

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE
VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

October 2005

Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)



October Meeting

Thursday October 6, 2005, 7:00 PM

at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
in Classroom 1

Bees and Beekeeping

Bert McLaughlin

Bert McLaughlin is past President of the Richmond Beekeepers association and will tell us about bees and their relationship to plants, and the art of beekeeping. He will be bringing a live demonstration.

Honey may be available for purchase.

Chapter News and Upcoming Events

VNPS T-Shirts and Note pads: We have a new set of T-Shirts available which feature the work of Shenandoah Chapter member Anita Cooper. The t-shirts are 100% cotton and background colors will be chestnut, pine and eggplant. We also have decorative note pads available.

The suggested price is \$15 for t-shirts and \$4 for note pads.

Note pads and a small number of T-shirts will be available at the meeting for examination and purchase. Orders can be placed at the meeting.

New Nature Society: A Message from Arthur V. Evans:

The first meeting of the Virginia Society of Naturalists will be held in Richmond on Tuesday evening, 18 October, at the Science Museum of Virginia in the Discovery Room. The doors will be open at 7:00 PM and the meeting will take place 7:30-9:00 PM. I am working on a pre-meeting dinner at 5:30-7:00 PM. Details on the evening program and pre-meeting dinner will follow within two weeks. To be added to the mailing list, e-mail arthurevans@verizon.net. See you outdoors sometime! Arthur V. Evans, D.Sc.

Research Associate, Dept. of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution
and

Dept. of Recent Invertebrates, Virginia Museum of Natural History

Nature Coffeehouse at Rockwood Nature Center, Oct. 28, Friday from 6-9 p.m. Various nature organizations will meet to exchange information and ideas

Minutes of the Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

Meeting September 1, 2005

Kristie Orcutt, President called the meeting to order. The chapter will be meeting in Classroom 2 in the Educational Building at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden this year. Kristie reminded the group that the Fall Plant Sale at the Botanical Gardens is Sept. 15-17, the same time as our annual meeting. Daune Poklis said that volunteers were needed for the plant sale and those interested to call Marla at 262-3260.

Daune Poklis reported that the Botanical Garden has asked the chapter to design a native plant presentation for the Garden Cart. It will consist of brochures about native plants and membership information for the society. Volunteers from the chapter will man the booth. This will probably be scheduled for March or April. The chapter is planning on having a table at the Spring Plant sale at the Botanical Garden. It will be organized like the booth at the Flower and Garden Show for Maymont.

The Maymont Flower and Garden Show will be in February next year so it will not conflict with the annual workshop in March at the University of Richmond. The State headquarters decided to pay of the registration fee and the remaining will be divided among the state chapters so everyone will pay about \$12.00. Daune will be seeking volunteers for the Flower and Garden Show in the upcoming months. Shifts will be 3 or 4 hours.

The annual meeting will be at the Norfolk Botanical Garden September 16-17, 2005.

Field Trip Announcements:

Sept. 14, the 2nd Wednesday Walk sponsored by the Sierra Club will be at 8:00 a.m. at Ferndale Park. Kristie Orcutt and John Coe will lead the walk.

Oct. 1 Point of Rocks Park, meet at 9:00 a.m. will be over by 11:30 a.m.

Nature Coffeehouse at Rockwood Nature Center, Oct. 28, Friday from 6-9 p.m. Various nature organizations will meet to exchange information and ideas

Arthur Evans is planning to start a new Naturalist Society. It is tentatively planned for the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

For more information, contact Arthur at arthurevans@verizon.net.

