## MOUNTAIN LAKE

## ECHOES




## 1st Term Classes

ECOLOGICAL GENETICS
Dr. David West, David Barton,
Tracey Spriggs, Mike Hood


MAMMALOGY
Athena Jenkins, Judy Holien, Amy Anstey,
Dr. Jack Cranford, Phyllis Wells, Debbie Fortune, Brian Weaver, Arpad Lazar

## TO THE MOUNTAIN LAKE MOUSE COUNCIL:

I was cruelly and maliciously captured, measured, weighed and given an ear ring all without my consent. And while being held in captivity, I over heard some of their code words which they often repeated--

IS THAT REALLY AN EPIDIDIMUS! OUCH! I JUST GOT BIT AGAIN!
KICKIN, I THINK I KILLED IT!---S P A A A Z!
IT'S A BOY, AND BOY IS HE HUNG! - Censored-
OH GOD, THAT'S GROSS

## THERE'S AN OAT IN YOUR HAIR, DR. CRANFORD, AND I CAN'T CONCENTRATE

 ON WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
## B-U-R-P! I'M STOKED AND FULLY TORKED.

I THINK I LEFT THIS MOUSE IN THE MICROWAVE TOO LONG.

## I LOVE YOU GUYS.

This information may be of use in our coming revolt, along with the intelligence gathered by our chipmunk brothers on their reconnaisance missions into human territory.

POWER TO THE RODENTS!


Brian Weaver Amy Anstey Dr. Jack Cranford Arpad Lazar Judy Holien Athena Jenkins Debbie Fortune Phyllis Wells (In order of appearance)



ANIMAL BEHAVIOR
Sharon Wise, Kirstin Siex, Kevin Brown



## ECOLOGICAL GENETICS

WARNING: Be on the lookout for four dangerous and armed Ecological Geneticists. Last seen running through an open field frantically chasing Papilio glaucus. The suspects were armed with butterfly nets and cyanogenic clover.

## KNOWN VICTIMS:

Cepaea nemoralis (slugs with shells)
Trifolium repens
Batus philenor (or a mimic thereof)
Bags and bags of Biston betularia
A fair amount of shrubbery on the Virginia Tech campus
DESCRIPTIONS: The leader of the Dreaded Lepioptera gang is a tall man who has been reputed to say: "That's not a pin, it's a thrum. You bluet!" and "You put you accent on the wrong syl-a-ble!"

The second member David "I wish I could get out of taking this test because I really don't need the credits to graduate" Barton is likely to be seen madly fleeing angry hornet nests or doing the M.C. Hammer on the volleyball court. He is deceivingly quiet yet easily provoked.

The third "hood", Michael, "one-not-BONK-4,5 fused" Hood camouflaged himself by lying on his dorsal surface beneath the fore mentioned Va. Tech shrubbery. He leaves the safety of this burrow only to scavenge the hillsides for blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, wineberries, sweet cherries, huckleberries, or strawberries.












# REFLECTIONS ON THE 1991 PLANT TAXONOMY CLASS AT MOUNTAIN LAKE by Spencer Tomb 

## "Variety is the very spice of life." (William Cowpers)

This year's Plant Taxonomy class is the largest and most diverse that I have had at Mountain Lake. From the very first there was "good chemistry" and a willingness to work hard. The evenings spent in the lab will long be remembered. But what a strange assemblage.

We had a high school whiz kid, a college administrator, a white water river rat turned school teacher, a bona fide botanist from Botetourt County, a goddess from California, a pole vaulting plant pathologists, and last but not least a Mathews County Wetland activist who earned the title, "Miss Vacant Lot of Giles County", while in the course.

We hit all of the usual places that Botanists should see in the Mt. Lake area and were on the road a good bit more than when the course is taught in the first term. As expected there was a shift to the Asteraceae late in the course with a chart of D.Y.C., DYC, DYC. We tried to change the Damned to delightful but alas not everyone is cut out to be a synantherologist!



hey kids.

 THELittlefrascals!



