

POTOWMACK NEWS

Volume 13, No.1

Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

Winter 1995

Dr. Douglas E. Gill to Speak at April Meeting

DR. DOUGLAS E. GILL, PROFESSOR OF ZOOLOGY AT THE University of Maryland, will speak at the General Membership meeting on Thursday, April 27. His topic will be "The Mysteries of our Native Orchids: Pink Lady's Slippers." Dr. Gill has been studying these fascinating plants for the past 19 years, and will share some of his discoveries with us.

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting will be held at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, located on Hummer Road off Route 236, just inside the Capital Beltway. For further directions, contact Alonso Abugattas, (703)759-3211 (daytime) or (703)698-1348 (evenings). Seating is limited, so please call to make reservations. There will be a short walk to see the nearby Lady's Slippers at 6:30 pm, followed by the meeting at 7:00 pm. There will be no board meeting. ■

Getting Ready for the Spring 1995 Plant Sale

OUR SPRING SALE IS SCHEDULED THIS YEAR FOR SATURDAY, MAY 20. WE hope to continue our run of successful sales with the help of all our members—those of you who help us prepare for them, those who donate plants and those who patronize by "adopting" the plants we offer.

Although we propagate many native herbaceous plants in our propagation beds, some plants are very difficult and require more attention than we can give them with our facilities. Your contributions for the sale are greatly appreciated. Spring ephemerals, seedling woody native shrubs, ferns, and shade loving plants are always in demand.

We want to remind you to put aside some of your treasures when you divide your plants this spring. Spring is a wonderful time to divide many native plants. Plants thrive on being divided and you can help VNPS offer a greater variety of native plants.

In order to be sure the plants have been successfully divided and potted, we ask that you do so no later than the first week of May. Mark them with the botanical name and with a common name...and please let us know who the donor is so we can ask you any questions we may have and properly thank you.

If you have any questions concerning contributions of native plants for the sale, please call Gerry Pratt, (703)323-1094. If you can't donate plants, perhaps you can donate plastic pots (3" to 6" diameter) or your very precious time. ■

NEW WILD-FLOWER BOOK BY VNPS MEMBERS AVAILABLE

SEVERAL VNPS MEMBERS ARE celebrating the publication of their new book, Finding Wildflowers in the Washington-Baltimore Area. This book is a VNPS collaboration. It is written by Cris Fleming, VNPS Director at large and Potowmack Chapter Botany Chair, Marion Blois Lobstein, a founding member of VNPS and Prince William Chapter Botany Chair, and Barbara Tufty, a VNPS member. The book is illustrated with 40 drawings by Nicky Staunton, former President and now 2nd Vice-President of VNPS (Nicky did the drawings to relax from her VNPS duties!). The cover is a stunning photograph of Virginia bluebells by Hal Horwitz, photographer extraordinaire of Pocahontas Chapter.

This is not a guide to wildflowers, but a guide to places where wildflowers grow and what to see at those places at different seasons and in different habitats. Covering roughly a one-hundred mile radius around Washington and Baltimore, many local places are covered, such as Scotts Run Nature Preserve, Great Falls Park, Huntley Meadows

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Trillium Walk at G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area, May 4

AN INFORMAL WALK THROUGH THE VIRGINIA NATIVE Plant Society's first registry site, the G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area, is planned for Thursday, May 4. The site is famous for its dense stands of *Trillium grandiflorum* and other spectacular native wildflowers. The State owned preserve straddles the Fauquier-Warren County line on the slopes of Blue Mountain near Linden.

A carpool is being organized for the trip to Linden, about an hours' drive from Fair Oaks Mall via Route 66. For details and directions call Anne Crocker (703)437-0355 between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. ■

President's Message by Nancy Luria

AMULTI-TALENTED COLLEAGUE SURPRISED ME BY "reading" my handwriting the other day. "You are efficient and like to get things done," she observed (there must have been some clue there for the caveat "except when you have to write a newsletter article.") She concluded her analysis, "Those little hooks on the ends of your letters mean you have an acquisitive nature." Ack! My secret revealed! Anyone who has seen my cubbyhole in the basement knows that I can't throw away anything that has to do with plants, animals, geology, the weather, elementary education, or storytelling (or a few other topics...) I also can't resist just one more native plant for my garden. Honestly, you'd think a landscape designer would be able to show more restraint!

