

Winter 1987



# The Bulletin

Vol. 6, No. 1

A publication of the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

## CELEBRATING THE FIFTH

On April 1, 1987, the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society will be five years old. It hardly seems that long since Mary Painter's vision and contagious enthusiasm were first engaging members in a brand-new organization.

And how far we have come! Our membership passed a thousand last year, and we now have seven chapters, with more on the way. In cooperation with other organizations, we've succeeded in listing as endangered the small whorled pogonia and in simplifying the listing process. We've also generated substantial support for efforts to fund the state's rare plant program, though as I write their outcome is still in question. In these and other programs, we've contributed to heightened interest in native plants and to greater awareness of their conservation needs.

VWPS chapters not only play a vital part in these statewide efforts but have begun many exciting programs tailored to particular localities. In these programs, each chapter is the VWPS in its own area. We tend to talk as though "chapters" and "the Society" are somehow separate, but in reality there is one VWPS. Every member can take pride in what each chapter is doing, and in what together we are doing throughout Virginia.

Yes, much remains to be done. Our aspirations outrun our ability to realize them—and I hope that will continue to be so as our achievements grow.

It seems appropriate here to recognize the contributions in this first five years of two

members who have recently died, Tommee Kerr and Pat Burrell. Tommee, one of the Society's incorporators, served as VWPS Treasurer until 1985. She was also Potowmack Chapter's first treasurer and an active chapter volunteer. Pat was one of those who pressed for a chapter in the Richmond area and whose sustained efforts made it a reality. She served as Pocahontas Chapter's membership chair. At Pat's request, many among her family and friends have made contributions to the VWPS in her memory. Tommee and Pat exemplify the hardworking volunteers who are the backbone of the VWPS, and I'm grateful for what they and other volunteers have given us.

Equally important to the VWPS is the steady flow of new ideas, new energy, new leadership. In committees and in chapter and Society boards, these contributions are greatly needed. To take an example that's on my own mind, we're looking for a VWPS Education chair, and for a Recording Secretary to replace Anne Price, who's moved to Maine. What would you like to see the VWPS doing? And how—in ways large or small—can you help to do it?

As I think about this fifth anniversary, I think of the personal reward the VWPS brought to me, especially the stimulation and fun that I find with other VWPS members, and the satisfaction of being actively engaged in something I think is tremendously important. May all of us continue to cherish and protect Virginia's wildflowers and wild places, and to enjoy working together!

—Mary Pockman

## WILDFLOWER TOUR OF WESTERN IRELAND

Wildflowers and scenic views of western Ireland are the emphasis of a June 20-29, 1987, trip to be led by Marion Blois, associate professor of biology at Northern Virginia Community College, Manassas Campus, and an active member of Prince William Wildflower Society.

The colorful wildflowers and breathtaking landscapes of Killarney National Forest, the Muckcross Estate, the Dingle Peninsula, the Burren, and the Connemare are to be featured in this tour. For additional details please write Marion at 10625 Provincial Dr., Manassas, VA 22110, or call at 703/361-1450.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

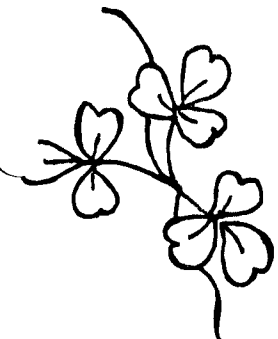
- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| April 13    | Deadline for spring <u>Bulletin</u> copy.   |
| April 20-26 | Virginia Wildflower Week observed.<br>(See enclosed brochure for details.)  |
| May 2       | Prince William Chapter-sponsored<br>"Pink Ladyslipper Search." Call<br>703/368-9803 for time and location.                |
| May 9       | Prince William Chapter Wildflower<br>Plant Sale. Call chapter president<br>Nicky Staunton for details at<br>703/368-9803. |

### CONSERVATION GUIDELINES FOR SCIENTISTS AND TEACHERS

Conservation guidelines for scientists and teachers who work with United States native plants have been developed by the Plant Conservation Roundtable. The Roundtable is an ad hoc group of individuals from conservation organizations and government agencies in the greater Washington, D.C. area, including a number of VWPS members.

The Roundtable's "Plant Conservation Guidelines: Scientists and Teachers" apply to collection of native plants for use as herbarium specimens, as research material, in experimental horticulture, or for teaching. They cover such specific concerns as possible alternatives to collection, procedures in dealing with rare plants and small populations, avoiding site damage, the care of collected specimens, and the incorporation of conservation considerations in research reports and in work with students.

The VWPS Board has endorsed these guidelines as a supplement to the Society's Wildflower Conservation Guidelines, which are intended for general use by all who enjoy observing, photographing, or growing native plants. For a copy of the Roundtable's guidelines or the VWPS guidelines, or both, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to VWPS-Orders, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003.



The Virginia General Assembly adopted an amendment to the budget for the period July 1987-June 1988 that includes \$25,000 for the endangered plants program carried out by the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This is the first time that funding has been provided for this program. We can now look forward to effective efforts to conserve the few hundred species of plants that are rare in Virginia.

The funding proposal was introduced by Delegate John Watkins of Chesterfield County. Del. Watkins and Senator Clive DuVall II had been our sponsors last year. This year, despite the difficulty in amending the budget in the middle of its two-year cycle, Del. Watkins persevered because he believed it was important "to keep the matter before the legislature." Obviously, he did better than that--he brought home the bacon!

We succeeded this year because we put much greater effort into our campaign. Many of you wrote to your state delegates--and they responded by supporting the proposal. I asked other environmental organizations to help. The Nature Conservancy, Environmental Defense Fund, Piedmont Environmental Council, and Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States all pitched in. In addition, the Conservation Council of Virginia adopted a resolution supporting funding for endangered plants. Finally, the official state citizens' advisory body, the Virginia Environmental Council, endorsed the funding request.

Finally, Del. Watkins and I met with the staff of the House Appropriations Committee to ensure that the members would receive a description of the endangered plants program and the need for funding.

The result of this effort was that members of the House committee were familiar with the program and favorably disposed to fund it.

In addition to the \$25,000 appropriation which will become available in July, VDACS will probably receive \$11,000 from a federal "matching grant" program to conserve endangered species. With this total of \$36,000, VDACS will be able to carry out vitally important conservation actions for the small whorled pogonia, Virginia round-leaf birch, and Peter's Mountain mallow. VDACS can also begin preparing to list some of the approximately 50 other species of plants that are considered endangered throughout the United States. A few hundred other species should be considered for listing in Virginia, although they are more common in other states.

Now we can enjoy our success--and begin preparing for the future. We should be thinking about what we believe the VDACS program should contain, and what level of funding it will need in the 1988-1990 biennium and beyond. And as the program develops, we should help to publicize its successes.

The Conservation Committee has many exciting challenges ahead. Won't you help?

--Faith Campbell  
Conservation Chair

### PLANT A LIVING LEGACY

The American Horticulturist Reports that the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution has developed a project entitled "Plant a Living Legacy." Through this project individuals across the U.S. will be encouraged to plant trees and flowers along public streets and roadways or identify and preserve natural areas in an effort to commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

For more information on how your chapter might become involved in this project, write to "Living Legacy Project," Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, 734 Jackson Place NW, Washington, D.C. 20503.

**THE BULLETIN**  
A publication of the  
Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

Mary Pockman, President • Roy Seward, Editor

Permission is hereby given to reproduce original material contained in The Bulletin, provided credit is given to the author, if named, and to the VWPS, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003.

### BLUE RIDGE WINS AWARD

In 1986 the Blue Ridge Chapter provided the wildflower display for the Roanoke Valley Wildflower Pilgrimage and won an award for the "Best Education Display" presented by the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. All the plants displayed were cultivated by chapter members.

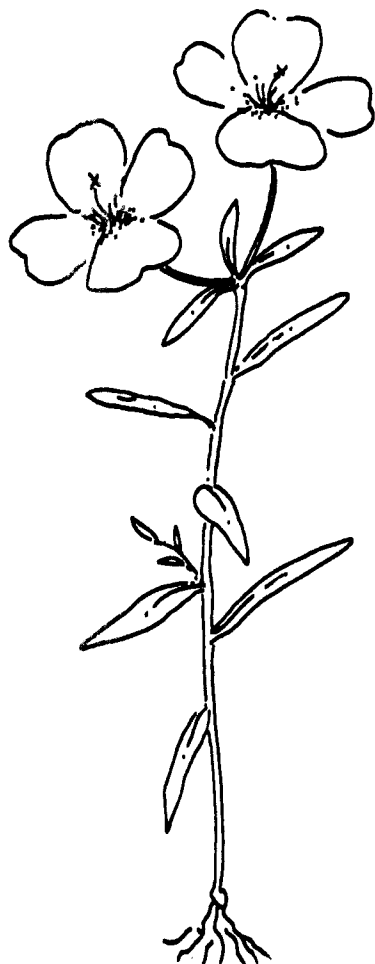
## NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAMS

The Nature Conservancy, a national, private, non-profit organization, has its origins in a committee established within The Ecological Society of America in 1917 to conduct an inventory of remaining natural lands. Today the Conservancy is a major conservation organization of the United States specializing in ecological data management and in preservation of natural lands, including habitat for endangered species, scientific research sites, examples of native ecosystems, and critical areas benefiting the environment.

For over a decade, The Nature Conservancy has been pursuing biological inventory in a unique and systematic manner in partnership with state governments. Called state Natural Heritage Programs, these biological inventories collect and disseminate information on the existence, characteristics, numbers, conditions, status, precise locations, and distribution of rare plants and animals and exemplary communities (elements of natural diversity). The data are assembled into a centralized system of data bases to be used for numerous purposes.

