



TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 1

February 2003

President's Message

This spring begins the 25th year of the Tennessee Native Plant Society. This is a marvelous accomplishment, which has been possible only by the support of each of us. Regardless of the length of our memberships, we can look back with much joy at a special field trip, the first time we saw a particular plant, or heard an interesting speaker at the annual meeting. Our participation in TNPS has certainly given us wonderful memories and this year provides us with a chance to make many more.

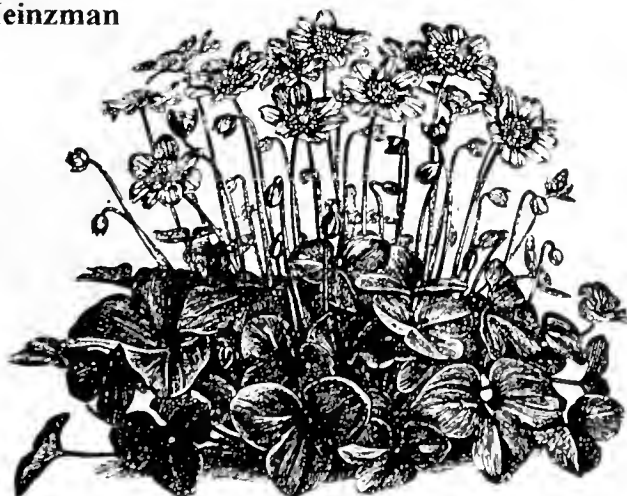
Our field trips continue to be a major part of who we are. This year will be no exception. The Field Trip Committee has designed an itinerary with great variety in seasonal plants and locations. I encourage you to review the 2003 Field Trip schedule and mark your calendars now.

We continue to move forward with the planned publication of a TNPS book on the wild flowers/flora of Tennessee. I hope to bring you more details in the next issue of this newspaper.

The Annual Meeting is in a beautiful new facility this year. More information is included in this newsletter.

I encourage you to walk and meet with us in our 25th year. The trails we travel and the plants we see are forever changing, and the friends we make are deep-rooted.

Karl Heinzman



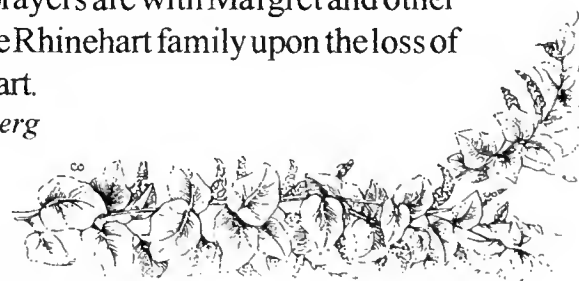
LIVER LEAF.
(HEPATICA TRILOBA.)

We Mourn the Passing

The death of Shelby Rhinehart on September 19 will be greatly felt by his fellow legislators, and friends, as well as family. He served in the legislature for over 30 years and was considered a "giant among legislators". He was always available when there were decisions to be made and projects to be implemented. He retired from the legislature early in 2002. Shelby Rhinehart had also served as a pharmacist in his hometown of Spencer in Van Buren County.

His wife, Margret Rhinehart, has served Spencer and Van Buren County as its only physician for 50 years. She recently retired from her medical career. Margret is well known to the Tennessee Native Plant Society as an excellent botanist and leader. She leads trips every year for TNPS and has found many rare and beautiful plants in Tennessee to share with our members. Our thoughts and prayers are with Margret and other members of the Rhinehart family upon the loss of Shelby Rhinehart.

Bertha Chrietzberg



Reserve these dates:

The TNPS 2003 Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 19-21. This year we will be congregating at the Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly near McMinnville. It is located on the bluff overlooking the 10,000-acre Savage Gulf Natural Area, which is part of Tennessee's largest wilderness state park. We have reserved rooms and meeting space in their lovely new lodge and all meals will be available on-site. Mark your calendar now and watch for details in the next newsletter.

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Dues for each calendar year are:

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

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

TNPS OFFICERS

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

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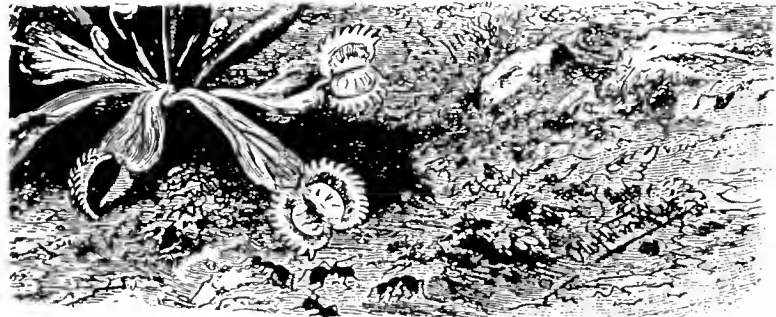
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Todd Crabtree - Middle Tennessee
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Al Good - East Tennessee
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They did it again!!!!

We thank our field trip committee for a wonderful schedule of trips. Al Good, Chairman, Bart Jones, Todd Crabtree, Bertha Chrietzburg, Mary Priestley and Jane Norris made countless phone calls, trips, emails to finalize the schedule. Thanks also to Christine Good who valiantly typed the schedule several times. This year's itinerary can take you to places you've never been in the quest for native plants. Get ready for the adventure!



Guide to Tennessee's Woody Plants

Eugene Wofford and Edward Chester, botanists at the University of Tennessee and Austin Peay University respectively, have just published *Guide to The Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Tennessee*. This is the first comprehensive field guide to the more than 400 native and naturalized species of woody plants found in the state. The authors provide clear identification keys and additional information on each species. Color photographs of pressed plant specimens illustrate diagnostic characteristics.

In the introductory information about the state, they outline its physiographic regions, survey the history of botanical research, and address questions of comparative diversity of plant groups within the state.

Appendices reveal interesting facts. They show, for instance, that the Cumberland Plateau is actually richer in woody plant diversity than the Smoky Mountains. This book, published by the University of Tennessee, is a superb resource for all interested in the flora of Tennessee.

Reprinted from a review by Mary Priestley in the Plant Press

Field Trip Report from 2002 The Copper Basin and Ocoee River Gorge, November 9

The promise of a beautiful outing along the Ocoee River led by distinguished and genial botanist Ed Clebsch brought out a group of 19 TNPS members and friends and two beloved canines (Nana Clebsch and Katie Sweetser). Ed had scoped the trip with co-organizer Allen Sweetser the weekend before and they equipped all participants with maps, descriptions, and plant lists covering the excursion. We knew we were in the hands of a teacher!

Ed reminded us that the Copper Basin has strong connections with the history of botany in Tennessee. Augustin Gattinger, the "Father of Tennessee Botany," practiced medicine here in the 19th century. Because of serious disagreements with his neighbors during the Civil War, he had to make a daring nighttime run for his life down through the Ocoee River Gorge. Gattinger survived and went on to write the first flora of the plants of the state, published in 1901.

We stopped at the Ducktown Museum and site of the Burra-burra Copper Mine to get another taste of the history of this place. Copperhill got its name from the mining that went on here from the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries. Because of sulfuric acid that was produced during the processing of the iron and copper ore, every sprig of vegetation over 25 to 30 square miles was killed. Since 1950 more than 17 million trees have been planted here, mostly pines. It has been a struggle, but the transformation of the site from a deeply gullied "lunar landscape" to a TNPS trip destination is a botanical success story.

Ed showed us several interesting plant communities, the first of which was a wetland that the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has purchased to preserve the unusual flora, including populations of creeping clubmoss (*Lycopodiella appressa*) and cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*). The stoloniferous cranberry "shrublets" stood about 6" high, many bearing their red fruit on long drooping pedicels. This species is listed as rare in the state. Ed pointed out, however, that no one knows if this particular population is native. Also seen growing under the planted pines and in clearings were trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*), purple milkwort (*Polygala sanguinea*), the colonial red chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), and wooly broomsage (*Andropogon glomeratus*).

We then stopped at another wetland to get a good look at Virginia cottongrass (*Eriophorum virginicum*). The silky white fruiting heads of this plant suggest chipmunk-sized toupees, each one displayed on a stick. Neither a grass nor a toupee, the cottongrass is actually a sedge. There were, however, plenty of bona fide wetland grasses to be found, including reed grass (*Calamagrostis cinnoidesa*), and sugarcane plume grass (*Erianthus giganteus*). Along the roadside, we saw nice clumps of climbing fern (*Lygodium palmatum*) whose tiny spore-laden fertile

leaves and larger sterile ones are oppositely arranged on a twining vine.

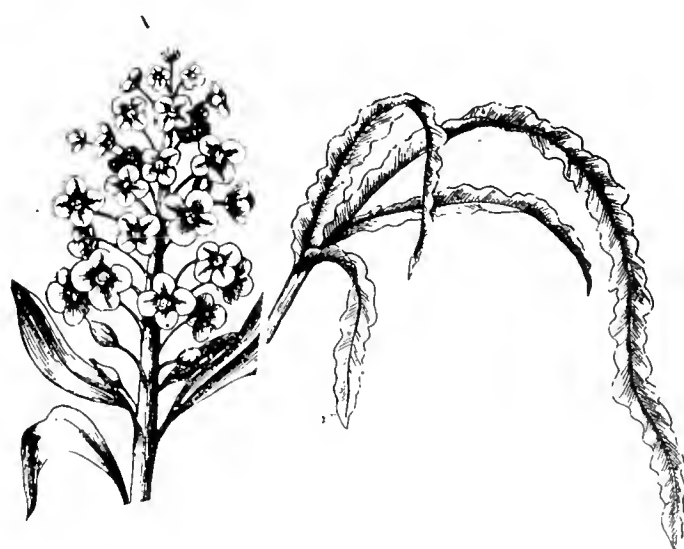
After lunch, the group headed down the gorge to the Ocoee Whitewater Center, site of the 1996 Olympics whitewater events. Just upstream from the visitor's center, we found horse sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), netted chain fern (*Woodwardia virginica*), and cowbane (*Oxypolis rigidior*). We discovered that the horse sugar, also called sweet leaf, does indeed have cider flavored leaves. This plant, which grows in the mountains and coastal plain of North Carolina, is rare in Tennessee.

