

Fall 2021

# THE SOUTHSIDER



Volunteer educators, citizen scientists and stewards helping Virginia conserve and manage natural resources

## THE SEARCH FOR AN ELUSIVE ORCHID

During a Facebook conversation with Zach Bradford, an orchid expert with DCR's Natural Heritage Program, he suggested that I might like to give a search for the Crested Coralroot orchid (*Hexalectris spicata*) at Chip-pokes.

Twenty year old records listed it as having been there, but he wasn't sure if it was still there anymore. You see, this orchid is a mycotrophic plant, obtaining its food by association with a fungus. Because it has no leaves nor roots, I tend to think of it as parasitic and it only appears above ground when it blooms, and that isn't necessarily every year. Otherwise you never know it even exists.

I responded to Zach that I would love to go on that search. So I prepared for my trip knowing it would be hot and entail a lot of walking on hilly terrain. I left home early and was in the woods by 8am to beat the heat. While I was walking and looking all over for it, a text from a friend came in around 9. I stopped to answer it and when I looked up, much to my surprise and delight, there was the plant!





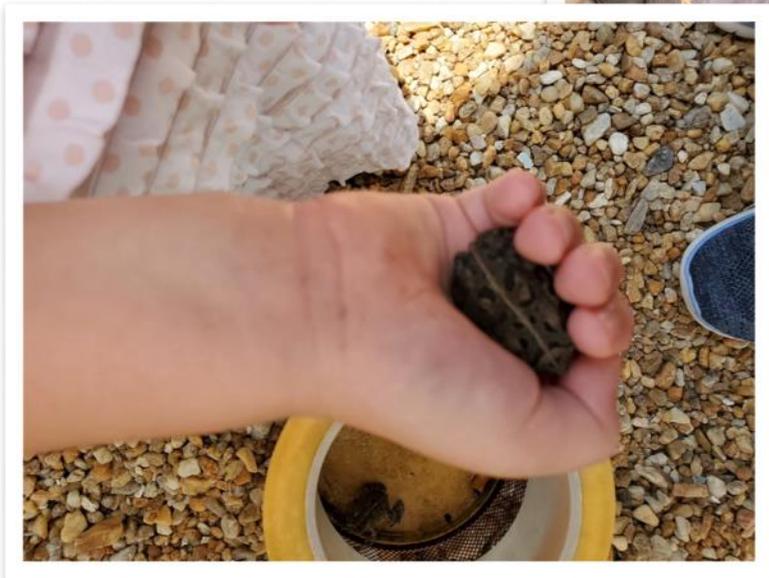
What a beautiful little orchid! Quite showy and colorful! There were 6 of them dotted around in that spot on the hillside. I wrote down the coordinates, took some photos, and set out to try and find more. About a couple hundred feet away, I did find more and it was a large clump this time. What an amazing sight! 19 stems poking up, each with lots of flowers. And I was really surprised on how large the plant could be. One of those stems measured 31 ½" tall. I have seen 2 other species of the Coralroot orchid groups in the past and those others are really dwarfed by this Crested by comparison. The search continues.....

**John Bunch**

# VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS OF NATURE

I was teaching my granddaughters about nature this summer. We found one green tree frog and a lot of toads.

Nancy White



*Every child needs a parent, grandparent or friend who will say let's go it's time for an adventure.*

**A FUN FALL SCAVENGER HUNT TO DO WITH THE LITTLE ONES ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

# Fall Scavenger Hunt

Can you find them all?

red leaf 

stone 

yellow leaf 

tree bark 

orange leaf 

twig 

green leaf 

bird 

acorn 

butterfly 

pinecone 

bee 

pumpkin 

animal tracks 

winged seed 

flower 

grass 



# Get to know a fellow Southsider

## An interview with Henry McBurney

*Joined 2017. Retired Civil Engineer.*

### **What attracted you to HSC VMN?**

I had volunteered with the VA DGIF for over 25 years and spent many long days & weekends traveling the state teaching classes and putting on youth clinics. At age 75, I was actively looking for an organization that would satisfy my need to do community outreach so that I might be able to volunteer without all the travel. One day in the Smithfield YMCA I saw a notice on the bulletin board about the VA Master Naturalist program. After doing some internet investigation I called the number (it was Beverley Ruegsegger) and the rest is history.



