# May Picnic & Field Trip Saturday May 10, 2008 at 11:00 AM

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# There Will Be No May Meeting, Instead We Will Have a Picnic and Field Trip at the James River Park

## NOTE: Our next meeting will be in September

Meet at the 43rd street entrance to the James River Park, off Riverside Drive, see directions below. Bring a lunch, and if you want, something to share. Picnic tables are available. After eating we will walk along the Buttermilk trail. For more information contact Ernest Wilson at 502-6346 or Daune Poklis at 690-7878.

From I-95 take the Maury Street exit (exit 73). This exit is just after or before you cross the river depending on the direction that you are driving. At Maury Street light, which is at end of exit, turn left. Continue on Maury Street until Cowardin Avenue. Cowardin is U.S. 1/301. Turn right on Cowardin. Continue on Cowardin until Semmes Avenue. Turn left on Semmes. Continue on Semmes. It will become Forest Hills Avenue and you will pass Forest Hills Park on right. Turn right on 42nd Street. This is the second street beyond Forest Hills Park. Continue on 42nd Street until it ends at Riverside Drive. Turn left on Riverside Drive. Continue on Riverside until you reach 42nd Street parking lot on right. Turn into parking lot. We will meet at top of stairs.

Alternatively for those not using I-95: From northside go to Boulevard. Follow it and cross Boulevard Bridge (Nickel Bridge). Make first left after coming off bridge and follow Evelyn Byrd Drive one block to Riverside Drive. Evelyn Byrd terminates here. Turn right on Riverside Drive. Continue on Riverside Drive and make first left into 42nd Street parking lot. The parking lot is some distance from the bridge, at least one mile. We will meet at top of stairs. From southside go to Westover Hills Boulevard. Continue past Forest Hills Avenue but where road narrows stay to right and continue on Riverside Drive. Do not cross bridge. Continue on Riverside until you reach 42nd Street parking lot on left. This will be the first left turn possible. The parking lot is some distance from Boulevard, at least one mile.

Note: the 42nd Street parking lot is closed during week but should be open on the day of picnic. If it is closed please park on Riverside Drive near parking lot entrance.

### 2008 Event Calendar

May 3 **Field trip to Forest Hill Park**. Meet at 10:00 in the James River Park Headquarters parking lot (off Riverside drive, opposite Hillcrest Road). For more information contact Ernest Wilson at 502-6346 or Daune Poklis at 690-7878.

May 10 **Picnic and Tree/Plant ID Field trip-**- James River Park, 42nd St. entrance. Eat then walk along the Buttermilk trail.

May 24 Pocahontas at LGBG children's garden: Good Green fun (#2) - Making clay pots with plant decorations/tools.

## Note From Pat Brody, Membership Chair

Copies of the Membership Roster have been mailed to members who had not picked them up at a meeting. If you do not have a roster and want one please contact me at 266-3070 or owpa03v@aol.com

July 18 The Tuckahoe Area Library Presents: Know Your Environment, A series of programs on environmental issues that affect you and your children. Friday, 3:00 - Surviving in Virginia's State Parks. Vickie Shufer, naturalist and founder of Eco Images, is working with Virginia State Parks to enhance the public's appreciation of the outdoors. Her presentation will describe how we can use the knowledge of native Americans to survive in the wilderness. She'll be joined by a State Parks rep. who will show slides of Virginia's award-winning state parks system. For more information contact: Steve Carter-Lovejoy, 270-9578 x234, scarter-lovejoy@henrico.lib.va.us Held at the Tuckahoe Area Library, 1901 Starling Drive, Richmond, VA. July 18-21 The Native Orchid Conference is holding its 7th annual Meeting July 18-21, 2008 at West Virginia university, Morgantown, WV. Registration information available at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/Native Orchid Conference. Contact Daune Poklis for more information. Sept. 27 LGBG Children's Garden-Good Green Fun (#3) - Seasons, cordage, mats VNPS Annual meeting held at the Key Bridge Marriott. It is near a metro stop and overlooks the Potomac Sept. 12-14 Gorge. NOTE: Date changed to 1 week earlier than previously reported. Oct. 26 Goblins & Gourds at LGBG (#4) - Last of the summer activities-gathering, drying etc. foods for winter, hunting and fishing

#### A Message From Our Chapter President

Hello there Pocahontas Chapter members. It is hard to believe that our general meeting year is over and the time has come for our May picnic.