Can we analyze native plant "handwriting"? Some of those vines sure have plenty of curlicues: acquisitive? Modified leaf structures, tendrils, evolved to help the plant get where it needed to be—in the sunshine, taking for its own use some vertical structure. How about those hooky bidens seeds that we have to pull off our socks and dogs? One tiny plant acquires dozens, if not hundreds, of new acquaintances and habitats. Some plants reveal that they have adapted to adverse conditions.

Consider the lacy fronds of ferns whose original broad leaf blade divided in order to maximize the plant's ability to absorb sunlight under dense tree canopies. The Doctrine of Signatures was an official reading of plant shapes. *Hepatica triloba* was used to treat liver disease because its leaves were shaped like that organ.

It is interesting to look at plants as if they were written signatures. Careful observation tells us much about their personalities even if we aren't botanists. If I were to compare myself to a native plant, I'd have to choose a spring ephemeral. It bursts forth in early spring, produces flowers, goes to seed, and becomes dormant, all before the forest canopy returns. It's that get-the-job-done quality I admire. Now if I could just figure out how to be dormant for nine months! ■

Potowmack Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 161
McLean, VA 22101

Board Officers

President	Nancy Luria	(703)528-3612
Vice President	Dan Sealy	(703)938-3227
Secretary	Aileen Smith	(703)266-3822
Treasurer	Ben Fitzgerald	(703)280-4918

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Botany	Cris Fleming	(301)657-9289
Conservation	Abbie Duchon	(703)522-0963
Hospitality	Joan Van Ryzin	(703)799-4520
Membership	Anne Crocker	(703)437-0355
Native Plant Trail	Edith Bradbury	(703)971-8878
Newsletter	Mark Etheridge	(703)503-5975
Programs	Alonso Abugattas	(703)698-1348
Propagation and Sales	Gerry Pratt	(703)323-1094
Publications	Liz Smith	(703)768-1697
Publicity	Norma Vermillion	(703)451-0572
Site Registry	Jane Collins	(703)525-1304

Mail or fax articles for the newsletter to:

Mark Etheridge
9422 Fairleigh Court
Burke, VA 22015
Fax: (301)595-0089

Deadline for next issue is: April 27

Finding the Earliest Spring Bloomers

Cris Fleming—Botany Chair

ONE OF THE GREAT JOYS OF LIVING in the Washington area is the early spring blooming of many wildflowers. Those of us attuned to wild plants don't need to wait for daffodils and cherry blossoms to know that spring is here. As early as February and March, we can look along woodland paths, in stream valleys, and even in our own backyards for the first flowers of spring.

Skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) is renowned as the earliest of all wildflowers to bloom. Often poking up through ice and snow, this plant has the amazing ability to create its own heat and thus gets a head start on other species. The mottled purple and green spathe surrounds the club-shaped spadix which holds the tiny flowers. Skunk cabbage may be found as early as January in some years and is usually up in February. Look for it in wet, swampy woods such as on the Swamp Trail at Great Falls Park and along the Heritage Trail at Turkey Run Park.

Several little lawn weeds also are early bloomers. Even in mid-winter, you may see the tiny white four-petaled flowers of hairy bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*). The leaves of the basal rosettes are deeply lobed like miniatures of watercress. The taste, however, is very much sharper. Also found in many yards in late February and early March are purple deadnettle (*Lamium purpureum*) and henbit (*L. amplexicaule*). These mints have opposite, scalloped leaves

with purple flowers in the axils. Ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederaefolia*) is a creeping weed of lawns and woods with small sky-blue flowers in March and April.

By mid March, it is definitely time to go to the woods to search for early bloomers. My favorite spring discovery is harbinger-of-spring (*Eriogonum bulbosa*). The diminutive flowers appear before the leaves and are often hard to see. However, once you spot one small white umbel, you're likely to find

By mid March it is definately time to go to the woods to search for early bloomers.

many more. Look in rich moist soil just above the floodplain at places such as below the zig-zag trail from parking lot C1 of Turkey Run Park or between the horse trail and Clay Pond or along the River Trail above the falls at Great Falls Park. My earliest record for this species was February 22, 1991; last year I didn't spot it until March 20.

Spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) is ubiquitous in our area in early spring, filling many of our woodland parks. Still, the first spring beauty to flower is a special treat, and in some years, it begins to bloom in February. Look in the woods on south-facing, sunny hillsides to spot the first flowers.