Sileni of the Lambs



## Kathryn's Story

## Once upon a time...

## Choose your own ending

"Where's Officer Roche?"
"I saw the whole thing!"
"It was the groundhog's fault!"
"It is not politically correct to state that 'it was the groundhog's fault.' One should state that the groundhog was 'anthropogenically challenged' and that it was equal to that challenge. To be fair, one must also state that Kathryn was 'rodentially challenged' and that she proved nearly equal to the challenge. In the final analysis, the entire incident is best described as a neutral clash of equally meritorious cultures in which each participant arrived at a greater understanding of the other's point of view, and thereby creating a mutually enriching experience. It is regrettable that more people at the station were not able to have such an experience. Kathryn shoul be very grateful."




## COMMUNITY ECOLOGY==REDTOOTH \& CLAW

I was a long, neverending drive up to the top of a beautiful mountain where we were destined to experience the ecology of a community or so we thought. After we arrived and settled in, we made great friends. Chipmunks or "chippers", as we so affectionately called the, became our neighbors, constantly "borrowing" apples, cookies and other various munchies. Five intellectually stimulating and rigorous weeks of hammering nails, slicing toes, stapling bags, counting"grass", grabbing"manders", finding"chewed and unchewed", seeing the light, counting "ox", dying over Daphnia, arguing over papers that "sucked", looking for "blood and gore" under the forest canopy in tiny acorns, and perplexing over isocline and figuring out whether it was the graphs or us that were unstable--these were all integral parts in not only allowing us to realize our love of the natural world around us, but giving us the knowledge to appreciate it even more. There is nothing better than flowing on acorns and counting chewed locules to make you question your sanity and allow you to realize that this is actually what you may want to do the rest of your life.

After having this class we can all have the peace of mind in knowing that our hauncho positions will be put to future use.

Ana and Arpad will continue building unusual floating contraptions, dipping endless buckets of water out of plastic bags, counting "little white teardrop things" with the aid of Leuwenhook's invention and impaling them with sharp objects.

Courtney will continue seining contaminated ponds for "toxic little red-spotted green guys", rendering them helpless by slicing off various toes and hearing them as they express their pain with sharp-ear-piercing squeals.

Mark will continue hurling meter sticks through the air picking random plots of "grass", counting "green leafy stuff" and all the while exclaiming "This sucks".

Peter will continue foraging for "manders", lifting rocks and logs in the rain and holding the helpless creatures in his hands while saying, "Ah--l'd like to smash its little head".

Shu-Mei will continue searching for "poisonous plants" counting chewed parts, measuring lengths and continuing to ask "What a ... is".

Roger will continue searching for "blood and guts", wondering whether "real" predatorprey relationships exist, looking for intestinally challenged products and blowing eagerly on acorns of the forest floor.

Adriana will continue hiking through "jungles", searching for "the light" and throwing javelin markers while impaling unsuspecting Trifolium which peacefully rests on the forest floor.

As for Joe Travis and Mark McPeek, they will continue their mission of teaching Mt. Lakers about the Wild, Wild Kingdom that we live in, while "attempting" to make every day in the classroom and in the field and intellectually stimulating stand-up comedy routine.


Grab the field press! Does everyone have boots on? Brian, where's your rain gear'? Get a garbage bag from Jefferson (the dining hall)!

Where are we going today? The Mobile Unit Director said, "Plan B is in effect. We're going to Claytor Lake to a rocky cliff for a prelude to the shale barrens excursion. Shoot! We miss Buffalo Mtn. this term. Oh well! I'd hoped to see the old bison this year.

