

WILD NEWS

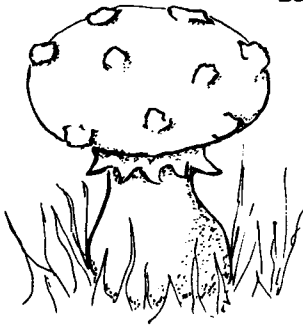
PRINCE WILLIAM WILDFLOWER SOCIETY, A Chapter of the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

JULY MEETING

MUSHROOMS

Monday, July 18, 7:30 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church, Sudley Rd. & Plantation Ln., Manassas



Along with the bugs and other unpleasantness that the heat and humidity of summer bring, come some nice surprises — mushrooms! They spring up here and there in the woods, on the lawn, and in other expected and unexpected places bringing interesting shapes and colors to brighten our summer days. Avery Gunther, a naturalist at River Bend Nature Center, will increase our knowledge and appreciation of mushrooms with her program at our July meeting. Come and learn what's safe and what's not in the world of mushrooms, and to catch up on what's happening in the wildflower society.

VWPS Annual Meeting

The VWPS annual meeting will be held September 24 & 25 at Massanutten Village, a ski resort which is offering us unusual accommodations to be detailed further in the August VWPS Bulletin.

In the meantime, be aware that there are accommodations available near Elkton (Econo-Lodge, Best Western, Shoney's, etc.). The Massanutten Hotel arrangements are resort off-season at this ski site. There is a restaurant and snackbar. We will have our banquet there.

This annual gathering of wildflower enthusiasts is really too good to miss and hopefully, we will have good representation from Prince William and Stafford Counties.

We are close enough to drive for the evening and the walks, but, being able to relax with others from around the state is missed if we do this. Call Nicky Staunton if you want to talk about the annual meeting and arrangements.

Conservation Display At Fair

We will have an educational display in the home arts building again this year at the Prince William County Fair, August 12–20. Nicky Staunton and Jenifer and Brad Bradford are working on the display with "Conservation for Wildflower Gardeners" as this year's theme.

If you can help with preparing the display or setting it up, let Nicky, 368-9803, or Jenifer 594-3422, know. Members are being asked to volunteer a few hours to be at the fair during peak times to hand out literature and answer questions about the Society. Call if you can help.

PWWS Annual Meeting

Mark Saturday, September 17, on your calendar and plan to attend our chapter annual meeting. We plan a potluck lunch, door prizes, and the fun and camaraderie that have made recent annual meetings so special. The place is yet to be decided but you will receive at least 30 days notice.

Photography Contest

Photographers are invited to enter the Virginia Marine Science Museum's first Juried Exhibition of Virginia Wildflower Photography.

The exhibition is being held in conjunction with a major Wildflower Symposium sponsored by the museum on October 4, 1988.

The wildflower photography exhibit will emphasize the artistic beauty of Virginia wildflowers with subject matter limited to flowers of plants, shrubs or trees typically found growing wild in the state.

A registration fee of \$10 will entitle entrants to submit up to three photographs. Additional photographs may be submitted at a cost of \$5 each. Cash awards of \$50 to \$300 will be made.

Information will be available at our July meeting or write for an entry form: Virginia Wildflower Photography Juried Exhibition, Virginia Marine Science Museum, 717 General Booth Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23451. Registration deadline is September 6. Nicky Staunton is planning to enter some of her photographs and will help other members work out the logistics of getting photographs to Virginia Beach.

Fraser Preserve Hike

Join a Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority naturalist on a nature hike through the Nature Conservancy's Fraser Preserve on the Potomac River on Saturday, July 30, at 10 a.m. The hike will cover about 4 miles on the Preserve and the Park Authority's Potomac Overlook Regional Park.

Fraser Preserve is located at the end of Springvale Road north of Georgetown Pike. Call 703-528-5406 for directions, reservations, and more info.

WILD NEWS

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FROM THE 

PRESIDENT

Nicky Staunton

Say! What's your name?

Does it give a clear image of **YOU**?

Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society, as our organization's **name**, is on the line. The VWPS Board of Directors has brought the issue of **name** to you, personally. As part of the order of business of the VWPS Annual Meeting, September 24, a vote will be tallied which will do one of two things: Leave our name **Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society** or change it to be **Virginia Native Plant Society**.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS. Use it! Since the record of attendance at the Annual Meeting of VWPS is low, it is **imperative** that you voice your will by mailing your vote as soon as you receive the ballot from VWPS. **DO IT.**

Enough imperative. You have read and possibly heard the reasons for and against this name change. Your PWWS board reflected our chapter's opinion to remain the **Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society**. If you agree with this stand, vote to remain such. If the VWPS Board has appealed to you with the reasons to change, vote accordingly. If you have any questions about this proposal, call me or Nancy Arrington, your two representatives on the VWPS Board.

Do weigh your decision on what will protect our **VIRGINIA WILDFLOWERS** best, because our name tells the world that our concern is the preservation of the wildflowers by ensuring their habitat's life . . . that of the soil, light, water, shrubs, ferns, trees and wildlife.

MAIL YOUR VOTE!

Membership List Available

Marie Davis who has our membership list on her computer and supplies labels for the newsletter, has prepared a list of chapter members. Nicky Staunton has made copies and will have them at our July membership meeting. Members are reminded that the list is available only for the use of members and is not to be used commercially. Nicky will mail a copy to you if you'll send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: PWWS, P.O. Box 83, Manassas, VA 22110.

