

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Volume 39, Number 1

March 2015



Finding Botanical Treasures Across a Very Diverse State

With spring finally at our doorstep, we begin to scratch expectantly among the dark autumn litter and perhaps see here and there apical buds and green leaves of our favorite plants.

I'm reminded how much a review of wildflower field guides refreshes my memory. The spring review was an annual practice of Ed Schell, whose memory we celebrate in this issue and with a field trip in June to Roan Mountain, Ed's favorite place.

And speaking of field trips, you've probably already found the 2015 field trip schedule inside. You can pull out the section for a handy reference.

Plans are also being made for the TNPS Annual Meeting September 11-12 at Linden Valley, where we have met in two previous years. September may seem to be a long way off, but take no chances and mark your calendar.

More recent events include the 65th Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, a five-day event (April 21-25) in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, centered in Gatlinburg, the 12th annual festival Trails & Trilliums April 10-12 at the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, and the 38th Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glades Wildflower Festival May 1-2 at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.



Elsie Quarterman died June 9 of last year, making this year's festival a special remembrance of her life and influence on the preservation of the cedar glades.

Cedars of Lebanon State Park and the Center for Cedar Glade Studies at Middle Tennessee State University collaborate to bring together ecologists, botanists, and naturalists to present the beauty and uniqueness of the Glades in the spring. More information may be found online.



Cypripedium pubescens by Bart Jones in Campbell County.

Board Ponders Plant Conservation Alliance

The TNPS Board has begun considering a partnership with the Center for Plant Conservation in Missouri through what is called the Plant Conservation Alliance.

During the January board meeting, Vice-President Todd Crabtree explained that the Tennessee Natural Heritage Program has joined the alliance and proposed that TNPS would also be a natural member of the alliance because of its botanical expertise.

Other alliance members include state and regional botanical and native plant organizations, heritage programs, and botanical gardens.

Application to the alliance is expected to be considered at the May 30 board meeting.

The January meeting marked the start of new terms for TNPS officers and three board members. Susan Sweetser took over as president. Joey Shaw was elected to fill Sweetser's remaining year as a board member. Shaw is an associate professor of biological and environmental science at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He has previously served on the board of directors.

TNPS Newsletter

March 2015

Vol. 39, No. 1

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

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Institution: \$50

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TNPS Website:

www.tnps.org/



From the President

Hello Everyone. It's the start of a new year and the start of a new presidency. I am looking forward to the next two years and am asking for all of your help in continuing to make TNPS a GREAT organization. What has made us great is the efforts of our members who volunteer to be on the board, lead field trips, complete activities that keep TNPS functioning, and share their enthusiasm and love of native plants with family, friends, and the various communities across the state.

I encourage all of you to attend a field trip in your area or an area you would like to explore. I have many memories from these trips throughout the years. I learned a lot and continue to learn when I'm out with our knowledgeable leaders. I will always have many great memories of my trips with Ed Schell as he led us to rare plants on Roan Mountain and our excursions along the Blue Ridge Parkway and the mountains and back ways of upper East Tennessee.

Check out our Field Trip Schedule and plan to take a trip or two this year. You'll be glad you did!!!!

If you need to contact me:

Home Phone—865-938-7627.

Email—ssretiree@yahoo.com

See you on the trail.



Phacelia dubia var. *interior*

A Correction and a Remembrance

In the December issue of the Newsletter we made the unsettling mistake of publishing a death notice about the late UT botany Professor Walter Herndon. The problem was that Professor Herndon had actually died in June 2008 instead of June 2014. Afterward, several TNPS members drew our attention to this confusion.

One of them, Ray Holton, himself an emeritus professor and former head of botany at UT, was a colleague of Dr. Herndon's and, in sympathy with us, wrote a short but interesting remembrance of his old friend.

"Walter was professionally a psychologist, but he was truly a botanist in the traditional form. He knew his trees and wildflowers and had large wildflower gardens, as well as a large vegetable garden, at his home in Stone Mountain.

"He was head of the Botany Department at the University of Tennessee in the early 1960s and became associate dean of the Liberal Arts College and later vice-chancellor for academic affairs at UT. He mentored eight Ph.D. students and five M.S. students.

