



Tennessee Native Plant Society Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 1

Our 26th Year

March 2004

Announcing a Spring 2005 Publication of the TNPS Field Guide

I am delighted to report that the TNPS *Field Guide to the Wildflowers of Tennessee and the East-Central States*, to be published by Lone Pine Publishing, is on track for a March 2005 release date! With text covering approximately 1,200 wildflowers and 750 photographs, our 528-page book will be an accomplishment of which all members can be proud.

Are we celebrating? Not quite yet. Dennis Horn and I estimate that we've got a few more months of work to finalize the first draft of the book before we embark on a detailed round of editing with the professionals in Edmonton, Alberta (Lone Pine's headquarters). Thankfully, the finish line is getting closer every day.

We'd like to thank Claude Bailey, Todd Crabtree, Kevin Fitch, Bart Jones, Mary Priestley, and Milo Pyne for their recent contribution of time and valuable expertise to the project. Also, even though we are "behind the scenes" with our sleeves rolled up, many of you are keeping the project alive by continuing to donate money (after all these years!). Your financial support tells us that you believe in this project. Thank you for your encouragement. — *Tavia Cathcart*

The Art of Botanical Illustration

Our president Karl Heinzman has suggested that I do a short series of articles on botanical art for this newsletter. Karl must have seen my bookshelf, because if a book written within the past 20 years has the words "flower" or "plant" and "art" or "drawing" in its title, I just might have it.

One of my many volumes bears the same title as this column. Written by Wilfrid Blunt, it was first published in London in 1950 and re-issued 10 years ago by Dover Publications. In it he traces the art of illustrating plants all the way from Paleolithic scatchings on bone through watercolors and engravings of the mid-20th century.

A botanical illustration is usually a portrait of one or two plants of a particular species. Neither "merely useful" nor "merely beautiful," a good botanical illustration, as Blunt points out, is both scientifically accurate and visually appealing. "The botanical artist finds himself at once and always in a dilemma: Is he the servant of Science, or of Art?"

(continued on page 2)

President's Remarks

The first board meeting of 2004 was held at Barfield-Crescent Park in Murfreesboro on January 17. We met at the park's Wilderness Station and are most grateful to TNPS member Deborah Paschall of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation for the arrangements. By the way, if you haven't visited this park, you should. It's a wonderful place with excellent facilities and nice trails.

There have been some new assignments in our organization. Ashley Crownover has joined us as newsletter editor, Michelle Haynes is our representative to Tennessee Conservation Voters, and David Lincicome with TDEC is now an ex officio board member and will serve on the Field Trip Committee. As a result of our election, Nita Heilman has joined the board as a director and will serve as historian. All other officers and directors will continue in their current positions.

We are planning for the TNPS website to be available within the coming months. Board member Todd Crabtree is providing the initial research and domain registration. We will let you know as we progress with this.

The Field Trip Committee, chaired by Al Good, has arranged for another great year of walks. This newsletter has a complete listing of the field trips so hold on to this issue and mark your calendars.

Thanks again for your support of TNPS. See you on the trail!

— *Karl Heinzman*

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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

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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The Art of Botanical Illustration

(continued from page 1)

There can, I think, be no doubt that he must learn to serve both masters. The greatest flower painters have been those who have found beauty in truth; who have understood plants scientifically, but who have yet seen and described them with the eye and the hand of the artist."

This engaging work includes a chapter on Walter Fitch (1817-92), the most prolific of all botanical artists. As a young apprentice to a calico design firm in Glasgow, he met Sir William Hooker, who is credited with creating the Kew Gardens in its present form. Fitch spent evenings helping mount Hooker's herbarium specimens. When Hooker was appointed director of Kew Gardens, Fitch went with him. He published his first botanical illustration in the *Botanical Magazine* in 1834, and shortly thereafter he became the magazine's sole artist. He held that position until 1877 and published nearly 10,000 drawings.

The book's appendix consists of tips on botanical drawing that Fitch wrote in 1869 for a magazine called the *Gardener's Chronicle*. His charming suggestions are timeless. Fitch begins with the apt premise that "a knowledge of botany, however slight, is of great use in enabling the artist to avoid the errors which are occasionally perpetrated in respectable drawings and publications, such as introducing an abnormal number of stamens in a flower; giving it an inferior ovary when it should have a superior one, and vice versa. I have frequently seen such negatively instructive illustrations of ignorance—quite inexcusable." He goes on to explain how to draw stems, leaves, and flowers. (He dismisses underground structures, saying, "they are so easily drawn that I think no special directions are necessary.")

Fitch's passion for accuracy is evident in his description of the perils of drawing leaves: "Leaves have been subjected to more bad treatment by the draughtsman than perhaps any other portion of the vegetable kingdom; they have been represented, or rather misrepresented, in all kinds of impossible positions. Numerous are the tortures to which they have



Rhododendron hodsoni, hand-colored lithograph by W.H. Fitch after a field sketch by Sir Joseph Hooker. From J.D. Hooker, *The Rhododendrons of Sikkim-Himalaya, 1849-51*, reprinted in W. Blunt, *The Art of Botanical Illustration*. 1950.

been subjected: dislocated or broken ribs, curious twists, painful to behold—even their wretched veins have not escaped." The simple way to avoid perpetrating such vagaries is to treat a leaf as if it were skeletonized. "A little study of them in this state [skeletonized] would be beneficial to those who are wont to take unwarrantable liberties with them when rejoicing in their summer garment of green, which veils their curious anatomy."

Then, on a more personal note he comments, "Botanical artists require to possess a certain amount of philosophical equanimity to enable them to endure criticism and I may add that I never yet ventured to exaggerate a little [in size or color] but that I have found that adverse criticism has been nullified by Nature excelling itself." Amen!

I look forward to the chance to learn in the coming months from all of these publications on botanical art that I have amassed. If you would like to write something for this column, I welcome it. And if you know of any good books on the subject, please let me know!

— Mary Priestley

Field Trip Overview

The TNPS field trip program offers conducted tours of interesting places by persons with some special knowledge and expertise. Attendees include folks who are able to supplement this. All this plus the chance to visit places you didn't know about or would not otherwise have access are an underused opportunity to learn about Tennessee's natural environment. If you are not taking advantage of these opportunities to have fun learning just for the price of showing up, we invite you to try a few trips this year.

Trips in 2003 were as described above, but if you were not there you might not know that. Many trips were not reported in

the newsletter. We plan to do better this year. If you are asked to do a trip report, please help us get all the trips reported.

We have three new leaders this year. Make a special effort to welcome and thank Chris Fleming, Stephanie Gunn, and Joey Shaw when you see them on their trips.

In the years since Dennis Horn was replaced with a committee, the field trip schedule has been developed by several people. This year they were Bertha Chrietzberg, Todd Crabtree, Bart Jones, David Lineicome, and Allen Sweetser.

— Al Good

Rare Plant Protection Program and Natural Heritage Inventory Program Update

The Division of Natural Heritage (DNH) Rare Plant Protection Program was established through the Rare Plant Protection & Conservation Act of 1985. This Act directs the State to develop a state list of endangered, threatened and special concern plants, conduct investigations on their status and conservation needs, and conduct education programs concerning rare plants. Under this Act the State is also required to license and monitor commercial nurseries which trade in endangered plants. The Act also authorized the State to enter into a formal cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that established the DNH as the lead State agency in the process of listing and recovery efforts for federal endangered or threatened species of plants. Through extensive field investigations, research and management activities, the program seeks to prevent imperiled species of plants from becoming further imperiled and to effect the recovery of federally listed species so that they may be de-listed.

As of 2003, the DNH managed 816 records for plants with federal status in our database. The Rare Plant Protection Program completed work on \$84,533 of USFWS Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation funded research and field survey projects in 2003 involving eight federal/state-listed species. Furthermore, the DNH completed a USFWS Recovery Land Acquisition project funded by a \$23,200 grant. This grant funded the acquisition and protection of critical habitat for the Federal listed Pyne's ground-plant in Rutherford County. Additionally, the program completed

several individually funded USFWS grant projects including: the Tennessee coneflower Couchville Cedar Glade State Natural Area boundary fence project, the Braun's rock cress site protection project at Shelby Bottoms Greenway, the Ruth's golden aster monitoring project, and the Cumberland sandwort site protection project at Pickett State Park and Forest and Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area. Finally, the program was able to provide valuable technical review of the USFWS proposed critical habitat for *Arabis perstellata* (Braun's rock cress). Based on survey work conducted during the spring of 2003 two new populations of the plant were located, one being a new record for Wilson County. These two new populations were included in the proposed critical habitat designation. All of these efforts have aided in the recovery of Tennessee's 21 federal listed plant species, and the work will continue with \$107,184 of USFWS funded projects in 2004.

The Natural Heritage Inventory Program collected approximately 100 county records for plants in 2003; most collections were from an ecological survey of Cedars Of Lebanon State Forest. Approximately 250 specimens, representing county record plant collections, rare plant collections and other interesting plant collections were deposited at the University of Tennessee Herbarium. Of interest, *Eriocaulon decangulare* (ten-angle pipewort) was relocated in White County near Hampton Crossroads. The original collection was based on a Dr. Margret

(continued on page 7)

2004 Field Trips

Field trips are designed to promote informed interest in Tennessee's native plants. They are led by persons familiar with native plants of the area and are open to nonmembers as well as members. Since conservation is a primary objective of TNPS, plant collecting is not permitted.

The physical nature of the trip is described to the extent known at publication time. Attendees are responsible for judging whether the trip is suitable for their personal abilities. All participants will be asked to sign a liability waiver as a condition of attending. Trips are rarely cancelled, but sometimes changes are unavoidable. Contact the trip leader a day or two before attending to get an updated status and to let him or her know who is coming.

