

THE POCAHONTAS CHAPTER OF THE VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

November, 2017



**Chapter Meeting 7:00 PM,
Thursday November 2, 2017**

**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 Caitie Cyrus
who will tell us about the flora in College Woods at the College of William and Mary**

The College of William and Mary is a historic icon so it should come as no surprise that the plants in College Woods also have a history worth sharing. At the Thursday, November 2nd meeting of the Pocahontas Chapter of the Native Plant Society, you can learn about the flora of the College Woods from Caitie Cyrus who spent many hours of field work surveying for 680 historically documented plant species and mapping locations of all plant collections and rare populations. She received her master of science degree with a focus on field botany from William and Mary in 2016. She is presently employed as an environmental scientist with Vanasse, Hangen, Brustlin, Inc. in Williamsburg.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings:

December Holiday Party - location and time later. **Note:** We will not meet at Lewis Ginter in December.
Jan. 11, 2018 Zach Bradford, Chesapeake Bay Region Steward. **Note:** We will meet at Lewis Ginter one week later than usual due to the Garden's Festival of Lights in December and the first week of January.
Feb 1, 2018 John Hayden

President's Message:

Hello all,
As always, I hope this finds you well. October flew by, didn't it. We had our first work day of the season at Lewis Ginter, 3 brave souls showed up, and cleared the vines and privet and barberries from a forgotten island bed (top photo). Our next workday is 2/17, please please mark your calendars and try to come out and join us. The following day, we had a lovely walk with about 15 folks at the Appomattox Conservation area (bottom photo). Several members of the Pocahontas Master Naturalist chapter joined as we were in their neck of the woods. It is always good to meet like minded folks. I am behind in sorting out our Christmas party, so, I need your help. I have hosted it the past 2 years, and am willing to do so again, but can not do it the first weekend in December. So, our options are Thursday 12/7 at 6:00 pm or Sunday 12/10 at 2:00 pm. My address is 6194 Hines Road 23231, which is 7 miles east of Richmond Airport. I know the holidays are jammed packed with events, so I would like folks to vote on which best suits them. So please email me leleorr4@gmail.com to cast a vote. We will also discuss it Thursday.

Be Blessed,
Leslie



Leslie's find at a field walk at the Annual Meeting:
an American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) with fruit. —————→

Chapter Field Trip to John J. Radcliffe Park (Appomattox Conservation area) on October 15, 2017

We did this trip last spring, so thought it would be interesting to see what was there in the Fall. 1. Apparently it was peak beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*) season. They were everywhere anywhere near a



beech tree. Beechdrops are obligate parasitic plants, lacking chlorophyll, which growing on the roots of American beech, but they are not believed to significantly harm the tree.

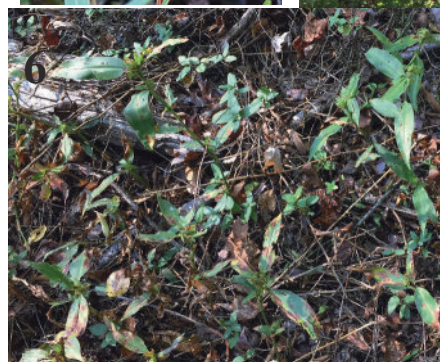
2. Downy rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*)



3. Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*)

4a & 4b. Seedbox plant (*Ludwigia decurrens*) with colorful caterpillars.

5. Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*)



6. Our native dayflower, the Virginia dayflower (*Commelina virginica*).

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
(804) 248-1578.....leleorr4@gmail.com
Vice President.....Catharine Tucker
(804) 938-6941.....cath.tucker@gmail.com
Secretary.....Ashley Moulton
(703)-554-5860.....moultona@vcu.edu
TreasurerRichard Moss
(804) 748-2940.....richard@mossrd.org
Membership.....Dabney Robinson
804-550-1449.....db.robinson@comcast.net

Address all other correspondence to:

Richard Moss, Editor
12565 Brook Lane
Chester, VA 23831
richard@mossrd.org

Chapter Website
pocahontaschapter-vnps.org

Assorted Photos Taken in Various Places This October.

1. Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) at Crabtree fall in Nelson County, VA on October 17

Photos 2-10 were taken near my house on Oct. 29, 2017

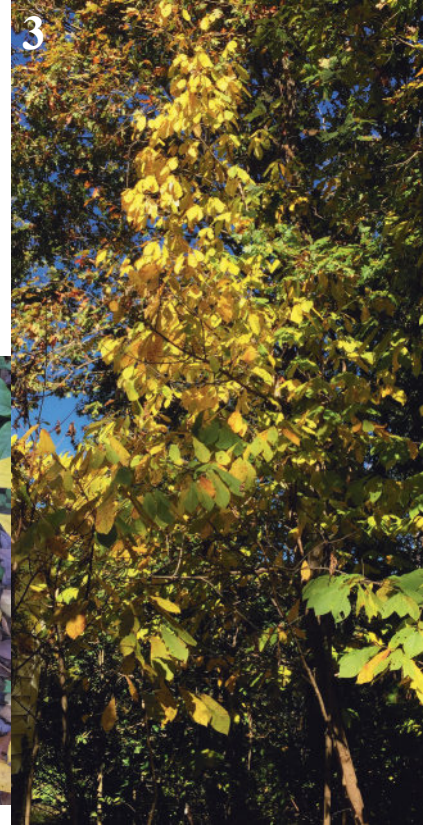


2. Yellow leaves - Spicebush, (*Lindera benzoin*).

3. Yellow leaves - Pawpaw, (*Asimina triloba*)

4. Crane-fly Orchid, (*Tipularia discolor*).

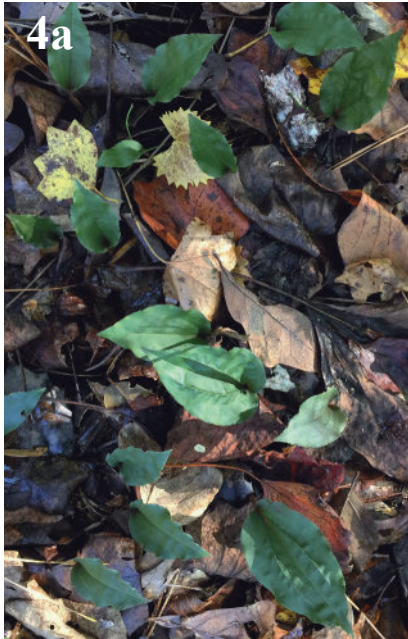
Note the color and texture variations, 4a pleated green leaves 4b dark leaves, 4c smooth green leaf.



5. A groundhog hole.

6. This moss, growing on what was left of a overturned tree stump, was full of spore cases.

7. Seeds of Sweet Pepperbush, (*Clethra alnifolia*).



8. Evergreen wild ginger (*Hexastylis virginica*).





9. Dogfennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*), **1a** plant, **1b**, close-up showing seeds.

10. Plantain-Leaved Pussytoes (*Antennaria plantaginifolia*). note the white underside of the upturned leaf. Before the rain came, this plant's leaves had curled up and it looked dead.

Pocahontas Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
12565 Brook Lane
Chester, VA 23831

