



# Native Plant News

The Newsletter of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society

Volume I, Issue I

March 2003

## Special points of interest:

- New publications schedule begins with this issue of the *Native Plant News*.
- *Wild Flower Journal* now accepting articles. Theme: from the smallest to the tallest
- Visit the NCFWPS website at [www.ncwildflower.org](http://www.ncwildflower.org)

## A New Look for the Newsletter

At the fall board meeting of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society, a decision was made that will alter the number and nature of the publications you receive from your Society.

For the past several years, the "newsletter" has been published twice yearly. It has included articles, President's Message, and Minutes of Board meetings. Separately, you have periodically received calendars of Society events.

The new format will consolidate information and put it on a regular schedule. It will relieve the Vice President of the responsibility of producing and mailing calendars. It will also remove business and financial details from publications that are mailed to libraries, public institutions and to non-members. The new format will reduce expenses and provide you with an easier way to keep up with the Society.

The old newsletter will become an annual Journal. It will retain the original name, size, and quality of in-depth articles on native plants of North Carolina. It will be issued in December of each year, and will continue to be the publication placed in libraries and



Formerly known as the newsletter, the annual publication will now be known as a journal.

public institutions.

The Native Plant News will become your newsletter, mailed in March, June, and September. It will include Minutes of Board meetings, notice of upcoming events, and other short items of interest to the members. The newsletter will be mailed only to active members.

All members are encouraged to submit information to the newsletter. Deadlines will be February 1, May 1, and August 1.

You are also welcome to submit articles for the Journal. Deadline for submission will be October 1 of each year.

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## Your Opinion Counts

This is your Society, so let us know what you think of the changes we have made to the publications. Send your comments or suggestions to:

Katherine Schlosser, newsletter editor  
1402 Bearhollow Road  
Greensboro, NC 27410

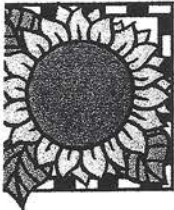
Or email your comments, suggestions and articles to [kathyschlosser@aol.com](mailto:kathyschlosser@aol.com)

## From the President If Not Now, When?

When I recently read Stephanie Marston's book, *If Not Now, When? Reclaiming Ourselves at Midlife*, I realized what a wonderful, timeless message it is.

The first place it rang true for me was when I decided to accept Vonda Frantz's invitation that it was long overdue for me to walk my first march for a principle that was dear to me. It occurred to me that if I was an advocate for native plants and the sacredness of life on this planet, it was time for me to be an advocate for peace. Dressed as an Angel of Peace in my monochromatic winter white with 8 layers of clothing, willowing skirt, wreath of silk ephedra, luminescent holographic stars, and yards of angling curling ribbon, I held the arm of my Buddy Jerry, weathered the wind with below freezing weather, and enjoyed the historic walk in Washington January 18, 2003. We both toted our "Parasols for Peace", designed by my fellow church member Roger Ehrlich from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, as hundreds of people took our picture with the giant white symbol of Peace on the top of a black umbrella and a wonderful golden sunflower painted on the inside.

During the walk, one lady handed me a sweet small button with a white dove and peace written on it, which I treasure and wear as an understated message atop my hat of the day.



Later another lady gave me a small packet of green cards with a message "Plant for PEACE!" "The Sunflower Project is a global appeal to all people on planet Earth concerned about nuclear war, pollution, violence, injustice, and threats to the balance of nature - to plant at least one sunflower seed in a sunny place where it can be tended and seen.... We make a collective, conscious, and powerful statement by planting sunflowers where they will be noticed - in vacant lots, fields, along roadways, city streets, at schools, surrounding toxic waste sites, reservoirs, threatened open space, along stretches of railroad, parking lots, playgrounds, around places of worship, and in gardens... We encourage all to plant a sunflower seed and watch it grow to become a majestic symbol - to summon harmony between humans, and with nature - toward peace on earth." [www.sunflowerproject.org](http://www.sunflowerproject.org) and [plantseeds@yahoo.com](mailto:plantseeds@yahoo.com)

In the late fall, the swamp sunflowers, *Helianthus angustifolius*, in my tiny downtown Raleigh front yard towering 10 feet toward the sky, do indeed make a statement along with the lavender Carolina climbing aster, *Aster carolinianus*, still blooming February 15 after the freezing ice storms and snows this winter. Life is a miracle to enjoy and savor.



