



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday April 3, 2014**

**at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
in the Lab**

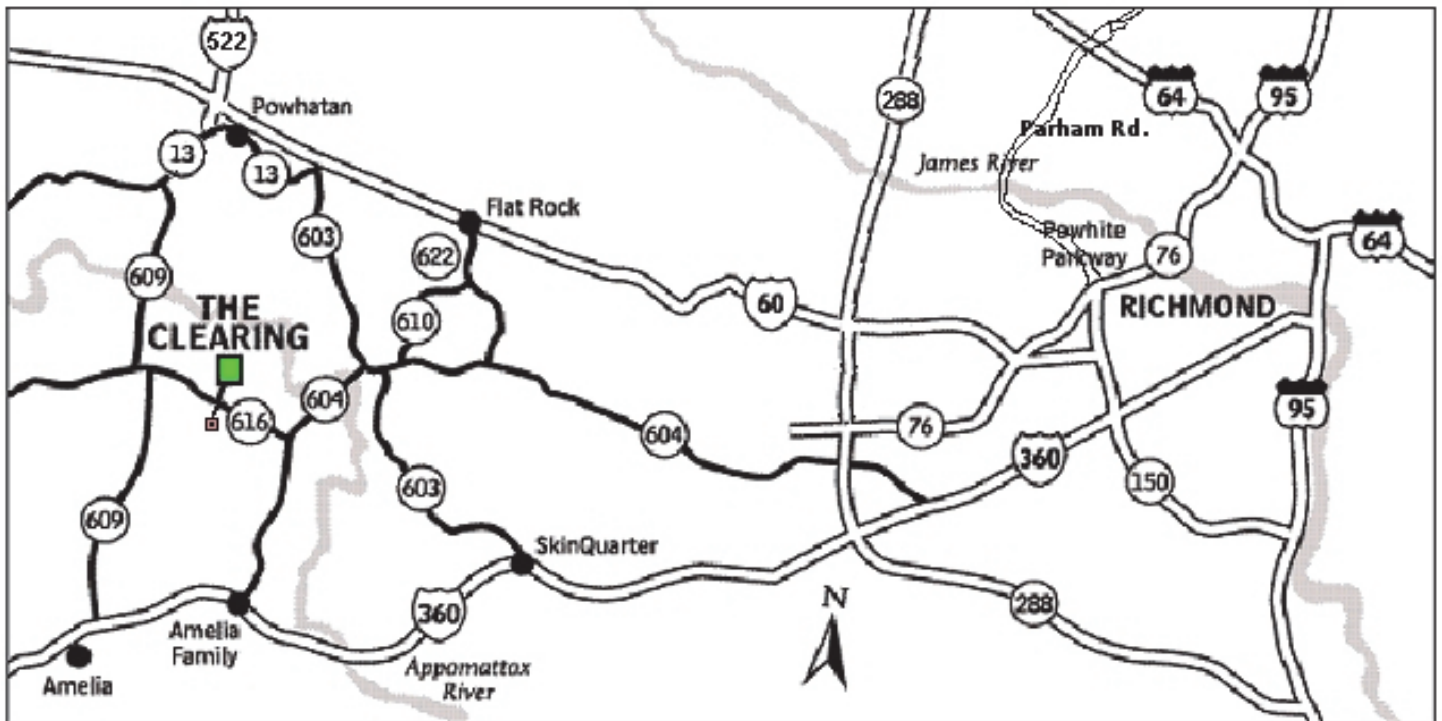
The room is available at 6:30, come early and Socialize

**Our Program will be *Botany 2013: Into the Bayou and Beyond*, presented by
Deanna Dong and W. John Hayden, of the University of Richmond.**

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Pocahontas Chapter Programs - Spring 2014

May 3 Chapter Picnic at the Clearing in Amelia county. Meet at 12:30PM, We will eat, then walk.