For many years, I have celebrated my daughter's birthday, March 23, by visiting my favorite patch of hepatica (*Hepatica americana*) in Rock Creek Park. Other places to

find this stunning early-blooming wildflower are along Turkey Run, on the rocks near the river at Riverbend, and along Difficult Run. Purple cress (*Cardamine douglassii*) flowers in late March in wet, seepy woods at Great Falls Park and at the Fraser Preserve. The early blooming time, purple sepals, and hairy stem distinguish this uncommon species from its more common relative, spring cress (*Cardamine bulbosa*).

Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) comes next—the big, bright white flowers popping up with their leaves curled around them. Look for bloodroot in the last week of March and first week of April on upland hillsides at all our local parks.

A similar flower but much rarer is twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*). Twinleaf is found in only a few places locally; there are small populations at Turkey Run Park, Great Falls Park, and Riverbend, as well as along the C&O Canal in Maryland. To see masses of twinleaf, visit the limestone bluffs along the C&O Canal in Washington County, MD. Twinleaf was named for Thomas Jefferson and is reputed to bloom on his birthday, April 13. However, I have usually found it in flower during the first ten days of April. This is the most ephemeral of blossoms; the petals often last only a few days. Last year, I found twinleaf in bud on April 1; by April 10, the flowers were all gone.

Another early spring bloomer is the uncommon shrub, leatherwood (*Dirca palustris*). The drooping, yellow, bell-shaped flowers appear

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SPRING BLOOMERS

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before the leaves in late March and early April. Leatherwood is found in only a few locations in our area, including along the Potomac Heritage Trail at Turkey Run Park and near Sandy Landing at Great Falls Park.

In the last week of March, you may find the first blooms of Dutchman's breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*). This dainty charmer flowers about a week before its close relative, squirrel corn (*D. canadensis*). Both species grow in nutrient-rich, moist soil and are often found on north-facing hillsides. Fine displays of these flowers can be seen at Scott's Run Nature Preserve near the river and at Red Rock Wilderness Overlook Park in Loudon County.

The toothworts (*Dentaria spp.*) also begin to flower in late March. Look in rich upland woods for slender toothwort (*Dentaria heterophylla*) and in somewhat poorer soil for cut-leaved toothwort (*D. laciniata*). Both species grow together at Great Falls Park; they are easily distinguished by the presence of the large basal leaf of slender toothwort.

A favorite early flower of many people is trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*). The waxy white or pale pink flowers are very delicate and deliciously fragrant. In New England, this species is often called Mayflower, but here it often blooms in the first week of April. This plant grows on dry, eroding hillsides with nutrient-poor, acidic soil. It is often found under mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*). Look for trailing arbutus on the bluffs above Difficult Run and on rocks along the River Trail south of the

falls at Great Falls Park. There is also a small colony along Scott's Run.

Don't wait for the masses of bluebells, phlox, trout-lilies, trilliums and other April wildflowers. Get out in February, March, and early April to see the first flowers of spring! It's a special thrill after a long, cold, snowy winter to celebrate the return of spring with the sighting of these hardy species.

I will be leading a walk to see early spring wildflowers on Saturday, April 1. We'll visit Turkey Run, Scott's Run, and Great Falls. I'll also be leading a program to the limestone bluffs of Washington County on Saturday, April 29. For more information on both trips, call the Audubon Naturalist Society at (301) 652-9188. Marion Lobstein and I will lead several spring wildflower walks along the C&O Canal for the Smithsonian Associates Program. For more information on these walks, call (202) 357-3030. ■

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The current issue of *Volunteer Ventures*, a newsletter published for the volunteer staff of the Fairfax County Park Authority Conservation Division, has a generous tribute to VNPS from Riverbend Resource Manager, Marty Smith. He calls us "one of the unsung heroes" of the Park Authority, citing the donation of plants for the meadow, the registry of three park sites, and the willingness of Gerry Pratt to propagate elderberries for the meadow. Thanks, Marty—it's nice to know that our efforts are appreciated!

