

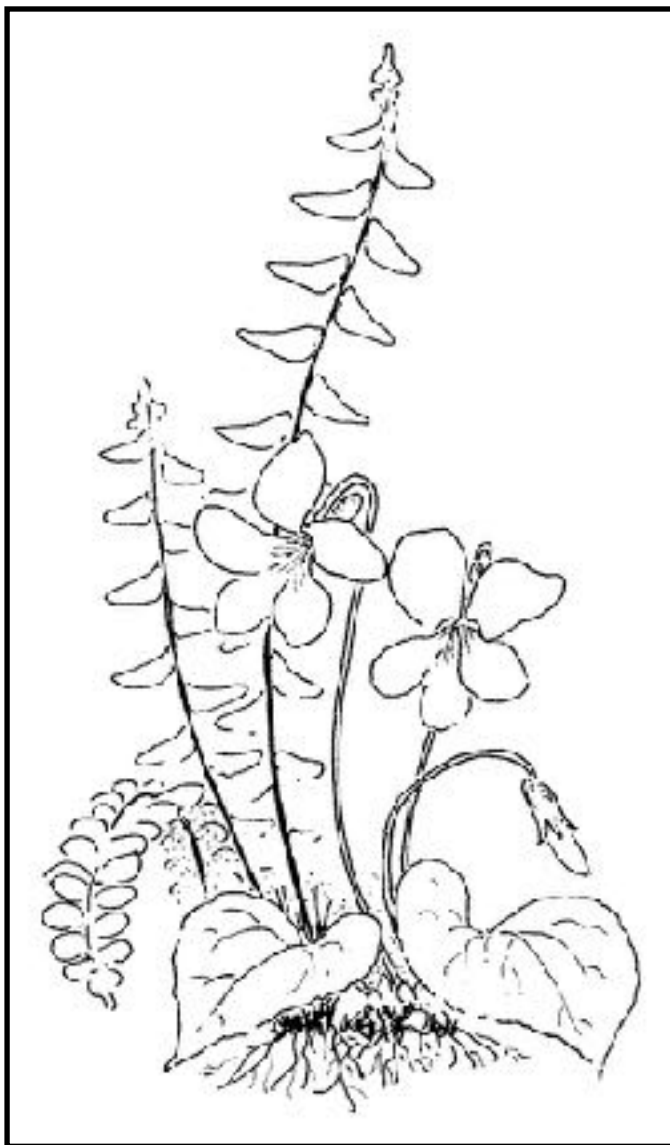
# POTOWMACK NEWS

*Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society*

VOLUME 38, No. 4, SEPT-OCT, 2020

## Rediscovering Barbara Stewart's Potowmack Chapter Logo

By Mark Murphy



You've probably seen the VNPS Potowmack chapter logo in publications or online over the years. Did you know this beautiful drawing of Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) and Common Violet (*Viola sororia*) was created by **Barbara Stewart** in the early 1980s and adopted as the Potowmack chapter logo in 1985?

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## Upcoming

### **VNPS Statewide Annual Meeting**

Friday, Sept 25, 7-9 pm

Zoom Meeting. Register at [VNPS.org](https://vnps.org)

After voting on officers and an amendment to the by-laws to make voting at a Zoom meeting a specified option, we'll have the treat of **A Virtual Tour of Virginia's Natural Area Preserves with Chris Ludwig**

This will also serve as the Potowmack Chapter's September meeting.

### **Native Plants and Birds with Dr. Peter Marra**

Thursday, Oct 8, 7:30-9 pm

Zoom Meeting. Register at <https://vnps.org/potowmack/events>.

Why native birds need native plants for food and shelter, by the co-editor of *Birds of Two Worlds* and the co-author of *Cat Wars: the devastating consequences of a cuddly killer*.

### **Potowmack Chapter Annual Meeting**

Sunday, Nov 15, 1-3 pm

Zoom Meeting. Register at <https://vnps.org/potowmack/events>.

Program not yet set, but save the date.

### **Walks:**

Someday... Watch for announcements or check the website.

If you go out on your own and want help with plant identification, take a picture (show as much of the plant as you can: leaves as well as flower!) and post it to [iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org) (free download) for assistance.

