



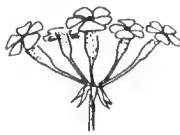
# TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

February 2002

## President's Message

More about the Pilgrimage this year. Another new feature is the ability to register on-line or by phone. Those of you who have attended previous Pilgrimages will remember the long lines that form several hours in advance of the registration time. Standing in these lines can be avoided by checking the website at [www.wildflowerpilgrimage.org](http://www.wildflowerpilgrimage.org) to view the latest information on events and to register between March 1 at 9:00 a.m. and April 4 at 4:00 p.m. Phone registration will be accepted over the same time span, with a few spaces reserved for on-site registration which begins April 22. You can also request a brochure by writing to: Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association, 115 Park Headquarters Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738. See you there!



umbel



panicle



cyme

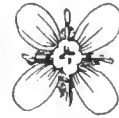


spike

### 2002 Smoky Mountain Wildflower Pilgrimage

Once again, the TNPS will man an information booth at this year's Wildflower Pilgrimage. A great big "thank you" goes to last year's booth sitters; Hal DeSelm, Normal Luton, Lorene and Albert Sigal, Becky Roller, and Melinda and Bill McCoy. An another "thanks" to all the folks who have manned the booth in the past.

We need booth volunteers for this year's pilgrimage. If you can help in the morning, afternoon, or evening of April 25 or 26, please give Allen Sweetser a call at (865) 938-7627.



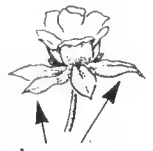
radially  
symmetrical



bilaterally  
symmetrical



ray flower



bracts

### FIELD TRIP PLANS FOR 2002; MORE AMBITIOUS THAN EVER

This year's TNPS field trip schedule has been organized by Al Good, ably supported by the hard working committee of Jane Norris, Bart Jones, Allen Sweetser, Todd Crabtree, and Margaret Rhinehart. They have done an excellent job of planning a wide variety of trips from spring to fall. There are two trips at different times to the same cedar glade. We will have an opportunity to see this habitat as it changes through the season. A rare glimpse at Taylor Hollow in Sumner County is on the list. This property is owned by the Nature Conservancy. TNPS is offering trips both to Alabama as well as a whole weekend in North Carolina with trips led by the legendary Ed Schell. Also offered is a chance to visit the interesting plants on the Oak Ridge reservation. This is a great year for field trips. Come join for any or all of them. See you on the trails.



Turkey  
Beard  
(white)

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Dues for each calendar year are:

Regular: \$15  
Student/Senior: \$10  
Institution: \$20  
Life: \$150

Dues may be sent to:  
Tennessee Native Plant Society  
P O Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215

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Dennis Hom, Vice-President  
Bart Jones - Corresponding Secretary  
Nita Heilman, Recording Secretary  
Susan Sweetser, Treasurer

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Todd Crabtree - Middle Tennessee  
Karl Heinzman - East Tennessee  
Mary Priestley - East Tennessee  
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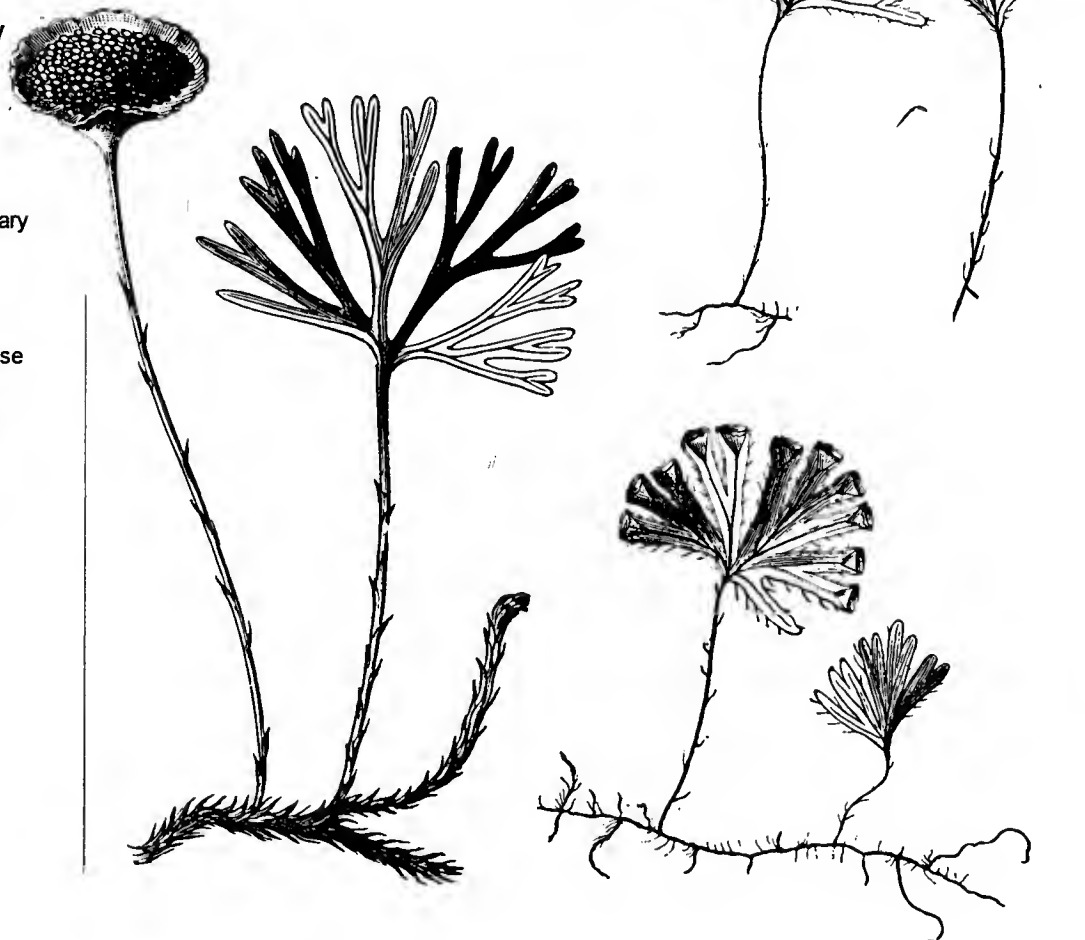
Spring is nearly upon us and wildflower walks abound. Here are two that may be of interest to you depending on where you live:

### Saturday, March 30 Wildflower walk / TVA Natural Heritage Project

Susan and Allen Sweetser, TNPS members, will help lead wildflower walks at Norris Dam State Park's River Bluff TVA Small Wild Area. Two hikes will be offered, one at 10:00 am and the other at 1:00pm (eastern time). Come see the carpet of Trout lilies and many other spring wildflowers. Contact Allen or Susan for details at (865) 938-7627.

### Thursday, March 28; Saturday, March 30; Thursday, April 4; Saturday, April 6 Warner Park Nature Center

Spring Wildflower Walks from 9:00 am to noon. Brilliant white Bloodroot blossoms, crimson Trillium and yellow Trout Lilies are just a sample of the myriad of colors and shapes in a spring forest. Join Deb Beazley on a rejuvenating stroll into the woods of the Warner Parks. Registration begins on March 14 (615) 352-6299.





## 2002 TNPS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

This is the only complete schedule of field trips that you will receive, please keep a copy. Some trips may be described in more detail in future issues of the newsletter. Trips are led by persons familiar with native plants of the area. These trips provide an opportunity to observe, photograph, and learn about our native flora. Since plant protection and conservation are primary objectives of our organization, digging and collecting is NOT PERMITTED

Please contact the leader in advance for those trips you plan to attend. This not only lets the leader know the number of participants, but also ensures that last minute changes and updated information are known to participants prior to the trip. Keep the schedule handy and plan to attend as many trips this year as possible.

**April 6/Saturday**

### **BEAMAN PARK/DAVIDSON COUNTY**

A preview of this nature park with Bob Brown who can show us the rare plants to be blooming later as well as the *Hepatica* and *Trillium* species blooming now. Geologically, the site straddles the transition of the Nashville Basin and Highland Rim and has vegetative characteristics of both. About two miles of moderate hiking which should finish in time for a late lunch of your choice.

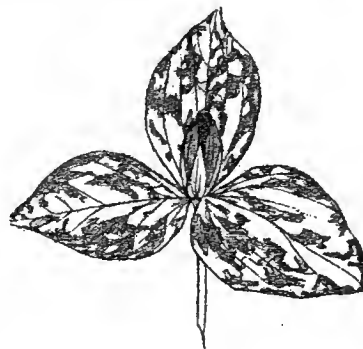
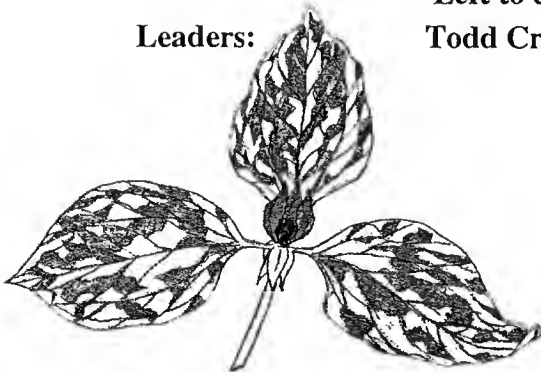
**Time:** 9:30 central  
**Place:** Hot Chicken Restaurant at exit 40 (Old Hickory Blvd)  
off I-24 W of Nashville.  
**Leaders:** Bob Brown and Jane Norris (615) 665-2056

**April 13/Saturday**

### **COLLINS GULF/SOUTH CUMBERLAND STATE PARK**

A scenic area with waterfalls and perhaps the best spring flower display in the park. Expect to see Dwarf Ginseng (*Panax trillium*) and four species of Trillium including Prairie Trillium (*T. recurvatum*) and many other flowers. Hike is a strenuous five miles of steep and rough sections and a stream crossing. Bring lunch.

**Time:** 10:00 am central  
**Place:** Collins West trailhead in Gruetli-Laager. From Monteagle on SR 56, left at first light in Tracy City. Go about 6 miles to SR 108 through Gruetli-Laager and about 4 miles to 55<sup>th</sup> Ave. Left to end of the road.  
**Leaders:** Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279; Mary Priestley (931) 598-0157



April 22-27

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE

Details in president's message on page 1 of this newsletter

May 4/Saturday

### FLAT ROCK CEDAR GLADES AND BARRENS

Nature Conservancy preserve for globally imperiled species.

This is one of the largest cedar glade complexes in the Southeast.

Expect to see Tennessee Milk Vetch (*Astragalus tennesseensis*) and Missouri Primrose (*Oenothera missouriensis*). Easy walking.

Bring lunch.

**Time:** 10:00 am central

**Place:** McDonald's in Murfreesboro at exit 81 (US 231) on I-24.

**Leaders:** Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279; Bertha Chrietzberg (615) 896-114

May 11/Saturday

### TAYLOR HOLLOW

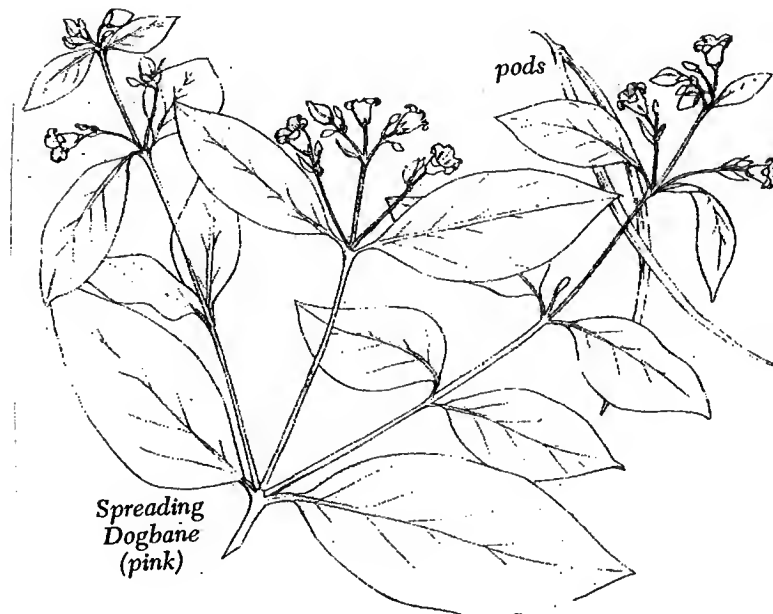
This is a combined trip with the Sumner County Wildflower Club.