The grounds of the visitor's center are landscaped with natives, and many are labeled. A virtual outdoor classroom, this is a great place to come to learn your plants! Among those that we saw were river oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*), purple and white forms of beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*), black and red chokeberries (*Aronia melancarpa* and *A. arbutifolia*), rusty blackhaw (*Viburnum rufidulum*), and hairy bush honeysuckle (*Diervilla rivularis*). This last, first discovered by Gattinger on Lookout Mountain, is a state listed rare plant.

We drove down through the gorge for our final stop at a downstream canoe takeout point. "This is botanizing the way I like to do it!" joked Ed as he pointed out three different vines climbing on adjacent tree trunks: poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*), and climbing hydrangea (*Decumaria barbara*). Lastly, we were treated to a comparison of the features of two maples: sugar (*Acer saccharum*) and chalk (*A. leucoderme*=*A. saccharum* var. *leucoderum*). The latter, rare in Tennessee, is at the edge of its range here. Once we learned chalk maple's characteristics, we were immediately stumped by a tree that exhibited some but not all of them. As we trembled in our hiking boots, our botanical mettle seriously threatened, Ed wisely surmised, "After 50 years in this business, I've concluded after much thought and study that plants are just illiterate – none of them can read the descriptions that we write for them." Whew! We were off the hook.

Thanks*go to Ed and Meredith Clebsch, Allen and Susan Sweetser, our trip coordinators for a wonderful time, fabulous wrap-up of a whole season of extraordinary outings. Let's do this again.

Mary Priestley



2003 TNPS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

March 1
Saturday

SKUNK CABBAGE IN JOHNSON COUNTY

This is the time to get out to see Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) in bloom. Easy walking

TIME 9:00 AM EST

PLACE Shoney's Restaurant at Roan St. exit 1-181 Johnson City

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

March 29
Saturday

BLUEBELL ISLAND AND SHAKERAG HOLLOW

This trip to two of the richest wildflower sites in the Sewanee area is co-sponsored with the South Cumberland Regional Land Trust and the Sewanee Herbarium. At Bluebell where we walk a log to get to the island, the Trust will string rope handrails. Expect to see a profusion of Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*), yellow and white Trout-lilies (*Erythronium americanum* and *E. albidum*), Allegheny-spurge (*Pachysandra procumbens*) Toothworts (*Dentaria* sp.), and possibly Least Trillium (*Trillium pusillum*). After lunch in Sewanee we will go to Shakerag Hollow where an abundance of spring wildflowers carpet an old-growth forest. Moderate walking here with a steep climb at the end.

TIME 11:00 AM CST

PLACE Tyson Food Plant parking lot
I-24 exit 117 US 64 west about 1 mile

LEADER Mary Priestly (931) 598-1997, (931) 598-0157

April 12
Saturday

EDGAR EVINS STATE PARK

This park on Center Hill Lake has abundant spring flowers. We will see Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), Squirrel Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*), Dutchman's- breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), Twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), False Rue-anemone (*Enemion biternatum*), Celandine Poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*) and many others. We will check out the new trail. Bertha is arranging a barge ride out to a field of Wild Hyacinth (*Camassia scilloides*). Easy walking.
Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT

PLACE Edgar Evins State Park Visitor Center
About 5 miles west of Silver Point (I-40 exit 273)

LEADERS Bertha Chrietzberg (615) 896-1146
Jane Norris (615) 665-2056



April 19
Saturday

GILES COUNTY CEDAR GLADE AND LIMESTONE KARST WOODS

We will visit one of the best remaining glades and karst woods in this outer Central Basin county. On a sloping glade we should see Price's Wood-sorrel, (*Oxalis priceae*), Eggleston's Violet (*Viola egglestonii*), and False Gromwell (*Onosmodium molle*). The woods are on a knoll with striking rock palisades and hallways. Flowers here are Trillium, Toothwort (*Dentaria* sp.), Fern-leaf Phacelia (*Phacelia bipinnatifida*), Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) and other woodland species. A wet meadow has Necklace Gladecress (*Leaven-worthia torulosa*), Water Stitchwort (*Stellaria fontinalis*) and Butler's Quillwort (*Isoetes butleri*).
Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT
PLACE Wal-Mart Supercenter adjacent to Murphy gas station on US 64 by-pass at Pulaski.
LEADER Dwayne Estes (931) 389-6942



April 21-26 **WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE AT GATLINBURG**

May 3 **RATTLESNAKE FALLS**
Saturday

Rattlesnake Falls is located on the Western Highland Rim in an area with steep ridges, deep ravines, and swift streams with waterfalls and seeps. Dwayne has inventoried more than 600 plant species in the Falls area. Expect to see Prairie Phlox (*Phlox pilosa* ssp. *ozarkana*), Lousewort (*Pedicularis canadensis*), Twisted Trillium (*T. stamineum*), Alabama Azalea (*Rhododendron alabamense*) and many others. Some steep climbing.
Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 CDT
PLACE Summertown. Texaco station at intersection of Tn 20 with US 43 between Columbia and Lawrenceburg.
LEADER Dwayne Estes (931) 389-6942



May 17
Saturday

HORSE MOUNTAIN

Alice Jensen has watched over the forest on Horse Mountain for many years and is now facing loss of a piece to TDOT. She wants us to see it before it is destroyed. There are trails through 70 acres of woodland with Kentucky Coffee-trees (*Gymnocladus dioica*), Blue Ash (*Fraxinus quadrangulata*) and unusually large Shumard Oaks (*Quercus shumardii*) and Sassafras (*S. albidum*). The mountain also has flowers, fossils, and a pioneer homestead. Alice will give us a tour of the orchid greenhouses where a personal plant collection has been described as a "captive jungle". Walking easy. Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT

PLACE HORSE MOUNTAIN ORCHIDS at 1371 Horse Mtn. Road. **From north** I-24 exit 81 to US 231 south to the first traffic light in Shelbyville. Turn left to go past another stop light and turn left on Horse Mtn. Road at the third stop sign. Go about 2 miles (passing a white church on the left) to Horse Mtn. Orchids.

From south take I-24 exit 117 left through AEDC and Tullahoma To US 41A. Follow US 41A to the second traffic light in Shelbyville (Union Planter's Bank). Turn right, go to Horse Mtn. road and turn right. Proceed to Horse Mtn. Orchids as above.

LEADER Alice Jensen (931) 684-7851

June 14
Saturday

BIG SWAN CREEK / SUMMERTOWN

Big Swan Creek is lined with a great diversity of plants including the state threatened Broadleaf Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia trinervia*). Also, we should see Michigan Lily beginning to flower and other early summer species. Moderate hike with creek crossings requiring shallow wading. Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT

PLACE THE FARM Welcome Center
From US 43 midway between Columbia and Lawrenceburg turn west on TN 20 through Summertown 3 to 4 miles, turn right on Drake Lane about 1 mile, turn right on Walker Lane ¼ mile to Welcome center.

LEADERS Cynthia Rohrbach (931) 964-2571
Bart Jones (901) 726-6891



June 21
Saturday

OBED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

The Obed River has many plants that are rare in Tennessee. We will visit the cobble bars at Lilly and Nemo bridges. Expect to see Appalachian Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia grandiflora*), Fetterbush (*Leucothoe racemosa*), Cumberland Rosemary (*Conradina verticillata*), Southern Jointweed (*Polygonella americana*), American Barberry (*Berberis canadensis*), Shortleaf Sneezeweed (*Helenium brevifolium*), Roundleaf Fameflower (*Talinum teretifolium*), Leatherleaf Meadowrue (*Thalictrum coriaceum*), Tennessee Pondweed (*Potamogeton tennesseensis*) and Virginia Spirea (*Spirea virginiana*). Walking easy. Wading optional. Bring lunch to eat at the picnic area.

TIME 10:00 AM EDT
PLACE Obed River Visitor Center. (Signs on US 27 North of Wartburg)
LEADER David Lincicome (615) 532-0439

June 28 & 29
Saturday
Sunday

WEEKEND IN UPPER EAST TENNESSEE

After our successful weekend in North Carolina last year, Ed Schell has agreed to show us rare and interesting plants on our side of the state line. We will explore Johnson Co. areas, Doe River Gorge, and Roan Mountain. Expect to see rare Bedstraws (*Galium* sp.), Sandworts (*Arenaria* sp.), Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and a host of others. We will see many fern species including the rare Crested Wood-fern (*Dryopteris cristata*). Mix of driving and hiking. Bring lunch.

TIME 9:00 AM EDT (both mornings)
PLACE Shoney's Restaurant, I-181 Roan St. exit Johnson City (both mornings)
LODGING Many accommodations in the Johnson City area.
LEADERS Ed Schell
Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627



August 16
Saturday

**PICKETT STATE PARK and COLDITZ COVE NATURAL
AREA**

Escape the summer heat at the waterfall and rockhouses. Rare or uncommon plants that we should see are Lucy Braun's White Snakeroot (*Ageratina luciae-brauniae*), Mountain Sandwort (*Arenaria cumberlandensis*), Rough Hawkweed (*Hieracium scabrum*), Southern Heartleaf (*Hexastylis contracta*), Roundleaf Catchfly (*Silene rotundifolia*), Mountain Meadowrue (*Thalictrum clavatum*) and various grasses and sedges. David will try to find the rare Filmy Fern (*Hymenophyllum tayloriae*) recently discovered at Colditz Cove. Easy to moderate walking.

Bring lunch.

