

The Apical Meristem

Volume I, Issue I

Winter 2006

Meeting Programs

Meetings begin at 7:00pm and are held at the Va Tech Greenhouse classroom located on Washington St

- Feb 14: "Alien invasives: what are they and why do we care?" Ruth Douglas
- Mar 14: "Life on the rock: plants of Newfoundland" Gary Cote
- Apr 11: "Plants and their pollinators" Christine Small
- May 9: Potluck picnic at Bissett Park, Radford, VA

Plant Walks

Call the contact person for meeting time and place.

- March 18: Montgomery County Park and Cedar Run. Contact: David Jones 552-3058 or Nancy Slocum 552-4997
- April 14: Walk Dry Run. Contact: Butch Kelly 540/384-7429 or David Jones 552-3058
- April 29: Rock Castle Gorge. Contact Vicky Barden 552-5428
- May 20: Wildwood nature area adjacent to Bissett Park (Picnic Potluck)

Moving Toward Official Chapter Status

Two programs, three fall meetings, thirty signatures of our charter membership—we are on our way to forming a local chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS). Looking ahead we have a full schedule of spring activities: three general meetings with programs, a picnic social and four outings.

Our chapter is beginning to function as a native plant organization. However, many things remain to be addressed to make this group an official chapter. Our first order of business is to submit a petition to form a chapter to the VNPS Board of Directors. The petition consists of the signature list of at least 35 members of the VNPS, the names of the interim board of directors, the counties the chapter covers, and the chapter flower and its logo.

Our member list is almost complete. If you signed our list and are not a member of VNPS, please send in your dues. If you are a member and have not signed the list please do so at the February meeting or contact someone on the steering committee to make arrangements to sign. The steering committee will evolve into the interim board of directors, but we need more people to serve (Interested in volunteering?). Our county coverage includes Bland, Craig, Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski and Wraythe. The flower will be selected at the February meeting (see the article below).

In the months following the submission of the petition we will write the bylaws, elect officers and set up our financial records and accounts. Additionally, we will continue to have our scheduled meetings and outings while planning the fall activities.



Fire Pink

Potluck Picnic For Final Meeting

To usher in summer our May meeting will be a party. We will gather at Bissett Park in Radford, VA to enjoy the spring weather of May, the New River and the flora at nearby Wildwood Park Nature Area.

Pack a picnic basket, bring your family and friends and join us in a celebration of two seasons of enjoying wildflowers in the New River Valley.

The date is May 20, but the time and other details will be announced later in an email and a post card.

Apical Meristem?

This mailing is the first effort of a chapter newsletter. Is everyone on board with the name? *Apical meristem: a meristem (embryonic tissue) at the tip of a shoot or root that is responsible for increasing the plant's length.* Hey this is the site of our chapter's growth—Is everyone on board with the name? Anyone want to be the newsletter editor? There is a lot yet to do to formalize this chapter please consider volunteering to help in some way. Call or email David Jones: 552-3058 or dhjones@together.net.

NEW RIVER NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Post Office Box 10134
Blacksburg, VA 24062



Rhododendron

24060+9114-00 R010



Jan Spahr
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Blacksburg, VA 24060

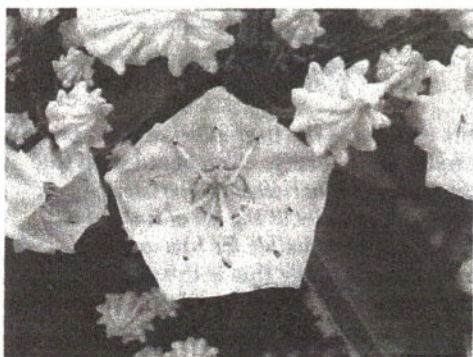
Chapter Plant and Logo Selection at the February Meeting

We need to select a plant for our chapter and design a logo. This process has been discussed at two general meetings and two steering committee meetings. The steering committee has come up with five species that meet the criteria of being readily recognizable from a line drawing, easily found in nature to show to others, not threatened nor endangered and having

some interesting detail. At the February 14th meeting we will vote on which plant we will use to represent the New River Native Plant Society.

The choices are: Jack in the pulpit, rhododendron, Dutchman's breeches, mountain laurel, and fire pink (Pictures of each species are featured in the newsletter).

*The fire pink
won. JS*



Mountain Laurel



Jack in the Pulpit



Dutchman's Breeches