Taylor Hollow was acquired by the Nature Conservancy primarily to protect the abundance of Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*) growing there. At this later date expect to see many *Synandra hispidula* and a profusion of other species. Easy walking with one creek crossing. Lunch at a restaurant in Westmoreland.

**Time:** 10:00 am central

**Place:** Bethpage United Methodist Church. 10 miles E of Gallatin on US 31E, right at church sign on Gifford Lane and 1 block to church.

**Leader:** Mike Johnson (615) 888-2067



May 18/Saturday

**DESOTO STATE PARK/LITTLE RIVER CANYON  
NATIONAL PRESERVE – ALABAMA**

On the park's well developed woodland trails expect to see Fairy Wands (*Chamaelirium luteum*), Lavender Phacelias (*Phacelia purshii*), Shuttleworth's Wild Ginger (*Hexastylis shuttleworthii*), and Catawba Rhododendron (*R. catawbiense*) plus interesting trees and shrubs.

The canyon rim has Green Pitcher Plants (*Sarracenia oreophila*), Candy Root (*Polygala nana*), and Flat Rock Onion (*Allium speculae*) which are expected to be in bloom. Other plants rare or unknown in Tennessee are *Coreopsis pulchra*, *Bigelowia virgata*, and *Diamorpha smallii*. Easy to moderate hikes. Bring lunch to eat in picnic area.

**Time:** 10:00 am central

**Place:** Picnic area across from Desoto State Park Headquarters.

I-59 exit 231 to Hammondville, right on US 11, left shortly on SR 117 through Valley Head to Mentone, and right on Parkway (CR 89) to Park Headquarters.

**Leaders:** Al Good (423) 886-1777 – Richard Ware and GA Botanical have been invited to join this trip

June 2/Sunday

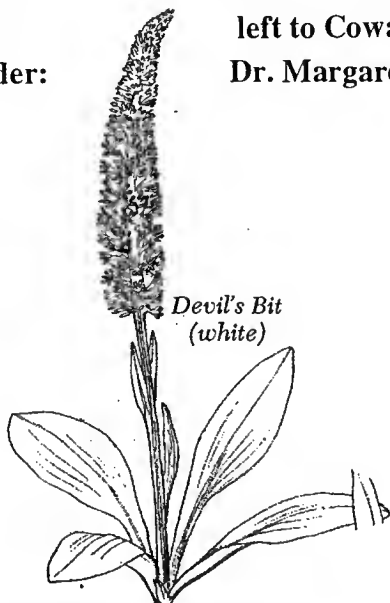
**BASE OF CUMBERLAND PLATEAU NEAR COWAN, TN  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

Margaret keeps finding interesting and uncommon plants at this rocky place. On this trip expect to see Prairie larkspur (*Delphinium virescens*) Little Skullcap (*Scuterlari parvula*), *Matelea carolinensis*, Spreading Dogbane (*Apocynum androsaemifolium*), Green Milkweed (*Asclepias viridiflora*) and others. Easy walk. Bring lunch. The leader promises we will not have rain this year.

**Time:** 10:00 am central

**Place:** Old Cowan Depot. West on US 64 from I-24 to SR 15 and left to Cowan.

**Leader:** Dr. Margaret Rhinehart (931) 946-2381



SHADY LAWN MOTEL (828) 733-5506 ROOM 7 \$ 45 TAX INCL  
NIGHTS OF JUNE 7 and 8 NON-SMOKING, 1 DOUBLE BED  
ON HWY 194 IN NEWLAND (NO CREDIT CARD) OFFICE OPEN UNTIL 11PM

June 8/Saturday

WEEKEND IN NORTH CAROLINA

Saturday

We will go to Linville Gorge National Wilderness to search for Mountain False Heather (*Hudsonia montana*). We can also expect Turkeybeard (*Xerophyllum asphodeloides*) and several other late spring bloomers, including Allegheny Sand Myrtle (*Leiophyllum buxifolium*, v. *prostratum*). Other possibilities include Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*) and Carolina Rhododendron (*R. minus*). Other plants to be seen are the Spike-mosses (*Selaginella tortipila* and *S. rupestris*) and Witch Alder (*Fothergilla major*). The hike will finish around 4:00 p.m.

called 5-25-02

June 9/Sunday

A mystery hike in the same area. If we are indeed lucky, we may catch the last blooms of Pink-shell Azalea (*Rhododendron vaseyi*). Both hikes are on rocky trails with some short but steep climbs. Bring lunch and water both days.

Time:

9:30 eastern - both days

Place:

Hardee's in Newland on SR 194

Leaders:

Ed Schell -Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

Lodging: Time Square Inn (828) 733-9271, Huskins Motor Court (828) 733-2564,

Shady Lawn Motel (828) 733-5506 Parkview Motor Lodge (828) 765-4787, Pineola Inn (828) 733-4979, Holiday Inn (828) 898-4571 or 1-800 HOLIDAY. **Reservations may be hard to get after April 1.** Camping is available at Linville Falls from the National Park Service, (828) 298-0395. National Forest campgrounds near Linville Falls and Newland are also available. Call the Grandfather Ranger District for information (828) 652-2144.

Newland NC

Hwy 221  
sw of  
Pineola

July 28

RARE PLANTS ON WALDEN'S RIDGE

Sunday

Two sites in one day. The morning destination will be a power line row in Sequatchie County to see Cumberland Rose Gentian (*Sabatia capitata*), Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Habenaria ciliaris*), and other meadow species. In the afternoon, Margaret will take us to a privately owned pond where she recently discovered Blue Water-Hyssop (*Bacopa caroliniana*) previously unknown in TN. Other species found there are Sweet Flag (*Acorus calamus*), Water Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle umbellata*), Pickerel-weed (*Pontedaria cordata*), *Eryngium prostratum*, and *Sagittaria platyphylla*. Easy walking. Bring boots or shoes suitable for wading in the afternoon. Lunch in Dunlap.

Time:

10:00 am central and 1:30 pm afternoon

Place:

Hardee's on US 127 on north side of Dunlap

Leaders:

Al Good (423 - 886-1777; Margaret Rhinehart (931) 946-2381

**August 17**  
**Saturday**  
**FLAT ROCK CEDAR GLADES AND BARREN – II**  
A second visit to this preserve (see May 5 trip) to catch another season's flowers. Expect to see large grouping of prairie grasses, Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and Side Oats Gramma grass (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), with flowers such as *Sida elliottii*. Bring lunch and be prepared for hot sun.  
**Time:** 10:00 am central  
**Place:** McDonald's in Murfreesboro at exit 81 (US 231) on I-24  
**Leaders:** Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279; Bertha Chrietberg (615) 895-1146

**August 24**  
**Saturday**  
**OAK RIDGE RESERVATION**  
Larry Pounds plans to get us into the reservation to see some of the interesting plants growing there. Details in the June newsletter. Preregistration will be required.  
**Time:** 10:00 am eastern  
**Place:** American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge  
**Leaders:** Larry Pounds; Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

**September 7**  
**Saturday**  
**BROWNSPORT FURNACE, DECATUR COUNTY MICRO-GLADES AND NEWLY DESIGNATED CARROLL CABIN NATURAL AREA**  
Limestone outcropping near the old (1848) iron smelter harbor many glade and prairie plants including Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea* var. *grandiflora*), Rattlesnake Root (*Prenanthes barbata*), Rosinweed (*Silphium integrifolium*), Prairie Dock (*S. terebinthinaceum*), Elliots Fanpetals (*Sida elliottii*), Glade Heliotrope (*Heliotropium tenellum*), and prairie grasses. Other sites have Snowy Squarestem (*Melanthera nivea*) and other species. Lunch at a catfish place along the Tennessee River.  
**Time:** 10:00 am central  
**Place:** Decatur County Riverside High School. Exit 126 from I-40, south on SR 69 through Parsons past Middle School and Beech River to SR 69 bypass at a warning light. High School is just ahead on right.  
**Leaders:** Bart Jones (901) 726-6891; Claude Bailey (615) 532-1378

**Sept. 20/21**  
**ANNUAL MEETING AT ARNOLD ENGINEERING CENTER**  
All details in June newsletter but mark it on your calendar now.

**Nov. 9**  
**Saturday**  
**WINTER BOTANY IN POLK COUNTY**  
Ed Clebsch will show us a cranberry bog, coastal plain club moss, and other unique and fascinating stuff in the Copper Basin.  
**Time:** 10:00 am eastern  
**Place:** Hardee's in Ducktown on US 64 at SR 68  
**Leaders:** Ed Clebsch (865) 856-3350; Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

Interested in starting your own wildflower garden? Seed collecting is a good way to help propagate these plants as well as learn more about them and their propagating habits. Here are some things to remember: If the seed is moist when collected –being in a fleshy fruit or pod- they should be sown immediately or stored in a moist (not wet) plastic bag and refrigerated until you re ready to sow them. Seed that is dry can be sown immediately or kept in a plastic or paper bag in a dry place. If they are to be kept for several months, all seed should be stored in the refrigerator.

Here are some seeds that should be sown in early spring while soil is cool or in latest fall.

*Allium cernuum*, (Nodding Onion), *Baptisia australis*(False Indigo), *Claytonia virginica*( Spring Beauty), *Corydalis sempervirens* (Pale Corydalis), *Hypericum hypericoides* (St. Andrew's Cross), *H. stans* (St. Peter's Wort), *Hypoxis hirsuta* (Yellow Star Grass), *Mertensia virginica* (Virginia Bluebells), *Passiflora incarnata* (Passion Flower), *Sedum* species, *Silene caroliniana* (Wild Pink), *S. virginica* (Fire Pink), *Viola* species. Plant seeds in good soil either in

planting flats or open ground. The depth at which seed should be planted is usually indicated by the size of the seed.

From *North Carolina Native Plant Propagation Handbook*



Flame  
Azalea

**TENNESSEE NATIVE  
PLANT SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER**

PO Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215







# TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 2

June 2002

## President's Message

✓ Reserve your place now for the annual meeting on the weekend of September 20-21! With summer just under way, it seems far too early to be planning activities for fall, but this event is an exception.

Our meeting this year will be on the Arnold Air Force base near Tullahoma. For security reasons, we are required to provide a list of guests at least one month in advance. No deposit is required – just names and addresses. Rooms will be at the Wingo Inn on base, and dinners Friday and Saturday will be at the adjacent Lakeside Club. Room prices are very reasonable: *Suite with queen bed and private bath is \$37 a night; room with queen bed and private or shared bath (shared by two rooms) is \$27 a night.* The price of each dinner will be approximately \$12-\$15. No breakfast or lunch is served, so we will get these meals at local restaurants.

Membership activities start at 6:00 Friday night for dinner. After dinner we will meet in the conference room of Wingo Inn for a presentation, tentatively set on the topic of the use of natives in the landscape. Saturday morning we will meet at 8:30 to convoy to breakfast followed by all day field trips. You may bring a lunch if you prefer, or we will eat at a local restaurant. Dinner will be served at 6:00 followed by our all membership annual meeting. If there is time, members may bring slides to share after the meeting.

Send your reservation (name, address, and phone number) for your choice of room and meals to: **TNPS, P.O. Box 159274, Nashville, TN 37215.** Please do not send your payment.



