

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

May 2005



Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

MAY PICNIC AND PLANT WALK

Saturday May 7, 2005, 10:00 AM at Ferndale Park, Petersburg, VA

Join us at Ferndale Park (Appomattox Riverside Park) and stroll along the Appomattox River to view spring wildflowers. We will see Yellow Jasmine, Skunk Cabbage, Spring Beauties, Bluets, Blue Star, Wild Azalea, Jack-in-the-pulpit and other flowers that grace the riverbanks and flood plain this time of year. Bring a packable lunch to enjoy along the river. For more information call Kristi Orcutt at 539-6836. See directions on page 2.

Chapter News

Hardware River Wildlife Management Area Field Trip April 17th:

On the way to the Hardware River WMA we stopped in Columbia which is on the James River to explore a rock cliff beside the road where we saw numerous cacti and patches of sedum and other plants.



At the Hardware WMA we walked about a mile along the gravel road from the parking area, past an old home site with a cemetery down to the flood plain of the Hardware River. At times one could look from the road down a very steep bank and see the river about 100 feet below (photo 1). Along the road there were mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), and redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) trees in bloom and near the house site, patches of phlox (photo 3).

Once down to the flood plain we walked along a wide meadow-like area filled with thousands of Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) (photos 2, 7) in bloom. There were numerous paths through woods leading to the river. Along these paths we saw Trout lilies (*Erythronium umbilicatum*), Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) (photo 4), Blue Bells (*Mertensia virginica*) (photo 6), blood root (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) (not in bloom), star chickweed (*Stellaria pubera*) (photo 5) and numerous other plants. See photos on page 3.



CHAPTER ELECTION: The new Chapter officers are:

President	Kristi Orcutt	Vice President	Daune Polkis
Secretary	Peggy Furqueron	Treasurer	Bucci Zeugner

The By-laws modification changing the chapter elections from September to April passed.

Minutes of the April 7, 2005 meeting of the Pocahontas Chapter of the VNPS

Kristie Orcutt opened the meeting and welcomed two new members. Pat Brodie said she received today 5 new members' addresses from the state headquarters.

Old Business: Richard Moss gave a report on the field trip to the York River State Park. He had photographs in the newsletter. The next field trip will be on April 16 to the Hardware River with Catherine Tucker leading the walk. Meet at the Botanical garden at 9:30 am; bring a lunch and plenty of insect repellent because the ticks are out. The May field trip will be our annual picnic at Ferndale Park on the Appomattox River on May 7. Meet at the main parking area at Ferndale at 10:00 a.m. The field trip committee will be getting together to plan field trips for the summer. It is suggested that we meet on the first Thursday of the month for a local field trip in place of the monthly meeting and plan a out of town trip for a weekend day later in the month.

New Business: Kristi Orcutt made a motion to continue the newsletter during the summer months. It is usually suspended after the May issue until the September issue. Judy Wyatt seconded the motion. In the discussion, it is mentioned that the newsletter needs to publish the details for the upcoming field trips. Richard said the major expense for the newsletter is the postage; so it is suggested to get more members to sign up for the e-mail only version of the newsletter to save on expenses. The motion is passed on a voice vote. Advertising in the newsletter was brought up and it was decided to refer the issue to the executive board of the chapter, which will meet over the summer. Entries for the Name The Newsletter contest need to be in by the end of August because the winner will be announced at the September meeting.

Noreen Cullen made a motion that the chapter donate a book of around \$100 to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Library. The chapter has donated books to the library in the past. The book will be of a local interest about native plants. Noreen will ask them for a list of desirable titles. Louise Richardson seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote. Noreen asked for book suggestions to be sent to her. The gift will be presented in September.

Richard Moss said that the paperwork for the Maymont Flower and Garden show 2006 needs to be done over the summer.

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	Kristi Orcutt
Vice President	Daune Polkis
Secretary	Peggy Furqueron
Treasurer	Bucci Zeugner
Membership Chair	Pat Brodie

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VNPS Website - www.vnps.org

Duane Poklis got a survey from the Flower and Garden Committee and she will be filling that out. Some of the discussion that followed centered on asking some of the other near by chapters to help pay for the fee for the table at the show. Another topic that was brought up was if there are any other venues that the chapter could use for publicity and outreach. It is decided to refer these questions to the executive council of the chapter when it meets in the summer. They will report on their recommendations at the September meeting.

