



# The Bulletin

is published by the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society,  
a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation efforts on behalf of  
Virginia's Native Plants

## Pen in hand

of Mary Painter, VWPS President

We extend a warm welcome to our second recognized chapter of the V.W.P.S.: the Prince William Wildflower Society! It's enthusiastic following, (now totalling nearly one hundred), is to represent citizens of Prince William, Fauquier, and Stafford Counties.

During late April, Roanoke Valley's 13th Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage weekend will be the site of displays and meetings planned for the purpose of our next chapter's formation. To the same end, some of our staff will then journey in August to the growing numbers of Society supporters in southeastern Virginia (Williamsburg area).

If the administrative tempo seems quick, you may be assured that fellow VWPS officers and tour committee chairmen are "earning their ulcers by osmosis". Their leadership and team spirit have left any growing pains experienced by our new organization neither time nor opportunity to magnify themselves.

You, our dedicated members and friends have renewed for 1983 at a rate of over 98%. Certainly, mountains are not moved "over tea". Your continued participation is crucial to the success of our chapters' many worthwhile projects. At the same time, it is hoped that you will discover many fine friends among our remarkable members. To that end, our full Society calendar will provide additional opportunities for us to meet outside our volunteer projects. However, like the animals described by author Henry Beston, those native plants which we champion "are not breathren nor are they underlings. They are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of earth".

We may best contribute to their welfare through our efforts to strengthen and unify statewide conservation efforts in their most effective forms:  
public education, critical habitat preservation, advocacy of necessary legislative plant protection, rare plant inventory and the cultivation of our native species.

## WHY?

By Faith Campbell

The ranks of plant conservations are mushrooming throughout the country. Nevertheless, the general public is still often perplexed. Why, they ask, do we devote evenings and weekends to saving a patch of trilliums? Why change the site of a planned highway to preserve the rare Virgin's bower grape?

Each of us has a personal reason. Some of us believe that people have no right to exterminate a species that evolved over millions of years. We have instead an ethical responsibility of stewardship.

Many love the beauty of wild plants. Wildflowers can create fantastic displays - acres of bluebells along a creek - or be miniatures perfect in form.

In addition, there are eminently "practical" reasons to conserve wild plants. Green plants provide myriad "ecological services". They create from sunlight and carbon dioxide the food on which wild-life and domestic animals live. They produce atmospheric oxygen and regulate stream flows and water quality. Plants, including fungi, and soil microbes work together to maintain soil fertility. So important are plants in the ecosystem that Dr. Peter Raven of the Missouri Botanical Garden estimates that extinction of one plant species can cause permanent loss of two dozen dependent and associated species of wildlife and plants.

Wild plants also process valuable chemicals and genetic attributes of direct benefit to us. Over 25% of the prescription drugs sold in this country contain active ingredients derived from higher plants. More such drugs will be developed. The evening primrose genus, for example, is the only source other than human milk for one of the essential fatty acids; deficiencies in this chemical are linked to arthritis, eczema, and other diseases. Other wild plants have contributed genes to improve our food crops. Finally, wild plants provide raw materials ranging from rubber to safe pesticides.

The Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society has embarked on a noble cause. As we revel in the wildflowers this spring, let us help to ensure their flowering forever!

## TAKE A BOW !!!

YOU DID IT !!!! BE PROUD !!! You, the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society, have been nominated to receive the VOLUNTEER ACTIVIST AWARD of the Washington Metropolitan Area. The Award sponsored by Woodward & Lothrop, Volunteer Clearinghouses of the National Capital Area and Germaine Monteil is richly deserved, as we all know.

The nomination came from Thomas Davis, Fairfax County Supervisor.

Additionally, Mary Painter was also nominated for THE VOLUNTEER of the YEAR award. Her nomination came from Marilyn Bartelt, Volunteer Coordinator, Fairfax County Park Authority.

The nominations are now closed, so watch the papers for further developments. YOU DID IT !!!!!

# LOST THEN FOUND GEM

by Pat Rosing

What was listed as an extinct smallish tree with rounded leaves and bark much like that of the common black birch?

What plan was signed by the Fish and Wildlife Service early in 1982 and is the first Recovery Plan to be approved for a plant species listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act 1973?

What is surrounded with mystery likened to a top-spy thriller?

Who among our Society advisors played a leading role in the rediscovery of this rarest gem of American trees?

Answers: *Betula uber*; U.S.D.I. Fish & Wildlife Service Recovery Plan for the *Betula uber*; Virginia Round-Leaf Birch; and Peter Mazzeo, USDA/US National Arboretum Curator.

So many of us have eyes that do not see or believe in only those things we can touch; that the real wonder of this whole mystery is how many more extincts are in our own backyards just waiting for someone with the dedication and faith to find them.

Dedicated people like Peter Mazzeo, who in 1963 was just out of Stetson University, DeLand, Florida and working as a summer ranger naturalist at Shenandoah National Park. He heard about the round leafer and started such an intensive and far reaching search that he could give the factual location for the hunt.

He found the first recorded information came from William Willard Ashe, a government forester, who reported a sighting on Dickey Creek, Smyth County, Va. in June 1914.

In the April 1918 issue of RHODORA, the journal of the New England Botanical Club, he listed the find as a variety of the common black birch.

Later the listing was raised to a true species in GRAY'S MANUAL OF BOTANY by Dr. Merritt Lyndon Fernald of Harvard.

Luckily for all, Ashe had sent specimens to several locations- the Smithsonian (lost before 1922); the New York Botanical Garden; the Gray Arboretum and the Arnold Arboretum, both at Harvard; the University of North Carolina and the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh.

From that point on the human mistakes and procrastinations take over.

Just to defend us 'common name users', Ashe made a shambles of his recordings. Not only was the site name wrong-Dickey instead of Cressy Creek, but the months ranged from January to June and the altitudes varied as much as 1,000 feet, all on one sighting.

On such information searchers had based their expeditions and found nothing.

By now Mazzeo was working at the National Arboretum and was a contributor to the Virginia Flora Project. He focussed on the birch family and especially the *Betula uber*. Mazzeo's work included asking for the *uber*'s material specimens to be sent to him.

Now fate steps in. In a package from Harvard there was a specimen of the round-leaf denoted "Cressy Creek, collected by H.B. Ayres". Another mystery - who was Ayres and when was this set of material found? The answers are still not known!

Now we come into a series of events that make 'after-sight headaches' seem small.

Peter Mazzeo received the Cressy clue in 1971 and he submitted a paper to the prestigious New England's RHODORA with that information in it. They turned the paper down. He did get a mention of the find in the JEFFERSON but there was a typo of the location-which leads the unsuspecting to look for a Cressy Creek. Finally the paper was accepted by Southern Appalachian

Botanical Club and in the fall 1974 issue of their CASTANEAM it found a spark and the stage is set for our young hero...ah, the blinded faith of youth.