*All the flowers
of tomorrow
are in the seeds
of today*

Seed Collecting Time

With an eye toward next year's plant sale and your own wildflower garden or meadow, remember to collect seed this summer to share with other members at our seed exchange to be held at the annual meeting or the November meeting.

When collecting seed from the wild follow the WFPS Wildflower Conservation Guidelines and "... collect a few seeds from each of many plants and only from common species that are locally abundant. Collect only the seeds or fruits without harming the rest of the plant, and always leave sufficient seed numbers for the plant population to reseed itself."

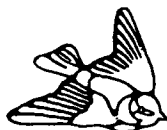
Call Nancy Arrington, 368-8431 or 368-9711, if you need a copy of the guidelines or if you need seed collecting tips.

Return Library Books

Once a year librarians Jenifer and Brad Bradford like to know the whereabouts of all our chapter library books. Please return books at the July meeting or call them, 594-3422, to let them know you have a book out. If you can't reach the Bradfords, call Nicky Staunton, 368-9803 or 368-3943.

Butterfly Program

The blooming of summer wildflowers heralds the migration of brightly colored butterflies. Join a park ranger at the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens' visitor center at 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 26 to look for the Monarch, Silver Spotted Skipper and Tiger Swallowtail. The garden borders the shores of the Anacostia River in northeast D.C. Call 202-426-6905 for more info.



Bird Walks

Discover a variety of Prince William County birds at walks scheduled at Lake Ridge Park at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, August 13.

Learn County Geology

Prince William County Park Authority has scheduled two programs on the geology of Prince William County:

Saturday, July 16, 11:00 a.m.

Locust Shade Park Marina

Info: 221-2158

Sunday, July 31, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Veterans Memorial Park Community Center

Register by calling 491-2183

PRINCE WILLIAM WILDFLOWER SOCIETY

A Chapter of The Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

Membership Application

___NEW ___RENEWAL

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone(s): Home () _____ Work () _____

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Check | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$15 |
| Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting \$50 |
| Category | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60 or over) \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family \$10 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (groups) \$25 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life \$250 |

☐ Corporate Sponsor \$125

I wish to participate in the following:

- ___ Promotion of legislation aimed at plant protection
- ___ Development of programs, displays, literature
- ___ Producing member publications ___ Photography
- ___ Stewardship of wildflower plantings/preserves
- ___ Native plant landscaping ___ Botanical surveys
- ___ Public speaking ___ Youth programs ___ Art
- ___ Plant rescue ___ Typing ___ Telephoning
- ___ Other _____

Make check payable to V.W.P.S. and mail to :

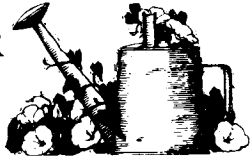
Tom & Elaine Carrig, Membership Co-Chairmen
13305 Kahns Rd., Manassas, VA 22111

Membership and fiscal year is Nov. 1 through Oct. 31 and dues are renewable by Oct. 15 EACH YEAR.

I give ___ I do not give ___ permission for my (our name(s), address and telephone number to be published in a chapter directory or exchanged with other related organizations.

NATIVES FOR THE GARDEN

NANCY ARRINGTON
Propagation Chairman



Stokes Aster (*Stokesia laevis*)

Gardeners who long for English-style perennial borders, but are faced with the heat, drought and humidity of our summers, should look to native plants, especially those from the Southeast.

Stokes aster (*Stokesia laevis*), native to the coastal plain from South Carolina to Florida and Louisiana, is a familiar perennial in southern gardens and has been cultivated in English gardens since 1766. Also called cornflower aster, its 2-4" fluffy, light lavender blue flowers are carried on 1-2' sturdy, well-branched stems. *Stokesia* honors Dr. Johnathan Stokes, an English botanical writer, and *laevis*, meaning smooth, refers to the narrow 7-10" leaves which form an evergreen rosette and appear in a smaller version along the purplish stem.

The rounded shape of Stokes is a good filler among tall spikey plants in the perennial bed or border. A mature plant will cover two square feet and will be literally covered with blossoms from mid-June into

July. Its pale color combines beautifully with pinks and other lavenders and is a cooling color contrast for the warm colors of daylilies, coreopsis, butterfly-weed, and rudbeckias.

Stokes' native habitat along the coastal plain suggests a sunny, well-drained situation in the garden. Add sand to ordinary garden loam to insure good drainage because plants will die in a heavy, wet soil.

Flowers are attractive to bees and butterflies and are beautiful and long-lasting in arrangements. In the garden fading flowers are never unsightly as they quickly turn into thistly seed pods prized by arrangers.

Seed, collected about two months after flowering, can be sown any time in an outdoor bed or indoors in late winter. Germination and seedling growth are rapid. Plants spend the first year developing a strong root system and will produce a few blossoms the second year. Mature plants can be divided in spring or fall.

In addition to their beauty and ease of cultivation, an advantage to growing Stokes and other natives is their resistance to most pests and diseases, allowing us to garden without the use of environmentally harmful chemicals. Several named varieties such as Blue Star are available at area nurseries and the species is available from wildflower nurseries and our spring wildflower plant sale.

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P.O. BOX 83, MANASSAS, VA 22110



STOKES ASTER

Stokesia laevis

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