TIME

9:00 AM CDT

PLACE

Pickett State Park Visitor Center
Take TN 154 NE from Jamestown

LEADER

David Lincicome (615) 532-0439



August 23
Saturday

BUTTERFLIES AND BOTANY AT SHELBY BOTTOMS

Shelby Bottoms is 810 acres of bottomland forest and fields adjacent to the Cumberland River. Rita Venable, editor of "Butterfly Gardener" will teach us about the relationship between butterflies and plants. We hope to be able to see many of the 53 species that frequent this park and identify their host or nectar plant. After lunch at the Farmer's Market we will tour the native plantings at the Bicentennial Mall which includes Alabama Snow Wreath (*Neviusa alabamensis*). Easy walking. Bring binoculars.

TIME

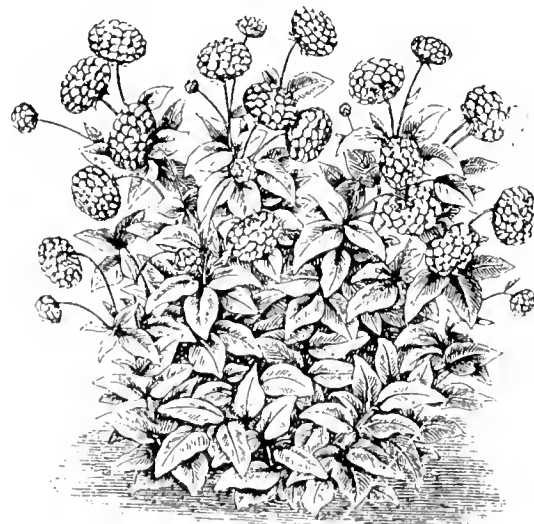
10:00 AM CDT

PLACE

Bicentennial Mall. (Beneath the railroad trestle at the gift shop)
I-65 / 265 exit 85 (8th Ave / Capitol / Bicentennial Mall) Go South on 8th Ave (US 41A) to Harrison St. and turn left. Visitor Parking along 7th and 6th.

LEADERS

Rita Venable
Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279



Sept. 14
Sunday

CAMPBELL COUNTY GOLDENRODS

Goldenrods are perhaps the most frustrating DYC genus to identify. We hope to be able to compare up to 14 species including *Solidago patula*, *S. rugosa*, *S. odora*, *S. roanensis* and *S. sphacelata*. Other composites such as Common Flat-topped Goldenrod (*Euthamia graminifolia*) should be seen as well. Moderate hike. Some uphill. Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM EDT

PLACE Shoney's at I-75 exit 134. (Caryville, Jacksboro, Lafollette)
About 30 miles north of Knoxville

LEADER Richard Helm (865) 426-4472

September
19 and 20

ANNUAL MEETING AT BEERSHEBA SPRINGS

Todd Crabtree will take us to a bog near Altamont and other site(s) to be announced later.

Sept. 27
Or
Oct. 4

ROYAL BLUE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Larry Pounds will show us some of the special plants discovered in his current inventories. He suggests that we bring 4-wheel drive vehicles if we have them. More details in the June newsletter.

Nov. 8
Saturday

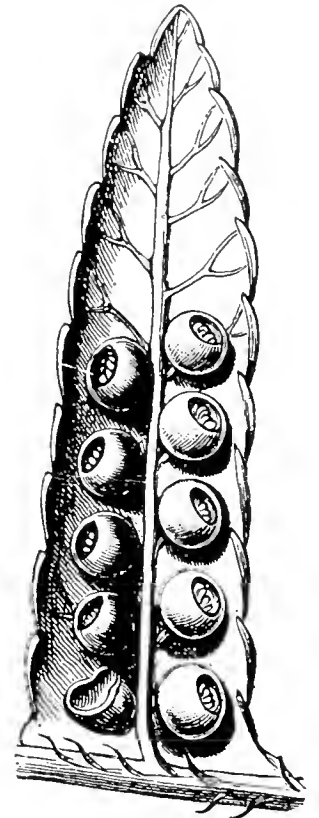
WINTER BOTANY ON THE HIWASSEE RIVER

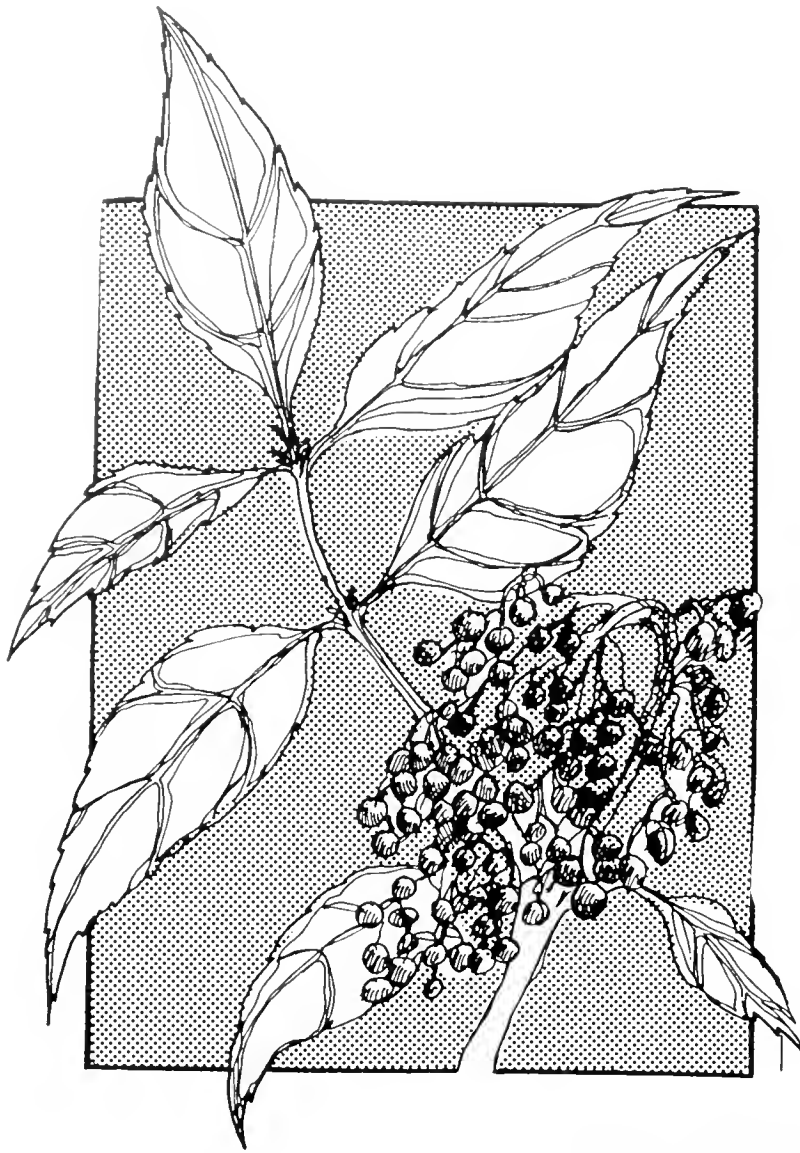
We will retrace the very successful first TNPS field trip led by Leo Collins on Sept. 9, 1978, Leo has tentatively agreed to return and be co-leader. We will stroll about four miles round trip seeing riverside and rich woods species. Some of these are Horsesugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and the Federally listed Ruth's Golden-aster (*Chrysopsis ruthii*). Bring lunch. Binoculars might be useful.

TIME 10:00 AM EST

PLACE Old store in Reliance at Tn 30 / Tn 315 intersection

LEADERS Ed Clebsch (865) 856-3350
Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627





**TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215





Celebrating 25 Years

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President's Message

I've never been sure that persistence pays off. What I do know is that many people in the organization have persisted and worked literally for years with the goal of developing and publishing a book of Tennessee's wildflowers. So, it greatly pleases me to announce that in this, our twenty-fifth year, TNPS has entered into a contract with Lone Pine Publishing to publish **our book**. This is a long awaited and momentous event. We will update you on the book's status at our annual meeting in September.

And, speaking of the annual meeting please read the article inside which outlines the events of the weekend and return your registration form promptly. Personally, I am excited that we will have the opportunity to meet and hear two most interesting speakers, John Cristoff, Park Manager of the South Cumberland Recreation Area, and Mack Pritchard, Tennessee State Naturalist.

We have enjoyed wonderful field trips the first half of the year, and hope that you will join us on those remaining. Check the schedule in this newsletter for the remaining list of trips.

I look forward to seeing you on the trail!

Karl Heinzman



PAUL SOMERS

On a late autumn field trip to Roan Mountain, TNPS members Grace Foster and Murray Evans relax and enjoy the beauty.

A look back - twenty-five years ago.

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Edgar Evins State Park – April 12, 2003

The day was perfect with cool temperatures, sun and lots of fellow plant enthusiasts. The trip was open to TNPS as well as the TN Trails Assoc. with advertising by the state park. Almost 50 people arrived for the two mile hillside wildflower hike. Bob Brown, a member of both organizations, arrived to lead the hike for the park. Jane Norris and I lead the TNPS and TTA groups. We divided the groups and gave one a head start. It was a very rich hillside, and a perfect flowering time. Near the top of the steep hill, early flowers were still in bloom. In addition to many kinds of ferns, we saw 5 species of Trillium (*Trillium flexipes*, *T. sulcatum*, *T. recurvatum*, *T. laucifolium*, *T. stamineum*). We saw both Squirrel Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*) and Dutchman's Britches (*Dicentra cucullaria*). There was Liverwort (*Hepatica acutiloba*), Yellow Mandarin (*Disporum lanuginosum*), Sweet Cicily (*Osmorhiza claytonii*), and Celandine Poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*). We even found Goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*). It was a long steep hill to climb back up and I felt for Bob who was to lead another hike there at one o'clock.

After we had our lunch, Wayne Morrison, a park ranger, took over as leader of the trip. The plan was for all of us to board the Party Barge, and visit a distant hillside that was filled with Wild Hyacinths (*Camassia scilloides*). The crowd had dwindled some but there were about thirty of us left. Wayne put chairs on the barge and even found enough life jackets for us. With the help of some park volunteers with motorboats to accommodate us all, we took off on the lake. On the way, we passed a Heron rookery with about 8-10 large blue herons nesting. The hillside was really special after we docked and climbed through a cane break. The top was in full bloom with Dwarf Larkspur (*Delphinium tricorne*) and then we saw a breathtaking vision. The Wild Hyacinth covered the hillside all down to the water – about an acre of plants. There were so many that we couldn't avoid stepping on them. Unfortunately, most were only in bud but we did find a few that had opened. We all wished we could return in about 10 days but it was certainly a thrill to see such a profusion of plants. It was a rewarding day of wildflowers.