Keep the following list and attend as many trips as you can. — *Al Good*

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>April 3</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CST Cedars of Lebanon State Park Office</p>	<p>Bladderpod and Glade Cress in the Central Basin</p> <p>The area around Lebanon and Murfreesboro has an unusual number of rare and endemic species of bladderpod (<i>Lesquerella</i>) and glade cress (<i>Leavenworthia</i>). We could see as many as four of each including the federally listed Spring Creek bladderpod (<i>L. perforata</i>) plus many other spring flowering cedar glade species. We will drive to several sites.</p>	<p>From I-40 east of Nashville, turn south on US 231 six miles to Cedar Forest Road. Turn east to park office.</p> <p>Walking: Easy Lunch: Bring Facilities: At the park</p>	<p>David Linecome (615) 532-0439</p>
<p>April 17</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Edgar Evins State Park Visitor Center</p>	<p>Wild Hyacinth Fields</p> <p>Last year we rode boats out to see acres of wild hyacinth (<i>Camassia scilliodes</i>) but the flowers were just beginning to open. This year we will hike out a week later in the season to catch the flower display. Along the way we should see prairie trillium (<i>T. recurvatum</i>), dwarf buckeye (<i>Aesculus pavia</i>), dwarf larkspur (<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>), and Miami mist (<i>Phacelia purshii</i>).</p>	<p>60 miles E. of Nashville. Take I-40 exit 268 at TN 96 and Center Hill Lake</p> <p>Walking: 8 miles hilly terrain Lunch: Bring Facilities: At the visitor center</p>	<p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>May 1</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Polly Branch Falls Trailhead</p>	<p>Polly Branch in Scott's Gulf</p> <p>In addition to beautiful streams with falls, we expect to see a fine display of spring ephemeral species including yellow lady-slipper (<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>) and carpets of dwarf ginseng (<i>Panax trifolium</i>). Interesting woody species such as dutchman's pipe (<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i>), ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>), and painted buckeye (<i>Aesculus sylvatica</i>) are also here.</p>	<p>In De Rossett 8 or 9 miles E. of Sparta on US 70, turn south on Eastland Road at Bondecroft Headstart Village. Go about 5.7 miles and turn right on Scott's Gulf Road for about 2 miles to graveled parking area on the left.</p> <p>Walking: 4 miles with some steep sections Lunch: Bring Facilities: None</p>	<p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>May 22</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. EDT Big John's Convenience Store</p>	<p>Big Fork National Recreation Area—Honey Creek Trail</p> <p>Our leader has recently completed a survey of the woody plants of the Big South Fork which showed the area to be one of the most floristically rich natural areas in the Southern Appalachians. We will do the loop trail and possibly other short excursions.</p>	<p>East side of US 27 south of Oneida.</p> <p>Walking: 3-4 miles moderately strenuous including enclosed park service ladders.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Joey Shaw UTK Botany Dept. (865) 974-6209</p> <p>Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>
<p>June 19</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Long Hunter State Park Visitor Center</p>	<p>Long Hunter State Park</p> <p>The park has recently opened a trail in the Couchville Glade to provide access to Tennessee coneflowers (<i>Echinacea tennesseensis</i>) and other glade species. We will explore this glade, have lunch, and do the nature trail near Couchville Lake.</p>	<p>Visitor center is on TN 171 southeast of Nashville between I-24 and I-40. If taking Rt 840, exit at Couchville Pike North to Mt. Juliet Road and turn left.</p> <p>Walking: Easy</p> <p>Lunch: Bring</p> <p>Facilities: At the park</p>	<p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>June 26</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Parking lot at Fall Creek Falls nature center</p>	<p>Fall Creek Falls State Park</p> <p>The streams and gorges that make the well-known vistas of the park also provide sites for botanical treasures. Our trip leader has recently documented 879 plant species within the park boundaries. Seventeen species are listed as rare or threatened within Tennessee. One highlight of this trip will be the largest-known population of Virginia spirea (<i>Spiraea virginiana</i>), federally listed as threatened. We will see some of the more unique park flora both on the plateau and in the gorges.</p>	<p>The park can be reached from either TN 111 on the west or TN 30 on the east. The nature center is on the east side of the park.</p> <p>Walking: Moderately strenuous with some off-trail excursions and stream crossings</p> <p>Lunch: Bring</p> <p>Facilities: At the parking lot</p>	<p>Chris Fleming (615) 599-1996</p>
<p>July 31</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Main entrance of Duck River Unit on Refuge Lane in Hustburg</p>	<p>Duck River Unit of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge</p> <p>Our leader promises birds and history as well as botany on this trip through the large bottomland at the mouth of the Duck River. One large pool is covered with water lily (<i>Nelumbo lutea</i>). Other wetland plants are blue mudplantain (<i>Heteranthera limosa</i>), yellow pond lily (<i>Nuphar advena</i>) and many grasses, sedges, and rushes—some rare in Tennessee. The day will be a mix of walking and driving on refuge roads plus a possible visit to nearby Paint Rock to learn about the rich Native American history of this area. Binoculars will be useful.</p>	<p>From US 70 on the east side of New Johnsonville, turn south on Long Street for 2.5 miles, turn left on old TN 1 for 0.3 miles, turn right on Hickman Road for 0.5 miles, and turn left on Refuge to entrance.</p> <p>Walking: Easy, but some excursions into the bottomland might be wet</p> <p>Lunch: Bring</p> <p>Facilities: None at the refuge</p>	<p>Stephanie Gunn (615) 741-9141</p>

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>August 14 Saturday 10 a.m. EDT Townsend Visitor Center</p>	<p>Great Smoky Mountains National Park—White Oak Sinks Ramble</p> <p>This trip promises to be a visit to the park without the summer crowds. We will hike into and out of the sink on unused back roads. Expect to see a variety of summer flowers plus lunch by the waterfall.</p>	<p>Visitor Center is on the main road in the center of Townsend.</p> <p>Walking: 3-4 miles with moderate grades Lunch: Bring Facilities: At the meeting place</p>	<p>Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>
<p>September 11 Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Old Pinson School</p>	<p>Pinson Mounds State Archeological Park and Turk Creek Bottoms</p> <p>Turk-Creek Bottoms in Pinson support the only known Tennessee population of the candidate federally endangered whorled sunflower (<i>Helianthus verticillata</i>). This species was originally discovered near here but was lost for 100 years until discovered in Floyd County, Georgia in 1994. The Pinson population was located in 1998. In addition to the sunflower and other summer species in the bottoms, we will visit the mounds, a small barren, and a cypress grove.</p>	<p>The school is on the west side of US 45 in Pinson. From I-40 exit 80A, US 45 bypass south through Jackson. From US 64 west of Selmer take US 45 north through Henderson.</p> <p>Walking: Easy Lunch: Bring Facilities: None</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891</p>
<p>September 17-18 Friday and Saturday</p>	<p>TNPS Annual Meeting</p> <p>Field trips in the area on Saturday. More information in June newsletter.</p>	<p>Methodist Assembly at Beersheeba Springs</p>	
<p>November 6 Saturday 10 a.m. EST Hardee's in Tellico Plains</p>	<p>Fall Branch Falls and Cherohala Parkway</p> <p>Ed will do our winter botany hike along an old railroad grade off the Cherohala Parkway. Getting to the falls will be a short steep optional side trip. We might also get out to Hooper's Bald if the weather is favorable.</p>	<p>Hardee's off TN 68 at Tellico Plains.</p> <p>Walking: Easy, except for trip down to the falls. Remember that it can be cold at this altitude. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Ed Clebsch</p> <p>Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>

Nature Notes

special events and happenings

State Natural Areas Week March 29-April 4

Tennescans from across the state are encouraged to join together in a weeklong celebration of State Natural Areas Week to be held March 29-April 4. Natural Areas Week will be celebrated across the state with hikes, canoe floats, and interpretative programming at many of Tennessee's 68 State Natural Areas. These unique lands are preserved in perpetuity, and protect habitat for many species of rare plants and animals.

The State Natural Areas Program was established in 1971 by the Tennessee Natural Areas Preservation Act. Today, there are 68 Natural Areas located throughout the state covering more than 100,000 acres of ecologically significant lands. State natural areas are diverse landscapes that are often cooperatively managed with county, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit land trusts. They protect some of Tennessee's most pristine wetlands and swamps, globally rare glades and diverse barrens, vast gulf forests, and mountainous landscapes.

For more information about Natural Areas Week events in each region, call

- Northeast (865) 594-5601
- Southeast (423) 634-5774
- Middle (615) 741-9205
- West (731) 512-1369

or visit the natural areas web page at www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/natareas/. The Natural Areas Program is administered by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

— Brian Bowen, Natural Areas Program administrator

A Walk With Andre Michaux

"A Walk with Andre Michaux" takes place April 2-3 at Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site, 2620 South Roan Street in Johnson City, Tenn. Friday evening's program (5-8 p.m.) will be the reception and opening of an exhibit on Michaux in the site's temporary gallery. Charlie Williams will be presenting a program as he take the role of Michaux in period clothing. In addition to the program, there will be period music, dancing, and food. On Saturday (8 a.m.-4 p.m.) there will be bird walks and guided tours of the newly created Andre Michaux Trail. Many of the native plants identified by Michaux in 1795 and 1796 should be in bloom.

For additional information, please contact Penny McLaughlin at (423) 926-3631.

— Penny McLaughlin

Trails & Trilliums at St. Andrew's-Sewanee School

"Trails & Trilliums: A Native Plant Celebration and Sale at St. Andrew's-Sewanee School" takes place May 1 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the SAS Campus in Sewanee, Tenn.

The event will feature wildflower walks (including one of the region's premier wildflower sites, Shake Rag Hollow), guest speakers, and workshops. More than 2,000 native plants (ferns, wildflowers, trees, and shrubs) will be available for sale, along with garden and plant accessories.

Trails & Trilliums is sponsored by SAS Parents' Council as a fundraiser for support of school projects. For information, call (931) 598-5651 or email wildflowers@saswcb.org.

— Priscilla Fort

Rare Plant Protection Program and Natural Heritage Inventory Program Update (continued from page 3)

Rhinchart collection. To our knowledge, the location of this site had become vague and confusing. It represents the only known location for this species in Tennessee, and numerous plants were observed. Currently, DNH is working toward acquiring and converting to a new database system for maintaining rare species data. This is a database/mapping system being accepted throughout all fifty state Heritage programs. DNH manages 6,824 rare plant records, for 537 species of rare plants including 52 bryophyte species.

Any information on Tennessee's rare plant species can be sent to DNH using the form posted on our website:

<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/trp.pdf>. Additional information about the DNH programs can be found on our website: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/>.

— David Lincicome (Rare Species Protection Program administrator) and Claude Bailey, Jr. (state botanist)



TDEC Recognizes Two TNPS Members

(Excerpted from an article in the Mar/Apr issue of *The Tennessee Conservationist*, written by Brian Bowen, administrator of the TDEC Natural Areas Program.)

As part of the "Celebration of Tennessee State Natural Areas" event in November 2003, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation recognized four Tennesseans for their outstanding contribution to conservation of Tennessee's natural resources. Commissioner Betsy Child presented the Lifetime Conservation Achievement Award to Dr. Elsie Quarterman ... and the Natural Heritage Conservation Certificate of Merit to Mr. Dennis Horn.

Dr. Quarterman, who is a world authority on the globally rare cedar glades of Middle Tennessee, retired as professor emeritus of biology from Vanderbilt University in 1976 where she spent 33 years

of her life discovering and teaching about cedar glade ecology. She remained a strong supporter of natural areas in Tennessee long after retiring from Vanderbilt, and presently serves on the Natural Areas Advisory Committee. Her expertise as an ecologist ranges beyond cedar glades, and she has identified many natural areas in Tennessee, which has led to their protection.

Dennis Horn, retired from Arnold Engineering Development Center, is an amateur botanist and has been a longtime active member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society. Horn has used his expertise to help identify many rare plants in our state natural areas. He is also responsible for helping protect Short Springs Designated Natural Area, through his advocacy as cofounding member and officer of the Friends of Short Springs.

Tennessee Conservation Voters

According to the Tennessee Conservation Voters Legislative Scorecard 2003, "Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) is a statewide nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of Tennessee's environment and preservation of the state's natural resources through effective legislative and administrative advocacy. TCV focuses its resources on making environmental protection a top priority for Tennessee's elected officials, political candidates and voters." For information about TCV, email TNPS representative Michelle Haynes at haynesm@realtracs.com or visit www.tnconservationvoters.org.

Donations to the Wildflower Book Project

If you wish to make a donation toward the publication of *Field Guide to the Wildflowers of Tennessee and the East-Central States* and be recognized in the book, the donation must be received by March 31, 2004.

TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY
PO Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215





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TNPS Annual Meeting: It's All in the Details!

The TNPS Annual Meeting will be September 17-19 at the Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly. This will be a return visit to the location of last year's meeting and the facilities are even better. We will again have one side of the lodge, which has a large common area for the meetings, a well-equipped kitchen, and rooms with varying sleeping accommodations and private baths. Since last year, they have completed an adjacent building where we will also have rooms with private baths. Both of the facilities are air conditioned. Meals will be available in the community dining hall by reservation whether or not you stay at the Assembly.

Beersheba Springs is in Grundy County approximately 25 miles south of McMinnville near the Great Stone Door and the Savage Gulf State Natural Area. Beautiful mountain scenery surrounds the Collins River Valley, and nearby cliffs offer some the best scenic overlooks in the state. Saturday walks, planned by Todd Crabtree and the Field Trip Committee, are being designed to take advantage of the area and the season.

