

FALL

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

POTOWMACK NEWS

Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society

VOLUME 31, No. 3, ANNUAL MEETING 2013

THE STATE OF OUR CHAPTER



BY ALAN FORD

This year we celebrate 32 years as a chartered organization and we have had a productive and informative year. Our membership continues to grow, we now have over 490 memberships representing about 580 members. These numbers speak to our accomplishments in outreach and communication and reflect a growing interest in native plants as an integral part of our landscape. Our members are also advocating for increased protection and recognition of the critical need for conservation and restoration of our natural areas throughout the region. Your contributions of time, money, and expertise are gratefully acknowledged.

We have three important tasks to accomplish at our upcoming Annual Meeting on October 13th at 12:30 at Green Spring Garden Park. We need to elect our Chapter Officers for the next year, we need to approve a budget, and we need to address some issues with our By-Laws. This governing document was last modified in 1998.

FINANCES

Our Society has approved a change in the Fiscal Year to align with the calendar year starting January 1. All Chapters will follow this change. This is a welcome adjustment. Our Board has implemented a continuing budget for November and December allocating income and expenses proportional to the current budget. We will maintain the same rate for all line items.

On the ballot insert you will find our proposed budget for fiscal year 2014.

Upcoming Events

September

Native Oaks of Virginia

September 12, 7:30-9:00 pm

Dr. Christopher Puttock will guide us through the morphological tool-kit needed by the amateur naturalist and professional botanist if he or she is to have any hope of identifying these sometimes difficult species, thus avoiding the common *Quercus* refrain: "it's a hybrid".

October

Potowmack Annual Meeting

October 13, 12:30-2:30 pm

Great Falls & the Potomac Gorge

Gary Fleming, Vegetation Ecologist with the Virginia Natural Heritage Program and co-author of the *Flora of Virginia* will present a lecture on the vegetative ecology of Great Falls and the Potomac Gorge.

A field trip to Great Falls National Park, a VNPS Registry site, follows.

**Note: All events are free and open to the public. Meet at Green Spring Gardens.*

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

THE STATE OF OUR CHAPTER (CONT'D FROM COVER)

Also of importance is the decision by the Society Board to decrease the portion of member dues returned to the Chapter from 40% to 35%. This will impact the Chapter income. We have been successful at increasing our membership this year and feel we should realize the same amount from membership dues during the coming fiscal year.



Alan Ford, Chapter President

BY-LAW REVISION

In recent years the Chapter Board has recognized that it is very difficult to get a quorum of members at our Annual Meeting, through which we must conduct the business of the Chapter, and without which we have not met our obligations. After much discussion and debate we approved the following amendment to the By-laws to ensure we have a quorum. Please review and vote, either in person at the meeting or by the included ballot. Without a quorum we cannot change the by-laws.

[BYLAWS 10/1998 \(Proposed revision to be submitted for membership approval at the 2013 annual meeting\)](#)

4. Meetings

4.4 Fifteen percent (15%) of the members [\(including proxy votes, either written or implicit—see paragraph 4.6\)](#) shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is present, a majority vote shall prevail.

4.6 A member may vote in absentia by giving the Secretary, in advance of the meeting, a written proxy authorizing the Secretary to cast a vote for or against a resolution or for a candidate [or slate of candidates](#) as presented in the notice of the meeting. [In the absence of a written proxy vote, the member will be assumed to have submitted a proxy vote consenting to the proposed resolution, candidate, or slate of candidates.](#)

8. Expenditures and Contributions

8.2 The fiscal year of the Chapter shall be concurrent with the fiscal year of the Society, ~~November 1 through October 31.~~

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

I am pleased to announce that all members of our executive committee have agreed to stand for re-election. Please review the inserted ballot.

Potowmack Chapter Board Officers

President

Alan Ford 703-732-5291

Vice President

Steve Young

Secretary

Pat Salamone

Treasurer

Maureen Pardue

Committee Chairs

Botany

Cris Fleming

Conservation

Rod Simmons

Education

Scott Knudsen

Membership

Bob Yacovissi

Newsletter

Margaret Chatham

Programs

Diana Carter

Propagation/ Plant Sales

Laura Beaty

Publications

Roberta Day

Publicity

Vacant

Site Registry

John Dodge, Rod Simmons

Technology

Jenn Truong

Member-at-Large

Marty Nielson

Submissions to *Potowmack News* should be sent to
The Editor at
vnps.pot@gmail.com

Potowmack Chapter
Virginia Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 5311
Arlington, VA 22205
www.vnps-pot.org

VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
POTOMACK CHAPTER

[Please fold along the dotted line. Seal using tape.]

From: _____

Place
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Stamp
Here

**To: C/O Pat Salamone
Virginia Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 5311
Arlington, VA 22205**

If you cannot attend the annual meeting, please send in this ballot by October 6 .