*All events are free and open to the public. Walks require preregistration. For email notices of upcoming events, subscribe to <https://vnps.groups.io/g/potowmack>. Or send a blank email to [potowmack+subscribe@vnps.groups.io](mailto:potowmack+subscribe@vnps.groups.io)*

## Manage your VNPS Membership Online

1. Go to <https://vnps.z2systems.com/>
2. Enter your VNPS member username. This is usually your email address.
3. If you don't know or have forgotten your password, click on "Forgot Password?"
4. Once logged in, you can manage your account and preferences by clicking on "What would you like to do?" in the upper right-hand corner.
5. Select "Update My Profile Information."
6. To request a paper newsletter, at the bottom of your Profile Information, set "Electronic Distribution" to "No."
7. Update any other profile information, then click "Submit."

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

In 2013, the VNPS state Board of Directors proposed and membership passed changes to its By-Laws to change its fiscal year from Nov 1-Oct 31 to Jan 1-Dec 31. The Potowmack Chapter amended its By-Laws to keep its fiscal year lined up with the state's, but did not follow through with all the implied results. You can find the By-Laws as they now stand under "About" at [VNPS.org/Potowmack/](http://VNPS.org/Potowmack/). The Board proposes these changes:

4.1 An annual meeting of the Chapter membership shall be held each year [deleting "in September or October"].

9.3 Officers and standing committee chairmen shall be elected to serve for one year from January 1 to December 31 [replacing November 1 to October 31].

9.6 The Executive Committee shall appoint an eligible member to fill any vacated or newly created office or standing committee chairmanship. Those so appointed shall serve until the following December 31 [replacing October 31].

10.1 [Insert "The Board may form a"] Nominating Committee which shall consist of one non-elected Board member and two members-at-large who are not members of the Board.

## Welcome to New Members of VNPS-Potowmack

The Potowmack Chapter is not doing all the things it normally would in this weird year, but nevertheless, we welcome new 2020 members Karen Anthony, Bernadette Beltinov, Mary Benger, Anne Brosnan, Alexis Brown, William Brown IV, Nancy Christmus, Eileen Doughty, Carol Duda, Eoin Durcan, Patricia Eu, Jessica Frakes, Heather Frinks, Marianne Gardner, Aleah Goldin & Maksim Grinchenko, Jim Graham, Elizabeth Hellmann, Diane Howells-Nichols, David Joy, Joan Kenney, Janice Larock, Madelyn Lichter, Lisa Lofton, Todd Minners, Sue Mosher, Andrew Nicholls, Laura Ogelman, Anita Parke, William Pegues, Anna Pollack, Michelle Porter, Kelly Renfrow, John Ring, Jennifer Roache-Buchanan, Elena Rodriguez, Laura Salarano, Simone Schonenberger, Gary Shinnors, Carol Shoemaker, Jennifer Smith, Tova Solo, Barbara Stewart, Maureen Stotland, Holly Summers & Peter Rusello, Cathy Swider, Glenn Tobin, Megan Turcotte & John Turcotte, Craig Turner, Catherine Waltham-Sajdak, and Dennis White.

## VNPS Native Plant Sales

What a wild year! Because there was no Spring Garden Day at Green Spring Gardens Park, and there will be no Fall Garden Day this year, we are allowed to sell plants from the VNPS Propagation Beds every Wednesday from 10-1 (cash or check only). So come in and see what's blooming or ask where we've hidden a few lovely Maidenhair Ferns (*Adiantum pedatum*), and bring us your empty 1 quart to 2 gallon pots for reuse.

### Potowmack Chapter Board Officers

#### President

Alan Ford 703-732-5291

#### Vice President

Mark Murphy

#### Secretary

Pat Salamone

#### Treasurer

Scott Knudsen

### Committee Chairs

#### Conservation

Rod Simmons

#### Membership

David Gorsline

#### Newsletter

Margaret Chatham

#### Programs

Laura Anderko

#### Propagation/Plant Sales

Laura Beaty

#### Site Registry

Rod Simmons

#### Technology

Mark Murphy

#### Walks

Dean Arkema

#### Members-at-Large

Margaret Fisher

Marty Nielson

#### Member Emerita

Cris Fleming

#### Vacant:

**Botany**

**Education**

**Publications**

**Publicity**

**Social Media**

Submissions to *Potowmack News* may be sent to The Editor at [vnps.pot@gmail.com](mailto:vnps.pot@gmail.com)

**Potowmack Chapter  
Virginia Native Plant Society**

**P.O. Box 5311**

**Arlington, VA 22205**

**<http://www.vnps.org/potowmack>**

Potowmack Chapter Annual Meeting Sunday, Nov 15, 2020 at 1 PM, by Zoom Meeting. To register for the meeting, go to <https://vnps.org/potowmack/events>. If you cannot attend to vote then, please send in this ballot by Nov 4 to Potowmack Chapter VNPS, PO Box 5311, Arlington, VA 22205, or email your vote to [vnps.pot@gmail.com](mailto:vnps.pot@gmail.com)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2021**