A mere junior college instructor and not yet qualified botanist,,,,,believed.

He had lived in this high southwest Virginia mountain valley on the edge of the Blue Ridge all his life. The three previous summers he had searched the Dickey Creek and it's upper branches - no luck.

Now he read the article and talked with Pete Mazzeo and possibly while Doug Ogle was driving his convertible down RTE. 601 he realized this modern strip of tar was not the road site of 1914. He sought the help of Lee Ashlin, an old time resident and country store owner. The logging roads and railroad beds of 1914 were laid out.

And so just a short distance from the Ashlin store and about 100 feet from the highway it happened. Faith was rewarded, both for him and Peter Mazzeo.

Between 15 and 20 feet off the ground was the first branch with the pale green-gold round leaves. A quick check of the bark for the aromatic smell was the frosting on the cake. It is with great pleasure that we can image the bursting thrill he must have experienced.

He found several more trees and with a sample of the branch he reported to the land owners, Ray Haulsee and Garland Ross and stopped to thank Ashlin. Then he headed for VPI in Blacksburg.

There a body of botanical experts confirmed the find and *Betula uber* was 'extinct' no more.

A happy ending..but there's more.

Ogle made his find on August 22, 1975.

In December 1975 an issue of PHYTOLOGIA carried a story by Dr. Clyde F. Reed, professor of biology at Coppin State College near Baltimore, saying he located the trees on August 15 while making random collections of over 300 specimens, looking for other rarities. His field notes listed seventeen plants taken that day. Among them *Betula uber* was not found, and the listing in the RARE & ENDANGERED VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES IN VIRGINIA (VPI, State University and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service) December 1979, under comments, gives the rediscovery to Doug Ogle.

Unfortunately this report also gives the disheartening fact that less than 50 individual trees are known and in spite of vigorous efforts to protect the species and it's habitat, the number has fallen.

Conservation action has been taken through the Recovery Plan, including fencing of the habitat by the private landowners and also for the stand found on the public land in the Mt. Rogers Recreation Area of Jefferson National Forest. Seed and pollen banks have been set up. Four of the tiny seedlings were taken to the National Arboretum and last reported as doing well. Grafting by Ogle of cuttings taken from mature specimens onto cherry birch seedlings and by root cuttings did not turn out well.

It has been proposed that this stand of birch is not the original tree site Ashe saw sixty years ago. They appear not to be old enough. And so we are back in a mystery? Was the original stand on Dickey Creek? Did those trees end up as a dining room table? And if so, how did this younger living population come about?

On August 28, 1975, when Peter Mazzeo received a phone call from his friend Leonard Uttal in Blacksburg, his comment to Ogle's find, which beat him out of the discovery by four weeks (he with Dr. W.H. Wagner, Jr. of the University of Michigan and Eugene Kinkead, a writer for THE NEW YORKER had an expedition set for late September) was

"This is great and wonderful news. I'm glad somebody has found it at last. I've always believed it was there."

# YOU ASKED

In response to many requests for native plant/seed sources the following is a list of the nearer nursery types who propagate and/or rescue rather than "appropriate". We have not personally done any business with them and would appreciate any comments pro/con you may have in your dealings.

Also we would appreciate any sources you have for plants and seeds. These would be passed on to our members.

## PERENNIAL NATIVE PLANTS

Appalachian Wildflower Nursery  
Rt. 1, Box 275A  
Reedsville, PA 17084 (Cat. \$1)

Woodlanders  
1128 Collection Avenue  
Aiken, SC 29801 (Cat. \$1)

The Wayside Gardens Company  
Hodges, SC 29695

## WOODY NATIVE PLANTS

Hess Nurseries, Inc.  
Box 326  
Cedarville, NJ 08311

Strathmeyer Forrest, Inc.  
Rt. 1, Zeigler Road  
Dover, PA 17315

## SEEDS

Herbst Brothers Seedsmen, Inc.  
1000 North Main Street  
Brewster, NY 10509

International Forest Seed Company  
P.O. Box 76008  
Birmingham, AL 35253

G. W. Park Seed Co., Inc.  
Greenwood, SC 29647

Eccles Nurseries, Inc.  
Drawer Y  
Rimersburg, PA 16248

Panfield Nurseries, Inc.  
322 Southtown Road  
Huntington, L.I., NY 11745

Pine Grove Nursery  
R.D. 3  
Clearfield, PA 16830

Southern Seed Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 287  
Baldwin, GA 30511

Among our own members as plant/seed source

Joe Brown  
Mid-Atlantic Wildflowers  
Star Route Box 226  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
(we're looking to Joe to be instrumental in starting a chapter around the Williamsberg/Gloucester area)

# It's Who You Know

By Jocelyn Arundel Alexander

The VWPS's State board of directors has given the green light for a two-year \$10,000 fundraising program. We are an all-volunteer Society, spending not an extra penny on non-essential overhead. However, if we are to grow stronger, build chapters, and achieve excellence in our programs, we will need that extra bit of grease that additional operating capital can provide.

As fundraising chairman, I anticipate a search, this year and next, for both foundation support and generous gifts from donors who want to see this organization take off and fly. If you know of such potential angels, your finest vote of confidence would be in letting me know of them. Prospects will be approached when the time is right, with courtesy and care.

Members can help so much in the vital task of increasing our membership statewide. Take a few minutes to write down names and addresses of those whom you believe might share in our work, both individuals and groups. I will make sure they receive membership information. If you would like flyers to distribute yourself, let me know. Also, if you can share roster lists of groups whose members may take our cause to heart, it would be invaluable.

In listing possible members, make special note of those who might be persuaded (most politely) to make contributions of \$25 or more. We have set a dollar goal for gifts in this category and I am in pursuit, building a list for a letter of appeal. We need 40 of these gifts by the time the mulleins bloom.

Your help in this endeavor is most earnestly sought for the best of all possible reasons, the future of our native Virginia plants. *Let me hear from YOU!!!* 700 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.; Washington D.C. 20037 (202) 965-1458.

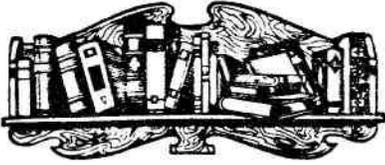
## KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR

Anyone with first hand sighting or knowledge of Swamp Pink (Swamp-hyacinth), *Helonias bullata*, get in touch with Larry Morse, Nature Conservancy, (202) 543-1656 or (703) 841-5361.