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February Membership Meeting

A RECORD NUMBER OF MEMBERS and guests—seventy-two—attended Ruth Smith's lecture on Native American uses of native plants. The reporter for a Native American newsletter drove all the way from Richmond to take notes for an article. Ten girl scouts came to earn credit for a badge and ten martial arts students accompanied their instructor to learn more about living off the land. No one was disappointed. Ruth Smith is a remarkable woman, not only knowledgeable about Native American uses of native plants, but also capable of captivating her audience with the perfect blend of fact, anecdote, and show and tell. She mentioned so many fascinating facts it was impossible to write them all down (we need to get a book out of her!) One example: Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), earned its common name from the fact that an infusion of the plant drunk by victims of an influenza called Breakbone fever, helped to cure them of the agonizing pain felt in their bones. Those of us who over-indulged in pizza before the meeting gratefully sampled Ruth's candied Sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*), a remedy for digestive upset.

We thank Ruth for such an informative and entertaining evening. We also applaud Joan Van Ryzin for providing non-native refreshments to such a large crowd and Norma Vermillion for doing an outstanding job with publicity. ■

VNPS Potowmack Chapter Field Trips**Birds and Blooms**

Saturday, April 22, 9-11 am at Riverbend Park.

Join members of the Fairfax Audubon Society and the Potowmack Chapter of VNPS for a guided walk through some of the

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Spring 1995 Field Trips and Classes Offered by Cris Flemimg

**Saturday, April 1, 9:00 - 4:00
EARLY SPRING WILDFLOWERS**

We will search for early bloomers, such as hepatica, harbinger-of-spring, trout-lily, and twinleaf, at Turkey Run Park and Great Falls Park. Sponsored by the Audubon Naturalist Society.

Fee: \$20/30. Call (301) 652-9188.

Saturday, April 8, 9:30-12 and 1:00 - 3:30

Sunday, May 13, 9:30-12 and 1:00 - 3:30

WILDFLOWERS ALONG THE C&O CANAL

Walk along the towpath and other trails near the Carderock Area of the C&O Canal to see early wildflowers such as twinleaf, bloodroot, harbinger-of-spring, and Dutchman's breeches. The May walk features different flowers including green violet and Miami mist. Sponsored by the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program.

Fee: \$11/15. Call (202) 357-3030

Tuesday, April 12 - Tuesday, June 7, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

SPRING WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION COURSE

A ten-week course that teaches identification of wildflowers by family characteristics, habitat, range, and blooming time. Features three Saturday morning field trips April 22, May 6, and

May 20. Sponsored by the USDA Graduate School. Fee \$149. Call (202) 690-4280.

Saturday, April 29, 9:00-4:00 (Lecture Thursday, Apr. 29, 7:30-9:30)

MOUNTAIN LOCK AND SNYDERS LANDING

Along the C&O Canal just north of Harpers Ferry is a rich limestone habitat known for an abundance of spring wildflowers including unusual species such as shooting star, dwarf larkspur, and erect trillium. Participants should be willing and able to scramble up a short steep trail to see some of these plants. Sponsored by the Audubon Naturalist Society. Fee: \$25/20. Call (301) 652-9188. ■

FIELD TRIPS

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best birding and spring wildflower displays around - Riverbend Park! Peter Stangel, president of the Fairfax Audubon Society, and Alonso Abugattas, park naturalist, will lead us in looking at the spectacular spring blooms on the floodplain, waterfowl on the river, and migrant songbirds in the treetops. Bring binoculars if you have them (a limited supply is available at Riverbend). Call Alonso (703)759-3211 (Days), (703)698-1348 (Eve.) to RSVP and for details. . Limit: 18

Fossils and Flowers

Sunday, April 23, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.

Bring your family along and join Barry Remer, geology enthusiast and naturalist, on a nature walk and fossil collecting trip to Purse State Park on the Potomac. Families can learn about local plants and the Miocene epoch as they collect prehistoric sharks'

teeth, skate-ray plates, and perhaps other fossils to take home (the flowers are just to enjoy watching). We will meet at the Packard Center (Annandale Community Park) and car pool to the site. \$2.00 for those not driving. Rain date (or if river conditions are poor) is May 7. Call Alonso for required RSVP and info. Limit: 25

VNPS Registry Program

THE REGISTRY IS A VOLUNTARY program designed by VNPS to protect the plant treasures residing in natural communities throughout Virginia. Landowners or resource managers who agree to register their properties as Virginia Native Plant Sites take an important step towards preserving the natural features of the land.

The primary requirement for registry is that the site have regional or state significance because of its native plants. Significant sites may exhibit an exemplary occurrence of a habitat, a plant community or a plant species. Sites may include an unusual, persisting variation of a plant species or an assemblage of species. Or the site may exhibit some quality with the unique potential to inspire community awareness.