The Board of the Potowmack Chapter VNPS presents the following slate of officers for the 2021 year, with terms beginning January 1. Contact Alan Ford for further information at [amford@acm.org](mailto:amford@acm.org)

**SLATE OF OFFICERS**

<b>President:</b>	<u>   </u> Alan Ford	<b>Write-in</b> _____
<b>Vice President:</b>	<u>   </u> Mark Murphy	<b>Write-in</b> _____
<b>Secretary:</b>	<u>   </u> Pat Salamone	<b>Write-in</b> _____
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<u>   </u> Scott Knudsen	<b>Write-in</b> _____

**AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

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10.1 [Insert "The Board may form a"] Nominating Committee which shall consist of one non-elected Board member and two members-at-large who are not members of the Board.

I approve \_\_\_\_\_ disapprove \_\_\_\_\_ the proposed By-Laws amendments.

**FY2021 BUDGET APPROVAL**

**INCOME**

<b>Donations</b>	\$	600	
<b>Member Dues</b>	\$	5,000	
<b>Sales</b>	\$	4,000	Assumes 1st Wed & Fall Sales
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	\$	9,600	

**EXPENSES**

<b>Administrative</b>	\$	500	
<b>Green Spring Room Fees</b>	\$	1,500	Room rental for fall program meetings
<b>Membership</b>	\$	200	1-yr memberships for speakers, interns
<b>Speakers' Honoraria</b>	\$	1,200	
<b>Walk Leaders' Honoraria</b>	\$	600	
<b>Newsletter Printing &amp; Mailing</b>	\$	3,200	
<b>Plant Sales (Fairfax Co. cut)</b>	\$	640	15% of sales
<b>Plant Sales Sales Tax</b>	\$	240	Included in sales income above
<b>Printing/Publications</b>	\$	200	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$	320	For small unplanned expenditures
<b>Special Board Actions</b>	\$	1,000	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$	9,600	

**Board Approved Expenses Against Savings**

<b>Green Spring Internship</b>	\$	3,700	Assumes 2020 level
<b>Huntley Meadows Internship</b>	\$	3,000	Assumes 2019 level
<b>TOTAL from SAVINGS</b>	\$	6,700	Chapter has \$25,000 in money market.

I approve \_\_\_\_\_ disapprove \_\_\_\_\_ the 2021 budget.

LOGO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With some research and lots of help, I rediscovered the story of the chapter logo and other artwork from our chapter's early days.

My interest in our chapter logo began as part of a larger project to fill gaps in the online archive of VNPS and Potowmack chapter newsletters from 1982 to the present. Thanks to contributions from many VNPS members who provided PDF files and paper copies for scanning, complete archives for the VNPS [Bulletin](#) (now [Sempervirens](#)) and [Potowmack News](#) are now online.

These early newsletters contained lovely artwork and illustrations of native plants and wildflowers. Although artists were not always credited, many of the illustrations, including the chapter logo, were created by Barbara Stewart, who was named as "Staff Artist" in the very first [Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society\\* Newsletter in 1982](#).

It was important to preserve and promote our chapter logo. After some digging, the logo original artwork was discovered in the Potowmack chapter's file cabinet at [Green Spring Gardens](#). So began a search for Barbara Stewart.



Although Barbara was a VNPS Charter Member and contributed her work to the Society through the 2000s, she was no longer a VNPS member. Some of her colleagues in VNPS, including founder [Mary Painter](#), had passed away. I couldn't reach Barbara at the phone number listed from 1982.

So I sent an old-fashioned postal mail letter to her 1982 address. Barbara received the letter and we soon made contact.

Barbara was very happy to learn of the chapter's interest in some of the "old folks" from the 1980s and 1990s. She is still quite active at 86 and recalled many details of the early years of VNPS including her friendship with Mary Painter and creating art for the fledgling organization.

Barbara's illustrations appeared in issues of the [Bulletin](#) and other Society publications such as

[Wildflower of the Year](#) brochures. You can view some of her work in the brochures for [Virginia Bluebells \(1989\)](#), [Spring Beauty \(1990\)](#), [Large-Flowered Trillium \(1996\)](#), and [Fringe-Tree \(1997\)](#).