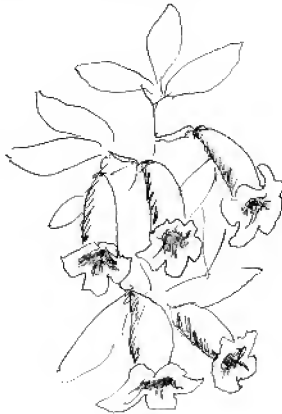
"He also taught marine botany several summers at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where I met him in 1961. During the 1960s he discovered a macrophytic fresh water red alga that was so distinctive morphologically that he had to create a new family for it. Walter was a unique individual, and I was a better person for having known him."

2015 TNPS Field Trips

Time, place, and leader	Description	Directions
<p>Mar. 15, 2015 (Sun.) 10:30 a.m. Central & 2 p.m. Central</p> <p>Meeting Places: Morning—Blue Hole parking lot in main park (second right after entrance). Afternoon—Twin Falls Overlook on Powerhouse Rd. (directions at office)</p> <p>Mary Priestley marypriestley@bellsouth.net; 931-598-0157 (h), 931-636-0445 (c)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rock Island I</p> <p>Rock Island State Park offers beautiful waterfalls and an early spring opportunity to reacquaint yourself with an array of spring wildflowers along the Caney Fork River. Two separate hikes. Mary's children's wildflower guide <i>William's Wildflowers</i> and book of essays <i>Fiery Gizzard, Voices from the Wilderness</i>, will both be available for purchase. Each is \$15, and proceeds go to support the Friends of South Cumberland State Park and the Sewanee Herbarium.</p> <p>Morning: Blue Hole Trail at Blue Hole parking lot (35.812779,-85.637582) 10:30 a.m. Long break at lunch for exploring on your own, including Great Falls, Old Mill, and Spring House, which are all roadside; or 1.5-mi. Eagle Trail, which starts at Blue Hole parking lot. Afternoon: Downstream trail at Twin Falls overlook (35.807973,-85.633245), 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Directions: Morning — On US Hwy 70S, midway between Sparta and McMinnville, turn onto Hwy 136. Continue 1.2 miles to the town of Rock Island (gas station and archway), turn left onto TN-287S, continue for 2.2 miles to Beach Rd, turn right into park, take second right after passing visitor center.</p> <p>Afternoon— Reaching the town of Rock Island, continue on Hwy 136 over the Caney Fork River. Turn left onto the first road past the bridge to Powerhouse Rd. Watch for sign to Twin Falls. Road dead ends at Twin Falls parking lot.</p> <p>Difficulty: Morning half-mile trail wet and steep, difficult. Afternoon 1.6 miles easy Facilities at park office. Bring water and snacks.</p>
<p>March 28, 2015(Sat.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Twin Falls Parking Lot (35.807973, -85.633245)</p> <p>Dennis Horn, 931-461-0262 horndd@lighttube.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rock Island II</p> <p>TNPS will join the State Park scheduled program again this year for another spring wildflower hike. Rock Island State Park is located on the Caney Fork River in Middle Tennessee. The hike will begin at the overlook of Twin Falls. We will then follow alongside the river downstream to the Blue Hole and loop back past a small cave and waterfall. The trail has a rich spring flora with over 100 species recorded during the TNPS plant inventory in 2012. Bring your camera and enjoy the spring wildflowers. After lunch at the Market we will hike the very short but amazingly diverse Badger Flat loop.</p>	<p>On US Hwy 70 South, midway between Sparta and McMinnville, turn onto Hwy 136. Continue past the small town of Rock Island (gas station and archway) and over the Caney Fork River. Turn left onto the first road past the bridge (Powerhouse Rd). It will have a sign saying "to Twin Falls." In about two miles this road will dead end at the Twin Falls parking lot.</p> <p>Easy to moderate 2-mile hike. Facilities at the Rock Island Market (none at the trail-head). Bring water, snacks, and camera.</p>
<p>April 4, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Meet at McDonald's in Covington, Hwy 51 (35.577256, -89.643535)</p> <p>Bart Jones 901-485-2745, bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Millstone Mountain</p> <p>Millstone Mountain rises over 100 feet above the surrounding Mississippi/Hatchie River floodplain and is composed of accreted loess, the rocks looking like concrete. This area is noted for spring wildflowers that have more in common with Middle Tennessee than West Tennessee. Goldenseal (<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>) occurs on the north slope along with Jacob's ladder (<i>Polemonium reptans</i>), jack-in-the-pulpit (<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>), prairie trillium (<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>), doll's eyes (<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>), and large-flowered bellwort.</p>	<p>From Covington drive 0.9 of a mile north on Hwy 51 from the intersection of Hwy 54 and Hwy 51.</p> <p>Facilities at meeting place. Bring lunch.</p>

