

# THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Spiderwort  
(*Tradescantia virginiana*)

*November 2011*



## November Meeting

**Thursday November 3, 2011 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

**Marney Terrill, of the Pocahontas Chapter of the Master Naturalists will speak to us about the Chapter's programs.**

We normally have our chapter election of officers in October but Hurricane Irene caused problems so the election was delayed. We plan to announce the slate of officers in November at the chapter meeting then send out ballots by mail after the meeting, and announce the results in the December newsletter.

If you would like to volunteer to serve as an officer please notify Daune Poklis, our membership chair at (804) 741-7838 or [daune@poklis.org](mailto:daune@poklis.org). We especially need someone to fill the position of Vice President.

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## Pocahontas Chapter Fall 2011 Event Calendar

- November 5           Field trip to the Appomattox River Park on the north side of the river below Brasfield Dam. Meet at 10AM at the Martin's parking lot in Chester.
- November 12          Field trip to Forest Hill Park in Richmond. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Reddy Creek parking lot James river Park.
- December 3           Christmas Party at Ernest Wilson's. Meet at 2:00 PM 1925 Floyd Avenue.
- For more information about departure time and meeting place for Field Trips, contact Ernest Wilson at (804) 502-6346 or [ewilson611@aol.com](mailto:ewilson611@aol.com)

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## Trip to Point of Rocks Park on October 25, 2011

Our field trip to Point of Rocks Park last month was limited to the parking area due to damage from hurricane Irene in August, so after hearing the trails were open again I decided to see what damage there was and what might still be in bloom.

The trails were in good condition, and the boardwalk was undamaged. Some trees were down but none were across the trails. One tree, however, next to the trail along the river, fell into the river and the root ball created a somewhat treacherous hole in the trail which if you slipped in going around it you ended up in a couple of feet of water. The bridge that went across a narrow ravine was still not usable, but a detour trail had been carved out through a privet hedge thicket. Most of the plants, as expected for the end of October, had finished blooming, but there were some things of interest which are shown on the next pages.





1. & 2. Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*), 3. Asters along the Boardwalk, 4. Tickseed-sunflower (*Bidens coronata*), 5. Trees showing fall colors, 6. Swamp milkweed seed pods (*Asclepias incarnata*), 7. Wild petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*), 8. Goldenrod (*Solidago caesia?*), 9. Groundcherry (*Physalis heterophylla*).

**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 ewilson611@aol.com  
**Vice President** ..... **OPEN**

**Secretary** ..... **Perry Thomas**  
 (804) 278-6357 ..... pthomas1925@gmail.com

**Treasurer** ..... **Richard Moss**  
 (804) 748-2940 mossrd46@verizon.net

**Membership** ..... **Daune Poklis**  
 (804) 741-7838 ..... daune@poklis.org

Address all correspondence to  
 Richard Moss, Editor  
 12565 Brook Lane  
 Chester, VA 23831  
 mossrd46@verizon.net

**Chapter Website - pocahontaschapter-vnps.org**





10. One of the viney milkweeds - last summer it had purple flowers and large smooth seed pods, 11. Crane fly Orchid (*Tipularia discolor*), 12. Wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), 13. Horsenettle fruit (*Solanum carolinense*), 14. Foxtail grass, 15. Mushrooms growing along the trail.

**Mushrooms, Mushrooms everywhere:** The rains from hurricane Irene set forth a bumper crop of mushrooms in my front yard, some of which are shown below. Anyone care to identify them?



**Jumping Maggots:** The fine red mushroom to the left, in due course, fell over and disintegrated into a slimy sea of seething maggots. After a few days the maggots began to migrate to the south (above), and some would randomly curl up then rapidly straighten out, propelling themselves upwards into the air about an inch and an inch forward. Eventually they all vanished.

**More Front Yard Mushrooms:** The first one below seems to be stuck with the cap sideways. The mushrooms in the next photo tended to come up in groups, but there was an occasional solitary one (third photo). These pictures show up much better in color, so check out the color version at the Pocahontas Chapter website: <http://pocahontaschapter-vnps.org/newsletters>, and click on November.



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12565 Brook Lane  
Chester, VA 23831**