Indeed, native plant lovers and gardeners everywhere "Plant for PEACE" and harmony.

The moving day was capped magnificently when I turned the corner onto New Jersey Avenue and was greeted by "Alice!!!" from Kathy Buck and Ken Moore and a hug from NC Senator Ellie Kinnaird from Carrboro.

*If Not Now, When?* So it is. We have choices and precious life moments to do the things we hold dear. Whether we dress like an Angel of Peace to make a statement, carry a Peace Parasol, plant a sunflower, call on our legislators to share our message, rescue a native plant, share a moment in awe with a child, a butterfly, and a flower, pull some proliferating aliens, write a letter to our local newspaper or a friend we hold dear, bake some cookies for volunteers and the homebound, join friends enjoying wildflowers, send money to our favorite projects and charities, walk in the delightful rain or warming sun, or marvel at and savor the magnificence of the Cosmos, we must do some of these delights every day of our Earthly lives.

For every day well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope.

With a prayer for peace and the protection of all the life and beauty we hold dear...

Alice Zawadzki

2-22-2003

**Spring 2003 Meeting****APRIL 11-13****Chapel Hill**

The Society's Spring 2003 meeting will be held in conjunction with the Coker Arboretum Centennial Celebration sponsored by the NC Botanical Garden. The Centennial events will take place on Friday and Saturday, and are indicated below by "CAC". To attend these events, we must register as indicated in the invitation that will come from the Botanical Garden. You also need to check the list on this registration form for the Spring Meeting weekend.

While there are many events in association with the Arboretum celebration, several alternatives are listed on Saturday so that you can choose the way you prefer to enjoy the weekend.

**Friday, April 11**

- CAC Coffee with the Curator 9-11 am  
Fourth Floor, Coker Hall
- CAC Ceremonial Birthday Celebration 2:30 pm  
Coker Arboretum
- CAC Booksigning and Chapel Hill Museum  
Exhibits 4 pm Chapel Hill Museum
- CAC Reception at the Rocks 5-6:30 pm
- CAC Dinner in the DuBose House 7:30-9 pm

NCWFPS Gather at the La Quinta hotel for social and refreshments 8 pm and later

**Saturday, April 12**

Breakfast on your own or at the continental breakfast at the LaQuinta.

9:00 Gather in the hotel lobby for directions and plan for the morning.

CAC Evelyn McNeill Sims Native Plant Lecture  
"Using Native Plants in Traditional Gardens" 10 am

OR

For those who prefer to be outdoors, take a walk through the Botanical Garden, Piedmont Nature Trails, Coker Arboretum, or Mason Farm Biological Preserve.

CAC NC Botanical Garden Picnic 12 noon  
\$12

Complete your Centennial Celebration visit with a tour of our garden of native plants, and then join us for lunch.

OR

NCWFPS Bring your own lunch and enjoy the gardens as you wish.

NCWFPS 1:15 Gather outside the main entrance to the Botanical Garden.

1:30 Leave for Penny's Bend natural area on the Eno River north of Durham.

NCWFPS 7:00 Dinner at the La Quinta hotel catered by Karen & Don Winstead from The Forks Cafeteria & Catering of Wake Forest. \$12 per person. Baked chicken and wild rice, baked apples, scalloped potatoes, butter beans & corn, broccoli & cauliflower, baby carrots, tossed salad, rolls, tea, carrot cake or peach cobbler

NCWFPS 8:00 Jean Woods, chair of Charlotte NCWFPS chapter, will present her acclaimed program on North Carolina native plants that she presented at the Grove Park Inn recently.

**Sunday, April 13 NCWFPS**

8:45 Gather in the hotel lobby 9:00 Leave for Lake Raleigh in Raleigh.

12:15 Leave for home or lunch or the nearby Reid Garden in Raleigh. For those who want to have lunch together at a nearby restaurant, we can stop at Brueger's Bagels or Whole Foods on Wade Avenue. After lunch we can drive to the Reid Garden to see it at its spring best! Robert and Julia Mackintosh have invited us to stop and visit the garden.

