



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

May, 2020



NOTE: The May Picnic Meeting has been canceled due to the coronavirus epidemic.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for September 3, 2020.

President's Message

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone has been safe and well amongst all the COVID19 pandemic and craziness. As the summer progresses, I hope to be able to have a few field trips, depending on where the Commonwealth goes with COVID guidance.

I do have a bit of good news for those of us that are gardeners. Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens reached out to me regarding an abundance of 2 year old native plants they are donating to our chapter. Most are in 1-gallon pots, with the exception of 37 *Ratibida pinnata* in 6" pots. We will be selling them as a fundraiser in support of the Virginia Native Plant Marketing Partnership, the entity that oversees the development and printing of the various regional plant guides. We will be able to start distribution of them on Saturday 5/30, at Catharine Tucker's house in Chamberlayne Farms, off 301 just south of 295. Plants will be sold for \$2 each. If you are interested, please email or call Catharine at cath.tucker@gmail.com or 804-938-6941. If you email her, please CC me, at leleorr4@gmail.com. We would like to do staggered pick up on Saturday 5/30 but can accommodate other times. When you contact Catharine, be prepared with your "wish list". This will be mostly first come first serve as far as requests. But we do reserve the right to limit quantities so everyone can get some their first choices. Below is what is available.

Flower	Quantity
<i>Aster pilosis</i>	40
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	93
<i>Helianthus decapetalus</i>	13
<i>Helianthus gigantus</i>	20
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	12
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	52
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	85
<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	12
<i>Scutellaria incana</i>	8

Take care and be safe,

Leslie

Spring. But what to do?

by Richard Moss

Spring is here but everything is closed. However, there are places where one can walk around with few other people present. Surprisingly, Williamsburg was one of them. I made a quick trip on April 19th. All of the buildings were

Photo 1. Flowers of Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) in my back yard on March 17th.



closed, but the gardens back of the houses were open and there were very few people present. Also, there is a two hour free parking lot off Francis St. between Henry St and Nassau St.

Photo 2. is of one of the gardens.

Photo 3. is of probably ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) growing on the chimney of one of the houses. Not a lot of native plants in the gardens, but nice to get outside.



The trails at many local parks are open. On April 22 I explored the trails at R. Garland Dodd Park in Chesterfield County. Again few people were there. **Photo 4.** The boardwalk. **Photo 5.** Wild pink azalea (*Rhododendron periclymenoides*).



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.

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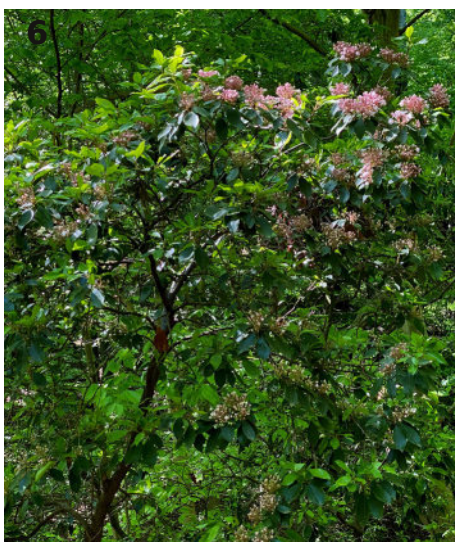
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Photo 6. Mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) just starting to bloom.

Photo 7. Rattlesnake or hawkweed (*Hieracium venosum*).



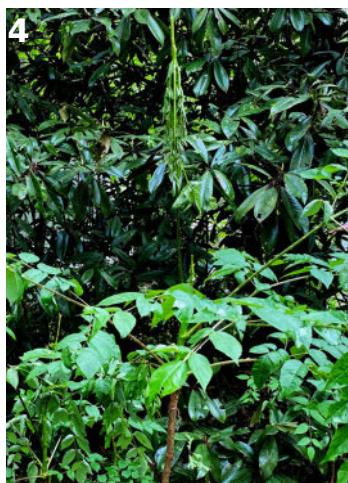
R. Garland Dodd Park contd.

8. Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*) next to solomans seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*) (right top).

9. Catbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*) with flowers.



Photo 1. On April 23, the cross vine (*Bignonia capreolata*), in my back yard was in full flower, then on the 24th we had a hail storm. **It was very noisy!** with 1/2 inch hail (**photo 2 & 3**). It removed lots of flowers and leaves.



The hail stripped off the top leaves of this devil's walking stick (*Aralia spinosa*) and made holes in magnolia leaves (**Photos 4 and 5**).

On April 28th visited **Sailors Creek Battlefield Park in Prince Edward County**. Sailors Creek was the last Civil War battle before Appomattox. Again buildings were not open but the trails were. **1.** a view looking towards Saylor's creek at the line of trees. **2.** A patch of field madder (*Gallium sherardia*), not native, was in the field near the creek. **3.** This member of the mustard family was in full bloom. **4.** A yellow passionflower vine (*Passiflora lutea*). **5.** Violet wood sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*).

6. Netted chain fern (*Woodwardia areolata*). **7.** There were several patches of this composite. I'm not sure what it is.

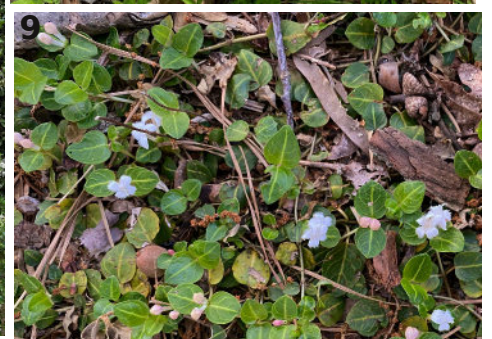
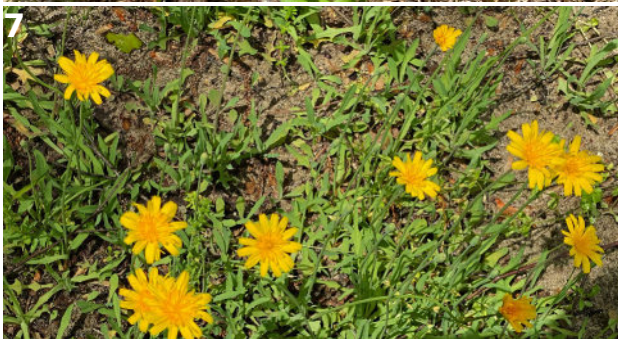


Photo 8. Back in my yard on May 10th, the fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) which had many flowers knocked off by the hail had recovered somewhat by April 29.

Photo 9. Partridge berry (*Mitchella repens*) in bloom.

Photo 10. Several Blue eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*) plants were growing in a ditch near my house. **Photo 11.** This Deerberry bush (*Vaccinium stamineum*) which came up in the front yard was in full bloom.