### **What are you curious about in nature?**

My interests are only limited by my physical limitations (hearing, arthritis, mobility, etc.) due to my age of 80 years. I am comfortable letting my interests wander although I would love to have time to devote to stormwater management issues.

### **Your favorite place in nature?**

The central Brooks Range, it's truly magical to me.

### **Your favorite place in Southside Virginia?**

Windsor Castle Park has taken center stage in southside VA at this point in my life.

### **Best part of being a Naturalist?**

The frequent association with many like-minded naturalist's cohorts and individuals in all of our sponsoring organizations.

### **What challenged you the most during your VMN Basic Training?**

Several subjects confounded me the most because of the sheer number of organisms and the sheer magnitude involved; botany & geology tie for the lead because it was difficult for me to grasp numbers that large.

**What in nature brings you peace?**

Solitude.

**What do you think about when on long walks in Nature?**

Wow, that's a tough question for me. Being a long-range planner, I sometimes think of where my next adventure is going to be two years, when I am walking the Lewis & Clark or Oregon trail segments, I put myself in the shoes of our pioneer forefathers. Regardless of where I take long walks/hikes I think of how lucky I am to be alive and appreciate the place and the moment.

**What is your most prized possession?**

My longevity.

**Name a couple of places or adventures still on your bucket list.**

Sailing around Cape Horn and following in the footsteps of Dr. John Rae across some of the Canadian barrens are the two most noteworthy.

**What is the greatest gift you've received from Nature?**

(Greatest gift) A sense of completeness.

**What is the greatest gift we can give each other?**

Time & to listen more than we talk.

**If you could be any animal, which one would you be?**

A raven without a doubt. Ravens are the most amazing animals, their love of remote places, playfulness, intelligence, problem solving....I could go on and on. Enough said, ravens are my choice.

**Who is your hero?**

George Washington. In my opinion he is the father of us all.

**Who is your favorite Naturalist?**

John Muir

**What's your favorite movie?**

Do not do movies.

**Your guilty pleasure?**

My pleasures come guilt free.

**What are you curious about in Nature?**

Whatever piques my interest at the moment.

**What is some wisdom you've gained from Nature?**

Patience, although some may disagree with me on that one.

**Why do you care about HSC VMN Chapter?**

Our future as a species depends to some degree on a healthier planet. Our VMN chapter members, through the many educational outreach efforts we sponsor, are doing an outstanding grassroots job of helping to raise the public's awareness of the environment that surrounds us all. Public awareness ultimately leads to a more involved citizenry. I am proud and honored to be counted in this group effort.

**THANKS TO ALL THE FOLKS WHO HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED FOR  
'GET TO KNOW A FELLOW SOUTHSIDER'. WE WELCOME FEEDBACK.  
ARE THERE QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE US TO INCLUDE?**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART OR NOMINATE SOMEONE PLEASE  
EMAIL US.**

# Birdapalooza

October 9th-10th

Virginia State Parks is planning a "Birdapalooza," at Kiptopeke State Park on October 9th-10th to celebrate the fall bird migration. This weekend of family-friendly birding related programs includes 2 sunrise and 1 sunset birding hikes , an owl prowl, a beach cleanup, a many other kid and family friendly activities.

## Interested?

Email Lyra at [lyra.bartell@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:lyra.bartell@dcr.virginia.gov). Lyra is a Bay Experience Educator who is educating Virginia State Parks; so, this should be very informative.



## Kids in the Park

Purple Martin house check at Windsor Castle Park. After checking the PM house we (Don, daughter Alicia, and I) went for a short walk around the barns. It was so nice out we just weren't ready to give up for the evening. Alicia and I were walking ahead talking and all of a sudden we hear Don yell, "There is no whining in the Park!" We looked over and a little girl was dragging behind her parents and well... was whining. Then she decided to go off stomping with her arms crossed, a frown on her face, grumpy as can be, moving as quickly as she could away from her parents and brothers.



