

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

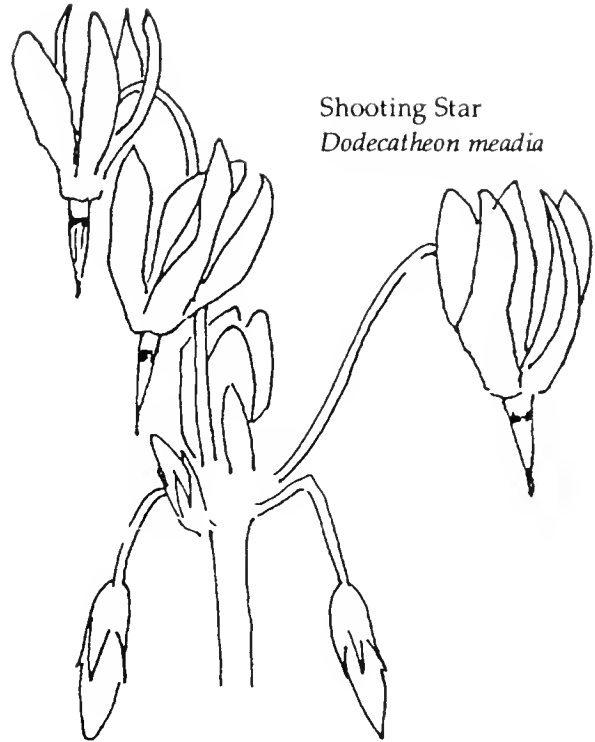
VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1

February 2001

President's Message

Spring is around the corner, even though with snow flurries every other day it may seem as though winter still has a firm grip. This is the time when gardeners browse through seed catalogs, imagining an outcome like the pictures on the front - colorful flowers and perfect vegetables. Native plant enthusiasts have their dreams, too. We imagine fields of trilliums and bright blue patches of Virginia bluebells. Some of us live for the rare pleasure of stumbling upon a rare plant, or better yet, a whole colony of rare plants. It's a special thrill to know that you are one of only a few people to know of the existence of such a colony. One is torn between the desire to spread the word of such a find and the desire to protect the precious find.

For a wildflower enthusiast, this issue is the equivalent of a seed catalog for a gardener. You will find in the trip schedule for the year a smorgasbord of trips spread across the state and from early spring to late fall. This is a time to enjoy all those plants our organization and others have spent time and effort to protect. Resolve to attend as many of the trips as you can. Bring interested friends along, too. Don't forget to call the trip leader to let him/her know you are coming just in case there is a change in plans. Happy wildflower viewing!



Shooting Star
Dodecatheon meadia

The Great Smoky Mountains Wildflower Pilgrimage will be held on April 26, 27 and 28 this year. This is truly a world class event and draws plant enthusiasts from around the world.

For the umpteenth year in a row, TNPS will host an information, sales, and meeting booth in the Gatlinburg Auditorium along with many other organizations and vendors. Our society members are encouraged to volunteer some time to man the booths in half day segments and/or evenings. If you can share your time with us, contact **Susan or Allen Sweetser at 865-938-7627.**

The volunteers for the last two years have been Dr. Hal DeSelm, Shirley Nicholson, Christine Good, Dr. Lorene Signal and her husband Albert, Norval Ziegler, Heather Booth, Don Newton and last but not least, Nita Heilman. Many thanks to these wonderful volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.



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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, May, August, November.

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P O Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215

TNPS OFFICERS

Jane Norris, President

Dennis Horn, Vice-President

Andrea Shea, Corresponding Secretary

Nita Heilman, Recording Secretary

Susan Sweetser, Treasurer

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Shirley Nicholson - East Tennessee

Karl Heinzman - East Tennessee

Mary Priestley - East Tennessee

Larry Wilson - West Tennessee

Al Good - East Tennessee

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Environmental Legislation in the 2001 Session *Bill Fischbein, Tennessee Conservation Voters*

In January, The Tennessee General Assembly returned to decide issues of state policy, taxes and funding for a range of state programs and initiatives. Over the next 4-5 months, Assembly members will consider a broad range of legislation on issues from education to the environment. They will also decide the fate of 9 state parks, slated for closure or lease to local authorities, and the future of the state lands acquisition fund, the state's primary mechanism to acquire sensitive and unique natural areas in Tennessee. Legislators will also make broad decisions about environmental initiatives to protect water quality, environmental representation of regulatory Boards and regulatory controls for logging on state lands.

In the 2001 Legislative Session, the environmental community is putting forth several environmental legislative initiatives. In 1976, environmental organizations in Tennessee joined together as a coalition under the name Environmental Action Fund to increase their power and amplify their voice on Capitol Hill. Over the course of the last year, the organization expanded with new staff and changed its name to Tennessee Conservation Voters. The mission remains the same: to protect and preserve Tennessee's natural resources through legislative action.

Led by Tennessee Conservation Voters, the environmental community has targeted 5 priority areas in the 2001 Session: improved planning and assessment of major state projects that impact the environment, denying state economic incentives to chip mill facilities, more accountability over TDOT and their transportation decisions, more representation of environmental interests on state regulatory Boards and protection of State Parks and the State Lands Acquisition Funds. In each one of the areas, TCV is seeking passage of environmental legislation. For more information on TCV's Conservation Platform, email them at tcvlobby@earthlink.net.



2001 TNPS FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

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

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

April 7
Saturday

DIXON COVE AND KEENER-WRIGHT FARM - Marion County

Many spring ephemerals including Trillium sulcatum and Spotted Mandarin plus springs and an unusual waterfall in in the woodland around a sustainable agriculture farmstead and along Dixon Creek as it cascades down from the plateau. Moderate hiking with some riding on a truck. Short strenuous trip to view waterfall will be optional. Bring lunch.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

Hardee's on I-24@SR 28 (Jasper/Whitwell exit 155)

Leaders:

Miriam Keener (423)942-9201

Al Good (423)886-1777

April 21
Saturday

UPPER SECTION OF THE NATCHEZ TRACE

Abundant spring wildflowers. Moderate hike on a portion of the Old Trace. The trail is a little over a mile downhill one way with a car shuttle back to the trailhead. We will cross a shallow creek with stepping stones 4 or 5 times. Bring lunch and water.

Time:

9:30 a.m. (central)

Place:

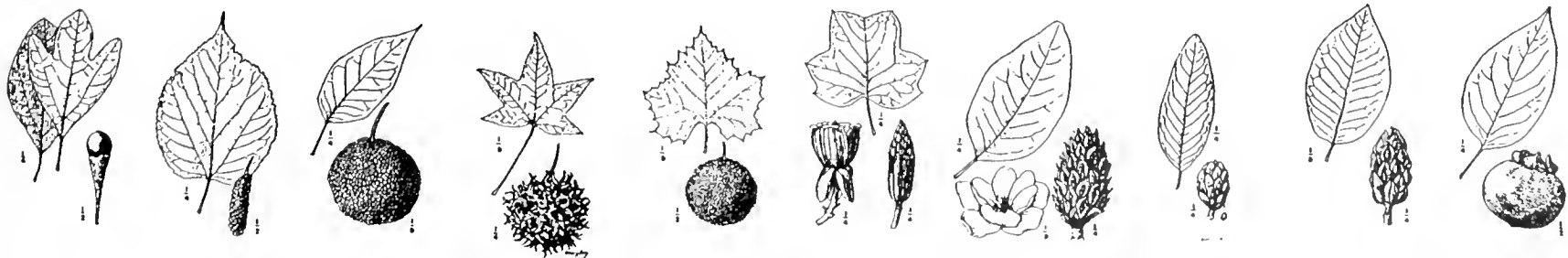
Meet at Garrison Creek. Take Hwy 96 west from Franklin and go south on Natchez Trace to the first stop - Garrison Creek.

