

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, No. 1 Editor: Norma Vermillion 451-0572 JUNE-JULY 1982

INITIAL DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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STAFF ARTIST: Barbara Stewart

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is indeed my pleasure to welcome our many talented and enthusiastic Charter members in this, our first newsletter. Since its establishment on April first of this year, the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society is now comprised of over 115 members. Our numbers are growing by the week as the word travels of our plant conservation efforts.

Your initial Board of Directors continues to work diligently to provide educative programs which will help to sharpen our volunteer skills necessary to implement the Society's goals. The final draft of the Society's Articles of Incorporation and By-laws have been reviewed by the Board of Directors this month. Our Charter has been submitted to the State Corporation Commission. Immediately upon obtaining corporate status, the Society shall apply for a tax-exempt ruling by the IRS. Society advisor and lawyer, Ern Reynolds of Manasses, has provided valuable counsel during the preparation of our applications and organizational documents.

You will find mention of many upcoming VWPS activities throughout this newsletter. Certainly the success of our efforts must greatly rely upon the volunteer participation of our membership. You are an outstanding group comprising a wide range of experience, ages and talents. It is hoped that each of us will share what we know and, in turn, be rewarded by the satisfaction and knowledge we gain through involvement in the Society's work. And, finally, I wish to thank those Society officers and members who have worked tirelessly to build our new organization.

Gratefully,

Mary Painter



OUR SOCIETY LETTERHEAD is represented by the Marsh Marigold or Cowslip (*Caltha palustris*), a showy native perennial which enjoys swamps, marshes, wet meadows and stream borders. Its bright golden-yellow flowers bloom April-June on hollow, thick branching stems 1 to 2 feet long. Basal leaves are long-stalked while those situated higher up on the stems become stalkless. Leaves are glossy, dark green, heart or kidney-shaped and shallowly toothed. The 5 to 9 shiny, petal-like sepals more closely resemble a buttercup's blossom than that of a marigold.

While the selection of our Society's floral symbol seems to be a fait accompli, the Publications Committee is currently soliciting members to suggest a name for our newsletter. The editor is eagerly awaiting your ideas. Society members are also encouraged to participate in THE EXCHANGE, featuring questions, answers, and your suggestions relating to the cultivation and propagation of native plants. Within our membership, there exists a wealth of expertise related to native plants, be it in the form of a successful backyard gardener's recipe, to the more technical or scientific knowledge of the botanist. Such a resource of knowledge should be tapped and shared.

The Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TARGET: Target members are scheduled to meet at Supervisor Joseph Alexander's office to familiarize themselves with a County tax map book and other available public information to aid them in their work. Fairfax County Supervisors and their staffs have been most cooperative in providing notice of commercial and residential developments. The Board and members of the Northern Virginia Builders Association and area landowners have also proved to be supportive of our conservation efforts. They, in turn, deserve our gratitude and compliance with any conditions they may wish to set in regard to our volunteer work at their development sites.*

BOTANICAL: CHAIRMEN CAROL AND DAVE NATELLA have developed our site survey forms and have conducted two survey demonstrations for volunteers at Green Spring Farm Park, our headquarters site. The Botanical Committee is necessarily comprised of some of the Society's most experienced members, in terms of field identification. Survey leaders are meeting at the Westpark development in McLean to prepare for several survey visits to that site. Botanical will form survey teams, usually combining 3 members of various levels of experience and, in this way, help to develop a 'deep bench' within the whole committee. CAROL, DAVE and MARY PAINTER have flagged and mapped numerous areas within Fox Mill District Park, Vienna, signifying species stations to be dug during the Society's first rescue project. Survey ribbons used by the Society are striped in blue/white or orange/white.

RESCUE: CHAIRMAN COLE BURRELL is gathering the necessary equipment in readiness for that first rescue project at Fox Mill, scheduled for Saturday, July 10. At the start of each project, participants will be given an on-site briefing on available species, site mapping and recommended techniques for removal of each species station. The very interesting plant material available within Fox Mill's impacted sites will be relocated to other, managed areas within that park and Green Spring.*

LANDSCAPE I: CHAIRMAN ED BALLARD and his committee are preparing several pre-selected sites at Green Spring for the planting of rescued species. Within these permanent wildflower display areas, habitat and soil surveys have been made in order to determine which species would best thrive under the park's existing natural conditions. In addition, Landscape I will prepare an artificial bog garden adjacent to Green Spring's two ponds.*

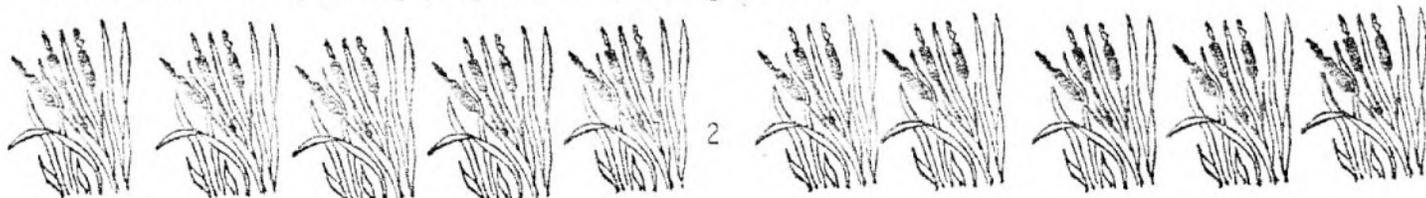
LANDSCAPE II: While Landscape I will principally be involved in the design, planting and maintenance of Green Spring's wildflower display areas, Landscape II will be responsible for the replanting of rescued species within the many other repository sites located throughout Northern Virginia. CHAIRMAN PAT ROSING will coordinate volunteers for such projects. This committee will also compile environmental survey data on potential repository sites. Such information will help us to develop criteria for future repository site selections and replanting programs.*