Again, Don yells, "There is no whining in the Park! There is only fun, playing, and running in the Park! You need to be running!!!" The parents looked at him..., then smiled and said, "YES! SEE! You're supposed to be running and playing and having fun in the Park!" Long story short, Don was just being his friendly and silly self, and after talking with the family for a bit and the little girl is now giggling instead of whining, he got the kids interested in the big white bird house. Everyone was happy and full of energy so we decided to do another PM house check. Each child, with Mom's help, used the crank and brought the house down. They got a little lesson on the parts; snake guard, owl guards, bird size, nest box size. Then they took turns cranking the house back up. They thought that was so cool. All of them learned about Purple Martins and Dad learned about what a VMN is. A deer was then spotted out in the field. The children ran to the fence, over the fence, into the field, and well, they were running and having fun in the Park on a beautiful Sunday summer evening.

We may have only had Bluebirds in our big beautiful white bird houses this year, but by golly we sure are educating folks, young and mature alike, about the cool purple bird that's the largest in the swallow family...the Purple Martin.

**July, 25th 2021**

**Penny Owens**

*There is no whining in the Park!*

*There is only fun, playing, and  
running in the Park!*



What a great day for a bird walk at Windsor Castle Park! Bird of the day: female American Redstart!!!

**Posted on Facebook**

**Penny Owings**

**September 21st, 2021**

# SHOUT OUT TO THOSE WHO HELD DOWN THE FORT AT THE ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY FAIR.



***THANKS FOR  
REPRESENTING  
OUR CHAPTER  
(and nature).***



I snapped these pictures of a Black Swallowtails in my garden this summer. They were munching on Dill plants.

Nancy White

# Public asked to report Pinesnake sightings in Virginia

If you observe a pinesnake, please contact Collegiate Assistant Professor Kevin Hamed (540-231-1887 or khamed@vt.edu). If possible and safe, take a photograph of the snake and record the details of the area where you observed it. You may find pinesnakes in areas with sandy, well-drained soils or dry rock ridges.

The last known sighting of the pinesnake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*) in Virginia was over 30 years ago. Northern populations of the pinesnake are found in disjunct locations in New Jersey, Tennessee, and the Carolinas. Southern pinesnake populations are found in Georgia, Florida, and coastal regions in Mississippi and Alabama.



Pinesnakes (aka bull snakes) provide ecosystem services to humans by preying on many creatures that cause homeowners problems, such as small mammals. A better understanding of their current distribution in Virginia is needed to manage and conserve these amazing reptiles. Several areas of Virginia have ideal habitats that could support pinesnakes.

The pinesnake averages about 50 inches in length and often has black blotches on a white background or brown blotches on a tan or yellowish background. When threatened, it will expel air quickly, producing a loud hiss, which can be intimidating but poses no danger.

Two other nonvenomous snakes present in Virginia may be confused with the pinesnake. The eastern hog-nosed snake, which averages about 25 inches in length, has dark blotches with red, orange, yellow, gray, olive, brown, or black background colors. The juvenile eastern ratsnake is heavily patterned, with a light color underneath and patches of darker reddish brown or rusty black overlaying the lighter base. Most also have a distinct eye stripe that extends from eye to eye across the top of the skull.

Use extreme caution when observing any snake or other wildlife and stay at a reasonable distance.

## Chapter Educator

### Lynsey LeMay

#### Tell us about your background.

I grew up in Portsmouth, VA, and after graduating high school, I attended the College of William and Mary. I graduated in 2002 with a B.S. in Geology. I then spent one year in Northern Virginia working as an education intern at the American Geological Institute (now American Geosciences Institute) helping to develop programming for national Earth Science Week, engaging with curriculum design, and working on geoscience outreach programs. I ended the internship a few weeks early to get married, and then started graduate school at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, William and Mary's School for Marine Science. I graduated in 2007 with a M.S. in Marine Science, with a focus on salt marsh geomorphology. The following week, I started teaching at Thomas Nelson Community College (now Virginia Peninsula Community College), and have been there ever since.



#### What's the favorite part of your job?

I love working with students. It is exciting to watch students get excited about learning about the world around them. It is also thrilling to watch students recognize their own talents and abilities, particularly for those that are overcoming academic obstacles, or sometimes personal challenges. Students continually inspire me to be a better educator, and the classroom dynamic as we learn together is a constant motivator.

