

# POTOWMACK NEWS

Volume , No.

Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

1996

No, you're right, this is not your regular newsletter packed full of articles, events, and goings-ons. This is but a very poor substitute till we get a newsletter editor. We felt that we had to send atleast a flier out to let you know about upcoming events. So, first order of business is

## WE NEED A NEWSLETTER EDITOR!!!

The editor would be responsible for 4 newsletters a year, with each issue being six to eight pages long. That doesn't mean writing all the articles (the members supply most of them) but rather compiling each issue, printing them (we use Kinko's), and mailing them out. The Membership Chairperson supplies the labels and they were being put together on a Macintosh computer. The newsletter editor is a member of the board and attends monthly board meetings. For this work he/she receives the undying gratitude and admiration of the Potowmack Chapter members. Please someone call Mark Etheridge at (301) 293-2659 for information.

## SPRING PLANT SALE

The spring plant sale was yet another record breaking success! In fact it was the best ever! Over 1400 plants were sold and everyone is to be congratulated for their efforts. Special kudos go out to Gerry Pratt, our Propagation and Sales Chair, and all those who helped out that day. Even bigger thanks go out for the folks like Dusty Pratt and Edith Bradbury who help at the propagation beds regularly, Norma Vermillion for advertising, and all those great folks who donated their plants and time to help! You all know who you are and I'm ~~sorry~~ I don't know everyone to include in this flier. Oh, mark your calendars, the fall plant sale is September 14.

Anyone willing to help work the propagation beds (what a great way to learn gardening with native plants) please feel free to call Gerry Pratt at (703) 323-1094. Or just show up Wednesdays or Saturdays at Green Spring Gardens Park from 9:30-12:00.

Anyone willing to donate plants can call Gerry. Anyone willing to donate pots (not market packs), just drop them off at the VNPS propagation beds at Green Spring. The beds are easy to find, they're behind the greenhouse. Just look for the nicest beds ... and they have labels!

## SUITLAND BOGS WALK

Sunday, June 9, 10am-12pm

Join us for a guided tour of Suitland Bogs and see its rarities. Our leader will be Lisa Bierer-Garrett, caretaker of the bog for the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission. She is a naturalist for Clearwater Nature Center and founder of the Maryland Butterfly Society. Expect to see rarities like rose pogonia and several types of carnivorous plants. For reservations and information call Alonso at (703) 358-6535 during the day or (703) 528-8808 evenings.

FAXED RECORD  
Andrews Airforce Base  
June 9, 12:30-1:30pm

Join us directly after the Suitland Bogs Walk to rescue several pink lady-slippers and other plants at Andrews Airforce Base. Ms. Lisa Bierer-Garrett has asked if we could help move these native orchids which are threatened to be destroyed by construction on the base. With our help, they may survive by being transplanted to the protected Suitland Bogs. Please help us give these beautiful orchids a fighting chance to continue to grace our woods. Call Alonso at (703) 358-6535 days or (703) 528-8808 evenings for information and reservations. We need to know who is attending since we may only enter the base area with special passes.

**POTLUCK PICNIC!**

Sunday, June 23, 4:00-6:30pm

Join fellow members of your Virginia Native Plant Society in enjoying a potluck picnic and tour of our propagation beds. We will meet at 4:00pm at Green Spring Gardens Park. Please bring a main dish and serving spoon. Plates and utensils will be provided.

After the meal, at approximately 5:30pm, we will be led on a tour of the Chapter's propagation beds by Gerry Pratt, Propagation and Sales Chairperson. Come join the fun and meet some of your fellow members. Call Alonso at (703) 358-6535 days or (703) 528-8808 evenings to let us know how many to expect.

**GRASS IDENTIFICATION**

Thursday, July 25, 7:30pm

If you are anything like me, identification of grasses seems very difficult. I have no idea where to even start. Well, it would be very difficult to come up with a better person to enlighten us than Cris Flemming. Ms. Flemming is well known for her work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Graduate School courses, the Audubon Naturalist Society, as our Chapter's Botany Chairperson, and as a Director-at-Large for the state VNPS.