PROPAGATION: This committee will not be fully operational until building construction and ground preparation work are nearly completed at Green Spring. The projected completion time for 'Phase I' development of the park's facilities, including the greenhouse, is Sept. 1982. However, in August, our permanent propagation and nursery beds should be ready for planting. In the meantime, CHAIRMAN DON BAER has dispensed seeds and plant cultivation information to his committee members who are maintaining many native species within their own wildflower gardens. They will meet to prepare for the Society's fall native plant sale and to share valuable lessons learned at the recently held workshop at North Carolina Botanical Gardens.*

EDUCATION: Committee members met in mid June to prepare a full summer roster of membership activities. The V.W.P.S. Calendar features an excellent sampling of our many talented and knowledgeable members. Throughout late May and early June, CHAIRMAN AL STUDHOLME led two wildflower walks and presented two slide programs geared to sharpen our volunteer skills.

PUBLICATIONS: We are currently planning to issue five V.W.P.S. Newsletters per year. In addition, this committee is preparing an annotated bibliography of publications related to the Society's many, diverse activities and plans to make available other written and illustrated items for Society members, as well as the public. Committee chairmen are reminded to submit their committee reports for the next newsletter issue by the August meeting of the Board of Directors. CHAIRMAN NORMA VERMILLION promises that each issue will get better and better. She welcomes suggestions and critique from each of you. If anyone knows of a person or business who might be sympathetic to our purpose and willing to let us use their copying and/or typesetting equipment from time to time, please contact Norma at once.

*See Calendar for upcoming projects or meeting dates.



ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT PASSES BOTH HOUSES.

From Faith Campbell, Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., June 11, 1982:
"The House passed the Endangered Species Act by voice vote on 8 June; the Senate passed its similar bill, also by voice vote, on 9 June. The two bills will be reconciled in a conference - not expected to be difficult since there are only a few substantive differences between them. Then both houses will pass the common version and it must be signed by the President . . . Letters to Senators may be addressed to the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; to Congresspeople, to the House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. . . . I wish to thank you for all your invaluable help. I am convinced that your active support of the Act, and in particular its continued protection for plants and other "lower life forms", headed off the dangerous attacks that were being circulated last Fall. . . . once the reauthorization is signed, we still must assure its proper implementation."

I N T H E F I E L D

Following TARGET committee's contacts with various landowners/developers, the V.W.P.S has received authorization to conduct Survey and Rescue activities at the following sites.

<u>Development/Location</u>	<u>Landowner/Developer</u>	<u>Some Impacted Plants Material</u>
1. Fox Mill District Park-Vienna	Fairfax County Prk Auth	Known to Exist at some Sites
2. Westpark - McLean	Westpark Associates	Cypripedium acaule, Goodyera
3. 10 lots within Encore and Act IV - Vienna	Wexford Associates/ County Developers	pubescens, Medeola virginiana, Epigaea repens, Kalmia latifolia, Rhododendron nudiflorum,
4. Popes Head Valley of Clifton	Mrs. Lorry Ruml	Geranium macalatum, Nuphar
5. Brooks Square - McLean	Wills and Albrittain	sagittifolium, Isotria verticillata, Lysimachia quadri-
6. Pentagon tract - Arlington	Cafritz Company	folia, Chimaphila maculata
7. townhomes development-Vienna	Woodside Development	and C. umbellata, Viola nut-
8. Carpers Farm-Colvin Run	C-I/Mitchell & Best Co.	tallii, Uvularia sessilifolia, Arisaema triphyllum, Medeola virginiana, Pyrola rotundifolia, Cypripedium acaule alba.

V O L U N T E E R G U I D E L I N E S

CARRY MEMBERSHIP I.D. CARDS with you during your participation in all survey and rescue projects. Windshield I.D. placards will be provided for your car parked adjacent to project sites.

→Rescue and Landscape members are asked to BRING THEIR OWN SHOVEL AND GLOVES. Those members who provide station wagons or other vehicles for transporting plants to relocation sites are asked to line the car's upholstery with a plastic tarp for its protection. Please remember to arm yourself against greedy insects and wear protective clothing (poison ivy abounds in some rescue sites).

→All members should KEEP ACCURATE RECORDS OF THEIR VOLUNTEER TIME AND MILEAGE spent in behalf of the V.W.P.S. While the Society's application for a non-profit, tax-exempt ruling by the IRS is pending, you may claim your volunteer mileage as a tax deduction. A record of the Society's total volunteer hours will be most helpful as our organization becomes eligible for grants and more substantial funding. Committee chairmen will ask for your mileage/hour records on a regular basis.

→V.W.P.S will conduct a NATIVE PLANT SALE for its members and interested citizens this fall. Varieties for sale shall be those which have been artificially propagated by our Propagation Committee. In addition, we ask our members who maintain their own home wild-flower gardens that they please provide a few plants for the fall sale.

