

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 2009



Spiderwort
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

September Meeting

Thursday September 3, 2009 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 early and Socialize

This Month's Presentation will be:

Digital Journaling - Daily Discoveries or Sharp Eyes on Nature
by Nicky Staunton

Nicky Staunton, charter member and past VNPS president, moved to 10 acres of woodland near Novum on the Culpeper/Madison county line in 2006. She has enjoyed living with a wealth of long-time resident native plants discovered living on the land. They are her closest neighbors. The focus has changed from solely plants to plants in the web of life.

Currently serving as Vice President focusing on development and membership, Nicky also represents VNPS on the board of directors for the Flora of Virginia Project.

She is a nature photographer and pen and ink illustrator of several books. Every day at Rocks Edge has time for recording some of the day's nature gifts with a vintage Nikon Coolpix 990, a twist-body camera, always in hand or nearby. Her BA degree is in Psychology and Art from Mary Washington College.

EVENTS

September 12 - GoGreen Garden Festival at the Science Museum, 9:00AM 4:00 PM. Daune will be there for the entire day, and would like some help with set up, take down and tending the booth. Please contact her if you have an hour or 2 to spend there over the course of the day. 804-690-7878 or daune@poklis.org

Wednesday 16 September - Plant Walk at R. Garland Dodd Park at Point of Rocks. Meet at the Ukrops in Chester at the intersection of Route 10 and Route 1 at 10:00 AM. See page 3 for more about the park. **Directions:** From North or South or East take I-95 to Exit 61, Chester, merge onto Route 10 West, then left to Ukrops before the traffic light, about 1/4 mile. If you cross Route 1 you have gone too far. **From West:** Chippenham to route 10, then route 10 East through Chester, cross Route 1, then turn right into shopping center & Ukrops, or take route 288 East to route 10 at Chesterfield CH, then follow route 10 as above. For more information contact Richard Moss at (804) 748-2940 or mossrd@mindspring.com.

September 26 - Good Green Fun program at LGBG. The topic is butterflies. Daune Poklis has all the handouts and information. The purpose is to encourage parents and children to plant and grow natives which are nectar and host plants for native butterflies. We will be present from 10:00 to 2:00 to answer questions, hand out info. and provide pictures for kids to color and items of interest to discuss. Simple; but it is good to have members interact with kids and young parents.

Welcome New Members

Nancy Farkas, Richmond, VA

Caroline Meehan, Richmond

September 25-27 - VNPS 2009 ANNUAL MEETING in Salem, Virginia. See <http://www.vnps.org/events/2009/07/vnps-2009-annual-meeting.html> for Registration and details.

September 26 - Symposium: "Historical Explorations into Virginia's Natural History" presented by the Virginia Natural History Society at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA. Cost is \$25 for Symposium and dinner or \$10 for Symposium only, lodging is \$45/ night. More info Available at <http://fwie.fw.vt.edu/vnhs/>

October 1 - Chapter Meeting: Larry Wilcox, Southwest Virginia Native Plants.

November 5 - Chapter Meeting: Teta Kane, Dragon Run

December 3 - Chapter Meeting: J. Christopher Ludwig "Virginia Wildflowers: Diverse in Form, Unified in Function" - pollination strategies for plants.

January 7, 2010 - Cathy Mayes - The American Chestnut.

April 1, 2010 -Chapter Meeting: John Hayden - "Husk Tomatoes From Near and Far."

May 2010 Annual Picnic

NOTICE of Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS, Election of Officers
At the Chapter Meeting on October 1, 2009 The Pocahontas Chapter will elect officers for 2009-2010.

A Ballot with a stamped, addressed envelope is mailed with this Newsletter.

Please Return the Ballot by September 25, 2009, or you may vote in person at the October meeting.

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 **Daune Poklis**
(804) 741-7838 daune@poklis.org
Vice President **Ernest Wilson**
(804) 502-6346 ernest_3@msn.com
Secretary **Judith Sheldon**
(804) 266-0856 jshel7602@aol.com
Treasurer **Richard Moss**
(804) 748-2940 mossrd@mindspring.com
Membership **Pat Brodie**
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Chapter Website - pocahontaschapter-vnps.org

Virginia GoGreen Garden Festival

Sponsored by the Virginia Green Industry Council

**Saturday, September 12, 2009
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

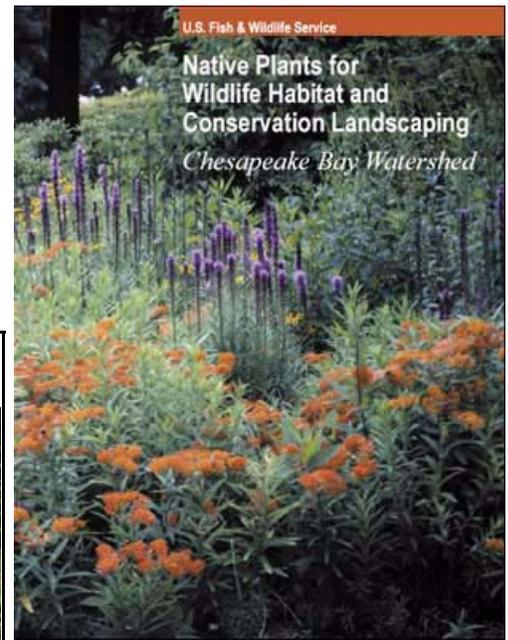
**Science Museum of Virginia
2500 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA**

Come and See and Learn about the garden and the environment:

- Plants for sale
- Gardening products for sale
- Landscape design and service companies
- "In The Garden" live radio show with Andre Viette
- "Ask the Expert" your gardening questions
- Seminars and displays on gardening and living "green"
- Kids "go green" activities
- Food and small farmers market
- Entertainment
- Door prizes and raffles
- Free parking and admission

Note:

The hard copy of Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping is available again. It has just been updated, reprinted and released in July. If you are still interested, please send \$5.00 per copy (to cover our cost and mailing) to Richard Moss, Treasurer, 12565 Brook Lane, Chester, VA 23831. Make your check to the Pocahontas Chapter, VNPS. Copies will also be available at the Chapter meeting on September 3rd.



September 16 Field Trip to R. Garland Dodd Park.

The park is in eastern Chesterfield County on the Appomattox river. Initially a moderately steep trail leads down to a boardwalk which goes over Ashton Creek Marsh, then the trail follows the Appomattox river through a forested area, then through a meadow and back up to the parking area.



Ashton Creek Marsh



The marsh is most spectacular in the late Summer, but here are some of the things blooming earlier we will miss.

1. Along the trail going down to the boardwalk there are mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) which are spectacular in the spring.
2. In June a patch of Smooth Ruellia (*Ruellia strepens*) was found growing along the trail.
3. This Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) was at the end of the boardwalk at the edge of the marsh.
4. Lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*) grows on the edge of the marsh.
5. Large patches of Cranefly Orchid (*Tipularia discolor*) were in bloom along the trail in early August.

6. Pickerel weed (*Pontederia cordata*) was also in bloom in early August.



Last May we had our annual picnic at the Huguenot Hundred Community Association which has 8 acres of mixed open and wooded land along the James river. We had an excellent picnic, then watched a black snake going to the river before starting on our walk. Just as we started on the trail, a rather dark cloud appeared and it started to rain. After some consultation while it rained harder and harder, we abandoned hope of a walk and ran to our cars and departed.

Left: Preparing for our walk at Huguenot Hundred Community Association Picnic Area.

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12565 Brook Lane
Chester, VA 23831**