We will commence with dinner at 6 p.m. on Friday, September 17, followed by a program in the lodge meeting room by butterfly expert Rita Venable, who will discuss Tennessee butterflies and their host plants. Breakfast will be at 7:30 Saturday followed by walks. We may not be near the Assembly at midday, so please bring your own lunch. Saturday dinner will be at 6 p.m. Afterward, Dr. Hill Craddock will speak on the project to reintroduce the American chestnut, followed by our annual meeting. Sunday breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m.; a board meeting (open to any interested members) will take place afterward.

Members are encouraged to bring slides of their botanical finds for sharing after the programs each evening. Please note on your reservation form if you plan to do this so we can be sure to provide the necessary equipment.

We are now accepting reservations for rooms and meals. Reservations are for two nights. All rooms have two beds and will accommodate two adults. If desired, members can bring food and prepare it in the lodge kitchen. Please consider that we will have one refrigerator for all to share. Meals can also be reserved by

those who will not be staying at the Assembly.

Please respect the rules of the Assembly and do not bring pets, firearms, or alcoholic beverages.

To register, please complete the form inside this newsletter and send to

Mailed reservations and
Jean Heinzman \$103 on 6-29-04
P.O. Box 1282
Norris, TN 37828

Contact Jean at heinzman@bellsouth.net or (865) 494-8100 for more information.

There will be a \$5 registration fee for those not staying at the Assembly. It will be collected at the meeting and does not require a reservation or advance payment.

All reservations for rooms and/or meals can be made only through TNPS and should be accompanied by a check payable to TNPS. Your check will be held and will be deposited no earlier than August 13. We can take reservations for meals through September 8. The form is detailed because they need counts for each meal.

Registrants will receive confirmation with a map and other relevant details. If your room request is received after all have been booked, your check will be returned and you will be notified if there are cancellations.

—Jean Heinzman

In This Issue	
President's Remarks.....	2
TNPS Website Needs You!.....	2
Tennessee Conservation Voters.....	2
William Crutchfield's Botanical Art.....	3
Field Trip Reports.....	4
Remaining 2004 Field Trips.....	6
Nature Notes.....	8

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Dennis Horn, Vice-President
Bart Jones, Secretary
Kay Jones, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Bertha Chrietzburg
Todd Crabtree
Al Good
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President's Remarks

The first board meeting of 2004 was held at Barfield-Crescent Park in Murfreesboro on January 17. I am pleased that we are returning this September to Beersheba Springs State Park Assembly for our Annual Meeting. Those who attended last year enjoyed the wonderful facility and excellent food. We hope to see some new faces and the regulars this year. If you have not at all or regularly attended the Annual Meeting, please consider making a reservation for this year. Again, our plans include programs with interesting speakers on both evenings. Todd Crabtree and the Trip Committee are working to provide a selection of interesting field trips. The result of this is to publish our book, *TNPS Wildflowers*.

early next spring. All the photos and the written material for the book have been sent to Linda and I will be sending there will be a manuscript of the book at the end of the year. Our goal is to have a strong attendance. I hope to see you like the Honey Creek State Park in South Fork missed a wonderful adventure and great challenge. I am very appreciative of our leaders. Look at your field trip list and mark your calendar to meet us for the remaining walks.

Rita Venable, a field botany expert, has been named an ex officio board member. I am pleased to have her join us and share her knowledge.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the trail and in Beersheba Springs.

Karl

The TNPS Website Needs You!

As construction of the TNPS website gets underway, we're looking for members with expertise in website design and maintenance. Interested? Email ashleycrownover@yahoo.com for more information.



Learn More About Tennessee Conservation Voters

According to the Tennessee Conservation Voters Election Board 2003, Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) is a statewide nonpartisan organization dedicated to the protection of Tennessee's environment and preservation of the state's natural resources through effective legislative and administrative advocacy. TCV focuses its resources on making environmental protection a top priority for Tennessee's elected officials, political candidates and voters." For information about TCV, email TNPS representative Nita Heilman at nitaheilm@realtraes.com or visit www.tennesseeconservationvoters.org.

Note: Due to a technical error, the following text was obscured in the newsletter.

President's Remarks

The first board meeting of 2004 was held at Barfield-Crescent Park in Murfreesboro on January 17. I am pleased that we are returning this September to Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly for our annual meeting. You who attended last year can attest to the wonderful facility and good times we had. We hope to see some new faces mixed with the regulars this year. If you have not at all or regularly attended the annual meeting, please consider making a reservation for this year. Again, our plans include programs with interesting speakers on both evenings. Todd Crabtree and the Field Trip Committee are working to arrange a selection of interesting outings.

We are still on track to publish our book, *TNPS Wildflowers of Tennessee*, early next spring. All the photos and the written material for the book have been sent to Lone Pine Publishing. There will be a major report on the status of the book at the annual meeting.

Our field trips are attracting strong attendance. Those who did not hike the Honey Creek Trail in the Big South Fork missed a wonderful adventure and great challenge. I am very appreciative of our leaders. Look at your field trip list and mark your calendar to meet us for the remaining walks.

Rita Venable, a noted butterfly expert, has agreed to become an ex officio board member. I am very pleased to have her join us and share her knowledge.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the trail and in Beersheba Springs.

—Karl

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Howard, spent a morning poring over a couple of hundred paintings that Bill had with him that day.

Later I asked Jim Ann what it was about these works that was so arresting. She explained that Crutchfield had painted directly from nature, had toted his pigments and equipment out into the woods to capture the plants where they grew. "Nothing can compare with *in situ* botanical art," she said. I see what she means—these plant portraits were alive, the use of color and line understated, the compositions clean.

One cannot help but picture the artist clambering up a rocky hillside in pursuit of prospective subjects. Spying a trillium or wild orchid, he searches for a relatively comfortable place to sit and spread out his materials. He takes a few minutes to size up the plant and sets about capturing it on paper. Later, mission accomplished and the afternoon still young, he gathers his supplies and scrambles on up the slope in search of other discoveries.

Describing himself as a self-taught artist, Crutchfield was a Chattanooga architect. He designed many classic residences and commercial buildings that are in use today. During the Depression, when business slackened considerably, he started wildflower painting to provide balance in his life. He called it his "life saver." He picked it up again from time to time over succeeding decades. In addition to the 460 wildflower paintings, he produced several Tennessee landscapes and a series of bird paintings.



Crutchfield's goal for the paintings, which is now son Bill's dream, was to produce a wildflower book, using the illustrations for identification. In their renderings, artists can emphasize diagnostic details that may not be evident in photographs. So, such a book would not only be beautiful and helpful; it would require very little descriptive text.

Several Tennesseans joined forces some years ago to sponsor the production of "coffee table portfolios" of Crutchfield's paintings. The portfolios themselves are works of art. Bill has made them available for sale by a few non-profit institutions.

As the sponsors of the portfolio explain, "Sixty four years after its inception the Crutchfield wildflower project still has life saving potential, albeit of a slightly different and more urgent nature. Mr. Crutchfield's wildflower plates provide another way to appreciate the beauty and place in nature of native wildflowers which should be able to flourish along roads, in meadows, and deep in shadowy woods. These paintings serve as a beautiful and timely admonition that the need to conserve their natural habitat is the shared responsibility of all."

—Mary Priestley

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

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Bart Jones, Secretary
Kay Jones, Treasurer

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Submissions?
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William Crutchfield's Botanical Art

"These paintings serve as a beautiful and timely admonition that the need to conserve [the wildflowers'] natural habitat is the shared responsibility of all."

This past spring a friend showed me a portfolio consisting of 18 watercolor and ink renderings of wildflowers of middle and eastern Tennessee, painted in the mid-20th century by the late William Crutchfield. It was love at first sight. Not only had Crutchfield accurately reproduced the colors and forms of the plants; he had also captured much of their life in these unpretentious paintings.

The subjects included many of the plants that we all admire, such as Virginia bluebells, columbine, passionflower, grass-of-Parnassus, and yellow lady's-slipper. Plants not often seen as the subject of botanical art were there too: strawberry-bush, Fraser's sedge, and witch hazel, to name a few.

Margaret Matens, public relations director at St. Andrews-Sewanee School, arranged for me to meet Mr. Crutchfield's son Bill, who owns more than 400 of his father's botanical watercolors. The three of us, with Sewanee artist Jim Ann Howard, spent a morning poring over a couple of hundred paintings that Bill had with him that day.

Later I asked Jim Ann what it was about these works that was so arresting. She explained that Crutchfield had painted directly from nature, had toted his pigments and equipment out into the woods to capture the plants where they grew. "Nothing can compare with *in situ* botanical art," she said. I see what she means—these plant portraits were alive, the use of color and line understated, the compositions clean.

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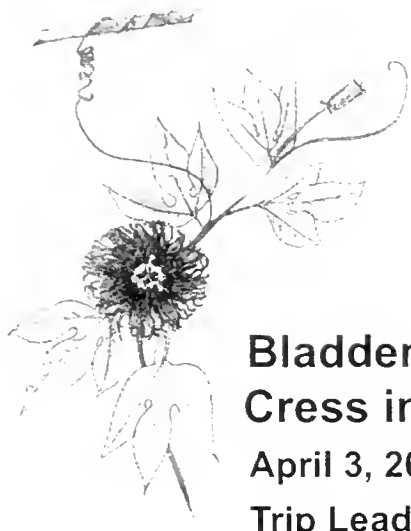


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—Mary Priestley



TNPS Field

Bladderpod and Glade Cress in the Central Basin

April 3, 2004

Trip Leader: David Lincicome

A warm, sunny spring day greeted the 24 society members and visitors at Cedars of Lebanon State Park for the first outing of 2004. After some warm greetings, friendly chatter, and a brief orientation, everyone jumped into their vehicles to drive up to Lebanon to check on our first plant, Spring Creek bladderpod.

Our first stop was a city-owned field along Barton's Creek, a mitigation site for the federal endangered Spring Creek bladderpod, (*Lesquerella perforata*). This is an early blooming winter annual that grows in semi-disturbed habitats within the Bartons, Cedar, and Spring Creek watersheds within Wilson County. Fewer than 800 of the small, white-flowered plants in the mustard family were located. A closely related species, Stones River bladderpod, was to be visited later in the day, so some time was spent discussing the differences between the two species. The fruits, or "pods," have a slightly different shape, and the fruits and style of Spring Creek bladderpod are smooth versus hairy for Stones River bladderpod.

From Lebanon we carpoled back to Cedars of Lebanon for a casual lunch at one of the picnic areas, surrounded by large patches of long-styled glade cress (*Leavenworthia stylosa*) that perfumed the air with the smell of sweet honey. It comes in two color forms: white with a yellow center and pure yellow. Some of the white forms are light purple when young, and very pretty. After lunch we examined a couple of locations within the park for other early cedar glade species. The other species of *Leavenworthia* escaped our vision, but we did spot some Eggleston's violet (*Viola egglestonii*).

From the park we carpoled to our third stop at Vesta Cedar Glade State Natural Area to see more of the early cedar glade species. In this cedar glade/cedar forest area we saw glade sandwort (*Arenaria patula*), glade cleft phlox (*Phlox bifida* ssp. *stellaria*), Nashville breadroot (*Pedimelum subacaule*), limestone adder's tongue fern (*Ophioglossum engelmannii*), rose mock vervain (*Glandularia canadensis*), and finally the small-flowered glade cress (*Leavenworthia uniflora*).