Included in this exciting issue is what you want to know about:

- Page 2 *Field trip to Taylor Hollow*
- Page 3 *Notes on Cumberland Rose Gentian*
- Page 4 *Preregistration info for Oak Ridge*
- Page 5-6 *Remaining field trip schedule*
- Page 7 *Learn more about the Flatrock Onion*

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615/758-9111

## Taylor Hollow – May 11

The Wildflower Society of Sumner County, particularly Michelle Haynes and the “Pat and Mike” twins, Patricia French and Michelle Johnson, hosted a TNPS trip to the Nature Conservancy’s Taylor Hollow. The preserve is in the Society’s neighborhood and the members have helped with trail maintenance and other chores.

After meeting at the historic Bethpage Methodist Church to check out a picturesque old Box elder (*Acer negundo*), we drove to a field at the lower end of the hollow. Here the hollow begins at the edge of the woods. In the forest, a showy display of Synandra (*S. hispidula*) and Long-Tube Valerian (*V. pauciflora*) were widespread with a scattering of the more subtle flowers of Golden Alexander (*Zizia aptera*), Creamy Violet (*V. striata*), Honewort (*Cryptotaenia Canadensis*), and Puttyroot (*Aplectrum hyemale*). A few flowers and fruits from earlier blooming plants such as Canada Violet (*V. Canadensis*), Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), Celadine Poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*), Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*), Twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphyllum*), Bent Trillium (*T. flexipes*) suggested the April display here. The group was walking single file up a narrow low impact trail under tall Tulip trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) with a few Cucumber trees (*Magnolia acuminata*) and one big Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*). The scribe was missing some information because the people who knew the place were way ahead of those trying to identify the plants. Todd Crabtree’s summary “everything is here” was but a slight exaggeration. With the foliage of Allegheny Spurge (*Pachysandra procumbens*), Glade Fern (*Athyrium pycnocarpon*), Brittle Fern (*Cysopteris fragilis*), Sedges (*Carex plantaginea*, et al), Nodding Fescue (*Festuca subverticillata*), and Forest Bluegrass (*Poa sylvestris*) mixed with the flowers, the forest floor is densely covered. Questions about an exotic looking plant with large terminal leaves gave Allen Sweetser a perfect lead to identify Carrion Flower (*Smilax ecirrata* var. *hugeri*). On the way back, an interesting vine with large five-lobed leaves stumped us until we had more time to identify it as Cupseed (*Calycocarpon lyonii*). The overall impression of the preserve is that it is being well managed with a fine balance between protection and access.

After lunch in Westmoreland, Pat led some of us over into Kentucky to see a giant (17' ca. x 125' h) Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) brought over from the Coastal Plains by early settlers.

**Al Good**

## Cumberland Rose Gentian (*Sabatia capitata*)

This rare flower with limited range will challenge the adequacy of your botanical library. Of the manuals I use, some don't get far enough south and another is too far east. The range of this plant is NW Georgia and the adjacent parts of Alabama and Tennessee.<sup>1</sup> In Tennessee the plant occurs on the southern part of Walden's Ridge in Hamilton, Marion, and Sequatchie counties. The Tennessee Atlas shows it only in Hamilton.<sup>2</sup> The Georgia Botanical Society Atlas doesn't show it at all, but *S. gentianoides*, a species with similar flowers is shown in the northwestern counties where *S. capitata* occurs.<sup>3</sup> This is assumed to be an error in identification.

The typical inflorescence on a well-developed plant has multiple deep pink stemless flowers both terminal and axillary on the 18" vertical stem. The stem can have many branches. The individual flowers can be up to 2" in diameter typically with 8 petals and a yellow center. Duncan's *Wildflowers of the Eastern United States* has an excellent photo.<sup>4</sup> Depth of the pink varies from plant to plant and occasionally a plant will be found with essentially white flowers. Leaves are sessile and oval tending to a pointed tip. Flowering time is about the end of July. It is differentiated from the other *Sabatias* by: more than 5 petals, nearly stemless flowers, flat thin leaves (*S. gentianoides* has similar flowers but fleshy linear leaves).<sup>5</sup>

A complete botanical description is provided in *Protected Plants of Georgia*, but my observations do not support the description of the herb as an annual. I have seen single plants flowering in the same spot for more than one year. When I have moved plants, about half of them lived a second year and did not come back after that. A plant flowered in my yard last summer. After the stem died it formed twin furled rosettes half out of the ground and remained that way over winter. One rosette developed a branched stem in the spring. At this writing, the other rosette shows no sign of a stem. The transplant data suggests that the plant is a biennial, but I think it is possibly a short lived perennial.

I have had no success in getting the tiny seeds to germinate. The plant discussed above showed up in a former seedbed where seeds had

been planted 5 years earlier. Jim Brown, executive director of Tennessee River Gorge Trust, tells a story about the Division of Forestry dragging a bulldozer blade over a *S. capitata* site to keep them going. Every site I know has been bulldozed sometime in the past. Presumably, fire prepared sites for seed germination before the bulldozers. A small forest fire occurred near a *S. capitata* site this spring. I plan to watch this place. Also, I plan to burn a meadow where they have occurred in the past.

*S. capitata* is a strikingly attractive flower. We now find them briefly between the street and the woods in new residential subdivisions before the builders come, on power line ROW's, in pine plantations after clearcuts. We need a better understanding of its propagation requirements to protect it **Al Good.**

### (Endnotes)

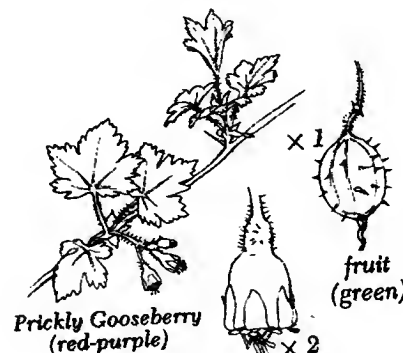
<sup>1</sup> Patrick, T.S. *et al*, *Protected Plants of Georgia*, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1995.

<sup>2</sup> Chester, E.W. *et al*, *Atlas of Tennessee Vascular Plants - Volume 2*, The Center for Field Biology, Austin Peay State University, 1997.

<sup>3</sup> Mellinger, M.B., *Atlas of the Vascular Flora of Georgia*, Georgia Botanical Society, 1984.

<sup>4</sup> Duncan, W.H. and M.B., *Wildflowers of the Eastern United States*, The University of Georgia Press, 1999.

<sup>5</sup> Pickett, H.W., *Wildflowers of the United States - Southeastern States*, The New York Botanical Garden, 1967.



DeSoto State Park/  
Little River Canyon  
— May 18

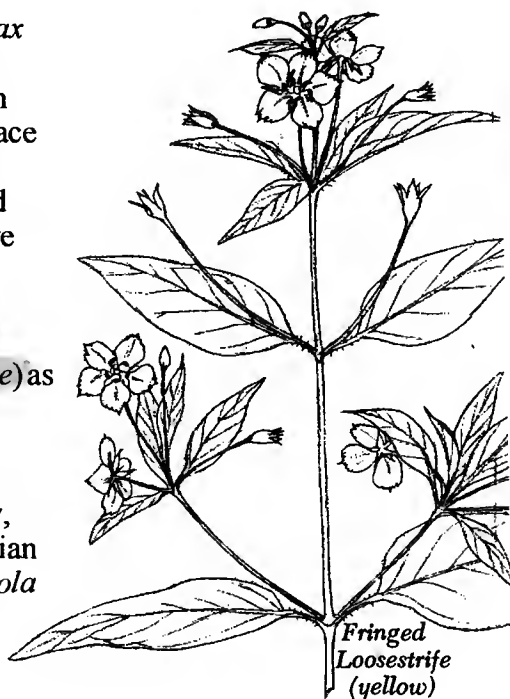
Saturday, May 18 began cloudy and very chilly. Nevertheless, more than 20 people met at the picnic area across from the park headquarters. Several of them were members of the GA Botanical Society. We all merged together and began our plant explorations. All the advertised plants were viewed. Unfortunately, Lavender Phacelia (*P. purshii*) was past its bloom. Some of the other plants we were fortunate to see, and having several botanists on the trip, were fortunate to identify were Dog Gooseberry (*Ribes cynosbati*), Patridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), *Krigia biflora*, Shuttleworth's Wild Ginger (which has a very large flower), Fairy Wands (*Chamaelirium luteum*), Fly Poison (*Amianthum muscaetoxicum*), *Galax aphylla*, *Rhodendron minus*. This rhodendron seemed a little out of place since it is a Blue Ridge plant. Al Good checked with the ranger and there are several more in the park. We also saw a population of Flatrock Onion (*Allium speculae*) as well as Yellowroot (*Xanthorrhiza simplicissima*), *Itea virginica*, Sparkleberry, and a fine display of Indian Cucumber Root (*Medeola*

*virginiana*). Somehow through all this beauty, we had walked a complete circle and were now back at our cars for lunch.

After lunch we drove to the canyon rim for the awaited sight of the Green Pitcher plants. As the sun came out, we saw them in abundance. There was speculation that the fire had promoted their continued spread. Along the road we also encountered Sampson's Snakeroot (*Gentiana villosa*), Whorled Loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadrifolia*), and small whorled Pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*), which was not yet in bloom. Then we moved on to more plants and a spectacular view of the canyon. At the rocky top were *Bigelovia virgata*, Candy Root (*Polygala nana*), and more Pitcher plants.

Thank you to Al Good and all the others that participated in this trip.

Susan Stahl



A Letter to Members:

We even have a letter to the members for this issue. It is from Yvonne Brewington of 480 Granley Hill Road, Bethpage, TN 37022. She is a concerned citizen living in Sumner County. She writes, "We live out in the country where we are blessed with a large assortment of wildflowers. I have seen people digging up these flowers on the side of the road. They have even gone on private property without permission. They dug up a large amount of wildflowers. I would like to know the laws concerning the digging of wildflowers. Any information you can send me will be greatly appreciated." Can anyone help her. I, too, know there are laws but how do you go about finding them? Please write her if you can help.

Announcement:

A note about the field trip to Oak Ridge reservation on August 24. **Preregistration will be required for this trip.** Due to security reasons, send your name and telephone number to Allen or Susan Sweetser at least **two weeks** before the trip date or before August 10. Their address is 227 Brushy Valley Road, Powell, TN 37849. Call Allen at 865-938-7627 (there is no message machine) or call Susan at 865-588-0508, ext. 126, which has a message machine.

## 2002 TNPS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

July 28  
Sunday

### RARE PLANTS ON WALDEN'S RIDGE

Two sites in one day. The morning destination will be a power line row in Sequatchie County to see Cumberland Rose Gentian (*Sabatia capitata*), Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Habenaria ciliaris*), and other meadow species. In the afternoon, Margaret will take us to a privately owned pond where she recently discovered Blue Water-Hyssop (*Bacopa caroliniana*) previously unknown in TN. Other species found there are Sweet Flag (*Acorus calamus*), Water Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle umbellata*), Pickerel-weed (*Pontedaria cordata*), *Eryngium prostratum*, and *Sagittaria platyphylla*. Easy walking. Bring boots or shoes suitable for wading in the afternoon. Lunch in Dunlap.

**Time:** 10:00 am central and 1:30 pm afternoon  
**Place:** Hardee's on US 127 on north side of Dunlap  
**Leaders:** Al Good (423 - 886-1777; Margaret Rhinehart (931) 946-2381

August 17  
Saturday

### FLAT ROCK CEDAR GLADES AND BARREN - II

A second visit to this preserve (see May 5 trip) to catch another season's flowers. Expect to see large grouping of prairie grasses, Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and Side Oats Gramma grass (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), with flowers such as *Sida elliottii*. Bring lunch and be prepared for hot sun.