Features: Stalk hollow, a few inches high when the flowers start to open; inflorescence dense; sepals and petals dull pink, and stamens lavender-blue; stalk elongating markedly and flowers becoming green in the course of the season. Leaves lily-like, in a rosette from a bulb. Early to late spring.

Range: Southern Appalachians, extending northeast in foothills and lowlands to southeastern New York. Habitat: Swamps and bog margins, in usually strongly acid, humus-rich soil.





## OFF THE SHELF

WILDFLOWERS OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY AND BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS by Oscar W. Gupton and Fred C. Swope, Charlottesville, VA : University Press of Virginia 1979 \$10.95 Daltons and Waldenbooks

See Calendar- April 29. Two hundred colored illustrations with the unusual feature of scale enlargement for each plate. Flowers are arranged by color and then bloom time within the colors. Appendix provides pronunciation of the Latin names by family. An additional eighty-five plants have mention. A good guide for recognizing the more conspicuous wildflowers of our friends to the west.

WILDFLOWER DESIGNS FOR NEEDLEWORK by Adalee Winter, Birmingham, Ala., Oxmoor House 1979 \$5.95

Twenty-nine designs clearly charted, each accompanied by a color drawing and a brief history, including family and Latin names. Descriptive designs for novice or advanced needleworker.

JOTTINGS OF A HARVARD BOTANIST by Oakes Ames, Cambridge Harvard University Press 1979 \$12.95

An entertaining biography of a renowned botanist of the early 20th century. At 52 he was a professor of botany at Harvard, superintendent of the Arnold Arboretum, and director of the Harvard Botanical Museum! This work is based on his daily diaries and journals, plus letters to family and friends. He compiled two large herbaria- one of 64,000 orchids and the other a unique collection of economically useful plants.

USING WILD AND WAYSIDE PLANTS by Nelson Coon, New York: Dove Publications, Inc. 1980 \$4.00

An impossible task done! A cookbook, chapter on children's play, something about craft materials and projects, and a section on landscaping, plus a brief description of useful and edible plants. There is a chapter on herbal medicine with a history of their use. Bad note- apparently Mr. Coon is not worried about the possibility that the collected plants (for food) may contain dangerous amounts of lead or other pollutants.

## Calling ALL Bugs

The VWPS will be holding it's First Annual Photograph Contest this year with entries to be displayed and prizes awarded at the October '83 annual meeting.

Entries may be black/white or color glossy prints with contest categories in both areas of

1. Plants in their natural habitat
2. Plants within a garden setting

RULES: All plants must be native to Virginia and the pictures must be taken in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

More information will be given in the chapter newsletters or call Linda McMahan (703) 522-1715 or (202) 797-7901.

## GOING FROM HERE.....

The following are some of the goals set for this summer's activities:

- a) enlarge the list of native plant sources which are "nursery-propagated, rather than collected from the wild and make such information available to the public
- b) a list of declining, threatened and endangered species requiring public protection and conservation within Virginia
- c) well-researched cultivation information to help take the mystery out of growing native plants in the home and public landscapes.

Permission to reproduce any article for circulation in the U.S. and it's territories is hereby granted PROVIDED the article is printed in it's entirety and PROVIDE it bears the notice "Reprinted by permission of Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society Annandale, Va."

Article submission is welcome thought is done at the risk of the sender and VWPS cannot accept liability for loss or damage. Material for publication and/or newsletter exchange should be sent to Pat Rosing, 5214 Lighthorne Rd. Burke VA 22015.



Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

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## ANNUAL MEETING

The second annual meeting of the members of the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society will be held on Monday, October 10th (Columbus Day) at the National Wildlife Federation's Laurel Ridge Center, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna.

- Agenda: 1:30 p.m. Registration
- submit ballots on revised By-Laws and Board candidates
  - membership renewals may be processed at this time
- 2:15 p.m. Business Meeting, followed by presentations to the VWPS Photo Contest winners and the door prize drawing
- 3:00 p.m. Reception and sales of wildflower-related items
- 5:00 p.m. Cash bar and banquet dinner at the Marriott Hotel, Tyson's Corner

The VWPS Board of Directors invites you to join them for a banquet dinner at the Tyson's Corner Marriott Hotel, 8028 Leesburg Pike, immediately following the annual meeting. The three-course meal, featuring chicken Veronique, will be \$14.00 per person, including tax and gratuity.

If you wish to join us, please include your name(s) and number of reservations with a check, payable to VWPS, and mail to: Mary Painter, 3718 Camelot Drive, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Dinner reservation deadline: October 1st.

Directions to the Annual Meeting: Exit from the Capital Beltway (495) onto Route 7 west (Leesburg Pike towards Tyson's Corner). Proceed to intersection with Spring Hill Road and continue west on 7 for one more mile. Turn left at the NWF entrance drive (see "VWPS" signs). Use the front entrance, adjacent to the large flag pole. Proceed to the auditorium.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### One Man's Weed....

On August 30, the VWPS Board unanimously approved actions necessary to notify our members and other Northern Virginia citizens of a pending Fairfax County ordinance. County officials are drafting a lot (or weed) ordinance requiring, at the very least, that landowners restrict or mow grass-type vegetation to a tidy height when it occurs within a certain proximity of buildings. A former weed ordinance (that provided for billing lot owners when their overgrown tracts were mowed by county crews), was struck down as unconstitutional in 1976.

A redrafted statute is scheduled to be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors in October. The VWPS will be permitted to submit as an attachment to that package a fact sheet aimed at striking down notions that certain vegetation or species present health or fire hazards, attraction for rats, etc. Several VWPS officers and members have provided information already to Assistant County Attorney Richard Golden in order that he consider the possible ecological and economic impact of the ordinance he is drafting.

Until the specific wording of the draft is determined, the VWPS can only warn our members and other Fairfax County citizens that any such statute poses a potential threat to the diversity of wildlife, as well as the public- or privately-owned natural areas of Virginia. Please be advised that the Society will actively direct concerted protest against such threats.

#### Chapters Are Where the Action Is

As membership renewal time is upon us, I would like to recommend to our At-Large members that they consider affiliation with one of our established chapters.

The Society serves as an administrative hand to its chapters, and is principally involved in ensuring chapter growth and program development as well as in the strengthening of statewide conservation efforts on behalf of Virginia's native plants. Though the volunteer participation of our members provides the backbone of the VWPS, our chapter members are in no way bound to regular meeting attendance or "volunteer punchclocks."

Please consider that interested or applicant members who do not reside in close proximity to an established chapter may still realize benefits from affiliation. Those benefits include more timely notice of each chapter's myriad activities as well as the many other fine features regularly provided within bi-monthly newsletters. Chapter newsletters are issued to chapter members in addition to the VWPS seasonal Bulletins. (Alone, these publications are considered by many as well worth the cost of membership.)