Heritage programs are often located in state capitals where the naturing data bases can be conveniently used by various state land managing agencies along with federal and private users. The success of Heritage methodology is reflected in state acceptance and recognition that a centralized, continually updated inventory that details specific locality information is critical to successful long-term planning and management. Heritage programs have been established in forty-six states, are starting up in Canada, extend to almost half the Latin American countries, and are more and more acquiring an international dimension.

—George Fenwick, State Director  
Virginia Chapter  
The Nature Conservancy



## VIRGINIA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

Years of effort to bring a Natural Heritage Program to Virginia culminated in a contract signing in Governor Baliles' office in August of 1986. The Virginia Natural Heritage Program (VANHP) was established in Richmond in November 1986, making it the forty-third state to install a heritage program (the number of states is now up to forty-six). Similar programs are starting up in Asia, Canada, and extend to almost half of the Latin American countries.

Soon after the VANHP began, the Nature Conservancy hired and trained four staff members: Michael Lipford, Program Coordinator/Ecologist; Garrie Rouse, Research Botanist; Chris Clampitt, Information Manager/Botanist; and Katie Perry, Data Handler. The staff is striving toward the goal of developing an easily accessible, constantly updated system of data bases that will ultimately reflect the current status of biological diversity on Virginia's landscape.

The staff began by refining lists of plant and animal species and exemplary communities (elements of natural diversity) that are rare, imperiled or are in need of special attention. Through every phase of the inventory, the lists remain flexible and elements will be added or deleted as the growing body of knowledge directs. Currently, the element lists comprise some 585 plants, 176 invertebrates, 240 animals, and 30 natural community types.

Site-specific biological information for each target element is collected. Data is being sought from published reports, herbarium and museum collections, state experts and other secondary sources of information. Data collected for each element and for boundaries of public and private lands is incorporated into a system of manual, map, and computer files. The IBM-PC-AT, acquired in January, is now being populated with data collected by the program staff. Some data existed since information on Virginia's biota was collated for The Nature Conservancy's Model Heritage Program by national office staff in Arlington. This preliminary data base was inherited by the VANHP staff.

The staff is also in the process of assigning ranks to each element for a measure of rarity in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Nature Conservancy supplies global ranks to each state heritage program. The assigned ranks range from 1 to 5; hence, the rank of G1 indicates that a particular element is critically imperiled because of extreme rarity, represented by only 5 or less individuals in the world. A rank of S1 would have the same meaning, but refers to state rarity. A list of ranks and their meanings can be supplied upon request by the VANHP. The program is now tracking 45 G1 taxa, 527 S1 taxa, 32 federally listed endangered species, and 92 species that are candidates for federal listing in Virginia.



Additionally, each element is individually mapped on 7.5-minute series topographic maps. The data bases are organized so that unlike entities (for example, orchids, shale barrens, and salamanders) can be compared in terms of site-specific locations of their occurrences, overall range, pattern of distribution, rarity, status of protection, and other factors. This data, stored in interlocking manual and computer files, is easily retrieved by the staff for users.

In its first three months of existence, the VANHP has responded to 185 environmental data requests, mostly from sister agencies involved in permit applications and environmental impact reviews. In the words of Governor Baliles, "the key to the success of the Virginia Natural Heritage Program lies in the impartial nature of its data. Because this data helps avert environmental conflicts before they can arise, this program will be appreciated by both commercial and environmental interests."

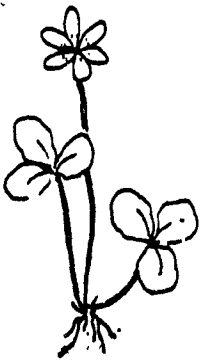
The VANHP, appropriately located in the Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, will be the mechanism to help other agencies set conservation priorities. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, charged with legal protection of plants in Virginia, will depend on the program's recommendations for species to be added to Virginia's existing list of legally protected plants. Moreover, the program is working closely with the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries on zoological elements of concern in the Commonwealth. The program will enhance DCHR's relationship with other natural resource agencies in the state and the nation and give the department added knowledge in conservation through existing programs.

The launching of the VANHP is a landmark of historic importance in the identification and protection of Virginia's finest natural areas. The staff will be glad to answer any questions or listen to suggestions or comments regarding the program. The VANHP office may be contacted by calling 804/786-2121 or writing the Virginia Natural Heritage Program, Virginia Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, 1100 Washington Building, Capitol Square, Richmond, VA 23219.

—Michael Lipford, Coordinator  
Virginia Natural Heritage Program



## WILDBRANCH WRITING WORKSHOP

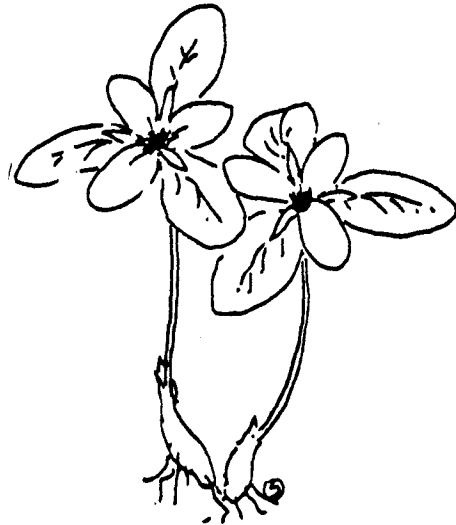


Wildbranch is a week-long workshop of informal classes, lectures, discussion groups and readings designed to introduce the craft and techniques of fine writing to professionals in the fields of forestry and wildlife management, environmental, biological and conservation studies, though others are encouraged to apply.

This writing workshop will be held on the campus of Sterling College in Crafts-bury Common, Vermont, during June 21-17, 1987. The application deadline is April 10. For information on fees, travel routes, admissions or curriculum, contact David Brown, Director, Wildbranch Writing Workshop, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT 05827 - (802/586-7711).

### RESCUING THE POGONIA

Would you expect the Wall Street Journal to carry articles about wildflower preservation? Well, the January 1987 issue of the magazine Virginia Business did just that when it included a story entitled "Flower Power" about the rescue of the colony of small whorled pogonias (Isotria medeoloides) in Williamsburg from highway construction.



### GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

You are welcome to submit contributions to the Bulletin for possible publication. Our deadline for the spring issue is April 13. Handwritten articles are accepted but typed ones are preferred. Please use both scientific and common names in your writing and identify yourself and your chapter affiliation (or other organization) at the end. Manuscripts will not be returned unless requested. Please send your articles to Roy Seward, Editor, 7649 Cherokee Road, Richmond, VA 23235.

### LET THE WILDFLOWERS GROW

Here's a quote from the New York Times, November 6, 1986: "Our passion for large expanses of green lawn will fade if some landscape architects have their way. They are urging owners of public and private property to replace their lawns with natural plants."

### AN HERBAL FOOD PRESERVATIVE

The September 1986 issue of American Health reports that the herb rosemary, a powerful and safe antioxidant, can preserve foods without wilting people. But who wants rosemary-flavored corn flakes? Rutgers University chemists now have found a way to extract rosemary's preservative benefits without its strong, biting flavor.

ADDITIONS TO THE NURSERY SOURCE LIST

The nurseries listed below have recently been added to the Society's list of sources for nursery-propagated native plants and wildflowers. Most will send a catalogue, free or for a small charge.

To get the full source list, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to VWPS-Orders, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003. Even this list, though, doesn't include all of the growing number of nurseries that offer propagated wildflowers and do not sell plants collected from the wild. If you know of others, please send information about them to Cole Burrell, at the same address.



Bell's Farm Nursery, Rt. 3, Box 405-B, Salem, VA 24153 (703/389-3082).  
Woody plants

Bullbay Creek Farm, Rt. 2, Box 381, Tallahassee, FL 32301 (904/878-3989).  
Retail and wholesale. Herbaceous and woody plants.

Huffman's Native Plants, P. O. Box 39, Otto, NC 28763 (704/524-7446).  
Woody plants

Jacobs' Gardens, Rt. 2, Box 280, Troutman, NC 28166 (704/528-4787).  
Herbaceous plants

Magnolia Nursery, Rt. 1, Box 87, Chunchula, AL 36521 (205/675-4696).  
Woody plants

Niche Gardens, Rt. 1, Box 290, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919/967-0078).  
Herbaceous and woody plants

Ben Pace Nursery, Rt. 1, Box 159-C, Pine Mountain, GA 31822 (404/663-2346).  
Woody plants

Transplant Nursery, Lavonia, GA 30553 (404/356-8947).  
Retail and wholesale. Woody plants.

Virginia Natives, P. O. Box 18, Hume, VA 22639 (703/364-1001).  
Herbaceous plants

\*\*The following are wholesale nurseries, offering woody plants only:

Apalachee Nursery, Turtletown, TN 37391 (615/496-7246)

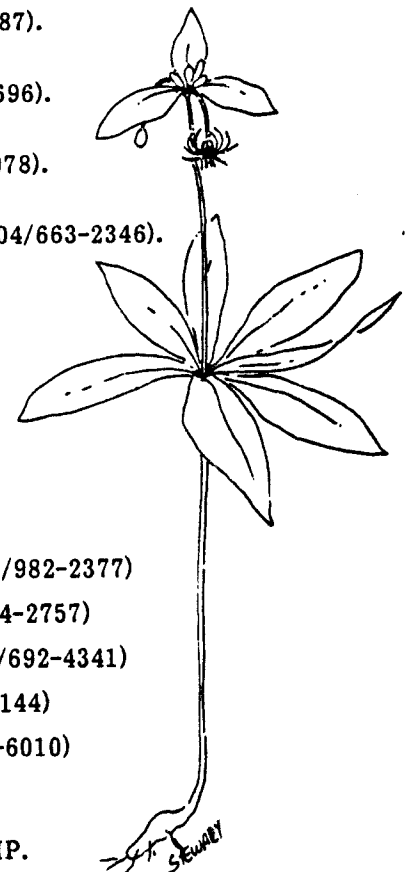
Appalachian Trees, P. O. Box 92, Glendale Springs, NC 28629 (919/982-2377)

Fox Hill Nursery, Rt. 1, Box 133-B, Turtletown, TN 37391 (704/494-2757)

Hurricane Gap Nursery, P. O. Box 361, Flat Rock, NC 28731 (704/692-4341)

Lamtree Farm, Rt. 1, Box 162, Warrensville, NC 28693 (919/385-6144)

Nature's Garden, 372 Wlch Road, Bryson City, NC 28713 (704/488-6010)



GIVE A FRIEND A SPECIAL GIFT—A VWPS MEMBERSHIP.

