



The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

March 2010

March Meeting

Thursday March 4 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:

“Mighty Oaks from Little Acorns Grow”

by Catharine Tucker

A naturalist by training and a teacher by both training and inclination, Catharine Tucker received her Bachelor of Science degree from Duke University and her Master's from the University of Michigan, both in botany.

Catharine has led field trips, taught classes and addressed civic groups on topics as varied as “Natural History for Moms and Tots”, “Wildflowers of a Trout Stream” and “Virginia's Native Shrubs” for organizations as varied as county recreation departments and the Maymont Flower and Garden Show. Her own photographs of wildflowers and their habitats illustrate her presentations.

She maintains her status as a field botanist listed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as qualified to search for endangered plant species. As long-time activist in conservation, she has served on state-level committees such as the Tier Three Waters Citizens group convened by the Department of Environmental Quality and has the distinction of being appointed by both Governors Wilder and Allen to the Senate Study Committee on Stormwater Control and Regulation. In 1995, she received the Conservationist of the Year award from the Virginia Wildlife Federation. She served as Virginia Council Chairman of Trout Unlimited from 1993 to 1995 and as an elected member of the National Resource Board of Trout Unlimited 1994-2001, one of two women on the 40-member Board. Most recently, from 1995 to 1999, she served as a member of the Administrative Board of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Catharine has been an accomplished fly angler for more than thirty years with a special interest in teaching women and young people.

Chapter Events

March 6 VNPS Annual Workshop - University of Richmond.

March 21 Field trip to Ferndale Park to view spring ephemerals. Meet at 1:30 PM. We will walk east along the Appomatox to the rocks opposite Wild Ginger Island. This is a new part of the park for us. You need to wear boots because the ground will be wet. The trip

should be about 1 and one half hours walking. Ernest Wilson will make this trip regardless if anyone comes or not. Please call him if you desire to come. His cell phone is (804) 502-6346. We will then arrange meeting place. If no one calls he will assume no one wants to go and will not wait for anyone.

March 27 Field trip to Catherine Tucker's woods. We will meet at North Park Library (8508 Franconia Road Henrico) at 10 AM to car pool as there is limited parking at the woods. Bring a snack if you like. I can provide water & bathroom facilities. Wear comfortable walking shoes - some of this area is without paths. The walk can be as easy as you like (almost all flat) or more difficult up & down hills to the creek. →



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

April 3 10 AM Field trip to Pony Pasture to observe wild flowers and see if the Bluebells that some members planted have come up. We will meet at Pony Pasture parking lot.

Week of April 4- 10 Field trip to north bank of James River in James River Park. The trip can be scheduled any day of the week. Call Ernest Wilson at (804) 502-6346 if interested and we will arrange time and date.

Week of April 11-17. Field trip to Lee Park and Ferndale Park. Ernest will be going down there anyway, so call him if you are interested in this trip. Lee Park is especially rich in wild Azalea and violets.

May Annual Picnic

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..... Ernest Wilson

(804) 502-6346.....ernest_3@msn.com

Vice President.....Open

Secretary.....Open

Treasurer.....Richard Moss

(804) 748-2940..... mossrd@mindspring.com

Membership..... Daune Poklis

(804) 741-7838..... daune@poklis.org

Address all correspondence to

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Chester, VA 23831

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Chapter Website - pocahontaschapter-vnps.org

Other Events of Interest

Virginia Landscapes: Restoring Historic Gardens in the Old Dominion by Will Rieley. March 11 and 18, 2010 at 5:30-7:00 pm at The Virginia Historical Society, 428 North Boulevard, Richmond, VA 23220.

In addition to its many historic houses, Virginia is blessed with a wealth of historic gardens. For nearly a century, the Garden Club of Virginia has been instrumental in researching and preserving many of these sites across the state. As a result, numerous beautifully restored historic gardens are now accessible to the public. Will Rieley is the landscape architect for the Garden Club and will lead this class

in exploring the restoration work at a number of significant gardens. He will detail how the research was conducted, including the uses of computer technology to analyze historic landscapes at such sites as Monticello and Poplar Forest. Will Rieley is a landscape architect with Rieley and Associates in Charlottesville. Please visit www.vahistorical.org to register.

2010 SUMMER COURSES AND WORKSHOPS AT MAYMONT

Sun, 14 Mar, 2010 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM. Maymont's Arboretum is known for its unique trees, with some the largest in the state or even on the East Coast! Tour this diverse collection with Peggy Singlemann, Maymont's Director of Horticulture, and hear about the special features of these magnificent specimens. Dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes. Space is limited; registration required by March 12; call 804-358-7166, ext. 310 or Register Online

THE HIGHLANDS BIOLOGICAL STATION

The Highlands Biological Station, an inter-institutional research center of the University of North Carolina is offering its 2010 series of summer courses and workshops that can be taken for credit toward your academic program. The following list of field-based courses and workshops are focused on the diversity of organisms in the region with special emphasis on identification and collection techniques as well as principles of evolution, ecology and conservation. Scholarships, Grants-in-aid of research for graduate students, and summer internships also available. Course fee: \$525 per 2-week course Workshop fee: \$275 per 1-week workshop

Highlands, North Carolina, is located in the southern Blue Ridge Mountains, at an average elevation about 3,800 feet, and situated near the Nantahala National Forest, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Cherokee Indian Reservation, Appalachian Trail, and the Blue Ridge Parkway. For more information and to apply, visit www.wcu.edu/hbs, email hbs@email.wcu.edu or call 828-526-2602.

Chapter Notes

From President Ernest Wilson:

No one came on the February field trip to Caledon State Park. I went anyway because this may be the last time any of us will be able to go to the park. It is one of the parks that the governor wants to close for budgetary reasons. The parks the governor has slated are the ones of most interest to members of Native Plant Society. It includes False Cape, Mason Neck and one other. We may need to contact our legislators about these closings.

From Richard Moss:

I am updating the Pocahontas chapter website (www.pocahontaschapter-vnps.org) and have changed the appearance of the webpages. Some of the changes are ongoing and experimental, and may not work on some older web browsers. In particular, Microsoft Explorer seems to have trouble with rotated text. I am working on fixing the problem. Please let me know if you have problems with displaying the new pages at mossrd@mindspring.com.

From Daune Poklis:

Thank you very much to Richard Moss and Pat Brodie for the time they spent designing, preparing, and assembling the display "NATIVE ORCHIDS OF VIRGINIA" at the Virginia Orchid Society show. It never would have happened without them. We won the Blue Ribbon for Open Education Competition at the 2010 Virginia Orchid Society American Orchid Society judged show. There was lots of interest in our display. (See page 4 for photos.)

"NATIVE ORCHIDS OF VIRGINIA" at the Virginia Orchid Society Show

Daune Poklis, Pat Brodey and Richard Moss set up a display of photographs of native orchid of Virginia at The Virginia Orchid Society's orchid show February 26-28 at Strange's Florist Short Pump Location. Special thanks to Pocahontas Chapter members Larry Lynch, Richard Moss and Pat Brody who supplied the photographs used in the display. Please check out the display at the Workshop on March 6, 2010 at Gottwald Hall on the University of Richmond campus.



Due to the way our table was set up we were able to have a display on both the front and back of our new display board. Left: front, Right: back.

Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
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