

LaBarque Creek Trail

December 11, 2023

| | BOTANICAL NAME (with etymology & genus pronunciation) | FAMILY [CC] = Coefficient of Conservatism | COMMON NAME (with tips we learned) |
|--------------------------|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Adiantum pedatum (unwetted + bird-footed) (ay-dee-ANT-um) | Pteridaceae [CC6] | Northern Maidenhair Fern (there's only 1 frond, but it divides into 2 semi-circular blades – like hugging arms; along the outside of each hugging arm are several long pinnae, with the longest near the main stem and the shortest near the tips; these pinnae are divided into many pairs of pinnules; from a distance the fern looks like a frilly, incomplete circle) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aplectrum hyemale (without spurs + winter) (ay-PLECK-trum) | Orchidaceae [CC8] | Adam and Eve Orchid [so-called because on older plants the corm develops a second linked corm] / Putty Root Orchid [so-called because crushed corms release a sticky substance once used to mend pots] (Only has 1 leaf, but it is eye-catching with its conspicuous, parallel white strips and its large, pleated blade) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Asplenium platyneuron (without spleen [medicinal for aiding spleen] + flat veins) (uh-SPLEE-nee-um) | Aspleniaceae [CC4] | Ebony Spleenwort (cheerful little fern; fertile fronds stand upright but die off during winter; sterile fronds are evergreen and lie on ground during winter) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Betula nigra (birch + black) (BET-choo-luh) | Betulaceae [CC4] | River Birch (no terminal buds / lateral buds have hook at tip / bark on mature tree peels into thin sheets / leaves somewhat triangular with both small teeth and shallow lobing at the same time / long, pendulous male catkins form in fall, but the inconspicuous green female catkins appear on spur shoots in the spring with the leaves) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Campsis radicans (bent [stamens] + rooting stems) (KAMP-sis) | Bignoniaceae [CC3] | Trumpet Vine (opposite leaves / aerial rootlets attach to tree from nodes / vine has lighter color than others) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Carex blanda (sedge + alluring) (CARE-ex) | Cyperaceae [CC2] | Woodland Sedge (identifiable by its dense clumping habit, slightly winged culms, terminal male spikelets, and lopsided beaked perigynia / native substitute for lilyturf) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Carpinus caroliniana (= hornbeam tree) (car-PY-nus) | Betulaceae [CC6] | Musclewood Tree / American Hornbeam (habitat: shaded areas with moist soils / trunk ribbed like muscles / leaf: looks corrugated with prominent veins, but the veins are usually NOT forked [in contrast to <i>Ostrya</i>] / male and female catkins appear in spring with leaves) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Climacium dendroides (= treelike) (kly-MAY-see-um) | Climaciaceae [only for vascular plants] | Tree Climacium Moss (sporophytes abundant in late winter, appearing as red-brown shoots with long stalk and cylindrical capsules) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Corylus americana (Latin for hazel tree) (KOR-ill-luss) | Betulaceae [CC4] | Hazelnut (long male catkins in groups of 2 or 3 appear at branch ends in fall, but inconspicuous female flowers [except for red style and stigma] don't appear at end of twigs until spring) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cunila origanoides (= mint + like oregano) (KOO-nil-lah) | Lamiaceae [CC6] | Dittany (producer of frost flowers – which we found! / indicator [along with blueberries and White Oak] of acid soil) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Danthonia spicata (somebody's name + spike-bearing) (dan-THO-nee-uh) | Poaceae [CC3] | Poverty Grass (it's easy to identify with its curly dried leaves / perennial bunchgrass / no rhizomes / seeds can persist in seed bank for decades, waking up after a disturbance such as fire) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dendrolycopodium dendroideum (tree + wolf's foot + treelike) (DEN-dro-LY-ko-PO-dee-um) | Lycopodiaceae [CC10] | Tree Groundpine (a true Clubmoss – in the “Lycopod” family; clubmosses are not mosses because they have a vascular system) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Diospyros virginiana (= divine + pear) (dee-OSS-pr-us) [but a more etymologically meaningful pronunciation would be “dee-os-PY-rus”] | Ebenaceae [CC3] | Persimmon Tree (dioecious / leaves entire / bark blocky / hard wood for golf club heads and pool cues) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dryopteris marginalis (= oak + fern + margins [where sori are located]) (dry-OPP-tr-us) [but a more etymologically meaningful pronunciation would be “dry-o-TAYR-us”] | Dryopteridaceae [CC7] | Marginal Shield Fern (evergreen, like the Christmas Fern) |