Leader:

Bertha Chrietzberg (615)896-1146

April 26, 27, 28

SMOKY MOUNTAIN WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE - GATLINBURG



May 5
Saturday

HURRICANE CREEK GLADES - LAVERGNE

Interesting cedar glades that merge into wetlands. Expect to see Glade Phlox (Phlox bifida ssp. stellaria), a yellow form of Nashville Breadroot (Pedimelum subacaule) and many other glade species. Lunch in LaVergne. More glades in afternoon. Easy walking.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

McDonalds on US 41 (70S) south of junction with SR 266. North side of Smyrna.

Leader:

Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279



May 12
Saturday

SOUTHERN LADY'S SLIPPER SITE - DECATUR COUNTY

Bart Jones has invited us to his family's farm for a barbecue lunch and a wildflower hike where we expect to see a small population of Southern Lady's Slipper (Cypripedium kentuckiense) and other interesting plants. The lady's slipper site is undocumented because Bart has been unwilling to take herbarium samples. The hike is not very long but is somewhat rough. Bart has asked that he be notified in advance if you are coming and that you arrive at the meeting place promptly.

Time:

12:00 noon (central)

Place:

Stuckey's at I-40 exit 126 (at SR 69) west of Tennessee River.

Leader:

Bart Jones (901) 726-6891

May 19
Saturday

BLACK MOUNTAIN - CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Expect to see Silverling (Paronychia argyrocoma), Green Violet (Hybanthus concolor), Goldenseal (Hydrastis canadensis), possibly Yellow Lady's Slipper (Cypripedium calceolus) and other plants. Moderate hike. Bring lunch.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

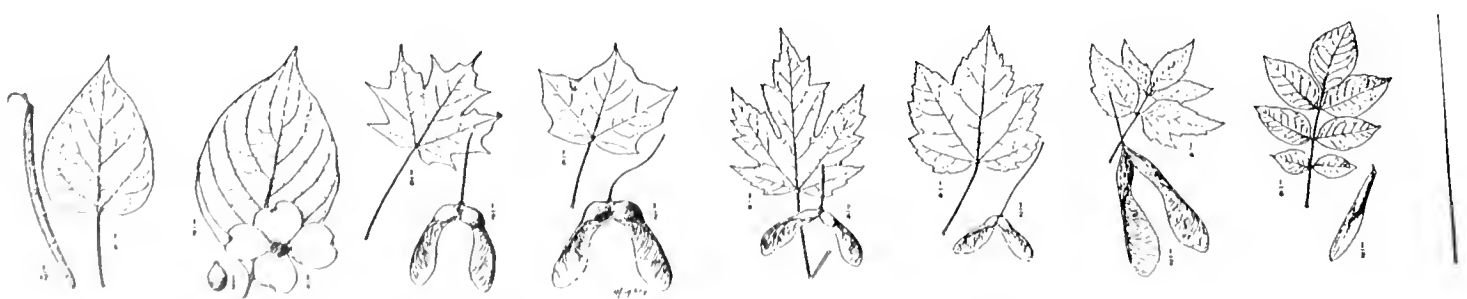
Place:

BP station at Crab Orchard. I-40 exit 329.

Leader:

Larry Pounds (865) 483-8635

Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627





June 24
Sunday

ROAN MOUNTAIN - TN/NC LINE

A high elevation, cool summertime stroll (2-3 miles) to see Catawba Rhododendron, Flame Azalea, Sand Myrtle, Roan Mtn. Bluet, Spreading Avens and many others. Moderate difficulty. Bring lunch.

Time:

9:00 a.m. (eastern). Allow for slow driving on mountain roads.

Place:

Carver's Gap on SR 143 at TN/NC line. 12 miles south of town of Roan Mtn.

Leader:

Ed Schell (423) 282-6125

Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

July 14

SEVERAL CEDAR GLADES NEAR CEDARS OF LEBANON STATE PARK - LEBANON

Expect to see Tennessee Coneflower (Echinacea tennesseensis), Leafy Prairie Clover (Dalea foliosa), Pale Umbrellawort (Mirabilis albida), and many other glade plants. Easy walking but prepare for ticks and chiggers. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

McDonalds at US 231 Lebanon exit off I-40

Leader:

Andrea Shea (615) 532-0439

August 4
Saturday

FOSTER FALLS/ WHITE CITY

Appalachian cove hardwoods, waterfalls, Native American history, and secret vistas are featured in addition to rare orchids (Platanthera integrilabia and others), Silverling (Paronychia argyrocoma), and other plants. Moderate hikes. Bring lunch and water.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

McDonald's at Monteagle. I-24 exit 134

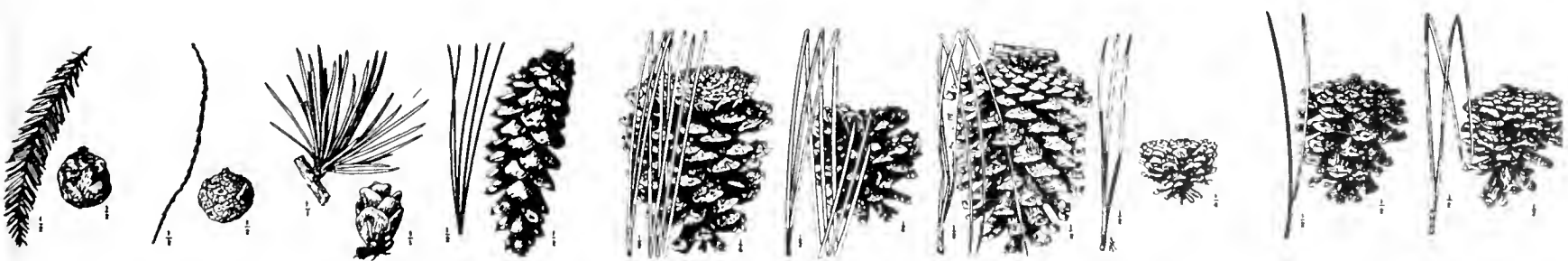
Leader:

Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279

September 21, 22

ANNUAL MEETING AT PISH-LA-KI NEAR MCMINNVILLE

Several field trip opportunities. Details in June newsletter.



October 6
Saturday

SOUTH CUMBERLAND RAMBLINGS: FIELD AND FOREST

Native plant meadow being developed from former golf course has prairie grasses, liatris, coneflowers, and other composites. Lunch at one of Monteagle's fine eateries. Sewanee rails-to-trails site after lunch for bog trotting among Poison Sumac, Bottle Gentian, Turtlehead, Cowbane, and several ferns. Easy hiking.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

South Cumberland State Recreation Area Visitor's Center. I-24 exit 134 to US 41A thru Monteagle to US 41, SR 56 and 2.5 miles to Visitor's Center.

Leaders:

Yolande Gottfried, Mary Priestley (931) 598-0157

November 3
Saturday

WINTER BOTANY ON THE CHEROHALA SKYWAY

Mixed driving and hiking to sites such as Haw Knob and Whigg Meadow to see the colorful plants of late fall, high cove and beech gap forests, spectacular views, shrubs, herbs, and grasses in the Cherokee and Natchala National Forests. Moderate hiking. Bring lunch.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (eastern)