If you are an At-Large member who wishes to gain the extra benefits of chapter affiliation (at no additional cost), please notify our membership chairman, Barbara McAleer, or indicate your choice on the enclosed membership renewal form.

Happy Fall,

*Mary Painter*

## FIELD TRIPS

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN FIELD  
TRIP--July 9

- Larry E. Morse

Reddish Knob, on the crest of Shenandoah Mountain, hosted the first joint field trip of the West Virginia Native Plant Society and the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society. Appropriately, the meeting place straddles the state line and we eight members of VWPS had to remind ourselves that only photos taken on the eastern slope would be eligible for the VWPS photography contest.

Starting downslope to the northwest of the parking lot, we came upon the biggest mountain ash tree any of us had ever seen. We also soon found the fly-poison (Amianthium muscaetoxicum) flowering in abundance. Those who knew the turkey beard (Xerophyllum asphodeloides) assured the others that these two members of the lily family were unmistakably distinguishable, yet we stared hard at the disjunct turkey beard, for which Reddish Knob is the only West Virginia site.

Continuing slowly downslope, Rodney Bartgis called us to a lone alumroot plant in the open woods. Floras in hand, we keyed it to Heuchera alba, the white alumroot, a local endemic rarely seen off North Fork Mountain. Deciding two plants was too small a population to justify taking one for a herbarium specimen, we chose to make a photo voucher, and Rodney did the honors. This is apparently the first record of the species from anywhere on Shenandoah Mountain, and its easternmost locality. Since it occurred mixed in with the mountain fetterbush (Pieris floribunda) so abundant on Reddish Knob, we duly noted that the site was unique in being the only place in the world where these two species grew together.

Reaching the ridge-crest road, we found dozens more of the same Heuchera on the road bank, and Rodney selected one as a voucher for the new record. A Dutchman's-pipe (Aristolochia macrophylla) in flower was the next find; few in the group had seen its large, curved, tubular dark-red flowers. Rodney also called our attention to the mountain bindweed (Polygonum cilinode) nearby.

By now the Virginians were eager to see (and photograph) Heuchera alba in their state, and the pace quickened as we crossed the crest north of the knob and fanned out into the rocky woods on the Virginia slope. Soon a shout was heard, and then another: slightly to the north we found our Heuchera in great abundance on both sides of the crest. The Virginia discovery adds Augusta County to its range; it previously was known from only one other site in the Commonwealth.

Continuing south by car on the ridge road, we watched for the turkey beard, which we promptly found in both states and readily agreed could in no way be confused with the fly-poison. The Virginia site for the turkey beard was particularly interesting in its vegetation and floristic composition, being almost a disjunct patch of the New Jersey Pine Barrens in a saddle near the 4000-foot crest of Shenandoah Mountain. Pitch pines formed the dominant vegetation, opening into a shrubby patch of huckleberry, mountain laurel, and turkey beard perhaps a quarter acre in area. Wintergreen, cow-wheat, and trailing arbutus were common on the ground, while the associated blueberry was Vaccinium pallidum (V. vacillans) rather than the V. augustifolium which grew nearby. Reindeer-moss (Cladonia) also was conspicuous in this opening.

Further south along the ridge, in an open oak forest near a picnic area, we noted that the Pieris was still abundant, and also saw the alpine enchanter's nightshade (Circaea alpina), the corymbed spiraea (Spiraea corymbosa), and an as-yet-unidentified hawthorn (Crataegus sp.) in fruit.

On the way out most of us passed two other roadside stands of the *Heuchera*, one on the ridge road, just south of Briery Gap, and the other on Route 954, just east of the gap, new Rockingham County, Virginia, records for this rare species.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

As of September 1, 1983, the VWPS treasury shows a balance of \$1,123.80.

SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA FIELD TRIP--August 27-28

- Larry Morse and Mary Painter

Donna Ware, botanist at the College of William and Mary, led the Society's first field trip to the southeastern portion of the Commonwealth. Advance arrangements were made by Larry Morse and Mary Painter. And an eager group of 16 VWPS members and guests took the opportunity to get themselves thoroughly wet and muddy.

Four early-arrivers met Saturday morning to explore tidal flats along the Chickahominy River, famous for its historical occurrences of Nuttall's micranthemum and other long-lost plants from M.L. Fernald's explorations in the 1940's. While we did not identify any micranthemum there, another plant we spotted proved of equal interest: *Bacopa stragula* was last seen anywhere in 1941.

The entire group drove to the newly opened York River State Park north of Williamsburg for an afternoon-long introduction to characteristic inner coastal plain habitats. Of particular note were the steep ravines near the river, in which we saw *Malaxis*, the adder's-mouth orchid, and *Decumaria*, the climbing hydrangea. The dry ridge crests offered an interesting mixture of coastal plain and montane species. Along the bank of the James, Donna reviewed the various *Spartina* species of the area--*S. alterniflora*, *S. patens*, and *S. cynosuroides*, usually found in that order when progressing from brackish water to fresh.

Dorna and Bill Kreitz graciously invited the group to their summer home on a knoll in the Chickahominy Swamp where we feasted on an amply diversified picnic buffet. Following dinner, Kent Minichiello treated us to an impressive portfolio sampling of his wildlife photographs. Later came boating and swimming in Diascund Creek, and story-swapping well into the night.

A slightly smaller group reassembled Sunday morning at the York River for a charter canoe tour up a tidal creek from brackish marsh through fresh marsh to swamp. When the canoes could go no further, our park ranger guide ordered everybody out to wade through the mud and marsh water for a better look at the butterfly-covered mallows and other flowers. The incoming tide slowed our return, but not enough to prevent a reprise of Saturday's picnic on a sandy beach by the river. As a shout went out to the several swimmers in the river to "Come back in before you get wet!", we scrambled for the cars as an intense thunderstorm swept the area. Declaring the trip adjourned, we left the afternoon's planned exploration of the Chickahominy shores for another day. There already have been many requests for a similar trip in the spring.

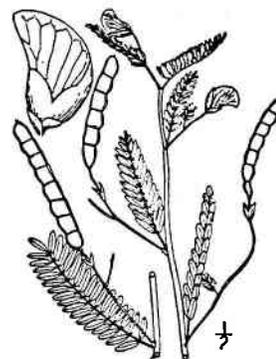
#### SELDOM SEEN

The rare *Aeschynomene virginica* (Sensitive Joint Vetch) was very recently sighted in Virginia's New Kent County by Tom Wieboldt, a VPI&SU Herbarium staff member. Tom's sighting occurred shortly after our VWPS canoe tour up a York River tidal creek in the same region. There are only five known sites for *A. virginica*. It was first discovered in the 1730's along the Rappahannock River by John Clayton.