Last, we travelled south on Hwy. 231 into Rutherford County to Walterhill Floodplain State Natural Area to see Stones River bladderpod (*Lesquerella stonensis*). Walterhill is primarily comprised of an agricultural field along the East Fork of the Stones River that is managed cooperatively with Middle Tennessee State University to maintain habitat for *L. stonensis*. The field was covered with thousands of bladderpods in flower. Dennis Horn told the story of Dr. Reed Rollins discovering the yellow-flowered Duck River bladderpod (*Lesquerella densipila*) on the West Fork

of the Stones River first. Then, near the confluence with the East Fork, he discovered cream-colored hybrids. His intuition then led him up the East Fork to discover the white-flowered Stones River bladderpod. All three can still be seen today. Our hike leader then demonstrated how the state's Division of Natural Heritage carefully monitors the status of the bladderpods in these fields by using randomly located transects and one-meter square plots. The number of plants within each of the thirty plots is counted and then compared with previous years' data to assess the current status of the population.

Time did not permit us to travel over to Nices Mill Dam Recreation Area on the West Fork of the Stones River to check on an occurrence of the Duck River bladderpod. It was a very pleasant day and the hike leader felt privileged to kick off the 2004 field trips. What a great year it will be!

—David Lincicome

Hyacinth Fields of Edgar Evins

April 17, 2004 • Trip Leader: Todd Crabtree

Two physically fit and unafraid members of the TNPS showed up for an eight-mile trek to see an uncommon display of wild hyacinths (*Camassia scilloides*). Along the way we stopped to admire the flora and to rest a bit every now and then.

In the coves and slopes leading to the ridgetops, we found a wide variety of spring wildflowers blooming. Prairie trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*), celandine poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*), yellow corydalis (*Corydalis flavula*), red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*), and dwarf crested iris (*Iris cristata*) were all at their peak. Near the top of one ridge we saw a hive of bees busily gathering what they needed from the blooming flowers to make honey. On the ridgetops we found a lot of pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) blooming. On the slopes approaching our destination we found a few morels, the famous fungal delicacy prized by chefs.

After much exertion we finally reached the hyacinth fields, where we discovered that the cold weather had delayed the blooming of most of the flowers. We saw a few blooming, but most were still in bud. The dwarf larkspur (*Delphinium tricorne*) that had been seen in previous years, however, was in abundance further up the hill. These large drifts of larkspur were interspersed with only a few other herbs. The expected carpet of sky blue hyacinths was missed, but the deep violet expanse of larkspur that covered the forest floor was more than worth the effort required to see it. This peninsula on Center Hill Lake seems to be the place for large populations to congregate. A few large patches of Miami mist (*Phacelia purshii*) were also in bloom along the trail.

When lunch was over we decided to avoid a loop in the trail and shorten the hike a bit. We returned along the same route we took on the way in and all the climbs became descents, but everyone made it out upright. I made a trip the next weekend to try

Trip Reports



to catch the hyacinths blooming, but they had apparently hit their peak in the middle of the week. Predicting the peak bloom of any particular species is always an educated guess at best.

—Todd Crabtree

Polly's Branch Falls

May 1, 2004 • Trip Leader: Todd Crabtree

Cloudy weather failed to dampen the spirits of 18 hardy botanizers assembled at the trailhead of Polly Branch in the Scott's Gulf Bicentennial Wilderness Recreation Area. This trip, on the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau, was led by Todd Crabtree and took place Saturday, May 1. Temperatures ranged from 67 to 73 degrees, and by the end of the trip, the sun was breaking through, rewarding us for our perseverance. We started at 10 a.m. and stayed until about 4 p.m. marveling at the waterfalls and the green pools of the Caney Fork River. Some members of The Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee joined us, lured by the promise of orchids along the trail.

Despite clear-cutting and pine beetle damage, we started on a high—both figuratively (excitement about the trip) and literally (the elevation was between 500 and 600 feet). We descended to a riparian area, and the native flora reflected changes in elevation and moisture.

Vernal iris (*Iris verna* var. *smalliana*), yellow stargrass (*Hypoxis hirsuta*), and bird's-foot violet (*Viola pedata*) dotted the open wooded areas. We saw the lovely mountain (Piedmont) azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*), which was unusual since it likes moist woods.

"Native azaleas are notoriously hard to identify because they hybridize," said Al Good. "Some people call that one pinxter flower (*Rhododendron periclymenioides*), but, with my botany book, I come out with *R. canescens*." (Note: *R. periclymenioides* is more colonial and leaves are mostly smooth beneath. The corolla tube is about as long as the lobes. Both species bloom at the same time: April-May.)

Dewberry (*Rubus flagellaris*) attracted a nectaring female Horace's Duskywing. The Horace's uses various oaks for its host plant, and, since there were many *Quercus* in the area, it was not surprising to see them there.

Red-eyed vireos and hooded warblers sang out welcomes as we passed through the mixed forest of red maple, oak, sassafras, poplar, dogwood, beech, pine, hickory, and magnolia. New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*)—the fern is tapered at both ends—was seen along with little brown jug (*Hexastylis arifolia*), which favors rich woods. Dwarf crested iris (*Iris cristata*) was seen sporadically.

At Bee Branch Point you could see the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau. Hoary mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum incanum*) was not blooming, but smelled refreshingly minty and fresh nonetheless.

Maple leaf viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*) fed another little Duskywing. It wasn't long before someone spotted false Solomon's seal (*Smilacina racemosa*), Cumberland spurge (*Euphorbia mercurialina*), and the interesting leaves of the halberd-leaf yellow violet (*Viola hastata*). Closer to the river were a few hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and alder (*Alnus* sp.).

Todd remarked that he had seen mountain camellia (*Stewartia ovata*) covered with long horned beetles. When I asked him when *S. ovata* blooms, he replied, "June 21."

Stream crossings proved successful thanks to helpful members pitching in and everyone taking it slowly. Margaret Hubbuch, even with a knee brace, lended a helping hand to careful crossers as they stepped ashore.

We lunched along the sandy banks of the Caney Fork, not far from the source. Young attendees skipped rocks, and American toads could be heard calling in the distance amidst the melodious eee-oh-lay of the wood thrush in town for the summer.

Each field trip has its own moments of serendipity, and this one was no exception. Just as Al Good was peeling an orange for lunch he looked towards the water and commented, "Is that a butternut (*Juglans cinerea*)?" It was indeed.

Meadow parsnip (*Thaspium trifoliatum*) was bursting with yellow umbels. Wild stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*) was thriving on the sandstone rocks, as was purple phacelia (*Phacelia bipinnatifida*), which was almost spent.

Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) popped up here and there. The combination of foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*), and switch cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) was good soup for the soul. As the sun appeared and warmed our walk, nectar from *G. maculatum* attracted a Pepper-and-Salt Skipper and a Zabulon Skipper.

The Cumberland spurge (*Euphorbia mercurialina*) was diminutive, but pretty in its own way, as was the Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pennsylvanica*) and mountain oatgrass (*Danthonia compressa*). Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*), common in rich moist woods, thickets, and roadsides, was noticed.

One highlight of the outing was spying a demure white moth about the size of a quarter resting on a pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*).

The brilliant red of the firepink (*Silene virginica*) provided a colorful contrast to the bright yellow of the lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium parviflorum*) not far away. The lemony fragrance of crushed spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) leaves was delightful. Sweet shrub (*Calycanthus floridus*), two-flowered Cynthia (*Krigia biflora*), and wild blue phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) were seen along the trail. Recurved trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*), four-leaved milkweed (*Asclepias quadrifolia*, not blooming), and spurred violet (*Viola rostrata*) added to our list, as did wood sorrel (*Oxalis grandis*, not blooming).

(continued on page 7)

2004
Field
Trips

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>July 31 Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Main entrance of Duck River Unit on Refuge Lane in Hustburg</p>	<p>Duck River Unit of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge Our leader promises birds and history as well as botany on this trip through the large bottomland at the mouth of the Duck River. One large pool is covered with water lily (<i>Nelumbo lutea</i>). Other wetland plants are blue mudplantain (<i>Heteranthera limosa</i>), yellow pond lily (<i>Nuphar advena</i>) and many grasses, sedges, and rushes—some rare in Tennessee. The day will be a mix of walking and driving on refuge roads plus a possible visit to nearby Paint Rock to learn about the rich Native American history of this area. Binoculars will be useful.</p>	<p>From US 70 on the east side of New Johnsonville, turn south on Long Street for 2.5 miles, turn left on old TN 1 for 0.3 miles, turn right on Hickman Road for 0.5 miles, and turn left on Refuge to entrance. Walking: Easy, but some excursions into the bottomland might be wet Lunch: Bring Facilities: None at the refuge</p>	<p>Stephanie Gunn (615) 741-9141</p>
<p>August 14 Saturday 10 a.m. EDT Townsend Visitor Center</p>	<p>Great Smoky Mountains National Park—White Oak Sinks Ramble This trip promises to be a visit to the park without the summer crowds. We will hike into and out of the sink on unused back roads. Expect to see a variety of summer flowers plus lunch by the waterfall.</p>	<p>Visitor Center is on the main road in the center of Townsend. Walking: 3-4 miles with moderate grades Lunch: Bring Facilities: At the meeting place</p>	<p>Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>
<p>September 11 Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Old Pinson School</p>	<p>Pinson Mounds State Archeological Park and Turk Creek Bottoms Turk Creek Bottoms in Pinson support the only known Tennessee population of the candidate federally endangered whorled sunflower (<i>Helianthus verticillata</i>). This species was originally discovered near here but was lost for 100 years until discovered in Floyd County, Georgia in 1994. The Pinson population was located in 1998. In addition to the sunflower and other summer species in the bottoms, we will visit the mounds, a small barren, and a cypress grove.</p>	<p>The school is on the west side of US 45 in Pinson. From I-40 exit 80A, US 45 bypass south through Jackson. From US 64 west of Selmer take US 45 north through Henderson. Walking: Easy Lunch: Bring Facilities: None</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891</p>
<p>September 17-18 Friday and Saturday</p>	<p>TNPS Annual Meeting Field trips in the area on Saturday. See page 1 for more information.</p>	<p>Methodist Assembly at Beersheeba Springs</p>	
<p>November 6 Saturday 10 a.m. EST Hardec's in Tellico Plains</p>	<p>Fall Branch Falls and Cherohala Parkway Ed will do our winter botany hike along an old railroad grade off the Cherohala Parkway. Getting to the falls will be a short steep optional side trip. We might also get out to Hooper's Bald if the weather is favorable.</p>	<p>Hardec's off TN 68 at Tellico Plains. Walking: Easy, except for trip down to the falls. Remember that it can be cold at this altitude. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Ed Clebsch Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>

Field Trip Reports (continued from page 5)

On the return trip we knew we were rising in elevation, not because we were huffing and puffing of course, but because we saw mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) again. A small grove of pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) beckoned two Zebra Swallowtails for egg laying. The Zebra Swallowtail is the state butterfly of Tennessee.

Some members were a bit disappointed to see only three yellow lady's slipper orchids (*Cypripedium parviflorum*), but Bob Meyer was not one of them. "I think it's spectacular. The yellow lady's slipper is truly the heroine of the day."

After we parted amicably, everyone went home or to their night's lodging and no doubt had a shower, ate supper, and went to bed, where we all slept like logs because we had so many Tennessee treasures to dream about.

—Rita Venable

Big South Fork—Honey Creek Trail May 22, 2004 • Trip Leader: Joey Shaw

As many said throughout the day, this was not a hike, it was an adventure! Several stalwart souls took a 4.5-mile excursion around Honey Creek on the Tennessee side of this national recreation area. It was a beautiful hike for ferns, streams, rock formations, and just all out beauty. It would be a gorgeous hike in the spring when the spring ephemerals are blooming. The rhododendron lining the stream banks should also be quite a show when they are blooming.