#### Whom do you look up to in your field?

There are a number of people in my field that I admire. One is Heather Macdonald. She is a professor of geology at William and Mary, and was the one who introduced me to geology. All through undergrad, she was a voice of reason and an encourager. Her ability to teach geology and show compassion and care about the whole student really stuck out to me then. She's been a mentor ever since, and I also get the privilege to call her a colleague now. I've always admired her love for the discipline, but her focus on best educational practices. Others I look up to are a whole group of community college instructors that I've been fortunate to work with over the past few years on a grant called Supporting and Advancing Geoscience Education at the Two-Year College (SAGE2YC). These amazing colleagues are constant encouragers as together we work to improve our own teaching, improve student success, and work to better prepare students for workforce and transfer, while also focusing on improving diversity in the geosciences. They do incredible work, and I'm so glad to call them not just colleagues, but also friends.

**What drew you to this field and why?**

I have always loved geology, but it wasn't until college that I realized all of the things I was always interested in all were geoscience related. As a child, my family and I took vacations to the mountains and the beach, and traveled the road less traveled as often as possible to see the sights off the beaten path. This often meant we found ourselves somewhere near a trailhead, or along the banks of a river, or at an obscure store. It was fun, and I have fond memories of exploring sites with my family. I was always the kid who was watching the river rocks rolling along instead of skipping stones, or trying to understand how the sand moved on the beach instead of building sandcastles. The interest was always there, but the interest in pursuing geology was ignited in college after the first day of Physical Geology class. The passion grew and my fondness for the outdoors fit in perfect with geosciences.

**What do you find most challenging about your job?**

Some of the biggest challenges are what keeps me motivated to keep going. These include students who lack drive or don't see themselves as capable of excelling. All students can be wildly successful. Unfortunately educational systems are often set up such that there is a particular 'right way' or an approach that students aspire to follow and students are discouraged when that 'right way' doesn't seem to be working for them. These are often some of the most challenging students to work with because by the time they meet me they have decided that school just isn't for them. My job is to help them figure out the way that is right for them, which is often different than the established way. I love helping student learn to learn!

**Who OR what inspires you and why?**

My family inspires me daily. My husband and daughter keep me on my toes and keep me grounded. I'm also inspired by a quest for knowledge. I want to know more, and I love opportunities to learn more. There is so much I know I don't know and to me, this is an exciting reason to continue all pursuits - you never know what or who might just be waiting for the opportunity to share something new.

**Tell us how you first got involved with HSC VMN.**

A few years ago, when one of my colleagues who had previously taught the geology portion of the class was unable to teach, my name was shared as a possible speaker. After receiving an email asking about my interest and availability, I excitedly replied that I would teach the geology portion and help to lead a field trip for that cohort. I've been involved with HSC VMN ever since, and I thoroughly enjoy working with the chapter!

**Describe your ideal day in nature.**

A quiet day in the mountains. The mountains are always where I feel most relaxed, and where I can really slow down and enjoy everything around me. The mountains are truly restorative. So my ideal day would be waking up in a quiet cabin or tent in the mountains, then having a hot cup of coffee, before heading out for a hike or two.

**What would we be surprised to know about you?**

I have a great fascination for etymology and all things related to word origins and vocabulary. One of my favorite radio shows/podcasts is 'A Way with Words', which is all about words, phrases, and dialect differences. My dad and I also routinely call each other with new or unusual vocabulary to share - sometimes inspired by my Word of the Day emails.

**Talk about your hobbies?**

Lately, it's been picking out all things related to building a house! Who knew there were so many options for drawer pulls and door handles?!

In less hectic house building times, I enjoy paper crafting (card making and scrapbooking), visiting antique and architectural salvage stores (they might just have what I didn't even know I needed!), spending time outdoors, and gathering with friends.

**If you could be any animal in the world, what would you be and why?**

This is hard! I know this isn't very specific, but I think I would be a bird or a fish. The reason for those two are the same however. Birds and fish are able to cover a lot of area in a relatively short amount of time, and both see the world from a completely different perspective than me as a human. I would love to be able to observe the world for a broader perspective.