**Time:** 10:00 am central  
**Place:** McDonald's in Murfreesboro at exit 81 (US 231) on I-24  
**Leaders:** Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279; Bertha Chrietzberg (615) 895-1146

August 24  
Saturday

### OAK RIDGE RESERVATION

Larry Pounds plans to get us into the reservation to see some of the interesting plants growing there. Details in the June newsletter. Preregistration will be required 2 weeks prior to the trip.

**Time:** 10:00 am eastern  
**Place:** American Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge  
**Leaders:** Larry Pounds; Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

*September 7*  
*Saturday*

**BROWNSPORT FURNACE, DECATUR COUNTY MICRO-GLADES  
AND NEWLY DESIGNATED CARROLL CABIN NATURAL AREA**

Limestone outcropping near the old (1848) iron smelter harbor many glade and prairie plants including Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea* var. *grandiflora*), Rattlesnake Root (*Prenanthes barbata*), Rosinweed (*Silphium integrifolium*), Prairie Dock (*S. terebinthinaceum*), Elliots Fanpetals (*Sida elliottii*), Glade Heliotrope (*Heliotropium tenellum*), and prairie grasses. Other sites have Snowy Squarestem (*Melanthera nivea*) and other species. Lunch at a catfish place along the Tennessee River.

**Time:** 10:00 am central

**Place:** Decatur County Riverside High School. Exit 126 from I-40, south on SR 69 through Parsons past Middle School and Beech River to SR 69 bypass at a warning light. High School is just ahead on right.

**Leaders:** Bart Jones (901) 726-6891; Claude Bailey (615) 532-1378

*Sept. 20/21*

**ANNUAL MEETING AT ARNOLD ENGINEERING CENTER**

All details in June newsletter but mark it on your calendar now.

*Nov. 9*  
*Saturday*

**WINTER BOTANY IN POLK COUNTY**

Ed Clebsch will show us a cranberry bog, coastal plain club moss, and other unique and fascinating stuff in the Copper Basin.

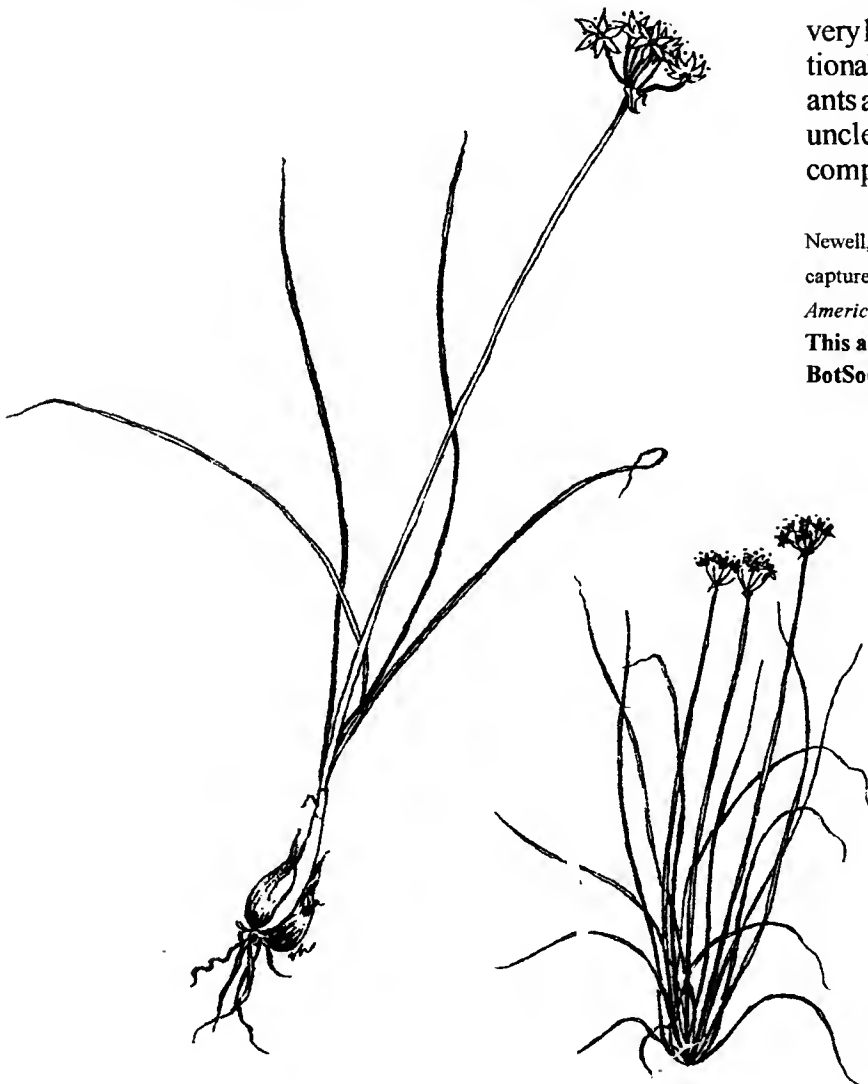
**Time:** 10:00 am eastern

**Place:** Hardee's in Ducktown on US 64 at SR 68

**Leaders:** Ed Clebsch (865) 856-3350; Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

## The Flatrock Onion

Al Good gave us some information about the Flatrock Onion (*Allium speculae*) on the May 18 trip to DeSoto State Park. This plant is categorized by the state as threatened. **Range:** Cumberland Plateau (Little River Canyon area) of northeastern Alabama; also Piedmont Plateau of northcentral Georgia. **Description:** Perennial herb with typical onion habit and odor. The bulbs have a fibrous coat similar to loose burlap. The leaves are 2-8 (mostly 4-5) per bulb, narrow and grasslike, 20-25 cm long, and to 2 mm wide. The flowers have three sepals and three petals, each 5-6 mm long, narrowly elliptic, and appearing white with a pinkish tinge. The young fruit is greenish and 3 lobed. **Flowering period:** mid May to early June. **Habitat:** Found on seepy edges of vegetation mats on outcrops of granitic rock; commonly associated with sundrops, Cuthbert onion, sunnysbells, woolly ragwort, and broomsedge.



## Pitcher Plants - How well do they catch?

"Pitcher plants (*Sarracenia purpurea* L.) attract insects to pitchers, and then capture them in fluid-filled, pitfall traps, but how efficient are pitcher plants at capturing prey in their natural environment?"

"We monitored insect activity by videotaping pitchers and analyzing videotapes for several variables including identity of each visitor and outcome of each visit (e.g. departure or capture). Efficiency of capture (i.e. number of captures per number of visits) was low. Overall efficiency of capture was 0.83-0.93%, depending on whether potential prey were broadly or narrowly defined."

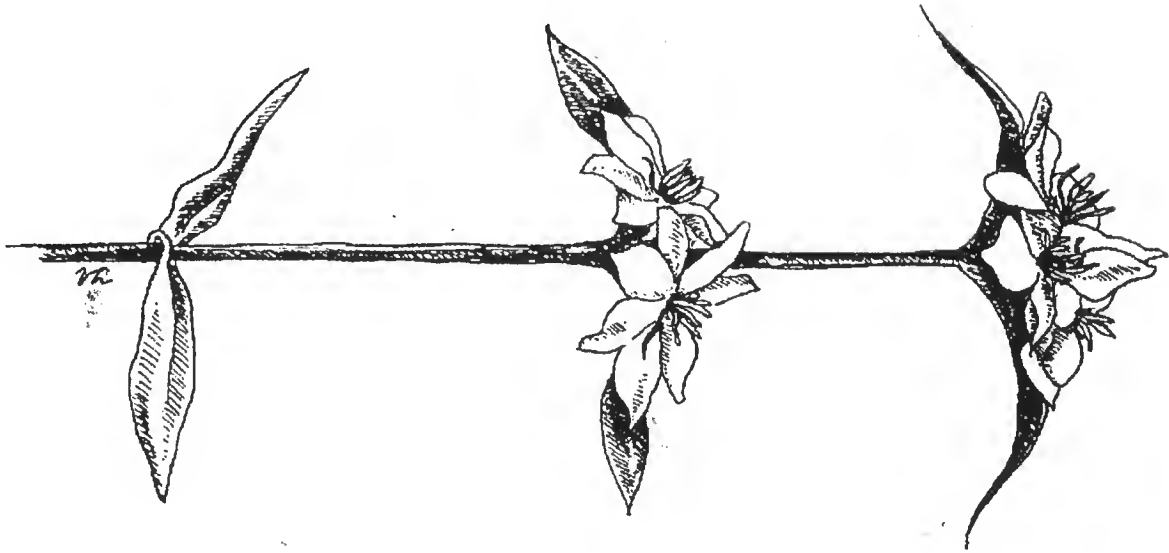
"Ants constituted 74% of the potential prey. Efficiency of capture of ants was even lower at 0.37%. Potential prey were more likely to visit pitchers with greater red venation and less water in the pitcher. There was no correlation between number of potential prey visiting a pitcher and pitcher age, length, or mouth width. Also, number of potential prey visits did not correlate with plant size, air temperature, time of day or date of videotaping."

"While the overall efficiency of prey capture was very low, pitcher plants may benefit from the additional nutrients. However, the relationship between ants and *S. purpurea* remains an enigma, since it is unclear whether the plants capture enough ants to compensate for nectar lost to ants."

Newell, S.J. & A.J. Nastase. 1998. Abstract to Efficiency of insect capture by *Sarracenia purpurea*, the northern pitcher plant in *American Journal of Botany* 85(1):88-9. 1998

This article was reprinted from the March 1998 issue of the BotSoc News.

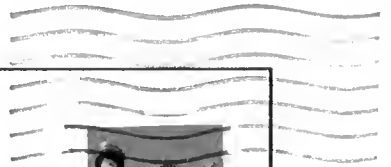




Cumberland Rose Gentian

**TENNESSEE NATIVE  
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215



3738842922







# TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3

August 2002

## President's Message

The annual meeting is coming up. It is the weekend of September 20 and 21. If you phone me right away, we may still be able to reserve a room for you. The meeting will be held at Arnold Air Force Base. Arnold AFB can be reached from I-24, exit 117. A suite with queen bed and private bath is \$37/nightly; a room with a queen bed and private or shared bath is \$27/nightly. The first event will be dinner at 6:00 on Friday night followed by a presentation by Meredith Clebsch on the use of native plants in our gardens. Meredith and her husband, Ed, own Native Plant Gardens Nursery in Greenback, TN. You don't want to miss this!

Several field trips are planned for Saturday, including the fabled runway area. This also requires **preregistration**. You must be a US citizen to go on this trip. If you are interested in just coming for the day hikes, you must **preregister** with me by calling me now.

After dinner on Saturday, we will have our annual membership meeting, including new information about the soon-to-be-completed book.

Please call today at **615-665-2056**. If you are going to eat with us on Friday and Saturday nights at Wingo Inn, bring a checkbook. There is a possibility that I will have to pay for the entire bill and you reimburse me.



### Autumn Botanizing

Color in the native landscape may be fading fast, but the browns and grays offer special treasures for botanizing, collecting, and even decorating.

Identification of plants by their dried seed pods and seeds can reveal many secrets not so obvious in the midst of the blooming season.

Note the kinship, more conspicuous now, of the asters and goldenrods, both in the composite family. Notice also the even closer relationship of coneflowers, and Black Eyed Susans in the genus *Rudbeckia*.

In doing so, gather up a cluster of stalks, add maybe a few knots of dried Queen Anne's Lace and seed box, maybe also a dried thistle head and arrange it all on the kitchen table. A salute to the season.



## TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2002  
VOLUME 26, Number 3

This Newsletter is a publication of the Tennessee Native Plant Society and is published four times a year, generally in February, June, August, November.

The Tennessee Native Plant Society (TNPS) was founded in 1978. Its purposes are to assist in the exchange of information and encourage fellowship among Tennessee's botanists, both amateur and professional; to promote public education about Tennessee flora, and wild plants in general; to provide, through publication of a newsletter or journal, a formal means of documenting information on Tennessee flora and of informing the public about wild plants; and to promote the protection and enhancement of Tennessee's wild plant communities.

