



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

October, 2019



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday October 3, 2019
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 speakers, Beth Farmer and Bill Shanabrunch will discuss
Conservation Landscaping for Wildlife and Watersheds**

Join us to learn about Conservation Landscaping: how you can create a balanced, healthy, thriving ecosystem for wildlife and watersheds using native plants. Learn from two area native plant nursery professionals, Beth Farmer of Garden Gate Landscape & Design and Bill Shanabrunch of Reedy Creek Environmental. Come and have your questions answered and receive simple garden designs and lists of plants recommended for various site conditions.

Bill's business, Reedy Creek Environmental, focuses on providing native plants of local ecotype for watershed restoration. Bill has been an active member of the Reedy Creek Coalition and collaborated with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to promote vegetative solutions to water quality problems. Beth Farmer owns Garden Gate Landscape & Design, specializing in habitat conservation and growing Virginia native plants. Her vision is to continue to educate people on the importance of protecting valuable habitats and to provide them with locally grown healthy native plants.

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **Native Plant Art Exhibits October 1 - December 22**

Thanks to the Pocahontas Chapter and other donors, the Plants of the James River Project is holding two juried, botanical art exhibits featuring native plants called "Ancarrow's List: Native Plants at the River's Edge" at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens (LGBG) and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). The exhibit at LGBG, 1800 Lakeside Ave, Richmond VA, will be from Oct. 1 to 30, 2019, with an opening reception and presentation on Ancarrow and our art on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 5-7 in the Lora M. Robins Library. The exhibit at VCU will be held Nov. 4 to Dec. 22, on the first floor of the Branch Cabell Library, 902 Park Avenue, Richmond VA, with a reception and presentation on Sunday, Nov. 10, 3-5PM. Both are free and open to the public. We will be posting more information (directions, parking) on our Facebook page, Plants of the James River Project, as we get nearer to the exhibits. We are extending an invitation to Chapter members to attend the receptions and see the exhibits!

NOTE: We are members of the Enrichmond Foundation: <https://enrichmond.org/partners/plants-of-the-james-river-project/>

The PJRP can be contacted through Judy Thomas at [jmthomasbotart@gmail.com](mailto:jmthomasbotart@gmail.com)

## **President's Message**

Hello All and Happy Fall,

I am writing this from my desk, looking out the window to my front garden. Everything is so very dry, but the asters are trying to bloom and the Virginia creeper is starting to show its fall colors. This has been the driest hottest September that I recall. Nevertheless, we have had 3 wonderful walks this month, to Larus Park led by Joey

Thompson, Point of Rocks led by Richard Moss, and a private conservation property in Sandston, led by Bill Shanabruch. Thank you all for taking the time. We had great turn outs and introduced several newbies to native plants. and a special thank you to Irv and Lynn Wilson for sharing their wonderful property and home to us. They even said we could come back!

I saw an event on Facebook for the Richmond Audubon Society for their Monthly meeting and the topic was Gardening for the Birds. I went to check it out and it was a delightful program. I gave out a handful of the RVA native plant guide and will be going back. They meet on the Third Thursday of the month, you may want to check them out. <https://www.richmondaudubon.org/>

I have continued to work on the Memo of Understanding with Lewis Ginter. We will no longer have formal workdays or an hourly commitment to them. Instead, when a project of interest or event that meets our common goals is coming up, they will reach out to us to make us aware and we will share that opportunity with our membership.

That is about all I have, I need to go pack for the annual meeting, will give an update on that next week. Hope to see some of you there.

Leslie

## Field Trips:

### Sept 14, 2019, R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of Rocks

We had good number of people, including a group of five from the James River Master Naturalists training class. This park which is partially along the



Appomattox River, has several distinct sections; A forested area, a boardwalk over a wetland and an open meadow.

**Photo 1.** Along the boardwalk we saw lots of wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*), tickseed sunflowers (*Bidens aristosa*), and partridge peas (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*) in bloom.

**Photo 2.** There were also several pickerel weeds (*Pontederia cordata*) in bloom



#### 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

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R. Garland Dodd Park field trip continued

At the end of the boardwalk there was this **3**. winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*) and farther along the trail was a **4**. clammy ground cherry (*Physalis heterophylla*) just starting to bloom. In the meadow we saw **5**. several wild hairy petunias (*Ruellia humilis*)



**6, 7 foreground, and 8**. There was lots of this in the meadow. Previously, I had identified it as wingstem (*Verbesnia alternifolia*), but one of our trip members pointed out it fit Yellow crownbeard (*Verbesina occidentalis*) better. This plant appears to have opposite leaves which indicates yellow crownbeard. **Photo 7** has goldenrods (*Solidago sp.*) in the background. **Photo 8** has a dodder vine (*Cuscuta gronovii*) with white flowers wrapped around a crownbeard.



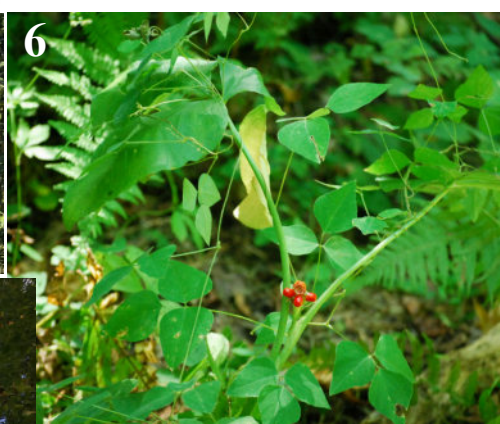
**Photo 9** is of a passionflower vine (*Passiflora incarnata*) with mostly unopened flowers (photo taken at 12:06). As we stood there the flowers started to pop open and by 12:10, **Photo 10**, most had opened.

**Photo 11** is of a devil's walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*) with fruit, taken near the parking lot.



## Field Trip tp Laurus Park on September 8

1. The group assembled
2. A nice group of beech drops (*Epifagus virginiana*).
3. A bee exploring a flower.
4. Virginia heartleaf (*Hexastylis virginica*) was along the trail.
5. Exploring a meadow.
6. A Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) with red seeds with a 3 leaflet vine crawling on it (maybe a butterfly pea?).



## September 27th Field Trip to private land.

1. We start out.
2. Identifying an elephants foot (*Elephantopus tomentosus*)
3. Lots of plants here. from top dog fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*), some yellow goldenrods, a pinkish purple joe-pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*), then in the lower third some purple false foxglove (*Agalinis purpurea*) and some partridge pea plants (seed pods, no flowers) (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*).
4. A small green frog poses for the camera.