2015 TNPS Field Trip Schedule

Time, place, and leader	Description	Directions
<p>April 12 (Sun.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Meet at Carroll Cabins Barrens SNA parking lot (35.466739, -88.053656).</p> <p>Bart Jones 901-485-2745, bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Wildflower Tour of Southern Decatur County</p> <p>We will caravan to several locations in southern Decatur County searching for spring wildflowers. We will start at Carroll Cabin Barrens and visit one of the limestone hill barrens. Next we will head to the Stewman Creek Bridge. The third stop is a small bluff overlooking a branch of White's Creek. If time allows, we will go to Gumdale Glade where a seasonal stream flows through the glade and supports rare glade plants. On the way back to Carroll Cabin Barrens, we will make a very quick stop to see a nice-sized population of the beautiful bicolored form of birdsfoot violet (<i>Viola pedata</i>). (See further description of this trip on page 7.)</p>	<p>From Interstate 40, exit at U.S. Hwy 69/641 (exit 126). Go south through Parsons (crossing Hwy 412) and Decaturville (crossing Hwy 100). After the 4-way stop at Hwy 100, go approximately 11 miles. Turn left on Bob's Landing Road and continue for about one mile, then turn right on Smith Gravel Pit Road. The parking area is one mile on the right side of the road.</p> <p>Difficulty: Moderate. Bring a sack lunch. No facilities at meeting place.</p>
<p>April 18, 2013 (Sat.)</p> <p>Meeting/carpool Places: Oak Ridge at 8:30 a.m. Eastern; Dayton at 10:00 a.m. Eastern</p> <p>Larry Pounds, 865-705-8516 (cell) or 865-816-3576 PoundsL471@aol.com</p>	<p>Roaring Creek Outing</p> <p>This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. We will caravan from Dayton to the trailhead parking area. Like last year we will be on a new section of the Cumberland Trail getting a first look at the wildflowers. Roaring Creek does roar and has formed a deep gorge in the Cumberland Plateau. The path is a nearly level old road. It is ideal for grouping up to converse about the flowers. The trail is 3.5 miles long, but you may turn back at any point.</p>	<p>Meeting/carpool Places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Meet at Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time. 2) Dayton at the Midnite Oil gas station on US 27, south bound side across from McDonalds (4537 Rhea County Rd.) at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time. <p>Facilities at meeting places. Bring water, lunch, and repellent.</p>
<p>May 9, 2015 (Sat.)</p> <p>Two meeting times, in Oak Ridge. See directions.</p> <p>Larry Pounds, 865-705-8516 (cell, best bet) or 865-816-3576 PoundsL471@aol.com</p> <p>Warning: Please contact Larry if you plan to carpool as there may be changes in the car-pool site.</p>	<p>Little Cedar Mountain Outing</p> <p>This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. We will walk a TVA loop trail on Little Cedar Mountain. The habitat is rocky limestone woods with a barrens area. This is one of a very few places on earth to see the newly described species John Beck's leafcup. Another very rare species is spreading rockcress. There will be other unusual plants and delightful spring wildflowers.</p>	<p>Carpool site: Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Ave., near Salsarita's) at 8 a.m. Eastern.</p> <p>At trailhead: I-24 exit 158 just west of Nickajack Lake (gravel lot at trailhead) 10 a.m. Eastern</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) West bound turn left across I-24 then turn left onto gravel road immediately after entrance ramp. You're there. b) East bound turn right then immediately turn left onto gravel road next to entrance ramp. You're there (35.030177, -85.583220). <p>Total walking distance is about 3.5 miles, but you may turn back at any time. Facilities: Service stations at exit 158. Bring water, lunch, and bug repellent.</p>