→MOST WANTED LIST: All members...please save all extra plastic pots, flats, and plant containers for our various committee needs and the fall plant sale. Even larger cardboard boxes, baskets and plastic bags would be of great value to our rescue committee. Unbeknownst to her husband, Mary Painter has volunteered her roomybasement as storage space for those donated items. Please phone her if you can contribute any material mentioned above: 573-7747.

THANK YOU!

WILDFLOWER NOTES

PINK LADY'S SLIPPER or MOCCASIN FLOWER (*Cypripedium acaule*).

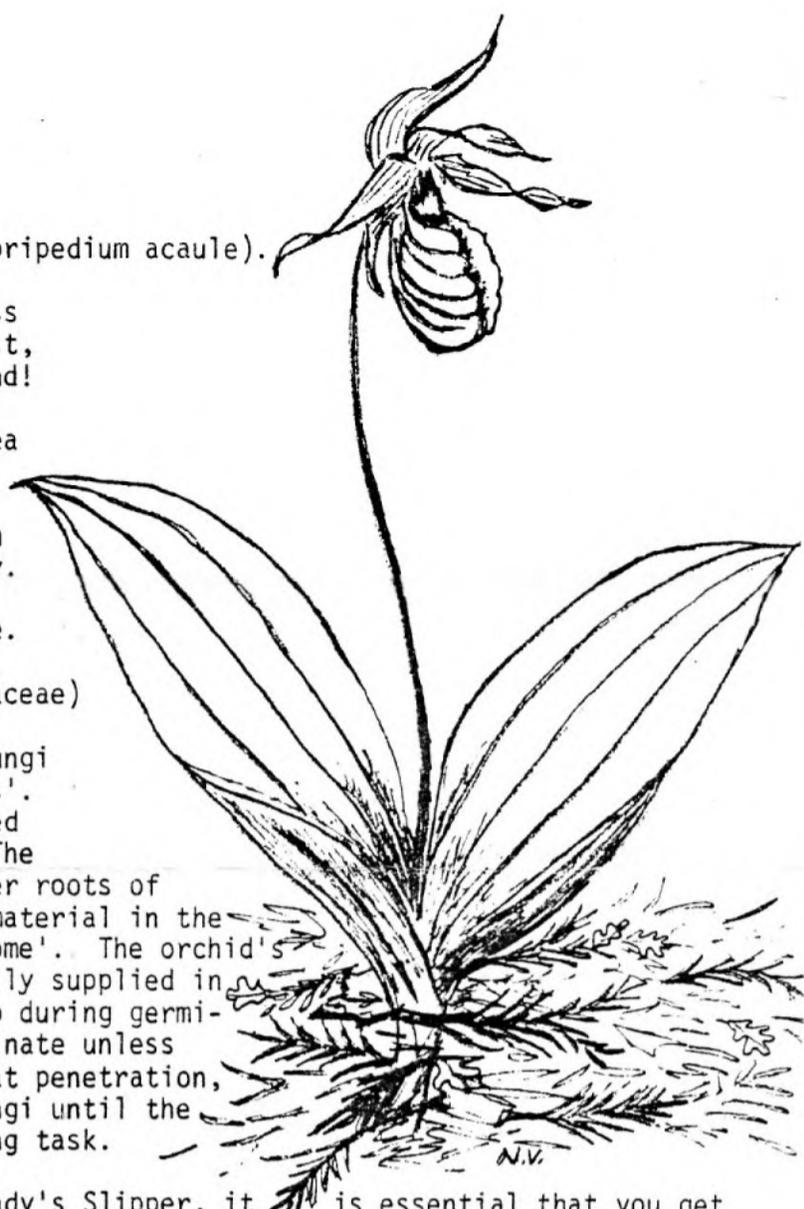
This wild orchid nodding on a leafless stem high above its basal leaves is, to most, a breath-taking sight in the spring woodland! The generic name combines the Greek *kyris*, meaning 'Venus' and *pedilon*, 'slipper'. Tea made from the dried leaves was used by Indians as a tranquilizer and a cure for insomnia, yet the hairs on fresh plants can cause skin irritation similar to poison ivy. Until the 1930's, the Lady's Slipper roots were used by physicians as a nerve medicine.

Members of the orchid family (Orchidaceae) thrive in acid soils because of an unusual relationship between the plant roots and fungi called Mycorrhizae, literally 'fungus roots'. The orchid and the fungi form a finely-tuned partnership mutually beneficial to both. The Mycorrhizae live upon the decomposed feeder roots of the host plant and the subsequent organic material in the soil, sharing this food in return for a 'home'. The orchid's dust-like seeds lack the stored food normally supplied in plant seeds which sustains the plant embryo during germination. A seed of an orchid will not germinate unless first penetrated by Mycorrhizae. After that penetration, the infant seedling is nourished by the fungi until the first green leaves take over the food-making task.

Thus, when transplanting your Pink Lady's Slipper, it is essential that you get ample 'root ball' with the plant. Dig to at least six inches in order to insure removal of the all-important 'fungus root' with your specimen. Place your plant in a well-prepared light, acid soil, preferably near Virginia pine or other shade-giving, acid-loving trees. Annually, fertilize your plants with a 30-10-10 solution (consists of 1 tablespoon of 30-10-10 fertilizer mixed with 1 gallon of water). Pour one cupful on each plant three times--once when the buds form, once after the blooms fade, and lastly, two weeks later. Pine needles make a natural winter mulch for your now healthy transplants.