Bertha Chrietzburg



Photo by Bart Jones

Wild Hyacinth – Edgar Evins State Park

Bloodroot Studied for Commercial Potential

Athens Georgia, May 20, 2003 (ENS) – Scientists believe the antimicrobial properties of bloodroot make it worthwhile to research how to propagate the native Eastern wildflower as a commercial crop. Researchers at the University of Georgia say the commercial opportunities for bloodroot are growing, with some European companies already using it in animal feed to improve appetite and digestion. “Bloodroot is not terribly hard to grow, but it has not been produced on a commercial scale,” said Jim Affolter, a horticulturist, who is leading studies in the University of Georgia College (UGA) of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. “It is not rare, but it is not common, either,” he said. “Natural populations could easily be decimated if industry production sent people out to scour the forests the way the ginseng market has done.” The plant is rich in alkaloids that have antibiotic properties, Affolter explained, in particular sanguinarine. Some European companies have used sanguinarine as a feed additive for livestock; in the same way antibiotics have been used as growth promoters for US livestock. As more and more companies look for alternatives to antibiotics, Affolter sees the potential for “an enormous market.”

To grow bloodroot for its sanguinarine, UGA researchers are focusing on three unknowns. They are searching for where and when during the plant’s cycle, sanguinarine concentrations are highest. Second, the researchers want to know how bloodroot, which flowers in woodland areas in early spring, responds to differing light cycles. Third, says UGA horticulture researcher, Selima Campbell, the researchers need to figure out how to grow the plant for commercial cultivation. “Right now, bloodroot is wild-gathered,” Campbell said. “It is a slow growing plant; so gathering it by the ton would definitely stress natural populations. It is crucial to develop a way to propagate the plants.”

Jonathan P. Evans

Trip Report – March 1, 2003

Chuck Wilson, Allen and Susan Sweetser met at Shinnies in Johnson City anxiously awaiting our intrepid leader, Ed Schell. Alas, Ed was unable to come and the valiant threesome went out on their own to hunt the noxious smelling plant – Skunk Cabbage. With the great directional skills and memory of Susan, the group was able to find the plant site. Many plants were in full bloom and thriving amongst the cow droppings. The group went to look for additional plants at a site nearby. Nothing new was found there. The group found a great lunch spot in Mountain City and decided to go back after lunch for better lighting for pictures. After many photos, the group went into Shady Valley to visit the new Nature Conservancy site and another site for the native cranberries. On the road out of Shady Valley, Chuck had a fit and had to stop. He had spotted the Appalachian Trail and was insistent that we stop and hike. This is apparently an addiction for him to stop and hike a little of the trail whenever he sees it. We didn’t have the heart to tell him that he would probably never get to Maine this way!!.

We had a great day but still missed our mentor, Ed Schell. Plant list: Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*). There was nothing else blooming at this time of year.

Susan Sweetser



Price's Wood Sorrel – Giles County

The 25th Anniversary Annual Meeting

The TNPS Annual Meeting will be held September 19-21 at the Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly in Grundy County approximately 25 miles south of McMinnville. This site has a history of settlement since the 1830's, had a resort hotel which opened in 1857, and has been owned and operated as a retreat center by the Tennessee Methodist Conference since 1941. A handsome, modern lodge was opened last December and we have been fortunate to reserve one side of it for our group. Our portion of the lodge has 12 rooms on 3 levels with varying sleeping accommodations, a private bath for each room, central heat and air conditioning, a fully equipped kitchen, and a large common room for meetings. All meals are available in the dining hall by reservation whether or not you stay in the lodge.

Beersheba Springs is located near the Great Stone Door and the Savage Gulf State Natural Area, a part of the South Cumberland State Recreation Area. There is beautiful mountain scenery surrounding the Collins River Valley and nearby cliffs offer some of the best scenic overlooks in the state. Saturday walks, planned by the Field Trip Committee, are being designed to take advantage of the area and the season.

We plan to start our gathering with dinner in the dining hall at 6:00 on Friday the 19th. This will be followed by a program in the lodge meeting room by John Christof, Park Manager of the South Cumberland State Recreation Area. Breakfast will be at 7:30 on Saturday followed by walks. We will have available prepared sack lunches to take with us. After dinner at 6:00, we will have a program by Mack Pritchard, State Naturalist, and our Annual Meeting. Members are encouraged to bring slides of their "finds" to share each evening after the programs. Breakfast at 7:30 on Sunday will be followed by a board meeting which is open to any interested member. Others may wish to continue to explore the area on their own.

We can start now accepting reservations for rooms and meals in the dining hall. Members can bring food and prepare it in the lodge kitchen. Meals can also be reserved by those who are not staying in the lodge. While we will try to honor reservations in the order in which they are received, due to limited space and our financial commitment to the Assembly, we may need to give preference to those who will have 2 or more sharing a room. All rooms have 2 beds and will accommodate 2 adults or a couple with a child. Reservations are for 2 nights. Please do not plan to bring pets, firearms, or alcoholic beverages.

To register, please complete the form and send it to:

Jean Heinzman
PO Box 1282
Norris, Tn 37828

If there are questions, contact Jean at heinzman@bellsouth.net or (865) 494-8100. Please do not despair if I am not available or do not return your call immediately. I am occasionally out of town and will contact you as soon as possible.

All reservations for rooms and/or meals can be made through TNPS only and should be accompanied by a check payable to TNPS. Your check will be held and deposited no earlier than August 15. We can continue to take reservations for meals through September 12. The form might seem detailed, but 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 immediately with a list of other accommodations in the area and you will be notified if there are cancellations.

2003 Field Trips

June 14
Saturday

BIG SWAN CREEK / SUMMERTOWN

Big Swan Creek is lined with a great diversity of plants including the state threatened Broadleaf Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia trinervia*). Also, we should see Michigan Lily beginning to flower and other early summer species. Moderate hike with creek crossings requiring shallow wading. Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT

PLACE THE FARM Welcome Center

From US 43 midway between Columbia and Lawrenceburg turn west on TN 20 through Summertown 3 to 4 miles, turn right on Drake Lane about 1 mile, turn right on Walker Lane ¼ mile to Welcome center.

LEADERS Cynthia Rohrbach (931) 964-2571

Bart Jones (901) 726-6891

June 21
Saturday

OBED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

The Obed River has many plants that are rare in Tennessee. We will visit the cobble bars at Lilly and Nemo bridges. Expect to see Appalachian Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia grandiflora*), Fetterbush (*Leucothoe racemosa*), Cumberland Rosemary (*Conradina verticillata*), Southern Jointweed (*Polygonella americana*), American Barberry (*Berberis canadensis*), Shortleaf Sneezeweed (*Helenium brevifolium*), Roundleaf Farnellower (*Talinum teretifolium*), Leatherleaf Meadowrue (*Thalictrum coriaceum*), Tennessee Pondweed (*Potamogeton tennesseensis*) and Virginia Spirea (*Spirea virginiana*). Walking easy. Wading optional. Bring lunch to eat at the picnic area.

TIME 10:00 AM EDT

PLACE Obed River Visitor Center. (Signs on US 27 North of Wartburg)

LEADER David Lincicome (615) 532-0439

June 28 & 29
Saturday
Sunday

WEEKEND IN UPPER EAST TENNESSEE

After our successful weekend in North Carolina last year, Ed Schell has agreed to show us rare and interesting plants on our side of the state line. We will explore Johnson Co. areas, Doe River Gorge, and Roan Mountain. Expect to see rare Bedstraws (*Galium* sp.), Sandworts (*Arenaria* sp.), Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*) and a host of others. We will see many fern species including the rare Crested Wood-fern (*Dryopteris cristata*). Mix of driving and hiking. Bring lunch.

TIME 9:00 AM EDT (both mornings)

PLACE Shoney's Restaurant, I-181 Roan St. exit Johnson City (both mornings)

LODGING Many accommodations in the Johnson City area.

LEADERS Ed Schell

Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627

August 16
Saturday

PICKETT STATE PARK and COLDITZ COVE NATURAL AREA

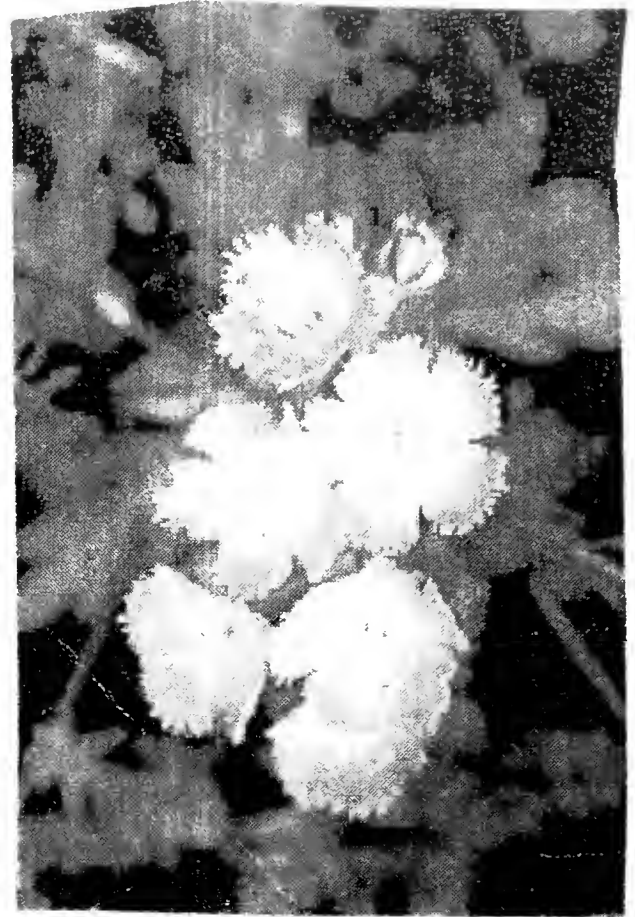
Escape the summer heat at the waterfall and rockhouses. Rare or uncommon plants that we should see are Lucy Braun's White Snakeroot (*Ageratina luciae-brauniae*), Mountain Sandwort (*Arenaria cumberlandensis*), Rough Hawkweed (*Hieracium scabrum*), Southern Heartleaf (*Hexastylis contracta*), Roundleaf Catchfly (*Silene rotundifolia*), Mountain Meadowrue (*Thalictrum clavatum*) and various grasses and sedges. David will try to find the rare Filmy Fern (*Hymenophyllum tayloriae*) recently discovered at Colditz Cove. Easy to moderate walking. Bring lunch.

