



South Hampton Roads Chapter Conserving Wild Flowers and Wild Places

COASTAL PLAIN TALK

Newsletter of the South Hampton Roads Chapter
of the Virginia Native Plant Society
January 2021

***There is no
January
meeting due to
Covid
restrictions.***

President's Column

Happy New Year, Native Plant People!

Welcome to 2021...who knew when the year turned 21 that it might overdo the alcohol? The obedient plant with its pinkish purple blossoms are few and far between but still showing. Green eye coneflower still has a few in bloom and most amazingly (and not native) my daffodils started blooming on December 2. It's the earliest bloom since we've lived Virginia Beach.

I also found several new stands of Crane-fly orchids in my yard. Crane-fly orchids put out their green leaves with purple undersides in autumn after the deciduous trees start shedding their leaves. They soak up the fall and winter sun to gather energy, then go dormant in late spring. In mid-summer they put up bloom spikes with tiny white blossoms. I also have toothwort coming up and striped (or spotted) wintergreen has spread nicely around my yard. I removed the privet from the front part of the yard, opening up a nice somewhat less shady place. The battle with my neighbors' ivy continues.

Toni Viudez continues to do an awesome job posting information and photos up on both the website as well as the facebook page. It has definitely drawn some interest and we have gotten a few new members as a result. If you have neighbors or friends who are "plant people" please put



Crane-fly
Orchid



in a pitch for the Virginia Native Plant Society. I see it as a great way to socialize with people who have similar interests in plants or ecology.

We may have a February meeting either in person or on ZOOM, but that is not yet cast in granite. If it does happen, it will be Thursday, February 25 at 6:30pm. We are also seeking speakers; do you have contacts or suggestions? We also need a Vice President. Part of their charge is finding and organizing speakers for our meetings.

Annual Plant Sale

We are still working on a plan for how we will handle the annual plant sale. We have not yet ordered from the nursery, but will need volunteers to join in potting them up sometime in the next few weeks. If you're interested, please email me at stasulisss@Hotmail.com and I will send you the particulars.

Hope to see everyone soon. Please stay safe.

—Steve Stasulis, SHR VNPS President