BARBARA STEWART, PHOTO BY MARK MURPHY

She led slide presentations, walks, and created wildflower cards and prints which were used for fundraising and as VNPS prizes and awards. Over the years, she held several volunteer positions including Staff Artist and Fundraising Chair. For many years Barbara also provided artwork for the [Spring Wildflower Symposium at the Wintergreen Nature Foundation](#).

Interested in art and the natural world from an early age, Barbara created a herbarium with more than 300 specimens by age 16. She began studying art at age 12 and majored in applied art and minored in botany at Iowa State University, working as a botanical illustrator for a professor of botany. Barbara is also a world-traveled birder and a former antiques dealer.

Barbara lives in Annandale, VA with her husband James and has three daughters and several grand- and great-grandchildren. Their yard is an active native plant habitat including numerous rhododendron and many near 100-year-old oaks.

Barbara's original logo drawing is now featured on the [Potowmack Chapter "About Us" Page](#).

\* In 1988 the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society changed its name to the Virginia Native Plant Society to encompass the conservation of native plants other than just those commonly considered as "wildflowers."

## Huntley Meadows Summer Intern, Hayley Barnes



PHOTO BY DAVE LAWLOR

My name is Hayley Barnes and I have been fortunate to be the Virginia Native Plant Society - Potomack Chapter (VNPS) intern at Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) for the Summer of 2020. I am a rising junior at Virginia Tech pursuing a degree in Environmental Science with a secondary major in Geography as well as minors in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Wetland Science. Dave Lawlor, the Natural Resource Manager at Huntley Meadows Park, presented the perfect opportunity for me to combine and practice my wide range of academic interests in a unique, positive environment.

The best part of my experience as the VNPS intern was being able to apply both my education and passion for the environment to real-life situations at Huntley Meadows. For example, it was my task to survey the 1600-acre park for Purple Milkweed, a rare native plant in Virginia. This task not only educated me about identification and the significance of native plants in

Virginia but also excited me to be part of a fulfilling conservation effort. It was humbling taking the time to do what many would deem as a simple task to aid in the remarkable efforts at HMP with the potential for long-lasting effects.

I have learned a variety of skills both physical and mental throughout the internship. These skills include plant and tree identification, creating shapefiles and mapping points on a GPS system, various methods to control invasive species, observing and reporting Canada Goose populations, maintaining park trails, and installing and fixing exclosures and enclosures to support native vegetative growth. In addition to these tasks, I had the pleasure of helping Sophia Chapin, the Water Quality Intern at HMP, with water quality sampling and the beginning stages of macroinvertebrate identification.

I cannot thank the Virginia Native Plant Society enough for continuing to support an internship this summer despite the ongoing uncertainty that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought. Finally, I would like to give a huge thank you to Dave Lawlor, my mentor throughout the summer, for putting in an immense amount of time and effort to ensure that not only my internship at HMP happened, but that I was able to do it safely. While Dave made it seem effortless, balancing extreme protocols to ensure the health of everyone in the office, including myself, giving me the most “normal” intern experience possible was an unprecedented, daunting task. Due to coronavirus restrictions, I was only permitted to work outside of the office area. This limited my on-site internship to outdoor work only; however, I was able to do some typical office work remotely such as data manipulation and research. Despite these limitations, knowing the great outdoors was my “office” this summer put a smile on my face each morning on my way to work.

### Word of the Month: Genuiculate

Having joints (knees) that change the direction of the stem, as grasses that emerge from the ground going sideways, then straighten up. Many Brome grasses do this; in more extreme form, exotic Stilt Grass (*Microstegium vimineum*) and the somewhat similarly shaped native White Grass (*Leersia virginica*) have lots of knees.

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## How Vines Climb: Tendrils by Margaret Chatham



Some vines grow tendrils: modified leaves that curl similarly to twining vines to grasp supports and help the vine climb. Tendrils may grow from the same node as a normal leaf, as in Grapes (*Vitis* spp.) and Greenbriers (*Smilax* spp.) Tendrils may grow from the tip of a compound leaf, as in Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*) and Vetches (*Vicia* spp.) Or the leaf's petiole may do the twining, as in *Clematis* spp.

Like leaves, tendrils are generally green for the first year, but over the winter, many die. They stay in place, but eventually decay, leading to scenes like the one at left of a huge old grape vine with no visible record of how it ever got up into the trees.



Photos by Margaret Chatham: Porcelainberry (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*) tendril, and Marilyn Drucker showing how big that old grape vine is.