Fortunately our leader, Joey Shaw from the UTK Botany Dept., had arranged for some cars to be left at another spot so we wouldn't have to hike the entire loop. We didn't know how grateful we later would be for that convenience.

Before setting out, we took a moment to enjoy a spectacular view of the gorge and the south fork of the Cumberland River. At the start of the hike, we saw the rare box huckleberry (*Gaylussacia brachycera*). It was in bloom as well as fruit. Also at the start of the trail was climbing fern (*Lygodium palmata*). (This is always a treat the Sweetsers love to see and wish they had in their woods.) We then immediately climbed down two sets of ladders to begin the loop trail. We steadily climbed downhill to the river. Along the way we were in lush woods showing evidence of lots of spring woodland flowers—bloodroot, hepatica, Indian cucumber root, devil's drinking cup (*Urnula sp.*), pawpaw trees and a very large cucumber magnolia. There were also signs of trillium—probably *Trillium sulcatum*.

As we got to the river level, we worked our way around and worked our way around the stream bank, and worked our way around the stream bank, and worked our way around the stream bank. Before the end of the day, many of us were wondering if we were ever going to get away from that *%@! stream. At one point we either walked in the middle of the water or crawled along a rock ledge to continue the loop. There were many stream crossings where we had to look for the trail markers on the other side to be sure to find our way. There were also many "Fat Man Squeezes" to either crawl

through or scoot through. We had a wonderful lunch spot under a very large rock overhang. This was good because we needed a dry spot by then since it had been raining for a while. Did I mention the stream crossings???

We have a record for the most falls on one trip but I'm not releasing the winner's name. Fortunately no one was hurt.

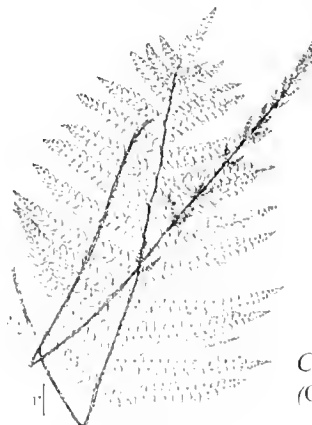
Towards the end of the hike there was a rock that was purposefully put in the middle of the trail for those "kids" that still wanted to have an adventure. Fortunately it was sandstone and not slippery. My smart husband went down first, backwards without slipping, which gave me the courage to do the same. He was also there to give me a hand when needed. I want to thank Joey and Ed Lickey as well for giving me a hand throughout the day.

With all the challenges everyone had during the day, I don't think anyone regretted making the trip. Us old folks were PROUD of ourselves for making it to the end. Everyone was a little muddy and some of us were very wet. Dry clothes were a godsend. I'm glad I went but don't know if I would go again. Allen enjoyed it immensely and would have gone again the next day. You have to remember that he LOVES off-trail hiking. Thanks to Joey for a great trip and also to Ed Lickey for all of his help with ferns and other plants.

Ferns seen on the trip:

- Climbing Fern (*Lygodium palmatum*)
- Rock Cap Fern (*Polypodium polypoides*)
- Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*)
- Maidenhair Spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*)
- Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*)
- Northern Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)
- Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*)
- Braeken Fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*)
- Mountain Spleenwort (*Asplenium montanum*)
- New York Fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*)
- Cinnamon Fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
- Lady Fern (*Atlyrium filix-femina*)
- Silvery Glade Fern (*Deparia acrostichoides*)
- Hay-Scented Fern (*Dennstaedtia punctilobola*)
- Marginal Wood Fern (*Dryopteris marginalis*)
- Intermediate Wood Fern (*Dryopteris intermedia*)
- Bulblet Fern (*Cystopteris sp.*)

—Susan Sweetser



Cinnamon Fern
(*Osmunda cinnamomea*)

Nature Notes

special events and happenings

Eastern Native Grass Symposium

Loss of eastern native grasslands is belatedly being recognized as an ecological disaster comparable to the disappearance of the American chestnut. The good news is that work is underway to identify, characterize, and preserve the remnants, to learn to use native grasses in modern landscaping and agriculture, and to control exotic species. Perhaps the largest native plant restoration opportunity is the expanse of roadside which must be kept open. Capitalizing on this opportunity requires not only the horticulture to establish and maintain a grassland, but the populace must be taught to prefer the rich variety of prairies to the neat monotony of turf. The latter aspect might be the greater challenge. Anyone appreciating the importance of native plants can contribute to this change in public perception. For those wishing to better understand, native grass and grassland research and management developments will be extensively reviewed at the Fourth Eastern Native Grass Symposium in Lexington, Kentucky, October 3-6, 2004. For details, visit www.grassconference.com or contact Jean Smith at 859-257-7597.

—Al Good

Sense of Place Exhibit in Sewanee

As you whiz down Interstate 24 this summer, consider stopping off in Sewanee to have a cup of coffee and enjoy an exhibit on "Sense of Place." The exhibit goes up at Stirling's Coffeehouse on the Sewanee campus June 27 and will remain through the month of July.

A collective work by "The Dead Plants Society"—a group that includes several TNPS members—the exhibit provides a visual and narrative impression of change through Sewanee's seasons.

The group had its beginning two years ago with a nature writing workshop sponsored by the Sewanee Herbarium, and has continued to meet weekly to work on nature journals, to practice drawing techniques, and to share observations. New members have joined along the way.

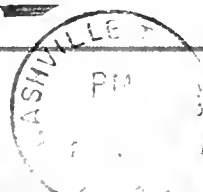
The women have varied backgrounds in art, science, education, and writing, but converge in their interest in Sewanee's natural environment. They work in ink, pencil, colored pencil, watercolor, collage, fiber, and fabric.

An opening reception will be held Thursday, July 1, from 4-5:30 p.m., and a reading on sense of place is scheduled at the coffeehouse for July 7 at 4 p.m. For the month of July, Stirling's will be open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

—Mary Priestley



TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY
PO Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215



ALWAYS



Tennessee Native Plant Society Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 3

Our 26th Year

August 2004

TNPS Annual Meeting Update

by Jean Heinzman

The TNPS Annual Meeting is a much anticipated event by those members who regularly attend. We enjoy the fellowship of people with an interest common to ours, walks searching for interesting plants, enjoyable and informative programs, an update on the business of our organization, and good food. If you have not attended before or recently, please consider coming this year.

We have had a good response for reservations for the meeting at the Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly in Grundy County on September 17-19, but there are rooms still available. These are excellent accommodations. All rooms have 2 beds, private baths and are air-conditioned. The lodge has a large common area where we will meet and a nicely equipped full kitchen. We have rooms in the lodge and in the new adjacent building.

Our meals will be in the community dining hall. We will start with dinner at 6 p.m. on Friday the 17th, followed with a program by Rita Venable on Tennessee butterflies and their host plants. Breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, followed by walks. Please bring your own lunch. Saturday dinner will be at 6 p.m. Dr. Hill Craddock will present the evening program on the project to reintroduce the American chestnut, followed by our annual meeting. Sunday breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m. and a board meeting (open to any interested members) will take place afterward.

You may reserve rooms and/or meals. All room reservations are for two nights. If you haven't made your room reservation yet but would like to attend and stay there, please let Jean Heinzman know by August 13 and return the form (on page 7) ASAP. Meal reservations can be accepted until September 8.

(continued on page 2)

Summer Wildflowers on the Blue Ridge Parkway

by Bertha Chrietberg

With my granddaughter along for company and her help with the driving, I spent several days on the Blue Ridge Parkway to see and photograph the summer wildflowers. The speed is slow (45 mph), and of course, the road is very curvy, and varies from about 2000 feet to about 6000 feet in altitude. Traffic was minimal, but there were many bicycles and motorcycles. Fogs were heavy at times, and we occasionally encountered rain, but nothing detracted very much from the great display of wildflowers. Your stopping or parking is limited to the viewpoints, but they are fairly frequent. One may be tempted to stop on the roadsides, but because of erosion, watersheds, and traffic hazards, that is not advisable. There are many marked trails, and picnic areas, as well as the marked viewpoints.

(continued on page 5)

In This Issue

Annual Meeting Info.....	1
On the Blue Ridge Parkway.....	1
Membership Info.....	2
TNPS Website Needs You!.....	2
Fall Monarch Migration.....	3
Remaining 2004 Field Trips.....	4
Field Trip Report.....	5
A Passion for Plants.....	6

Tennessee Native Plant Society Newsletter

August 2004
VOLUME 28, Number 3

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

Dues may be sent to
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P.O. Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215

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Bart Jones, Secretary
Kay Jones, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Bertha Chrietzburg
Todd Crabtree
Al Good
Nita Heilman
Mary Priestley
Susan Sweetser

Comments? Questions? Submissions? Send to

Ashley Crownover
922 Shauna Drive
Nashville, TN 37214
ashleycrownover@yahoo.com
615-874-3529

The TNPS Website REALLY Needs You!

Use your skills to help develop the new TNPS website! We're looking for members with expertise in website design and maintenance. Interested? Email ashleycrownover@yahoo.com for more information.



Looking to Join TNPS?

All you have to do is mail your first year's dues to

Tennessee Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215

Dues are \$15 for a regular membership, \$10 for students or seniors, \$20 for an institution, and \$150 for a lifetime membership.

Annual Meeting Update

(continued from page 1)

To register, please complete the form on page 7 and send to

Jean Heinzman
P.O. Box 1282
Norris, TN 37828

All reservations for rooms and/or meals can only be made through TNPS and must be accompanied by a check payable to TNPS. Registrants will receive confirmation with a map and other information.

There will be a \$5 registration fee for attendees not staying at the Assembly. It will be collected at the meeting and does not require a reservation.

We must respect the rules of the Assembly and not bring pets, firearms, or alcoholic beverages onto the grounds.

Contact Jean at (865) 494-8100 or heinzman@bellsouth.net for more information.

*printed on
recycled paper*

Fall Monarch Migration in Tennessee

by Rita Venable



Before the autumn leaves have reached their peak of beauty, Monarchs have stirred and are moving southwest towards an area deep in an Oyamel fir forest in the Sierra Chincua west of Mexico City. Monarchs in the East are far more abundant than the Monarchs of the western United States. Most, but not all of the western Monarchs overwinter in California.

Dr. Lincoln Brower, a University of Florida entomologist, believes that changing day lengths may be the key to butterfly orientation. The whole Monarch migration pattern is roughly like a fox trot—a four-step process. In the spring, the starting point is Mexico. Step one is the Gulf Coast. Step two is north to the Great Lakes area while step three is southeast to the East Coast. The final step is southwest again to Mexico.

This fall look for Monarchs on sunny days in open fields. Often, there will be a dozen or more headed in a southwesterly direction. Look



at a compass and watch the direction of the incoming butterflies. Land Between the Lakes (LBL) is a good place to look for migrating butterflies, which prefer watercourses for migration routes. Last year, around the 25th of

September, my husband and I witnessed hundreds and hundreds of Monarchs along the north-south Trace along the side of the road.

Besides watching for migrating Monarchs, fall is a good time to start planning for next year's butterflies in your garden. To attract Monarchs, try planting one or more of our 13 species of native milkweeds. Each species should attract Monarchs, but there has been more success noted with some species than others. I have had the most success with Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) finding both eggs and caterpillars on the leaves.