From Clarence Birdseye's Growing Woodland Plants, "All ladyslippers are subject to fungus blight, which first spots and then gradually kills the leaves. Blight protection should be started as soon as the leaves unfold and be continued until early fall. Snails and slugs also attack the plants, often cutting off blossoms as they open. A special kind of poison cereal (obtainable from garden supply stores) placed under a leaf or chip near the base of each plant will give ample protection against these pests." According to Birdseye, *C. acaule* leaves dry up in October or early November. Winter protection: shallow layer of new-fallen pine needles and a cover of hardwood leaves (1/2" needles and 1-2" of oak or beech leaves). Do not remove leaf cover in spring. Alternative dressing solution: a light dressing of pulverized cow or sheep manure plus 1 level tablespoon each of ammonium sulphate and 20% superphosphate will furnish both the nourishment and the acid to give plants a good spring start. A similar dressing in early July will aid in the formation of root buds. Optimum pH is 4.0 to 4.5.

Researched by Dorna Kreitz and Mary Painter.



RECOMMENDED READING: ATLAS OF THE VIRGINIA FLORA. This two-volume work features maps of plant distribution throughout the Commonwealth, including descriptions of: 1. history of botanical exploration; 2. physiography and geologic history; 3. climate and soils; 4. vegetation types and plant communities and more. Part I, (1977), by A. M. Harvill, Jr., Charles E. Stevens and Donna Ware. Part II, (1981), by A. M. Harvill, Jr., Ted R. Bradley and Charles E. Stevens. Two-volume paperback set: \$10.00, including shipping. Make check payable to: VIRGINIA BOTANICAL ASSOCIATES and mail to M. M. Painter, 3718 Camelot Drive, Annandale, VA 22003. Please include your mailing address. Volumes will be mailed directly to you.

V. W. P. S. CALENDAR

- Wed., June 30 TARGET Committee Meeting at Supervisor Joe Alexander's office with Jim Kornick, 9:30 a.m. at Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Rd.
- Wed., June 30 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 p.m., NVCC Annandale campus on Little River Turnpike, CN Nursing Bldg, Room 211. Park in Lot B. Final review of By-laws.
- Thur., July 8 LANDSCAPE I and II Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m., brick manor house, Green Spring Farm Park, Green Spring Road, Alexandria. *Cancelled in case of rain.*
- Sat., July 10 Rescue Project at Fox Mill District Park, Vienna. Directions: Route 50 west thru intersections with Rte 236 and Jermantown Rd; turn right onto Waples Mill Rd, go 1.2 miles; turn right after bridge onto Fox Mill Rd, go 3.2 miles; left at wooden Vale Valley Farm sign onto Thoroughbred Lane; park along fenceline and walk across Fox Mill Rd to dirt road at Park entrance. 10:00 a.m. Sharp! *Cancelled in case of rain.*
- Tues., July 13 Introduction to Plant Taxonomy with John Fay, staff botanist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Endangered Species. This presentation is an important 'first' in a series of lectures offering a more scientific approach for native plant enthusiasts. 7:30 p.m. at Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church. No fee. To register, call M. Painter, 573-7747.
- Wed., July 14 V.W.P.S. promotional slide presentation and talk by Mary Painter. This program would provide our members who missed the spring charter meetings an opportunity to learn about the Society, its purpose, organization and volunteer activities. Burke Lake Park amphitheater, West Ox Road, Burke, at 8:30 p.m. No fee. *Cancelled in case of rain.*
- Wed., July 21 Herbarium Workshop directed by Dr. Ted Bradley, Assoc. Professor of Biology, George Mason University. Workshop will feature instruction in field book recording, plant specimen labeling, drying, pressing and mounting. Program limited to 10 persons. No fee. For further info and registration, call M. Painter, 573-7747. 8:00 p.m.
- Sat., Aug. 14 Wildflower Photography Field Workshop with Al Studholme, 10:00 a.m. at Mason District Park. Program limited to 10 persons. No fee. Register by calling M. Painter, 573-7747.
- Tues., Aug 17 Landscape and Floristic Diversity of Virginia: A slide presentation and discussion by Dr. Larry Morse, staff botanist with the Nature Conservancy. 7:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlyn Springs Road, Arlington. Larry will present an overview of the diversity of landscape and plant habitats in Virginia, from seashore to mountain crest, including a discussion of both common and rare species. Directions: Long Branch Park entrance on S. Carlyn Springs Rd is located 1/2 mile south of Rte 50. Turn toward Medical Center and continue past it and park in lot in the woods. Alternate parking available at Glen Carlyn Elementary School: next left turn past Nature Center entrance as you travel south on S. Carlyn Spring Road. No fee.

Wildflower
Hotline Number: 573-7747



SOCIETY MEMBERS ATTEND WORKSHOP IN CAROLINA

Nine members of the V.W.P.S. attended a day-long workshop at the North Carolina Botanical Garden, UNC, Chapel Hill on May 25. Our host, Harry Phillips and the Garden staff provided a full program tailored to the educative needs of our fledgling organization. Society participants were Ed Ballard, Cole Burrell, Elaine Haug, Ray Heller, Linda McMahan, Carol Natella, Mary Painter, Pete Poulos and Becky Skall. Susan Allen a district naturalist with Fairfax County Park Authority and F.C.P.S. liaison to our Society, also attended.