Ms. Flemming will bring in several specimens, describe grass parts and features, and teach us how to recognize several local species. The program will be at Green Spring Gardens Park at 7:30pm. You are also welcome to attend, as always the board meeting at 6:30pm. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn about grasses. Call Alonso to make reservations: (703) 358-6535 during the day or (703) 528-8808 evenings.

**BUTTERFLY COUNTS**

Butterflies and plants go together. Knowledge of plants is extremely useful in finding butterflies and in their identification. Many of the counts could really use some help from folks who are knowledgeable about plants. But even if you don't know anything about plants or butterflies, you can still help out and have fun doing it. What better way to learn about butterflies than to join several enthusiasts in surveying them?

You can help count and identify these beautiful insects while spending some time outdoors enjoying nature. I find I often learn about all sorts of plants and animals from the other folks who helping in the counts. So join the newest craze and help in a butterfly count. There are several to choose from:

Fairfax Audubon Society Count. Saturday, June 29, 8:00am-5:00pm (or any portion of that time) at Manasas Battlefield and Ellanor C. Lawrence Parks. Call (703) 256-6895.

Great Falls Area Count with staff from both Arlington and Fairfax County nature centers. Saturday, July 13, 9:00am-4:00pm (or any portion of that time). Call either Long Branch nature Center (703) 358-6535 or Riverbend Park (703) 759-3211.

New Columbia Audubon Society D.C. Count. Sunday, July 14, 9:30am-2:30pm at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Call (202) 547-2355.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 9	Sunday	Suitland Bogs 10am-12pm Plant Rescue 12:30-1:30	Call Alonso: 358-6535 or 528-8808
June 23	Sunday	Potluck Picnic 4-6:30pm	Call Alonso
June 24-29		Field Botany Class w\ Marion Lobstein Repeated: July 1-3 and July 8-11. 3cr.	Call Blandy (540) 837-1758
July 25	Thursday	Grasses I.D. 7:30pm	Call Alonso
Aug 15	Thursday	Ferns Lecture w\ Cris Flemming Field Trip Aug 17	Call Audubon Naturalist Soc (301) 657-9188
Sept 14	Saturday	Plant Sale!	
Sept 12	Thursday	Cris Flemming Lecture Field Trip Sept 14 Manasas & James Long	Call Audubon Naturalist Soc (301) 657-9188
Sept 20-22	wkend	State Annual Meeting	
Oct 5	Saturday	Chapter Annual Meeting	

## RAFFLE TICKETS

Raffle tickets will be available at all our events and from most board members for a beautiful quilt featuring all our past flowers of the year. You read about in the state newsletter, now you can purchase them. \$1.00 a piece or six for \$5.00.

<b>Potowmack Chapter Virginia Native Plant Society P.O. Box 161 McLean, VA 22101</b>		
<b><u>Board Officers</u></b>		
President	Mark Etheridge	(301)293-2659
Vice President	Abbie Duchon	(301)320-0358
Secretary	Sally Sieracki	(703)978-5865
Treasurer	Dustinn Pratt	(703)323-1094
<b><u>Committee Chairs</u></b>		
Botany	Cris Fleming	(301)657-9289
Conservation	Abbie Duchon	(301)320-0358
Education	Nancy Luria	(703)351-9723
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)528-8529
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
Tours	Edith Bradbury	(703)971-8878

*Potowmack Chapter*  
**Virginia Native Plant Society**  
**Membership/Renewal Form**

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

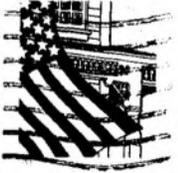
Individual \$15       Family \$25       Student \$10  
 Patron \$50       Sustaining \$100       Life \$400  
 Associate (group) \$40: delegate \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Please verify your address  
information and your renewal  
date on the mailing label!*