TIME 9:00 AM CDT

PLACE Pickett State Park Visitor Center

Take TN 154 NF from Jamestown

LEADER David Lincicome (615) 532-0439



Photos by Bart Jones



New species of *Gratiola* – Giles County

August 23
Saturday

BUTTERFLIES AND BOTANY AT SHELBY BOTTOMS

Shelby Bottoms is 810 acres of bottomland forest and fields adjacent to the Cumberland River. Rita Venable, editor of "Butterfly Gardener" will teach us about the relationship between butterflies and plants. We hope to be able to see many of the 53 species that frequent this park and identify their host or nectar plant. After lunch at the Farmer's Market we will tour the native plantings at the Bicentennial Mall which includes Alabama Snow Wreath (*Neviusa alabamensis*). Easy walking. Bring binoculars.

TIME 10:00 AM CDT
PLACE Bicentennial Mall. (Beneath the railroad trestle at the gift shop) I-65 / 265 exit 85 (8th Ave / Capitol / Bicentennial Mall) Go South on 8th Ave (US 41A) to Harrison St. and turn left. Visitor Parking along 7th and 6th.
LEADERS Rita Venable
Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279

Sept. 14
Sunday
CAMPBELL COUNTY GOLDENRODS

Goldenrods are perhaps the most frustrating NYC genus to identify. We hope to be able to compare up to 14 species including *Solidago patula*, *S. rugosa*, *S. odora*, *S. roanensis* and *S. sphacelata*. Other composites such as Common Flat-topped Goldenrod (*Euthamia graminifolia*) should be seen as well. Moderate hike. Some uphill. Bring lunch.

TIME 10:00 AM EDT
PLACE Shoney's at I-75 exit 134. (Caryville, Jacksboro, LaFollette) About 30 miles north of Knoxville

LEADER Richard Helm (865) 426-4472
ANNUAL MEETING AT BEERSHEBA SPRINGS
Todd Crabtree will take us to a bog near Altamont and other site(s) to be announced later.

Sept. 27
Or
Oct. 4
ROYAL BLUE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Larry Pounds will show us some of the special plants discovered in his current inventories. He suggests that we bring 4-wheel drive vehicles if we have them. More details in the September newsletter.

Nov. 8
Saturday

WINTER BOTANY ON THE HIWASSEE RIVER

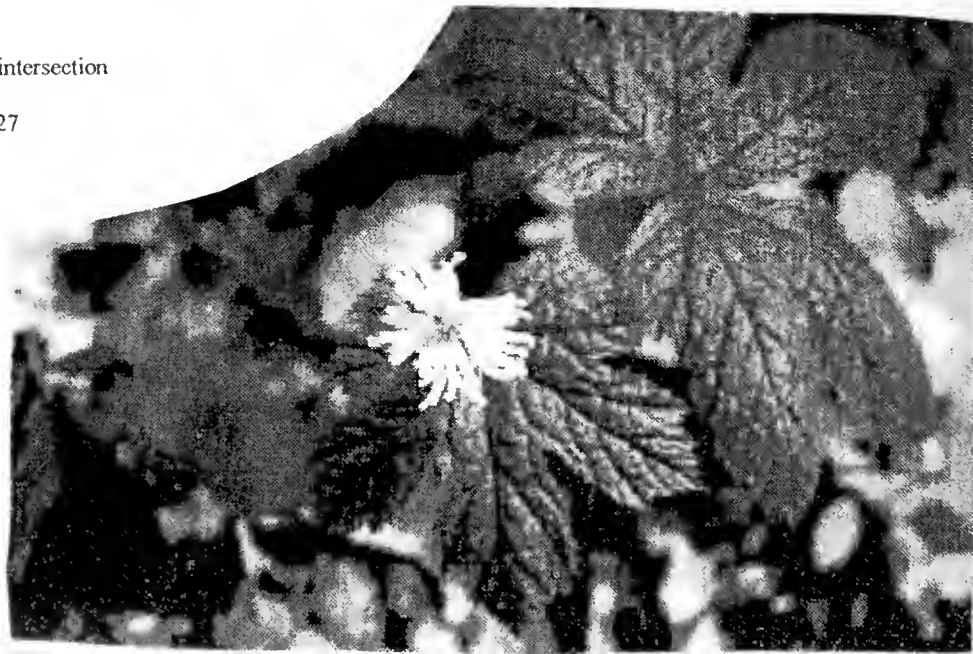
We will retrace the very successful first TNPS field trip led by Leo Collins on Sept. 9, 1978. Leo has tentatively agreed to return and be co-leader. We will stroll about four miles round trip seeing riverside and rich woods species. Some of these are Horsesugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) and the Federally listed Ruth's Golden-aster (*Chrysopsis ruthii*). Bring lunch. Binoculars might be useful.

TIME 10:00 AM EST
PLACE Old store in Reliance at Tn 30 / Tn 315 intersection
LEADERS Ed Clebsch (865) 856-3350
Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627

Rattlesnake Falls



Photographs by Bart Jones



The Tennessee Native Plant Society: Guardians of the state's native flora

The Tennessee Native Plant Society (TNPS) is a statewide organization founded in 1978. From its beginnings, TNPS has included persons with diverse backgrounds –botany professors, natural history buffs, gardeners, students, and anyone else interested in native plants. The basic goals are fourfold: to serve as a medium of information exchange and fellowship among persons curious about Tennessee flora; to educate the public about wild plants; to provide, through publication, a formal means of documenting information on Tennessee's plants; and to promote the protection and enhancement of Tennessee's wild plant communities.

Thomas Patrick, a founding member of TNPS, wrote this twenty-five years ago and published in the *Tennessee Conservationist* magazine. It could have been written today as the society celebrates the anniversary of its founding 25 years ago. The book project is finally on its way to publication; field trips continue through the spring, summer and fall; and members are still the best resource for locating Tennessee's wild plant communities throughout the state. Twenty-five years ago, a group of people were concerned and interested enough in native plants to form a society for education and protection. We thank them as we continue to carry out the founding goals of the society.



VERNON BATES

Ready to go anywhere in pursuit of interesting plants, TNPS members gather behind a trusty vehicle.



**TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215



ALWAYS
USE

ZIP CODE





Celebrating 25 Years

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 3

August 2003

President's Message

It pleases me to let you know that to date this year's field trips have been well attended. Of course, much of the success can be attributed to the field trip committee, Chairman, Al Good, Bertha Chrietzberg, Todd Crabtree, Bart Jones, Jane Norris, Mary Priestley, Allen Sweetser and Susan Sweetser for arranging such interesting and diverse walks. When you see them on the trail, let them know that you appreciate their effort.

Speaking of good work, the book committee is very busy as our book comes closer to publication. We have found it very easy to work with our partners at Lone Pine Press. We will hear more at the annual meeting about what it will cover and when we might see the finished product.

Thanks so much for the positive response to the annual meeting at Beersheba Springs on September 19 and 20. We have three walks planned for Saturday. There will be a morning walk and a selection from two walks in the afternoon.

We are fortunate to be meeting in that area of the state this year. In addition to this being the 25th anniversary of TNPS, this is the 30th anniversary of the designation of Savage Gulf as a State Natural Area. Mack Pritchard, the speaker for the Saturday evening program will discuss the history of this acquisition.

Thanks to each of you for supporting TNPS!

See you on the trail.

There are 4 more field trips in 2003!

Sunday, Sept. 14 - **Campbell County Goldenrods**
Meet at 10:00 a.m. eastern time at the Shoney's off I-75, exit 134 about 30 miles north of Knoxville. Call Richard Helms at (865)426-4472 for more information.

Sept. 19, 20 - **Annual meeting in Beersheba Springs**

Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area field trip. The trip is scheduled for Saturday, September 27 at 10:00 EDT. We will meet at Shoney's on I-75, Exit #134 (Caryville/Lafollette exit). This exit is north of Knoxville on I-75 about 30 miles. The leaders will be Larry Pounds and Allen and Susan Sweetser. Call them at 865-938-7627 for more information or to let them know you are coming.

Larry's inventories have revealed exciting plants and habitats. We will visit high elevation sites, wetland sites (wet feet), and mid-elevation flat areas. We will walk a short portion of the new Cumberland Trail. Bring lunch, water and bug spray.

Saturday, Nov. 8 - **Winter Botany on the Hiwassee River**. Meet at 10:00 a.m. eastern time at the Old store in Reliance at TN 30/TN 315 intersection. Call Ed Clebsch (865)865-3350 or Allen Sweetser (865)938-7627 for more information.