Plant Taxonomy 2nd session is a map reading search for open areas to find flowers. The first flush of flowers is past by mid-July on the mountain, so-o-o Dr. Tomb was kept hopping trying to think of places for us to find new families everyday. When we arrived at most
sights the first week, there was a real order to keep out of the blueberry patches and search for flowering plants. We hiked to Bear Cliffs on one of the first days. By this time we had met all 7 people in our class:
Ruth, an administrator from Piedmont College, is a whiz at recognizing plants by common name--shh!--Spencer will hear you! Anne from Chesapeake Bay Area works hard in UVA greenhouse and knows lots of Latin.
Brian, a junior from Narz, Va (if you're going to live here, say it right!), gives the greatest tours of the heavens and when he's done, the bonfire has burnt down to embers, folks are stretched out on the new log and plank benches trying to keep straight which animal Zeus turned into and how to correctly pronounce AQUILLA, the Eagle. Billions and billions of stars--imagine if you will....
Athena, our goddess from Humboldt rattles off floral formulas at the drop of a family name with a laugh from the Sesame St. Count--calyx 4, corolla 4, anthers 4, gynoceum 1, Ah! Ah! Ah! Michael, a fellow W Va canoeist working on his Scrophs (Scrophulariaceae-Flase foxgloves) can sing a million show tunes then turn around and ask Dr. Tomb the most thought provoking questions aon definition of species or origin or Magnoliaceae.
Jenny, who has researched plants with her Mom for years really got into making some beautiful dry mount specimens. Late nights in the Plant Taxonomy room--being Plant Tax nerds were accompanied by Jenny's radio and 2 or more beautiful voices singing along-Wait! Spencer! Where are you going?! We need you in the lab to help us key out these plants! What? You have to listen to your pillow? When there's great music all around you here!?
Hilarie, the gullible but well-prepared teacher is still in awe of all these great researchers and seminars about Silene, juncos, Enalagma, Hawaiian fruit flies, caviar at the Walton Lecture, listening to Lise get on the road at 5:30 to work on mist nets.


## PLANT TAX GRAFITTI

Hay, hay, hay!!!

Getting a buzz off of the permanent ink pen I used to do me herbarium specimen cards.

Cracking a hard-boiled egg on Athena's head.
Ridingaround Giles Co. in the van with Spencer who drives off the road to try to run over chipmunks! "Live by the road, die by the road!"

You can't let life pass you by, sometimes you just have to stop and key out the Roseaceae.

I'm wiggin' out!<br>DYC, JYBBS, SOB, CRS, SOL, YMCA<br>\section*{4 hour quizzes}

Common names rarely are!
What's it gonna matter in a 100 years?
I'm going to listen to my pillow!
b.... load
what's that again?


Brassićrea smallii: Herwinan
var athenarnsis Altes
Adduban Dorm, istrommanleft
7 July, 1 TVI
Thinesin

A is for agarose mised as a gel.
B is for buffer, commonly tris- HCl
C is for chloroform, an odorous organic.
$\mathbf{D}$ is for dilutions, derived in a panic!
E is for enzymes like proteinase.
F is for (ph)enol: Don't splash in your face!
$\mathbf{G}$ is for gloves to protect us from toxins.
$\mathbf{H}$ is for hot plate!, too close burns the skin.
$I$ is for incubate at 37 degrees $C$.
$\mathbf{J}$ is for jerry-rig when equipment is not to be.
$\mathbf{K}$ is for Klenow fragments of DNA poly I.
L is for loading dye mixed with samples before run.
$\mathbf{M}$ is for microliters measured with a pipette.
$\mathbf{N}$ is for liquid nitrogen ground with matter dry or wet.
O is for oligonucleotide, a sequence of bases ten.
$\mathbf{P}$ is for plasmids that clone DNA over again.
$\mathbf{Q}$ is for questions of which there were plenty!
Ris for radioactive labels, P 32, one of many.
$\mathbf{S}$ is for DNA sequencing, our ultimate quest.
T is for transformations. Bacteria, do your best!
$\mathbf{U}$ is for UV light, to detect bands on the gels.
$\mathbf{V}$ is for voltage to run samples in the wells.
W is for molecular weight which shows base separation.
$\mathbf{X}$ is for $\mathbf{X}$-ray film kept dark, or it's overdone.
$\mathbf{Y}$ is for yeast, to make more than just wine.
$\mathbf{Z}$ is for $\mathbf{Z M}$-111-4, a control sequence to amplify.
Autoclave, centrifuge, eppendorf, TE.
These are just some of the ghosts haunting me!

