



# *Shenandoah Chapter* *Virginia Native Plant Society* *May 2011*

## **Mission Statement:**

We are a conservation organization dedicated to conserve Virginia's native plants and their ecosystems through education, advocacy and activities that promote appreciation, stewardship and appropriate use.

## **Next Meeting:**

### **Annual Shenandoah Chapter Picnic, Grand Caverns Regional Park, Grottoes**

Friday, May 20, 5:30-dark. [Grand Caverns Regional Park](#) has received some much needed TLC over the past few years and will be a good place for our annual Picnic. Potluck will start at 6pm in the picnic area. Look for us at one of the shelters.

Directions: On I-81, North or South: Take Exit 235 onto Route 256, travel East on SR 256 for approximately 6 miles [Left if traveling South on I-18, Right if traveling North on I-81] toward Grottoes, VA. At the intersection of Dogwood Avenue, turn right onto Dogwood Ave. Travel south on Dogwood Ave. for 1,000 feet Turn Right into the entrance of Grand Caverns.

On US 340, North or South: At the Grottoes intersection of SR 256, travel West [turn Right if traveling South, turn Left if traveling North] for 1,200 feet. At the intersection of SR 256 and Dogwood Ave. turn Left onto Dogwood Ave. for 1,000 feet. Turn Right into the entrance of Grand Caverns.

After dinner, there will be enough sun-time to explore trails in the area. Good views of the Blue Ridge can be had from the trail behind the visitor center. The trail along the South River is an easy walk and usually has some interesting wildflowers.

Please bring a dish to share. The Chapter will provide paper plates and utensils. In the past, we have provided beverages which we will NOT be doing this year, so please bring your own drinks. Call Chris Bowlen if you have questions. 540-289-6801, [bowlenchris@comcast.net](mailto:bowlenchris@comcast.net).

Rain will cancel this event. Hope to see you there!

### **Shenandoah Chapter Annual Plant Sale to Benefit Flora of Virginia Project**

One very wet Earth Day in Staunton and one cool sunny Riverfest in Waynesboro were the settings for a very successful plant sale this year. The total collected for the two days was \$912. All proceeds will be sent to the Flora of Virginia Project.

Special thanks to Anneli Tattersall and Barbara McSweeny for coordinating this effort, digging, potting and transporting the plants and tirelessly helping people choose plants for their particular situations. Also thanks to Bill Tattersall for transporting plants. Assistance from Eleanor Baker in Staunton; Rae Kasdan and Anna Bowlen in Waynesboro was also appreciated. For the wonderful selection of healthy plants, generously donated, this year and in past years, we thank Dot Kasten, Lisa Grey and Carroll Lisle.

### **Shenandoah Chapter needs YOU**

This May newsletter is usually the last newsletter until September. However, this year might be different. I am stepping down as acting president effective June 2011 and as of now, the position is vacant. It has been a great time for me; I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know and working with all of you.

It is my sincere hope that some individual(s) will come forward to help keep the Chapter going. The Chapter is run by a volunteer Board which meets 3 or 4 times a year. Board members provide an excellent support network for meetings and projects that the Chapter is doing. The two main requirements for the office of President are: organizational skills and a commitment to the goal of VNPS which is to conserve wild flowers and spaces. You do not have to be a plant expert. Won't you consider volunteering some time to help keep the Chapter going? Please contact any of the Board members if you have any suggestions or would like to help.

#### **Chapter Officers**

<b>President</b>	vacant		
<b>Vice President</b>	Michael Seth	540-438-1301	sethmj@jmu.edu
<b>Treasurer</b>	Joe Sharrer	540-434-8494	joes41@comcast.net
<b>Hospitality</b>	Lib Kyger	540-828-6252	kyger@Bridgewater.edu
<b>Newsletter/ Website</b>	Elaine Smith	540-298-0773	Antigone16@comcast.net
<b>Membership</b>	Bea Woody	540-289-6106	beawoody@hotmail.com
<b>Conservation/ Education</b>	Chris Bowlen	540-289-6801	bowlenchris@comcast.net