*On a little patch of land that nobody wanted, too poor for oxen to plow, unfit for pasture . . .
the old man found lilies, vervain, and poppies. . . . — VIRGIL*

Time, place, and leader	Description	Directions
<p>May 16, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Central Time</p> <p>Meeting Place: Twin Falls parking lot (35.575829, -84.682789).</p> <p>Contact: Roger McCoy Registration is required by May 12. Call 615-532-0437 or email roger.mccoy@tn.gov.</p>	<p>Twin Arches State Natural Area</p> <p>Located within the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and just six miles from Pickett State Park, Twin Arches State Natural Area provides an ideal setting for a moderate to difficult 4.6-mile hike. Whether camping or lodging at nearby Pickett State Park or just driving to the area for a day trip, visitors will undoubtedly enjoy walking below towering sandstone cliffs and some of the most impressive natural arches in North America. Along with the spectacular scenery you will also learn about the flora that thrives within the natural area including a number of plant species not known to exist outside the upper Cumberland region. Using knowledge gained from conducting rare species searches and ecological sampling at the Big South Fork and surrounding area, Roger McCoy, Director of the Division of Natural Areas, will discuss the plant species and plant communities within the natural area.</p>	<p>From Crossville, travel north on U.S. Highway 127 toward Jamestown. From Jamestown, take State Route 154 toward Pickett State Park. Turn right on Fork Ridge Rd. Turn left on to Divide Road for 3.5 miles. Turn right onto Twin Arches/Terry Cemetery Road and drive two miles to the trailhead.</p> <p>Participants should wear sturdy shoes or boots and pack water and lunch.</p>
<p>June 6, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Meet at Wendy's in Manchester.</p> <p>Dennis Horn 931-461-0262 horndd@lighttube.net</p>	<p>Arnold AFB (AEDC) and May Prairie</p> <p>This trip is a joint hike with the Georgia Botanical Society (GBS) and the TNPS. The "Oak Barrens" of Coffee County provide some of the best examples of rare plants that have migrated here from the Gulf Coastal Plain and prairies of the Midwest. As a result Coffee County is one of only three counties in Tennessee with 50 or more rare plant species. We will visit the AEDC first to see native orchids: After lunch, time permitting, we will visit May Prairie.</p>	<p>Leave I-24 at exit 114 in Manchester. Turn left coming from Chattanooga (right from Nashville) onto US 41 heading NW toward town. Turn right at the first traffic light onto Expressway Dr. (Raceway at that intersection) beyond the interstate. Wendy's is half a block on the right.</p> <p>Easy to moderate in low vegetation. Facilities at meeting place. Bring water, sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks, and camera.</p>
<p>June 20, 2015 (Sat.) 5:30 p.m. Central</p> <p>Meet at Couchville Cedar Glade State Natural Area (36.1012,-86.5294)</p> <p>Todd Crabtree Registration required by June 17. 615 532-1378 todd.crabtree@tn.gov</p>	<p>Sunset Hike to Tennessee Coneflowers</p> <p>Tennessee coneflower was recently removed from the federal list of endangered species and is a conservation success story. It is also very photogenic. We will traverse the loop trail and see plants which inhabit cedar glades, barrens and blue ash woodlands. Our arrival at the densest concentration of coneflowers will be timed to catch the sun setting behind the plants. The coneflower petals will be backlit as the sun sets in the west on its way to return the next morning to begin the longest day of the year. In addition to still photos this will be a good opportunity to get some dramatic timelapse movies.</p>	<p>From I-40 south of Mt. Juliet travel 4.1 miles south on TN-171/S. Mt. Juliet Rd then veer left onto S. Mt. Juliet Rd and continue .2 miles to gravel parking lot on right with cable fence and gate.</p> <p>Difficulty: Bring water and a snack for this one-mile hike on mostly level terrain. Some rocky terrain and possibly muddy spots will require appropriate footwear. Bring your camera.</p>



