

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

January 2008

Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)



January Meeting

Thursday January 3, 2008 at 7:00 PM

at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Classroom 2

NOTE: Due to Garden Fest at LGBG we are requested to come in through the main entrance and enter the Education Library Complex building from the garden entrance. That way, we won't be bumping into private party people.

This Month's Presentation will be

"Consider the Lilies..." An examination of recent developments in classification of the petaloid monocots (lilies and relatives), focusing on examples native to Virginia, North America at large, and some favorite and familiar cultivated plants.

by John Hayden

Dr. Hayden is professor of Biology at the University of Richmond and has interests in the morphology, anatomy, and systematics of plants. His research concerns plants of the family Euphorbiaceae, Virginia flora, and, most recently, Yucatan ethnobotany and floristics. In addition to his regular duties as a faculty member, he curate the University of Richmond Herbarium and is the primary care provider for the plants in the Department of Biology greenhouses. His hobbies include gardening, photography, classical guitar, and restoring Bruno, my 1952 International Harvester pick-up truck.¹

2008 Event Calendar

- Jan. 12 **January Field Trip: CALEDON STATE PARK.** Meet at 9:00 AM at the North Park Library parking lot 8508 Franconia Road, one block south of East Parham Road between I-95 and 301. Dress warmly and carry a light lunch and water in a back pack. Good walking shoes or boots are essential. The ground may be wet in places. Binoculars and a camera would also be useful. We will see Bald eagles and many plants. Ground is generally flat except where streams have cut ravines. Hike may last 3-4 hours and cover up to four miles. A rest room is available at park. The park is an old growth forest for the most part but we will also walk along a Potomac River Beach also. Rain date is January 13 or January 20. See page 4 for some pictures taken from the internet of Caledon State Park
- Feb. 7 **February Meeting:** Ernest Wilson- Twig Identification (part 1 of tree id).
- Mar. 6 **March Meeting:** Garland Hanson -- Orchids
- March 8 Annual Workshop at University of Richmond: Doug Gilll, Prof of Zoology at University of Maryland and Hal Horwitz.
- Apr. 3 **April Meeting:** Pat Brodie - The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, TX.
- Apr. 20 LGBG Children's Garden - Spring Fling (#1 of 4 day activities at LGBG) corn/squash/bean seed planting in cups.

¹ <http://www.richmond.edu/~jhayden/>

- May **Picnic and Tree/Plant ID** (part 3) Field trip-- by flowers and leaves - also practice using Newcomb's. Led by Ernest Wilson.
- May 24 Pocahontas at LGBG children's garden: Good Green fun (#2) - Making clay pots with plant decorations/tools
- July 18-21 The Native Orchid Conference is holding its 7th annual Meeting July 18-21, 2008 at West Virginia university, Morgantown, WV. The conference schedule will include an initial day of meetings or presentations on Friday (18th) followed by an all-day field trip on Saturday into the low mountain of southern and central PA. Orchids expected to be in bloom include: *Epipactis helleborine*, *Goodyera pubescens*, *Goodyera tessellata*, *Gymnadeniopsis clavellata* (*Platanthera clavellata*), *Listera smallii*, *Malaxis unifolia*, *Platanthera ciliaris*, *Platanthera peramoena*, and *Spiranthes lacera* var *lacera*. Sunday the presentations will resume and the conference will finish with a final day afield Monday (21st). This trip will be into the Appalachian Mountains of east central WVA to the Cranberry Glades Botanical area. Participants should see the following orchids in bloom: *Corallorhiza bentleyi*, *Corallorhiza maculata* var. *maculata*, *Goodyera pubescens*, *Goodyera repens* var *ophioides*, *Gymnadeniopsis clavellata* (*Platanthera clavellata*), *Platanthera ciliaris*, *Platanthera grandiflora* (-a new, unnamed variety/species), and *Platanthera peramoena*. Registration information will be available at the NOC website ([http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Native Orchid Conference](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Native%20Orchid%20Conference))
- Sept. 27 LGBG Children's Garden-Good Green Fun (#3) - Seasons, cordage, mats
- Sept. 19-21 VNPS Annual meeting held at the Key Bridge Marriott. It is near a metro stop and overlook the Potomac Gorge
- Oct. 26 Goblins and Gourds at LGBG (#4) - Last of the summer activities-gathering, drying etc. foods for the winter hunting and fishing

Minutes for the Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS, Meeting on December 1, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by the president, Daune Poklis. She welcomed visitors members and guests, thanked all those who brought refreshments and made the following announcements: The Membership rosters are here and available for pick up at the meetings. She thanked Pat Brodie for all the hard work and time she spent compiling and updating our member information.

The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

serves the counties of: Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan and the cities of Ashland, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond. It meets the first Thursday of September through April at 7:00 PM in the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, unless otherwise stated.

Chapter Officers

President	Daune Poklis
Vice President	Ernest Wilson
Secretary	Judith Sheldon
Treasurer	Bucci Zeugner
Membership Chair	Pat Brodie

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 VNPS Website - www.vnps.org

Announcements: The Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive, presents "Know Your Environment", a monthly series of programs on environmental issues. There are book discussions and documentary viewings. Information can be obtained by contacting Steve Carter-Lovejoy at scarter-lovejoy@henrico.lib.va.us or calling 270-9578x234.