On May 24, our merry band drove for 4½ hours in three carpools to our overnight accommodations in Chapel Hill. An action-packed workshop day included an introduction of the NCBG staff member, a very stimulating slide presentation and tours through propagation and seed-handling facilities, greenhouses, display gardens, nursery beds and wildflower trails. The Garden staff generously gave of their time, expertise and encouragement throughout the day. Botanical Garden director, Dr. Ritchie Bell, members of the N.C. Native Plant Society and some NCBG staff members met with Mary Painter to exchange many ideas related to organizational goals, program guidelines and by-laws.

Each V.W.P.S. participant was most impressed by the facilities and physical design at Chapel Hill's Totten Center. Beyond all that, we most admired the fact that their staff has conscientiously held to their plant conservation approach and public education goals in both words and actions.

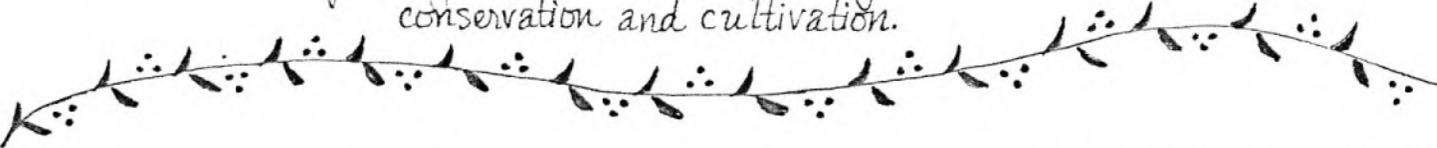
Our members returned home with a wealth of related printed materials, seeds, plants, finished rolls of film...and loads of inspiration. Perhaps the most valuable lessons learned during our visit were those regarding native plant cultivation techniques. For that reason, there will be another trip to North Carolina scheduled in the fall--one which would feature a very workman-like propagation/seed-handling workshop for 8 to 10 members.

In the meantime, Mary Painter has invited some members of the NCBG staff to participate in our first Annual Meeting, scheduled to be held on Saturday, October 16 at the National Wildlife Federation's "Laurel Ridge" at 8925 Leesburg Pike in Vienna.



Chapter News

Mary Painter will be meeting with representatives from the newly-established Prince William Wildflower Society from Manassas, Virginia during the first full week of July in order to discuss the future possibilities of chapter formation within the V.W.P.S.. At present, the Prince William group comprise members from P.W. County and Fauquier County. The initial officers have worked tirelessly to initiate conservation efforts in their area and are providing their active membership many programs and projects in regard to native plant rescue, conservation and cultivation.



SAGUARO STRIKES BACK! Marcopa County deputies report that a Phoenix man was killed recently when a Saguaro cactus he shot fell on him. He had fired a shotgun at least twice at a 27-foot cactus which caused a 23-foot section to fall and crush the man to death. Nature's revenge?

VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY - CHARTER MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 30, 1982