Directions (see map above):

From points North or East of Richmond: From 95 South or 64, take 195 South to Powhite Parkway (Route 76). Stay on Powhite Pkwy and take the Midlothian Turnpike exit-Route 60 West (Toll 25 cents). Travel West on Route 60 for approx. 11 miles after passing Chesterfield Town Center. Alternately you can use Parham Rd/ Chippenham Pkwy. (route 150) to Route 60 (17 miles on route 60 to Flat Rock) or route 288 to Route 60 (8 miles on 60 to Flat Rock) When you come to Flat rock Village Shopping Center, Turn LEFT at the light onto SR622 (Dorset Rd)

Suggest using odometer from this point on

Go 1.5 miles to SR610 (Schroeder Rd) Turn RIGHT on 610 and go 3.3 miles to SR604 (Genito Rd) Turn RIGHT on 604 and go 3.5 miles to SR616 (Genito Rd again). Turn RIGHT on 616 and go 2.4 miles to a gravel road on the right

with a white farmhouse across the road on the left. This is the entrance to the Clearing. Turn RIGHT and follow the road about 0.7 miles to the lodge.

From Route 360 (Hull St): Travel east or west on Hull Street to Amelia County (Route 360). Turn onto Route 604 at Chula Rd (right turn coming from Richmond). Go 4.5 miles to SR616 (Genito Rd). Turn LEFT on 616 and go 2.4 miles to a gravel road on the right with a white farmhouse across the road on the left. This is the entrance to the Clearing. Turn RIGHT and follow the road about 0.7 miles to the lodge.



Minutes of the Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS Meeting, March 6, 2014

Full house lovely meeting! Great turn out of 33 members and guests!

We had the business meeting first then our speaker because of technical problems.

Catharine reported on the books we are requested to purchase for the Lewis Ginter Library. The list was posted for everyone to read and included: *Aliens in Your Backyard* – fun, *Eradicate Invasive Plants* – serious, *Plants of Chesapeake Bay Native Wildlife and Grasses*, and *Plant Conservation Why It Works*

Yesterday's meeting announcement in the Times-Dispatch of tonight's meeting was evidently successful. Thank you to Suzanne Jenkins for her publicity.

The updated VNPS website has been having technical difficulties but should be up and running soon.

Treasurers Report: Richard Moss reported we got \$84 dollars from the state last month and we donated \$200 to the flora display that is opening at the State Library on March 17, and also \$200 to the digitalization effort of the Flora.

There were no expenses for the Chapter from the Winter Workshop meeting. Thank you to all those who helped with the refreshments.

We are in need of a new President, Vice President, and Secretary for our Chapter. Currently Ruby Jane Robertson is in charge of membership, Beth Farmer and Carline Mehan are in charge of an invasive removal effort at Lewis Ginter.

We were requested to contact our state legislator asking for more money for the Natural Heritage Program, we were not successful this year in acquiring funds but now is the time to start before August to let our legislators know that this is an issue that is important to you.

Beth Farmer reminded us there will be a work day on Tuesday, March 25 on the privet removal at Lewis Ginter 9:00am to 1:00pm. Bring gloves, snack and water – this effort counts as partial payment to Lewis Ginter for our meeting room.

For the current year (July 1 2013 – June 30th 2014), we have done 15-20 hours work. (work hours are defined as number of people times the number of hours each worked. This is a joint effort for the Riverine Master Naturalists and our chapter.

The speaker for the April meeting will be John Hayden. The speakers for this year have all been members of our chapter

The Annual Picnic will be on Saturday, May third. Andy Wichorek has found a new location at The Clearing in Amelia county. Details and directions will be in the next newsletter. The site has about 70 acres of beautiful white oak wood lands with trails and some fields. It is about 1 hour from Richmond. Bring a dish to share or bag lunch, after eating there will be a hike.

Sally Chamberlin reported that Bryan Park has a new nature center and the Blue Sky Fund has been working to clear invasive English ivy and honeysuckle. So far about 4 acres have been cleared. Unfortunately, about 1000 feet away from the park they are putting up 80 homes and the Friends of Bryan Park is asking for a call of action to oppose this subdivision.