Imagine telling your child to "Drink your milkweed, Johnny, you know it's poisonous." Yet, in a sense, that is what the Monarch does. In fact, the very family that Monarchs belong to, *Danaiidae*, means milkweed butterflies. Milkweed toxins, while harmless to the caterpillars, make them distasteful to predators even in the adult stage. This association is so predictable that Dr. Brower can tell where a Monarch originated by the type of milkweed glycosides found in the body.

Whether you are observing butterflies or planting milkweed, ponder the migrating Monarch this fall. Americans remark on what a mobile society we have become. Yet, when compared to the Monarch, we appear quite sedentary.

For a good fall/winter read, try *Chasing Monarchs: A Migration with the Butterflies of Passage*, by Robert Michael Pyle (1999, Houghton Mifflin Co.). It's a wonderful book written by one of the foremost lepidopterists in the U.S. Also, to find out where the Monarchs are going and when they might be coming your way, check out the Journey South web site at <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/fall2000/monarch>.

2004

Field

Trips

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>August 14 Saturday 10 a.m. EDT Townsend Visitor Center</p>	<p>Great Smoky Mountains National Park—White Oak Sinks Ramble</p> <p>This trip promises to be a visit to the park without the summer crowds. We will hike into and out of the sink on unused back roads. Expect to see a variety of summer flowers plus lunch by the waterfall.</p>	<p>Visitor Center is on the main road in the center of Townsend.</p> <p>Walking: 3-4 miles with moderate grades Lunch: Bring Facilities: At the meeting place</p>	<p>Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>
<p>September 11 Saturday 10 a.m. CDT Old Pinson School</p>	<p>Pinson Mounds State Archeological Park and Turk Creek Bottoms</p> <p>Turk Creek Bottoms in Pinson support the only known Tennessee population of the candidate federally endangered whorled sunflower (<i>Helianthus verticillatus</i>). This species was originally discovered near here but was lost for 100 years until discovered in Floyd County, Georgia in 1994. The Pinson population was located in 1998. In addition to the sunflower and other summer species in the bottoms, we will visit the mounds, a small barren, and a cypress grove.</p>	<p>The school is on the west side of US 45 in Pinson. From I-40 exit 80A, US 45 bypass south through Jackson. From US 64 west of Selmer take US 45 north through Henderson.</p> <p>Walking: Easy Lunch: Bring Facilities: None</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891</p>
<p>September 17-18 Friday and Saturday</p>	<p>TNPS Annual Meeting</p> <p>Field trips in the area on Saturday. See page 1 for more information.</p>	<p>Methodist Assembly at Beersheeba Springs</p>	
<p>November 6 Saturday 10 a.m. EST Hardee's in Tellico Plains</p>	<p>Fall Branch Falls and Cherohala Parkway</p> <p>Ed will do our winter botany hike along an old railroad grade off the Cherohala Parkway. Getting to the falls will be a short steep optional side trip. We might also get out to Hooper's Bald if the weather is favorable.</p>	<p>Hardee's off TN 68 at Tellico Plains.</p> <p>Walking: Easy, except for trip down to the falls. Remember that it can be cold at this altitude. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Ed Clebsch Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>

TNPS Field Trip Report:

Couchville Glade/Long Hunter State Park by Bart Jones

A small, but enthusiastic group gathered at Long Hunter State Park on June 19 to follow trip leader Todd Crabtree to Couchville Glade to view the federally endangered Tennessee coneflower (*Echinacea tennesseensis*).

As we entered the glade, it was actually more barren-like with prairie mimosa (*Desmanthus illinoensis*), large bluet (*Hedyotis purpurea*), narrow-leaf mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*), butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), and wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) inhabiting the area. Through a small grove of trees we spied some gorgeous cedar glade St. Johnswort (*Hypericum frondosum*) and their puffy, golden blossoms. After clearing the trees we entered the glade proper where just around the corner we were greeted with our first stand of coneflowers. A glade endemic found only in Davidson, Rutherford, and Wilson Counties, it was Tennessee's first plant to be listed as a federally endangered species. It is characterized by its large purple rays which are held horizontally, the dark purple disk, and long narrow leaves which are very hairy. Several of the group mused about the curious habit of the coneflowers all facing in the same direction. Other typical glade species present in this portion of the glade were gray-headed coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), Gattinger's lobelia (*Lobelia appendiculata* var.

gattingeri), whorled milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*), fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), Indian hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum*), and thimbleweed (*Anemone virginiana*). As we walked along, a minty aroma became noticeable, which upon investigation was determined to be glade savory (*Calamintha glabella*).

As we moved on to another section of the glade, more characteristic plants showed up including glade bluet (*Hedyotis nigricans*), rough-fruited St. Johnswort (*Hypericum sphaerocarpum*), and yellow flax (*Linum sulcatum*). In a moist area with a seasonal stream, we looked for limestone fameflower (*Talinum calcaricum*). Several plants were found, but unfortunately none were in bloom. There were several interesting species here: pale-flowered leafcup (*Polymnia canadensis*), glade wild petunia (*Ruellia humilis*), green milkweed (*Asclepias viridiflora*), hairy lip fern (*Cheilanthes lanosa*), and slender dayflower (*Commelina erecta*).

After lunch, we took a quick look around a loop trail near the lake hoping to find some fameflowers in bloom. Although some were in full bud, none were open, but we did get to enjoy more patches of beautiful Tennessee coneflowers before we made our way home.

Summer Wildflowers on the Blue Ridge Parkway (continued from page 1)

Interesting breaks in your journey are at the Folk Art Museum at mile marker 380, and the Museum of North Carolina Minerals at mile 330. We detoured off the parkway at mile 343 to drive up to Mt. Mitchell State Park. This is the highest mountain in the Appalachian Chain, and well worth a stop. There is also a restaurant there which had a good lunch at a reasonable price despite the distance food had to be brought.

The greatest display of wildflowers was at Craggy Gardens, milepost 650, and there was plenty of parking, picnic areas, and a good sampling of most of the wildflowers that were in bloom at this time on the parkway. We doubled back the last day to stop at this place again. There were two plants in abundance on the parkway, but found mostly in our high mountains, and farther north; pale jewelweed (*Impatiens pallida*) and purple bergamot (*Monarda media*). The latter was really a pale lilac color. Some of the other wildflowers in abundance were crimson bee balm (*Monarda didyma*), tall bellflower (*Campanula americana*), phlox (*Phlox maculata*), Indian pink (*Silene virginica*), cut-leaved or

green-headed coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), southern sun-drops (*Oenothera fruticosa*), and many showy Turk's cap lilies (*Lillium superbium*). The latter stood proudly high above the other plants on the parkway, with numerous blossoms.

Two outstanding trees in blossom were the sourwood tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*), with its spray of white bell flowers, and the princess tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) with its clusters of purple blooms. The latter tree was brought in from China in the 19th century, but has found a real home in the Cumberland and Smoky Mountains.

It was sad to see all the dead trees in the high areas. The Engelman spruce traps the acid rain that comes in from the high smokestacks of the Ohio and Tennessee Valley. The leaves drop, the tree sickens, and is subject to insect invasion.

For those of us who love wildflowers, this makes a beautiful vacation close to home.

A Passion for Plants

Contemporary artists are going much further than echoing the triumphs of the past—they are painting new interpretations of familiar subjects.

—Shirley Sherwood

by Mary Priestley

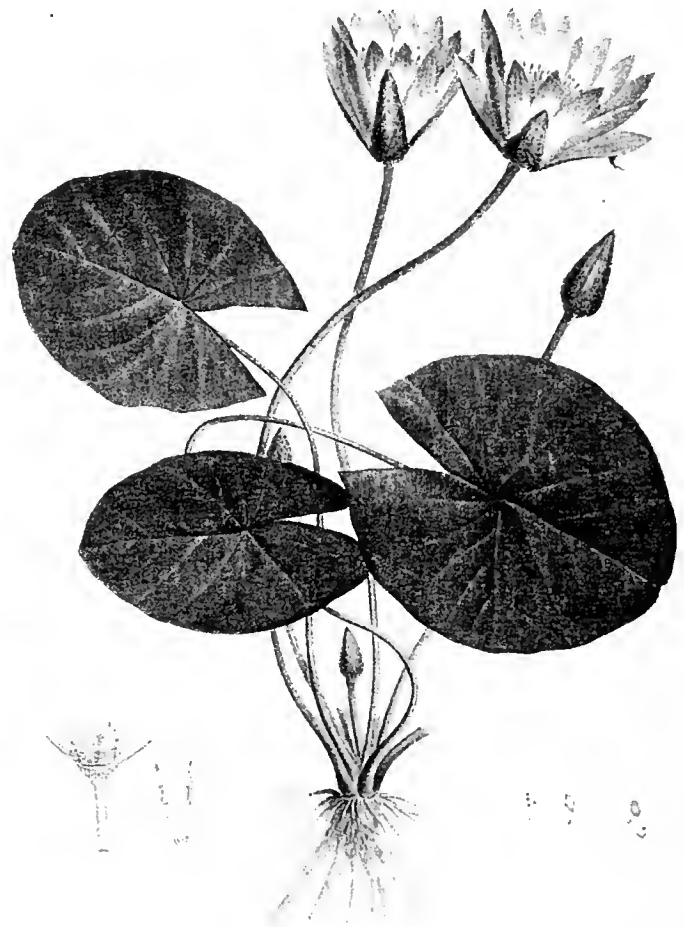
Shirley Sherwood's volume *A Passion for Plants, Contemporary Botanical Masterworks* is my favorite picture book these days: I asked for and got it for my birthday, and I am entranced.

The book contains exquisite reproductions of over 200 paintings by 65 artists. The artists and their botanical subjects span the globe, and the works range from precise line drawings to more romantic and dramatic depictions. The book helps get me through those in-between times: the foggy Sewanee winter and the "great green interlude" of July when Queen Anne's lace seems to be the only thing in bloom.

Sherwood's extensive introduction is excellent. Here she describes the current renaissance of botanical art, and she compares paintings of "Old Masters" with those of today's "New Masters." For example, she matches the most famous of all botanical artists, Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759-1840), with Margaret Mee (1909-1988), who painted Amazonian rainforest plants. She was one of the first to sound the alarm about the devastation and degradation of that great forest ecosystem.

Redouté, a Belgian by birth, lived and worked in France. In 1800 the Empress Josephine commissioned him to paint her plants at Malmaison. Famous collections of his work include *Les Liliacées* and *Les Roses*. Sherwood comments that images by this immensely popular artist "can be found on everything from boxes of toilet tissues to prints for the walls of hotel corridors." Redouté did the illustrations for Andre Michaux's landmark books, *The Oaks of North America* and *The Flora of North America*. I was able to see some of these pieces a couple of years ago in an exhibit in Charlotte, NC, associated with a celebration of Michaux's life and work.

Margaret Mee got her artistic training in London and moved to Brazil in 1950. She took several extended trips into the rainforest, often accompanied only by Indian guides, to find



Nymphaea caerulea

Nymphaea caerulea by Pierre-Joseph Redouté.
From his *Choix des plus belles fleurs* (1828).

hundreds of plants. Four of them, which were previously unknown to science, were named in her honor. Mee raised money to facilitate the exchange of scientists and artists between Brazil and Kew Gardens, and she has become an icon of the environmental movement around the world.