Dues for each calendar year are:  
Regular: \$15  
Student/Senior: \$10  
Institution: \$20  
Life: \$150

Dues may be sent to:  
Tennessee Native Plant Society  
P O Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215

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Bart Jones - Corresponding Secretary  
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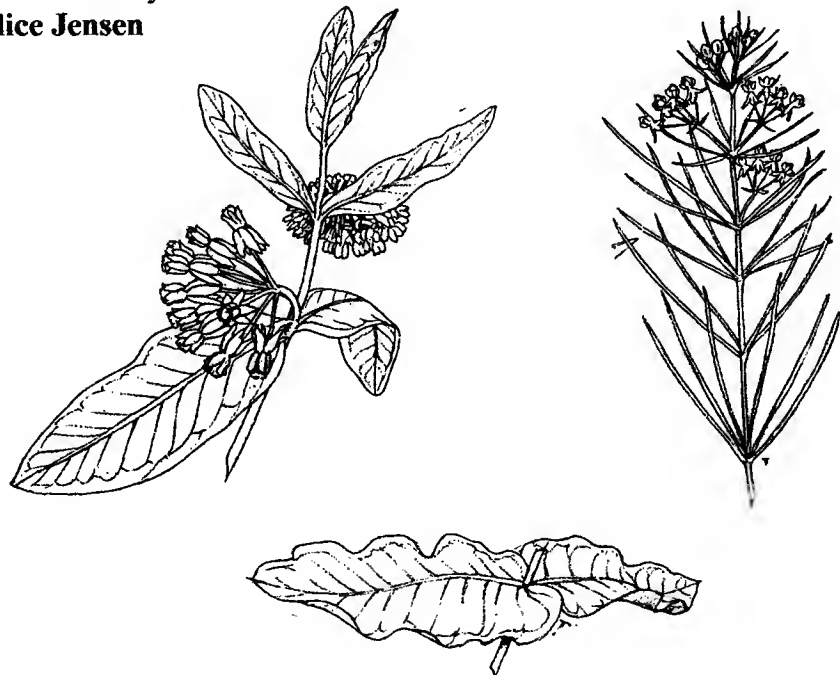
Susan Stahl, Editor  
1763 Needmore Rd.  
Old Hickory TN 37138  
Susanstahl@juno.com  
615/758-9111

## Base of Cumberland Plateau/ Cowan, TN – Sunday, June 2, 2002

When meeting at the Old Cowan Train Depot at 10:00 a.m., we spotted a bird in distress near a nest under the Depot's roof eaves. Most of us took off in Margaret's Explorer and Alice's Explorer to investigate the flora along the railroad tracks and an abandoned quarry and its lake. Two people stayed behind at the Depot to rescue the bird. With the aid of the police department and the seemingly only ladder in Cowan, the bird was returned to its nest.

Most of the plants (I listed 29) were found at a mountain a few miles from Cowan. The majority of people walked up a rocky road leading through the forest to a glade like plateau. Beautifully bright orange blossoms of *Asclepias tuberosa* were seen. Also close by and in the same family were clusters of deep, mauve-burgundy, star shaped blooms of *Matelea carolinensis* (Spiny Pod) and *Asclepias hirtella*. Margaret also pointed out *Matelea ablica* which she had found in this area. The only *Cactaceae* native to Tennessee, *Opuntia humifusa* (Prickly Pear) gleamed photogenically towards the sun. While taking a picture, I implanted a few *Opuntia* hairs into my knee. *Spigelia marilandica* (Indian Pink) was blooming. It opens its red blossoms like a bird's beak lined with yellow. Another characteristic and common plant of very dry land was *Verbena simplex* (Narrow leaved Vervain). Many thanks to Margaret Rhinehart for great guidance on this trip. Fun was had by all.

Alice Jensen



A Weekend in North Carolina –  
June 8 and 9, 2002

Our weekend field trip to North Carolina was a success no matter how you measure it. The weather, scenery, spirit of the group, the plants, and the leadership made this event one to remember. With Ed Schell "leading on," our first day's hike was along Jonas Ridge, elevation 3400 ft. This defines the eastern boundary of Linville Gorge National Wilderness. Having been 'disturbed' by wildfire in the fall of 2000, the plant community is showing a robust comeback as evidenced by the following list in Linville Gorge National Wilderness, Table Rock Picnic Area. Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria Montana*), Large leaved Aster (*Aster macrophyllus*), Hay scented Fern (*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*), Fairy Wand (*Chamaelirium luteum*), both male and female plants, Wild Sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), Buffalo Nut (*Pyrularia pubera*), Indian Cucumber Root (*Medeola virginiana*), Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), Bracken Fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), Trailing Arbutus (*Epigaea repens*), Mountain Pepperbush (*Clethra acuminata*), Chinkapin (*Castanea pumila*), Mountain Oat Grass (*Danthonia compressa*), Maleberry (*Lyonia ligustrina*), Downy Oat Grass (*Danthonia sericea*), Dwarf Rhododendron (*Rhododendron minus*), Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* we beat the birds), Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*), Twisted hair Spike Moss (*Selaginella tortipila*), Pale Corydalis (*Corydalis sempervirens*), Shuttleworth's Wild Ginger (*Hexasbylis shuttleworthii*), Whorled Loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadrifolia*), Tickseed (*Coreopsis major* var. *rigida*), Mouse ear Hawkweed (*Hieracium pilosella*), Cat's Ear (*Hypochoeris radicata*), Smooth Hawk's Beard (*Crepis capillaries*), Fetter Bush (*Leucothoe recurva*), Mountain Sandwort (*Arenaria groenlandica*), Silverling (*Paronychia argyrocoma*), Witch Alder (*Fothergilla major*), Mountain False Heather (*Hudsonia Montana*), a very rare NC endemic, With-rod (*Viburnum cassinoides*), Sawbrier (*Smilax glauca*).

After spending the night in several area motels and campgrounds, our group met again the next day at Beacon Heights along the Blue Ridge Parkway. We strolled up to the rock outcrop where great views of the valleys below and Grandfather Mountain alone serve to frame our sense of place. Here are some of the plants we saw: Velvet Grass, Witch Hobble (*Viburnum lantanooides*), Minnie bush (*Menziesia pilosa*), Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*), Fraser Magnolia (*Magnolia fraseri*), Painted Trillium (*Trillium undulatum*), Michaux's Saxifrage (*Saxifraga michauxii*), Appalachian or Kidney leaved Twayblade (*Listera smallii*); not yet in bloom. On July 23 and 24, Susan and

Allen Sweetser saw the plant in bloom near Graveyard Fields along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

We came back to our cars and drove off down the Parkway to identify two bright red spots poking out from the roadside greenery. These gems turned out to be Gray's Lilies, the first two of maybe 80 or more we saw that day. This unscheduled stop revealed several interesting plants and provided a dandy place for lunch. Here are the plants at our lunch stop near Raven Rock Overlook: Gray's Lily (*Lilium grayi*), Umbrella Leaf (*Diphylleia cymosa*), Green headed Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), Carrion Flower (*Smilax herbacea*), Early Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum dioicum*), Meadow Parsnip (*Thaspium trifoliatum*), Round leaved Gooseberry (*Ribes rotundifolia*).

In the afternoon we hiked a section of the Blue Ridge's Tanawha Trail from Wilson Creek Overlook to Rough Ridge Parking Area, a length of 1.5 miles. This trail goes along the southeastern slope of Grandfather Mountain that rises to 5,964 ft. One of the highlights of this trail is passing through a heath bald on an elevated, 200 foot long boardwalk. The following is a list of some of the plants we identified: False Hellebore (*Veratrum parviflorum*), Broad leaved Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum canadense*), Wood Rush (*Luzula* sp.), Gray's Lilies, Blue Cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*), Virginia Waterleaf or John's Cabbage (*Hydrophyllum virginianum*), Nodding Avens (*Geum geniculatum*), Filmy Angelica (*Angelica triquinata*), Southern Mountain Cranberry (*Vaccinium erythrocarpum*), Mountain Wood Fern (*Dryopteris campyloptera*), Three toothed Cinquefoil (*Potentilla tridentate*), Bigtooth Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*), Turkey Beard (*Xerophyllum asphodeloides*), Tufted Clubrush (*Scirpus cespitosus*).

Allen and Susan Sweetser

Editor's note: I wish to thank all who helped me with my husband's overheating car. With the good wishes of you all and two garage mechanics who advised me that I could make it back to Knoxville, I survived. Surprisingly enough, the radiator was not the problem but some kind of belt tensor. Since then the car has been in and out of the shop with a new alternator and new starter. Now, it seems something is wrong with the air-conditioning. I appreciate your kind concern and helpfulness in my time of need.



### Flat Rock Cedar Glade and Barrens

On our spring trip (05/04/02) we identified 40 species of flowering plants in bloom including the beautiful Sunnybells (*Schoenolirion croceum*). A mystery plant on the spring trip was later identified as *Salvia urticifolia*. That's a prickly name for a pretty plant. On our late summer trip (08/17/02) we identified 41 species and there were a couple of *Solidago* species we didn't have time to nail. *Verbenas Canadensis* and *Oenothera macrocarpa* were found to be blooming on both trips. This area is of interest to those who want to see flowers blooming most of the year. It begins with the *Leavenworthia stylosa* and ends with the grasses and composites.

On both trips as participants were lead further and further into the extensive maze of cedar glades and thickets, some expressed concern about getting lost. I had to retrieve a few strays but I didn't lose a one on either trip. It can be a disorienting experience especially if you are looking down at the ground most of the time.

We had some good luck on the August trip. The weather when we started was atypical for that time of year. We had overcast skies and a nice breeze. The breeze didn't help the photography but it kept us cool until the clouds scattered and the sun came blazing down. We were too early to see the masses of Sugarcane

Plume Grass (*Erianthus giganteus*) that appear in the barrens in the fall but we did see impressive masses of *Gaura filipes*. The Purple Love Grass (*Eragrostis spectabilis*) was beginning to produce a show. The prairie grasses were just getting started after some much needed rain but we did see some of the typical cedar glade grasses like *Sporobolus vaginiflorus* and *Aristida longespica*. *Ruellia humilis* and *Asclepias viridiflora* both managed to survive the extreme environment of the open glades and put out some very showy flowers. Another plant we saw thriving in the glades was the Limestone Fame Flower (*Talinum calcaricum*). We saw a healthy stand of large fruiting giants that must have been almost blinding when in bloom. The *Sida elliottii* was very shy and although the plants had flowers, only one decided to unfurl its petals for us. *Helianthus occidentalis* really stood out from the numerous composites that were beginning their regular late summer show. *Spiranthes tuberosa* put on a delicate little show to represent the orchid family towards the end of the day. The botany manuals got a little use but we also made good use of Dennis, Al and the other experts in the group to identify the plants. We enjoyed seeing the rare plants but after a day in August out in the open cedar glades, many of us were anxious to get back in the air conditioned comfort of our cars or at least into some cool shade.

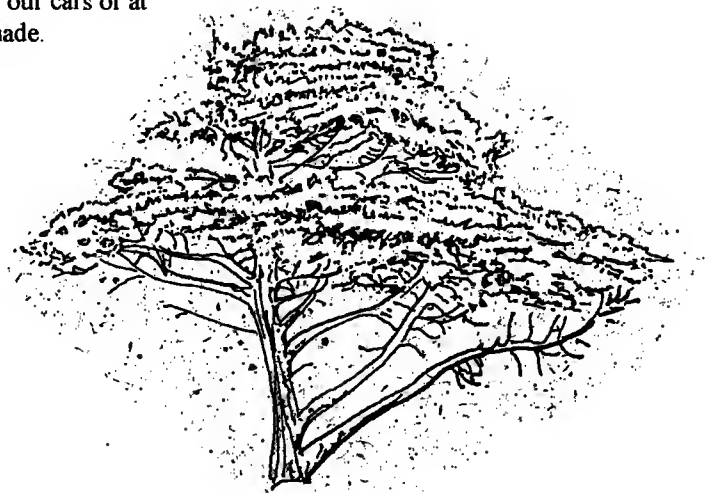
Todd Crabtree

### From the email file of TNPS:

Sarah Howland, a horticulturist from Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, wants to know a source for the bumper sticker "I break for wildflowers." If you have any information, please write her at Cheekwood, 1200 Forrest Park Drive, Nashville, TN 37205.