Complete this form and send it to VWPS Membership, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003.

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Categories (check one)**

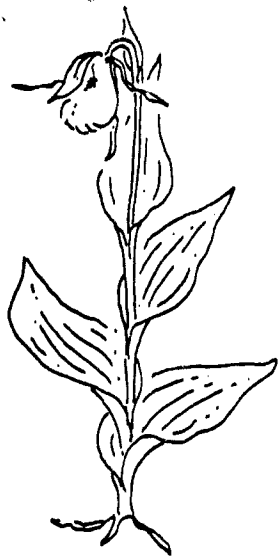
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual-\$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting-\$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Student-\$5	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor-\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Family-\$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Sr.(60 or over)-\$5	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate-\$25	
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron-\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Sr. Family-\$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining-\$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Life-\$250

I give \_\_\_/I do not give \_\_\_ permission for my (our) name(s), address and telephone number to be published in a chapter directory or exchanged with other related organizations.

wish to make an additional tax deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

My suggestions for activities: \_\_\_\_\_

A LOOK BACK



I'm safely inside looking out at the BIG SNOW spectacle of 1987 and pondering spring, wildflowers and VWPS activities relating to them. For Bill and me it started with scanning the local paper in late winter 1982. I was facing "retirement" and wondering what on earth I was going to do with my spare time.

We had spent many hours together caring for and caring about native plants, albeit in a most unstructured way. Our family heritage, too, led us in the direction of becoming botanical aficionados. Other hobbies had come and gone. Our love for the natural world never wavered.

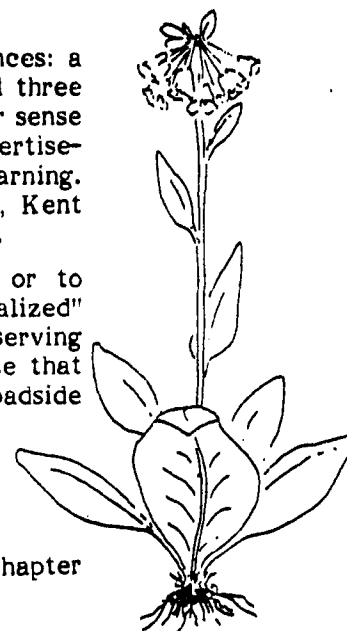
My earliest fond memories are of long, wonderful hours spent exploring the rich Minnesota woods at my grandparents' lake home there. Bill's folks' love of the field flowers surrounding their home in the Washington State palouse country, and their many trips to Mount Rainier reveling in its beautiful alpine species, had imbued in both of us a sense of reverence for these precious gem flowers.

And so, the caption "Wildflower Preservation Group To Form" caught my eye that blustery day almost five years ago. The introductory meeting we attended was the beginning of a learning, growing association with more of these special plants and with the numerous, talented people who give so much of themselves to nurture and protect them.

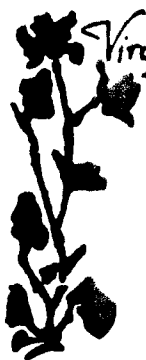
Along the way, we have received guidance from new friends and acquaintances: a nudge from Cole, a spring walk with Ethel, bits of inspiration from the Barbaras (all three of them!), reflections from Mary (and Mary), tips here and there from Marion. Our sense of wonder has been rekindled by the "Blue Ridge gang"; Donna's enthusiasm and expertise - her quiet caring manner has given us a new appreciation and stimulation to keep learning. Lessons taught by happenstance and on purpose by Larry, Claudia, Cynthia, Trish, Kent and Marsha (and countless others) have stretched our minds and our sensitivities.

The education we are getting is not always directly related to botany or to conservation, but frequently attitudinal. Our understanding of "native" and "naturalized" has increased at least ten-fold since we began this journey. Our concern for preserving our rich botanical heritage has been heightened so that, more than ever, we realize that we must do much more than rescue a threatened pinxter flower from a falling roadside bank or plant a garden full of natives!

With grateful hearts we will continue to do our best.



-Dorna Kreitz  
Potowmack Chapter



Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

P.O. Box 844  
Annandale, Va. 22003



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 347  
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA



Spring 1987

Vol. 6 No. 2

# The Bulletin

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The U.S. Endangered Species Act is before Congress for reauthorization or renewal. Hearings before House and Senate committees were held in March and April. These committees should mark up (write) their bills later this spring.

A coalition of 29 environmental organizations has asked for a five-year reauthorization and more than a doubling of funds (to \$86 million). The additional money is required if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to protect the 430 U.S. species (including 152 plants) already listed as endangered or threatened or to list the over 2,500 species still waiting for protection. The increased funds would also ensure a fair share of federal grants to Virginia to help fund our Commonwealth's own endangered species program. (This year, Virginia asked for \$49,000 to help protect endangered plants, but received only \$11,000.)

The coalition has asked for three amendments to strengthen the Endangered Species Act, especially for plants. The first would outlaw collecting or vandalism of listed plants found on private land—currently, these damaging activities are legal. The Virginia round-leaf birch suffered

from vandalism in 1984, when nearly all seedlings were destroyed. The second would give the Fish and Wildlife Service authority to prosecute people who import or export plants in violation of the Act. At the present time, this authority rests with the U. S. Department of Agriculture which has failed to carry out its responsibilities. Gingseng illegally collected in Virginia has probably been exported because of this lax enforcement. Third, the coalition has suggested that FWS be required to monitor developments affecting "candidate" species waiting to be listed to ensure that the species is not forced into extinction.

Virginia now has three plant species on the U.S. endangered species list: Virginia round-leaf birch and Peter's Mountain mallow (both endemic to the State), and the small whorled pogonia. Another 50 plant species are under consideration.

Congressman Herbert Bateman (1st District) and Senator John Warner serve on the House and Senate committees now considering the Act. Society members should write to all their representatives and senators as well, to urge support for an Endangered Species Act strengthened by the above amendments. For more information call Faith T. Campbell, NRDC, (202) 783-7800.

### ANNUAL MEETING! ANNUAL MEETING!

Important information about the VWPS Annual Meeting is included in this issue. Please take time to read it. Also, start thinking about items you would like to offer for the auction. You will be receiving more details about the auction later in the year.

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

Plant rescues seem to raise a lot of questions, for both VWPS members and others. Some, seeing so many wild places disappear, wonder why the VWPS doesn't go all out to salvage as many plants as possible; others think they take more time and energy than they're worth. Some see rescues as a primary means of preserving Virginia's wild plants; others look at them as a pointless distraction. I'll try to put down here my understanding of where rescue projects fit under the basic conservation purpose of the VWPS.

In themselves, plant rescues rarely contribute directly to the conservation of Virginia's wild plant species and habitats, although they are valuable in other ways. Relocation from a destruction site can only save individual plants, and even in carefully-chosen new habitats wild-collected plants don't always thrive and reproduce. Moreover, most rescues concentrate on just a few species, usually the showier and better-known, leaving plants of many others to their fate. Plant rescues are simply not designed to maintain a diverse, vigorous flora in the wild. For that, habitat preservation is crucial—and rescue projects enter the picture only when habitat is about to be destroyed.

To achieve our fundamental purpose, we need to give priority to efforts directed toward such goals as

legal protection of endangered species, foresighted land-use policies, and sensitive planning by developers and other landowners. In working with developers, we need to look for ways to influence the development process from the beginning, long before rescue becomes our only option. For instance, how might we encourage developers to identify areas of botanical significance at an early state of planning, and to work out a site plan that leaves them undisturbed?

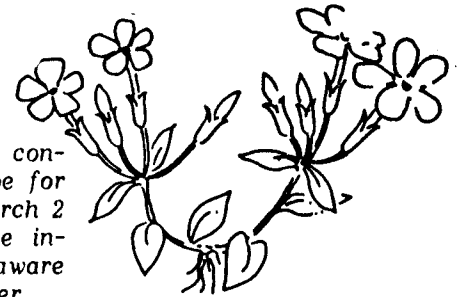
Not every habitat can be saved, of course. Once a development project reaches the point that grading or clearing is imminent, relocation of otherwise-doomed plants can serve other worthwhile objectives. In many uses, plant rescues can also give support to efforts focused more directly on conservation. Rescues can provide plants, some unavailable elsewhere, for public education (as well as enjoyment) in botanical gardens and public parks, for example, or stock plants for propagation, or material for botanical and horticultural research. Perhaps most important, plant rescues are vivid reminders that the natural habitats of our native plants are shrinking, and that all of us need to pay more attention to preserving them.

—Mary Pockman



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Following are the author's reflections on the conference on "Vegetation Management of Landscape for Beauty and Diversity" which she attended on March 2 in Pennsylvania. The sponsors of the conference included the Brandywine Conservancy, the Delaware Nature Education Society and Mount Cuba Center.



When we talk about plant rescues the image that most likely comes to mind is working with a developer to transplant plants from a site to be developed to a repository. However, another kind of plant rescue needs to take place on many of our natural areas, this is area rescue. Rescuing our native flora from unwanted invaders is what is needed to keep the diversity of our natural landscapes.

