



# THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

October 2020



**NOTE: The October Meeting will be held at 7 PM on Thursday October 1 remotely by Zoom starting at 6:30 for Meet and Greet. We will NOT meet at Lewis Ginter.**

Instruction for connecting to Zoom are given below

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**The topic of the October Meeting will be  
“Close Encounters of the Cryptogamic Kin”**

**by John Hayden, PhD**

John Hayden is professor of biology at the University of Richmond, specializing in the anatomy, morphology, and systematics of vascular plants. He grew up on a farm in Connecticut growing vegetables and ornamental plants and exploring the nearby woods.

He earned his master’s degree and then a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and joined the faculty of the Department of Biology, University of Richmond in 1980.

At U of Richmond, he has taught courses in general biology, general botany, plant anatomy, plant morphology, plant systematics, ethnobotany, tropical marine biology, and medical botany. He chaired the Department of Biology for 5 years, held a named, endowed chair for 12 years and continues to curate & manage the herbarium and greenhouse. His research since graduate school has centered on the anatomy, morphology, and systematics, regional floristics and ethnobotany of plants in the Spurge Family (Euphorbiaceae), and on producing systematic monographs and revisions.

In addition, he has produced several floristic inventories for locations in central Virginia, including The Meadow at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, and the proposed Little River Park in Hanover County

## Chapter Meetings

Pocahontas Chapter VNPS programs will be shared via Zoom at least for the rest of 2020. We will not be meeting at Lewis Ginter. **To join the meeting go to zoom.com and join the meeting by clicking on "JOIN A MEETING" then entering the Meeting ID then following the directions. If you need to download the zoom app click on "RESOURCES", then "Download Zoom Client"**

***For the October Meeting the Zoom Meeting ID is 831 6660 5496 and the Passcode: 601005***

If you have problems or questions please contact Catharine Tucker, Leslie Allinson or Richard Moss at the e-mail or phone numbers given on page 2.

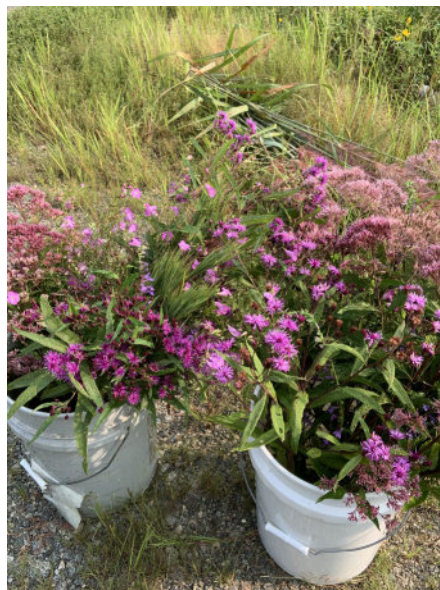
**Thursday, November 5**, Penny Firth, Master Naturalist, will present “What’s That Mushroom?!”

If you have requests or suggestions for program topics or speakers, please contact Catharine Tucker, 804-938-6941 or via email [cath.tucker@gmail.com](mailto:cath.tucker@gmail.com).

## President’s Message

Hi all,

I hope this finds you well. Where did September go? I was a whirlwind for me, my son Jon got married on the 19th and we were very very busy. I am still recovering. But as part of the wedding flowers, my other son



Ben and I did go foraging for COMMON flowers under the power lines. We found NY ironweed, joe pye weed, false foxglove, white snakeroot and downy lobelia. On page one are pictures of our haul and you can barely see Ben in the power lines. There were golden rods and bidens galore, but yellow did not fit the color theme of the wedding. I just thought I would share, to demonstrate how on point Joey Thompson was last month in his talk about power lines. They do hold treasures.