Todd Crabtree suggests you look at this website for a view of a gigantic weed, [http://www.state.ma.us/dfa/pestalert/giant\\_hogweed.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/dfa/pestalert/giant_hogweed.htm)

Kay Jones extends an invitation for our members to join the Swan Trust in one of their nature walks. This will be Sunday, September 8 at 2:00. They will be exploring Autney Hollow, one the rare Tennessee Xyris sites. Wading is a possibility. Call or write Kay at P.O. Box 193, Hampshire TN 38461, 800-377-2770, or [www.bbonline.com/natcheztrace](http://www.bbonline.com/natcheztrace)



In response to the question that Yvonne Brewington asked in our last issue, we received this reply from John H. Tullock, a TNPS member.

*I am currently writing a book about the conservation, cultivation and propagation of native orchids and have done considerable research into Tennessee's laws concerning wild plants. I am not a lawyer, but I will share with you what I have learned.*

*The most important issue regarding the digging of wild plants is the digger's intended use of the plants. If the plants are for private or personal use, digging is not regulated by the state in any way. However, removal of wild plants without the permission of the land owner is theft. Any land owner could file a complaint with local law enforcement, as would be the case if hay, a farm animal, or any other piece of property were taken. Therefore, if you are aware of a situation, the first thing to do is alert the land owner.*

*If the plants are intended for sale, two state agencies have regulations. The TN Department of Agriculture issues a "Wild Plant Dealer License" to nursery farmers who dig and sell wild plants. In addition, an "Endangered Plant Dealer License" is needed from the TN Department of Environment and Conservation by any nursery farmer who digs a species on the state's list of endangered, threatened and rare plants. This list is periodically updated by the State Botanist's office. If the plants are on the Federal government's Endangered Species list, additional federal permits are required. For example, Tennessee Coneflower is on the Federal list.*

*A person holding these permits may remove plants from any site with the written permission of the land owner. In the case of a roadside right of way, permission from the TN Department of Transportation would theoretically be needed. I do not know of any situation where TDOT has taken action against anyone removing roadside plants without permission. The state recommends, but does not require, the diggers obtain permission before taking plants from private property.*

*Assuming the plants are on private property, the permit requirements are as far as the laws go toward plant protection, and it is up to the land owner to restrict activities on his or her property. The Tennessee Rare Plant Protection Act of 1985, which sets up the endangered species list and provides for the regulations just described, specifically states "...nothing [in this act] shall be construed to limit the rights of private property owners to take rare plants from their own lands or to manage their lands for agriculture, forestry, development or any other lawful purpose."*

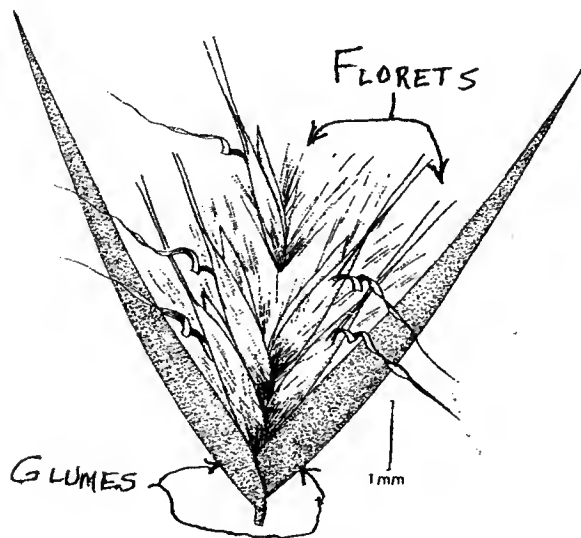
*The TDA will issue a wild plant dealer license to anyone who applies and pay the \$100 fee. A licensed dealer may have as many unlicensed diggers working for him as he wishes. All TDA does is inspect the dig site(s) to certify that agricultural pests are not present on the plants being sold.*

*The TDEC will issue an endangered plant license to anyone with either a nursery license or a wild plant license from the TDA. There is no fee for the endangered plant license. Licensees must file an annual report with TDEC specifying the species bought, collected or sold, how many, and whether the plants were dug or propagated. What TDEC does with this information is anyone's guess, but the files are probably available for public inspection in Nashville. In addition, nursery owners are prohibited from purchasing more than 10 specimens of any plant on the endangered species list, whether dug or propagated. However, a wild plant dealer is not restricted in the number of plants of any species that may be dug or sold. Thus, a nursery holding both a wild plant license and a nursery license may dig and sell as many plants of any species as desired. In summary, a private individual may dig plants for personal use without restriction provided permission is obtained from the property owner. Only someone intending to sell the plants is regulated by the state. I hope this answers your questions regarding Tennessee's plant protection regulations.*

This certainly answers all our questions. Thank you so much for providing this information to all of us.



## OATGRASSES OF THE MIDSOUTH FOR DUMMIES



### FLOWER (SPIKELET)

ALL SPECIES HAVE TWO LONG OUTER SCALES (GLUMES) ENCLOSING THE FLORETS.

### HABITAT

ALL ARE WOODLAND TOLERANT COOL SEASON BUNCHGRASSES WHICH THRIVE WHERE THEY GET MORE LIGHT AND SPACE.

- **POVERTY OAT GRASS** (*Danthonia spicata*) MOST COMMON. THRIVES ON RELATIVELY DRY STERILE SITES. EASY ID. BY CURLY DEAD LEAVES AT THE BASE.
- **MOUNTAIN OAT GRASS** (*Danthonia compressa*). SIMILAR TO ABOVE BUT DARKER GREEN, MORE LUSTROUS, AND MORE ROBUST. PREFERS COOLER SITES WITH MORE MOISTURE. USUALLY DOMINANT ON HIGH MOUNTAIN BALDS. DEAD LEAVES AT BASE ARE STRAIGHT AND WIRY.
- **DOWNY OAT GRASS** (*Danthonia sericea*) TALLER THAN EITHER OF THE ABOVE. LIGHT GREEN WITH DOWNY SHEATHS ON THE LOWER PART OF THE STEMS. THRIVES ON VERY DRY SITES, INCLUDING ROCK OUTCROPS.
- **SMOOTH OAT GRASS** (*Danthonia epilis*) LIKE THE ABOVE SPECIES BUT NO DOWN. SOME BOTANY MANUALS SHOW IT AS A VARIETY, THE NON-SERICEOUS *D. sericea*. GROWS IN WETTER SITES.

Al Good



**Notes about Cedar Glades from Field Trip Publication No. 2, Edition of 1981 by Gene Wofford and Tom Patrick:**

1. Cedar glades occur on Lebanon limestone bedrock of Ordovician age in a climate of hot, dry summers and cool, moist winters. One feature of cedar glades of the Interior Low Plateau, especially in the Central Basin of Tennessee is high soil moisture in late winter and early spring.
2. Winter annuals are numerous. Three are particularly conspicuous in early spring, namely *Arenaria patula*, *Sedum pulchellum*, and the four species of *Leavenworthia*. Winter annuals germinate seeds in September and October and withstand the winter as basal rosettes. There are at least three major factors involved in their germination regime: a time period during which the mechanical resistance of the seed coat breaks down as the embryo expands; a critical, rather stable temperature of about 15-20° C for 2-3 weeks; and, alternate drying and wetting.

3. Dominants of the summer flora of cedar glades include the grasses *Aristida longespica* and *Scorobolus vaginiflorus*, the umbel *Bupleurum rotundifolium* (evident in late spring as well), the succulent fameflower *Talinum calcaricum*, the sedge *Cyperus inflexus*, the legume *Petalostemon gattingeri* and the mint *Isanthus brachiatus*. *Nostoc*, a blue-green alga, is conspicuous in rock depressions.
4. Mosses play a major role in cedar glade plant communities. Perhaps a cedar glade indicator moss more common than most is *Pleurochaete squarrosa*.



**The last of the 2002 Field Trips:**

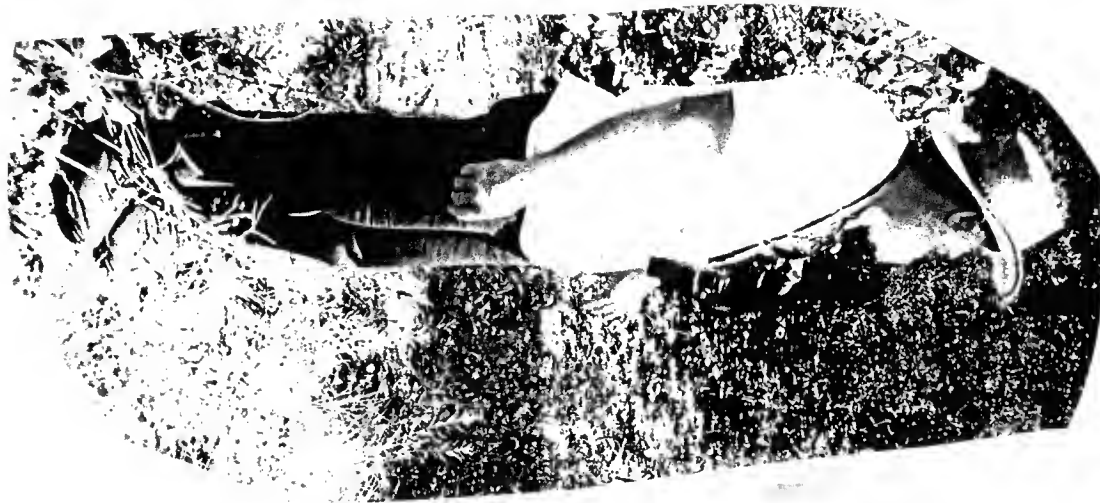
**Saturday, September 7 - Brownsport Furnace in Decatur County and Carroll Cabin Natural Area**  
Leaders are Bart Jones (901) 726-6891 and Claude Bailey (615) 532-1378. Call them if you are interested in participating. Expect to be impressed by these glade and prairie plants. Meet at 10:00 am central at Decatur County Riverside High School. Exit 126 from I-40, south on SR 69 through Parsons, past Middle School and Beech River to SR 69 bypass at warning light. High school is just ahead on right.

**Saturday, November 9 - Winter Botany in Polk County**

Leaders are Ed Clebsch (865) 856-3350 and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627. We shall visit a cranberry bog, and see other unique and fascinating stuff in the Copper Basin. Meet at 10:00 am eastern time at the Hardee's in Ducktown on US 64 at SR 68.

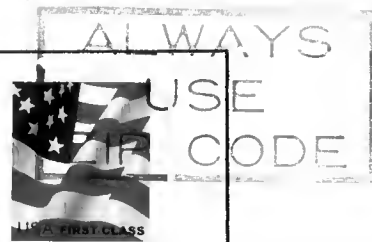
**September 20/21 - Annual Meeting.** Check out the President's message on page 1 for information





**TENNESSEE NATIVE  
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215







# TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3

November 2002

## President's Message

As I look back over the four years of my presidency of TNPS, it seems that our organization has made much progress. Increasingly I realize how much that progress has depended upon the able efforts of some very good people. Several areas come immediately to mind.