Our speakers for the year have provided glorious photos and information on topics as far ranging as plant classification, wetland habitat, photography and our own James River Park system. Our walks have included Ferndale Park, Caledon, a private property and the James River Park. Our activities included participation in the Virginia Garden Festival, ongoing participation/association with Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Children's Garden activities, the VNPS annual workshop at U. of R., Master Gardener plant sales and member presentation to various organizations. Some of these activities will continue in the future, some will expand and some will be brand new. I am especially looking forward to our future association with the James River Parks system in the form of the Butterfly Garden development and maintenance and an invasive plant removal project.

Other events and activities are out there for us, but we need more volunteers. Please think about what you could do to help the chapter. Perhaps you have an idea of project you would be willing to design and get off the ground or skills that could help with the nuts and bolts of making the organization run more smoothly - Here comes the pitch - We are seeking: a membership chair; an outreach/

#### 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**

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education person; a liaison person to keep us appraised of other chapter, regional and other organizational and even political events of interest; a field trip contact/development person; someone who can design and maintain a website; anyone interested in assuming a board position and the list goes on. Please consider taking on one of these jobs. In a similar vein, I want to thank all our members who helped with and participated in the various projects and board responsibilities. Our chapter is successful because of your individual efforts, time and skills. You have

made the chapter (and me) look good. Thank you.

I want to remind you that although our monthly meeting schedule is ending until September, there will be activities and field trips over the next few months. Besides our picnic and May 24 participation in Good Green Fun at LGBG, tending the butterfly garden and invasive removal at James River Park, we will be announcing the details of a field trips to the National Arboretum, Point of Rocks Park, the Rice Center and who knows where else!! The State VNPS is sponsoring trips to Reddish Knob and Blackwater Ecological Preserve. John Hummer is having another ecology day on June 14. There are many, perhaps too many, things to sign up for over the next few months; not the least of which is the VNPS Annual meeting, September 12-14.

In late August you will be receiving by US mail, a ballot to vote for 08-09 Pocahontas Chapter officers. Please return your ballots as soon as possible. The new officers will be announced at the October meeting. The slate has been announced but if you have any other nominations please feel free to contact any board member before the ballots are mailed. I hope to see many of you over the summer at one place or another and in the fall when we begin again.

I have enjoyed being your president this past year. Thank you for making it a rewarding experience. Daune

## Field trip to Ferndale Park on April 19, 2008



- see the web page version of the newsletter for color photos.

And many other interesting plants. After the walk we adjourned to a local Italian restaurant where we had an excellent lunch.

## **Chapter Officer Nomination Notice for This Fall's Elections**

The nominating committee has nominated the following for Pocahontas officer positions for the 2008-09 year:

President - Daune Poklis Secretary - Judy Sheldon Vice president - Ernest Wilson Treasurer - Richard Moss

For comments or suggestions for other nominees, please contact Daune Poklis:

Phone - (804) 741-7838 or E-mail - daune@poklis.org

#### From John Hummer: A Tour of His Wetlands System on June 14, 2008

It's best to get here before Noon as the tour starts no later than 12:30 PM. The tour takes about 1-2 hrs., and there will be refreshments served. It would be helpful if some of you bring a cold plate dish......I will try and have more plants for sale this year. The cost will be fairly minimal since I'm not making a living selling plants. For those of you who have not been here before, the natural wetland system here is probably one of the best you will ever see anywhere, since I have worked for years to create a Eco-system that is as diversified as one can possibly see. I don't think any other locale of this type ecology, harbors the number of species native to the S.E. coastal plain, that one will find here! I've worked tirelessly over many years. to create, with nature's help, what I consider to be a miniature "Eden" I am very proud of the results from the grand effort I have made towards making this a very "special" place. And it is free for everyone to see, appreciate and enjoy!! I hope you can come to see it!

I'm a short drive from I-95 (Ex.104), approx. 3 mi. Go towards Bowling Green on Rt 207, 1 mi past the McDonald's. Turn right at Rt 684 (Dry Bridge Rd.), go approx 1.7 mi, turn right again at Old. C.C. Rd. (Rt 690) go a short 2/10th mi. My place is on the right, Park on Old C.C. Rd. (Right side coming in, if possible). Any questions call 804-448-5258. Add. 23500 Old C C Rd., Ruther Glen, Va. 22546. I am 30 mi N. of Richmond, and 30 mi S. of Fredericksburg.

Contact Daune Poklis: Phone - (804) 741-7838 or E-mail - daune@poklis.org for more information.

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