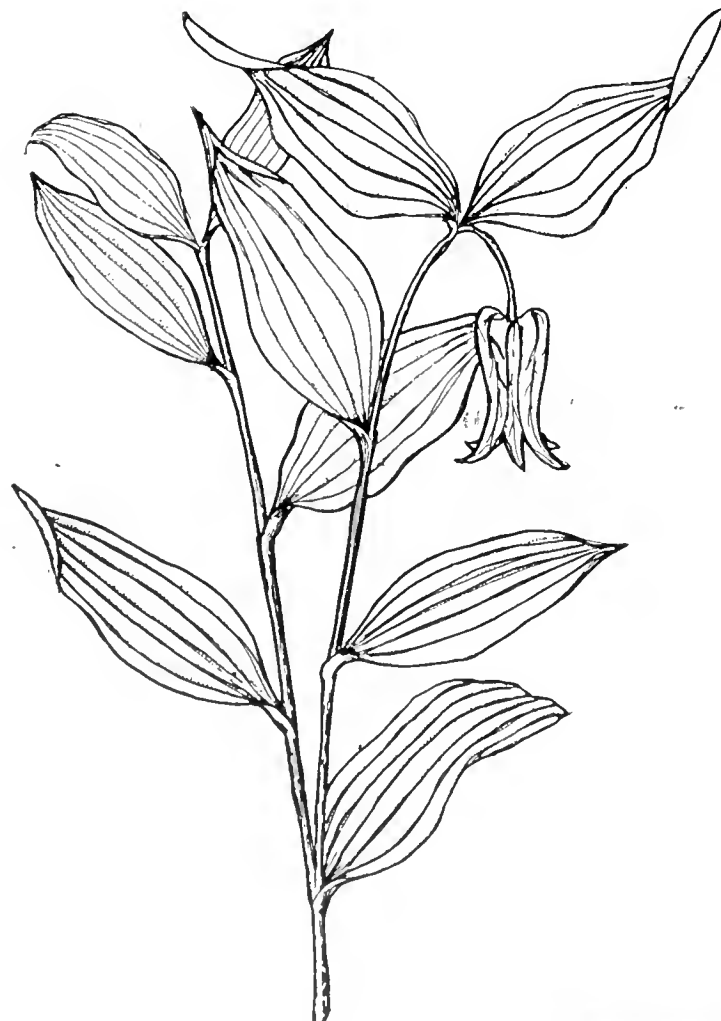
Place:

Hardee's on SR 68 at Tellico Plains

Leaders:

Ed and Meredith Clebsch (865) 856-3350

Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627



This is an event in Nashville featuring two TNPS Members:

**Landscaping with Native Plants
Workshop and Garden Tours**

Saturday, March 17

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cheekwood, Warner Park Nature Center and Friends of Warner Parks present the fifth annual workshop on growing and appreciating native plants in the landscape. The event will include morning lectures and afternoon tours of outstanding local wildflower gardens. This year's program will include:

Reintroduction & Propagation of Rare Plants in Tennessee by Andrea Shea, Tenn. Dept. of Environment and Conservation

The Sustainable Landscape: Establishing a Prairie by Sharon Lester

Landscaping at Home with Native Prairie Plants by Mike Berkley, Growild, Inc. Nursery

Native Trees & Shrubs: Good Choices and Proper Care by Cabot Cameron, Druid Tree Service

The afternoon tours include the gardens of Caroline Stevens, Lucy Nading, Paul Moore, and the new Mr. and Mrs. David Wilde Wildflower Garden at Warner Park. Proceeds will go toward the continued cooperative efforts between Cheekwood and Warner Parks to promote native plants in Middle Tennessee. The workshop will be held in Warner Parks' Susanne Warner Bass Learning Center. The cost is \$35 per person, with an optional fee for a boxed lunch. To register, call Warner Parks at (615) 352-6299.



Low Spot in the yard? Consider these native shrubs

If you have a spot in your yard that remains damp for several days after a rain and receives at least 6 hours of sun each day, it is the perfect spot to utilize shrubs that like their feet damp. A niche such as this can be filled with a variety of native shrubs that will make it much more attractive to birds and butterflies than an expanse of damp turf grass. Many shrubs found occurring in moist meadows, ditches and stream edges are equally happy in the garden, as long as conditions mimic those in their natural habitat. In essence that area of the garden should not become too dry for an extended length of time or the plants will suffer.

Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) is among the first shrubs to bloom. Emerging in late April on the burgundy stems, three to five inch panicles of white flowers are produced providing an early nectar source for butterflies that overwinter in the area. This four to six foot deciduous shrub with fall color ranging from burgundy to pumpkin yellow is a welcome addition to any garden.

Button bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) is a large shrub often overlooked for damp sites. This eight foot deciduous native begins flowering in June and for nearly three months the tiny flowers, in clusters resembling miniature golf balls are visited by adult butterflies of all types. A wonderful source of nectar, one photographer finds that the shrub 'holds' butterflies longer than other flowers, providing ample opportunity for the perfect picture.

Fall berries providing winter interest as well as food can be found on the winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillata*). A large shrub, eight to twelve feet at maturity, this deciduous holly suckers at the base becoming multi-stemmed. Lacking spines on its leaves it is 'user friendly'. Cardinals relish the fruits throughout the winter and should there be any left by spring, migrating cedar waxwings make sure they don't go to waste.

Lynn Libous-Bailey

Reprinted from *The Newsletter of the Mississippi Native Plant Society*



Membership Registration Coupon - TNPS, P O Box 159274, Nashville, TN 37215

Please sign me up as a member of the TNPS: Renewing: _____ New: _____

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

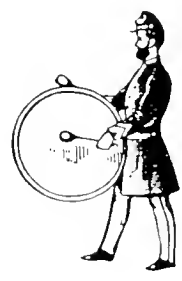
Membership Dues: The membership term is for one calendar year (Jan 1 - Dec 31)

_____ Regular membership: \$15.00

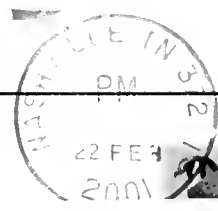
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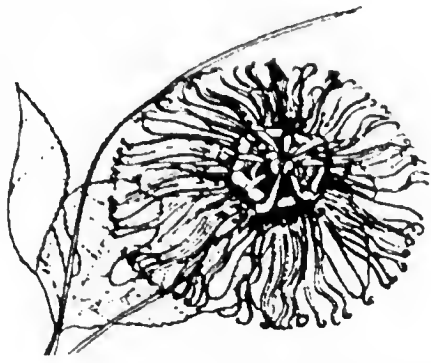
This is a gift membership. Please include a card with my name as a donor:



TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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Nashville, TN 37215





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VOLUME 25, NUMBER 2

June 2001

President's Message

Mark your calendars now for the TNPS Annual Meeting on the weekend from Friday, September 21 to Sunday, September 23. Our headquarters will be at Pish-La-Ki Resort near McMinnville. Those of us who can be there by 6:00 or so on Friday will find a table to enjoy dinner together. Meals are served buffet-style, so you can still join us if you are a little late. Bring your slides to share after dinner.

Several wildflower walks will be offered on Saturday. After dinner at Pish-La-Ki we will hold our annual membership meeting. Find out what TNPS has been up to and let us hear your views. There are several lodging options of different sizes and prices - call 931-668-2010 for information. Camping is also available at Pish-La-Ki. Several motels in nearby McMinnville offer rooms for under \$50 per night:

Holiday Inn Express 931-473-2181

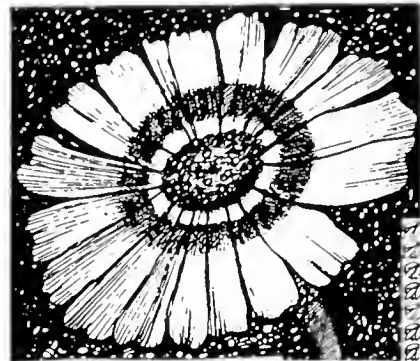
Scottish Inn 931-473-2181

Best Western 931-473-7338

Comfort Inn 931-473-4446

Ask for the corporate rate.

See you there!



Reprinted from editorial page of *Tennessean*:

The legislature has taken a progressive step environmentally by expanding areas of state parks and natural areas, most notably at Fall Creek Falls State Park.

The General Assembly has approved a land preservation bill that helps protect some of the state's crucial natural resources. The bill, sponsored by Rep John White, D-Lawrenceburg, and Rep. George Fraley, D-Winchester, will expand the Fall Creek Falls park from 16,030 acres to 21,020 acres.

The bill also expands Couchville Cedar Glade in Davidson County, which includes the endangered coneflower, adjacent to Long Hunter State Park. And it expands the Flat Rock Cedar Glades and Barrens in Rutherford County, as well as the North Chickamauga Creek Gorge in Hamilton County. The bill declares Sequatchie Cave a natural-scientific area, along with Langford Branch in Lewis County.