## Weekend Destinations

In so many wonderful choices, come early on Friday stay late on Sunday with possibly another day for good measure and added pleasure. You will be choosing from the following along with activities from the Coker Centennial Celebration.

**Botanical Garden:** Spring will be at its peak in the gardens and nature trail. The Garden has many areas of interest, including a coastal plain & mountain habitat, herb garden, carnivorous plant court, rare plant circle, horticulturists' garden, and a wildflower trail. In addition, there are Piedmont nature trails.

**Mason Farm:** If you're in the mood for walking in the footsteps of John Terres, noted author and former editor-in-chief of Audubon magazine who spent 9 years exploring Mason Farm Biological Preserve, you are in for a treat. As you walk past the woods and fields of Mason Farm. It is an excellent place for birding as well as observing interesting plants and other critters that Terres so eloquently chronicled in *From Laurel Hill to Siler's Bog*. A permit is required for entrance and has been applied for. If there is heavy rain the day before, it may be impossible to enter because it is necessary to ford a stream by vehicle. A guide from the Botanical Gardens may be available.

**Coker Arboretum:** There will be information about the arboretum in the mailing from the Botanical Garden. An oasis on the UNC-CH campus with a record Walter's tree, a beautifully restored arbor of native vines, a lovely wildflower gathering circle, and many treasured specimens collected by our celebrated Professor Coker.

**Penny's Bend:** A spring afternoon walk at Penny's Bend in northern Durham, a remnant 84-acre Piedmont Prairie, surrounded on three sides by the oxbow curve in the Eno River, amid the spring ephemerals in the woodland river gorge with Nature Serve Milo Pyne will be a delight. Penny's Bend contains numerous regionally rare plants, including the federally endangered smooth purple coneflower, which shows later in the season.

**Duke Gardens:** There are formal gardens that should be seen, including profusely, a large goldfish pond, the Culbertson Asiatic Arboretum with vicariads from Southeast Asia and Southeast United States planted near each other for interesting study and comparison, and the beautiful Blom-

quist wildflower garden, a legacy to Ed Steffek's life's work. There is now a lovely memorial to Ed at the ravine bridge by the Fern Grotto and granite outcropping that Ed created in his early years at the garden. There is a large wisteria pergola in the Terrace Gardens, a meditative Garden of Peace by the Moon Pavilion, and many other secluded places with benches for resting and reflecting. The new Doris Duke Center at the Garden entrance along with its Iris Sculpture reflecting pool is a visual treat.

**Butterfly House** at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham: The Wings in Flight butterfly house is a tropical paradise with butterflies like wildflowers in the air.

**Lake Raleigh Bluffs** on Centennial Campus at NCSU is a beautiful mesic mixed hardwood forest and hickory-oak forest, perhaps the prettiest natural area in Wake County with Catesby's trillium, wild geraniums, and liverworts in the pristine creek seriously threatened with a planned hotel conference center and upland housing development by the university. Perhaps with careful thought, reasoned presentation, and longer-term insight into its priceless future meditative and natural study value, this treasure will be spared the destruction of the bulldozer and the top of the bluff boxes on the hillside. Come see for yourself why we must act in saving this sweet mountain cove retreat within sight of the downtown Raleigh office buildings.

**Reid Garden:** The life work of Margaret Reid and the continued care and creativity of Julia and Robert Mackintosh of Woodlander's Nursery fame make this Garden a must visit any time you are in Raleigh even for just a moment. Legend has it that our original propagation manual fell on Robert's head from a Massachusetts library shelf when he and Julia were doing research on starting their native plant nursery. It was an auspicious collaboration from the start with beautiful continuing results in this lovely garden in their stewardship.

### Hotel Information

**HOTEL:** La Quinta Inn & Suites Raleigh-Durham RTP West at 1910 West Park Drive, Durham, NC at the intersection of I-40 exit 278 and NC 55 just west of Research Triangle Park and the Durham Freeway. 1-919-484-1422 or 1-800-531-5900 \$55 for a double or \$65 for king with rates the same for early arrival on Thursday. Be sure to use our group name: "North Carolina Wild Flower" to get our group rate. Otherwise it's \$90+. Rooms are reserved until April 1 with later reservations subject to availability.

