

Virginia Native Plant Society Slate of Candidates

The following slate of candidates is proposed by the 2009 VNPS Nominating Committee to replace officers, standing committee chairs, directors-at-large, and members-at-large of the Nominating Committee, and to fill existing vacancies in other classes. Please note that there are a number of open seats that need to be filled by enthusiastic volunteers. Please consider giving of your time and talents for the special plants and habitats in our Commonwealth.

PRESIDENT - Sally Anderson (2012) has completed two terms as president of VNPS. She has a bachelors degree in botany from the University of Texas (1976). After working in a neuropathology lab doing electron microscopy, she returned to school and obtained a masters in archeology from Boston University (1987). A native of Texas, she has lived in several states, but has called Winchester, Va., home for over 20 years. She likes to travel, especially to see other landscapes, even though she lives in just about the prettiest place on earth. Since reconnecting with botany through Marion Lobstein's field botany class at Blandy Experimental Farm, she has been the lead volunteer for the native plant trail at Blandy. She has completed Master Naturalist certification. She also serves on the board of the Piedmont Chapter. During her time as President of VNPS, the society has sponsored the rare plant *Harperella* with the Center for Plant Conservation, provided support for the Flora of Virginia Project, and, with the help of Education Chair Shirley Gay, has begun field trips to see more of the natural beauty of Virginia.

BOTANY CHAIR - John Hayden (2012) is professor of biology at the University of Richmond, where he has been since 1980. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Maryland, pursuing research involving the systematics, morphology, and anatomy of plants in family Euphorbiaceae. At Richmond, he has taught introductory botany, plant anatomy, plant morphology, systematic botany, and Mesoamerican ethnobotany. Additional duties include curation of the URV herbarium and management of the greenhouse. John's publications include inventories of plant diversity, descriptions of several tropical species new to science, treatments of various euphorb genera in flora projects, as well as comparative and developmental anatomical studies. He is author of three genera (*Tetracoccus*, *Bischofia*, and *Manihot*) to be published in *Flora North America*. John is an avid gardener of ornamentals and vegetables; a small flock of chickens are integral partners in his organic gardening efforts. Since 2004, he has served as VNPS Botany Chair; in that capacity he researches, writes the text, and frequently contributes photographs for the annual Wildflower of the Year brochure, along with similar articles for the society's *Bulletin*. He is a member of the Virginia Botanical Associates and part of the southeastern regional review team for the Flora North America Project.

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR - Bland Crowder (2012) - Bland Crowder has worked at the Flora of Virginia Project since January 2007. As editor, he compiles and edits species and genus descriptions for the *Flora*,

provides content for the project website, handles much of the development efforts, and oversees and produces publications. From 1994-2006 he worked at the copy desks of *People* and *Time* magazines and was copy chief at ABCNews.com. Prior to that he was education and publications coordinator with the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia and an assistant editor at the Texas A&M University Sea Grant College Program. He holds degrees in biology from the College of William and Mary and journalism from New York University. He is a lifelong environmentalist, mostly organic gardener, with a love of the natural world that developed while spending weekends at Buggs Island Lake, in Mecklenburg Co., Va. Undergraduate work included stints at the William and Mary Herbarium and greenhouses at William and Mary and the University of Texas at Austin. He looks forward to using his expertise to further the VNPS cause, whose work, he believes, ultimately brings to bear cultural and scientific approaches to many of the problems that the environment faces.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - Deanna LaValle High (Website, 2012) has been editor of the Prince William Wildflower Society newsletter, *Wild News*, since January 2005. She grew up in northeast Louisiana, and lived and gardened intensively for years in New England before moving to Virginia where she became seriously interested in native plants after joining the PWWS in 1998. She has broad experience in overseeing website development for non-profit organizations and her scholarly reference and professional publishing experience includes extensive development of online and web publications and other electronic content development and marketing. Additionally, she has overseen online and print re-branding campaigns and developed online features. She also had the opportunity of designing the Dean's House garden for events at HBS, and oversaw the refurbishing of the rose garden. Deanna has degrees in music from the New England Conservatory of Music and Brandeis University. Besides gardening, reading, and cooking, she enjoys the outdoors, especially fly-fishing. She hopes to use her web experience to enhance the educational role of the VNPS website and make it more accessible and enjoyable to more people.

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT - Open
FUNDRAISING CHAIR - Open
RECORDING SECRETARY - Open
PUBLICITY CHAIR - Open
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (3-YR, 2012) - Open
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (2-YR, 2011) - Open

PROXY, 2009 VNPS ANNUAL MEETING

I hereby authorize the Corresponding Secretary to cast my vote for the slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee

Signed _____
Address _____

Return by September 18 to:
Corresponding Secretary, VNPS
Blandy Experimental Farm
400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2
Boyce, VA 22620

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Easy mailer: Fold this page in half, affix postage and drop in the mail. Your vote helps us reach our quorum for the Annual Meeting.

Affix 1st
class
stamp here

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