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Mary Priestley - East Tennessee
Larry Wilson - West Tennessee
Al Good - East Tennessee

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

Southern Lady's Slipper Field Trip

On May 12 we were treated to the rare opportunity to see the Southern Lady's Slippers, *Cypripedium kentuckiense*. Just on the West Tennessee side of the Tennessee River in Decatur county a previously undocumented population of these state endangered plants delighted us with their large creamy-yellow and brown flowers. One flower was measured with an extended vertical spread of 7.5 inches. The site was typical of *Cypripedium kentuckiense* habitat; wooded alluvial flats along small streams and creeks which are subject to periodic flooding. Associated plants occurring with Southern Lady's-slippers were New York fern (*Thelypteris noveboracensis*), Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), green dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*), partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), and pennywort (*Obolaria virginica*). Of interest were two saplings of American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*).

Another site, a series of hillside seeps, contained numerous ferns including royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*), cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*), lady fern (*Athyrium asplenoides*), sensitive fern (*Onocleasensibilis*), and Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*). Wildflowers in bloom at this location were Indian cucumber-root (*Medeola virginiana*), primrose-leaved violet (*Viola primulifolia*), and blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*).

A special thanks to Bob and Mary Jones for a wonderful barbecue lunch preceding the hike.

Bart Jones



Reprinted from *Tennessean* - Warren Duzak

Lebanon - The city of Lebanon and the US Fish and Wildlife Service have formed a partnership to save a rare plant on city-owned land.

The federal agency and city have entered into a Cooperative Management Agreement to protect a population of the endangered Spring Creek bladderpod, which is growing adjacent to a road construction project at the new South Hartman Drive and Leeville Pike, state officials said.

Under the agreement, the city has placed a deed restriction on two parcels of city-owned land that contain populations of the plant, said Kim Olson, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Environment and Conservation.

"The Spring Creek bladderpod is a small winter annual plant that is found along Spring and Barton's Creek in and around the city of Lebanon and nowhere else in the world," said Andrea Shea, manager of the state's rare plant protection program.



Dixon Cove and Keener - Wright Farm

April 7, 2001

A more appropriate title for this trip would have been "Crossing Dixon Creek". Emily and Jim Wright had been able to add a future forest preserve encompassing most of Dixon Cove to their farm and daughter Miriam Keener's plant nursery when the Meade Corporation offered it for sale with some post-sale timber harvest provisions. In the part of the cove we were visiting, the creek meanders between low limestone bluffs or banks to force four fords in the old road up the cove. Emily offered rides to anyone wary of the rock-hopping, but most of our crowd (including a Tennessee Wildflower Society group) rock-hopped. One beauty spot required a crossing not traversed by the road, and the people who had been riding decided they could rock-hop too. Going up and back, I estimated that 350 person-crossings occurred and suggest that this might be a field tip record.

A late cold snap had delayed the flowers enough to give us a slightly different population than expected. The Southern Trillium (*T. sulcatum*) was just opening and the Spotted Mandarin (*Disporum maculatum*) had no flowers yet, but Miriam had found a vertical wall, presumably limestone, totally vegetated with wildflowers including Large-flowered Trillium (*T. grandiflorum*). A cluster of Large-flowered Bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*) was quite dramatic from below. We were trampling some of the Dwarf Ginseng (*Panax trifolium*), Canada Violet (*Viola canadensis*), and Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*) at the base of the wall.

Along the road before and between creek crossings, were some extensive patches of deep maroon Wood Betony (*Pedicularis canadensis*), Long Spurred Violet (*Viola rostrata*), Wild Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*), Spring Beauty (*Claytonia caroliniana*), Roundleaf Ragwort (*Senecio obovatus*), Sweet Betsy (*Trillium cuneatum*), Barren Strawberry (*Waldsteinia fragaroides*), Rue-anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*), Solitary Pus-sytoes (*Antennaria solitaria*), Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*), and Hepatica (*Hepatica americana*). We saw Dutchmans-breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), on a bank across the creek, but didn't go over for a closer look. We were just beginning to get into the Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*) when we turned back for a side trip to a waterfall where the stream emerges from a cave, runs over a ledge and falls into the shaft of a second cave. Seeing into the second cave required climbing a steep slope, but a few folks did this.

Our "don't tamper" contingent was concerned that the reduced tree canopy would harm the flower population either by excessive sun exposure or brush competition. A large bank of Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) had only one young tree left.

After lunch at the farm, folks could buy stuff from Miriam, pet lambs, or hike down to see a big stream flowing from a cool sinkhole.

AlGood

A New Population of Pyne's Ground Plum

A rare plant that grows nowhere else in the world but Rutherford County now has a new home at the Stones Rive National Battlefield. Through a unique cooperative partnership between the Missouri Botanical Gardens, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Stones River National Battlefield, a new population of Pyne's Ground Plum is being established.

Biologists from the Missouri Botanical Gardens, TDEC, the USFWS, and the Battlefield planted the seedlings of this rare plant on several isolated cedar glades within the Battlefield property. The plants were grown by the botanical gardens from seeds collected last year from the three known populations of this plant. The Battlefield property was selected for the planting because it is a protected property, it is in the range of the species, and it has excellent habitat. This cooperative project was funded by the USFWS.

Originally reported in 1901, and again in 1948, this plant was thought to be extinct. However, it was rediscovered in 1979 by a biologist with TDEC. Since that rediscovery TDEC and the USFWS, with other partners including The Nature Conservancy, have worked diligently towards its conservation.

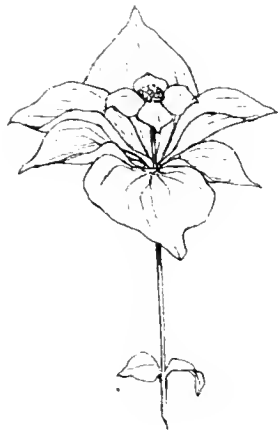
Pyne's Ground Plum is a perennial legume and closely resembles a relative, the Tennessee Milk Vetch. Both plants grow in the same habitat. Pyne's Ground Plum produces very showy purplish-blue flowers in early spring, followed by small, plum-shaped, reddish fruits in summer. Tennessee Milk Vetch produces creamy yellow flowers followed by small, banana-shaped, yellow-green fruits. Additional, Tennessee Milk Vetch has hairy stems and leaves.

The preferred habitat for Pyne's Ground Plum is open areas along the edges of cedar glades. Cedar glades themselves are geographically restricted to the central basin of Tennessee, small portions of southern Kentucky, and northern Alabama and Georgia.

The federal endangered Pyne's Ground Plum is one of nine rare plant species that are endemic to Tennessee. Another federally listed endangered plant species, the Tennessee Coneflower, is also endemic to Tennessee and occurs only in cedar glade habitats of Rutherford, Wilson, and Davidson Counties. In fact, the cedar glades of middle Tennessee provide habitat for at least 350 different species of plants, with 29 of them being endemic or nearly endemic to cedar glades and nearly 30 being state-listed.



The Last of the Field Trips for 2001!



June 24
Sunday

ROAN MOUNTAIN - TN/NC LINE

A high elevation, cool summertime stroll (2-3 miles) to see Catawba Rhododendron, Flame Azalea, Sand Myrtle, Roan Mtn. Bluet, Spreading Avens and many others. Moderate difficulty. Bring lunch.

Time:

9:00 a.m. (eastern). Allow for slow driving on mountain roads.

Place:

Carver's Gap on SR 143 at TN/NC line. 12 miles south of town of Roan Mtn.

