September Meeting

Thursday September 2, 2010 at 7:00 PM

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

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

This Month's Presentation will be: "California Wildflowers"

by Ernest Wilson

Most people who visit California go to see the magnificent Redwoods and giant Sequoias. Some even visit the Bristlecone Pines in the Methuselah forest in the White Mountains which contains the oldest living trees. But there is also a rich wildflower flora- one of the richest in America or even the world. Practically any time of the year somewhere in California there are wildflowers in bloom. Because the state is so large and has such a large variety of altitudes there is a rich flora. Ernest Wilson has been visiting the state for many years and is familiar with many of the plants. He has been at one time or other in every part of the state and has numerous pictures of the flora.

CHAPTER EVENTS

September 6 Field Trip: R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of Rocks Meet 1:00 pm at Martins Chester store. **Directions and photos:** See page 4. For more information contact Richard Moss at (804) 748-2940 or mossrd46@verizon.net.

September 10-12 - Virginia Native Plant Society 2010 Annual Meeting "Our Mountain Roots". At Big Meadows Lodge. See the VNPS Website (http://vnps.org/) for more details, or the last VNPS Newsletter.

September 15 Field Trip. Ferndale Park-Parts 1 and 2. Meet at 10:00AM at Martins store, Chester, VA. See directions to meeting place above.

Friday, September 17; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, September 18; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale. We are asking members who are interested in answering plant sale shoppers' questions about native plants to contact either Ernest or Daune.

October 2 Field Trip - Forest Hills Park 10:00AM. Meet at James River Park headquarters parking lot on River Road, Richmond.

October 7 Chapter Meeting, 7:00PM Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Hal Horwitz presents "Plants of Israel"

November 4 Chapter Meeting, 7:00PM Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Larry Wilcox To be announced

November 6 Field Trip - Pocahontas state park (Beaver Lake). Meet at 9:30AM at the parking lot.

December 4, 2:00 pm Chapter Christmas Party- At Ernest Wilson's house. More information later.

Our last Chapter meeting was the annual Chapter Picnic in May at the Huguenot Hundred Community Association Park on the James River off Cherokee Road. After the picnic we had a short field trip around the park and the neighborhood. Following are some photos - L-R: At the picnic, Netted Chain Fern (*Woodwardia areolata*), Blue

Eyed Grass (Sisyrinchium angustifolium), and Cat's Ear (Hypochoeris radicata).









NOTICE of Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS, Election of Officers At the Chapter Meeting on October 7, 2010 The Pocahontas Chapter will elect officers for 2010-2011.

A Ballot with a stamped, addressed envelope is mailed with this Newsletter.

Please Return the Ballot by September 27, 2010, or bring your Ballot to vote in person at the October meeting.

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	Ernest Wilson
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Vice President	OPEN
Secretary	OPEN
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Chapter Website - pocahontaschapter-vnps.org

The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia | Field Trip to Big Meadows on July 15, 2010.

Our trip, lead by Catharine Tucker, included a drive along Skyline Drive where we stopped at several overlooks and found more plants in bloom than we expected (see photos following). Then on to Big meadows where we briefly toured the Visitor Center, then hiked into the Meadow. The temperature in Richmond was in the upper 90's that day, but it was much cooler in the Meadow, so we had a pleasant walk. Afterwards we retreated to the Lodge and had an fine dinner. I think all the participants would agree this was an excellent field trip!



More Photos from the Big Meadow field Trip

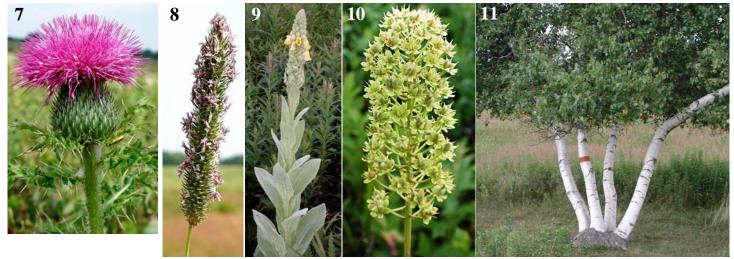
Photos 1-5 Along the Skyline Drive on the way to Big Meadows, photos 6-11 in Big Meadows.



1. Purple flowering raspberry (*Rubus odoratus*) **2.** Poke milkweed (*Asclepias exaltata*), **3.**Turk's Cap Lily (*Lilium superbum*).



4. Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis) **5.** Deptford pink (Dianthus armeria) **6.** Looking across the Meadow at Big Meadows.



7. Thistle. **8.** Grass in bloom, this one had a distinctive blue color. **9.** Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) - this European import with its whitish woolly leaves stood out in the meadow. **10.** Fly Poison (*Amianthium muscitoxicum*). **11.** Gray Birch (*Betula populifolia*).

September 6th Field Trip to R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of **Rocks on the Appomattox River.**

We will visit this park when the fall wildflowers should be near their peak. The walk follows a well maintained trail down a moderately steep hill to a boardwalk across the Ashton Creek Marsh where we should see lots of Partridge Peas (1), Coreopsis and Tickseed Sunflowers in bloom, then along the river, then to a meadow where we







View of the Board Walk crossing the Marsh.

will probably find Ruella (2) in bloom, then back up to the parking lot.

Directions: From North or South or East take I-95 to Exit 61B, Chester, merge onto Route 10 West, then left to Martins before the traffic light, about 1/4 mile. If you cross Route 1/ 301 you have gone too far. From the West: Chippenham to route 10, then route 10 East through Chester, cross Route 1, then turn right into shopping center & Martins, or take route 288 East to route 10 at Chesterfield CH, then follow route 10 as above.

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

