



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

February, 2020



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday February 6, 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, Judy Thomas will present
“The Science and Beauty of Botanical Art”**

Judy is a botanical artist and illustrator and will describe the scientific aspects of botanical illustration, as well as its many requirements, and how it differs from botanical art. She will discuss the history of botanical art, including early botanical herbals, floras, and florilegiums. Judy will also discuss contemporary botanical art and trends, with an emphasis on native plants. She notes "I have so much material to share on Botanical art in Botanical illustration, that I'm not going to get to too much history. But I have some beautiful images by some marvelous contemporary artists that everyone should enjoy".

Judy is a retired assistant professor of social work from Virginia Commonwealth University. She received her botanical illustration certificate from Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, where she now teaches. She is the co-founder of the Plants of the James River Project, founder of the Chickahominy Colored Pencil Artists, and is currently a director on the board of directors of the American Society of Botanical Artists. She has exhibited regionally and her work was widely seen in the national, juried, traveling exhibit "Following in the Bartram's Footsteps" hosted by the American Society Botanical Artists.

There is a great article concerning botanical illustration titled "Botanical illustration is becoming endangered, but the job is essential" in the *Washington Post* on January 29, 2020. It can be viewed at: https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/home/botanical-illustration-is-becoming-endangered-but-the-job-is-essential/2020/01/28/24636724-3dff-11ea-8872-5df698785a4e_story.html .

~~~~~

## **President's Message**

Hello all,

Here I am again, a month gone and I don't know where it went. I hope 2020 is treating you well. I will be manning a booth at the Virginia Orchid Society at Friday 2/21 and Saturday 2/22 with a display on VA native orchids. If anyone would like to assist me, email me at [leleorr4@gmail.com](mailto:leleorr4@gmail.com) or touch base with me at the meeting Thursday. I will be do a skunk cabbage walk on Sunday 16th at 2:00 pm at Dorey Park in Eastern Henrico and hope to do monthly walks there to see the changing seasons. If you are interested in leading a trip to your favorite spot, please let me know. You do not need to be a botanist, I surely am not.

Don't forget to check out the state website for details on the Winter workshop and upcoming state field trips.  
Be blessed,

Leslie

## **Minutes of the January 9, 2020 meeting of the Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS**

President Leslie Allanson was unable to attend so Secretary Ashley Moulton presided. We all enjoyed Anne Wright's talk about Newton Ancarrow, one of Richmond's first environmentalists. Originally Ancarrow was a chemist and had a hobby of boatbuilding which he turned into a business ( see: <https://www.lewisginter.org/learn/library/library-collections/newton-ancarrow-boat-builder/>). Later he developed a passion for conservation and documentation of wildflowers along the James river in Richmond. Some of his thousands of meticulously documented plant photographs can be seen here: <https://labs.library.vcu.edu/ancarrow/>

VNPS president, Nancy Vehrs made it down from Warrenton to attend the talk and was able to speak afterward regarding the current fundraising campaign which has reached over \$30,000 dollars.

Nancy also mentioned that the Annual Conference that is usually at University of Richmond, will be in Charlottesville this year and will be on the second Saturday of March.

I also shared a information regarding an upcoming city meeting that is occurring later this month. There is an opportunity for our group to provide support and guidance for the City's new Urban Forestry plan and the inclusion of native species. It was suggested that we share this information with the group via email before the meeting. Maybe a week or so out before the date. Information is below as well as photo from the evening!

**What:** The Richmond Green City Commission holds 6 public meetings each year.

Please join us for our first meeting of 2020 and join the conversation on how we can support and advance sustainability efforts throughout the City of Richmond.

**Agenda:** Our 3 priorities below are intended to be 12-month projects while we await the adoption of the city's master plans (Richmond 300, RVA H20, RVA Green 2050, etc.) After those are finalized we'll shift our focus towards making policy changes based on the recommendations within those plans.

1. Incorporating sustainability design practices into city-wide infrastructure projects through the adoption of Envision Certification.

2. Developing a city-wide master plan for urban forestry (Which has not been updated since 1992).

3. Setting a goal and achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions community-wide for the City of Richmond.

**Where:** 626 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219

**When:** Mon, January 27, 2020, 12:00 – 1:30 PM  
Ashley Moulton, Secretary



Anne Wright at the meeting

### 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.....lecorr4@gmail.com

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

**Secretary.....Ashley Moulton**  
(703) 554-5860.....moultona@vcu.edu

**Treasurer ..... Richard Moss**  
(804) 748-2940.....richard@mossrd.org

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

Address all other correspondence to:

Richard Moss, Editor  
12565 Brook Lane  
Chester, VA 23831  
richard@mossrd.org

**Website**  
vnps.org

### Things in the yard and nearby

by Richard Moss

1. The little black mushrooms which appear in January showed up again in the front yard. In the left image one of the mushroom is lying flat on the ground, in the right it is upright.



2. This maple tree was in bloom in a neighbor's yard. I'm not sure whether it was a native red maple (*Acer rubrum*) or some cultivar. There were red maples in the woods in bloom but were too high to photograph.



3. Right: This leatherleaf mahonia (*Mahonia bealei*), a native of China, is in bloom now and has fragrant flowers which attract bees even in January. But beware, it is considered invasive south of here in SC, GA, AL, and TN.