*Aeschynomene virginica* (L.) B.S.P. Sensitive Joint Vetch.  
*Hedysarum virginicum* L. Sp. Pl. 750. 1753.  
*Aeschynomene hispida* Willd. Sp. Pl. 3:1163. 1800.  
*Aeschynomene virginica* B.S.P. Prel. Cat. N. Y. 13. 1888.

Annual, herbaceous, branched, erect, rough-pubescent or glabrate, 2<sup>o</sup>-5<sup>o</sup> high. Stipules membranous, ovate, acuminate, 3"-4" long, deciduous; leaves short-petioled; leaflets 25-55, oblong, linear-oblong or oblanceolate, obtuse at the apex, narrowed or rounded at the base, 3"-9" long; somewhat sensitive; flowers few, racemose, reddish-yellow, about 5" long; petals veined; pod linear, 1'-2½' long, 3" wide, sparingly tuberculate or glabrous, of 5-10 nearly square easily separable joints.

River banks, southeastern Pennsylvania, southwestern New Jersey to Florida, west to Louisiana and Mexico. Jamaica. Called also bastard sensitive plant. Aug.-Sept.



(Reprinted from an *Illustrated Flora of the Northern U.S., Canada and the British Possessions* by Nathaniel L. Britton and Addison Brown. Second edition, revised 1947, Vol. II, page 393.

## WILD WORDS

### RECOMMENDED READING

#### A SPECIAL BOOK VALUE FOR OUR MEMBERS

The New Wild Flowers and How to Grow Them by Edwin Steffek, editor of Horticulture and other leading journals.

In this revised and expanded edition of his highly regarded volume, Edwin Steffek discusses more than 550 species and greatly increases the coverage of Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast natives. The color plates of the first edition are replaced with splendid color photographs. Many of you who found the original book so useful, as well as those of you just starting out, will look to this new edition for even better guidance in the delightful endeavor of wildflower growing.

Paperbound, 172 pages, the book includes 50 color plates and 100 black and white illustrations. Special VWPS Price: \$20.07 (a savings of nearly \$5 on each copy and shipping costs). Your book order will be mailed directly to you. Please submit your check or money order (made payable to VWPS) to:

VWPS - Book Order  
c/o 3718 Camelot Drive  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

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Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of The New Wild Flowers and How to Grow Them @ \$20.07 per copy.

Please enclose check or money order.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- You may submit your own form to avoid cutting your "Bulletin" pages -

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**\* New Edition of Sources of Native Seeds and Plants.**

The Soil Conservation Society of America has released a revised and expanded edition of this publication, containing the names and addresses of nearly 300 growers and suppliers of native vegetation in 40 states and Canada.

The booklet is organized by states and includes an alphabetical listing of native plant sources. The listing also indicates the grower's specialty: wildflower seed and native plants, native grass seed, nursery stock of native trees and shrubs, and/or native tree and shrub seed. More detailed information is given, where necessary, about these specialties and terms of sales.

Copies of the 36-page booklet are available for \$3.00 (\$2.50 for orders of 10 or more) from SCA, 7515 NE Ankeny Road, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-976,

- from the Northern Nevada  
NPS and West Virginia NPS  
Newsletters

**Note:** \* The VWPS does not necessarily advocate the purchase of native plants or seeds from the growers listed in the above publication. Any members who can provide reports of the propagation practices or plant stock sources of any native plant growers (local or nationwide), please contact M. Painter, (703) 573-7747 or L. McMahan, (703) 522-1715 (eves.). The VWPS wishes to recommend to its members only those native plant sources who do not remove plants from the wild for profit.

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**Where Have All the Wildflowers Gone?:  
A Region-By-Region Guide to Threatened or  
Endangered U.S. Wildflowers** by Robert H.  
Mohlenbrock, illustrated by Mark W. Mohlenbrock.

Published May 1983 by the MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc., 866 Third Ave., New York, New York 10022. Price: \$15.95, 256 pages, 40 color photographs, 80 line drawings. ISBN: 0-02-585450-X.

The author begins this fascinating and useful book with the story of Thismia americana, a subterranean flowering plant related to the tropical orchids, that was discovered in Illinois in 1912. The only known habitat for Thismia was converted to an oil-tank storage area. Says Mohlenbrock, "The fact that it apparently became extinct about 1914 caused no general consternation among biologists," It was only in the mid-1970's that we discovered that 3,000 of our native plants were "suddenly" threatened with extinction.



Ruth's Golden Aster  
*Heterotheca ruthii*

Mohlenbrock spends the next seven chapters focusing on 120 typical examples of rare flora in different regions of the United States. Chapter 3, "Dwindling Species of the Southeastern States," is typical, providing details on the discovery and conservation of several plants native to Virginia. The search for the Virginia round-leaf birch was reportedly triggered in 1970 by the work of VWPS member Peter Mazzeo, a botanist at the U.S. Arboretum. Oconee bells, rediscovered in 1877, caused such a stir that a well-pressed specimen sold for \$50, additionally threatening the plant's survival. These are just two examples of the 20 plants covered for the region.

The book concludes with a chapter called "It's Up to Us," in which the author urges everyone to get involved, and three appendices including lists of federally-protected plants, status and distribution of the species covered in the book, and a list of about 80 plants presumed to be extinct in the continental United States.

A book of this kind is long overdue and will be a valuable resource for botanists and conservationists. It has interesting, concise summaries of many of our rare plants. My only complaint is that there are not more books on this topic.

- Linda McMahan

C A L E N D A R

September

- 19 - Dec. 1 NATURAL HISTORY FIELD STUDY COURSES. USDA Graduate School, cosponsored by the Audubon Naturalist Society. Late registration in person is accepted September 19-24 at the Department of Agriculture, South Agricultural Bldg., Room 1404. Weekdays: 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For class schedules and further information, call (202) 447-5885.
- 20 POTOWMACK CHAPTER BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park, 4601 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.
- 24 PRINCE WILLIAM WILDFLOWER SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING. 1:00 p.m. Bethel Lutheran Church, Sudley Road and Plantation Lane, Manassas.
- 24 POTOWMACK CHAPTER RESCUE. 9:30 a.m. Contact Cole Burrell for location and details: 779-6447 (evenings) or Mary Painter, 573-7747.
- 25 POTOWMACK CHAPTER'S FALL WILDFLOWER & NATIVE PLANT SALE. 12 noon to 5 p.m. Held in cooperation with the FCPA Mum Festival and Firewood Sale (11 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at Green Spring Farm Park Horticulture Center, 4601 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.
- 28 EDIBLE LANDSCAPING. Author Rosalind Creasy will present a slide lecture on gardens that are both edible and beautiful. A reception will follow the program. Her book, The Complete Book of Edible Landscaping, will be available at a discount price. River Farm Ballroom, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Fee: \$7.50 for American Horticultural Society members and \$9.00 for nonmembers. Registration required. Call 768-5700.
- 29 VWPS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park.
- 29 DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IN VWPS PHOTO CONTEST. See details in this issue.