If you know of any site in Fairfax County, Arlington County, or Alexandria that might be a worthy nomination for this program, please contact Jane Collins, (703)525-1304. The registry process is a long one; we would like to nominate at least one site each year.

There are a total of eleven registered sites in the state. If you would like to know where they are or would like a brochure explaining the registry program, please send a SASE to Nancy Luria, 2620 North Second Road, Arlington,

Come Visit the Virginia Native Plant Trail at Green Spring Gardens Park

by Brenda Skarphol

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE Virginia Native Plant Trail as a garden is in its sixth year, and the garden promises to be more beautiful than ever. The trail really started to come together as a garden last year because plantings are becoming ever more lush. In the fall of 1994, two volunteers (Bill Kreitz and John Guyette) and three staff members (Mary Frogale, Carol Jones, and I) built two rock walls in the upper portion of the trail. The rock wall behind the Laurel Scull memorial bench was built from wall stone that was scheduled to be removed during the construction of our new parking lot this spring. This wall has a graceful curvilinear shape, with the wall tapering off into stone edging. Some planting of this wall was done in the fall, and more will be done in the spring.

Western Maryland wall stone was purchased by the Potowmack Chapter and used to build a new wall at the back of the perennial border. The old stone in this wall was fracturing badly, so it had to be replaced. Many plants were replanted in the fall, and more will be planted this spring. Western Maryland wall stone was also used to edge the path in certain areas to keep people off planting areas, and logs were used as bed edging as well. One word to the wise: do not construct three stone walls in a short period of time (I also constructed a stone wall at home this past fall) unless you have the constitution of an ox! One additional project that the Potowmack Chapter paid for was the mulching of the path throughout the trail

with crushed bluestone, which has been a better surfacing material on our north-facing slope than wood chips and shredded hardwood bark were.

The Native Plant Trail has almost 400 species and cultivars of plants native to Virginia. The first flush of bloom occurs from late March into May, when the woodland wildflowers are at their glorious peak. The rock wall behind the perennial border is also lovely in the spring. The sunny perennial border starts putting on a show in May, but its most striking display is in July; I will lead a tour of the trail on July 1 from 9:30-10:30 am. My favorite time in the trail, however, is in the fall, when plants from the perennial border to the stream valley weave a rich tapestry of color. And, of course, I love the cool weather that autumn brings and the wonderful smell and crunch of fallen leaves.

The Potowmack Chapter has generously donated \$2000 for a native plant intern this year. Our intern, Michele Doll, will begin working on the trail part time in March. Since January, you may have seen Michele assisting the public or working in our display greenhouse. Michele is working as a part time assistant naturalist for Green Spring, where she is assisting with public programming in the education department and plant maintenance in the display greenhouse. Michele has a bachelor's degree in plant science from Rutgers University, with a horti-

culture option. A special highlight of her schooling at Rutgers was to work in the experimental greenhouses on their extensive holly and dogwood breeding programs. Michele's hobbies include hiking, canoeing, and birding. We look forward to all of Michele's help and her cheerful demeanor.

As in past years, volunteers from the Potowmack Chapter can assist with garden maintenance the second Saturday every month from March through December, weather permitting, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. A new feature this year will be a discussion of a choice native plant at the end of every workday; topics such as ornamental value, cultural requirements, and other interesting information about the plant will be explored. The work we do on these work days includes mulching, raking leaves, planting, weeding, watering, pruning, and removing exotic invasive plants, as well as lively conversation. This work is very vital to the maintenance of the garden and we would love your help. The work dates are March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9.

Please come visit the native plant trail to stroll, relax, and learn more about Virginia natives. Two benches in the trail are especially suited to pleasurable relaxation. ■

Don't forget the Potowmack Chapter Board Meeting on March 23, 7:00 pm at Green Spring Gardens Park! ■

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN OUR CHAPTER? Why not volunteer as Treasurer? Attend board meetings and help out at the plant sales. Work with Ben Fitzgerald this year with an eye toward becoming Treasurer in 1996. Interested members should contact Nancy Luria at (703)528-3612. ■

**LOBSTEIN FIELDTRIPS,
COURSES & TOURS
SPRING/SUMMER 1995**

FIELDTRIPS

Marion Lobstein will lead wildflower walks open to VNPS members on the following dates:

Great Falls Park, VA at 10:00 am-12:30 pm on the following dates during the spring-early months: January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, and May 21

Balls Bluff (Leesburg, VA) on April 16 at 2:30-4:30 pm.

