



THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 2018



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday September 6, 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 guest speaker will be award-winning landscape designer and The Native Plant Podcast
co-host, John Magee**

Been wondering how to do a better job using native plants in your yard? Learn from award-winning landscape designer John C. Magee who has been designing private and commercial properties for the past 20 years and is considered one of Washington DC's most recognized and experienced landscape designers in the use of native plants. The title of his presentation, *Saving the World One Backyard at a Time*, reflects his use of ecologically responsible designs to help restore our natural environment.

Hello, Pocahontas Chapter friends!

Summer is winding down and that means we're gearing up for a season of chapter meetings to resume soon. Please read on for important news.

Our chapter membership has grown by over 60% in the last three years, which is very exciting. We want our chapter leadership to reflect this growth and we want YOU to have every opportunity to be a part of the team. To that end, we are inviting you to consider which roles interest you and reach out to the incumbent for information and for the opportunity to "shadow" that person in 2019. You would not be obligated, but if interested, you might consider taking on that role for the following year. We hope this approach allows you to explore where your interests and talents lie, and allows us to have a plan of succession for fresh leadership.

There are four elected positions and various appointed supporting roles. The four officers are:

President, Leslie Allanson - leleorr4@gmail.com

Vice president, Catharine Tucker - cath.tucker@gmail.com

Treasurer, Richard Moss - richard@mossrd.org

Secretary, Ashley Moulton - moultona@vcu.edu

In addition, we have these chairpersons who cover our communications, internal and external:

Publicity, Suzanne Jenkins - srjenkins@comcast.net

Webmaster, Caitie Cyrus - CCyrus@VHB.com

Membership and Social Media, Dabney Robinson - db.robinson@comcast.net

Newsletter, Richard Moss - richard@mossrd.org

****This year's VNPS annual meeting and conference, "Sustaining Nature, Sustaining Ourselves," will be held the weekend of September 14-16, 2018 at the William and Mary School of Education in Williamsburg. Details and registration link are at <https://vnps.org/vnps-annual-meeting-2018/>.****

Dabney Robinson, Membership Chair

Are You on this List? We Need Your Email Address!

We have some missing contact info for the following members: Allen Belden, Jr.; Mrs. Nat T R Burgwyn; Virginia Hamilton; Andy Pillsbury; Doug Steele; and Steve Stell. Without an email address, we are unable to reach you during the summer months for chapter updates and between newsletter cycles. Please contact the state office at vnps.org@gmail.com or (540) 837-1600 to update. If you prefer not to receive email updates, you can still connect with us on Facebook at @PocahontasVNPS and check our chapter website for events: www.vnps.org/pocahontas/events/.

President's Message

Hello all,

Hope this finds you well. I am amazed the summer is almost over and our meetings are about to start back up!! Catharine Tucker has been hard at work, lining up great speakers and programs for us all to enjoy. If you have a lead on a speakers or would like to help in that process, please connect with her. We have had several interesting field trips over the summer, and have several on the books for the fall. Thanks to Joey Thompson and Richard Moss for leading the trips to Big Meadows and Point of Rocks Park respectively. I have shared a few of my pictures for both. If you have a favorite spot to view fall flowers, let me know and maybe we can plan a trip there in October. I had the pleasure of taking a week off in early June and going on the state trip to led by Gary Fleming with DCR to areas in and around Grayson Highland State Park and Mt Rodgers. It was simply amazing. If you ever get the chance to botanize with Gary, take it. I am excited to say that Chris Ludwig, also with DCR, will be leading the trip to Difficult Creek on 9/9. It is his favorite DCR area and I quote him "will be spectacular with wildflowers" and while there are chiggers and ticks "the flowers make it worth it". If you have not yet checked out the annua meeting details, please do so and register at vnps.org if you are interested. It will be 9/14 to 9/16 in Williamsburg. I look forward to see you all at our meeting, and please remember to bring a friend and if you are on Facebook, like

our page "Chapter of Pocahontas, Virginia Native Plant Society" Dabney Robinson does a great job with it, posting our events and wonderful articles, make sure you check it out and invite your friends there as well. See you soon

Here is the listing of upcoming events

9/8 Work day at Lewis Ginter 9-1 meet 8:45

9/9 Difficult Creek Natural register preserve 11-3

9/18 Nature walk Sandston 4-6

9/30 Nature Sketching 3 Lakes Park 12-2

Folks can register by emailing me at leleorr4@gmail.com or calling 804-335-5866

Leslie

Things in My Yard

by Richard Moss

This year was a good year for paw-paws. Actually, it was the first year I got more than one or two. See photo. Paw Paws supposedly taste like bananas, but I would describe them like a mangoey, banana with big seeds. Anyone want some seeds? They have big leaves which turn bright yellow in the fall, grow to 20-30 feet tall and tend to spread into thickets.



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

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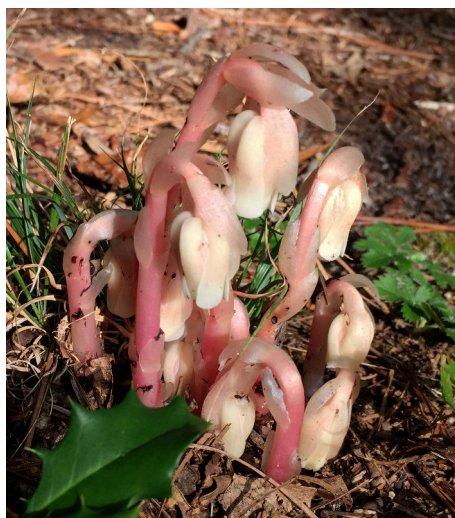
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pocahontaschaptervnps.org

Also, this year three patches of *Monotropa uniflora*, also known as ghost plant (or ghost pipe), Indian pipe or corpse plant came up in the front yard. The center photo is a plant of the more typical color,



the left photo is a pink variant, and the right photo shows a lighter pink plant. They are all within about 10 feet of each other.

Field Trip to Big Meadows on July 14, 2018

1. The Meadow. 2. Joey Thompson, our leader, works on an identification. 3. A wild rose. 4. Turks cap lily (*Lilium superbum*).



5. These yellow bushy members of the pea family were scattered around in one section of the meadow.

6. Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) with a butterfly.

7. A thistle with a bumblebee.

8. There were a lot of milkweeds in bloom in the meadow. most

were pink, but 9. there was an occasional white

variant.



Field Trip to R. Garland Park in Chesterfield County on August 25, 2018

The trail goes down to the boardwalk, across a wetland, then up on high ground along the Apomattox River, then through a meadow, then back to the parking lot.



1. Our group at the beginning of the boardwalk.

Along the boardwalk we saw: 2. Wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*)

3. Partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*) with swamp milkweed

and 4. close up, 5. Pickerel weed (*Pontederia cordata*), 6. Swamp

milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*). Along the trail above the river we saw

in bloom: 7. Wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), 8. Yellow passionflower

(*Passiflora lutea*). In the meadow there was a lot of wingstem but it was

not in bloom yet. We did see in bloom: 9. Purple passionflower

(*Passiflora incarnata*), 10. Hairy wild petunia (*Ruellia humilis*), 11.

Sensitive partridge pea (*Chamaecrista nictitans*), 12. A big patch of the

parasitic plant Dodder (*Cuscuta* sp.), 13. Several horse nettles (*Solanum*

carolinense) and 14. lots of Carolina elephants foot (*Elephantopus carolinianus*).