



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

March, 2018

**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday March 1, 2018**

**at the Education and Library Complex of the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
in the Lab**

The room is available at 6:30, come early to socialize

Our speaker will be Bland Crowder an Environmental Specialist with the Virginia Natural Heritage Program, editor/owner of Shad Run Word and Graphics, and Contributing Editor to Virginia Living Magazine who will discuss the new Virginia Flora Mobile App.

Need a little incentive to purchase and/or start using the Virginia Flora Mobile App? Come to the March 1st meeting of the Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society and learn all about the App from the Flora of Virginia Executive Director, Bland Crowder. The App features just about everything from the print Flora, as well as the new Graphic Key and a lot of new features, like photos and range maps. As expertise grows, botanists learn to leap to just the right point in the dichotomous keys. And you can fit all that information in your pocket. Crowder is an Environmental Specialist with the Virginia Natural Heritage Program, editor/owner of Shad Run Word and Graphics, and Contributing Editor to Virginia Living Magazine.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings: April 5: Jim Carter, a new member, will present a program on frost flowers.

President's Message:

Hello all,

Hope this finds you well, and enjoying the roller coaster of Virginia weather. Always an adventure right? I want to apologize about the work day that was scheduled 2/17 at Ginter. I did cancel it based on the weather forecast of rain and cold on Thursday. I missed some folks though in my email notice that had signed up. My apologies. You can mark you calendars for the next 2 dates, 4/14 and 5/19. Our State is planning 2 great trips, one to Smoky Mountains, in April, and our Southwest VA Balsam Mountains in June. Details for both are at vnps.org..while you are there, don't forget to register for the Winter Workshop on 3/10 at University of Richmond, when the focus will be on trees. Our chapter will be having several walks this spring, watch our Facebook page and website and here for the latest.

Below is part of an email I got from Nancy Vehrs, our State President

The budgets unveiled in both the House and Senate make deep cuts to land conservation programs and agencies.

The Senate Budget Bill strips \$2 million of annual funding to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, cuts that will result in the agency's closure if we don't step in.

The budget calls for a \$20,000 cap on usage of the Land Preservation Tax Credit, instead of allowing the credits to reach \$50,000 as planned.

The Senate cuts the Virginia Land Conservation Fund from \$4.5 million to \$1.5 million per year while the House strips all funding in the first year but restores \$4.5 million in year two, again, under the false premise that settlement money from destructive infrastructure projects will offset these cuts when they are in fact highly site-specific. Additional language in the budget limits the ability of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the

Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to acquire new lands for public use. .

As you can see, this is urgent. Please, reach out to your state lawmakers today and urge them to support a budget that puts land conservation first, instead of cutting millions of dollars of funding that puts our natural resources further at risk. You can take action here: <http://valcv.org/action/#/>

All the best,
Leslie

Field Trip to Dory Park

Leslie Allanson

Judy, Lynn, Ann, Lucas, Elise, ventured out with trip leader Leslie on a grey warm day at Dorey Park in Eastern Henrico to look for Skunk Cabbage. It had rained the day/night before and more was scheduled for that afternoon, but they were determined to venture out, as the walk 2 weeks prior had been cancelled on a COLD rainy day. Leslie had led other walks there and knew where the Skunk Cabbage was, but for the rest, this was their first soiree at Dorey. The group chatted about good sources for natives, local and mail order, paused to look at the crane's fly orchid leaves and spent blooms/seedpods of sweet pepperbush, while looking for the deer path fork, which would lead to the mountain bike trail which would lead to the skunk cabbage. We reached the swampy area and went off trail, down into the mucky area, holding back branches to avoid getting "slapped", stepping on the fallen branches



and little mossy berms, to avoid getting stuck. At first, no one really saw any, and then suddenly, as folks fanned out, there was calls of "here is one" or "oh look a big one" or "oh look over there" and just like that, 6 grown folks were like kids in a candy store, bent over, squatted down, to look at those curious flowers, enrobed in the red green mottled

The Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

serves the counties of Amelia, Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King William, New Kent, Powhatan, Prince George and the cities of Ashland, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, 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.....Leslie Allanson
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Chapter Website
pocahontaschapter-vnps.org



spathes.

Pictures were taken, notes jotted down, one person almost lost a boot (not I this time) and then the group decided to press on to the spicebush section.

We ventured back up to the bike trail and pressed on, that was our downfall.....we ended up getting caught in the warm rain, first a mist, then a sprinkle, but ultimately, drenched to the core, missed the spicebush, but found a wonderful mystery fungus in

several stages, running pine and good "plant geek" fun.

After taking brief shelter in the picnic pavilion, we double timed it back to the cars in the rain, vowing to come back when the plethora of pink lady slippers bloom later in the spring.....



More info on skunk cabbage can be found here, as it was our 2009 wildflower of the year

<http://vnps.org/wildflowers-of-the-year/2009-skunk-cabbage-symplocarpus-foetidus/>

Plants of the James River Project

The Plants of the James River Project (PJRP) is a group of five, Richmond-area, botanical artists, illustrators, and teachers. We are dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of native plants and ecosystems through public, educational art events and public exhibitions. We are planning a juried, botanical art exhibit of the native plants on Newton Ancarrow's list: <https://labs.library.vcu.edu/ancarrow/> For this exhibit, Ancarrow's List: Native Plants at the River's Edge, we will invite regional, botanical artists to submit art works of the native plants on the list. We are planning to exhibit these works at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in October, 2019, and are negotiating with VCU Branch Cabell Library to exhibit in November-December of 2019. Along with these exhibits, we will host public lectures and educational events with community partners on the importance of native plants. We are grateful to the Pocahontas Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society for their generous donation of \$500 for the exhibit and related public, educational events. This would include costs for the exhibit itself and events that are not covered by other grants or sources, such as a coloring book, activities, and media promotion, as well as costs associated with hanging the exhibit, such as hardware, installation, insurance, etc. In addition, we would greatly appreciate in-kind assistance with plant identification, determining plant locations, and guided walks in the James River Park System in Richmond, VA.