Kathy Hornberger Mahinda Martinez Rebecca Nokes







## MT. LAKE DIRECTORY-SUMMER 1991

| ANGLEBERGER, Wayne Mary Ann | Rt. 1, Box 152 | Business Mgr. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mt. Solon, VA 22843 | Secretary |
| Tom | Box 1752 | Librarian |
|  | College of Wm. \& Mary | Beetle research |
|  | Williamsburg, VA 23185 | Cartoonist |
| ANSTEY, Amy | Deliwood Farm | Mammalogy |
|  | Rt. 1, Box 592 |  |
|  | Rustburg, VA 24588 |  |
| BARTON, David | Gen. Delivery | Ecol. Genetics |
|  | Davenport, VA 24239 |  |
| BROWN, Kevin | Rt. 1, Box 6678 | An. Behavior |
|  | Front Royal, VA 22630 |  |
| BROWNER, Roger | 11 Maytime Ct . | Community Ecology |
|  | Jericho, NY 11753 |  |
| BURKE, Dan Casey Sarah | Dept. of Biology | DNA WORKSHOP |
|  | Univ. of Va. |  |
|  | Charlottesville, VA 22901 |  |
| CARTER, Courtney | 1907 Dundee Lane | Community Ecology |
|  | Martinsville, VA 24112 |  |
| CARUSO, Chris | OCMR \#617 | Salamander research |
|  | Oberlin, OH 44074 |  |
| CAWTHORN, Michelle Ray Chandler Houston(1) | Dept. of Biology | Junco research |
|  | Indiana Univ. |  |
|  | Bloomington, IN 47405 |  |
| CHANDLER, Ray Michele Cawthorn Houston (1) | Dept. of Biology | Junco research |
|  | Indiana Univ. |  |
|  | Bloomington, IN 47405 |  |
| CHANG, Shu-mei | Dept. of Zoology | Community Ecology |
|  | Duke Univ | Salamander research |
|  | Durham, NC 27706 |  |


| CRANFORD, Jack | Biology Dept. <br> VPI \& SU <br> Blacksburg, VA 24060 | MAMMALOGY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DENNIS, Panzie | P.O. Box 174 Riner, VA 24149 | Head cook |
| DOUGLAS, Ruth | 108 Wildflower Drive Charlottesville, VA 22901 | Plant Taxonomy |
| DUDASH, Michele Charlie Fenster Tom (2) | Dept. of Botany Univ. of Md College Park, MD 20782 | Fire pink res. |
| EMMEL, Shannon | 6033 Calle Del Mar West Palm Beach, FL 33415 | Slime mold research |
| FAUTH, John | Dept. of Biology <br> Denison Univ <br> Granville, OH 43023 | Salamander res. |
| FENSTER, Charlie Michele Dudash Tom (2 yrs) | Dept. of Botany Univ. of Md. College Park, MD 20782 | Fire pink res. |
| FOLIACO, Ana | 3517 Normandy Lane \#51 Roanoke, VA 24018 | Community Ecology |
| FORTUNE, Debbie | 109 Olney Ave. <br> Bluefield, VA 24605 | Mammalogy Research |
| GILL, Cindy | Dept. of Biology <br> Univ. of Virginia <br> Charlottesville, VA 22901 | Salamander research |
| GUBISTA, Kathryn | Institute of Ecology UGA <br> Athens, GA 30602 | Mammal research |
| GUSTAFSON, Mark | Dept. of Zoology Duke Univ. Durham, NC 27706 | Salamander research |
| HASSLER, Cynthia | 2810 Wellesley Ct. <br> Blacksburg, VA 24060 | Sitter \& Silene res. |


