, Karline Jenkins, Bob Must, Beth Little, Clay Condon, Will Lewis, Marlyn McClendon, Robin Tywoniw

THE YMC BOARD

President: Bob Must
Treasurer: Beth Little
Secretary: Karline Jensen
Ruthana Beezley
Katie Brown
Adam Cate
Will Lewis

THE YMC STAFF

Director: Erica Marks
Caretaker: Clay Condon
Innkeeper and Programs: Marlyn McClendon
Operations Manager: Robin Tywoniw

"I'm always astonished by a forest. It makes me realise that the fantasy of nature is much larger than my own fantasy. I still have things to learn." - Gunther Grass