Program: Kristi Orcutt gave a slide program on Field trips Future. Kristi showed slides from Ferndale Park and the Hardware River. She had beautiful photographs to share with the group.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Peggy Furqueron

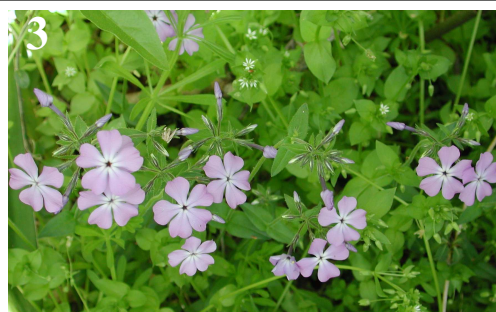
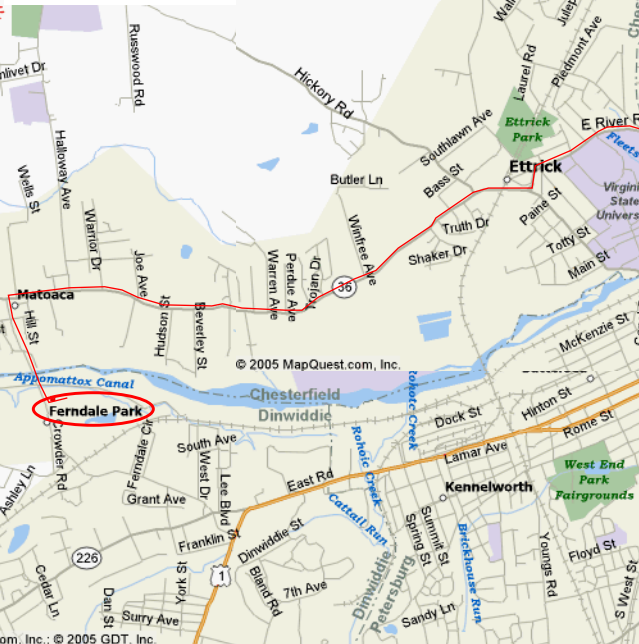
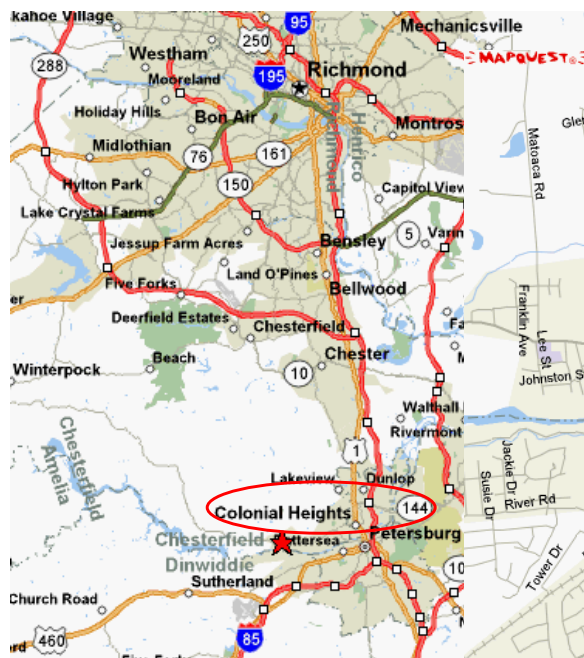
Secretary

Directions to Ferndale Park From Chesterfield/

Richmond/Henrico: See maps on page 3

Take I-95 South to the Colonial Heights, Exit at the Temple Avenue Exit (Exit 54). At the stoplight, turn left onto Temple Ave. (away from Southpark Mall), continue to the Second stoplight and turn left (South) onto Route 1/301 (Boulevard). At the 4th stoplight, turn right onto **Dupuy Ave.** Continue on Dupuy Ave which turns into E. River Road, until it runs into Granger Road in Ettrick. Make a right onto **Route 36 (River Road)** (Chesterfield Ave. goes to the left) and follow

River Road as it goes over the bridge over the RR tracks. Continue on River Road west for 3 miles to the town Matoaca. Make a left onto **Route 600 (Pickett Ave)**. As soon as you cross the bridge over the Appomattox River, the park is immediately to your left. Meet in the parking lot and depart for our hike promptly at 10:00 AM.



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**