| HOLIEN, Judie | 24 Weinker Way Brookville, PA 15825 | Mammalogy | LAZAR, Arpad | 10022 Black Ct. <br> Fairfax, VA 22032 | Mammalogy Community Ecology |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HOOD, Michael | 1921 Frizzell Dr. <br> Va. Beach, VA 23455 | Ecol. Gen. <br> Plant Taxonomy/Alloz | MC CAULEY,David | Dept. of Biology Vanderbilt Univ. Nashville, TN 37325 | Beetle research |
| HORNBERGER, Kathleen | Dept. of Biology Widener Univ. Chester, PA 19013 | DNA Workshop | MC CROSKEY, Julian | Rt. 1, Box 105-A Pembroke, VA 24136 | Caretaker |
| JAEGER, Robert | 100 Simon Latour Rd. Carencro, LA 70520 | ANIMAL BEHAVIOR | $\underset{\text { Gail }}{\text { MCPEEK, Mark }}$ | Dept. of Biol. Sci. <br> Bowling Green State Univ. <br> Bowling Green, OH 43403 | COMMUNITY ECOLOGY |
| JAROSZ, Andy | Botany Dept. <br> Duke Univ. <br> Durham, NC 27706 | Silene research | MARINER, Peter | Fountain Valley School Colorado Springs, CO 8091 | Community Ecology |
| JENKINS, Athena | 15 Harrow Ct. <br> Sterling, VA 22170 | Mammalogy Plant Taxonomy | MARTINEZ, Mahinda | Dept. of Botany Univ. of Texas Austin TX 78713 | DNA Workshop |
| JONES, Hilarie | Rt. 2, Box 26 <br> Fayetteville, WV 25840 | Plant Taxonomy | MARTINEZ-SANCHEZ, J | Juan C. 509 A Center St. <br> Blacksburg, VA 24060 | Junco research |
| JUMP, Jeff | 247 Carpenter Hall Texas Tech Univ. Lubbock, TX 79409 | Fern research | MEREDITH, Mary Helen | Rt. 1, Box 132 Pembroke, VA 24136 | Cook |
| KARLSON, Ron Susan Henry $(9)$ Tav | Ecology Program <br> Wolf Hall <br> Univ. of Delaware <br> Newark, DE 19716 | Bryozoan research | MOJANNIER, Laura | 1500 Duke Univ Rd \#E2C <br> P.O. Box 9705 <br> Durham, NC 27706 | Salamander research |
| KASTENDIEK, Jon Sarah Swank | P.O. Box 343 Dayton, VA 22821 | Seedling research | MORLANG, Jenny Brandon(9) | P.O. Box 9705 <br> Hollins College, VA 24020 | Plant Taxonomy |
| KETTERSON, Ellen Val Nolan | Dept. of Biology Indiana Univ. <br> Bloomington, IN 47405 | Junco research | MONK, Daniela | Dept. of Biology Indiana Univ. <br> Bloomington, IN 47405 | Bird research |
| KIMBER, Kevin | 4905 E. Sunnyslope Rd. <br> Edina, MN 55424 | Junco research | MURRAY, Jim | Dept. of Biology <br> Univ. of VA <br> Charlottesville, VA 22901 | Director Emeritus |
| LANDOLT, John | Dept of Biology Shepherd College Shepherdstown, WV 25443 | Slime mold res. | NG, Melody | 2124 Dochet Lane <br> Vienna, VA 22181 | Salamander research |


| WELLS, Phyllis | 245-08 Colonnade Dr. <br> Charlottesville, VA 22901 | Mammalogy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WERTH, Charlie | Dept of Biol Sci <br> Texas Tech Univ <br> Lubbock, TX 79409 | Fern research |
| WEST, David Lindsay | Dept of Biology <br> VPI \& SU <br> Blacksburg, VA 24060 | ECOLOGICAL GENETICS |
| WILBUR, Henry Becky Helen(8) Lindsay (5) | Dept. of Biology <br> Univ. of VA Charlottesville, VA 22901 | DIRECTOR <br> Salamander research |
| WILLIAMS, Mary Ann | Rt. 2, Box 491 <br> Newport, VA 24128 | Cook |
| WISE, Sharon | P.O. Box 42451 <br> Dept of Biology <br> Univ. So. Louisiana | Animal Behavior Salamander research |
| WOLFF, Jerry | US Envir. Protection Agenc Environ. Research Lab. 200 SW 35th Street Corvallis, OR 97333 | cy Mammal research |
| ZIEGENFUS. Charles | Math \& Comp Sci Dept James Madison Univ Harrisonburg. VA 22801 | Junco research |

ADDENDUM
ST. AMOUR, Sheila

PARKER, Geoffre
Cat
Nick (11)
Chris (9)
Melissa (6)
CHANG, Shu-Mei

HOOD, Michael

NOKES, Rebecca

1013 B Rosehill Ave. Durham, NC 27705

406 Duvall Lane
Annapolis, MD 21403

Dept. of Zoology
Duke University Durham, NC 27706

5225 Lake Shore Rd. Va Beach, VA 23455

6041 N. 28 th St.
Arlington, VA 22207

Silene research

Forest dynamics

Sal. research Comm. Ecology

Ecol. Genetics Allozyme Workshop Plant Taxonomy