2015 TNPS Field Trip Schedule

Time, place, and leader	Description	Directions
<p>June 27, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Eastern Time</p> <p>Meeting Place: Carver's Gap parking area 36.106261,-82.110463</p> <p>Contact: Susan Sweetser ssretiree@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Roan Mountain Trip in Memory of Ed Schell</p> <p>We will park at Carver's Gap and then explore Roan Mtn. Gardens and hike the Appalachian Trail for the views and the azaleas. We should also see Gray's Lily, Catawba Rhododendron, Roan Mtn Bluets, etc. The Rhododendron should be in peak bloom. For many people Roan Mountain is their favorite natural place in Tennessee and for some, like Ed, it is their favorite of favorites. The views are breathtaking at any time of year but when the plants are flowering it is especially attractive. Once you have seen it you will want to return, and it will be difficult to leave. There are other advantages to being at high elevation at this time of year. Summer will be heating up but it's always cooler in the mountains.</p>	<p>Drive 12.6 miles south of the town of Roan Mountain on Hwy 143 at the state line. Parking at Carver's Gap trailhead.</p> <p>Difficulty: Moderate. Bring lunch, water, and a story to tell about Ed. Facilities are at the parking area.</p> 
<p>Aug. 8, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Meet at parking lot of Devil's Backbone State Natural Area.</p> <p>Allan Trently RSVP required by August 6 to Allan Trently 731-512-1369 or allan.trently@tn.gov</p>	<p>Devil's Backbone State Natural Area</p> <p>We will hike the three-mile trail which traverses dry, upland oak-hickory forest and moist, lowland forest. Along the way we will stop to consider the plants and ecology of the area. The event will begin shortly after 10:00 and go until about 1:30 p.m. Bart Jones will be the co-leader.</p>	<p>On the Natchez Trace Parkway 2.9 miles North of the junction with Hwy 412/99 — 35.605135,-87.405099</p> <p>Difficulty: Moderate. Bring water and lunch and wear a pair of sturdy hiking boots.</p>
<p>Sept. 11-12, 2015</p>	<p>Annual Meeting, Linden Valley</p> <p>Lodging and programs at the Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center. Field trip to nearby glade.</p>	<p>Watch for details in future editions and on TNPS website.</p>
<p>Sept. 19, 2015 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Central</p> <p>Meeting Place: Shakerag Hollow trailhead (35.2101,-85.8981) near Sewanee on Hwy 56.</p> <p>Brian Ross 615-770-0302 brian.ross@tn.gov</p>	<p>Mountain Goat Trail by Mountain Bike</p> <p>Mountain bikes with mountain bike tires will be required for this trip that will follow the old railroad bed past Sewanee and off the plateau toward Cowan about five miles to a point where the still active rail line crosses into a tunnel. Hawkins Cove State Natural Area is along the route, and we'll discuss rare species found there, but a majority of our time will be spent riding. The first section we ride is paved, but as we begin to descend from the top of the plateau the pavement ends. We'll climb out along the same route and return to the meeting place in the late afternoon.</p>	<p>From Monteagle travel 3.5 miles west of I-24 to sandstone gates at the boundary of the University of the South Domain. From the west side of Sewanee traveling east on Highway 56, less than a quarter mile from University Avenue. A parking area is adjacent to the stone gates.</p> <p>Difficulty: Strenuous. The rough terrain requires a good mountain bike. The total distance for the ride will be about 15 miles. Bring a lunch and plenty of water along with your bike and gear. There will be a few opportunities for some short hikes so choose your footwear accordingly.</p>

Field Trip Note

Wildflower Tour of Southern Decatur County— see page 4 . . . In the limestone hill barrens we should see large stands of pale blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium pallida*) and gold stargrass (*Hypoxis hirsuta*) punctuated with hoary puccoon (*Lithospermum canescens*) and hairy phlox (*Phlox amoena*). As we will head to the Stewman Creek Bridge there is a small area with a few Carolina silverbell (*Halesia tetraptera*) trees and sweet Betsy (*Trillium cuneatum*), among other wildflowers. At our third stop is a small bluff overlooking a branch of White's Creek where we can expect to see the last of the beaked trout lily (*Erythronium rostratum*), false rue anemone (*Enemion biternatum*), and purple phacelia (*Phacelia bipinnatifida*). If time allows, we will go to Gumdale Glade where a seasonal stream flows through the glade and supports rare glade plants such as wedge-leaf whitlow grass (*Draba cuneifolia*) and Tennessee gladecress (*Leavenworthia exigua*). Shooting star (*Dodecatheon meadia*), small skullcap (*Scutellaria parvula*), and wild false garlic (*Nothoscordum bivalve*) will also put on a good display.