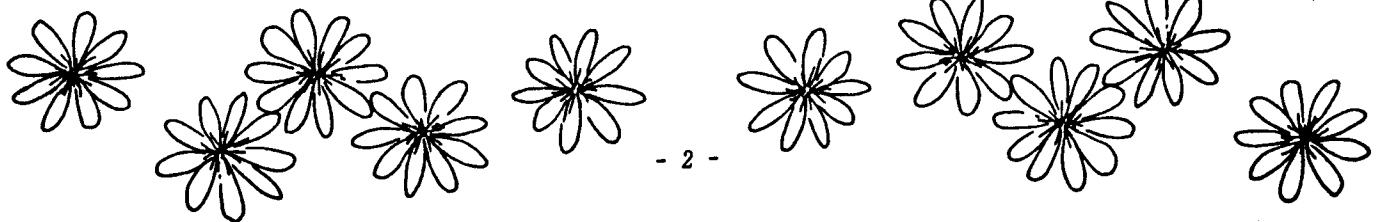
Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica* 'Haliana'), Kudzu-vine (*Pueraria lobata*), Oriental bitter-sweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), Wisteria (*Wisteria floribunda*), Bamboo (*Phyllostachys aurea*), and multiflora or Japanese rose (*Rosa multiflora*) are all well known for their tenacity and aggressive habits. In most of our wooded areas they are all but impossible to eliminate so the best we can do is to keep them in control. Weed control on this level can be a frustrating task but the best method is to start small and at least try and make a dent in the problem so it won't be too overwhelming. It helps to create a boundary to form

a manageable area. Hand digging and hand pruning are the most effective means of control. Weed trimmers can be dangerous in vines and require caution to protect shrub and tree trunks from damaging nylon strings.

Other plants to be removed are Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), Ivy (*Hedra helix*), and Japanese pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*), which are all garden escapes and should be removed from natural areas. Although each of these may have a place in your garden, in a natural area they will have a tendency to encroach and choke out the natural growth to form a monoculture.

So as "grassmania" and development tend to take over natural areas we can protect these areas and encourage the maximum diversity by removing the encroaching plants.

—Claudia Thompson-Deahl  
Prince William Chapter





CLEAN AIR vs. ACID RAIN

Acid rain--in the form of rain, fog, snow, or dry acid particles--kills fish and other aquatic life as well as trees, shrubs, and herbs. In Europe, acid rain combined with another air pollutant, ozone, is causing significant forest destruction. In West Germany, 52% of forests ecosystem may be collapsing.

In the eastern United States, including Virginia, we are seeing signs of an earlier stage of pollution damage--a sharp decline in forest growth. In Virginia, tree growth has decreased 20%. Red spruce and pines are particularly affected.

Research has shown that acid rain occurs when sulfur dioxide emissions from "smokestack industries" and electric utilities mix with water in the air. The result is sulfuric acid that can disrupt biological systems, erode buildings, and leach toxic metals into drinking water.

Two strong bills to control acid rain have been introduced in the Senate. The New Clean Air Act, S. 300, introduced by Senator Stafford (R-VT) and Senator Mitchell's (D-ME) Acid Deposition Control Act of 1987, S. 321, were praised by Richard Ayres of the National Clean Air Coalition as "important and substantial initiatives to renew and expand our nation's commitment to clean air."

Both bills would cut emissions of sulfur dioxide by fifty percent, and scale back nitrogen

oxide releases, the two chief causes of acid rain. Both bills embrace a "polluter pays" philosophy and a flexible, least cost approach to acid rain control. Senator Stafford's bill includes additional controls on emissions of ozone precursors from automobiles and gasoline refueling.

VWPS members can help make clean air and acid rain control a reality by urging their senators to cosponsor S. 300 and S. 321 and asking senators and representatives to work for passage of a Clean Air Act this year that includes strong controls on acid rain, urban air pollution, air toxics and protection of the stratospheric ozone layer. Senator Warner is a member of the Senate committee with jurisdiction; Rep. Rick Boucher (9th District) is a member of the House committee.

For further information contact Kathy McGough, National Clean Air Coalition, (202) 543-8200.

If you would like to share your position on this issue, write Senators Warner and Tribble at the U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. You may also wish to contact representatives at the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

--Faith Campbell  
Conservation Chair



ANNUAL MEETING of the VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY:

Request for Accommodations - September 18-20, 1987

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Arrive \_\_\_\_\_ Depart \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations requested: (Specify one king size or two double beds. Rate: \$60 single/double.

Names of persons sharing these accommodations:

Special needs:

ENCLOSE A DEPOSIT OF \$60 TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION.

Return to THE GEORGE WASHINGTON INN, 500 MERRIMAC TRAIL, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185  
Telephone: In Virginia 800/523-2990; nationwide 800/446-3990

# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution  
in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia,  
there is hereby officially recognized:*

## WILDFLOWER WEEK

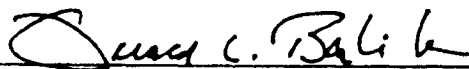
WHEREAS, the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society is dedicated to the "Preservation, Conservation, and Appreciation of Virginia's Native Plant Heritage;" and

WHEREAS, through its many local chapters, the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society provides a bountiful service to the beauty of our Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, wildflowers provide a natural beauty to the countryside of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, during the week of April 18-26, 1987, the Wildflower Society will be scheduling a variety of events for the public across the Commonwealth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gerald L. Baliles, Governor, do hereby recognize April 18-26, 1987, as WILDFLOWER WEEK in Virginia and call its significance to the attention of all our citizens.

  
Governor



*Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society*

P.O. Box 844  
Annandale, Va. 22003

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 347  
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA

Summer 1987



# The Bulletin

Vol. 6 No. 3

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The annual meeting in September promises to be a pleasure. Pat Baldwin leads off with an informal slide presentation for those who can be in Williamsburg Friday evening. For Saturday and Sunday, Donna Ware has put together an exciting array of field trips to fit varied interests and schedules. And Saturday evening brings the Gala Auction, shared slides and other displays, the chuckles and challenge of Elaine Haug's "What's-It?" presentation, Laura Martin's talk—and the opportunity to get to know others who love Virginia's native plants and want to protect them. I'm looking forward to it, and I hope many of you can be there.

Meanwhile, though summer never quite meets my childhood expectation of endless leisure, it does bring a little slower pace. I'm finally making good on a promise to myself to learn the ferns more systematically, through a local natural history program. I'm pondering the possibility of a moss lawn in an always-damp area of our yard, a tempting idea from a recent New York Times article.

And I'm reading. Two books in particular I commend to you: In Australia: A Natural History (Smithsonian, 1983), Howard Ensign Evans and Mary Alice Evans, American biologists who've done research in Australia, have written for Americans a broad introduction to that continent's geology, plants, animals, and people. It's a delight to read, even if your travel is only by armchair, and in describing a land so wholly unlike our own, it illuminates North America's natural history.

William Cronon's Changes in the Land (Hill and Wang, 1983) traces the ecological history of colonial New England—the very different ways the Indians and the English settlers used the land, and the fundamental changes in the region's plant and animal communities that came with the shift from Indian to European dominance. This is a fascinating approach to history, and just as the Evans' book puts our continent in a new perspective, this one puts our time in a new perspective. I'd love to find a comparable ecological history of colonial Virginia. Does any of you know of one?

—Mary Pockman

### MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW!

Read about the program, the field trips, the auction, and other events planned for the annual meeting in this issue of The Bulletin. Then make your plans to be with us in Williamsburg in September. Make your lodging arrangements soon and avoid the last minute rush. Don't forget the deadline for dinner reservations.

...AND NOW THERE ARE EIGHT!

A warm welcome to the Shenandoah Chapter! It was officially established at the VWPS Board meeting in June as the eighth chapter of the VWPS. Centered around Harrisonburg and Bridgewater, the chapter serves the four counties at the heart of the historic Shenandoah Valley, Page, Shenandoah, Rockingham, and Augusta, and two very rural counties, Bath and Highland, that lie to the west, along the West Virginia line. Michael Hill, Professor of Biology at Bridgewater College, has served as coordinator during the formation of the Shenandoah Chapter and is now its first president.

The Blue Ridge Chapter has designed and produced an attractive new brochure for publicising its work and goals and recruiting new members. Better than 85 percent of its members renewed their membership this year. Blue Ridge's May 16 plant sale raised \$1390 for the chapter treasury. Chapter President Rich Crites reports that his group was instrumental in saving a colony of Kankakee Mallow threatened by a proposed highway bridge project. Now the chapter is working with the State Department of Transportation as a resource for future construction projects.

John Clayton Chapter President Cynthia Long reports that over 80 percent of her chapter's members have rejoined. She also reports that the Wildflower Week activities, including library exhibits and newspaper publicity, attracted several new members. The Clayton Chapter will host our annual meeting in September and Botony Chair Donna Ware is putting together the walks that will be offered.

Prince William Chapter sold 500 plants at its spring plant sale and grossed nearly \$1200. Chapter President Nicky Staunton reports that her group is using profits from the sale to buy a portable display unit that will be put to use first at the county fair in August and will be used on other occasions to display the chapter's meadow wildflower program and present promotional material about Prince William and VWPS programs. In June the chapter dedicated a wildflower garden in Locust Shade Park. This garden had begun as a part of the "Adopt-A-Park" idea of relocating rescued wildflowers.

Ed Ballard, Potowmack Chapter President, reports on his group's project which may have Society-wide application. His chapter has proposed to three park agencies and one historic preserve the designation of a "Potowmack Wildflower Area." This area would be similar to the National Arboretum's Fern Valley, and would become the Potowmack Chapter's primary repository for rescued and propagated native plants.