Leader:

Ed Schell (423) 282-6125
Susan and Allen Sweetser (865) 938-7627

July 14

SEVERAL CEDAR GLADES NEAR CEDARS OF LEBANON STATE PARK - LEBANON

Expect to see Tennessee Coneflower (Echinacea tennesseensis), Leafy Prairie Clover (Dalea foliosa), Pale Umbrellawort (Mirabilis albida), and many other glade plants. Easy walking but prepare for ticks and chiggers. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

McDonalds at US 231 Lebanon exit off I-40

Leader:

Andrea Shea (615) 532-0439



August 4
Saturday

FOSTER FALLS/ WHITE CITY

Appalachian cove hardwoods, waterfalls, Native American history, and secret vistas are featured in addition to rare orchids (Planthera integrilabia and others), Silverling (Paronychia argyrocoma), and other plants. Moderate hikes. Bring lunch and water.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

McDonald's at Monteagle. I-24 exit 134

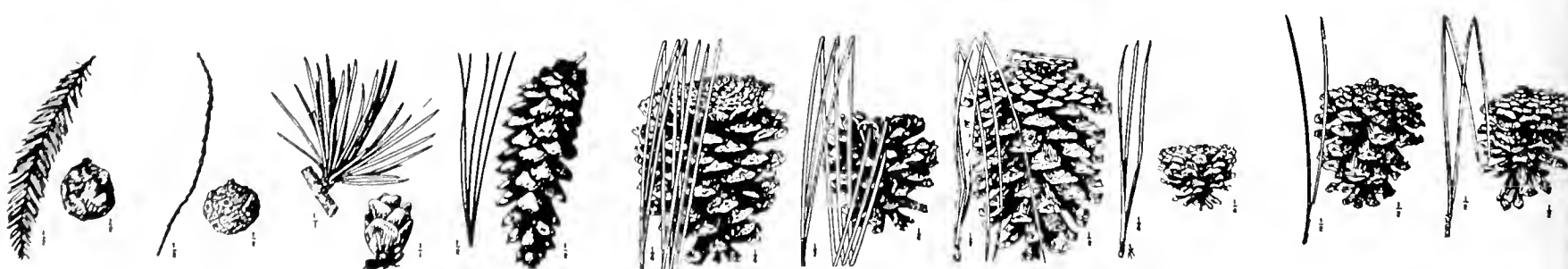
Leader:

Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279

September 21, 22

ANNUAL MEETING AT PISH-LA-KI NEAR MCMINNVILLE

Several field trip opportunities. Details in June newsletter.



October 6
Saturday

SOUTH CUMBERLAND RAMBLINGS: FIELD AND FOREST

Native plant meadow being developed from former golf course has prairie grasses, liatris, coneflowers, and other composites. Lunch at one of Monteagle's fine eateries. Sewanee rails-to-trails site after lunch for bog trotting among Poison Sumac, Bottle Gentian, Turtlehead, Cowbane, and several ferns. Easy hiking.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (central)

Place:

South Cumberland State Recreation Area Visitor's Center. I-24 exit 134 to US 41A thru Monteagle to US 41, SR 56 and 2.5 miles to Visitor's Center.

Leaders:

Yolande Gottfried, Mary Priestley (931) 598-0157

November 3
Saturday

WINTER BOTANY ON THE CHEROHALA SKYWAY

Mixed driving and hiking to sites such as Haw Knob and Whigg Meadow to see the colorful plants of late fall, high cove and beech gap forests, spectacular views, shrubs, herbs, and grasses in the Cherokee and Natchala National Forests. Moderate hiking. Bring lunch.

Time:

10:00 a.m. (eastern)

Place:

Hardee's on SR 68 at Tellico Plains

Leaders:

Ed and Meredith Clebsch (865) 856-3350

Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627





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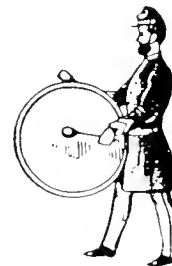
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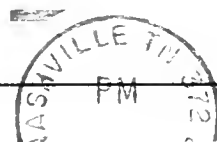
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**TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY**

PO Box 159274
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TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 3

August 2001

President's Message

The annual meeting is upon us! We will meet at Pish-La-Ki Resort near McMinnville this year on the weekend of September 21-22. Pish-La-Ki is located eight miles from McMinnville on State Route 8. Watch for the sign.

The first event will be dinner on Friday night. We will reserve a table at the restaurant for 6:00 CDT, but if you arrive a little later you can still join us, since the meals are served buffet-style. Around 7:30 we will adjourn to a private room for slides - if you are a photographer, bring some to share. We will also get last-minute information about Saturday's trips. (Al Good has several exciting locations in mind.)

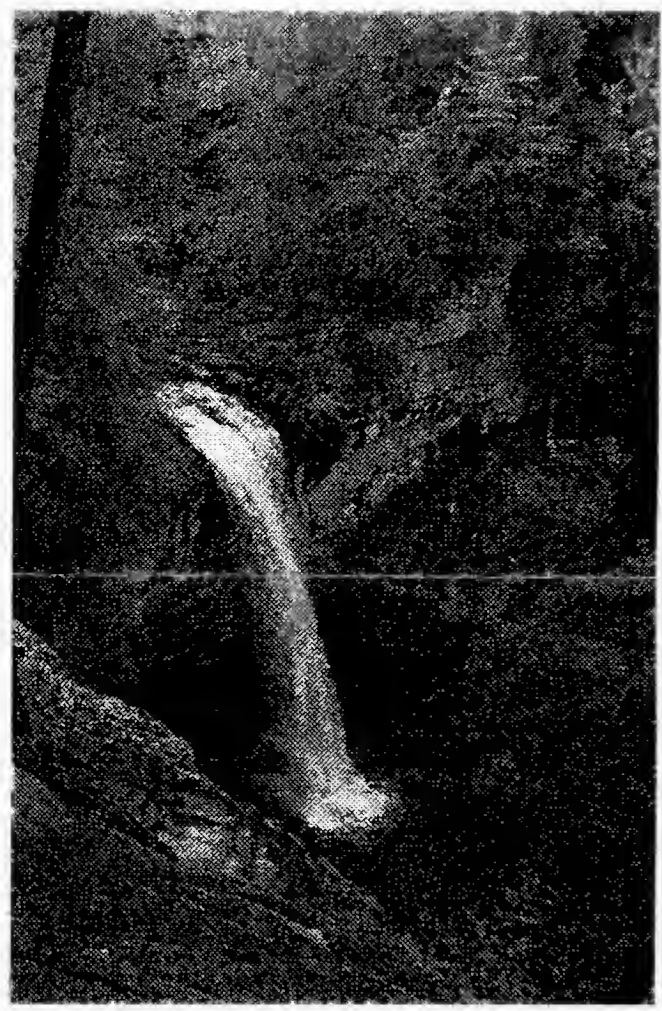
After a buffet breakfast at Pish-La-Ki, we will spend Saturday exploring the wildflowers of the area. We will meet for dinner at Pish-La-Ki at 6:00, and at 7:30 hold our membership meeting, where you can find out what has been happening with TNPS and help shape future plans.

Make your own arrangements for lodging. At last contact, Pish-La-Ki had two cabins available for families or sharing. For details and reservations call 931-668-2010. Camping is also available. If you prefer motel accommodations, there are four in McMinnville:

- Holiday Inn Express 931-473-2159
- Scottish Inn 931-473-2181
- Best Western 931-473-7338
- Comfort Inn 931-473-4446

1-800-251-1962 \$28.95
 4 PM date of arrival 10%
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See you there!



Check out the photographs in the newsletter. The pictures were taken by Bart Jones with a digital camera. My printer does not do them justice. They were all taken on the field trip to Foster Falls on August 4. Hopefully, Bart will make plans to join us with his pictures at the annual meeting. They are exciting to see.



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TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2001
VOLUME 25, Number 3

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

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Dennis Hom, Vice-President
Andrea Shea, Corresponding Secretary
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Karl Heinzman - East Tennessee
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Larry Wilson - West Tennessee
Al Good - East Tennessee

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



Vernonia flaccidifolia
Ironweed

If you are interested in establishing or adding to your own wildflower garden Reflection Riding Center on 400 Garden Road in Chattanooga is having their fall native plant sale on September 22 and 23. On Saturday the hours are 9 to 5 and Sunday, 1 to 5. Along with the sale there is a presentation by the Urban Forester, Gene Hyde, on Identification of Trees as well as several hikes sponsored by the Chattanooga Hiking Association. You can call (423) 821-9582 for more information.