### Directions to hotel:

**From I-40 Eastbound:** exit 278; at traffic light at base of ramp turn, left (north) on NC 55; go under I-40; at the traffic light at the Waffle House turn right to West Park Corporation Center. Proceed short distance and pass over the railroad tracks. Turn right into the Inn parking lot.

**From I-40 Westbound:** exit 278; at the base of the exit and the traffic light at the Waffle House, go directly across NC 55 into West Park Corporation Center. Proceed short distance and pass over the railroad tracks. Turn right into the Inn parking lot.

### Registration Form

I (we) plan to attend all or part of the Spring NC Wild Flower Society meeting.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Fee:</b>	Registration	\$5.00 individual	_____
		\$7.50 family	_____
		\$3.00 senior	_____
	_____ Dinner(s) @	\$12 each	_____
		<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

Enclose a check payable to NCWFPS; mail to:  
Vonda Frantz, 119 Potluck Farm Road, Rougemont,  
NC 27572

For more information, call 1-336-364-1924

### Activity Selection

#### Friday

- Coffee with Curator (CAC)
- Ceremonial Birthday Celebration (CAC)
- Book Signing (CAC)
- Reception on the Rocks (CAC)
- Dinner in the DuBose House (CAC \$150)
- Social and Refreshments at Laquinta Hotel

#### Saturday Morning (Choose 1)

- Native Plant Lecture and Coffee (CAC)
- Botanical Garden Walk
- Coker Arboretum Walk
- Mason Farm Walk

#### Saturday Lunch (Choose 1)

- Botanical Garden Picnic (CAC \$12)
- Picnic on my own

#### Saturday Afternoon (Choose 1)

- Penny's Bend
- Duke Gardens
- Butterfly House

#### Saturday Evening

- Dinner at the hotel (include \$12 in registration fee.)

#### Sunday

- Trip to Lake Raleigh in the AM
- Lunch in Raleigh
- Reid Garden in the PM

## Moment in our History

recently became the keeper of notebooks previously owned by one of our past presidents, Jean Stewart, a dear lady who passed on a few years ago. Her notebooks opened a window to the past as they contained copies of some of the earliest communications of the Society. Constance Smith, our first president, communicated primarily by letter to the membership, since there was originally no formal newsletter. She apparently didn't even have a typewriter, had no copies of all the letters that she had sent out, and estimated the total to have been somewhere in the neighborhood of 300 letters. We have no record of the issues these letters may have addressed.

In a spring 1952 letter, citing accomplishments of her career as the Society's first president, she noted how the Society developed under the sponsorship of the NC Garden Club. Their intent was to build a membership of individuals dedicated to building a program for "wild plant life" - a better word, native plant preservation." The membership grew from 23 to 63 in four months, then to 105 by the end of the year. Although the Garden Club had originally had a Wild Flower Chairman, our society functioned in this position for the Garden Club for a time after its inception. Our Conservation Chairman, Dr. Alfred Tordecai, disseminated wildflower information to clubs for their conservation programs.

The beginnings of a library or source of information about wildflowers began to develop at UNC-CH, with

Clinton Lindley, Jr., a student, acting as Librarian. Mrs. Smith lamented that the amount of materials was inadequate to support the "never ending" calls requesting information about wildflowers and called upon members to help build up their source of information.

One conservation issue she noted was the damage done to plant life due to road building and building excavations. These concerns were addressed to the directors of the NC Department of Conservation and Development. The Department promised to support the Society in its efforts and furnished 100 copies of the NC law protecting wild plants. The Society also became an affiliate member of the National Wild Flower Preservation Society.

*Charlotte Patterson*

## Rare Plants of the Carolinas

The SC Native Plant Society will host "Rare Plants of the Carolinas", May 16-18, 2003, at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. Speakers will be Pat McMillian, "The Status of Rare Plants in the Carolinas" and Dr Larry Fellichamp, "The Secret Sex Life of Flora". The symposium will begin with a Friday night lecture by Doug Raynor, co-author of the "Guide to Wildflowers of South Carolina," followed by a reception and book signing.