(continued on page 8)

TNPS 2004 Annual Meeting Registration

Lodging

No. of people (double occupancy) _____ @ \$60 per person = _____

No. of people (single occupancy) _____ @ \$80 per person = _____

(Note: Lodging prices are for two nights)

Meals

Friday dinner _____ @ \$6 each = _____

Saturday breakfast _____ @ \$5.50 each = _____

Saturday lunch: Bring your own

Saturday dinner _____ @ \$6 each = _____

Sunday breakfast _____ @ \$5.50 each = _____

Total (check enclosed for) : \$ _____

I will be bringing visuals to show (Y/ N): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

**SEND FORM AND
PAYMENT TO
Jean Heinzman
P.O. Box 1282
Norris, TN 37828**

A Passion for Plants (continued from page 6)

A comparison of paintings of water lilies by Redouté and Mee show differences in their styles and points of view. Both works are beautiful and botanically precise. Redouté's is a pristine, stylized representation of a plant that was introduced into France in the 18th century. Mee's depiction, on the other hand, is more realistic and suggests a plant that is part of an ecosystem. Redouté's plant is a formal specimen; Mee's has an ecological niche.

But that is just a bit from the introduction. The book is filled with depictions of splendid paintings by botanical artists from around the world who are working today. Each painting is supported by interesting information about the artist.

I plan to have this book with me at the annual meeting in September, in case someone would like to have a look. If you have a favorite botanical art book, please bring it. It would be fun to have a show-and-tell.

Illustrations are from A Passion for Plants, Contemporary Botanical Masterworks by Shirley Sherwood, published in London by Cassell & Co., 2002.



Nymphaea ampla (Salisb.) D.C. var. *pulchella*. *Cosp.* flowered July 1957, by Margaret Mee.

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Tennessee Native Plant Society Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 4

Our 26th Year

November 2004

Sneak Peek: Excerpt from Upcoming TNPS Wildflower Book

The following is a pre-release excerpt of the introduction for the upcoming TNPS wildflower book (see page 8 for more information).

Native Americans in Tennessee

The name Tennessee is believed to be from *Tanasi*, a name given by the Cherokee people to a village located on the Little Tennessee River, and subsequently used for the region encompassing the river. Before the Europeans, the various Native American peoples who lived in Tennessee and the broader Southeast region mostly lived in harmony with the land and its offerings.

According to studies of artifacts recovered in Russell Cave, Alabama, man entered the southeast ten thousand years ago, or earlier, in pursuit of the massive mastodon, the saber-toothed tiger, and the giant beaver. Then, approximately 6000 to 5000 B.C., a new era began. Although long hunting trips still took place, man was

able to roam less and settle in villages, an example of which was found at the Eva Site, a prehistoric Native American encampment in Benton County, in West Tennessee. Besides hunting, they fished and gathered wild foods like roots, nuts, and berries.

As villages became established, agriculture became important, with corn being a primary crop, along with beans, squash, and pumpkins. The ability to cultivate corn, which easily could be stored and adapted to countless uses—from vegetable to bread to nutritious drink—transformed village life. Religion, arts, and the development of skills and crafts, medicine, and clothing became an important part of the culture.

(continued on page 6)

President's Comments

by Karl Heinzman

We just completed our winter botany hike with leaders Ed Clebsch and Allen and Susan Sweetser. We drove up the Cherohala Skyway from Tellico Plains and hiked to Fall Branch Falls. The weather was perfect and we enjoyed having lunch near the base of the falls. Along the way, Ed enlightened us on how to identify some trees and woody shrubs in the winter. After that, we drove into North Carolina and enjoyed a walk to Hooper's Bald where we could see as far as Georgia. This last hike is bittersweet—while enjoyable, it marks the end of the walks for this year and starts a five-month count until we hit the trails next spring.

I want to encourage all members to invite your walking and hiking friends to join TNPS. Before the first of next year, the dues are still only \$15. Or—consider memberships as gifts! Membership information is at www.tnps.org.

Please join me in remembering Ray Norris. Ray was a good friend to TNPS. He will be missed.

In This Issue

TNPS Book Excerpt.....	1
President's Note.....	1
In Memorium.....	2
Saluting the Trees.....	3
Field Trip Reports.....	4
2005 Nominations Announced.....	7
Report on Annual Meeting.....	7
Wildflower Book Update.....	8
Dues Increase Announced.....	8

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Ashley Crownover
922 Shauna Drive
Nashville, TN 37214
ashleycrownover@yahoo.com
615-874-3529

In Memorium Ray Norris

Two Rivers

Thy summer voice, Musketaquit
Repeats the music of the rain;
But sweeter rivers pulsing flit
Through thee, as thou through the Concord Plain.
Thou in thy narrow banks art pent:
The stream I love unbounded goes
Through flood and sea and firmament;
Through light, through life, it forward flows.
I see the inundation sweet,
I hear the spending of the steam
Through years, through men, through Nature fleet,
Through love and thought, through power and dream.
Musketaquit, a goblin strong,
Of shard and flint makes jewels gay;
They lose their grief who hear his song,
And where he winds is the day of day.
So forth and brighter fares my stream,—
Who drink it shall not thirst again;
No darkness taints its equal gleam,
And ages drop in it like rain.

—*Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1856*



*printed on
recycled paper*

Botanical Art—

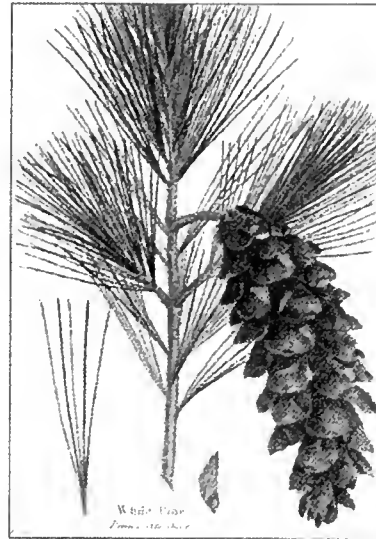
Saluting the Trees

By the year 1796 French explorer-botanist André Michaux had spent 11 years in North America, journeying extensively and studying the flora of the eastern portion of this “new” continent. He was the first to name hundreds of species of our plants: large-flowered trillium (*T. grandiflorum*), blazing star (*Liatris squarrulosa*), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), and flame azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*), to name a few.

He had traversed the state of Tennessee three times between 1789 and 1796, visiting Andrew Jackson and John Tipton, collecting plants, and keeping meticulous journals of his discoveries and travels. While in Tennessee, he discovered several important tree species: overcup oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*), yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*), and possibly bigleaf magnolia (*M. macrophylla*)—although North Carolinians claim that he found the latter there first! He sent thousands of seeds, saplings, and herbarium specimens back to France—trees to rebuild the country’s forests and other plants to fill the king’s (and later Josephine Bonaparte’s) gardens.

Michaux planned to write two books based on his explorations in North America: the first flora of all of the known plants of the continent and a volume devoted entirely to North American oaks. He was drawn to the oaks, the trees that constitute the backbone of the forest of the Cumberland Plateau where I live. Referring to the oak, he wrote, “Nature has particularly formed this tree for large forests. There it reigns sovereign over the

other vegetables and furnishes abundant nourishment for animals of different natures...”



White Pine, illustration by P. J. Redouté from André Michaux’s *Flora of North America*, 1803.

So what does all of this have to do with botanical art? After he returned to France, Michaux went off to Madagascar and left it to his son François to oversee publication of his groundbreaking works. François chose Pierre Redouté and his lesser-known brother to do the illustrations. Pierre is the most famous botanical artist of all time, best known for his paintings of flowers, particularly those of Malmaison (*Les Liliacées* and *Les Roses*).

The brothers did a masterful job of illustrating Michaux’s books. In that pre-photographic era, the copious Redouté illustrations must have been an invaluable addition to the Michaux texts. I cannot help but think that they are also an important part of the Redouté legacy, a somewhat reserved counterpart to the captivating floral portraits that we so often associate with these premier botanical artists.

Michaux, who died on Madagascar in 1802 before he could see his books published, deeply appreciated wild areas and the plants that inhabit them. His favorite oak? Chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*), which he characterized as the “largest, best, and rarest oak.” A few years ago, I recorded a statement that TNPS member Al Good made on an October field trip here on the plateau. Observing a stand of trees, he remarked, “That’s as lovely a grove of chestnut oak as I’ve seen. You sit here and get a little lift — feel like the world is a better place.” André Michaux could have related to that!



Chestnut Oak, illustration by P. J. Redouté from André Michaux’s *Oaks of North America*, 1801.

TNPS Field Trip Reports

Pinson Mounds 9/11/04

For those of you who have led hikes before, you can definitely relate to this. With every trip you worry about whether things will be in bloom or will the weather be nice, you know, normal anxiety. But occasionally it becomes a reality. Two weeks before the field trip, I took a detour to Pinson to check out the whorled sunflowers (*Helianthus verticillatus*) on my way to visit my parents. Everything looked great, plants were healthy and in bud. The next weekend I went by again to check them, but this time things weren't so great. My eyes could hardly believe what I saw: The utility company had sprayed underneath the power lines and wiped out most of the plants I knew about. There were supposed to be more individuals in a field on the other side of the highway, but when I drove by, I didn't see any. I was devastated! Whorled sunflowers are candidates for listing as a federal endangered species and are only found in three locations: Floyd County, GA; Cherokee County, AL; and the Pinson site in Madison County; and now these were brown.

In the days before the hike, I fretted about what to do, should I cancel it or go ahead as planned? In the end I decided not to cancel, there would be something to see. Saturday arrived and six people made the trip to West Tennessee. We saw the area that was sprayed and then made our way across the highway to the field where we hoped to see a few individuals that may have escaped the herbicide. So I held my breath as we made our way to the

edge of the field, where I could exhale as I saw several plants majestically towering above the goldenrods. RELIEF!!!

Helianthus verticillatus is a robust perennial that can grow to 12 feet tall. It is distinguished by the lance-shaped leaves that come together in whorls of 3 or 4 in the middle of the stem, which is glaucous and purplish. The 3-inch flowers are yellow with an orange disk and occur at the top of the stems in a branched inflorescence. They were originally discovered near Pinson in 1892, but were subsequently lost for over 100 years until rediscovered in 1994 in Georgia. The Pinson population was found in 1998. Other plants associated in this low field were camphorweed (*Pluchea camphorata*), low field aster (*Aster vimineus*), late goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*), cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), awl aster (*Aster pilosus*) and bonset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*).

We drove to Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park for lunch. After eating, we explored the Native American earthworks. The main mound, Sauls Mound, towers above the surrounding plain at a height of 72 feet—second tallest in the United States—and dates to before 500 A.D. All along its flanks was an interesting assemblage of woodland plants including white snakeroot (*Ageratina altissima*), Drummond's aster (*Aster drummondii*), tall thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*), pink thoroughwort (*Fleischmannia incarnatum*), rough-stem goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*), elm-leaf goldenrod (*Solidago ulmifolia*), and frostweed (*Verbesina virginica*).

On our way to a cypress grove, we stopped at a small barren where we saw gray goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*), fasciated purple gerardia (*Agalinis fasciculata*), and Maryland golden

aster (*Heterotheca mariana*). At the cypress grove, several gigantic specimens of bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) were seen, their knees protruding from the muck everywhere. Other species encountered in this swampy environment were lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), tuckahoe (*Peltandra virginica*), Virginia dayflower (*Commelina virginica*), and the state-listed horse sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*).

A day of high anxiety became a day of ultimate satisfaction and a lesson in just how tenuous an endangered species' existence truly is.

Tennessee Wildlife Refuge— Duck River Unit 7/31/04

Sometimes you just gotta have faith. The morning of July 31 held a stormy greeting for most of us and the prospects of good weather for the hike seemed remote at best. As I got in my vehicle to head to Hustburg, the rain was still coming down. But something wonderful happened as I pulled up to the Refuge entrance—it stopped raining! Within 15 minutes the clouds thinned and the sun broke through—it was going to be a great day.