Jean E. Ackor 6812 Barnack Dr Springfield VA 22152 (703) 451-5379	Jane M. Clarke 10725 Scott Dr Fairfax VA 22030 (703) 273-3741	Edward C. Freiling 1908 Washington Ave Fredricksburg VA 22401 H-(703) 373-6245 W-(703) 663-8535	Frazier Kellogg 7725 Tomlinson Ave Cabin John MD 20818 (301) 229-8163
Marjorie Arundel Wildcat Mountain Farm Warrenton VA 22186 (202) 273-7112	Patricia E. Coe 10801 Scott Dr Fairfax VA 22030 (703) 273-6295	Doris Frost 10610 Georgetown Pike Great Falls VA 22066 (703) 759-2367	Tomnee Kerr 3337 Breckenridge Ct Annandale VA 22003 (703) 573-7646
David Askegaard 6111 N. 35th St Arlington VA 22213 (703) 538-6994	Lucy D.P. Coggin Box 92 Mt Holly VA 22524 (804) 472-3251	Elizabeth Funnell 1831 Kirby Rd McLean VA 22101 (703)	Curt & Mary Kornblau ⁺ 9203 Old Courthouse Rd Vienna VA 22180 (703) 938-1575
Kay D. Bachman 416 Poplar Dr Falls Church VA 22046 (703) 532-9246	Mildred F. Councilor 1512 Stonewall Rd Alexandria VA 22302 (703) 836-3320	Margaret Glahn 3233 Holly Hill Dr Falls Church VA 22042 (703) 573-6131	William & Dorna Kreitz ⁺ 2819 Oakton Manor Ct Oakton VA 22124 (703) 938-6248
Donald G. Baer 5944 Oakdale Rd McLean VA 22101 (703) 536-9531	Anne W. Crocker 909 Van Buren St Herndon VA 22070 H-(703) 437-0355	John & Mildred Gordon ⁺ 208 E Columbia St Falls Church VA 22046 (703) 534-5617	Marianne Leith-Buchanan 10504 Adel Rd Oakton VA 22124 (703) 281-4309
Suzanne Balengee 9137 Suteki Dr Fairfax VA 22031 (703) 280-1753	Babs Cullen 11302 Popes Head Rd Fairfax VA 22030 (703) 278-8633	Claudia R. Hammett 9700 Mill Run Dr Great Falls VA 22066 H-(703) 759-4776 W-(703) 759-2796	Diane Lewis 1397 Kimblewick Rd Rockville MD 20854 (301) 762-9276
Edward & Mina Ballard ⁺ 3913 Longstreet Ct Annandale VA 22003 (703) 256-3157	Elisabeth Cummings Box 67 Aldie VA 22001 H-(703) 327-4428 W-(202) 343-4047	Lilly B. Harper 1558 Forest Villa Lane McLean VA 22101 (703) 356-6217	Wynn Lloyd 6712 Coachman Dr Springfield VA 22152 (703) 451-2585
Doris C. Berger ^o 3509 Perry St Fairfax VA 22030 (703) 273-3324	Carole Davis 5411 Long Boat Ct Fairfax VA 22032 (703) 323-7461	Ruth E. Harrington 7208 Parkview Ave Falls Church VA 22042 (703) 573-5299	Edward A. Mainland 8752 Old Dominion Dr McLean VA 22102 (202) 755-4233
Nancy Block 3434 Mansfield Rd Falls Church VA 22041 (703) 820-7074	Ann K. Duffell 11219 Gerald Lane Oakton VA 22124 (703) 620-5195	William Heaps and Catherine Ballantyne ⁺ 6557 Linway Terrace McLean VA 22101 (703) 821-6645	Jane L. Manring 6132 Franklin Park Rd McLean VA 22101 (703) 534-7553
Ari C. Bouter ⁺ 1440 Highland Dr McLean VA 22101 (703) 536-7278	Barbara B. Duley 6105 Sherborn Lane Springfield VA 22152 (703) 451-4223	Ray S. Heller ^o 6610 Mulroy St McLean VA 22101 (703) 790-9326	Mary C. Massey Apt G-04 1401 N Rhodes St, Arlington VA 22209 H-(703) 525-4716 W-(703) 673-4974
Ted R. Bradley 4206 Sideburn Rd Fairfax VA 22030 H-(703) 591-1224 W-(703) 323-2974	Newton W. Edwards 6524 Elmdale Rd Alexandria VA 22312 (703) 354-7737	Barbara H. Honkala 2115 McKay St Falls Church VA 22043 H-(703) 893-3230 W-(202) 235-8200	George J. Maurer 4132 N 3rd Rd, Apt 1 Arlington VA 22203 (703) 524-5473
Roy C. Brewer ^o 2791 Fort Scott Dr Arlington VA 22202 (703) 684-9081	Barbara Ellis 18 Sunset Ave Alexandria VA 22301 H-(703) W-(703) 768-5700	Joe & Mary Howard ⁺ 9501 Bruce Dr Silver Spring MD 20901 (301) 585-8818	Peter M. Mazzeo U.S. National Arboretum 24th & R Streets Washington DC 20002 H-(202) 529-7478 W-(202) 472-9100
Cole Burrell 1702 N 17th St, Apt 9 Arlington VA 22209 H-(703) 522-2668 W-(703) 557-1176	Sara E. Evans ^o 8401 Briar Creek Dr Annandale VA 22003 (703) 978-4621	Patricia D. Jennings 8404 Cedar Falls Ct Springfield VA 22153 H-(703) 690-2483 W-(703) 750-3000	Barbara S. McAleer 5606 North 32nd St Arlington VA 22207 (703) 536-8697
E. Beam Carroll 2824 Mankin Walk Falls Church VA 22042 (703) 534-8770	Nancy G. Everett 8114 Touchstone Terr McLean VA 22102 (703) 356-8931	Lucy S. Johnston 6412 Newman Rd, Bx 218 Clifton VA 22024 (703) 830-2755	David McInturff 7089 Leestone St Springfield VA 22151 (703) 941-1962
James & Lenna Chadwick ⁺ P.O. Box 119 Mt Vernin VA 22121 (703) 780-6764	John J. Fay 2323 Old Trail Dr Reston VA 22091 H-(703) 860-8671 W-(202) 235-1975	Sarah J. Jolly 8359 Alvord St McLean VA 22102 (703) 893-4985	McLean Garden Club ^A c/o Joy McFarland, Pres. 1100 Waverly Way McLean VA 22101 (703) 356-3382
Barbara A. Chappell 3720 Camelot Dr Annandale VA 22003 H-(703) 573-1065 W-(703) 860-6675	Jeannette Fitzwilliams 13 West Maple St Alexandria VA 22301 (703) 548-7490		Linda R. McMahan ^o 2811 N Franklin Rd Arlington VA 22201 H-(703) 522-1715 W-(202) 797-7901

