November Meeting
Thursday November 6, 2008 at 7:00 PM
at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Classroom 2
The room is available at 6:30, come and Socialize

This Month’s Presentation will be:
*James River Park: A Little Bit of Wilderness in the Heart of the City*
by Molly Dellinger-Wray and Betsy Slade

Molly is the former president of the Friends of James River Park and currently heads up the group's Protection and Preservation Trust Campaign. Betsy is a master gardener and nature guide for park tours. She assisted in the creation of many trails in the park and has been a park advocate for 20 years. Betsy heads the group's parking/litter control committee. Both Molly and Betsy are on the board of directors of the Friends of James River Park.

2008 Calendar of Events

Contact Ernest Wilson at (804) 502-6346 or by e-mail at ernest_3@msn.com for more information about Field Trips.

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<th>November</th>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting: Molly Dellinger-Wray and Betsy Slade <em>James River Park: A Little Bit of Wilderness in the Heart of the City</em></td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>9:00 AM: BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORK DAY</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>VCU Rice Center: Meet at North Park Library at 9:00am.</td>
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<th>December</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting: Pat Brodie “A visit to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center”</td>
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<th>January 2009</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting: John Hayden “Introduction to Virginia Native Grasses”</td>
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<th>February</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting: Helen Hamilton “The Tall Grass Prairie”</td>
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<th>March</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting: Phil Sheridan- Meadowview long leaf pine project</td>
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If possible, get the color version of the Newsletter at the chapter website [http://pocahontaschapter-vnps.org](http://pocahontaschapter-vnps.org). The photographs are much more interesting in color.
Minutes of the Pocahontas Chapter for the October 2, 2008, Meeting

Richard Moss had the new web site he created for the chapter on his laptop for members to view before and after the meeting. Daune Poklis, chapter president, began the meeting reminding members to read the list of October field trips as listed in the newsletter. Those planning to attend need to contact Ernest in order to arrange a car pool. Ernest’s cell phone and e-mail are listed in the newsletter. Information on Crabtree Falls was on the resource table. She suggested anyone interested in the demonstration of rain gardens, provided by the U.S. Botanical Garden on the Washington Mall, go to the Garden web site. Pat Brodie, membership chair, again asked if someone would volunteer to handle the membership duties. She has assumed this responsibility for several years and would like someone else to take on this position. She stated that we have 10-12 new members this year. Richard Moss, said he had received 35 ballots for the election of officers in the mail. All voted in favor of the slate of officers. He reported that the new web page enables links to our chapter newsletters from 2005 through 2008, as well as to photos from recent field trips. The web site address is Pocahontaschapter-vnps.org. In the future he plans to add plant lists according to each season for each park or field trip area we visit. Ernest Wilson, vice-president, reported on the upcoming field trips (see Calendar of Events in newsletter).

Recent Field Trips - Crabtree Falls, Nelson County, VA

1. Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)
2. Rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*)
3. Wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*)
4. One of the lower falls at Crabtree falls.
5. A Slime mold found on a rotting log.
6. Maple leaf viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*) with fruit
7. Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) and Partridge berry (*Mitchella repens*)
8. Wild Yam (*Dioscorea villosa*)
Pocahontas Park Field Trip, Chesterfield County, VA
Rain the day before produced a perfect day for slime molds, mushrooms and other fungi.

Photos 1, 2: Slime mold *Lycogala epidendrum*; the pink one (#1) is fresh, i.e., newly emerged from the log, it will turn brown like #2 when it dries out.

3,5: Unidentified Slime Molds.

4: Red mushroom *Russula emetica*

6,7: Turkey Tail fungus, *Trametes versicolor*, on log.

8: Coral Fungus *Clavaria cristata* 

9: Slime mold *Metatrichia vesparium*

10: Worm like fungus, probably *Clavaria vermicularis*.

11: Odd mushroom with growth out of the top. Plants we saw included:

12: Tickseed sunflower (*Bidens coronata*) and 13: Cranefly orchid (*Tipularia discolor*).
Upcoming Field Trip Information

November 20, VCU Rice Center, Charles City County, VA
From the VCU Rice Center Web page at http://www.vcu.edu/rice/about/”The Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences is Virginia Commonwealth University’s field station devoted to a broad array of environmental research, teaching and public service. Located on 342 acres along the historic James River, midway between Richmond and Williamsburg, the Rice Center is rich in natural and cultural resources. The center has a variety of aquatic and terrestrial habitats that provide many research and educational opportunities.”

Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
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Chester, VA 23831