Cedar Glades

On July 14 a hardy group of around 16 amateur and professional botanists met to look around at what was to be seen and identified in two cedar glades in Tennessee's central basin. We met in Lebanon and drove about 10 miles to a private property which the state would like to acquire - the Lane Farm. The older generation has passed on and the heirs moved away from the land in an area which might be ripe for development as water and sewers are put in place. The proximity of the Nashville Speedway could be the impetus for lots of new businesses and homes. All this added a sense of wistfulness to our outing.

The trip was ably led by Andrea Shea who fulfilled all our wishes of promised plants to see and photograph. As usual more knowledge for me comes with more confusion. I learned some new plants on the walk and forgot a lot more. Here is a list from my admittedly selective memory. We parked our cars and were immediately gratified to see lots of the endangered Tennessee Coneflower (*Echinacea tenesseeensis*) intermixed with Prairie Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*) and Smooth Ruellia (*R. humilis*). It was definitely a Van Gogh kind of scene - blazing sun and blazing color. It seemed that all the coneflowers in shades from the deepest purple to pink to white were facing east toward the rising sun. We climbed over or through the fence past the now abandoned farm house and moved towards the pastures of abundant color. Our progress was slow as we stopped and admired *Rudbeckia hirta*, *Silphium asteriscus*, *Amoselinum popei*, *Amphiachyris dracunculoides*, *Asclepias verticillata* and *A. viridiflora*, Blackberry Lily (*Belamcanda chinensis*), *Bupleurum rotundifolium*, *Satureja glabella*, *Verbena canadensis*, Missouri Evening Primrose (*Oenothera missouriensis*), *Cassia fasciculata*,

Prairie-Tea (*Croton capitatus* and *C. monanthogynus*), Prairie Mimosa (*Desmanthus illinoensis*), *Dalea candida* and *D. foliosa*, *Gaura filipes*, Lance-Leaved Gumweed (*Grindelia lanceolata*), *Hedyotis longifolia* and *H. nigricans*, *Heliotropium tenellum* with white flowers, St. John's Wort (*Hypericum frondosum*, *H. punctatum*), *H. sphaerocarpum*, *Lobelia appendiculata*, *L. spicata*, False Gromwell (*Onosmodium molle*), Wild Quinine once used for intermittent fevers (*Parthenium integrifolium*), Clammy Ground Cherry which is being researched for use in antitumor activity (*Physalis heterophylla*).

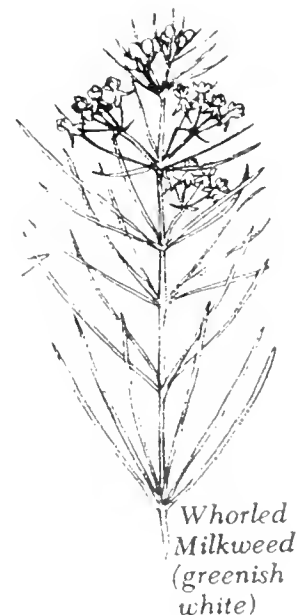
On the trek back to the farmhouse porch for lunch, the plant that brought out Dennis Horn and his camera was found, *Evolvulus pilosus* with one flower. Hopefully Dennis got a good picture. I congratulated Andrea for leading us to this spot but she gave credit to serendipitous luck for the find.

We were happy to see Bertha waiting for us at the farm. She had been to a funeral earlier in the day and missed the first part of the trip. After this much needed and fulfilling break, we moved on to the next cedar glade.

Not far away from the farm along Fall Creek Road is the 30 or 40 acre Vesta Cedar Glade Natural Area owned by the state. They acquired it from Harding University and it adjoins a state forest. There is a fence surrounding the area but the gate is easily climbed. As we walked along the road we saw what we thought as a mystery - Rosinweeds or *Silphiums* that were different from *S. trifoliatum* and *S. terebinthinaceum*. Much discussion ensued without coming to a conclusion. The other significant plant not already noted was Glade Larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum*).

It was a wonderful trip and thanks to all who participated.

Susan Stahl



Foster Falls/ White City Trip

A group of 13-or- so TNPS members, representing the state from Memphis to Knoxville, met at Monteagle for a walk at Foster Falls, led by Todd Crabtree. This is a 180-acre TVA Small Wild Area, with the 60-foot Foster Falls waterfall as its centerpiece. We spent the morning exploring a powerline corridor that runs through sandstone outcrops, boggy areas, and everything in-between. As someone commented, these utility rights-of-way are practically the only places in the East where you can find sunny bogs. Happily, TVA manages this corridor to maximize plant diversity.

The group meandered through a virtual mountain meadow, admiring the late summer flora and stopping occasionally to graze on the luscious blueberries. Eye-catchers included blazing star (*Liatris microcephala*), yellow fringed orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*) and slender yellow-eyed-grass (*Xyris torta*). Photo opportunities abounded, and the overcast day made for excellent lighting. Cameras, ranging from point-and-shoot to the serious tripod-borne variety, were out in force.

Todd was an excellent leader. Having scoped out the area a week earlier, he was quite familiar with the plants that we encountered. To guarantee success in identification, he came armed with an entire library of reference books. For this site he favored Wofford's Guide to the Vascular Plants of the Blue Ridge, a preference that he shared with several others in the group.

Dennis Horn lent his expertise to identifying beauties large and small, including hairy angelica (*A. venenosa*) and thyme-leaved pinweed (*Lechea minor*), as well as the fragrant mountain-mints (*Pycnanthemum muticum* and *P. montanum*). Two parasitic yellow false foxgloves, *Aureolaria laevigata* and *A. pedicularia*, were up. The former looked like a perfectly normal photosynthesizer, but the latter, with its purplish leaves and tacky texture, practically shouted that it employs some alternative nutritional scheme.

There were some interesting prickly plants, including sensitive briar (*Mimosa microphylla*) and a gorgeous devil's-walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*) in bloom, but not much greenbrier. That left our smilax enthusiast, Allen Sweetser, to exercise his ID skills on plants that don't fight back. Composites caught his eye, particularly tansy and starry rosinweeds (*Silphium pinnatifidum* and *S. astericus*), and eupatoriums: upland boneset (*E. sessilifolium* var. *vaseyi*), round-leaf thoroughwort (*E. rotundifolium*), and Joe-Pye weed (*E. fistulosum*).

Al Good, the guru of graminoids, helpfully pointed out characteristics of several tall-grass prairie plants, such as split-beard bluestem (*Andropogon ternarius*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*). Bog-dwelling graminoids included nut rush (*Scleria pauciflora*), velvet panic grass (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), and bushy bluestem (*Andropogon glomeratus*). Thanks to Al's

interest, a number of us are beginning to get to know the grasses and their ilk.

From the powerline, we ducked into a wooded upland bog, cool and carpeted with sphagnum moss. Among the cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) and wild raisin (*Viburnum nudum*), we found two delicate and beautiful orchids: green adder's-mouth (*Malaxis unifolia*) and the green woodland orchid (*Platanthera clavellata*), as well as a picturesque-but-deadly Amanita mushroom.

Mary Priestley

The Saga continues:

Mary had to leave at the lunchbreak so I will continue the story. Dennis, having finished lunch before the rest of us, began wandering around to see what was in the area. He was surprised to find an uncommon and endangered species, (*Nestronia umbellula*) a short distance from the picnic area. Dennis has found only one other population in TN and only one gender of the plant. This plant is parasitic on roots of trees and is right beside the Fiery Gizzard trail.

After everyone had finished, we set out as a group along the Fiery Gizzard trail. The first stop was a sighting of the Fameflower and discussion ensued as to the identity of the species. The common *Talium teretifolium* has 20 stamens and *T. megesii* has 40. Ardent seekers of the truth lay prone to count the tiny stamens. The number was higher than 20 and lower than 40. Truth is always relative. We continued along the trail enjoying the sight of the rare and white *Lobelia candidii* in a wet spot as we crossed a wooden walkway. We also saw a very large Crane-fly Orchid (*Tipularia discolor*); a Crabapple tree (*Malus angustifolia*); and a Fringe tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*).

Al Good, as an excellent spotter of grasses, pointed out populations of Crinkle-headed grass (*Deschampsia flexiosa*). This grass may have horticultural applications as it grows in very dry and neutral soil. He has propagated this grass successfully in his home nursery.