**As a presenting partner do you have any feedback about our organization?**

Keep doing great work! I have now worked with a few VMN chapters and HSC is my favorite (keep that to yourselves though!). Your chapter is so kind, genuine, and down to earth, and I really enjoy working with each cohort.



Barbara Cummings and I were Blue-bird monitoring at Windsor Castle Park on June 24 when we found Carolina Chickadees on hatching day. It is hard to imagine how fast they grow from this tiny helpless creature to fledgling from their nest in 3 weeks.

**Nancy White**





# NANSEMOND RIVER CLEANUP

October 30<sup>TH</sup> 9AM - 12PM



## ON LAND VOLUNTEERS MEET

Suffolk Shopping Center Parking Lot (1401-1463 North Main Street)

## CANOES . KAYAKS . BOATS MEET

Constant's Wharf Park and Marina (100 E Constants Rd 23434)



Good news! The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation has a new policy on plantings on department lands. "The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent planting practices for Department of Conservation and Recreation (Department) lands, ensure that native species are used in plantings whenever possible, and provide guidance and information regarding how best to plant native grasses, forbs, shrubs, trees, and other flora, as well as information regarding non-native species that can be planted with caution on Department lands."



(Photo of Crownbeard, *Verbesina occidentalis*, taken at Sky Meadows State Park)

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## Bugfest Volunteer Educators still needed

Bugfest is October 16, 2021, from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm, at Suffolk Parks & Recreation, 134 S 6th Street, Suffolk, VA 23434. Please email Cindy Edwards for signup.



# How to Know the Species of Wisteria

Taken from the Virginia Native Plant Society Summer Newsletter—Sempervirens

Over the 33 years that the Virginia Native Plant Society has designated a Wildflower of the Year (WOY), only twice has our featured native plant come from a genus that also includes one or more invasive exotic species. That was the case in 2011 when White Oak (*Quercus alba*) was the WOY and, notably, the same genus includes Sawtooth Oak (*Q. acutissima*), which is now regarded as an emerging invasive pest (Virginia Botanical Associates 2021).

We have a similar situation with the 2021 WOY, American Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*), a close relative of two Asian species, and their hybrid, that have rampantly escaped cultivation over much of eastern North America. Given that invasive Wisterias are much more common and more widely distributed across Virginia than our native American Wisteria, and given lingering questions about the taxonomy of native Wisterias, it is important to know how to distinguish the various species of *Wisteria* that one may encounter in either cultivated or natural landscapes of Virginia.

All species of *Wisteria* are woody, twining, vines with alternate, once-pinnately compound deciduous leaves, and pea-like, purplish-blue flowers in elongate racemes that produce slow-to-dehisce woody fruits. Different species of *Wisteria* are commonly distinguished from each other based on the following characteristics:

- Direction of stem twining – either clockwise (left to right, dextrorse) or counterclockwise (right to left, sinistrorse)
- Number of leaflets per leaf
- Phenology – whether flowers appear before leaves emerge, at the same time that leaves emerge, or well after leaf emergence
- Length of flowering raceme
- Sequence of flower opening per raceme – either sequential (proximal to distal) or essentially simultaneous (all flowers open at once)
- Floral fragrance
- Pubescence (hairiness) of mature fruits

## Asian Wisterias

There are three Asian species cultivated in eastern North America, two of which have naturalized to the extent that they are widely considered invasive and detrimental to native flora.

*Wisteria sinensis* – Chinese Wisteria. Stems twine in a clockwise direction; leaflets 7–13; flowers appear before leaves emerge from winter buds; racemes ca 6–12 inches long; flowers open in rapid succession or essentially simultaneously and are not particularly fragrant; fruits are velvety pubescent. Locally common in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain of Virginia, rare in the mountains; considered invasive throughout much of eastern North America.

*Wisteria floribunda* – Japanese Wisteria (Figure 1). Stems twine in a counterclockwise direction; leaflets 13–19; flowers appear simultaneously with leaf emergence from lateral buds; racemes commonly 8–24 inches (but cultivated specimens in ideal conditions have produced racemes up to 48 inches in length); flowers open sequentially and are fragrant; fruits are velvety pubescent. Infrequent in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain of Virginia; also considered invasive throughout much of eastern North America.

