



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

January, 2020



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday January 9, 2020**

**at the Kelly Education Center of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
in the Lab**

The room is available at 6:30, come early to socialize

Our speaker will be Anne B. Wright.

Her topic will be “One of Richmond's First Environmentalists”

One of Richmond's first environmentalists, Newton Ancarrow, documented wildflowers and other plants in the James River Park System. His photographic collection of 35,000 slides is housed at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. This presentation focuses on both Ancarrow's story and the digital wildflower archive that has been developed to preserve his work. Finally, Anne will describe the continuing efforts to locate and record the number of species that are still present in the park today.

Anne Wright directs Outreach for the VCU Life Sciences and Center for Environmental Studies and is an Assistant Professor in the VCU Biology Department. She has a background in aquatic and stream ecology, benthic macroinvertebrates, and water quality monitoring. In 2013, she began developing Science in the Park, a website of science-based explorations of the natural resources, plants, and animals in the James River Park System in Richmond, VA.

Anne's other interests are dragonflies, vernal pool ecology, gardening, and bees.

~~~~~

## **President's Message**

Hello everyone,

Happy New Year!!! 2020 is here and I hope it finds you and yours well. I am looking forward to hearing Anne Wright speak at our January meeting about Newton Ancarrow. Maybe we can talk her into leading a walk for us later this year and follow his footsteps??

A few reminders of items you should be seeing in the State newsletter, you may want to pencil them in.

Winter workshop will be 3/14 at Piedmont Community College. Registration is needed and will be posted online at [www.vnps.org](http://www.vnps.org). The Annual meeting will be weekend of 9/25 in Abingdon VA. The board is organizing, versus a chapter.

The annual fundraiser benefits our 7 Native Plant Guides, most of which needs to be reprinted. If you have not yet donated, please consider doing so on line at [www.vnps.org](http://www.vnps.org).

Dabney Robinson has formally stepped down from her role as unofficial membership chair, news release publicist and Facebook administrator. Thank you Dabney for all you have done the past several years. If anyone reading this is interested in filling those roles, one or all, please reach out to me at [leleorr4@gmail.com](mailto:leleorr4@gmail.com).

For anyone that volunteers at Lewis Ginter, please considering logging a portion of your hours to our Chapter. You can enter code “1111” in the volunteer tracker. Anything you do at the garden qualifies, it does not need to be horticultural in nature.

Hope to see you soon,

Leslie Allanson

# Minutes of the November 7, 2019 meeting of the Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS

(There was no December meeting)

Our speaker, David Garst, District wildlife biologist, DGIF discussed our Deer neighbors: resolving nuisance deer problems. Things you may not know about deer (*Odocoileus virginianus virginianus*):

Historically they were not everywhere in Virginia. There were big gaps in their distribution because of differences of habitat – mountains had minimal food for them. In 1983 deer were mostly coastal plain and some piedmont with a population of about 50,000 in the entire state. DGIF was restocking deer in the mountains 1938 to the 50's. In 2017 there were ~850,000

A note of interest: A lot of the turkeys in VA were imported from Bath county starting in the 1950's, before that they were extirpated in much of VA.

A deer needs 200 - 640 acres and they eat 3-5% of body weight a day of herbaceous material. They are browsers, preferring forbs and broadleaves over grasses and are almost always hungry to maintain their body weight. Female doe's will eat 6-8% of body weight. Oak regeneration limited in Chickahominy river basin by deer eating saplings

Wildlife management by HB48 – funds by the manufacture of hunting goods collected in at trust by USFW & matched at the state level. Bears are one of the main predators of deer, especially in the spring when the fawns are abundant.

There are approximately 60,000 claims a year for collisions with deer.

It is illegal to feed deer in Va from Sept 1 to 2nd Saturday in January.

## Business Meeting notes:

Volunteer Update: Garden volunteers who also wish credit for time as VNPS members should sign in with the code 111.

Treasury Report – We have over \$4,000 dollars in treasury.

Membership – Dabney is out

**New Business** – Catharine Tucker requested we send her some photographs of native plants so we could have them in case we need them for emergency presentations. Please send her three pictures of native plants at: [Catherinetucker@gmail.com](mailto:Catherinetucker@gmail.com).

There is a State initiative to raise funds to make more native plant guides.

## The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

serves the counties of Amelia, Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George and the cities of Ashland, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, Petersburg, and Richmond. It meets the first Thursday of September through April at 7:00 PM in the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, unless otherwise stated.

### Chapter Officers

**President.....Leslie Allanson**  
(804) 335-5866.....[leleorr4@gmail.com](mailto:leleorr4@gmail.com)

**Vice President.....Catharine Tucker**  
(804) 938-6941.....[cath.tucker@gmail.com](mailto:cath.tucker@gmail.com)

**Secretary.....Ashley Moulton**  
(703) 554-5860.....[moultona@vcu.edu](mailto:moultona@vcu.edu)

**Treasurer ..... Richard Moss**  
(804) 748-2940.....[richard@mossrd.org](mailto:richard@mossrd.org)

**Membership.....Dabney Robinson**  
(804) 550-1449.....[db.robinson@comcast.net](mailto:db.robinson@comcast.net)

Address all other correspondence to:

Richard Moss, Editor  
12565 Brook Lane  
Chester, VA 23831  
[richard@mossrd.org](mailto:richard@mossrd.org)

**Website**  
[vnps.org](http://vnps.org)

11/10 – art show VCU Cabell Library 3-5

January 9 2020 - The Next meeting

Richard needs photos for newsletters. If you have some, please email them at least a week before the next newsletter to [richard@mossrd.org](mailto:richard@mossrd.org).

## Some photos of plants in my woods in January

by Richard Moss

Below: Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*), dying fertile fronds to left, sterile, evergreen rosette of fronds to right.



This fern, on the edge of a ditch in the woods, stood out because it is still green. Not sure what it is.