October

- 3 OPEN JUDGING OF THE VWPS PHOTO CONTEST ENTRIES. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park Horticultural Center
- 7,8,9 VWPS WILDFLOWER WEEKEND. A full 3-day series of outstanding slide lectures, workshops, and walks to be featured at locations throughout Northern Virginia. Brochure enclosed with this issue. Registration and fees required for some events. Call Mary Painter, 573-7747 or Dorna Kreitz, 938-6248 for further information.
- 8 THE JAMES RIVER AS COMMON WEALTH, A PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Business Auditorium, Richmond. A multi-dimensional coverage of issues in the management of the James River--historical, ecological, political, and economic. For registration and further information, contact Mary Painter, 573-7747. Open to the public at no charge.
- 9 AHS AUTUMN FESTIVAL. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria. Demonstrations, displays, and sales galore at the American Horticultural Society's annual fall event. For further information, call 768-5700.
- 10 VWPS ANNUAL MEETING. 1:30 p.m. Auditorium of NWF Laurel Ridge Center, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Registration, brief business meeting, photo contest display and awards, sales, and reception. Pre-registration for dinner following the meeting required: 573-7747 or 938-6248. See details in this issue. Please plan to attend!
- 13 HOUSEPLANT PROPAGATION. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park. Demonstrations and discussions. Contact Green Spring Farm Park staff for further information: 642-5173. Free.
- 15 POTOWMACK CHAPTER MEMBERS' REWARD RESCUE. For location and further information, contact Cole Burrell, 779-6447 (evenings) or A. Bouter, 536-7278 (evenings).
- 16 HUNTLEY MEADOWS OPENING DAY FESTIVITIES. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fairfax County Park Authority's Dedication Ceremonies and celebration of the opening of Huntley's new Visitor's Center. Take Beltway exit 1-A (Route 1) south 3½ miles to right on Lockheed Blvd. Go four blocks to park entrance at the corner of Harrison Lane.
- 18 POTOWMACK CHAPTER BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park.
- 24 VWPS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park.

October

- 30 FALL FOLIAGE WALK. 1:00 p.m. Conway Robinson Memorial Forest, Routes 29-11, Gainesville. Contact N. Arrington for further information, 368-8431 (Manassas).

November

- 5 WALK WITH A NATURALIST. 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield, 451-9588. Leisurely stroll along beautiful Pohick Creek to view nature patiently awaiting winter. Sturdy walking shoes. FREE.
- 14 PRINCE WILLIAM CHAPTER'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING. 7:30 p.m., Bethel Lutheran Church.
- 15 POTOWMACK CHAPTER BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park.
- 17 VWPS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Green Spring Farm Park.
- 22 DAVID KOPITZKE'S LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS WORKSHOP. 7:00 p.m. Auditorium, NWF's Laurel Ridge Center, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. See details in this issue. Registration required: 790-4434. Fee: \$3.00 VWPS members; \$5.00 for nonmembers.

Note: All telephone numbers listed above have a 703 area code unless otherwise indicated.



RARE SPECIES

--A shower of VWPS gratitude is extended to:

Ethel Durham and Becky Skall, Barbara Stewart, Doris Berger, Faith Campbell  
writer and editors of the VWPS Conservation lecture. Ethel drafted an original, 5500-word speech which will be enhanced by selections from the VWPS Signature Slide Collection.

Jocelyn Alexander and Marjorie Arundel  
planners and hostesses extraordinaire of the Wildcat Mountain Fund Raiser in June.

Stan Shetler, Al Studholme, David Askegaard, Barbara Stewart, and Nicky Staunton  
auction item contributors for the Wildcat Mountain Silent Auction.

Billie Trump and Becky Skall  
collectors and planters of the wildflower garden featured as our premiere auction item at Wildcat Mountain. Thanks also goes to those who contributed plants.

Mary Pockman, Linda McMahan, Ed Ballard, and Jean Chitren  
members of the 1982-83 By-Laws Committee who have donated much time and careful attention to their revisions of the VWPS By-Laws.

Ray Heller, Nancy Everett, Kevin Donelan, Helena Hanoosn, Jamie Painter, Mary Walker, Mary and Maryann Peterson, Pete Poulos and Craig Tufts  
pioneer wildflower planters at the VWPS regional landscape project, Great Meadows, The Plains, Virginia.

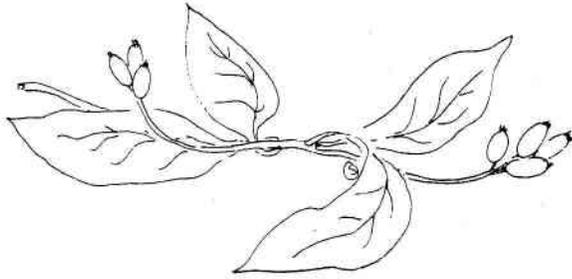
Joe Brown  
Gloucester Point member and grower who has contributed countless native plants and seeds to the Society. We confidently recommend Joe's small, but splendid, collection as an excellent source of native plants, particularly for many prairie species. His Mid-Atlantic Wildflowers\* nursery was born out of conservation ethics that supersede a concern for profit.

\*Joseph H. Brown, Star Route 226, Gloucester Point, Virginia 23062, (804) 642-4602

Ethel Durham, David Quante, Linda McMahan, Barbara Stewart, and David Askegaard  
contributors to the VWPS Signature Slide Collection. Becky Skall, Curator, is preparing a list of those slides which we need to fill in the species gaps with particular emphasis on those slides needed to accompany the Society's slide lectures. This list will be provided to known photographers within our membership and to any persons who offer help in expanding the collection.

Anne Price  
emergency editor-elite who has composed and issued this "Bulletin."

Special thanks in advance to all those members who are contributing their expertise and time as speakers, walk leaders, workshop directors and staff during our upcoming Wildflower Weekend programs!