Saturday will feature the plenary sessions followed by a wide selection of afternoon workshops. Anne Gill, director of a Mecklenburg County Native Plants Program will

present "Landscaping with Native Plants". There will be sessions on wildlife gardening, and hands on workshops where you make a garden to take home. Other topics will include lectures on aquatic plants, shoals lilies, and piedmont prairies. Sunday will offer field trips featuring some of the unique ecosystems and plants of South Carolina.

Registration deadline is April 25th. Symposium details and registration information, call Bill Stringer at 864-656-3527 or visit their website:

[www.clemson.edu/scnativeplants](http://www.clemson.edu/scnativeplants)

## Members in the News

**Jean Woods.** Long time member, and most currently serving as Vice President of The Society, Jean has found it necessary to resign her position. She will continue to serve on the Board as the chair of the Charlotte Chapter, and we look forward to her presentation at our Spring Meeting in April.

*This is the place for us to get to know one another a little better. Send notes about yourself or other members – birthdays, personal or professional accomplishments, significant events, changes in address.... anything you can think of that will help us to become a more closely knit community.*

### *Remember.....*

*Membership renewal dues are due by May 31st. A renewal form is enclosed for your convenience.*

*Future mailings will go only to those whose memberships are current.*

## Potting Mix Alert

Bayer Advanced Garden Products TM will soon be marketing a product called "3-in-1 Multi-Purpose Potting Mix". This bagged potting mix for homeowners has imidacloprid (Merit) insecticide in it. There are several

potential problems with this:

1. Pesticides should not be recommended for preventive use unless there is a history of pest problems (keeping in mind that there are solutions others than chemical).
2. The bag of potting soil is the registered pesticide. It must be used with care and disposed of properly.
3. The public may assume this product can be used without gloves. It cannot.
4. Imidicloprid is a wonderful new insecticide. Unnecessary widespread use could hasten insect resistance.
5. There are unanswered questions about the fate of runoff water from potted plants, and it cannot be used in or near fish ponds or streams.

6. Imidacloprid should not be used with food plants such as herbs or tomatoes grown in containers.

A better name for the product might be "Insecticidal Potting Mix." That would make it more clear what the consumer was purchasing. My suggestion is to buy regular potting mix and control the use of fertilizers and pesticides yourself.

*Condensed from information distributed by Stephen Barbara, Dept. of Entomology, NC State.*



## nd a hand.....

en Moore sends a reminder that some “mega centers” are continuing to sell wildflowers (especially the trilliums and orchids) that are obviously being collected from the wild. This was a problem in various areas around the state last year and appears to be starting up again.

Moore suggests that we be vigilant, and if we observe the practice, we should write newspaper articles or letters to the editor which educate the gardening public about the consequences of collecting or purchasing plants taken from the wild. Armed with that education, gardeners can make informed choices and join the protest by refusing to make such purchases.

Mega centers are not the only offenders, so any time you see “wildflowers” for sale, ask the origin of the

plants. If wild collected, you might want to contact the store/nursery owner and register your thoughts on the practice. Then sit down, write a letter to the editor or call the newspaper and suggest that they do a feature article on wildflowers, especially those that are already endangered, and what can be done to save them.

## esh Tomato Basil Soup

1/2 cup butter  
 1 medium onion, peeled and chopped  
 2 medium tomatoes, peeled and chopped  
 4 cups spring water  
 1/2 cup vegetable bouillon (or 3 cubes)  
 1/2 cup tightly packed, chopped fresh basil leaves  
 1 tsp garam masala

Melt the butter in the onion in a large saucepan until translucent and beginning to lightly brown. Chop tomatoes and add to the sauteed onions. Add spring water and vegetable bouillon. Bring just under the boiling point, then allow to simmer, covered, for 45 minutes.

Remove from heat and allow to cool enough to puree. Then pour soup into a blender and puree until smooth.

Return to saucepan and add garam masala. Heat through, stir in fresh basil.

Serve with a garnish of basil leaves, a sprinkle of fresh parmigiano-reggiano, or a swirl of cream.

*This soup is so easy, there is never a reason to open a can. Even the winter tomatoes available in the stores (try the organic hothouse types) are okay. In the summer, yum!*

Katherine Schlosser



## Keeping up with your Society: Minutes of Fall Board Meeting

Present: Ken Bridle, Vonda Frantz, Carla Handrinis, Carla Oldham, Charlotte Patterson, Katherine Schlosser, Pete Schubert, Wendy Wieher, Charlie Williams, Jean Woods, Alice Zawadzki, President.