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.

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Our contribution toward books for the library at Lewis Ginter is at least \$150. The list submitted by librarian Janet Woody costs \$187 and change. It was moved, seconded and approved that we donate \$200 to the library for books. Janet will receive the check at the April meeting.

Possible locations for future field trips were discussed: perhaps on March 27 and 28 to Dory Park in Henrico County. On either June 8th or June 15th, a boat field trip to Presquile is planned to explore wetlands by kayak or canoe. It will be 8am -5pm and will cost \$30 per person to charter the boat. Andy Pillsbury is the trip leader.

From the President-in-Waiting (for replacement)

Spring to winter, then back to spring: jonquils capped by snow, and tulip magnolia blossoms turned beige by a touch of cold. Isn't this the craziest seasonal transition? However, I remember a St. Patrick's Day snow several years ago that froze the tulip magnolia flowers to crunchy brown bits. Last weekend in Hanover, a handful of spring beauty was blooming in the woods, and the heartleaf ginger flowers were open. A couple of jonquils opened in a protected corner by the house. A haze of pale pink blooms on Mom's Japanese cherries topped the new leaves on the japonica below. Bright yellow forsythia blooms and a single yellow-rumped warbler assure me that it really is Spring!

Next week, we'll present a copy of the Flora of Virginia to J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College for the Horticulture Program. At the next meeting, April 3, John Hayden will present our last program of this year. I'm looking forward to hearing that. The chapter's annual contribution to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden library for books on native plants also will be presented at the April 3 meeting. On May 3, we'll have our annual picnic in a new location to explore.

This week, we completed one work day removing invasives at LGBG. Next, Beth and Caroline will schedule one or two more days before hot weather arrives. The hours we spend removing invasives plus the support for library books are our chapter's contribution to the Garden in return for the use of the meeting room.

The Flora of Virginia Exhibit at the Library of Virginia opened on March 17. If you haven't made plans to go see it, keep it in mind. The variety of material on display is amazing. Would that make a suitable field trip during the hot days of summer?

Lots of native plant sales are coming up in April and May both in the Richmond area and in other areas of the state. Check the list on the VNPS web site or the VNPS Face-book page.

Garden Gate Landscape & Design, owned by a member of our chapter, has a schedule on her web site and a list of plants available.

Other chapters have field trips that our members can join after contacting the trip leader or chapter president. If you have ideas for field trips, projects or programs to carry forward into next fall, please speak up. If you find you have time to serve in one of the positions that needs a new volunteer, please mention that to one of us at the next meeting or send me an email.