A good number of people had kept the faith and joined our leader, Stephanie Gunn, on a tour of the wetlands in the Refuge. Stephanie was from nearby McEwen and did her master's thesis on the flora of the Refuge. Needless to say, we definitely had an expert leading us.

We descended the hill and made our way to the river bottoms where wetland plants were abundant along the roadside. Fogfruit (*Phyla lanceolata*), cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*), creeping water primrose (*Ludwigia peploides*), one-flower fiddleleaf (*Hydrolea*

uniflora), halberd-leaf rose mallow (*Hibiscus laevis*), and jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*) were just a few of the species seen.

Further along the road we encountered our first state-listed plants. In a shallow pool, mats of oval shiny leaves and diminutive blue flowers belonged to blue mudplantain (*Heteranthera limosa*), a threatened plant. Water plantain (*Alisma subcordatum*) was also abundant at this location. Across the road it was mainly sedges and rushes, with river bulrush (*Scirpus fluviatilis*) standing out as a listed plant of special concern.

Back to the ears to trek out to see a grass that Stephanie found, which turned out to be a state record. Coast cockspear grass (*Echinochloa walteri*) is a large grass with a very showy panicle of flowers with long awns. In this area it was a sea of grasses and other plants that painted swaths of different shades and textures of green, an amazingly beautiful sight. And if you think plants were the only things to see, well, the birds and deer were out in full force. Herons, egrets, shorebirds of all types, and even three white pelicans added to the experience.

The last location we visited was a natural bayou and a manmade slough that were on either side of the road. The bayou was covered in American lotus (*Nelumbo lutea*); the enormous yellow flowers appeared like bowls suspended above the water and the large round leaves. In the slough, large clumps of spatterdock (*Nuphar luteum*) dotted the waterway. Interestingly, the two water lilies did not mix here. Other intriguing plants here were aquatic milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*) and ladies ear drops (*Brunnichia ovata*), which is at the eastern extent of its range in Tennessee.

Wow, I'm exhausted from writing, as I was after the walk. This was definitely one of the best examples of a wetlands area in Middle Tennessee you can find and those lucky enough to attend left with a greater appreciation for this critical habitat.

Sneak Peek: Excerpt from TNPS Wildflower Book *(continued from page 1)*

Written accounts from the 1500s tell us that European immigrants found vast tracts of forested land, interspersed with prairie-like openings and barrens, abundant and untapped underground resources, and wild and free-flowing streams. At this time, Tennessee was inhabited by several different Native American groups. From west to east, it is thought that the most dominant peoples were Chickasaw (also known as Chikasah), the Yuchi, and the Cherokee.

The Chickasaw claimed western Tennessee, while the Cherokee lived on the upper portions of the Tennessee River and proclaimed the eastern part of the state as hunting territory. The Yuchi, who were considered part of the Creek, and other small tribes, were driven from the central areas to the south, around 1700. About this time, the Chickasaws and Cherokees joined to force the Shawnees out of the north central region into an area north of the Ohio River. In fact, in 1715 and again in 1745, the Chickasaws and Cherokees cooperated to expel bands of Shawnees from the rich hunting lands on the site that is now Nashville, Tennessee. Thereafter Middle Tennessee was used primarily as a hunting ground, causing territorial disputes between the Chickasaw and Cherokee peoples, but inhabited by neither. Both tribes maintained their claims to much of Tennessee into the 1800s, at which time the Native American lands were displaced by white settlers, and the traditional way of life for the Native American peoples would never be the same again.

Ethnobotany

Ethnobotany is the study of the relationship between people and plants. Native Americans developed an intimate knowledge of plants and their uses, dating back to early times and passed down through generations as traditional knowledge, as well as newer uses that resulted from plant introductions by the European settlers.

Plants have been used by Native Americans for medicine, foods, fibers, dyes, contraceptives, cleaning agents, containers, fertilizers, fuels, incense and fragrance, insecticides, jewelry, lubricants, musical instruments, preservatives, smoking and snuff, tools, toys, and weapons. It is clear that plants have played a vital role in Native American culture.

When applicable, the *Notes* section of a wildflower description in this book highlights some of the relationships and uses of plants by Native Americans in the hope that readers may gain an appreciation of how all of our lives are influenced by plants.

Ethnobotany is a science that may hold the keys for important discoveries in the future. The diminishing rain forests may harbor plants that will help us conquer new diseases, and undiscovered or as yet unstudied plants may provide solutions to expand energy and food resources for our planet's escalating population.

Plants Used as Medicine

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 25 percent of modern medicines originated from plants that were

first used traditionally. WHO also states that in some developing countries (in Africa, for example), roughly 80 percent of the people chiefly rely on traditional medicine for their primary health care needs. The pharmacological value of plants continues to yield important breakthroughs, while providing a source of continued exploration and experimentation.

Plants are useful as medicines due to the evolution of secondary chemicals, which they produce to enhance their survival. For example, willows (*Salix*) produce salicylic acid, a water-soluble plant poison that washes off the leaves to the ground below that inhibits the growth of competing plants. This salicylic acid is the same substance from which aspirin is derived, and is an active ingredient in many "sports creams" for relieving muscle pain.

In search of new medicines, ethnobotanists recognize that the difference between a poison, a medicine, and a narcotic may only be an adjustment in dosage or in preparation. Some plant substances taken in large doses can be fatal, where smaller doses may prove medicinal. An instance of this is Monkshood (*Aconitum*), which traditionally has been used to treat acute respiratory infections, throat infections, and as an anesthetic. It also is regarded as highly poisonous.

When reading about a traditional use of a plant, a reader may ask "*Does it work?*" The effectiveness of many of these herbal medicines has been supported, if not simply by the continued usage over hundreds of years, then by accounts by individuals, their families, or community. Even so, disagreements still exist over whether or not certain plants are as effective as once thought.

Many plants that have been used as medicine overlap as a source of food (please see the next section). Plants in the Rose Family (*Rosaceae*) produce apples (*Pyrus*), almonds, cherries, peaches, and pears (all *Prunus*), yet also produce toxic substances that have been used medicinally, which are found in the leaves, bark, and pits of the fruits of many species. Malu
Pyrus

Information on the traditional medicinal uses of plants has been provided in this book as a point of interest, or topic of further discussion or research. Due to the fragile status of many of the plants, we encourage you to enjoy viewing them **without picking or disturbing them in any way.**

Plants Used as Food

For hundreds of years, Native Americans have used plants to supplement their meals, while also adding a variety of flavor, essential nutrients, and minerals. The main meat of the meal was from fish, waterfowl, birds, deer, bear, foxes, raccoons, opossums, bison, panthers, and other game. It has been estimated that 60 percent of the food supply of southeastern Native Americans came from plant foods, and when game and fish weren't available, the stores of corn and various dried vegetables, meats, and fruits were consumed.

While a wide range of plants were harvested and used as food, cultivated corn, beans, and squash were the staple foods for many

Native Americans in our region. Bernard Romans, in A Concise Natural History of East and West Florida, published in 1775, noted that the Creeks prepared corn in at least forty-two different ways. The three varieties of corn were boiled, roasted, parched, baked, dried and ground into flour, used in bread, combined with water to make an unfermented drink, and eaten alone or in combination with other foods.

Other plants that were commonly used in meals include fruits, such as persimmons, strawberries, huckleberries, crab apples, and wild grapes; green vegetables, which were mostly shoots and leaves; root vegetables, such as from bulbs, tubers, rhizomes, and corms; seasonings and flavorings, collected from seeds and leaves; and salt, which was derived from boiling spring or sea water, or salt substitutes that were made from the ashes of herbs. Nutritious seeds, which are high in protein and fat, were an essential element of the Native American diet. Sunflower seeds were collected, as well as seeds from pond lilies and other plants. *salt lick*

In Virginia and the Carolinas and as far south as northern Georgia, the Cherokees made maple sugar and syrup by tapping sugar maple trees. These products were an important source of barter for goods that couldn't otherwise be obtained in the Cherokee region.

Today, some families in the South still prepare traditional plants for the table. For example, Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*) is harvested when the ~~young~~ shoots and leaves are ~~edible~~, *when they can be cooked like greens according to family tradition.* This is similar to the stories of Native Americans and their rich knowledge and understanding of plants. *young, and*

Plants Used as Fibers and Dyes

Native Americans long have used plants to weave baskets and mats, tightly woven into rope, as thread, fishing line, and for other practical uses. One of the more commonly used fiber plants is Common Cattail (*Typha latifolia*), with almost every part of the plant being useful, from woven containers, such as baskets for carrying water, to the fuzzy down used as stuffing for mattresses and making diapers, to the yellow pollen used as flour for eating! Other plants found in this book that were used for their fibrous materials are: Common Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), Indian Hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum*), Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*).

Some plants, such as Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) as indicated by its name, contain substances that make useful dyes. Dyes are most often obtained from the petals of the flower, but as in the case of Bloodroot, a dye is extracted from the rhizomes. Other plants that have been used by Native Americans as dyes are: Garden Coreopsis (*Coreopsis tinctoria*), Goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*), Gray-Headed Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), Hoary Puccoon (*Lithospermum canescens*), Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*), Prairie Larkspur (*Delphinium virescens*), and White Baneberry (*Actaea pachypoda*), among others.

2005 Nominations Announced

The Board of Directors places before the membership the following slate of nominees.

President: Karl Heinzman

Vice President: Dennis Horn

Secretary: Bart Jones

Treasurer: Kay Jones

Directors, first year of two-year term:

Bertha Chrietzberg, Susan Sweetser, Rita Venable

These nominations were presented to and approved by those members attending our annual meeting in September in Beersheba Springs. Please inform President Karl Heinzman if there are any objections to any nominee or additional nominations before 1/1/05. Unless additional nominations are received, the board will certify this slate as elected during the January 2005 board meeting.

Continuing directors (in the second year of a two-year term) are Todd Crabtree, Nita Heilman, and Mary Priestley. —Bart Jones

Annual Meeting Recap

Our annual meeting at Beersheba Springs Assembly in September was a wonderful success. We had 40 attendees who stayed at the assembly, plus several daytrippers and others who attended the evening meetings. We had two very interesting and informative speakers, Rita Venable and

Hill Craddock; enjoyed Saturday walks planned and led by Todd Crabtree; and ate well. We are working to offer more and varied accommodations next year. Please watch your spring newsletter for the time and place for next year's meeting.

—Jean Heinzman

Wildflower Book Update by Tavia Cathcart

While we still don't have a book in our hands, Dennis and I are making steady progress. The first 207 pages of the book have been reviewed and given to the layout department at Lone Pine Publishing. Many thanks to our hawk-eyed reviewers (in alphabetical order): Claude Bailey, Thomas Hemmerly, Bart Jones, Mary Priestley, Alan Sweetser, and UTK staff (Dwayne Estes, Ed Lickey, Ken McFarland, and Joey Shaw). Now, only 600 more pages to go!

Folks at Lone Pine are gearing up to launch our book, and it seems momentum is building. Helen Ibach, Sales Manager for Lone Pine, made a brief visit to Tennessee to meet with some local book distributors, such as Ingram Distributors. I was lucky to entice her to stay with me in Fernvale, and look forward to her return. After her meetings, she said that the distributors were excited about our book release, which she took as a very good sign.

There still is much to accomplish between now and next spring, but if all goes well, the wildflower enthusiasts

of Tennessee will have a new "friend" to join them on their wildflower walks next year.

Dues Increase to Take Effect in January

At the TNPS board meeting in September, the board voted to increase membership dues beginning January 2005. The new amounts:

Student/Senior - \$15

Individual - \$20

Institutional - \$50

Life - \$250

2005 dues and life memberships can be paid before January 1 at the current rate.

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