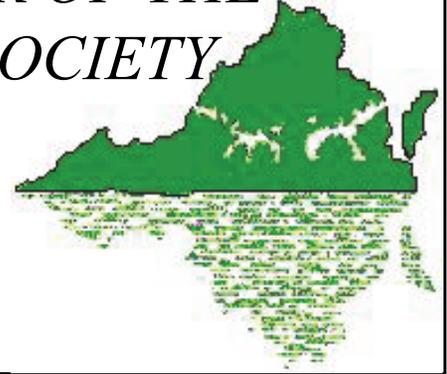


THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 2013



Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

Chapter Meeting

Thursday September 5, 2013 at 7:00 PM

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

“Using the Flora of Virginia. A Manual to the Manual.”

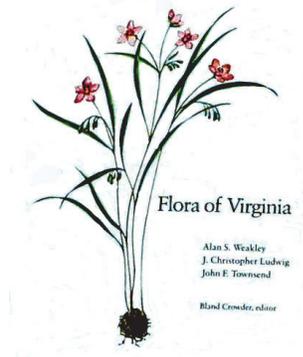
by **J. Christopher Ludwig, Chief Biologist Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage**

The 1554-page Flora of Virginia contains vast amounts of information to help beginners through experts understand and appreciate Virginia’s native and naturalized plants. During this talk, Chris Ludwig will present many features designed into the Flora manual to help us thoroughly understand these plants.

You are encouraged to bring your copy of the Flora to the lecture.

Pocahontas Chapter Programs - Fall 2013

- Oct 3 OPEN
- Nov 7 Barbara Wiedekehr on wildflowers
- Dec 5 (Thurs) or Dec 7 (party) (need location)
- Jan 9 (2nd Thurs) - OPEN (need location - Henrico library?)
- Feb 6 Daune Poklis on her trip to Smokies
- Mar 6 OPEN
- Apr 3 OPEN



Pocahontas Chapter Field Trips - Fall 2013

- Sept. 15 **R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of Rocks.** Meet at 10:00 AM in the parking lot at the Martins store at the intersection of Route 1 and 10 in Chester, VA. Contact Richard Moss at 748-2940 or mossrd46@verizon.net if you plan to come.



At Point of Rocks Park - L to R: Wingstem, a black fungus, Horsenettle, Wild Petunia.

Oct. 20 **John Hummer's Wetlands.** Tour will begin at 11:30 a.m. It's free. John asks, as in the past, each person bring a dish, preferably a cold plate of some kind or desert, warm dishes will be acceptable since this time of year the weather's more agreeable for that. Important: In the event of rain (something beyond just 'sprinkles') the tour would be held Nov. 3rd 2013. Two weeks later. As always, footwear should be moisture tolerant, and light. Meet at North Park library, 8508 Franconia Road at 10:30AM, near the intersection of Parham Rd. and I95. **John needs to know how many are coming so please contact Richard Moss at 748-2940 or mossrd46@verizon.net if you plan to come, or if you wish to go by yourself contact John at 804-448-5258.**



Above - L to R: Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia alabamensis*) and Gentian (*Gentiana catesbaie*)

President's Message

We still do not have a slate of officers for the coming year.

My two-year term as president ends after the election scheduled for the October 3 meeting. Other officers have declined to continue also. At a minimum, we need these three officers: President, Secretary and Treasurer. The person who volunteered to lead the nominating committee became inactive over the summer, so the slate of officers remains blank. That's the bad news.

Here's the good news. The following folks will continue their support of the chapter. Suzanne Jenkins will continue to provide publicity; Daune Poklis will continue to update the membership database until she's relieved; and Richard Moss will continue to compile, produce and circulate the newsletter. We have 25 new members who have joined since last year.

We need more ideas for programs, field trips and botanical explorations. Where would you like to go? What area would you like to see that you are reluctant to explore alone? What Virginia native plant-related topics would you like to learn more about? Who has stories to tell or photos to share? Contact me if you have suggestions for speakers, field trips, or other program ideas.

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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Chapter Website
pocahontaschapter-vnps.org

We need more folks to step forward to help continue the activities of Pocahontas Chapter, to keep us active at the Garden and in statewide activities. The more who are willing to volunteer, the smaller the tasks to be done, and the more we learn to know each other.

The current officers remain active chapter members, but have served one or more terms in leadership positions already. We will be glad to help orient and assist new officers, but we would like others to have leadership roles. Contact me if you are interested in serving the chapter in one of the leadership roles. That's our first priority. We need your participation and help.

Memo of Understanding with LGBG

The Memo of Understanding with Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden has been renewed through June 2014. We will again pay significantly reduced fees for the use of our meeting room and its facilities. We will also support the library with funds to purchase books related to native plants. The purchase recommendations of the librarian supplement requests or suggestions from chapter members.

The project to remove invasive plants along the creek at the Garden continues as part of our contribution to the Garden. Already, this has opened up the area for existing native trees and spring ephemeral to flourish. We will repeat this effort

until the privet, English ivy, periwinkle and Chinese wisteria are gone, completing this job. Is there someone who will volunteer to set dates for this and work with Suzanne to send notices both to our members and the Riverine Chapter Master Naturalists?

Meeting Changes

Pocahontas Chapter will not meet at the Garden in January this year because of special activities at the Garden. The new date for the January meeting is January 9, the second Thursday instead of the day after New Year's. In November, we will announce the new location, probably in one of the large library conference rooms in Henrico County.

The December and May meetings are off-site as before. The December meeting is usually a Christmas Gathering on the first Saturday. This year it's December 7. The chapter's Annual Picnic is usually the first Saturday in May. May 3, 2014. Locations and plans for these will be announced later.

Fun Dealing with Invasives

Have you noticed more Japanese stilt grass in your yard, in your neighborhood, or along roads you travel often? It really does seem to be spreading. I've been pulling up handfuls on almost a daily basis but can barely keep up with it. Has anyone had success with reduction or eradication by any other method? Are you having a particularly difficult time with any other invasive plants? Would you like to have a program dealing with eradication methods and selection and handling of herbicides?

Catharine Tucker, President



A Bad Year for Pawpaws - A Good Year for the Asimina Webworm Moth, *Omphalocera munroei*.

Last month I noticed an increasing number of dead branch tips on the paw-paw tree in the back yard. Finally the tree was practically denuded (A), with bunches of hanging dead leaves rolled up and secured with a web (B). On opening up a rolled up leaf, a black and red caterpillar was found inside (C). Doing some research, I found this web site, http://www.blossomnursery.com/pawpaw_insects_&_disease.html, with a description which matched the leaf damage and the offending caterpillar (D). The Adult moth (photo: Copyright © 2007 Jeff Hollenbeck) is shown in (E). Hopefully the tree will recover.



Presentation of the Flora to the University of Richmond Herbarium

On the 23rd of April members of the Pocahontas Chapter presented a copy of *The Flora of Virginia* to the University of Richmond Herbarium in honor of Dr. John Hayden's many contributions to the Pocahontas Chapter. The photograph below, (© Kim Lee Photography) arrived too late to put in the last Newsletter.



Left to Right: Daune Poklis, Richard Moss, John Hayden, Catharine Tucker, Pat Brodie

**Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
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