You can contact Judy Thomas at jmthomasbotart@gmail.com for more information.

Minutes of the Pocahontas Chapter Meeting February 1st 2018

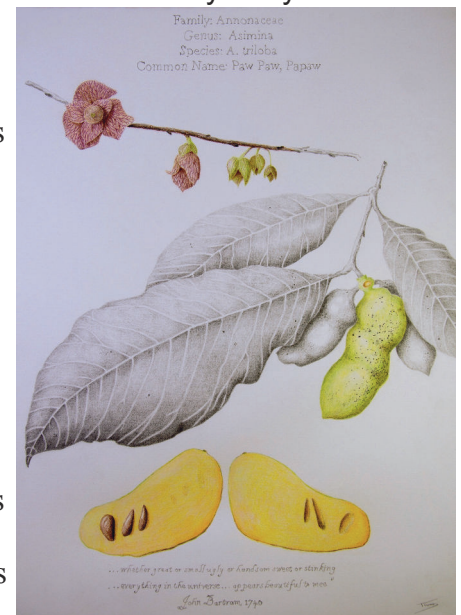
John Hayden presented a program on Avalonia to approximately 32 attendees.

8:23pm Catharine Tucker called the business meeting to order.

She reviewed announcements as follows:

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|--------------------|--|
| 2/11/18(Sunday) | Dorey Park walk 1:50pm-3pm |
| 2/17/18 (Saturday) | LGBG workday 8:45am |
| 3/10/18 (Saturday) | VNPS Winter Workshop (we host). Theme is "Trees". Our chapter provides continental breakfast. Volunteers are needed to set up (8-10am) and clean up (2-3:30pm). Registration opens online on Monday, February 5th. Volunteered:
Peg Mohar dmohar@aol.com 219 - 242-0127
Sally Chamberlin sarahechamberlin@gmail.com
Suzanne Jenkins srjenkins@comcast.net 804 - 330-8787 |

Paw-Paw by Judy Thomas



Skunk Cabbage flower

Pat Brodie owpa03v@gmail.com 804 - 266-3070
Tish Iorio letitia39@centurylink.net 804 - 227-2036
Jim Carter JRCARTER@ILSTU.EDU 804 - 464-4247

Judy Thomas (jmthomasbotart@gmail.com), Susan Estes (sestes4889@aol.com) and Winnifred P Hebb (wphebb@yahoo.com) are botanical artists who produced a children's coloring book on invasive species last year. They are now working on another, "Plants of the James River", with 26-27 native plants based on the Plants of the Ancarrow exhibit. LGBG owns the slides of the Ancarrow exhibit. <https://ricerivers.vcu.edu/community-engagement/lewis-ginter-botanical-collaboration/>

These three ladies are proposing a juried botanical art exhibit in October, 2019, drawing artists from the DC, MD, VA and NC botanical art societies. They asked the chapter to provide financial support and in-kind services. The financial support would go toward paying the jurors, shipping and hardware costs for the submissions, and media/publicity. Services would include plant identification assistance and guided walks of the native plants of the James River, as identified in the Ancarrow slides. They also propose public education events and ask our assistance with providing speakers. Judy has emailed her proposal to Catharine.

Suzanne Jenkins made a motion to provide \$300 to assist. Peg Mohar seconded the motion. Pat Brodie made a counter-motion to provide \$500. There was discussion, including verification by chapter treasurer, Richard Moss, that there are sufficient funds in the checking account to cover a \$500 donation. The motion was approved by a hand vote. Judy will email details to Catharine for the check donation. Judy also offered her assistance to speak at a future Pocahontas chapter meeting about the Ancarrow exhibit.

Catharine reviewed upcoming chapter programs.

March 1: Bland Crowder will present the new Flora of Virginia app.

April 5: Jim Carter (new member) will present a program on frost flowers.

Chapter member, Larry Bartenstein, encouraged attendance at the upcoming Environmental Film Festival, February 5-18.

Treasurers Report:

For February we had a \$500 expense for a donation to The Plants of the James River Project (see the Minutes above for an explanation).

We had income of \$5 for the sale of a lanyard and \$216.50 for our Chapter's portion of the dues = \$221.50 total

This results in a loss of \$278.50 for February.

This leaves us with \$4132 in the treasury.

Richard Moss, Treasurer

National Invasive Species Awareness Week

There are several activities planned at the James River Park System. Events will be held at the following locations this week by various groups. Volunteers are needed to help remove ivy, winter creeper, privet and other invasives. Tools provided. Several of the events have passed but if you would like to help for the days remaining please check their website at: www.jamesriverpark.org/invasives/

Monday, Feb. 26, Chapel Island, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 27, Pony Pasture, 10 a.m.-noon

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 42nd Street parking lot, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Thursday, March 1, Belle Isle, 9 a.m.-noon

Friday, March 2, Reedy Creek, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.