*Due to the length of the minutes, the following is a summary of the decisions made at the meeting. A full copy may be obtained from Alice Zawadzki or Charlotte Patterson:*

1. The Board voted to lend our name in support of the California Native Plant Society's Native Plant Conservation Campaign. Pete will be our contact person .
2. We will publish a newsletter three times a year that will be sent to paying members. Our current publication will become a journal published annually and sent to all members, including non-paying affiliates. Board minutes and financial information will be included in newsletters to members only, along with calendar information.. The journal will be published in December and will keep its current name of *Wild Flower*, with the newsletter being given the name *Native Plant News*.
3. The Board set a goal of 4 events a year . The plan is to rotate the events around the state so that at least one event is within easy reach of every member. Our educational event should also rotate around the state, and possibly between winter and summer, and should not take place in an area that has already had an event. Several board members suggested that we add events such as the Nurserymen's Association meetings, the Cullowhee Conference, and joint meetings with the Virginia and South Carolina Native Plant Societies.
4. Wendy reported on a conference that she attended through the NC Center for Non-profits. She pointed out that individuals contribute 84% of charitable giving. She emphasized the need to cultivate a grass roots base of support and the need to use publicity effectively. It was suggested that fund raising should not be a primary focus for us.
5. Wendy, Alice and Carla Handrinis will attend a conference in Wilmington in April. Blue Cross Blue Shield has a foundation that funds the training of non-profits: after making an initial contribution, attendees receive a portion of the fee back.
6. Carla Oldham will put compile a list of issues that need to be addressed in a by-laws review. She will also compile a list of policies and procedures for the Society.
7. Ginny Bacik has resigned as treasurer. The Board voted Wendy as acting Treasurer. Jean suggested that we look into putting our financial reports into Quickbooks. Audit Committee members are Alice, Jean, and Wendy. Concerns were raised that we might need someone other than Wendy to act as treasurer, since Wendy is also on the Audit Committee.
8. Alice presented an analysis of our publication costs versus dues received. Based on our percentage of paying members (53% of membership), the newsletter costs \$22.50 per paying member. The need to address delinquent dues was discussed as well as the need to adjust membership dues so they more accurately reflect the costs of membership. Jean motioned that lifetime memberships be deposited into the general fund, seconded by Ken. Pete moved that we adopt a policy to stop sending publications to members who fail to renew their membership. Vonda seconded. Reminders will be published in the March/May newsletters that if dues are not paid by the end of the summer, the recipient will not receive the September mailing. All were in favor. Jean made a report of the accounts. \$13,000 of Shinn Fund money is in a stock mutual fund. She suggested moving the money, along with some of our checking account money, to a more balanced fund. She suggested moving \$7,000 out of the \$10,000 checking account to create a \$20,000 account and leaving \$3,000 in the operating fund. She also suggested placing money from plant sales into the checking account or into certificates of deposit. No vote was taken at this meeting on financial matters. Jean volunteered to consult with the investment counselor and report to the committee. Board members suggested that the Audit Committee should develop an investment plan, and suggest needed changes regarding its functioning to the by-laws Revision Committee.
9. Wendy presented a 10-year strategic plan and vision statements developed by the Strategic Planning Committee. The entire plan available upon request. The plan outlines (1) values, (2) vision, and (3) goals and projects. The plan should be presented again for discussion at our February board meeting. Pete motioned that we accept the plan as a draft, publish the plan in the newsletter, and that the final draft could be adopted after discussing the plan with the membership at the April meeting. Tentative schedule for strategic planning includes the following dates:
  - February 2003 – Membership development issues addressed
  - February 2003 – Proposals for by-laws changes presented
  - February 2003 – Publishing of the next newsletter (addressing the regularity of publications)
  - June 1, 2003 – Audit Committee will have a report about bookkeeping issues
  - June 1, 2003 – The issue of raising dues will be addressed
  - June 1, 2004 – Address the issue of the Society name

Submitted by Charlotte Patterson  
Acting Recording Secretary

**or Your Calender**

**NCWFPS Events**

.. March 9 and March 23 1 PM Triangle Plant Study Visit Site depends on peak bloom Everyone welcome.

