

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 2010



Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

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.

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



View of the Board Walk crossing the Marsh.

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**