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|--------------------------|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Fraxinus quadrangulata</i> (ash tree + 4 angles) (FRACK-sin-us) | Oleaceae [CC8] | Blue Ash (opposite branching / twigs often have 4 corky ridges, giving them a square appearance in cross-section / has more tannin than the other ashes, so maybe more resistant to the Emerald Ash Borer) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Fraxinus smallii</i> (ash tree + somebody's name) (FRACK-sin-us) | Oleaceae [CC3] | Sullivan's Ash [yes! our own Father Sullivan!] (a type of White Ash which has, among other differences, brown buds instead of the typical black ones) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Huperzia porophila</i> (somebody's name + perforated leaves?) (hoo-PR-zee-uh) | Lycopodiaceae [CC10] | Rock Clubmoss / Rock Firmoss (grows only on rock; requires cool, moist, shaded, acid spots / a true Clubmoss – in the “Lycopod” family / clubmosses are not mosses because they have a vascular system) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Hydrophyllum appendiculatum</i> (water + leaf + with appendages) (hy-dro-FILL-um) | Boraginaceae [CC6] | Great Waterleaf / Woolen Breeches (biennial / maple-shaped leaves / the “waterleaf” name refers to the “water-spot” mottling of early spring leaves / the “appendages” of the species epithet refers to the tiny sepal-like appendages that hang down between the real sepals of the calyx) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Hypericum prolificum</i> (above + picture + prolific [number of stamens]) (hy-PAYR-i-kum) | Hypericaceae (Malpighiales) [CC4] | Shrubby St. John's Wort (3-chambered, brown seed capsules persist through winter) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Lindera benzoin</i> (person's name + aromatic resin) (lin-DEER-uh) | Lauraceae [CC5] | Spicebush (male plants have conspicuously larger buds for next spring's flowers) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Marchantiophyta</i> (mar-KAN-tee-o-FY-tuh) | (this is a “Division” or “Phylum” rank) | Liverwort (the Liverworts take up an entire Division. Since we don't know the species, we can't go wrong by naming its Division; Nels Holmberg found 31 Liverworts at LaBarque Creek. We're covering them all.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Myriopteris lanosa</i> (myriad + fern + woolly) (my-ree-OPP-tr-riss) [but a more etymologically meaningful pronunciation would be “my-ree-o-TAYR-riss”] | Pteridaceae [CC7] | Hairy Lipfern (“Hairy” because the stipe and rachis are very hairy, “Lipfern” because leaf tissue slightly rolls over the pinnule edges to protect the sori, giving the fertile frond a “puffy” look) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Opuntia cespitosa</i> (o-POON-tee-uh) | Cactaceae [CC4] | Eastern Prickly Pear (the large white spines aren't the problem, it's the tufts of little barbed glochids that ruin the “I found a cactus!” experience.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> (= Gk name of tree) (o-STRY-yuh) | Betulaceae [CC4] | Hop Hornbeam (hop-like fruit, shredded bark on older trees, leaves often marcescent [retained throughout winter], with venation that is forked [in contrast to <i>Carpinus</i>]) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Polypodium virginianum</i> (= many feet) (poly-PO-dee-um) | Polypodiaceae [CC9] | Rock Polypody / Common Polypody (evergreen / simple pinnae look like they've melted a bit around the margins) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Polystichum acrosticoides</i> (many rows + resembling <i>Acrostichum</i> , the Elk-Horn Fern, which also has its sori densely packed on pinna underside) (po-LISS-tick-um) | Dryopteridaceae [CC5] | Christmas Fern (so-named because it's still green at Christmas, except for the fertile tips of fronds which are dried up and brown) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Sassafras albidum</i> (sassafras + white) (SASS-uh-frass) | Lauraceae (Laurel Family) [CC2] | Sassafras (has green twigs, even in winter / scratch to enjoy Juicyfruit Gum or Fruit Loops fragrance / terminal buds green and plump / plant is dioecious / leaves: some mitten-shaped / no longer sold as food because of safrole's cancer link) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Scrophularia marilandica</i> (= swelling [treating of neck lymph glands]) (skro-foo-LAYR-ee-uh) | Scrophulariaceae [CC3] | Figwort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Trichostema brachiatum</i> (hairy + stamens + branches widely diverge) (try-ko-STEE-muh) | Lamiaceae [CC4] | Fluxweed / False Pennyroyal |

Thanks to Dave Steinmeyer and those who helped him record the species found on this walk so rich in Ferns, Lycopods, and Bryophytes.

Here (in alphabetical order) are the 16 participants in this morning's Botany Walk:

Prem Barton, Kathy Bildner, Steve Bizub, Tina Cheung, Wayne Clark, Mike Colegrove, June Jeffries, Len Meier, Burt Noll, John Oliver, Tina Richardson, Dave Steinmeyer, Mark & Deb Tolcou, James Trager, Keith Woodyard, and Laura Yates.