THE VIRGINIA FLORA COMMITTEE: THE FIRST 50 YEARS. Marion B. Lobstein, Professor Emeritus, Northern Virginia Community College. In 1926, the Committee on Virginia Flora, now the Virginia Flora Committee or Flora Committee, was established with one of the primary goals to develop and publish a modern flora for Virginia. With essential support from the Flora Committee and the Academy and its Fellows, this goal was achieved in 2012 with the publishing of the *Flora of Virginia* and continues to be updated as a digital Flora of Virginia App released in 2017. In this presentation, the background of the establishment of the Committee on Virginia Flora as well as its goals were discussed. Highlights on the membership of the Flora Committee in its early years and the leadership by Dr. A.B. Massey were covered. Other notable members of this committee in its first 50 years and their contributions were mentioned. *Claytonia*, the official publication of the Flora Committee, published from 1934 to1939 set the stage for the Virginia Journal of Science in 1940 present was highlighted. A brief overview was given of the Committee’s support for several publications including Dr. Paul Merriman’s 1931 *Flora of Richmond and Vicinity*, Dr. A.B. Massey’s 1961 Virginia Flora: *An*Annotated*Catalog of*Plant*Taxa Recorded as Occurring in*Virginia, and Dr. Alton Harvill’s 1970 Spring Flora of Virginia. From 1967 into the 1990s, various Flora Committee members edited and published a quarterly newsletter *Jeffersonia: A Newsletter of Virginia Botany*. Also covered was the role of the Flora Committee in setting the stage for the development and publication of the 1970 and 1977 volumes of the *Atlas of the Flora* of Virginia by Harvill, et al. by the Virginia Botanical Associates. Author contact: Marion Lobstein, mblobstein@earthlink.net

