"Favorite Flowers & Plants of the Chesapeake Master Gardeners"
Arisaema triphyllum by Vickie Greene

Common name: Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Family - Araceae (Arum)

One of the benefits of being an attention deficit gardener is that every year there are wonderful surprises, that you have no memory of planting. This year, it was this very large Jack-in-the-pulpit. It is growing in a shady area in my wetlands, an area that gets flooded 5 or 6 times a year. This one is about 2 feet tall, much larger than the ones I have planted in regular garden soil with no flooding. It is native to much of Eastern US. The source 'Wildflower.org' indicates that there is dissension about whether this is one species or three, depending upon size. I don't know why I planted this in its obscure location in my yard, but I have enjoyed finding it this year.

This plant is native to most states in Eastern US, and is found in woodlands, in moist humus soils. It is a perennial, flowering in spring, with an unusual flower that persists for about a month. It grows in deciduous forests from Zone 4 to Zone 8; however, it does not grow well under pine trees.

Photo by Vickie Greene
Resource: wildflower.org, website of *the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Preserve*.

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