## VIRGINIA HERITAGE

by Steve Croy

In January, 1981, the Virginia Chapter of the Nature Conservancy embarked on a program, the Virginia Natural Diversity Information Program, to identify the areas of greatest ecological significance in Virginia, based on the occurrences of rare plants, animals, and natural communities. By identifying these areas, we could then concentrate our protection efforts on the rarest elements of natural diversity. Using methods developed in other state natural heritage programs and the Science Department of the Conservancy's national office, we began assessing the condition of Virginia's natural diversity. We started with a data base assembled during an earlier attempt to establish a heritage program in Virginia in 1978 and the information presented in the Proceedings of the Symposium on Endangered and Threatened Plants and Animals of Virginia, published in 1979, and we began defining lists of species and communities that are imperiled and need special attention. These lists were continually refined and updated, based on new information gathered from recent scientific literature, museum and university collections, and knowledgeable individuals across the country.

As our information increased, it became clearer which species and communities were the rarest and in the greatest jeopardy of possible destruction. We focused our field work on these high-priority areas, gathering site specific information on the plants, animals and natural communities as well as information on land ownership and management needs. We are now in the midst of preserve selection and design, a process in which all of the material gathered to date on an area is assembled and a strategy is planned for the protection of that area.

To date, approximately 470 special plants and 350 special animals have been identified across the state. Of this number, approximately ten percent are considered the rarest elements and are known from only one, or, at the most, a few locations. Over 75 areas have been identified as potential preserves and 30 of these are having detailed preserve packages prepared.

Most areas not only have rare plants and/or animals, but are also unusual natural communities. Areas such as shale barrens, sink-hole ponds, pine barrens, brackish marshes, calcareous wet meadows, mountain bogs or fens, granite flat-rocks, northern hardwood-spruce forests, and cave systems usually have five to six, and perhaps a dozen, special plants and/or animals.

It is these areas with large concentrations of special elements that tend to rank the highest and are receiving our immediate attention for protection. Some of the areas identified are publicly owned, such as lands in the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Wildlife Refuges, U.S. Military Reservations, state forests and parks. By informing these agencies that unique species or communities exist on their lands, special arrangements can be made to ensure their protection.

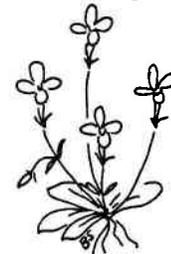
However, most of the areas presently identified are in private ownership, and it is on these lands that we face our greatest challenge in ensuring their protection, whether it be by outright purchase of the land or any one of a number of protection strategies. Still other areas may be beyond the scope of protection that the Conservancy normally tries to give. These would include certain marine and aquatic habitats where we cannot ensure their protection except by urging the state or federal agencies involved to maintain the necessary water quality and quantity for the survival of the species in question.

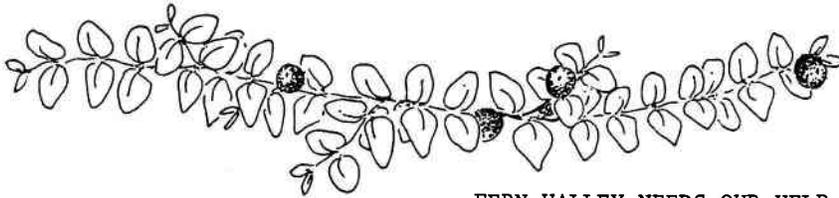
The work actually just has begun. During the past two and a half years, many plants and animals thought to be quite rare have turned out to be more common than first thought; it was just a matter of looking in the right places once the preferred habitat was identified. However, in other cases, certain plants and animals are apparently gone from where they once occurred in abundance, usually due to habitat destruction. Still others thought to be extirpated from the state, or even extinct, have been rediscovered and several plants not previously known to occur in Virginia were found during the course of our field work. Some of these are separated from the other known populations by as much as 300 to 400 miles.

Each field season adds considerable information to our knowledge of Virginia's natural diversity. Future work will concentrate on identifying the best remaining examples of our many plant communities, further work on our aquatic communities and strategies for protecting them, and continued refinements and additions to the species and areas we have identified so far. Clearly, if we hope to make conservation priorities now and in the future, a comprehensive and up-to-date ecological data base is an invaluable asset.

### REVISED VWPS/FCPA COOPERATIVE USE AGREEMENT

The VWPS and Fairfax County Park Authority have approved a newly-revised Cooperative Use Agreement. The revised agreement contains further provisions for cooperative educational and sales programs. In regard to the Green Spring Farm Park facilities in Alexandria, the contract more specifically outlines those items and services to be provided by both parties.





DAVID KOPITZKE WORKSHOP

The National Wildlife Federation and the VWPS are cosponsoring a talk and workshop on landscaping with native plants.

David Kopitzke, owner and operator of the Little Valley Farm Wildflower Nursery in Wisconsin, will speak at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22, in the auditorium of the NWF Laurel Ridge Center, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Mr. Kopitzke raises a wide variety of prairie, woodland and wetland plants. He also has rendered landscape designs for homes, parks, and businesses using these same plants.

The program will begin with a slide presentation illustrating the landscaping possibilities of native plants. Among the topics covered will be paths, patios, attracting wildlife, and visual variety throughout the seasons. Mr. Kopitzke will then introduce participants to more than 30 species of wild plants suited to various sites and soil types. Following the talk, participants will design a landscape for a typical home site. Questions and discussion will be encouraged.

The fee for the program is \$3 for VWPS members; \$5 for nonmembers. For reservations, call 790-4434.

The NWF also is hosting an exhibit of Mr. Kopitzke's botanical illustrations at the Laurel Ridge Center's Gallery of Art from November 21 through December 30. The gallery is open to the public daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mr. Kopitzke's work will be available for purchase.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As of September 10, the VWPS has grown to 397 members!

Our chapters recognize each new member within their regular publications. For this reason, we will list in this already bulky mailing only those At-Large members who have joined the Society since spring. We proudly welcome, however, each and every member of the VWPS and encourage you to renew your membership by October 15th. (The VWPS membership year runs from November 1st through October 31st.) The annual Membership Directory will be included with the spring "Bulletin" that will be sent to all members renewing for 1983-84.

VWPS Members-At-Large

Audubon Naturalist Society (Associate)  
Dorothy C. Bliss  
Katherine D. Bond\*  
Rosemary Bowman  
Alice V. Crossfield  
Dr. Michael & Janet Emsley

Dorothea L. Cutts\*  
Dr. Robert & Diane Jenkins  
Cheryl I. Jacobs  
Jacob D. Kagey  
Nancy E. Johnston  
James & Adelaide Minogue  
Allen H. Olson

Dr. & Mrs. Don Richardson  
Patricia Russell  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Scott, Jr.  
Mary Louise Seilheimer\*  
Howard & Agnes Sollenberger  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Hunton Tiffany\*  
Julia Walters

\*Patron Members

FERN VALLEY NEEDS OUR HELP

Fern Valley is a 5-acre, wooded garden planted with native wildflowers, ferns, shrubs, and trees, located at the U.S. national Arboretum. The area was first planted in 1959 as a cooperative venture of the Arboretum and the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs. Under the direction of a new curator (and VWPS member), Sherry McNatt, Fern Valley is being restored and improved and the plantings enhanced.