*Wisteria x formosa* – Hybrid Wisteria. This hybrid originates via crosses between Japanese (*W. floribunda*) and Chinese (*W. sinensis*) Wisterias. As should be expected, these hybrids exhibit characteristics intermediate between the two parents. In their native lands, of course, Chinese and Japanese Wisterias are good, scientifically defensible, species; it is virtually impossible for spontaneous hybrids to form in plants living on opposite sides of the Sea of Japan. But it is a different story when Chinese and Japanese Wisterias are grown in proximity to each other here in North America. Weakley et al. (2012) and Weakley (2020) comment that hybrids are common in the populations that are naturalized in North America and that they exhibit complex arrays of the features that define the two parent species. Hybrids may well be more commonly naturalized in North America than either parent species.

It is worth noting that Donald Wyman (1949) and Weakley et al. (2012) indicate that stems of *W. x formosa* twine in the counterclockwise direction. It may well be possible, therefore, to distinguish most Wisterias encountered in the wild as Asian or American based on their twining stems (see also below).

*Wisteria venusta* – Silky Wisteria. Stems twine in a counterclockwise direction; flowers appear simultaneously with leaf emergence from lateral buds; leaflets 9–13; racemes 6 inches or less in length; flowers open sequentially and are moderately fragrant; fruits are velvety pubescent. Whereas most *Wisteria* leaves are glabrescent (pubescent when young, becoming glabrous or nearly so at maturity), mature leaflets of *Wisteria venusta* are notable for retaining relatively long silky hairs. *Wisteria venusta* is not recorded to have escaped cultivation in North America.

Cultivated specimens of Asian Wisterias are sometimes trained by extensive pruning to grow as a stand-alone, shrub-like habit, or “standard” form. Also, each of the cultivated Asian species listed above include white-flowered cultivars and white-flowered forms of *W. floribunda*, *W. sinensis*, and *W. x formosa*, their hybrid, are also known in naturalized/invasive populations.



**Figure 1. *Wisteria floribunda*, Japanese Wisteria.**

### North American Wisterias

*Wisteria frutescens* – American Wisteria, in the broad/inclusive sense. Stems twine in a clockwise direction; leaflets 5–15; racemes 1–12 inches long; flowers open sequentially and are of variable degrees of fragrance; fruits are smooth (not hairy). Widely distributed in eastern North America from the Coastal Plain of southeastern Virginia to eastern Texas and more interior regions (Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee).

Alternatively, some botanists have divided North American Wisterias into two entities, as follows:

*Wisteria frutescens* in the narrow sense, or *W. frutescens* var. *frutescens* – Atlantic Wisteria (Figure 2). Leaflets acute to acuminate but tips blunt;; flowers open shortly after leaves are fully expanded and are not particularly fragrant; racemes up to 6 inches long; pedicels and calyces bear few, if any, club-shaped glands; calyx teeth shorter than the calyx tube. As defined in this narrow sense, *W. frutescens* occurs on the Atlantic Coastal Plain, from southeastern Virginia to Florida and along the Gulf Coastal Plain to east Texas.



**Figure 2. *Wisteria frutescens*,  
American Wisteria**

*Wisteria macrostachya*, or *W. frutescens* var. *macrostachya* – Kentucky or Mississippi Wisteria (Figure 3). Leaflet tips acuminate; flowers appear several weeks after leaves are fully expanded and are fragrant; racemes up to 12 inches long (“*macrostachya*” means large-spiked); pedicels and calyces bearing abundant club-shaped glands; calyx teeth about as long as the calyx tube. If considered distinct from *W. frutescens*, the natural range of *W. macrostachya* extends from eastern Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, north to Missouri and Illinois and east to western North Carolina.

Of course, be they distinguished as distinct species or varieties, both North American Wisterias are cultivated, and experience shows that they do well outside the native ranges summarized above. In fact, *W. frutescens* in the narrow sense, is known to grow well as far north as Rhode Island, and the Digital Atlas of the Virginia Flora shows naturalized populations of *W. macrostachya* to have been documented in 17 counties of Virginia, well east of its traditionally accepted natural range. In garden settings, just like the cultivated Asian species, both *W. frutescens* (in the narrow sense) and *W. macrostachya* (if recognized as distinct) can be grown in the “standard” form, which is achieved by assiduous pruning of all long, vine-like, stems.