(Editor's note: If we have left out something about your chapter which you think should have been in this column, please start sending me a copy of your newsletter or copies of your chapter minutes or reports. Thanks.)

During its June 6th meeting, the VWPS Board approved the charter for the Shenandoah Chapter. It also approved guidelines for--and lifted the moratorium on--chapter development.

After a review of the need for revamping Virginia Wildflower Week to give more flexibility to chapters in scheduling events, the Board agreed to lengthen the observance period from one week to the months of April and May and change the name to "Virginia Wildflower Celebration."

Beginning in 1988, the Society will hold this celebration and chapters will have the opportunity to plan activities during the two months to coincide with local bloom conditions. More information about "Wildflower Celebration '88" will be included in future issues of The Bulletin.



A NOTE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

The Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society now has over 1000 members. Keep in mind that our new membership year begins November 1. Now would be a good time to join VWPS or renew your membership for the coming year. Prompt renewal will ensure that you will continue to receive information about Society and chapter events.

Please note that when you complete the membership form, you are asked to indicate whether you are willing to have your name, address and telephone number published in a chapter directory or exchanged with other related organizations. VWPS policy requires members' permission for the publication or exchange of names, addresses or telephone numbers.



THE BULLETIN

A publication of the  
Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

Mary Pockman, President      Roy Seward, Editor  
Ardyce Kinsley, Layout      Barbara Stewart, Artist

Permission is hereby given to reproduce original material contained in The Bulletin, provided credit is given to the author, if named, and to VWPS, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003. Contributions to The Bulletin are welcomed and should be sent to the Editor at 7649 Cherokee Road, Richmond, VA 23225. The deadline for copy for the fall issue is October 12.

## THE MAKING OF THE ATLAS OF THE VIRGINIA FLORA

(This is the conclusion of a two-part article written by Alton M. Harvill, Jr. who began the work of preparing the Atlas of the Virginia Flora.)

In the early 1970s, we started discussing publishing first an atlas. Fernald's manual and Gleason's manual served us fairly well, and we had the Manual of the Carolinas and the Flora of West Virginia as supplements. Work had started on the Vascular Flora of the Southeastern U. S. and we would want a Virginia manual to come after that flora. Then I started a mock-up, 24 maps per sheet, to record distributional data, as they accumulated, for an atlas.

In June of 1971, Spencer Wise and I started working the False Cape region and added the Eastern Shore and its barrier islands later in the summer and fall. This work would continue, year after year, through the 1985 season. Spencer was able to secure transportation, boats, and the help needed for adequate collecting in that difficult area of the state.

On July 4, of 1972, we added *Cirsium carolinianum* and *Gillenia stipulacea* to the Virginia flora. Growing in a nondescript oak-pine woodland of the Ellen's Mill area of Halifax County, associates were the very local *Marshallia obovata* and the rare *Eryngium yuccifolium*. Later, with Lloyd Carr and Charles Stevens in August County, Lloyd waded deep in Quarles Lake to find a new *Scirpus*, *S. torreyi* for the flora of Virginia.



Also in 1972, Dr. J. T. Baldwin called to ask if I would identify a large collection of Virginia plants made in 1949-1953 by Bernard Miklva when an undergraduate at William and Mary. I agreed and Dr. Bernice Speese started sending to me, and it soon became evident that there would be almost 10,000 numbers, many with duplicates. This collection took about four years of almost daily work to finish, but it is now another foundation collection for the atlas.

October 17 of 1973 brought the discovery of flatrocks near Gasburg with *Diamorpha smallii*, *Portulaca smallii* and *Cyperus granitophilus*, three new records for the state. We visited these flatrocks six times through the season of the next year, and made searches in Mecklenburg and Greensville counties, finding the *Portulaca* and *Cyperus* in Mecklenburg County but no suitable habitats remain in Greensville County.

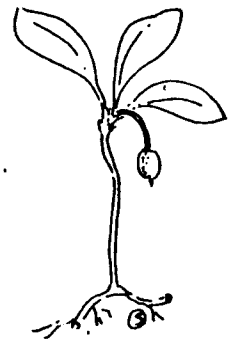
By the end of the 1975 season my collecting numbers ran to 32,293, and we were talking of putting an atlas together. But there was great need for better coverage for our weeds throughout the state and for general coverage of southwestern Virginia. So Barbara and I started a decade-long campaign for weeds in general and for any and all species in southwestern Virginia.

I put 24 outline maps on an herbarium sheet and got a printer to run enough sheets for Part I and Donna Ware agreed to put it together, add the binomials, etc., do the dotting, and she put it through the press in Williamsburg where we picked it up in April of 1977. Of the introductory materials, Edmund Berkeley wrote the early history of botany in Virginia, Charles Stevens helped greatly with the vegetation and physiography, and I did the rest.

This publication resulted in renewed interest in collecting by many of our botanists, but one principle we kept in mind was that I would do whatever we could not get someone else to do. We kept the field work going, and many collectors were now very active with a mock-up of Part II to guide them in the field. I made my last stand at the Harvard Herbaria July 23-26, 1980, completing the search for Virginia specimens among their huge holdings. At the end of the year my numbers reached 40,370 and we were ready to publish Part II. I had the maps ready and most of the dotting done, and we went to press early in 1981 and it came off the press on March 16.

Part II led to still more field interest and by 1984 I had to start devoting most of my time to reworking the map sheets for additions and name changes, and then Part I had to be completely reset, proofed, etc. Yet, great numbers of specimens were still coming through the Longwood Herbarium and it was the winter of 1986 before we could go to press with the revision and it came out in early February of 1987.

Thus ends the quarter-century saga which gives us a knowledge of contemporary distributions of Virginia's plant species, to piece together the history of a fabulous flora. It is largely a story of vast migrations and tenacious persistence. Early Wisconsin migrations were mostly southward and southwestward and late Wisconsin migrations were mostly northward and northeastward. In post-glacial times, xeric periods eliminated many species from large areas, but in places with very favorable environments, due mostly to hydrology, geology, soils and physiography, colonies of many sensitive species could persist, thus creating remarkable patterns of disjunctions.



### WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

It's the challenge, and the laughs, of trying to identify the close-ups of plant parts shown on the screen after the buffet at the Annual Meeting. Those who were at Mountain Lake last year will remember the slides that stumped them—and the witty identifications offered by some of the stumped. Elaine Haug is challenging our clever photographers to enter their slides and outwit the audience in this unusual "contest." Elaine will be presenting this popular feature again at the Annual Meeting in Williamsburg on September 19.

Do you have close-up slides, showing plant parts or features unique at least to the genus, and preferably to the species, that you think would puzzle even knowledgeable botanists? If you'd like to have them considered for inclusion in the "What's-It?" program, send the slides to Elaine Haug, 14814 Dillon Avenue, Dale City, VA 22193, or write to her for more information.

### SHARE YOUR SLIDES

Don't forget about the opportunity to share as many as five of your favorite slides with other wildflower enthusiasts at the VWPS Annual Meeting. Slides can show wildflowers, natural habitats, native plant gardens, or Society/chapter activities you'd like to show. To arrange to send or bring your slides, get in touch with Mary Pockman, 7301 Hooking Road, McLean, VA 22101.

### SHORT TAKES

"The William Paca garden in Annapolis, Md. was built between 1763 and 1765. . . .Most of it is devoted to a "wilderness"—wildflowers grown tall and unruly as if in their natural state, a grassy meadow sloping to the banks of a small pond." (from "Down the Garden Path to History", an article by Miriam Horn about the restoration of old gardens which appeared in U.S. News & World Report, June 1, 1987.

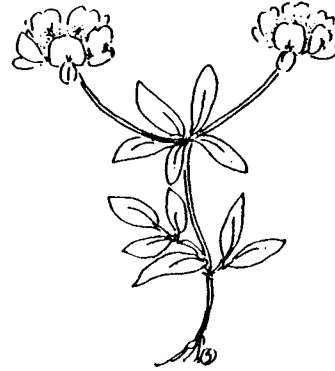
. . .

"Garden archaeology rarely produces exciting artifacts or buildings that capture public attention.' Eighteen months later the New York Times proved how wrong I was by printing a front-page story about a 17th century garden discovered in the South—our garden!" (from "Virginia's Oldest Garden", an article by Nicholas Luceketti about the gardens at Bacon's Castle in Surry County which he published in Colonial Williamsburg magazine, Summer 1986.)

*The second edition of Atlas of the Virginia Flora is now available. If you would like a copy, send your check for \$10.00 to Virginia Botanical Associates, Route 6, Box 790, Farmville, VA 23901. The names of A. M. Harvill, Jr., Ted R. Bradley, Charles E. Stevens, Thomas F. Wieboldt, Donna M. E. Ware, and Douglas W. Ogle are listed on the Atlas title page, but Mr. Harvill in his preface identifies many other persons who contributed to the making of this single-volume edition.*

### THE VWPS GALA AUCTION

The much-enjoyed VWPS Gala Auction is coming again in September. The auction has always been a highlight of our Society Annual Meeting. It is a silent bid auction sale of plants, books, unique hand-crafted work, and other items related to the natural world. All members can help raise funds the easy way by donating items and/or by bidding on and winning new treasures at the sale. We hope all members will look for, find, and donate items this year, enriching our treasury and themselves. Contact your chapter or me, Doris Berger, Fund Raising Chair, 3509 Perry Street, Fairfax, VA 22030, phone (703) 273-3324, for more details if you have something to donate.



### TWO NEW BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

VWPS has added two new books by Oscar W. Gupton and Fred C. Swope of the Virginia Military Institute faculty to its list of publications for sale.

Fall Wildflowers of the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains, a comprehensive and versatile guidebook which identifies 100 species of trees, shrubs, vines and herbs, is available for \$14.75, including tax and handling.