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2003
VOLUME 27, Number 3

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

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

Dues for each calendar year are:

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

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

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Dennis Horn, Vice-President
Bart Jones - Corresponding Secretary
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Todd Crabtree - Middle Tennessee
Mary Priestley - East Tennessee
Al Good - East Tennessee
Susan Sweetser - East Tennessee
Bart Jones - West Tennessee

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1763 Needmore Rd.
Old Hickory TN 37138
Susanstahl@juno.com
615/758-9111

Big Swan Creek/ Summertown

Threatening skies didn't put a damper on a good number of people that met at the Farm in Summertown for a hike co-hosted by the Swan Conservation Trust. After a brief introduction by Cynthia Rohrbach from the Swan Trust, we headed down the trail to Cox Branch, a tributary of Big Swan Creek. On our trek down to the creek, we encountered several interesting plants including Spotted Wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*), Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*), and Hairy Skullcap (*Scutellaria elliptica*). Along the stream banks were small patches of our highlighted species Three-nerved Barbara's Buttons (*Marshallia trinervia*). This state listed composite sports and inflorescence of only disk flowers of the lightest lavender-pink. Other species seen in flower along the creek were Wood Mint (*Blephilia ciliata*), Honewort (*Cryptotaenia Canadensis*), and two species of Loosestrife (*Lysimachia lanceolata* and *L. tonsa*).

After lunch, we visited a prairie barren just beginning its summer burst of bloom. Of course there were lots of Black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia hirta*), but what seemed to be grabbing the limelight were the Sundrops (*Oenothera fruticosa*). The bright yellow 4 petaled flowers beamed through the grasses. Several surprises were also hidden there for our discovery, Ragged Fringed Orchis (*Platanthera lacera*), Indian Physic (*Porteranthus stipulatus*), Whorled Coreopsis (*coreopsis major*), and Rose Pink (*Sabatia angularis*). We were also surprised at the number of Ashy Sunflower (*Helianthus mollis*) in bud. If only we could come back in a month, it would surely be a spectacular sight.

Bart Jones



Platanthera lacera

Marshallia trinervia



Shelby Bottoms Greenway and
Bicentennial Mall – August 16, 2003

I would like to first thank all field trip participants for braving the temperatures and humidity! Fortunately, everything was a bit cooler after storms the previous night in Middle Tennessee.

A. Few Butterfly/Plant definitions:

Host Plants – Where the female butterflies lay their eggs. The females may look for a certain species such as the Zebra Swallowtail in our area searches for pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*). Other butterflies such as the Monarch, search for a particular genus, like Milkweeds (*Asclepias* sp.). Some butterflies, such as the Gray Hairstreak have a huge variety of plants they will use, and as such, are considered generalists.

Nectaring Plants – Plants that butterflies are attracted to for feeding. Most butterflies are not that particular about which plant species they use for nectaring. The flowers they choose may depend on availability of other species, time of day and whether or not it is near their preferred host plants.

At Shelby Bottoms along the Greenway, we saw 18 species of butterflies, which is good for a couple of hours. There were several highlights along the way both botanically and lepidoptera-wise. Tick trefoil (*Desmodium* sp.) was blooming, which is the host plant for the Hoary Edge Skipper (an uncommon, but not rare sighting); beautiful pink swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) was also in bloom and is one of the host plants for the Monarch. It's also a good nectaring plant for other species. There was willow (*Salix* sp.) along the pond which attracts the Viceroy; various clovers (*Trifolium* sp.) for the Eastern Tailed-Blue and various grasses for the Sachem Skipper. Of particular interest was the

woolly pipevine (*Aristolochia tomentosa*) in fruit. Pipevine is the host plant for the Pipevine Swallowtail, which is distasteful and poisonous to predators, usually birds, and mimicked by five other species of butterflies in the Middle Tennessee area. We also found pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) in fruit at the Bicentennial Mall and tasted it. (It tasted sweet and buttery to me.) I think the group's favorite species was Lurchus at the Mallus.

Butterflies we saw:

1. Monarch
2. Viceroy
3. Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (yellow and black forms)
4. Pipevine Swallowtail
5. Black Swallowtail
6. Spicebush Swallowtail
7. Cabbage White
8. Orange Sulphur
9. Eastern Tailed-Blue
10. Pearl Crescent
11. Common Buckeye
12. Hackberry Emperor
13. Tawny Emperor
14. Red-spotted Purple
15. American Snout
16. Silver-spotted Skipper
17. Hoary Edge Skipper
18. Little Glassywing (Bicentennial Mall)
19. Sachem Skipper

I learned useful facts as always. I had not made the *Desmodium* – Hoary Edge Skipper connection before and was glad to see what the plant looked like. I had seen the pipevine in flower, but not in fruit, so that was interesting too. If you are interested in learning more about butterflies or joining the North American Butterfly Association, contact us at NABA, 4 Delaware Road, Morristown, NJ 07960; (973)285-0936; www.naba.org.

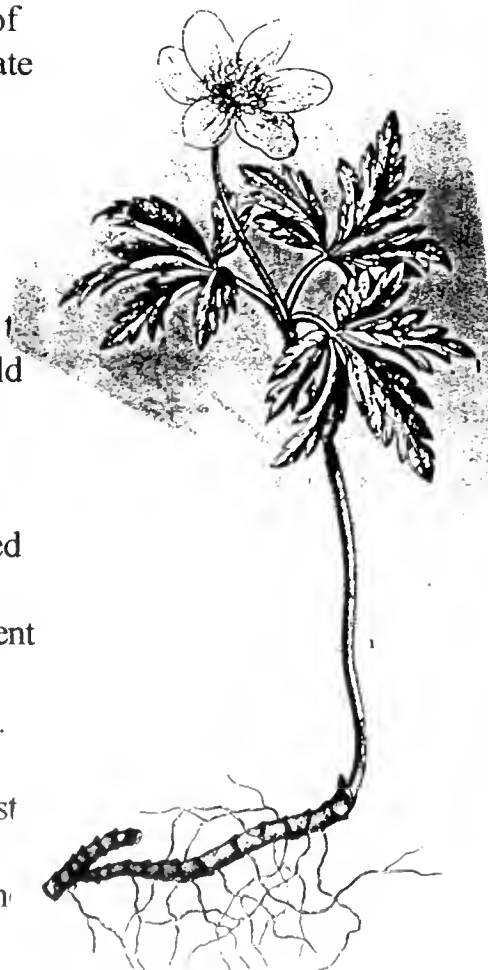
Rita Venable

(continued on page 4)

A note from Todd Crabtree:

The Shelby Bottoms greenway is a haven for plants and animals in the middle of Tennessee's second most populous city. It has a mixture of habitats. Bottomland hardwood forest and old fields are the dominant types. A few small ponds and other wetlands are scattered within the park. I even found a limestone bedded stream that was running clear and cold in the middle of August. Many native plants are thriving in the park. The luxuriant growth and pendulous fruit of the woolly pipevine seem more appropriate to a tropical rain forest. There are some areas of the park where its growth is so robust it makes our middle Tennessee forest look like a jungle. A couple of plants we saw have unfortunate common names for such attractive plants. Ditch stonecrop (*Penthorum sedoides*) and swamp milkweed are both wetland plants that are more pleasant to look at than their names would suggest. The milkweed was particularly striking. Many bumblebees, honeybees, and butterflies were also enamored of the milkweed. The Bicentennial Mall is an excellent place to see mature native plants in a landscaped setting. The plantings include a succession of plants from west Tennessee to the mountain plants of the eastern part of th

state. It shows every visitor the wide variety of native plants that are easy to care for and attractive. The most floriferous plant during our visit was the obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*). We all learned the correct way to make the plant obedient by arranging its flowers. Someone thought so much of the mall that they chose to have their wedding there ... in August ... fully clothed in the usual wedding regalia. We were impromptu guests. That was a little odd. Another odd occurrence was the swift disappearance of a large slab of chocolate cheesecake during lunch. My barbecue sandwich met a similar fate.



Alice Jensen invites us all:

The north Alabama wildflower society out of Huntsville is scheduled to come to my place for a fall wildflower tour on October 11, 2003. I will conduct the tour similar to the one on May 17 and would like to invite TNPS members to join in. We shall meet at 10:00 am. Please email if you are interested in more information at alicejen@bellsouth.net.



The Georgia Native Plant Society is hosting two native plant events. Tuesday, September 9, 2003 at 7:30pm, Charles Seabrook, nature columnist at the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* is speaking at the Atlanta Botanical Garden on "Wild Georgia". On Saturday, October 11, the 9th annual native plant symposium is taking place at Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville, GA. For registration information, call 770-343-6000 or check at their website www.gnps.org.

Annual Meeting Update

There has been excellent response for reservations to our meeting at the Beersheba Springs Methodist Assembly on Sept. 19-21. We have sold out in the lodge and have overflowed into the old hotel building. If you haven't made your reservations yet but still want to attend, there is a B&B adjacent to the Assembly where rooms may be available. Contact LeTease' King at (931)692-3006 for availability and reservations.

We will start with dinner in the Dining Hall at 6pm on Friday the 19th, followed at 7:30 with a program by John Christof, Park Manager of the South Cumberland State Recreational Area, in the East Lodge meeting room. John will discuss "Challenges and Opportunities at South Cumberland State Parks" and show slides. The Annual Meeting will be after dinner on Saturday the 20th at 7:30 in the East Lodge meeting room. There will be a business meeting and a program by Mack Pritchard, State Naturalist, who plans to talk about "The History of the Protection of Savage Gulf." Mack's talk will be illustrated with beautiful slides of the area.

If you are attending the walks or meetings and want to have any meals with us, please return the following form with a check by Wednesday, September 10. They need an exact count in advance for each meal. Reports on the food are positive—meals are served in the dining hall from a cafeteria line and the variety, quantity, and value seem good. Remember that you can use the kitchen in the lodge if you wish to bring some of your own food.