While it may seem to an outsider that the book has been on hold for years, a lot of hard work has been going on behind the scenes – work that should now be acknowledged and applauded. We have been through an extremely unpleasant lawsuit, which delayed us for the better part of two years. After we finally had our photographs returned, Dennis Horn and David Duhl painstakingly sorted them, recruited new photographers, and organized the old and new photographs into a meaningful new order. In the meantime, Dr. Tom Hemmerly edited and rewrote, when necessary, all of the plant descriptions. Most recently, Tavia Cathcart has worked on redesigning and marketing the book. The result is different in many respects from our original plan but all in all – a better book. Thank you all.

Our trip schedule seems each year to surpass the one of the year before. Al Good, with the assistance of several dedicated trip leaders, Bart Jones, Mary Priestley, Todd Crabtree, Susan and Al Sweetser, among others, has once again put together a varied and imaginative program. I always regret missing a trip. Thanks to all of you.

Susan Stahl has continually improved the newsletter. We now have more trip reports, and

interesting other features from time to time. Thank you, Susan.

Our membership is holding steady at around 200. We now have our membership on disk; actually there are three disks safeguarding this valuable information. We are trying to add email addresses to our list. If you have an email address and you think we don't have it, please send it to us. You can get a printed membership list by sending \$3.00 to PO Box 159724, Nashville, TN 37215. Nita Heilman has maintained a card file of all members, past and present, for some years. So even if you get deleted from our computer file, Nita still has a record of your membership. Nita, a multi-talented person has also designed and had printed our line of notecards, bumper stickers, and tee shirts which she also stores in her home. Thanks, Nita. Bart Jones has cheerfully agreed to maintain a backup computer membership list, in addition to his other volunteer jobs. Thanks, Bart.

Last, but by no means least, thanks to all the board members who drive long distances for our meetings. I appreciate your good advice and concerns.



## TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 2002  
VOLUME 26, Number 3

This Newsletter is a publication of the Tennessee Native Plant Society and is published four times a year, generally in February, June, August, November.

The Tennessee Native Plant Society (TNPS) was founded in 1978. Its purposes are to assist in the exchange of information and encourage fellowship among Tennessee's botanists, both amateur and professional; to promote public education about Tennessee flora, and wild plants in general; to provide, through publication of a newsletter or journal, a formal means of documenting information on Tennessee flora and of informing the public about wild plants; and to promote the protection and enhancement of Tennessee's wild plant communities.

Dues for each calendar year are:  
Regular: \$15  
Student/Senior: \$10  
Institution: \$20  
Life: \$150

Dues may be sent to:  
Tennessee Native Plant Society  
P O Box 159274  
Nashville, TN 37215

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Bart Jones - West Tennessee

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### TNPS Annual Meeting

It was a dark and stormy night, <sup>but</sup> ~~gut~~ that didn't stop thirty-four members of TNPS from enjoying dinner together on the evening of September 21<sup>st</sup> at the first event of the annual meeting. After dinner, Meredith Clebsch presented an interesting and inspirational talk/slide show about using native plants in the garden. Several of us were moved to vow to replace non-native plants (or nonlocal ones) with plants that do not require constant attention and watering.

Saturday was cool and cloudy – a perfect day for exploring the Arnold Air Force Base and May Prairie. More detailed reports of the field trips are elsewhere in this issue. A general membership meeting was held in the evening. Tavia Cathcart described new ideas for the format of the book, which is finally approaching completion. Several presses have expressed interest, and a decision will be made in the near future on how to proceed with them. We'll keep you posted.



*Liatris spicata*

Several TNPS members had roles in "The Third Eastern Native Grass Symposium" at Chapel Hill, North Carolina on October 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. Meredith Clebsch was exhibiting Native Garden's line of prairie grasses. Milo Pyne of NatureServe Ecology South co-authored the paper, "Remnant Diabase Grasslands in North-Central North Carolina" and led the Piedmont Natural Areas tour. Adam Turtle of Our Bamboo Nursery presented the paper, "River Cane, A Unique Woody Grass". The symposium program effectively supported a premise that increasing awareness and use of native grasses is necessary for the conservation and healing of the natural landscape, even in the largely wooded eastern U.S.

## AEDC/May Prairie Field Trip

As we all know the annual meeting is just an excuse to go on a really great hike (only kidding)! But it was a fantastic lineup we enjoyed on Saturday. Our first stop (after getting our visitor's passes) was the fabled airstrip. Even though the recent drought had severely impacted the airfield, we still managed to identify 44 species. Most were not in bloom, but we did see several things to occupy our cameras and botanical keys. The first flower to leap out at us was Purple Gerardia (*Agalinis purpurea*) and its pinkish purple blossoms. These plants were scattered throughout the field. Upon examining more plants, we found another *Agalinis* species, *A. gattingeri*. Other frequently encountered wildflowers at the site were Narrow-leaf Sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*), Gray Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*), Southern Aster (*Aster paludosus* ssp. *Hemisphericus*), Maryland Meadow Beauty (*Rhexia mariana*), Downy Lobelia (*Lobelia puberula*), and Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*). Group Leader, Dennis Horn, pointed out the state endangered White-bracted Thoroughwort (*Eupatorium leucolepis*) among the 6 other *Eupatorium* species. This rare plant can be distinguished by its narrow leaves that fold into a "V" shape along the midrib. The other *Eupatorium* species were: *E. hyssopifolium*, *E. rotundifolium*, and *E. pilosum*, *E. semiserratum*, *E. serotinum*, and *E. perfoliatum*. The big mystery plant at this location was a small, shrubby plant with black fruits. An initial identification of Sand Cherry (*Prunus pumila*) proved to be incorrect when AEDC botanist Kevin Fitch crushed the fruit to find that it contained many seeds and not a stone. With that it was ID'd as a Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*). Several interesting grasses were seen including Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), Slender Plume Grass (*Erianthus strictus*), *Panicum rigidulum*, and *Andropogon glomeratus*.

From the airstrip, we moved to an area under a powerline running through the base. On our way to the field from the parking area, we were greeted by a large plant of Common Thistle (*Cirsium discolor*) in full bloom. Nearby was Lion's Foot (*Prenanthes serpentaria*). Although most things in bloom were seen at the airstrip also, we did find some new interesting plants. Normally found on the Cumberland Plateau, Small-headed Blazing Star (*Liatris microcephala*) was nearing the end of its bloom. Plants of Spatulate Sundew (*Drosera intermedia*) and Foxtail Moss (*Lycopodium alopecurioides*) held the attention of several in our group.

After a quick lunch, we headed to our final destination, the famous May Prairie. Unlike the other sites we had visited, the prairie seemed to be in good shape and not affected by the drought. The prairie is home to many rare plants, including Swamp Lousewort (*Pedicularis lanceolata*) and the very rare Shinner's False Foxglove (*Agalinis pseudophylla*). Four Silphium species were past peak, but still in flower; Prairie Rosinweed (*S. integrifolium*), Shaggy Rosinweed (*S.*

*mohrii*), Cut-leaf Prairie Dock (*S. pinnatifidum*), and Whorled Rosinweed (*S. trifoliatum*). Other composites in bloom were Orange Coneflower (*Rudbeckia fulgida*), Fall Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*), Flat-topped Goldenrod (*Euthamia leptoccephala*), New England Aster (*Aster novae-angliae*), and Joe-pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*). Other plants in bloom included Soapwort Gentian (*Gentiana saponaria*), Thread-leaf False Foxglove (*Agalinia tenuifolia*) and Bluehearts (*Buchnera americana*). On our way back to our automobiles, we walked along a wet ditch which harbored many wetland plants, among them; Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Climbing Hempweed (*Mikania scandens*), Fogfruit (*Phyla lanceolata*), and Nodding Ladies' Tresses (*Spiranthes cernua*).

A full day of plant hunting left most of us tired, but satisfied with over 80 species identified.

**Bart Jones**



### Gumdale Glades/Carroll Cabin Natural Area

On September 7, we visited two cedar glades/barrens in southeastern Decatur county in West Tennessee. Yes, there are glades in West Tennessee. The first site was Gumdale glade, where several in the group were immediately drawn to a few spectacular specimens of Rough Blazing Star (*Liatris aspera*). Nearby were the first plants of Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea* var. *grandiflora*) we encountered. This state listed threatened plant sports beautiful spikes of clear blue half-inch flowers atop 3-5 foot plants with grayish-green leaves. In this general locale we saw Pale-spiked Lobelia (*L. spicata*), Downy Lobelia (*L. puberula*), Axillflower (*Mecardonia acuminata*), and a very photogenic groups of Tickseed Sunflower (*Bidens polylepis*) and Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*). Further into the glade, and in drier conditions, we spotted several spikes of Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*) in various shades of pink and Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*) with gorgeous 3-inch yellow flowers atop 4 foot stalks. Near the edge of the glade, a pink mist drew us to what turned out to be a *Desmodium* species that baffled us. Later examination proved it to be *Desmodium ciliare*. Several plants seemed to be ubiquitous throughout the glades: Glade heliotrope (*Heliotropium tenellum*), Glade Wild Petunia (*Ruellia humilis*), Slender Beeblossom (*Gaura filipes*), and Gray Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*). Other species spotted were Small Purple Gerardia (*Agalinis setacea*), Patridge Pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), Sensitive Plant

(*Chamaecrista nictitans*), Prairie Tea (*Croton monanthogynus*), Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), Bitterweed (*Helenium amarum*), Sneezeweed (*Helenium flexuosum*), Stiff-haired Sunflower (*Helianthus hirsutus*), Small-headed Sunflower (*Helianthus microcephalus*), Common Yellow Flax (*Linum medium*), Gray-headed Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), Orange Coneflower (*Rudbeckia fulgida*), Rosinweed (*Silphium intergrifolium*), Erect Goldenrod (*Solidago erecta*), Pencilflower (*Stylosanthes biflora*), and False Pennyroyal (*Trichostema brachiatum*). Across the road, a second section of the glade produced plants of Stiff Goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*), Slender Bush Clover (*Lespedeza virginica*), and Yellow False Foxglove (*Aureolaria flava*). In addition, we spotted the threatened Rattlesnake Root (*Prenanthes barbata*) in bud. Several interesting grasses populated the glade: Little Bluestem (*Andropogon virginicus*), Little Bluestem (*A. gerardii*), Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), Prairie Threawn (*Aristida oligantha*), Witchgrass (*Panicum capillare*), Poverty Grass (*Sporobolus vaginiflorus*), and Narrow-leaf Oat Grass (*Chasmanthium sessiliflorus*). Thanks to Al Good for his expert eye in identifying grasses.

A quick side trip to the river took us to a colony of Snowy Squarestem (*Melanthera nivea*). This member of a mainly tropical genus only occurs along the western run of the Tennessee River and the Mississippi River in the state. Also present in this spot was Bur Cucumber (*Sicyos angulatus*) and Climbing Buckwheat (*Polygonum scandens*).

A short journey back across the Tennessee River took us to our second site, a small glade situated below a new resort development on top of a ridge. The site contained a wide diversity of plants, but its greatest attribute was the robust

health of most of them. The star of the show here was definitely the Cylindrical Blazing Star (*Liatris cylindracea*). Another state listed threatened plant, the fuzzy purple blossoms protrude from tight, and cylinder-shaped involucre arranged along stems with stiff, narrow, pointed leaves. Even a few true albino flowers were scattered throughout. Al was mesmerized by the cedar trees growing out of limestone croppings. Their highly contorted branches were sparsely covered with greenery giving them the appearance of giant bonsai. Several in the group also commented on the unusual coloration of the limestone, being a rusty red color. This is due to a high concentration of iron, which was actually smelted in a nearby furnace back in the 1850's. Hugh plants of Southern Aster (*Aster paludosus* ssp. *Hemisphericus*) were in full bloom along the hillside. Just starting to bloom was a mystery Aster which Dennis Horn and I insisted was Late Purple Aster (*A. patens*), much to the consternation of Al (who still insists we have it wrong). Several large bushes of Beautyberry (*Callicarpa Americana*) dotted the area with their chartreuse leaves and clusters of purple berries. Additional new flowers at this location included Whorled Rosinweed (*Silphium trifoliatum* var. *latifolium*), Supple Jack (*Berchemia scandens*), Tall Coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*), and Western Sunflower (*Helianthus occidentalis*).