Wild Orchids of the Middle Atlantic States, which covers eight states, including Virginia, and describes 52 species of the rarest of wildflowers, may be purchased from VWPS for \$14.25, postpaid.

Both of these books are illustrated with color photographs taken in the natural habitat of the plants under natural light.

Book orders, with checks made payable to VWPS, may be sent to P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003.

Chapters interested in selling these two books or any of the other publications and gifts offered by the Society should write to VWPS about fund raising opportunities.



1987 ANNUAL MEETING: ELECTION OF OFFICERS



The annual meeting of the membership of the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 19, 1987, at the George Washington Inn, Williamsburg, Virginia, to hear reports and to elect officers, other directors, and members-at-large of the Nominating Committee.

--Dorna Kreitz, Corresponding Secretary



SLATE OF NOMINEES

The following slate of nominees has been developed by the Nominating Committee for consideration by the VWPS membership at the annual meeting in Williamsburg:

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (1987-90) Cole Burrell: A member of the Potowmack Chapter, Cole is currently chairing the VWPS Long-Range Planning Committee and is presently serving as First Vice President. He is curator of Fern Valley at the National Arboretum.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (1987-90) G. Robert Lee: Bob is County Executive for Clarke County and serves on the Board of the Piedmont Chapter and the Friends of Bland. He is knowledgeable about environmental issues and has taken the lead in water resource and watershed related problems in the Upper Shenandoah Valley.

CHAIR, CONSERVATION (1987-90) Faith Campbell: Faith is a member of the Potowmack Chapter and is currently serving as State Conservation Chair. As an associate with the National Resources Defense Council, she is active in national conservation issues. Faith has been instrumental in the development of Virginia state conservation programs for plants.

CHAIR, PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS (1987-90) Roy E. Seward: Roy is the Pocahontas Chapter Vice President and currently serves as State Publicity and Publications Chair. He has worked in resource conservation, environmental education and public relations. He is presently Vice President of Richmond Audubon Society and co-editor of the RAS newsletter.

CHAIR, EDUCATION (1987-90) Chris Fleming: Chris is director of the education program for the Audubon Naturalist Society and an instructor at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School in spring flower and woody plant identification. Chris is a member of the Potowmack Chapter.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1987-90) Nancy Arrington: The organizing president of the Prince William Chapter, Nancy is currently the Chapter Propagation Committee Chair and editor of Prince William's newsletter. She is interested in propagation and landscaping with native plants.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1987-90) Larry Morse: Larry is a charter member of VWPS with the Potowmack Chapter and served on the State Board during the Society's first years. He is Chief Botanist for The Nature Conservancy and Director of the Conservancy's Scientific Data Base.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1987-89) Rebecca White: A member of the John Clayton Chapter, Rebecca is the Immediate Vice President of the Cape Henry Audubon Chapter. She serves on the committee for the development and stewardship of the Weyanoke Wildlife Sactuary in Norfolk which devotes resources to native wildlife gardening.

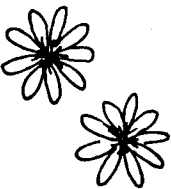
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1987-88) Ed Ballard: Current President of the Potowmack Chapter, Ed is a retired landscape architect. He has been active in environmental and conservation issues throughout his career with the Office of the Chief of the Army Corps of Engineers and in private practice. He was the State Nominating Committee Chair last year.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER (1987-90) Dawn Gill: Dawn is a member of the Blue Ridge Chapter and teaches biology at Virginia Western Community College. She is an active participant in the Blue Ridge Parkway volunteer program. As a volunteer she gives interpretive programs and leads nature walks.

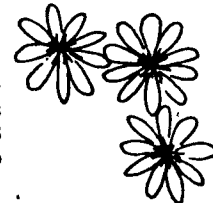
RECORDING SECRETARY 1987-89 No candidate found. CHAIR, FUND RAISING 1987-90 No candidate found.

Unfortunately, we are still looking for nominees for these last two positions. The search continues for people willing and able to serve VWPS. If you are interested in serving or know someone else who is, please contact your local chapter president.

ABSENTEE VOTING



Members who are unable to attend the annual meeting are entitled to vote by completing the absentee ballot below. Those who are family members may submit two ballots. Return completed ballots to Dorna Kreitz, VWPS Corresponding Secretary, 2819 Oakton Manor Court, Oakton, VA 22124. To be counted, ballots must be received by September 17.



<u>1987 VWPS BALLOT</u>	<u>1987 VWPS BALLOT</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> I approve the slate of nominees for officers and directors of the VWPS.	<input type="checkbox"/> I approve the slate of nominees for officers and directors of the VWPS.
<input type="checkbox"/> I approve the nominee for member of the VWPS Nominating Committee.	<input type="checkbox"/> I approve the nominee for member of the VWPS Nominating Committee.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BAY GRASSES CENSUS

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) want volunteers for a continuing census of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. "Anyone at ease in water or who has a favorite spot along the bay or one of its tributaries can participate in the census," said Robert J. Orth of VIMS. The service will supply maps and charts to volunteers, who need only be observant of bay grasses and their locations.

The census began in 1978, Orth said. The service conducts aerial surveys of bay grasses, but "ground truthers" (on-site observers) are necessary because aerial photographs are not as reliable. The census provides the service and VIMS with information about the health and spread of bay grasses that cannot be obtained otherwise, Orth said. The information is used for many purposes, including decisions about where more grasses need to be planted. SAV began to disappear from the bay and its tributaries in the 1960s because of pollution and excessive nutrients. The most substantial increase in SAV growth in a bay tributary has occurred in the Potomac where accidentally-planted hydrilla has spread, Orth noted.

Virginians interested in becoming census volunteers should contact the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Suite 815, Heritage Bldg., 1001 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219, telephone (804) 780-1392.

(reprinted from Water News, Virginia Water Resources Research Center, July 1987)



*Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society*

P.O. Box 844  
Annandale, Va. 22003

**IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING AND  
VOTING INFORMATION ENCLOSED  
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!**

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 347  
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA

Fall 1987

# The Bulletin

Vol. 6 No. 4

## WILD COLLECTION: BEHIND VWPS POLICY

The majority of native plants sold for garden and landscape use are believed to be dug from the wild. Opinions about this practice vary. Some people oppose all wild collection as a threat to native plants in their natural settings, while others take it for granted or actively defend it. In between are various "ifs" and "buts."

As Bulletin readers know, VWPS policy rejects wild collection for horticultural use, except for relocation of plants that otherwise face certain destruction. Apart from carefully-planned rescue projects, the Society and its chapters do not remove plants from the wild, nor do we buy or sell wild-collected plants or accept indirect benefits from trade in them. Instead, we emphasize propagation as the best source of plants for cultivation. We urge that individuals adopt the same position.

The issues behind this policy have been widely discussed within the VWPS and elsewhere, and it's important that members understand what they are. From the point of view of the VWPS, the heart of the matter is the urgent need to make sure that the horticultural use of native species does not jeopardize their populations in the wild. The outlook for those populations is already shadowed by the far more serious threat of habitat loss. VWPS policy seeks to avoid the additional risks posed by wild collection.

We lack enough systematic information to be certain exactly what damage wild collection actually does. There is no doubt, however, that it has the potential to do substantial harm, which may be irreversible. It can disturb a habitat, reduce the size of a population and thus its variability and resilience, perhaps remove altogether some unique genetic character. In the view of the VWPS Board, the possibility of these destructive effects makes wild collection unacceptably risky.

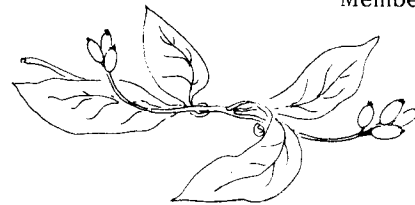
The hazard is clearest in the case of rare or endangered species; few would openly defend collection of these plants. Common, locally abundant species are another matter. Some see no harm in digging "a few" plants of these species for landscape use. Methodical "thinning" or "harvesting," they maintain, can produce a sustained yield while leaving the base population unchanged. Against this argument one must weigh the fact that we know too little of the population dynamics of many native species to say with certainty how many plants are "a few" or what yield is sustainable, even under constant conditions.

## DOES YOUR ADDRESS LABEL HAVE A RED DOT?

YES? THEN IT'S TIME TO RENEW FOR 1988!!

Our membership year runs from November 1 to October 31, so it is renewal time! Don't risk missing an issue of The Bulletin! Your timely renewal will save the VWPS and your chapter time and money spent for reminders to members. Your membership demonstrates your commitment to the worthwhile goals of the VWPS. The continuing support of our members is vital to the successful culmination of the many important projects and programs at the state and local level. Please consider an upgrade of your membership category as a way to demonstrate your support! And remember that a gift membership is a lovely way to please someone special.

--Phoebe White  
Membership Chair



---

It's also argued that most of the wild-collected plants offered for sale have been rescued—they would have been destroyed if they hadn't been removed. While that may be true, the retail buyer rarely has any way to be sure of it, and the ease of labeling plants "rescued" warrants caution. Without fuller information, the safe response to both these arguments is to avoid the risk.

Concern for the preservation of native plants in the wild is the foundation of VWPS policy, but other considerations support that same position. Many of the collected plants sold through nurseries are thought to have been obtained illegally. Wild collection (including rescue) without the landowner's permission may constitute theft or trespass. It may also violate federal or state plant protection laws or those governing removal of plants from public land.

(concluded on page 2)

## TAKING STOCK

If you missed this annual meeting, be sure you get to the next! So many people have said what a wonderful time they had during the weekend in Williamsburg. Some were most excited about the field trips; for some the dinner and formal programs were the highlights; some relished the auction; all enjoyed getting to know other wildflower enthusiasts. I had a delightful time, and I hope you'll make plans to share the fun next year.