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2014

The Board of the Potowmack Chapter VNPS is presenting the following slate of officers for the 2014 year, which begins on January 1. This slate will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on October 13.

Note that we are recruiting for several vacant positions on the Board of Directors. Please consider volunteering for these important positions. If you have questions, please contact Alan Ford at amford@acm.org.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

President:	__ Alan Ford	Write-in _____
Vice President:	__ Steve Young	Write-in _____
Secretary:	__ Pat Salamone	Write-in _____
Treasurer:	__ Maureen Pardue	Write-in _____

FY2014 BUDGET APPROVAL

The Board of the Potowmack Chapter VNPS is presenting the following proposed budget for fiscal year 2014.

2014 Potowmack Chapter Ballot

I, _____ (print),
 Approve __ the bylaws change Disapprove __
 Approve __ the 2014 budget Disapprove __

Signature: _____

(For use of spouse in family membership)

I, _____ (print),
 Approve __ the bylaws change disapprove
 Approve __ the 2014 budget disapprove __

Signature: _____

	FY 2013 Budget	FY 2014 Budget
INCOME		
Donations	\$600	\$600
Member Dues	\$6,000	\$6,000
Sales	\$7,500	\$7,500
Other	\$300	\$300
Total Income:	\$14,400	\$14,400
EXPENSES		
Administrative	\$800	\$800
Membership	\$100	\$100
Registry	\$100	\$100
Programs	\$2,800	\$3,400
Education	\$500	\$500
Newsletter	\$3,500	\$2,400
Internships	\$3,500	\$4,500
Plant Sales	\$1,500	\$1,000
Printing/Publications	\$200	\$200
Merchandise	\$400	\$400
Special Board Action	\$1,000	\$1,000
TNC Internship	\$-0-	\$200
Total Expenses:	\$14,400	\$14,600

Save time and postage.

Email your vote to: vnps-pot@gmail.com

UPCOMING WALKS AND TALKS

Piedmont Prairie Development at Banshee Reeks Wildlife Preserve

September 21, 9:30 am– 12:30 pm

Banshee Reeks

21085 The Woods Rd., Leesburg, VA

Preserve Manager Ron Circe will host us for a presentation on the development of a new native meadow at the Preserve, and will then lead us on a field trip to the meadow. Those who wish to do so can bring a picnic lunch and spend the rest of the afternoon exploring the fields and forests of this wonderful place. Attendance will be limited. Instructions on reserving your spot will be announced this week.

Event is co-sponsored with the Piedmont Chapter-VNPS.

The Forest Unseen: A naturalist's manifesto

September 30, 7:30-8:45 pm

Arlington Central Library

1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington, VA

703-228-5990

Author and Biologist David Haskell will discuss his award-winning book *The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature*, hailed by E.O. Wilson as a "new genre of nature writing, located between science and poetry".

Event is co-sponsored with Arlington Master Naturalists and the Arlington County Public Library.

Using the Flora of Virginia

October 6, 9:30 am– 12:30 pm

Banshee Reeks

21085 The Woods Rd., Leesburg, VA

Marion Lobstein will present an all-day workshop to help us maximize our use of the *Flora of Virginia*. Attendance will be limited. Instructions on reserving your spot will be announced later this month.

Event is co-sponsored with Banshee Reeks.

Invasive Management Volunteer Opportunities

Falls Church Habitat Restoration Team

Help restore the local ecosystem in city parks. Remove invasives and plant natives that will then benefit local birds and butterflies. For more information contact Melissa Teates at 703-538-6961 or melanite@verizon.net

Arlington County Remove Invasive Plants (RiP) Program

Help rescue Arlington parks from alien plant invaders! Bring your own tools. For more information contact Sarah Archer at 703-228-1862 or sarcher@arlingtonva.us

Fairfax County's Invasive Management Area (IMA) Program

Remove invasive plants and learn about new species. For more information contact Erin Stocksclaeder at 703-324-8681 or erin.stocksclaeder@fairfaxcounty.gov



POTOWMACK CHAPTER FALL PLANT SALE

ALL CHAPTER EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. PLEASE CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND YAHOO LIST SERVE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT ALL PROGRAMS.

Saturday, October 5, 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Green Spring Gardens Park
Lincolnia, VA

Visit our propagation beds behind the Hort. Center on Saturday, Oct. 5 during the Green Spring Garden Fall Fest. Fall is a great time for planting native perennials.

**If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically
please contact Alan Ford at: amford@acm.org**

For the most up-to-date information about our events please:

Visit our website: www.vnps-pot.org

Join our listserve: vnps-pot@yahoogroups.com

Sign up at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vnps-pot>

Friend us on Facebook at Potowmack Chapter - Virginia Native Plant Society

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Virginia Native Plant Society

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