We were lucky to have Todd as our guide. He led us to some beautiful, isolated vistas as well as to the Silverling (*Paronychia argyrocoma*) growing on the rim of these rocky cliffs. Photographers literally went to the edge to get pictures of this beauty.

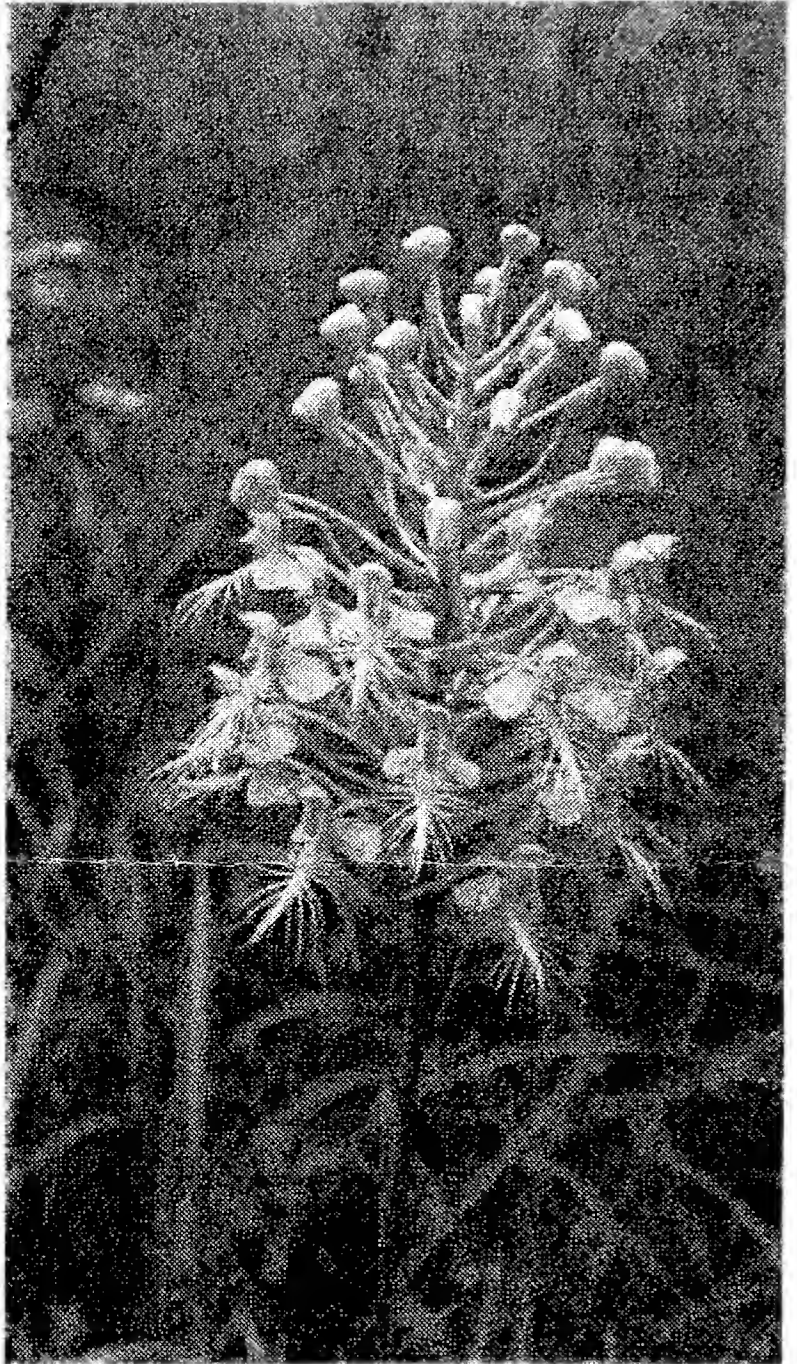
Our quest completed, we returned to our cars and set off into the sunset.

Susan Stahl





Aureolaria laevigata
False Foxglove



Platanthera ciliaris
Yellow - Fringed Orchid



Platanthera integrilabia
Monkey-Face Orchid

Silverling (*Paronychia argyrocoma*)



**TENNESSEE NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**

PO Box 159274
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TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 4

November 2001

President's Message

Our annual meeting weekend at Pish-La-Ki has left many pleasant memories for all of us who attended. The combination of interesting field trips, good food, and the company of friends left little room for improvement. On Friday evening, we all enjoyed a vicarious trip to Crete to view its spring orchids and other wildflowers through Dennis Horn's beautiful slides.

The focus of the weekend and the excuse for gathering was, of course, the annual membership meeting itself. The meeting was held, as it traditionally is, on Saturday night after dinner. The nominating committee introduced the names of two new board members, Bart Jones and Todd Crabtree. They replace Larry Wilson and Shirley Nicholson, who have decided to retire from the board after many years of service. We owe a debt of gratitude to both of them.

A report of the photography committee of the wildflower book informed us that the book is finally nearing completion. We hope to get it to the publisher sometime in 2002. This is indeed exciting news. We will keep you updated.

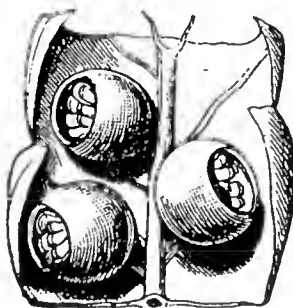
Watch for the 2002 field trip schedule in our next issue, which will be out early in the new year.



From the St. Mary's Retreat and Conference Center JOURNAL:

Dr. Carroll Young is a member of TNPS and is currently involved in maintaining and improving the gardens and trails at St. Mary's. Two years ago she along with volunteers, Bob Brandt and Charlie Wray, cleared the first of two trails which are now open. Tunnel Point trail begins near the Templeton Library and provides for a mile and half round trek. The most recently opened trail is named Turkey Hollow. The trailhead is beyond the Hermitage but before the cemetery. It goes below the bluff and comes back up into the meadow near St. Mary's.

Both trails are marked with orange tape on trees. Dr. Young also developed a looseleaf notebook that gives information about each trail for anyone who would like to use it. Dr. Young would like to have volunteers to help maintain these trails as well as maintaining and improving the flower beds. To volunteer for this effort you may contact Dr. Carroll Young at (615)356-6040 or Clara Stephens (931)598-5342. Volunteers will be provided housing and meals.



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Al Good - East Tennessee
Bart Jones - West Tennessee

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

The Closing of Tennessee State Parks

Todd Crabtree received a long message from the Commissioner of the TN Department of Environment and Conservation answering questions about the necessities of closing the parks and information detailing which parks are closing. There are 14 parks that are closed with some parks reducing their operations. These parks closed on September 4, 2001: Big Cypress Tree State Natural Area in Weakley County, Bledsoe Creek State Park in Sumner County, Bruton Branch Campground in Hardin County, Burgess Falls State Natural Area in Putnam/White Counties, Dunbar Cave State Natural Area in Montgomery County, Johnsonville State Historic Park in Humphreys County, Panther Creek State Park in Hamblen County, Port Royal State Historic Park in Montgomery County. These parks will be closed Monday and Tuesdays as of Sept. 4 and every day after 90 days: Indian Mountain State Park in Campbell County, Big Ridge State Park in Union County, Frozen Head State Natural Area in Morgan County, Henry Horton State Park in Marshall County, Norris Dam State Park (except for the marina) in Anderson County, Reelfoot Lake State Resort Park Inn will close the second week in October. These changes will continue until the budget problems for State Parks are resolved.

This is a sad state of affairs for all. Get involved by learning about environmental issues and voicing your concerns. One of our members, Mary Priestley, suggested joining your local state park organization. For example, *Friends of South Cumberland State Recreation Area, Inc.* is a non-profit organization committed to supporting this state park. Many parks have these volunteer opportunities in which you can get involved.