Volunteers are needed to assist in weeding and restoration of the area. Plants also are needed to fill in the bare spots. If you would like to volunteer your time and/or expertise, or if you have surplus plants you wish to donate, please contact Sherry McNatt or Cole Burrell, Assistant Curator, by phoning the Arboretum (475-4864) between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. With a little help, Fern Valley can be restored as a premier showcase for plants native to the eastern United States and provide a valuable education both to those who work on it and those who come to view and enjoy the finished garden.

NATIVE PLANT SEED PROGRAM

To further the use of native plants in the home landscape, the New England Wild Flower Society once again is offering for sale freshly collected seeds and spores of over 100 native plants.

Non-members of the New England Society wishing to receive a Seed Sales List, available in January 1984, should mail a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope by February 1, 1984, to: SEED SALES, New England Wild Flower Society, Garden in the Woods, Hemenway Road, Framingham, MA 01701.

All orders must be received by March 1, 1984.

BE NOT TIMID

Enter our very first VWPS Photo Contest. So that each of you can enter, we have extended the deadline to September 29, 1983! Judging is open and will be at Green Springs Farm Park, 7:30 p.m., October 3, 1983. Awards will be presented October 10th at the annual meeting.

Photography Contest Entry Form

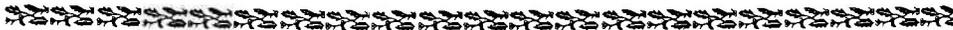
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

VWPS Member?    yes \_\_\_\_\_    no \_\_\_\_\_

Check category:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Wildflowers in Nature Color Print
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wildflowers in Nature Black & White
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wildflowers in the Garden Color
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wildflowers in the Garden Black & White

Directions: Complete one form for each entry. One person may submit no more than three entries. Bring or mail the mounted photographs to Linda McMahan, 2811 N. Franklin Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201. Enclose entry fee of \$1.00 for each entry (VWPS members) or \$1.50 per entry (nonmembers). Entries must be mounted prints at least 8" x 10" and no larger than 16" x 18" (including mounting). Entrants consent in advance to allow the Society to make a slide or duplicate copy of the entry for non-commercial use to enhance public awareness of Virginia flora and agree not to hold the Society responsible for loss of or damage to the entries. By completing the entry form, each entrant confirms that the photograph(s) represent a Virginia wildflower taken in a Virginia setting. The Society reserves the right not to award prizes for categories where the number of entries is less than twenty-five.



JUNE FUND RAISER AT WILDCAT MT. FARM

Fund Raising Chairman, Jocelyn Arundel Alexander and Marjorie Arundel were the generous organizers and hostesses of the VWPS reception held on June 5th at their graceful home in Warrenton. Our many guests were provided an idyllic setting for the occasion: exquisite grounds and gardens atop Wildcat Mountain. Even the sun was in dazzling attendance after having maintained a remarkably low profile through most of spring.

From the lovely invitations down to the last hors d'oeuvre, Jocelyn and Marjorie set the stage for the Society's cast of Board members and speakers. Brief talks were given by Jocelyn, President Mary Painter, and our featured speaker, Dr. Stan Shetler. Subjects discussed were Virginia's need for native plant conservation as well as the history, composition, and early efforts of our fledgling organization.

Throughout the event, silent-bid auction items drew the interest of our guests. Active bidding centered about such items as the botanical walks and surveys to be provided by Stan Shetler, Al Studholme, and David Askegaard; Al's wide selections of native plant wines; and the lovely artwork of Barbara Stewart and Nicky Staunton.

Jamie Painter served as auctioneer for the feature bid item: a wildflower garden to be planned and planted by VWPS volunteers. Josine Hitchcock and Gina Farrar of Warrenton were the winning bidders. Over \$750 in proceeds were realized from the day including a very generous contribution from Mr. Doug Smith of Warrenton. The Society gained many new friends, members and supporters who enjoyed the festivities.

VWPS POSITIONS OFFERED

The Board of Directors welcomes inquiries from our own membership. We hope to fill both positions this fall.

Secretary. The VWPS Board is seeking the part-time help of someone with typing and writing ability. Duties include written and telephone correspondence; some duties may require local driving (northern Virginia area). Principal work location: VWPS president's home in Annandale. Contact Mary Painter, (703) 573-7747.

Auditor. VWPS needs someone who can competently provide an audit of the Society's 1983 books. Contact Tommee Kerr, (703) 573-7646.



ACTIVELY SUPPORT ESA

Members of the VWPS can help ensure conservation of rare plants in Virginia and the nation. The Endangered Species Act offers habitat and other protection to about 70 plant species, 2 of them in Virginia. Another 2,000 or more species, including several in Virginia, deserve protection under the Act but have not yet been listed. Other aspects of the program, vital to these species' survival, have also lagged due to insufficient staff and budget.

Congress is currently completing work on the budget for the endangered species program for 1984. The House has proposed higher funding for four crucial programs: grants to the states, recovery programs, land acquisition, and listing of additional species. Please write to Congressman Sidney Yates and Senator James McClure, chairmen of the House and Senate subcommittees on the Interior. Urge them to accept the House figures for these programs when the conference meets (this may occur as early as mid-September). Congressman Yates may be written at the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20515; Senator McClure at the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20510.

- Faith Campbell

	VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	
		___ New	___ Renewal
	Name(s) _____	Date _____	
	Address _____		
	Phone(s): Home (___) _____ Work (___) _____		
Membership and fiscal year is Nov. 1 to Oct. 31 and dues are renewable by Oct. 15 <u>each year</u> . Dues submitted during September and October will apply toward membership for the coming full membership and fiscal year. Please check membership category:			
___ Student/Senior \$5 ___ Individual \$7.50 ___ Family \$10 ___ Patron \$20 ___ Associate (group) \$25			
Gift Membership. Your Name: _____			
Greeting: _____			
Please indicate your choice of affiliation:			
	Potowmack Chapter _____	Prince William Wildflower Society, a chapter of VWPS _____	At-Large Membership _____
Make check payable to V.W.P.S. and mail to: Barbara McAleer, Membership Chairman, 5606 North 32 Street, Arlington VA 22207			

Note: Membership renewals may also be processed during registration at the October 10th VWPS Annual Meeting. This is your final notice.



*Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society*

3718 Camelot Drive  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

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