The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

serves the counties of: Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan and the cities of Ashland, Hopewell, 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	Kristi Orcutt
Vice President	Daune Polkis
Secretary	Peggy Furqueron
Treasurer	Bucci Zeugner
Membership Chair	Pat Brodie

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VNPS Website - www.vnps.org

New Business: Pat Brody made a suggestion that the chapter reimburse the President for expenses to attend the annual meeting and the workshop, up to \$100.00. Catherine Tucker made a motion that the President would be reimbursed up to \$100.00 for the meeting expenses for 1 year. The motion was amended by Daune Poklis for the chapter to pay for the registration for the annual meeting and the workshop. Motion was seconded by Richard Moss and passed on a voice vote. Kristie will be setting up a list serve for the chapter that will have information on field trips, chapter news and information on other nature clubs. She will be using the e-mail addresses that Richard Moss has for the newsletter. Contact her if you are interested in being on the list.

Program: Rebecca Wilson gave a very informative lecture on Prescribed Burning in Natural Areas. She has a wonderful slide show describing the procedures for a prescribed burn. She also brought her fire equipment. Some of the film footage was spectacular.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Peggy Furqueron, Secretary

Native Plant of the Month

New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracens*)



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New York ironweed is a perennial with showy purple flowers. The name ironweed derives from the stout stems that often persist throughout the winter. The ironweeds are primarily plants of pastures, hay fields, and roadsides and are distributed throughout most of the southeastern United States.

Leaves: All leaves on New York ironweed occur along the erect stem unlike some other ironweeds which have many basal leaves and smaller stem leaves. The leaves are elliptic to lanceolate in outline, ranging from 4 to 10 inches in length and 3/4 to 1 1/2 inches in width. Leaves are usually without hairs on the upper surface and may have many soft white hairs beneath. Many small teeth occur along the leaf margins.

Stems: Erect, ranging from 2 to 7 feet in height. Several stems can arise from a single crown. Stems usually persist through the winter.

Flowers: Occur in clusters 3 - 5 inches across at the ends of the erect flowering stems, are purple in color with flowerheads 1/2 to 3/4 inch across. Each flower occurs on a flower stalk (peduncle).

Habitat: moist thickets and stream edges

Flowering time: August to October

Fruit: A nutlet.



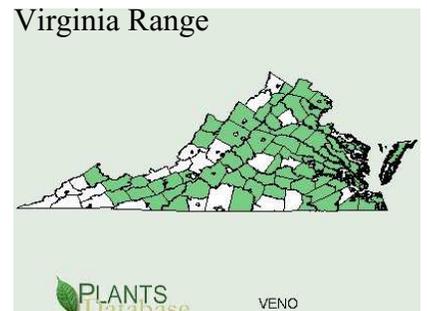
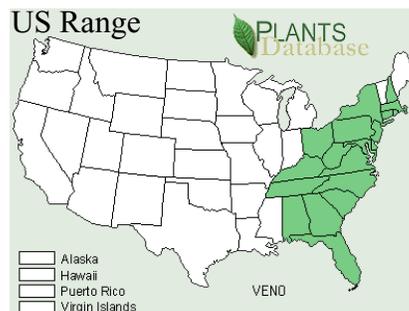
Steve Hurst @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

References:

1. http://www.ppws.vt.edu/scott/weed_id/venno.htm
2. <http://www.ct-botanical-society.org/galleries/vernonianove.html>

Range Maps:

USDA, NRCS. 2005. The PLANTS Database, Version 3.5 (<http://plants.usda.gov>). Data compiled from various sources by Mark W. Skinner. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.



**Virginia Native Plant Society Membership Application
Pocahontas Chapter**

**Make Check payable to VNPS and Mail to:
Membership Chair, Blandy Experimental Farm, 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2, Boyce, VA 22620**

Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail** _____

___ Individual	\$30.00	___ Sustaining	\$100.00
___ Family	\$40.00	___ Life	\$500.00
___ Student	\$15.00	___ Associate Groups	\$40.00
___ Patron	\$50.00	(Garden Clubs, etc.)	

**I wish to make an additional contribution to ___ VNPS or ___ The Pocahontas Chapter,
VNPS in the amount of:**

___ \$10 ___ \$20 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 Other _____

**Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
12565 Brook Lane
Chester, VA 23831**