A - Associate
O - Patron
+ - Family

Larry Morse 1800 N Kent St Arlington VA 22209 H-(703) 543-1656 W-(703) 841-5300	Ern Reynolds 6803 Compton's Lane Manassas VA 22110 H-(703) 754-4711 W-(202) 755-0230	E. LaVerne Smith 1035 N Manchester St Arlington VA 22205 H-(703) 532-6784 W-(202) 235-1975	Norma Vermillion 6700 Caneel Ct Springfield VA 22152 (703) 451-0572
David & Carol Natella ⁺ 1929 Woodford Rd Vienna VA 22180 (703) 790-1619 Carol W-(703) 557-3113 David W-(301) 493-5300	Rock Spring Garden Club ^A c/o Lois G. Morgan, Conservation Chrmn 3809 N 37th St Arlington VA 22207 (703) 524-0694	Emily Smith 6148 Willston Dr, #301 Falls Church VA 22044 H-(703) 534-6348 W-(703) 573-0523	Bert & Elizabeth Vos ⁺ P.O. Box 569 McLean VA 22101 (703) 356-7765
Amy R. Nelson 4053-C Majestic Lane Fairfax VA 22033 (703) 378-6327	Col. Willis and Patricia Rosing ^{O+} 5214 Lightorne Rd Burke VA 22015 (703) 323-1090	Ruth J. Smith 1001 Wilson Blvd, #108 Arlington VA 22209 (703) 528-0425	Grady L. Webster 1020 N Quincy St, #1014 Arlington VA 22201 (703) 243-2503
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Mary M. Painter ^O 3718 Camelot Dr Annandale VA 22003 (703) 573-7747	Constance Sanford 7605 Walton Lane Annandale VA 22003 (703) 560-5487	Barbara M. Stewart 3422 Charleston St Annandale VA 22003 (703) 560-3637	Genevieve J. White 2713 Holly St Alexandria VA 22305 (703) 548-2820
Richard & Kathryn Paxton ⁺ 4509 Carrico Dr Annandale VA 22003 (703) 256-9443	Patricia S. Schindler 9932 Fair Oaks Rd Vienna VA 22180 (703) 281-3399	Allan T. Studholme 6300 North 28th St Arlington VA 22207 (703) 532-7822	John & Phoebe White ⁺ 5002 Banner Ct Annandale VA 22003 (703) 941-8712
Mary B. Pockman 7301 Hooking Rd McLean VA 22101 (703) 356-7425	Victoria D. Schwartz 2242 N Columbus St Arlington VA 22207 H-(703) 524-4448 W-(202) 293-7770	Lloyd & Rose Swift ⁺ 3432 Greentree Dr Falls Church VA 22041 (703) 820-1033	Leonard & Annie Wood ⁺ 431 Blair Rd, N.W. Vienna VA 22180 (703) 938-9276
Peter G. Poulos 2232 Lofty Heights Pl Reston VA 22091 H-(703) 860-4843 W-(703) 235-2760	Laurel Scull P.O. Box 170 Annandale VA 22003 (703) 560-5938	Avril A. Thomas 2109 North Troy St Arlington VA 22201 H-(703) 243-1562 W-(202) 224-4204	Helen D. Woodbridge 3411 Mansfield Rd Falls Church VA 22041 (703) 820-1394
Marjorie J. Purchase 2419 N Nottingham St Arlington VA 22207 (703) 536-8285	Elizabeth H. Sherman 6329 Mori St McLean VA 22101 (703) 821-2389	Marie Travesky 8800 Law Court Springfield VA 22152 H-(703) 451-7135 W-(703) 451-8873	
David Quante 369 Reneau Way Herndon VA 22070 H-(703) 437-8865 W-(202) 827-5506	Stanwyn G. Shetler 142 Meadowland Lane E. Sterling, VA 22170 H-(703) 430-6523 W-(202) 357-2521	Mrs. Stephen A Trentman 1350 27th St., N.W. Washington DC 20007 (202) 965-2942	
Patricia M. Quinlan 19 S Irving St Arlington VA 22204 H-(703) 979-2416 W-(703) 892-5565	Rebecca Skall 6333 Silas Burke St Burke VA 22015 (703) 455-3331	Craig Tufts P.O. Box 393 Sterling VA 22170 H-(703) 430-7816 W-(703) 790-4000	
Reston Garden Club ^A c/o Sarah Costello, President 12013 Canter Lane Reston VA 22091		Joan Ventrella 6722 Caneel Ct Springfield VA 22152 (703) 451-0452	

A - Associate
O - Patron
+ - Family

Updated lists of recent members will be provided in future newsletters. A complete membership directory will be submitted to 1983 members following our first annual meeting. The directories will be mailed. 

THE EXCHANGE

Q. Does anyone have suggestions for eradicating moles from my garden?



A. Dr. Marc Cathey, Director of the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., reports that spearmint chewing gum has been found to be an effective weapon against garden moles. Although he has no moles in his own garden on which to try this method, Dr. Cathey says that several garden magazines recently have recommended the following procedure: "Carefully don a new pair of garden gloves; unwrap a stick of spearmint gum, roll into a small ball and place it in the mole run. Place these wads every 6 to 8 inches along a fresh mole run, then re-cover each with soil." Apparently, moles are highly attracted to spearmint, and the substances which make the gum chewy will plug the animal's digestive tract. A key to success of this method is handling of materials with new gloves. These sly creatures are repelled by human scent and all your gum and work would go down the run if you're not careful!

(Editor's note: Thank you, Dr. Cathey! Thanks also to Dorna Krietz for contacting Dr. C. Members, please try this and let us know of your success or failure with the gum...or of any other successful means you have used to run the rascals out. Would rubber gloves be more successful in blocking out human scent? They work wonders in protecting hands from poison ivy during wildflower digs...a good trick I learned from my longtime digging partner, Becky Skall.)