Meals:

Friday dinner	_____	x 6.00 =	_____
Saturday breakfast	_____	x 5.50 =	_____
Saturday sack lunch	_____	x 5.50 =	_____
Saturday dinner	_____	x 5.50 =	_____
Sunday breakfast	_____	x 5.50 =	_____

Total (check enclosed for)

\$ _____

Name:

Address:

Tel. No.

e-mail

Return this information by Wednesday, September 10 to:

Jean Heinzman
 PO Box 1282
 Norris, TN 37828

Questions? Contact Jean at (865)494-8100 or heinzman@bellsouth.net

Horse Mountain near Shelbyville, TN May 17, 2003

At 10 a.m. at least 27 persons gathered at the property of Alice Jensen (the top of Horse Mountain at 1,197 ft. is the highest point in Bedford County). The goal is to preserve and enrich the Tennessee vegetative growth on this 70-acre part of Horse Mountain, including the tip, with some primeval forest. Parts of the land had been formed between approximately 1813 and 50 years ago and nearly all of it is forest now. Geographically it is in the central basin with limestone rock and many fossils. The diversity of trees is astounding. The abundance of Eastern Red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) led to its use as wood for pencils, establishing the bulk of the pencil industry in and around Shelbyville, TN. Several species of *Quercus*, *Carya ovata* and many other trees are dominant toward the top the Horse Mountain.

Alice Jensen guided the group on tractor width trails through some woods to the TVA power line row. This is 100 ft. wide meadow with naturally occurring, sun-loving plants such as *Spigelia marilandica*, *Ruellia caroliniensis*, *Tragopogon pratensis*, *Dianthus armeria*, *Matelea carolinensis* (its clusters of brownish-red blossoms sparkling in the axles of a pair of heart-shaped leaves). Some sections of the TVA row have been seeded with wildflowers and grasses, mostly fall bloomers. At the present time, *Penstemon digitalis* stands tall and "glowing" white while *Sedum pulchellum* is "starring" pink on flat limestone. A tree of interest is the Kentucky Coffee Tree (*Gymnocladus dioica*).

On into the woods are a Cedar Glade and *Sassafras albidum* woods with strong *Cornus florida* trees. Resurrection fern (*Polypodium vulgare*) is climbing up on the cedar trees. Numerous stately *Quercus shumardii* demand their space. On the way to something special, we see *Euonymus americanus* in bloom, *Desmodium rotundifolium* with reddish foliage, *Botrychium virginianum* standing proudly erect, and *Chimaphila maculata* looking sinister growing on the limestone. *Opuntia humifusa* has too limited sunshine to bloom at this location. Animals have disturbed some of the gray

Reindeer moss and other green mosses. We are almost there! Everyone please look at the wild goose egg. Twayblade Orchid (*Liparis lilifolia*) shows 14 blooms on one stalk. Easiest found by the foliage, the largest part of this Orchid bloom is the pinkish translucent lip, about the size of the nail of your little finger. The threadlike sepals and petals of the bloom need close observation. Continuing on the trail near the huge *Acer saccharum* is Solomon Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*). A few steps from there are excellent specimens of Adders Tongue (*Ophioglossum vulgatum* L.). This fern is so primitive that it is the first plant listed in the Britton & Brown book.

Walking back into the row meadow, distant thunder and a few raindrops are followed by a deluge. After huddling under trees (only half of the people had raingear) and next to *Viburnum rufidulum*, the shortest way to a roof had to be taken. We scampered through a small but dense thicket into the field of mature *Liriodendron tulipifera*. We continued to solid housing for towel drying and lunch on the front porch of the renovated 1820 log house. The old homestead was also being viewed.

After lunch, we viewed the greenhouses full of Orchids as hybrids, but mostly species of Orchids that would be native to other climates. A number of them having their blooming season on May 17th show the diversity of the *Orchidaceae* as the largest family in the plant system.

Many more plants can be seen on Horse Mountain at this and other seasons. There is a wealth of over 40 tree species. We had started the viewing with the 6 to 8 cm high *Sagina decumbens caryophyllaceae*. It is an annual growing at the edge of the parking place.

A few copies of a detailed plant list for May 17, 2003 will be available at the annual TNPS meeting. I believe a good time was had by all.

Alice Jensen

The Georgia Native Plant Society has picked its 2003 plant of the year. It is *Tiarella cordifolia* or foamflower. This perennial wildflower is found in rich woodlands throughout the Eastern United States.

Foamflower grows in neat, rounded clumps, 6 to 8 inches tall. Its maple shaped leaves are covered with soft hairs, and are 2 to 3 inches wide and 3 to 4 inches long. The leaves are semi-evergreen and often take on a pleasing bronze cast in winter. Indicative of its name, foamflower bears delicate, airy, white to pinkish flower spikes in spring, which are composed of tiny, star-shaped blossoms. These racemes ascend 8 to 12 inches above the foliage, creating a soft, mist-like effect. The blooms are surprisingly long-lasting, often persisting for well over a month.

Taxonomists have divided the species into two varieties: *Tiarella cordifolia* var. *cordifolia* and *Tiarella cordifolia* var. *collina* (formerly *Tiarella wherryi*). The variety *cordifolia* is stoloniferous and spreads fairly quickly to form a ground cover. In contrast, var. *collina* grows in clumps. Otherwise, the two are similar in appearance, and both make worthy garden plants; however, var. *collina* is more southerly in its distribution, and is therefore more tolerant of heat and humidity.

Foamflower prefers a soil rich in organic matter that is evenly moist, yet well drained. Native to woodland habitats, this plant prefers shade or dappled sunlight, though it will tolerate more sun in cooler climates.

The white blooms will brighten dark, shady areas in the spring garden, and the attractive foliage will add year-round interest. In the woodland garden, foamflower is a fitting companion to other native plants, such as green and gold, dwarf crested iris, hepatica, and ferns, and it makes an impressive display either en masse or as a specimen plant. Foamflower easily adapts to the cultivated garden bed, and even to containers, provided ample moisture is available during the growing season. Foamflower is easily propagated from seed or from division of mature clumps.



Foamflower
Tiarella cordifolia



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**TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215



Celebrating 25 Years

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 4

November 2003

President's Message

On November 8, we retraced the first walk of TNPS, which had occurred 25 years ago in September 1978. It was a marvelous day following a trail (most of the time) beside the Hiwassee River. There were 22 two-footed participants and 1 four-footed. Ed Clebsch led this walk assisted by his wife and partner, Meredith and their dog, Nanner Puddin. Leo Collins who was unable to attend this year had led the original walk. The goal of this trip was to see Ruth's Golden Aster and we were successful. Even though it just past blooming, it was a real treat to find it.

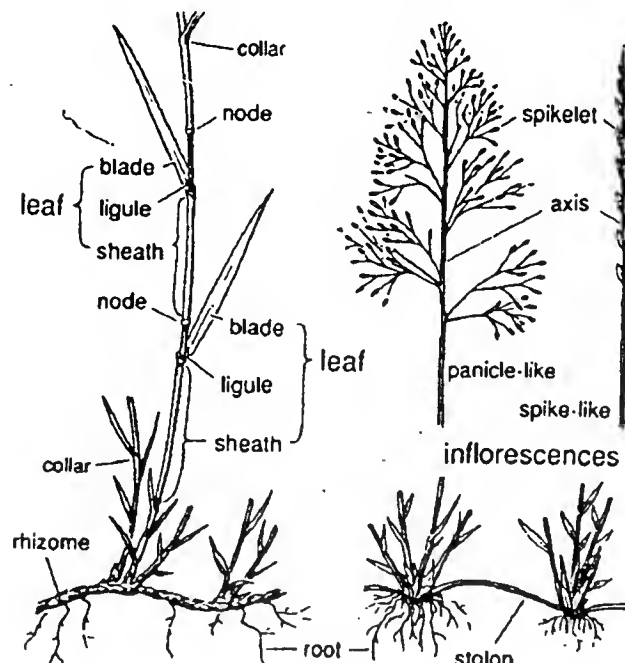
Our annual meeting at Beersheba Springs in September was enjoyable and successful. There were very good programs by John Christof and Mack Pritchard. We were blessed with beautiful weather for the walks. We were especially pleased to announce the scheduled publication of our wildflower book by Lone Pine Publishing in the spring of 2005. The Board decided to present an Honorary Life Membership to Mack Pritchard in recognition of his long and continuing work as a spokesman for the preservation of Tennessee's natural areas.

As this year ends, so do the volunteer services of our newsletter editor, Susan Stahl. She has done an excellent job in putting our writings and ramblings into a coherent publication. This has been a difficult and often thankless job, and we greatly appreciate all the time and effort that she has contributed. Thank you, Susan.

Also thanks to you for your support of TNPS. Please check your mailing label to see if your dues are current.

Enjoy the holidays!

TNPS Decals: We have some of our new 25th Anniversary decals remaining from the annual meeting. They are green on cream, 3' diameter and look great on the back window of any car. To get yours, send \$2 to Jean Heinzman, PO Box 1282, Norris, TN 37828. Buy now before the anniversary is over!



Congratulations to Kim Wisdom who won a free year membership in TNPS when she attended a native plant conference at Warner Parks in Nashville. Welcome to you and our other new members.