The question of whether to “lump” or “split” *W. frutescens* and *W. macrostachya* is unresolved. The *Flora of Virginia* (Weakley et al. 2012) lumps them, including *W. macrostachya* as a synonym of *W. frutescens*, whereas the Digital Atlas of Virginia Flora (Virginia Botanical Associates 2021) maps these entities as distinct varieties, with a comment that, perhaps, status as two distinct species may be warranted. Weakley (2020) also treats these plants as varieties of *W. frutescens*. Another source, Isely (1990) notes only “diffuse” correlations among the supposedly distinguishing characteristics listed above to distinguish *W. frutescens* and *W. macrostachya*. Ultimately, the decision whether to “lump” or “split” *W. frutescens* and *W. macrostachya*, boils down to: 1) how much variability one is inclined to accept in a single species, 2) how much fuzziness one is inclined to accept at the boundary between two species, and 3) how well patterns of morphological disparity map to distinct geographic regions. Based on the relatively superficial summary presented here, my opinion is that the question remains open.



**Figure 3. *Wisteria macrostachya*,  
Kentucky Wisteria.**

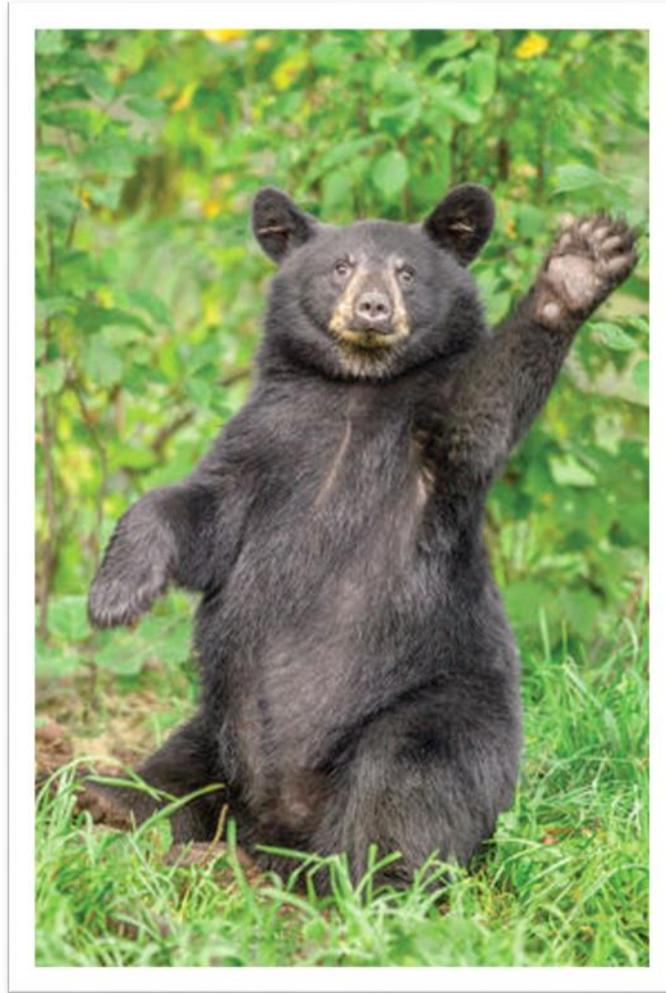
In summary, my effort to distinguish the species of *Wisteria* that may be encountered in Virginia has exposed what a good friend of mine might call, with a note of sarcasm, “a fine kettle of fish.” The two Asian species appear to exist for the most part as a complex hybrid swarm and there are multiple ways to interpret the status of the two North American taxa. There is a lesson here. Sometimes, instead of revealing clarity, learning more merely illuminates the ambiguities of complex situations.

Article and photographs by W. John Hayden, Botany Chair

For more information please visit [vnps.org](http://vnps.org)



**VIRGINIA NATIVE  
PLANT SOCIETY**



**Thanks for reading!!!**

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