See you soon on Zoom

Leslie Allanson

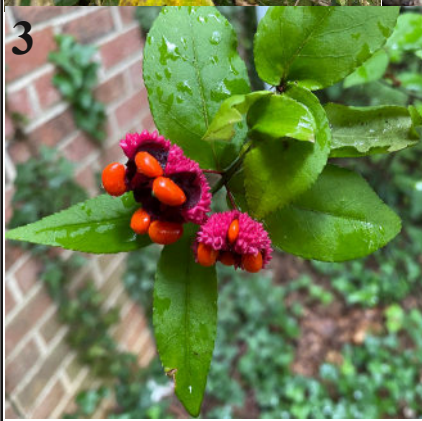
leleorr4@gmail.com.

**NOTICE:** Beth Farmer is closing her Native plant nursery after all current inventory is sold. She will be having a sale on everything starting Friday, October 2 and will go through the end of the season. All information will be on her website midweek. Her website is at [gardengategardener.com](http://gardengategardener.com), email: [ggate7777@hotmail.com](mailto:ggate7777@hotmail.com), phone: (804) 691-4425

**More things in my yard** by Richard Moss

The following native plants were growing in my yard:

1. Muscadine grapes (*Vitis rotundifolia*). They have thick skins but are quite tasty.
2. Indian pipes (*Monotropa uniflora*). It apparently is parasitic to certain fungi which have a symbiotic association with trees.
3. Strawberry bush or hearts-a-bustin (*Euonymus americanus*) with fruit.



4,5,6. We have had lots of rain and these rather colorful mushrooms appeared in the front yard.

**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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## A Virtual field Trip

Due to the Covid virus we have not had any field trips this fall, but here is a quick virtual tour of R. Garland Park at Point of Rocks done on September 15, 2020. This park, in Chesterfield County, has forested sections, a board walk across a wetland, sections along the Appomattox river and a field maintained as a meadow.

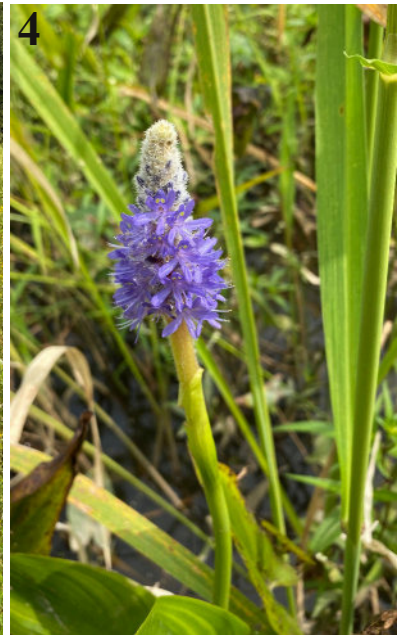


1. Looking across the wetland from the boardwalk. The tall plants are annual wildrice (*Zizania aquatica*).

2. Along the boardwalk there was lots of purple gerardia (*Agalinis purpurea*). Gerardia is hemiparasitic primarily on grasses.

3. More wetlands - The yellow flowers are tickseed sunflowers (*Bidens aristosa*). On previous trips there were lots of partridge peas in bloom, this time there were very few.

4. Pickerel weed in bloom (*Pontederia cordata*).



5. Farther along the boardwalk with more wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*).

6. At the end of the boardwalk was this winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*) with berries.

**Virtual walk continued**

**7.** After the boardwalk, the trail continues along the bank of the Appomattox river.



**8.** Looking down on tree roots in a ravine under a bridge.



**9.** In the meadow some yellow crownbeard, (*Verbesina occidentalis*) in bloom, and **10.** Close up of the flowers.



**12.** A passionflower vine (*Passiflora incarnata*) in bloom growing over yellow crownbeard, (*Verbesina occidentalis*).

**13.** More tickseed sunflowers mixed with yellow crownbeard. the small purple flowers at the lower right are elephants foot (*Elephantopus carolinianus*).

**14.** A horse nettle (*Solanum carolinense*), generally considered a thorny weed, but they have nice flowers.

**15.** There is a patch of Kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) at the edge of the park. Pictured is a kudzu flower. It smells like an artificially flavored grape drink.



**16.** Walking back to the parking lot along a wooded trail.