Sweet White Trillium (Trillium simile) in the Smokies

Richard Louv to Keynote 12th Trails & Trilliums April 10-12

Trails & Trilliums, an event providing wildflower hikes, exhibits and native plant sales, workshops, and music, will be held April 10-12 once again in the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly.

The event is organized and led by Friends of South Cumberland State Park.

Richard Louv is the author of *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder* and more recently *The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Nature in the Virtual Age*. He will speak during the Wine and Wildflowers reception Saturday night of the event.

The website, www.trailsandtrilliums.org, includes a complete description of events and activities.

Exploring the Fiery Gizzard—Cove and Trail

Those who have hiked the winding, 13-mile Fiery Gizzard Trail in South Cumberland State Park, will be fascinated by the behind-the-scenes stories of the famous cove that make up a new book, *Fiery Gizzard: Voices from the Wilderness*, by Mary Priestley. Mary is a past president of both TNPS and the Friends of South Cumberland and “has done her research,” as they say, into the people of the trail, as well as its flora. Copies are available online and at some bookstores.

Edward Schell Leaves Legacy of Inspiration

Nature photographer, author, and long-time TNPS member Edward Schell died on January 16 of this year in Lexington, South Carolina. He was 92.

Stationed with the Navy at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack in 1941, Ed went on to a successful career as an aeronautical engineer, retiring in 1974 while at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC.

His retirement simply marked the beginning of a new and amazing career, as he and his wife Barbara moved to Johnson City, Tennessee.

He published his first book, *Potomac—The Nation's River*, in 1976 and his second book, *Tennessee*, in 1979. He compiled photographic surveys of areas that contained rare and endangered species for the purpose of preserving those lands for future generations. In 1990, the Sierra Club honored him with its annual “Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography.”

Ed's work was seen in many publications, including National Geographic and the Sierra Club Magazine. He was actively involved with Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, Friends of Roan Mountain, Southern Maryland Audubon Society, and TNPS.

He guided hikes for all these groups, as well as the Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage in the Smoky Mountains, and mentored many young botanists, including Allen and Susan Sweetser.

TNPS honored Ed in 2013 by inducting him into the Tennessee Botanist Hall of Fame. He will be honored again on June 27 with a special hike on Roan Mountain. (See TNPS field trip schedule.)

The family asked that memorials be made to the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy in Asheville, NC or to a charity of one's choice.



Erythronium albidum

65th Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage April 21–25 in Gatlinburg

The term pilgrimage is no exaggeration in this case, as wildflower enthusiasts from throughout Tennessee and the Southeast make their way to Gatlinburg and along the trails of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

When registering, pilgrims can choose from a wide selection of hikes, tours, seminars, and classes. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. April 21 in the Mills Conference Center in Gatlinburg.

A number of TNPS members are regular hike leaders at the pilgrimage. A schedule of hikes and programs may be found online at www.springwildflowerpilgrimage.org. A brochure with hike schedule may also be ordered by calling 865-974-0280.

The cost of registration is \$50 for one day, \$75 for two or more days. Children under 12 are given free admission.

When Dues Are Due?

Unless you are an email subscriber, check your mailing label for your membership date. You are paid through the year listed just above your name. You can pay TNPS dues at any time, and now you can pay online at the TNPS Website. Just go to www.tnps.org, click “Membership,” and follow directions there. If your address has changed, you can email the new address to info@tnps.org. We cannot print the newsletter in full color, but you may be pleased to find all the color in email copies and at the website.

TNPS Newsletter
P.O. Box 856
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