I look forward to seeing you next Thursday. Catharine

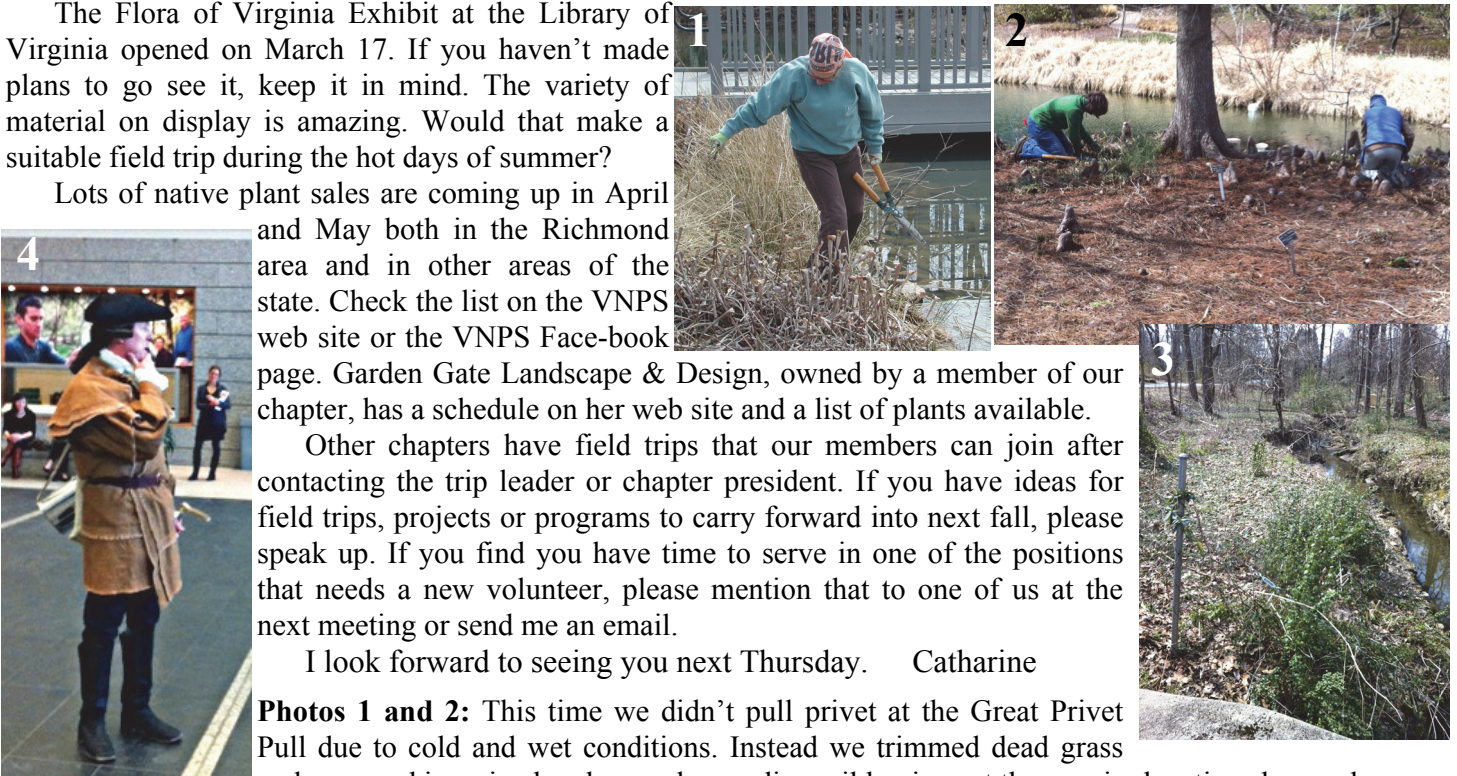
Photos 1 and 2: This time we didn't pull privet at the Great Privet Pull due to cold and wet conditions. Instead we trimmed dead grass and removed invasive bamboo and spreading wild onions at the sunnier location shown above.

Photo 3: We did observe the privet is growing back, so we will attack it next time.

Photo 4: John Clayton was sighted roaming around at the The Flora of Virginia Exhibit at the Library of Virginia.

The Spring Parkfairfax Native Plant Sale is Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is the 11th year and the 22nd occurrence of this twice-a-year, non-profit, community plant sale. Sixteen vendors from four states will be hosted! The sale will be held in the parking lot at 3601 Valley Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. This is in the neighborhood of Parkfairfax (in Alexandria) which is across I-395 from Shirlington inside the DC metro area beltway. Directions to the sale are on the website at <http://home.earthlink.net/~sknudsen/id2.html>.

This sale depends almost entirely on word-of-mouth support. Updated flyers for this sale are available at <http://home.earthlink.net/~sknudsen/id1.html>. Thanks for helping to spread the word!



Some Photos: While digging out onions and bamboo at Lewis Ginter, two species of moss were observed growing on some rocks on the bank of the pond (**1 and 2**).

Spring is coming - finally: Photo 3. Alder (*Alnus serrulata*) catkins taken by Catharine Tucker at Three Lakes Park in Henrico County.

Photo 4: Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) in bloom in Chester, Va.

Photo 5: A non native tulip magnolia (*Magnolia liliiflora*), photo taken March 10. It opened on the 22nd and turned brown on the 24th after a record cold temperature of 21F.



**Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
12565 Brook Lane
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