EXPLANATION OF OUR FISCAL YEAR

Our new organization is presently operating in a partial fiscal year, ending October 31, 1982. For this reason, our membership dues shall be kept at the same reasonable, low amounts through October, 1983. The V.W.P.S. staff has alerted every member to the Board of Directors' decision to change the fiscal year's end from April 30 to October 31. We thank every single member for your generosity and understanding in regard to the ramifications of this change.

Any persons wishing to join the Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society and who have not already done so, shall be eligible for CHARTER membership until October 31, 1982.

Encourage a friend to join as a CHARTER MEMBER of V.W.P.S., or consider giving a gift membership to a friend or relative. Those interested persons joining the Society between June 1 and October 31, 1982 shall be required to pay only a pro-rated portion of the regular membership fees. Notices will be included in upcoming newsletters and will be mailed to all members, alerting you to the fact that membership renewals for the coming fiscal year are due by October 31, 1982.

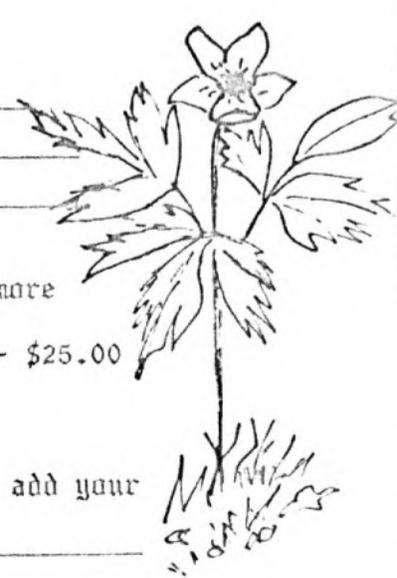
Please encourage a fellow wildflower enthusiast to join...or give a gift membership.

VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY
Membership Form

Name _____
Address _____
Home phone () _____ Work phone () _____
Please include area codes.

____ Student/Senior - \$5.00 _____ Patron - \$20.00 or more
____ Individual - \$7.50 _____ Associate (groups) - \$25.00
____ Family - \$10.00

____ This is a gift membership. Please check one category above and add your name and greeting: _____



MEMBERSHIP PROFILES

DORIS FROST of Great Falls has been involved in native plant conservation long before the establishment of the V.W.P.S. As present chairman of the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Club's Land Trust Committee, Doris has helped the Nature Conservancy raise approximately \$23,000 for the purchase of 44 acres of the Nassawongo Swamp. This 1,000 year old cypress forest touches Virginia but is principally located in Maryland. Originally part of the Dismal Swamp, Nassawongo will continue to provide refuge to many wildlife species. Doris is a strong advocate of organic gardening and has developed a herb garden which has often been admired as a garden tour highlight.

JEANNETTE FITZWILLIAMS of Alexandria is past president of the Virginia Trails Association and is now the president of the National Trails Council. While volunteering as a TARGET member, Jeannette hopes to develop a new rapport with landowners and developers that would also serve the concerns of the V.T.A. Jeannette strongly feels that "communication and active volunteerism is the important thing." She clearly sees "the development of trails and wildlife preservation as going hand-in-hand."

E. LaVERNE SMITH of Arlington is employed as one of three staff botanists with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Endangered Species who handle additions to the Endangered Species List and other botanical policy matters. During the past year, LaVerne has been busy with reauthorization work for the Endangered Species Act. She is also a member of the Plant Conservation Roundtable. While formerly employed by the North Carolina Heritage Program, LaVerne did on occasion share work on projects with the North Carolina Botanical Garden staff. As a member of LANDSCAPE, LaVerne plans to handle the survey and research of the Society's potential repository sites and will formulate some criteria for the selection of these sites.

ROY C. BREWER of Arlington retired in 1962 from the Army's Ordinance Department. Roy is a member of BOTANICAL and has contributed his own independent, preliminary plant survey of the Pentagon tract located very near his home. This information serves as a valuable aid to our efforts since the Pentagon tract will soon be the site of one of the V.W.P.S.'s initial RESCUE programs. Roy's principal interest is trees. He is also involved in the National Park Service's "Big Tree Program" and is a member of the American Horticultural Society.

REBECCA SKALL of Burke generously serves on both TARGET and PROPAGATION committees. Becky is a "spark plug" member whose energy is matched by her desire to keep learning. A former member of Village Green Garden Club, she has also served as a plant consultant with the VPI Extension Service. Becky directs a Middle Eastern Dance Troupe and continues to give demonstration lectures in floral design. She has received an A.A.H. degree from NVCC as a Landscape Grower and has won awards in both floral design and horticulture. Becky has devoted considerable time "keeping one step ahead of the bulldozers." She claims to have moved to Burke in hopes of "having my own Fern Valley on a half acre. Becky was an enthusiastic member of the V.W.P.S. group who recently attended the workshop in Chapel Hill.

LUCY D. P. COGGIN from Mt. Holly represents the Society within the "Northern Neck" of the Commonwealth. Lucy is employed part-time as a landscape manager and is helping to develop a wildflower trail at Stratford Hall, the lovely childhood home of Robert E. Lee. She was engaged in a work-study program through a fellowship at the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard as well as a pest management program at VPI. Lucy has worked with a crop improvement association as a field inspector of seed grains. She is also interested in Wakefield, the former home of George Washington, as a permanent conservation site for native flora.

Complimentary Copy from the

Virginia Wildflower Preservation Society
3718 Camelot Drive
Annandale, Virginia 22003

