

# Virginia Petree Memorial Scholarship

## DELAWARE VALLEY HERB UNIT

### The Herb Society of America

[www.delvalherbs.org](http://www.delvalherbs.org)

Established: 1982



**Purpose:** Scholarship aid to students at Delaware Valley University, Doylestown, PA. in studies in the field of Horticulture: art or practice of garden cultivation and management. Horticulture is a sub-category of Plant Science, a major division of biology that studies all plant life.

**Recipients:** Usually one student per year is selected depending on the enrollment and that the categories of study meet the University and Delaware Valley Herb Unit's requirements and standards. That student is recommended from the University faculty and the current Horticulture manager.

**Awarded:** Yearly DVHU awards \$1500 during the month of August to be awarded to an incoming student that ensuing Fall semester.

#### VIRGINIA PETREE

Virginia Petree was a retired third grade school teacher in the Delaware Township school system and her husband, Herbert, a retired Veterinarian. Virginia, a self-proclaimed Quaker, joined the Prallsville Mills in Stockton, NJ along with her husband. They both transformed this new herb garden group and were very instrumental in its growth and the establishment of an Industrial Herb garden at the site of the Prallsville Mills. Virginia was an original member of this herb group even before it was formalized within the National Herb Society of America. Herbert Petree constructed the fencing, garden gates, and raised garden beds. The garden was divided into five sections: fiber, household, medicinal and dye plants, fragrant plants and grains. All plants in this type of herb garden were processed in local mills or households and were an integral part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century life.

There were approximately 30 members who started their first garden, the Industrial Herb garden, in Hunterdon County at Prallsville Mills. In 1982 the herb group applied for and was formally recognized as a unit in New Jersey on a national level. They picked the name for this unit because of its location and

**their membership spanned both sides of the Delaware River; both in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.**

**Shortly after accreditation, a scholarship was established for \$500 in a local agriculture school called Delaware College located in Doylestown, PA to promote the education, cultivation and management of agricultural and plant studies in future generations. In 2016, this college acquired the status of a University and the Delaware Valley Herb Unit remains a member of their '1896 Society' of supporters to promote their growth for the future.**

[www.delval.edu.com](http://www.delval.edu.com)

**Approximately 20 years later the herb garden site was moved. The aspect of herbs into today's 20<sup>th</sup> century diverse cultural population on the Northeastern coast led to a change of it purpose and goals. Currently the garden is an International Herbal Culinary Garden and located on site of the Holcombe-Jimison Historical Farm Museum, in Lambertville, NJ. Sections in the garden cultivate herbs from: Northern Europe, Central-South America-Mexico, Africa, South Asia (India), Far East (China, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam) and the Mediterranean.**

[www.Holcombe-Jimison.org](http://www.Holcombe-Jimison.org)

**Virginia moved away from the Hunterdon County area to Charlottesville, Va and was last seen at an Herbal event in Baltimore, MD more than 10 years ago. It is believed that she passed away some years ago or if alive, she would be over 100 years old. Her dedication and perseverance in establishing our herbal group will always be acknowledged and appreciated by all members going forward!**

#### **PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:**

<b>Amanda Miller</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>Alessandro Cesario</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
<b>Michelle Taylor</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>Garett Voisman</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
<b>Jessica Schweighofer</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>Patrick McDonough Jr.</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>
<b>Sara M. McMullen</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Kenneth Shimer</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Cyntheanne Salas</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Shawn DeRock</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Karli Weider</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>Jake Peterson</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Kirskin Hulshart</b>	<b>2008</b>		

collected by D. Brinker Nov 2016