As our year ends, I want to recognize the Board. Three are retiring: Claudia Thompson-Deahl, who has completed a term as Second Vice President; Doris Berger, who this past year has served as Fund Raising Chair, after three years as Education Chair; and Betty Lottimer, who has been a Director-at-large since 1985. In addition, two Directors who had accepted renomination had to withdraw from the slate. Cole Burrell, who has been on the VWPS Board from the beginning, for the last two years as First Vice President and chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, has gone to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, outside Minneapolis, as Curator of Plant Collections. Roy Seward is unable to continue as Publicity/Publications Chair and Bulletin editor because of changes in his personal responsibilities, though he'll still be on the board as president of Pocahontas Chapter. Each of these Directors has brought to the board a special combination of skills and perspective, and each will be missed.

### AGREEMENT REACHED BY TWO STATE AGENCIES

A formal agreement has been signed with the Nature Conservancy's Natural Heritage program and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. This agreement will strengthen the State's effectiveness in identifying and protecting Virginia's endangered species. The VWPS welcomes the opportunity for these two organizations to work cooperatively in the management and protection of certain plant species.

### WILDFLOWERS ALONG THE HIGHWAYS

Kudos to Senator Bentsen who has guided legislation through Congress mandating that 25 cents of every \$100 in federal highway landscaping funds will be used to plant native wildflowers. Senator Bentsen is from Texas where they have been planting wildflowers along their highways for the last 50 years. Wildflower planting has also reduced costs in the amount of mowings and there is a reduction in littering. The end result of this project should bring about an increase in wildflowers nationwide.

### THE BULLETIN

A publication of the  
Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

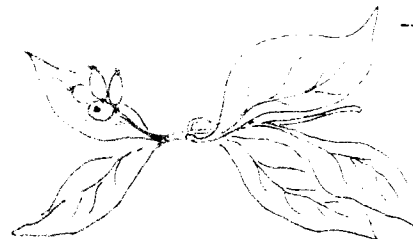
Mary Pockman, President \* Claudia Thompson-Deahl,  
Editor pro tem  
Ardyce Kinsley, Layout \* Barbara Stewart, Artist

Permission is hereby given to reproduce original material contained in The Bulletin, provided credit is given to the author, if named, and to VWPS, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003. Contributions to The Bulletin are welcomed and should be sent to "Bulletin Editor" at the above address.

A milestone of 1987 was the General Assembly's approval of initial funding for Virginia's endangered plants program. We will be supporting expanded funding for this program in the next biennium; moreover, we've committed \$500 toward the development of a brochure on Virginia's endangered plant species, which you will be seeing soon. During the past year we also strengthened our ties to other conservation organizations. Our membership continues to grow, and in June we welcomed the Shenandoah Chapter, the eighth local chapter.

Less visible but no less important has been a lot of evaluation and planning that will bear fruit in the coming year. Plans are already under way for Virginia Wildflower Celebration 88, the successor to Wildflower Week. Extending this annual event from one week to two months recognizes the great differences in the time of peak spring bloom across the state, and should make it a more effective means of drawing public attention to wildflowers. We're also beginning work on the development of regional, seasonal wildflower checklists and on strengthening the Society's Signature Slide collection as a resource for chapters and for statewide programs.

Looking further into the future, at its September meeting the VWPS board received the report of the Long Range Planning Committee, almost two years in preparation. It contains a number of challenging suggestions to enhance the effectiveness and extend the reach of the Society as a whole and of its chapters. As chapter and VWPS boards begin to refine and implement these ideas, fitting them into ongoing programs, 1988 promises to be an exciting year.



--Mary Pockman  
President

### WILD COLLECTION (cont'd from page 1)

Considerations of business ethics and consumer's self-interest also raise questions about wild collection. With the notable exception of nurseries that sell only propagated plants, most plant sellers tell customers little or nothing about the source of the plants they offer. Left in the dark about a plant's history, a buyer is ill-equipped to judge its value. A mature plant dug from the wild (and perhaps stressed in the transition from its native habitat) may need extra TLC; even with good care, the odds that it will thrive may be relatively poor. Moreover, wild-collected plants are in general not only less vigorous but less shapely and attractive than nursery-propagated plants.

Fortunately, propagation can now readily replace wild collection as a source of plants. Many desirable species are propagated by nurseries, and many are relatively easy for home gardeners to propagate. This list will grow as knowledge about propagation techniques and cultural requirements increases, though buyers may have to wait some time for hard-to-propagate species such as orchids. It will also grow as nursery owners become convinced that buyers are willing to pay a fair price for nursery-propagated plants. Meanwhile, plenty of species are available through nursery propagation to satisfy conservation-conscious gardeners and enable all of us to avoid the risks and doubts of using wild-collected plants.

--Mary Pockman

1988 VWPS BUDGET

The budget adopted by the board for fiscal 1988 is shown below. These figures represent estimates based on experience and specific plans, but of course can not reflect the value of the time and skills contributed by volunteers.

Income

Membership dues	\$ 6,300
Contributions	2,000
Net sales	2,100
Other income	100
Interest earned	700
TOTAL	<u>\$11,200</u>

Expenditures

Education	\$ 1,425
Conservation	970
Botany	200
Membership development & services	2,140
Publications	2,030
Fund Raising	600
Administration	3,835
TOTAL	<u>\$11,200</u>

FY 1987 Estimated Surplus      Approx.      \$11,000

RESTORING THE EARTH . 1988

The first national gathering to consider the restoration of all natural resource types and the redesign of urban areas will be held on January 13-16 at the University of California, Berkeley. It will bring experts in natural resource restoration and management together with a broad selection of academic, government, industry, foundation, labor, public health, and environmental representatives. Participants will help create new solutions to the nation's environmental problems, through restoration of damaged resources.

Information is available from: Restoring the Earth Conference, 1713 C Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94709, or telephone (415) 843-2645.

VWPS AND THE

VIRGINIA COALITION FOR CLEAN AIR

At its meeting in June, the VWPS Board of Directors agreed to join the Virginia Coalition for Clean Air, an effort by 35 organizations throughout the Commonwealth to re-authorize and strengthen the Federal Clean Air Act and to strengthen Virginia's commitment to Clean Air.

The senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (Virginia's Senator John Warner is a member) is expected to report a bill to the floor of the Senate in November. As our Bulletin goes to press there are serious concerns about several key provisions of the bill: acid rain, air toxics, and urban smog. These are issues which affect all of us who are interested in the health and welfare of our populations of people and of plants!

At this time, the House of Representatives is holding hearings on several different bills which are expected to be combined into its comprehensive package. Timing for debate on this is uncertain.

What is certain is that your voice needs to be heard! Even if you have already contacted your representative or senators about your concerns, do it again! Our legislators can be swayed by letters and phone calls from their constituents.

Let's clean up our act!

--Dorna Kreitz

MEMBERSHIP IN A SECOND CHAPTER

VWPS members who are already affiliated with one chapter may now become full voting members of a second chapter, in any membership category, by paying to the second chapter dues equal to one half the state VWPS dues for that category. This provision, recently approved by the VWPS Board, is intended especially for members who live in the area served by one chapter and have a second home or other interest in the area of another chapter, but any member may utilize it. If you want to do so, make arrangements directly with the second chapter you want to join.

Yes, I want to renew my membership!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ W ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$50      | <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$5             | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor* \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$15     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. (60 or over) \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (groups) \$25 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$25     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. Family \$10      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$100        | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$250               |

\*Please designate one person as delegate: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as:  A member at large  A member of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

I wish to make an additional contribution to:  VWPS \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter  
in the amount of  \$10.  \$25.  \$50.  \$100.  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This is a Gift Membership. Please include a card with my name as donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you do not wish your name to be exchanged with similar organizations.

Check here if you do not wish to be listed in a chapter directory.

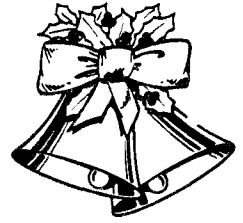
\*\*\* Make check payable to VWPS and mail to: VWPS Membership Chairman, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, Virginia 22003 \*\*\*

## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

The perfect choice for your holiday shopping list may be an item from the VWPS. Your order will help the VWPS at the same time. Listed below are two new items and the popular VWPS T-shirt now being offered at a very special price.



**VWPS Note Cards.** Five beautiful designs of Virginia wildflowers in pen and ink drawings by VWPS staff artist Barbara Stewart on fine quality bond paper with matching envelopes. A set of 10 cards (two each design) is \$7.80. Specify ivory or ice blue background.



**Wild Orchids of the Middle Atlantic States** by Oscar W. Gupton and Fred C. Swope. 1987. Describes 52 species of the rarest wildflowers in eight states with color photographs of each species. Hardcover. \$15.06.

**VWPS T-shirt** proclaims "Semper Flora Virginicensis" (Virginia Wildflowers Forever) with floral design, outline of Virginia, and Society's name. Royal on sky blue. Men's S, M in 50/50 cotton/polyester or 100% cotton; women's, with semi-scoop neck and French-cut sleeve, M, L, 50/50 blend only. Allow 3 weeks for delivery. Special price: \$6.23.

(Prices include tax, postage and handling.)

FOR OTHER SUGGESTIONS SEE THE ENCLOSED PUBLICATIONS & GIFT LIST

## THANKS FOR A GREAT ANNUAL MEETING!

The VWPS broke new ground at the 1987 annual meeting weekend, September 19-21, with a greatly expanded choice of field trips, a banquet-style dinner and program (with guest speaker Laura Martin), and a variety of handsome and informative exhibits. Familiar features included Friday's introductory slide program and Saturday's Gala Auction and reception. About one hundred members from all parts of Virginia enjoyed some part of the weekend's program.