**NVCC-Manassas Campus
Nature Trail** on April 20 from 12:30-1:30 pm

G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area (Linden, VA) on May 5 (Fri.) from 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Call Marion Lobstein (703)536-7150 for reservations for any of these fieldtrips or walks.

COURSES/WORKSHOPS

Marion Lobstein, associate professor of biology at NVCC-Manassas Campus, will be offering a number of plant identification classes/workshops/seminars through summer 1995:

**WORKSHOP & FIELDTRIP
ON "INTRODUCTION TO
PLANT IDENTIFICATION"**

This one-day workshop will be conducted at Blandy Experimental Farm on Sat., April 22 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. This workshop will concentrate on hands-on activities to familiarize participants with plant structures, identification keys, and field guides as tools for plant identification. A follow-up fieldtrip to G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management and grounds of Blandy Experimental Farm will be conducted on April 29 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. These activities are

sponsored by the Friends of the State Arboretum and a fee will be charged by this group to cover costs of the workshop and/or field-trip. For further information call Blandy Experimental Farm at (703)837-1758.

SEMINAR & FIELDTRIP ON SPRING WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION - This one-day seminar and follow-up field-trip on spring wildflower identification will be sponsored by the Smithsonian Associates on April 15 and April 23, respectively, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. This seminar and companion fieldtrip will introduce participants to plant structure, identification keys, and field guides used in spring wildflower identification. The fieldtrip will be to Riverbend Park and to Ball's Bluff, VA. For more information call the Smithsonian Associates (202)357-3030.

EVEC 493/793 - FIELD BOTANY (3 credits) 9:00am to 4:00pm, MTWR, June 26 to July 13 (combined lecture, laboratory, and field experiences). This course will deal with the classification, identification and evolution of flowering plants. Emphasis will be on the use of plant dichotomous keys and field characteristic recognition for identification. The Flora of West Virginia will be the text used for the course. For further information call Blandy Experimental Farm at (703)837-1758.

COURSE ON SUMMER WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION (2 credits) - 8:00am-4:30pm MTWR August 7-10 (combined lectures and fieldwork). This class will stress the identification of summer wildflowers using either popular wildflower guides or the Flora of West Virginia. Emphasis on characteristics of plant families of summer-blooming will be made both in the classroom work and in the field. For further information regarding this course, contact Marion Lobstein at the Manassas Campus (703) 257-6643.

TOURS

Marion will also be conducting the following Smithsonian Associates tours: **Teddy Roosevelt Island** on April 2, C&O Canal walks on April 9 and May 7, **National Arboretum** on April 30, and **G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area** and **Blandy Experimental Farm** on May 6. Call (202)357-3030 for information these Smithsonian Associates tours. ■

WILDFLOWER BOOK
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Park, and Dyke Marsh. Other Virginia locations include Balls Bluff, the Thompson Wildlife Management Area, Shenandoah National Park and several others. Many areas in Maryland and a few in Washington, D.C., West Virginia, and Pennsylvania are also featured.

An introductory section covers the geology, climate, and habitats of the region. The final section is an invaluable listing of over 750 wildflowers of the region, with information on the blooming period, habitat, and rarity of each species.

Over seven years in the making, the book is being published by Johns Hopkins University Press and will be available in March (Just in time for spring wildflowers!). The price is \$15.95 paperback plus \$3.00 to cover shipping. You can order it from JHUP, Hampden Station, Baltimore, MD 21211 or order by phone 1-800-537-5487.

Marion and Cris will also have autographed copies of the book available for sale on their field trips and classes this spring and summer.

Potowmack Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
Membership/Renewal Form

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

Individual \$15

Family \$25

Student \$10

Patron \$50

Sustaining \$100

Life \$400

Associate (group) \$40: delegate _____

To give a gift membership: Enclose dues, name and address.

I wish to make an additional contribution to Potowmack Chapter

in the amount of \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

Check here if you do not wish your name
to be exchanged with similar organizations.

Check here if you do not wish
to be listed in a chapter directory

Make check payable to VNPS and mail to:
VNPS Membership Chair, 3924 Cobbler Mountain Road, Delaplane, VA 22025



Potowmack Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 161
McLean, Virginia 22101



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