Foster Falls - August 4, 2001

Plethora of *Platanthera* and haven for *Hypericum*

At 121 Bog we saw *Platanthera integrilabia* (Monkey-Face) just beginning to bloom, *Platanthera clavellata* (Small Green Wood Orchid) in bloom and *Platanthera ciliaris* (Yellow Fringed Orchid) in full bloom. *Malaxis unifolia* (Green Adder's Mouth) was in "close to peak" bloom and "close to maturity" fruiting at the same time on different plants. The *Isotria verticillata* (Whorled Pogonia) were numerous but none were blooming. In the surrounding area the St. Johns Wort family was well represented by *Hypericum gentianoides* (Orange-grass), *Hypericum crux-andreae* (St. Peter's Wort), *Hypericum mutilum* (Slender), *Hypericum stragulum* and *Hypericum perforatum* (Common). Some of us couldn't go more than a few steps without picking and eating handfuls of the plentiful blueberries. Dennis Horn pointed out a white form of *Liatris microcephala* (Blazing Star), and a patch of *Nestronia umbellula* which has apparently been holding it's own since the last time Dennis had seen it here about 15 years ago. Along the trail we saw a lot of *Lobelia* which included *Lobelia cardinalis* (Cardinal Flower), *Lobelia canbyi* (Canby's), *Lobelia spicata* (Pale Spiked) and *Lobelia puberula* (Downy). As we were approaching Silver Bluff we discovered a single *Vernonia flaccidifolia* (Ironweed) plant blooming in the forest beside the trail. Those who suffered through the light intermittent showers were rewarded by seeing the *Paronychia argyrocoma* (Silverling) in bloom and beginning to fruit. Those who got on their bellies at the edge of the cliff to examine the flowers with a hand lens can now appreciate the unique nature of the rare alpine plant growing in Southeastern Tennessee. Near the Silverling colony of about 100 clumps, we found a stand of *Chionanthus virginicus* (Fringe Tree) covered with dark purple to light green drupes which should assure a future for the Fringe Tree in that area. The falls were exceptional for this time

of year due to the frequent rain in recent weeks. We enjoyed the sight and sound of the falls while others below us enjoyed one of the best swimming holes in Tennessee.

Todd Crabtree



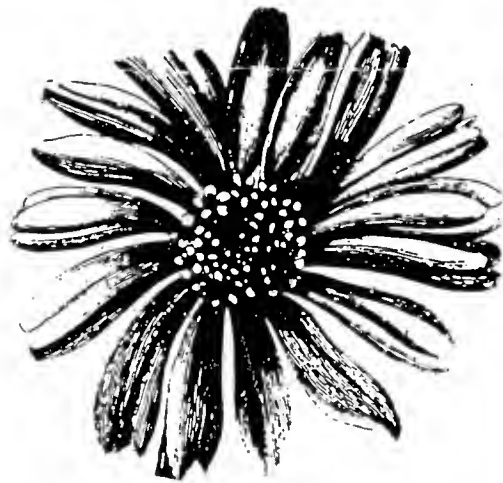
The Annual Meeting at Pish-La-Ki on September 22, 2001

The weather cooperated beautifully and the location for our outings was perfect. On Saturday morning, we carpoled and set out for a site in Van Buren County. Al Good was in charge of the hikes and had scouted several good sites for viewing fall wildflowers. We shuttled a car at the first site, so we would have a way back to pick up our cars at the end of our hike under a powerline. On the hike down the powerline on the Cumberland Plateau, we found the area very rich in many species of wildflowers. A sample of those we found is as follows: Several goldenrods (*Solidago odora* and *S. rugosa*), Sunflowers (*Helianthus mollis*, *H. augustifolium*, and *H. astrorubens*), and gentians (*Gentiana villosa* and *G. saponaria*). We also found *Eupatorium hyssopifolium*, *E. rotundifolium*, and *E. pilosum*; *Lobelia puberula* and *L. cardinalis*. On the way back, we made a short trip down Hwy 111 to a valley that had a beautiful showing of Grass of Parnassus.

We went back to Pish-La-Ki for lunch, and in the afternoon, we carpoled down to Morrison, and a meadow near their sewage treatment plant. There we found a very rare flower for Tennessee. The fall lousewort (*Pedicularis*

lancolata) was in full bloom. The tall (2 to 3 ft.) plant had beautiful yellow blossoms. Few of us had seen it before. In that meadow we again saw *Solidago rugosa*, *Eupatorium rotundifolium*, *E. pilosum*, and *Helianthus mollis*. We owe a thank you to Al Good for arranging our field trips.

For those of you who missed this annual meeting, you also missed a beautiful showing on Friday evening of many orchid slides taken on Crete by Dennis Horn. The Bee Orchids were particularly fascinating. A special thanks goes also to Jane Norris for making our arrangements. Bertha Chrietzberg



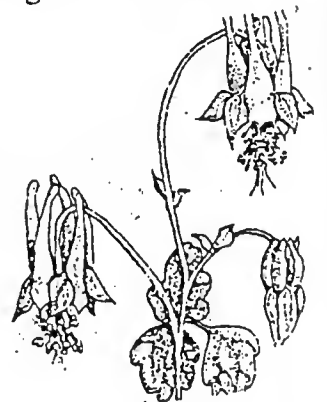
Native Treasures

Aquilegia canadensis
(Eastern columbine)

The native columbine is easily grown from seed or established plants purchased from native plant nurseries. The seed need a short period of moist stratification (chilling in the refrigerator) and must receive light to germinate, so seed should be sown on top of the soil or potting mix and gently pressed in.

Plants can grow from 1 to 3 feet tall, depending on conditions, and have very interesting red and yellow, nodding, spurred flowers from March until June. The genus name comes from the Latin word for eagle, as the spurs suggest the talons of the eagle. Columbine usually grows in calcareous soils but will do well in any well drained soil, in light shade to sun. Plants grown in the sun appreciate extra moisture. Plants reseed heavily and make a good ground cover in areas that receive little traffic, or slopes and rocky areas.

Columbine is a tough, beautiful native that will withstand drought and thrive with little care. The flowers are also a favorite of migrating hummingbirds.

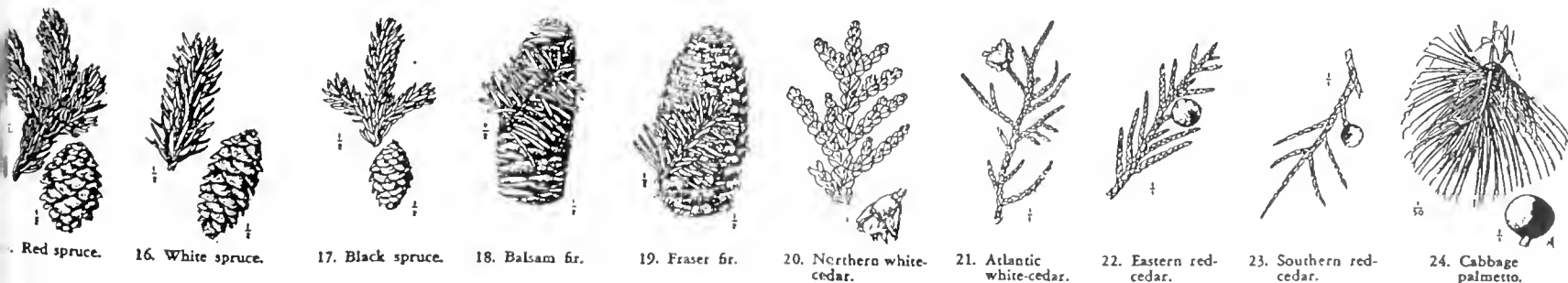


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Al Good	3009 Laurel Cove Ln Signal Mtn. TN 37377 magood@bellsouth.net	423-886-1777
Mary Priestley	SPO 1217 Univ. of South Sewanee TN 37383	931-598-0157 931-598-1997
Todd Crabtree	409 Noel Lane Smyrna, TN 37167-5921 grizzardscout@home.com	
Bart Jones	2047 Higbee Avenue Memphis, TN 38104	



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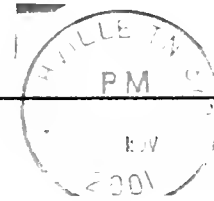
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