Horticulture Magazine symposium, Down to Earth Gardening, will be held at LGBG on Feb2, 2008. among the speakers is William Cullina of the New England Wild Flower Society. Information is available at Hortmag.com and click on Symposia Series.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is sponsoring the Grasses for the Masses project again this year. In the Richmond area the workshops will be February 19, 6:30-7:30pm at the Bon Air Library (9103 Rattlesnake Rd., Richmond, VA 23235) and Saturday, February 26, 10:30-11:30am at the CBF office (1108 E. Main St., Richmond, VA 23219). The program costs \$30.00/person. Contact Jess Barton, Jbarton@CBF.org or Emily Francis, Efrancis@cbf.org for more information and to sign up.

SAVE THE DATE: The VNPS annual workshop will be held at the University of Richmond on March 8, 2008. Speakers will include Doug Gill of the University of Maryland and Hal Horwitz.

The Annual meeting will be held September 19-21, 2008 at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, and hosted by the Powtomac Chapter.

Meeting: Ernest Wilson gave a description of the field trip to Caledon State Park. We will be leaving the North Park Library (8508 Franconia Rd.) at 9:00am on Saturday January 12, 2008. Please contact Ernest if you plan to go. Ernest_3@msn.com or 804-358-3846. Please see the December newsletter for more details.

Hal Horwitz presented "In Praise of Orchids", an audio-visual power point presentation of pictures he has taken of North American wild orchids. It is a breath taking visual experience! The orchid family is the second largest plant family on earth with something like 20,000 species. Of all the orchid species in the US, about half are found in Florida. VA and NC have 60 species each, CA and HI have 32 each and Canada has 30. As would be expected, orchid populations are greatly threatened by habitat destruction due to development and over collection. There are epiphytic and terrestrial orchids. Epiphytes grow with roots exposed to the air. Terrestrials grow with their roots in the soil. The seeds of the terrestrial orchids contain no endosperm and therefore only develop in association with specific fungi which provide nutrients. Hal describes orchids as a metaphor for "life". There was a question and answer period then the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Daune Poklis

A Message from our President, Daune Poklis

Pat Brodie, our Membership Chair has done yeoman's work collecting, verifying, compiling and organizing Pocahontas chapter membership data. After creation of an accurate data base, she designed and oversaw the publication of our new membership roster. Although she is resigning the membership chair, her data base provides a "running start" to the next chair and the roster a readily accessible reference for the board and our membership. What a legacy!

I can't thank her enough.

BEST WISHES FOR A JOYFUL AND BEAUTIFUL NEW YEAR!

Daune

January Field Trip Preview - Caledon State Park



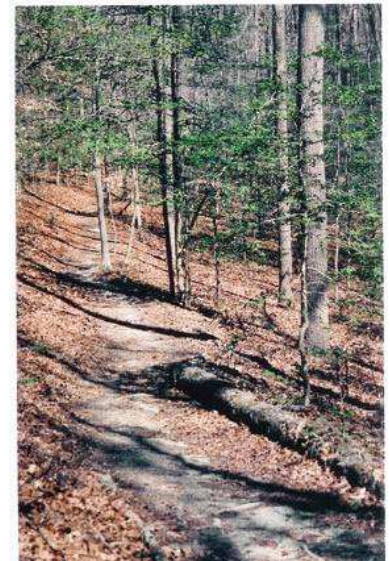
The Caledon Natural Area is a 2,000 acre tract of forest land that adjoins the Potomac River on the northern neck of Virginia. **Left:** Oaks and tulip trees in the Area are 200 - 250 years old. (From www.cnr.vt.edu/4H/remarkabletree/TreePlaces.htm.)

Below Left: Wetlands at Caledon Natural Area, right, as the park's managers are slowly reversing the effects of man-made drainage systems. Credit: Lara Lutz

Below Right: The Fern Hollow Trail follows a rolling course through nearly one mile of the Caledon forest, which has been designated a National Natural Landmark. Credit: Lara Lutz



Above: Hundreds of tundra swans usually call Virginia's Caledon Natural Area home in the winter. Photo Credit: By Kim Boshela Photo



**Virginia Native Plant Society Membership Application
Pocahontas Chapter**

**Make Check payable to VNPS and Mail to:
Membership Chair, Blandy Experimental Farm, 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2, Boyce, VA 22620**

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail** _____

___ Individual	\$30.00	___ Sustaining	\$100.00
___ Family	\$40.00	___ Life	\$500.00
___ Student	\$15.00	___ Associate Groups	\$40.00
___ Patron	\$50.00	(Garden Clubs, etc.)	

**I wish to make an additional contribution to ___ VNPS or ___ The Pocahontas Chapter,
VNPS in the amount of:**

___ \$10 ___ \$20 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 Other _____

**Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
12565 Brook Lane
Chester, VA 23831**