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 2003
VOLUME 27, Number 4

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

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

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

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

TNPS OFFICERS

Karl Heinzman, President
Dennis Horn, Vice-President
Bart Jones - Corresponding Secretary
Kay Jones, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Bertha Chrietzburg - Middle Tennessee
Todd Crabtree - Middle Tennessee
Mary Priestley - East Tennessee
Al Good - East Tennessee
Susan Sweetser - East Tennessee
Bart Jones - West Tennessee

TNPS Announces 2004 Officer and Director Nominations

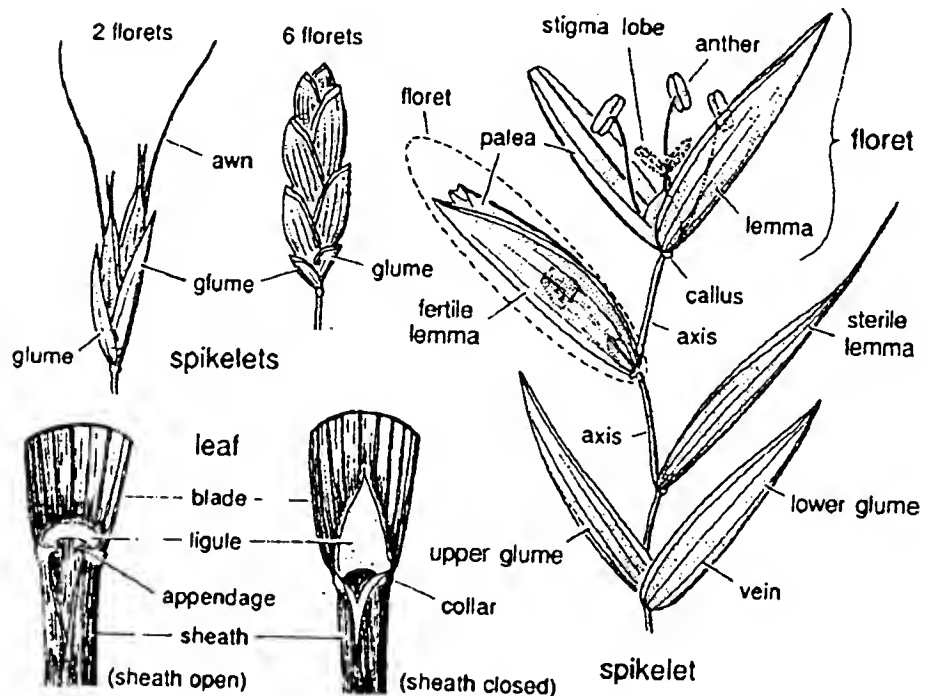
Nominations for officers and directors for 2004 are as follows:

President	Karl Heinzman
Vice-President	Dennis Horn
Treasurer	Kay Jones
Recording Secretary	Bart Jones

Directors: term ending 2004: Al Good, Susan Sweetser, Bertha Chrietzburg

Directors: term ending 2005: Mary Priestley, Todd Crabtree, Nita Heilman

If there are any objections or additional nominations, please forward them to Bart Jones at bjones7777@hotmail.com before January 15, 2004.



Editor's note: The best part of putting together this newsletter is the opportunity to get to know our large membership. We have close to 200 members who live in all parts of the state and northern Georgia and Alabama. You are the strength of the organization and the tie that holds our purpose together.
Thanks.

Annie Laurie Harris Heilman-1923-2003

"May you live all the days of your life." – Jonathan Swift

The Tennessee Native Plant Society mourns the passing in September of a delightful and gentle lady. With a big smile on her face and a pair of binoculars around her neck, Annie Heilman was always a welcome presence on the hiking trail. Both Annie and her daughter, Nita, joined TNPS in 1978, the first year of this organization's existence. "That was back when the dues were one dollar!" recounts Nita, herself a long time board member and regular on TNPS outings.

Nita remembers a particularly exciting foray to the Walls of Jericho, just south of Winchester, in the early days of TNPS. The hike started in Tennessee, and then followed Turkey Creek into Alabama. At one point, the group had to rappel down a rock face. Annie, in her early sixties, was undaunted. She hopped on the rope and went bouncing down the side of the cliff. "She could – and did – run circles around lots of folks younger than she was," chuckles Nita.

Then there was the trip to Roan Mountain with Ed Schell, a contemporary of hers who still leads TNPS outings. Annie was among those who made the decision to go over the side of the mountain in search of monkshood, resulting in an unscheduled bushwhack down the mountainside. When they finally reached the road, the adventurers were a couple of miles below the parking lot. They hailed a passing pick-up and hitched a ride back to their cars.

Annie was an enthusiastic birder. She was a member of the Tennessee Ornithological Society from the time of her retirement from the civil service in 1974. She had a lifetime bird list of 745 out of a possible 850 or so North American species. Annie and Nita are both listed at 110th place in the country on the American Birding Association's list of total numbers of bird encountered. A meticulous record keeper, she kept lists of the birds that she saw every day for 30 years. Her last entry is dated August 19, 2003. Known for her knowledgeable and accurate identifications, she did a good deal of fieldwork in the Clarksville area for the *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Tennessee*, which was edited by a TNPS member, Chuck Nicholson.

Birding took the Heilmans on exciting and interesting trips. On an Alaskan expedition with Dan Canterbury, Nita remembers birding on the shores of a frozen lake. Someone ^{thought} they spotted a rare bird across the lake, a two to three mile hike back around. Annie tossed a rock out to check its strength. Her less daring (and weightier) companions were able to convince her not to try such a trek. Fortuitously, some Eskimos appeared in the pick-up. The birders got a ride around the lake, where they did find the sought after Mongolian plover.

A rough boat trip off Cape Hatteras earned for Annie the title "No Fear Birder". In choppy waters, with half the passengers hanging off the back the boat sick, Annie was happily immersed in her beloved hobby. Oblivious to her own tendency toward sea sickness and lack of ability to swim, she stood all day with one hand on her binoculars and the other one flung around a post to keep her balance on the slippery, heaving deck. Dan Canterbury commented, "Nita, I've been with you all enough times to know if there's anyone in the world who deserves the title "No Fear Birder" your mother qualifies. When it comes to chasing a good bird, she is without fear!" To commemorate her title, Nita gave her mom a "No Fear" cap. She had embroidered a pair of binoculars on one side, and Bobby the blue-footed booby (the object of another foray) on the other.

Born in Clarksville, Tennessee, on Groundhog Day, Annie jumped into everything she did with full enthusiasm. She was devoted to her family and helped put her sister, husband and daughter through college. Annie and Harley Heilman were married for nearly 57 years. Although not a birder himself, he took her everywhere she wanted to go. When Nita shared her decision to major in field botany, Annie was thrilled. She called an old friend, and the three women took off for McAdoo Creek, the site of wonderful wildflowers, in search of a particular flower that Annie remembered from her childhood. "I'll know it when I see it!" she promised. And she did. It was an early spring saxifrage, growing right where she and her friends had played.

It was always a treat to be with Annie Heilman. We were lucky to have this cheerful and plucky lady among us. We miss her, and our thoughts are with her daughter and husband, Nita and Harley.

Memorial gifts may be sent to her church, where after 66 years, Annie was the longest continuous member: St. Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 2201 Russellville Pike, Clarksville, TN 37040.

Mary Priestley



Book Donors

A list of financial contributors will be printed in our wildflower book. The following is the list as it stands now. Additional contributions are welcome. We sincerely appreciate the financial support of members and others whose generosity, in the form of contributions and loans, is helping our dream become a reality.

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TNPS also appreciates the
financial support provided by the
State of Tennessee. This project
was one part of the Flora 2001
Project, approved by the state
legislature to commemorate the
100th anniversary of Dr.
Augustin Gattinger's *Flora of
Tennessee*, published in 1901.



Botanical Outings: Had a fun botanical outing this morning (November 21, 2003) with George Ramseur and a student. We climbed down in a sinkhole near South Pittsburg that's the only known site in the state for hart's tongue fern. The last time we were there (maybe 3 years ago) we found only one plant — guess that made it the rarest plant in the state. Today we found five plants, a record for me on that site. We've seen many more in a sinkhole near Huntsville, AL. Basically, the southern populations are disjuncts — the main site for the hart's tongue fern is in New York somewhere.

It's always a fun and exciting trip. We hike about ½ mile, then climb 40 feet down into this slit in the earth, using George's ancient homemade rope ladder. The main plants down there are luxuriant mosses and liverworts. There's maidenhair and walking fern around a little waterfall that enters the sinkhole; blackstem spleenwort is a little farther down and some alumroot. Anyway, it was a great trip on a beautiful day.

Mary Priestley

More botanical outings: This exchange of emails was sent to the newsletter by Al Good who realized our members would be interested in hearing about these rare finds and intrepid botanists. (10/7/03 - Todd Crabtree writing to David Lincicome who works as a botanist for the state of TN) *I took Al Good to Flat Rock Cedar Glade and Barrens on Saturday, Oct. 4 to see the *Muhlenbergia capillaris* and we found *Sporobolus heterolepis*. This is a rare plant in the east so I thought you guys would want to know about this. Al is confident on the identification because he has seen species in north Georgia. The spherical seed was the key factor. It is on the far side of the property and we didn't have time to look for more but found 2 plants, one of which had produced seed this year.*

10/07/03 - David answered Todd in this correspondence: *Well, this is interesting. Dwayne Estes, John Beck and I think Chris Fleming went to Flat Rock on September 28th and found *Sporobolus heterolepis*. Dwayne collected a specimen for TN since it is a new state record. Good find and thanks for letting us know.*

10/11/03 - Todd Crabtree writing to all of the above: *I went back to Flat Rock today to see if I could find any more *Sporobolus heterolepis*. I found two more sites. As widespread as the three sites are, I think there must be more in the area on and off the preserve. I, also, found *Prairie Gentian* (*Gentiana puberulenta*) blooming. Now there are two counties with it.*

10/13/03 - Claude Bailey (Heritage Botanist for the state of TN) writes to Todd Crabtree. *Both of these finds are significant. We are now tracking *Sporobolus heterolepis*, as special concern in TN. *Gentiana puberulenta* is quite a rare plant. It's listed as endangered in TN and was only known from one site in Coffee County (AEDC). So this is a significant county record in Rutherford County. For you guys out there finding this stuff... good job. You've found some very rare plants in TN and I appreciate you contacting us about these occurrences. Your efforts help us accurately track these rare plants.*

10/20/03 – Al Good to Todd Crabtree. *You are on a roll. Too bad we were not first with the grass find, but six days behind Dwayne in his own area is not bad.*

*I am surprised that three flavors of limestone are in Flat Rock. To me, the Flat Rock population of *Prairie Dropseed* proves that the Chickamauga Battlefield site is not a fluke. Magnesium minerals might be the common thread considering that the grass is reported to favor olivine or serpentine.*

*Dr. Deselm told Dwayne that he had unsuccessfully searched for *Prairie Dropseed* in TN for years. Timely rains this year probably caused plants to flower that would not have put up a stem in dry years. We might find this grass in Bart's iron bearing glade in Decatur County if we looked this year. I enjoyed the pink muhly very much and was glad to be there when you spotted the strange grass.*

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Membership Dues: The membership term is for one calendar year (Jan 1 - Dec 31)

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