Unfortunately, we did not get to the Carroll Cabin State Natural Area, but after 6 hours of botanizing in 90+ degree heat, most of the group was ready to head home and rehydrate.

*Bart Jones*



## Walden's Ridge – July 28, 2002

A larger than expected group (Jayne Cagle had promoted the trip at Cullowhee) met at Dunlap. Margaret Rhinehart was unable to leave husband Shelby's bedside to participate but had arranged for her part of the trip to go ahead.

The morning destination was a much used and abused power line meadow where an interesting plant community survives disruptive circumstances. TVA mows and sprays herbicides, ATV's start gullies and, most recently, Bowater has been logging beetle-killed pines. A windrow of soil plowed from the roadside ditch had Dense Blazing Star (*Liatriis spicata*). A freshly graded knoll was covered with annual Milkworts (*Polygala curtissii* and *P. sanguinea*) and Pineweed (*Hypericum originoides*). We were able to compare the very different floret proportions of the superficially similar Milkworts. A slope across the road was almost solid Meadow Beauty (*Rhexia mariana*). Most of the Cumberland Rose Gentian (*Sabatia capitata*) was here. This rare plant has been found in several places along the power line but we did not check any others. Except for a few species of Eupatorium, the summer flowers and grasses had been retarded by the drought. Wayne Hitt, a horticulturist from Alabama, was particularly interest in a Beaked Hawkweed (*Hieracium gronovi*) which no one recognized with its small tight buds. We gave up finding the Yellow Fringed Orchids (*Habenaria ciliaris*) in the tall grass, but Christine G. spotted some on the drive out of the tree farm.

Field Trip Part II was a private lake near the Flat Top community. The five acre impoundment was created about fifty year ago and is fed by springs which probably emanate from a coal seam. Seepage below the dam produces iron sulfide precipitate. Water level was holding well in spite of the drought. The advertised water plants, Blue Water Hyssop (*Bacopa caroliniana*), Sweet Flag (*Acorus calamus*), Water Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle umbellata*), Pickerel-weed (*Pontedaria cordata*), Spreading Eryngo (*Eryngium prostratum*) and Ovate-leaved Arrow-head (*Sagittaria platyphylla*) were thriving, the latter quite aggressively. We were told that some of these species had been introduced. Other flowers found around the water were Meadow Beauties (*Rhexia mariana* and *R. virginica*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*),

Mild Water Pepper (*Polygonum hydropiperoides*), Yellow-eyed Grass (*Xyris tortus*), Rice Cut-grass (*Leersia oryzoides*), Beak Rush (*Rhynchospora glomerata*), and Rushes (*Juncus acuminatus* and *J. coriaceus*). The latter was incredibly small to be a flowering plant, but Kurt Emmanuele spotted some Water-meal (*Wolffia* spp.), the smallest angiosperm.

The adjacent meadow and woods had Goldenrods (3 *Solidago* spp.), Sunflowers (2 *Helianthus* spp.), Mountain Mints (2 *Pycnanthemum* spp.) Starry Champion (*Silene stellata*), St. Andrew's Cross (*Hypericum hypericoides*), Common Groundnut (*Apios Americana*), Crane-fly Orchid (*Tipularia discolor*), Southern Ground Cedar (*Lycopodium digitatum*) and Southern Clubmoss (*L. appressum*).

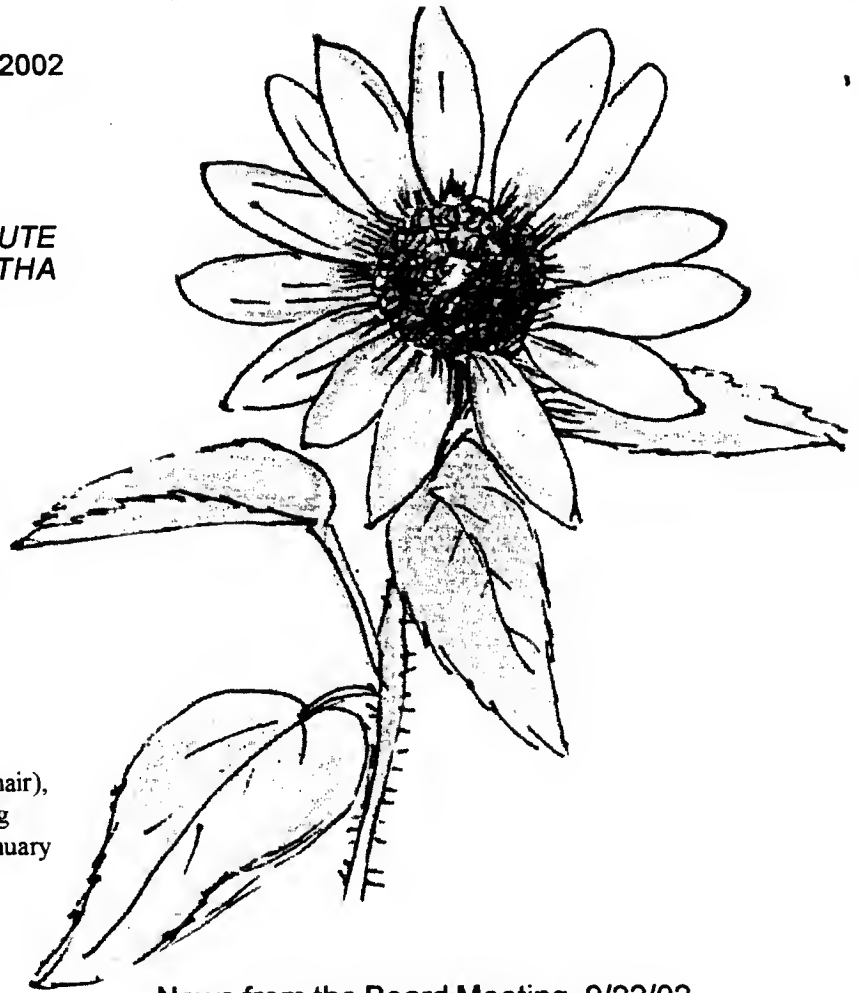
A few folks checked out the huge American Lotus-lily (*Nelumbo lutea*) display in Chattanooga's Amnicola Marsh that Chuck Wilson had spotted the week before.

Al Good





IN THE NEXT ISSUE, LOOK FOR A TRIBUTE TO SHELBY RHINEHART BY BERTHA CHRIETZBERG.



**And the Nominees are:**

At the annual meeting in September, the nominating committee, composed of Mary Priestley (chair), Todd Crabtree, and Kay Jones, presented the following slate of officers to serve two year terms, beginning January 15, 2003:

President:	Karl Heinzman, Norris
Vice-President:	Dennis Horn, Tullahoma
Treasurer:	Kay Jones, Hampshire
Recording Secretary:	Bart Jones, Memphis
East TN Representative:	Susan Sweetser, Powell
East TN Representative:	Al Good, Signal Mountain
Middle TN Representative:	Bertha Chrietzberg, Murfreesboro

The positions of West TN representative and corresponding secretary are not filled.

If a TNPS member has in mind an additional nominee for any of these positions, they should obtain that person's consent to have his or her name placed in nomination. Then, they should contact Mary Priestley (at 735 University Ave., Sewanee, TN 37383; 931-598-0157; or [mpriest1@sewanee.edu](mailto:mpriest1@sewanee.edu)) by January 1, 2003, to submit the nominee's name.

The following board members' two year terms expire on January 15, 2004:

Middle TN Representative:	Todd Crabtree, Smyrna
East TN Representative:	Mary Priestley, Sewanee

In addition, Jane Norris will remain on the board ex-officio as immediate past president, and Nita Heilman as historian

**News from the Board Meeting, 9/22/02**

The West TN Director vacancy was discussed. Lack of active membership precludes filling the position now. It was proposed to contact any relevant organizations and universities to try and boost membership. Bart Jones agreed to write letters to these groups.

Karl Heinzman made a motion to donate \$50 to the Shelby Rhinehart Scholarship Fund at Tennessee Tech, seconded by Bertha Chrietzberg, and approved by the board.

Al Good, chairman of the Field Trip Committee, asked members to think of possible trips for next year and report them to him soon. The committee includes Bart Jones, Todd Crabtree, Allen and Susan Sweetser, and Bertha Chrietzberg. Discussion of making our trips inclusive of other organizations or interests received positive response from the board.

The Book Committee of Dennis Horn, David Duhl, Tom Hemmerly, and Tavia Cathcart reported on the latest progress. We have 750 photos for the book including 80 that are different from present book on the market. The majority of the text is ok with the remaining being written by Dr. Hemmerly.

**“Nobody makes a greater mistake than one who does nothing because they could only do a little.” *Edmund Burke***

Exotic invasive plants are generating a lot of concern among managers of Tennessee’s forests, natural areas, open spaces, and greenways. Costs to manage the unwanted invaders are growing and new invasive plants keep arriving. The Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council (TN EPPC) was organized in 1994 to respond to these increasing challenges. Partnering with several groups and relying on volunteers, TN EPPC has focused on improving the awareness of resource managers and the public about the threats of invasive plants and ways these threats can be managed. Just this year, the Tennessee Academy of Science published, “Invasive Exotic Pest Plants in Tennessee” a list that TN EPPC developed with input from regional experts and included rigorous review. A detailed management manual, symposiums, identification photos, videos, and volunteer training sessions are some of the tools used to help members, resource managers, and volunteers understand their local situations. TN EPPC has recently been working with some communities to form ordinances to control invasive plants and to work with those most connected with the invasive plant situation. TN EPPC outreach has included conservation groups, community organizations, the nursery industry, county road departments, property owner associations, and specialists from universities and resource agencies. Responses to email and phone inquiries about ways to deal with specific invasive plant problems are an increasing part of the TN EPPC effort.

TN EPPC was one of the early leaders in the nation to recognize and fulfill an important need. Today many state and regional exotic pest plant

councils are being formed including most of the southeast, the Midwest, the east and the west. Members of TN EPPC automatically become members of the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council (SE EPPC) where even more information is shared. More information and membership applications can be found at [www.tn-eppc.org](http://www.tn-eppc.org). TN EPPC membership categories are: student (\$10), general (\$20), contributing (\$50), donor (>\$50) or institutional (several categories). To join send a check payable to TN EPPC to TN EPPC Treasurer, PO Box 936, Fairview, TN 37062 and include your name, address (including zip), business affiliation (if applicable), phone, fax, and email address.

### **Reintroduction of Pyne’s Ground Plum to TN National Battlefield**

The imperiled Pyne’s Ground Plum now has a better chance for survival in the wild, thanks to a scientist at a Center for Plant Conservation Participating Institution. The plant, which occurred in only three locations in Tennessee, is now growing in eight of the state’s cedar glades – and it has begun to reproduce on its own.

Kimberlie McCue, Ph.D, conservation scientist for the Missouri Botanical Garden, has been studying the imperiled plant for more than three years. In the summer of 2001, McCue planted the ground plum (*Astragalus bibullatus*) at the Stones River National Battlefield near Murfreesboro, TN.

Throughout the summer McCue visited the cedar glades where she transplanted the ground plums. Half of the plants had survived and many of those had flowered and set seed.

The work with Pyne’s Ground Plum continues. In September 2002 McCue returned to Tennessee where she and other conservationists planted 33 additional plants on glade habitat owned by the Nature Conservancy.

If your mailing label has 2002, it is time to **RENEW**. Please send your dues to:

Tennessee Native Plant Society  
P O Box 159724  
Nashville, TN 37215

*Membership categories are:*

**Regular \$15**  
**Student and Senior \$10**  
**Institutional \$20**  
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