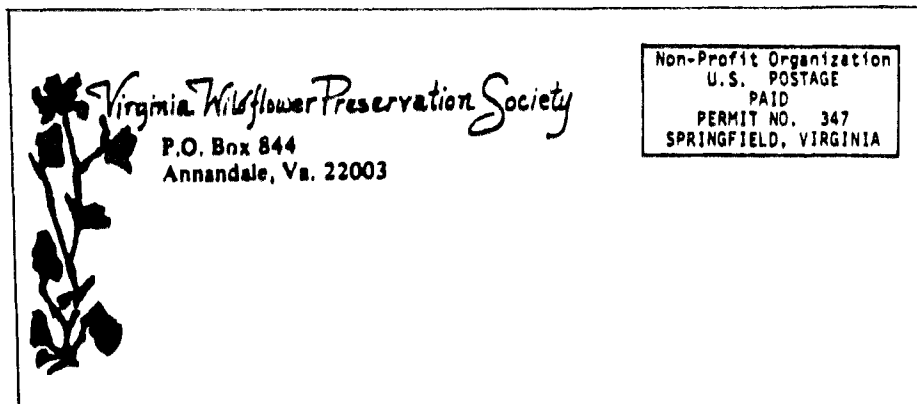
### NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 1988 NATIONAL CONSERVATION AWARDS

Nominations for the oldest privately-sponsored conservation awards program in the nation are being accepted until December 15, 1987. The general public, as well as professionals, are encouraged to submit nominations of deserving individuals and organizations devoted to the cause of conservation.

The 1988 Chevron Conservation Awards Program honors those who have made an outstanding contribution to the conservation of natural resources. Nomination guidelines and information can be obtained by writing to: Chevron Conservation Awards, P. O. Box 7753, San Francisco, CA 94120-7753.

Warmest thanks to the many people who helped make this a memorable weekend, including all who in one way or another shared their knowledge and curiosity and enthusiasm about wildflowers and wild places. Some of those who should be especially mentioned:

Cynthia Long and her colleagues in the John Clayton Chapter, efficient behind-the-scenes organizers and gracious hosts: Donna Ware, who planned the superb array of field trips, and the field trip leaders, who made each one a pleasure; Pat Baldwin, who got the weekend off to a fine start with Friday evening's slides; Phoebe White, who welcomed members and oversaw registration Saturday evening; Bill Kreitz and Lucy King, who, at the last minute, willingly took charge of counting ballots; Doris Berger, Claudia Thompson-Deahl, Cole Burrell, chapter captains, and all who contributed to the rich variety of the auction, the most successful ever; chapter presidents and others who provided exhibits, particularly Mike Lipford, of the Natural Heritage Program, and Marshall Trammell, of the endangered plants program, who arranged for the exhibits from these two state agencies; Elaine Haug, who made learning fun with "What's-It?" puzzlers; Rich Crites and Bobby Toler, whose slides reminded us of the pleasures of past VWPS gatherings.





## PUBLICATIONS AND GIFTS

November 1987

From the VWPS . . .

Order items 1 through 14 from VWPS-Orders, P. O. Box 844, Annandale, VA 22003.  
Make check payable to "VWPS." For further information, call (703) 272-3324.

1. Wildflower Conservation Guidelines. 1987. VWPS guidelines to help wildflower lovers protect wild plants in their native habitats. One page. Free. Send self-addressed stamped envelope.
2. Sources of Native Plants and Wildflowers. Three-page list of sources of wildflower seeds, native grass seeds, herbaceous and woody native plants. To the best of our knowledge, the plant sources listed offer nursery-propagated plants and refrain from selling plants collected from wild. 1987. Free. Send self-addressed stamped envelope.
3. VWPS Note Cards. Five beautiful designs of Virginia wildflowers in pen and ink drawings by VWPS staff artist Barbara Stewart on fine quality bond paper with matching envelopes. A set of 10 cards (two each design) is \$7.80. Specify ivory or ice blue background.
4. VWPS T-shirt. Help spread the conservation message so attractively displayed on these first-edition T-shirts. The slogan, "Semper Flora Virginiensis" (Virginia Wildflowers Forever) and the Society's name surround an outline of the Commonwealth of Virginia and a floral design. Royal blue on sky blue. Men's T-shirt in 50/50 cotton-polyester blend or 100% cotton, sizes S, M. Women's, with semi-scoop neck and French-cut sleeve, in 50/50 blend only, sizes M, L. Allow three weeks for delivery. Now \$6.23.
5. Fall Wildflowers of the Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains by Oscar W. Gupton and Fred C. Swope. 1987. A comprehensive, versatile guidebook identifying 100 species of trees, shrubs, vines and herbs. Hardcover. \$15.53.
6. Wild Orchids of the Middle Atlantic States by Gupton and Swope. 1987. Describes 52 species of the rarest wildflowers in eight states with color photographs of each species. Hardcover. \$15.06.
7. Trees and Shrubs of Virginia by Gupton and Swope. 1981. One hundred species of trees or shrubs are represented by color photos and text in non-technical language. Hardcover. \$13.44.
8. Wildflowers of Tidewater Virginia by Gupton and Swope. 1982. Color-keyed reference on 200 species, most herbaceous, represented by color photos and descriptive text. Hardcover. \$13.44.
9. Wildflowers of the Shenandoah Valley and Blue Ridge Mountains by Gupton and Swope. 1979. Two hundred species, most herbaceous, photographed and described. Hardcover. \$13.44.
10. Growing and Propagating Wild Flowers by Harry R. Phillips of the North Carolina Botanical Garden. 1985. A definitive reference for wildflower gardeners. Covers more than 100 genera of wildflowers with detailed information on propagation and cultivation and imaginative suggestions for garden use. Color photos and line drawings. Paperback. 331 pages. \$17.62.
11. Spring Wild Flowers of West Virginia by Earl L. Core. 1981. Contains distinctive field notes including informative references to native plant growth habits and companion species. Paperback. \$6.17.
12. Habitat Considerations and a Habitat Key for Landscaping with Selected Wildflowers of the Southeastern United States. Four-page reprint from VWPS Bulletin (Fall 1984). Presented by Dr. Joseph L. Collins and Maureen Cunningham at 1984 Conference on the Use of Native Plants for Beautification, Cullowhee, NC. Key to assist selection of native species most naturally suited to particular sites, and guidelines for effective cooperation with highway departments in roadside plantings of wildflowers. \$1.33.
13. Wildflowers Recommended for Cultivation in Virginia. Six-page annotated list of 35 flowering plants and five ferns native to Virginia and recommended for Virginia's home gardens and public landscapes. For each species, the list gives preferred exposure, soil, and moisture as well as flowering time, color, and height. Additional comments note propagation methods and special characteristics. Updated April 1985. \$1.81.
14. Mowing Cycles and Native Roadside Plants by Kim D. Herman, Botanist, Michigan Department of Transportation. 24 pages. Presented at 1984 Conference on the Use of Native Plants for Beautification, Cullowhee, NC. \$4.41.

From the Piedmont Chapter . . .

Order the following items from Piedmont Chapter of the VWPS, P. O. Box 336, The Plains, VA 22171.

15. Newcomb's Wildflower Guide by Lawrence Newcomb. 1977. Hardcover. 490 pages. A valuable reference guide for our region. Uses a simple and ingenious key for identification. Fine illustrations and extensive coverage including shrubs and vines. Compact, easy to carry. \$20.78.
16. Atlas of the Virginia Flora by Alton M. Harvill, Jr., et al. Second edition. 1986. Paperback. 490 pages. Newly updated, this edition contains maps showing distribution of Virginia species by county. Valuable reference for botanists and serious students of botany. \$16.13.
17. The Wildflower Gardener's Guide (Northeast, Mid-Atlantic edition) by Henry W. Art. 1987. New regional guide providing comprehensive and correct guidance in the propagation of popular wildflowers indigenous to our area. Beautifully illustrated text also aids the gardener in creating a variety of theme gardens and wildflower landscapes. \$11.90.



From the Potowmack Chapter . . .

Order the following items from Fund Raising Chairman, Potowmack Chapter of the VWPS, P. O. Box 161, McLean, VA 22101. Make check payable to "Potowmack Chapter of the VWPS." For further information, call Diana Jensen, (703) 759-5357.

18. Plant Markers and Labelling Crayons. "Everlast" zinc plate plant labels and crayons for use on the metal markers. Markers in bundles, two sizes: 25 short labels at \$7.88; 20 large labels at \$8.36. Crayons (available only with markers) in two sizes: small at \$.52; large at \$.78.
19. Gardener's Gloves. Fine leather gloves with chapter logo. Great for household chores as well as gardening. Medium or large size. \$6.27/pair.
20. Growing Wildflowers: A Gardener's Guide by Marie Sperka. 1984. Paperback. 277 pages. A classic gardening guide covering more than 200 species of North American wildflowers. This veteran nurserywoman provides instructions on planting and propagation as well as garden bed preparation. Includes useful appendices and over 200 pencil illustrations. \$12.02.



From the Prince William Wildflower Society Chapter . . .

Order the following items from PWWS-Book Order, P. O. Box 83, Manassas, VA 22110. Make check payable to "Prince William Wildflower Society." For further information, call Marie Davis, (703) 361-1626.

21. Gardening with Wild Flowers. Brooklyn Botanic Garden Handbook #38. 1982. 84-page paperback with twenty essays by different authors on native plants suitable for cultivation. Color photos. \$ 4.15.
22. Growing Woodland Plants by Clarence and Eleanor Birdseye. 1972. 242-page paperback providing information on the recognition and cultivation (on any scale) of approximately 200 wildflower and fern species. \$5.85.