Hemlock Bluffs in Cary NC on Kildaire Farms road about 1 mile south of Tryon Road. This state park managed by the city of Raleigh was saved from developers 5 years ago. It is a disjunct community of Canadian hemlocks, which you would expect in the mountains and further north. We will try to visit the floodplain at peak bloom of the trout lilies. There are a few white trout lilies in one location along with hepatica, heartleaf, iris, and spring beauties.

Swift Creek Bluffs in Cary NC on Holly Springs road about 1 mile south of Tryon Rd.

The Triangle Land Conservancy protected the beech bluffs and floodplain in the 80s. At peak bloom the floodplain is covered with millions of spring beauties and thousands of wild geraniums. Bloodroot, rue anemone, foamflower, statamisco lilies, lousewort, buckeyes, pawpaw, yellowroot, and star chickweed add to the delight.

Call Alice Z 919-834-4172 for specific meeting place on each day. Mobile 919-971-1448

.. April 6 1 PM Triangle Plant Study trip with Reid Garden Group Place to be arranged. Call AZ 919-834-172.

.. April 12 NCWFPS Plant Rescue at Randleman Dam in Triad. Contact Tom Harville 919-6662-3582 or tom@ncwildflower.org

.. April 11-13 all day Friday through Sunday **Coker Arboretum Centennial Celebration and NCWFPS Spring Meeting**

.. April 27 1 PM Triangle Mitchell's Mill Pond (tentative) Call Alice Zawadzki for details 919-834-4172.

.. May 4 at 1 PM Triangle Study Group. Flower Hill in Johnson County. The rhododendron should be at their peak. Call Alice Zawadzki for details and meeting site. 919-834-4172

7. May 17-18 Green Swamp and Coastal Plain trip The NCWFPS Triangle group will make an overnight trip to the coastal plain. Perhaps the Venus flytraps will be in bloom. Please join us. Call AZ for details. 919-834-4172

Our ongoing discussions for our long-term NCWFPS Strategic Plan will continue Saturday evening at dinner and afterwards.

8. Saturday June 7 NCWFPS Annual Picnic at Hagan Stone Park south of Greensboro.

Board meeting at 10 AM followed by picnic and auction starting at 1 PM.

Details for the following will be available in the next newsletter, but thought you might want to save the dates:

- Saturday and Sunday July 12 and 13, 2003 all day Tater Hill and Bluff Mountain
- August 24, 2003 NCWFPS Board Meeting
- Saturday October 4, 2003 CCNC Annual Conference in Raleigh
- October 10-12 NCWFPS Fall Meeting. Friday, work day probably in Helianthus schweinitzii sites. Saturday and Sunday, hiking in the upper piedmont/lower mountains, maybe Charlotte area (to be determined with more details in the next newsletter!) We would like to hit the peak of Helianthus flowering, but if it is too late, we may do something else!!
- Monday evening October 27 through Wednesday October 29, 2003 NC Natural Products Assn & the Yellow Creek Botanical Institute Conference

## Events of interest around the region

March 6 Echinacea laevigata Conference at NC Botanical Garden 9 to 4:30 Register with Misty Franklin at NCBG 919-962-0522 for conference and lunch. \$7

March 15 from 11 to 5 PM Wild & Wonderful Winston-Salem. At Science Center sponsored by Forsyth Sierra Club. NCWFPS will have a booth and lead a few walks. Call AZ for info. 919-834-4172

March 14 NC Exotic Pest Plant Council Meeting in Greensboro. Register with Johnny Randall of NCBG at 919-962-0522

April 13 thru Thursday April 17 Fontana Wildflower Week. 30<sup>th</sup> annual wildflower week in southwest North Carolina. The trip to Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest is spectacular with thousands of trillium in the upper loop amid the tulip poplars. The walk along Calderwood Lake in Slickrock Wilderness is easy and

magnificent with thousands of Solomon's plumes. . 1-800-849-2258 Fontana@fontanavillage.com

April 21-29 Great Smoky Mountain Wildflower Pilgrimage. www.wildflowerpilgrimage.org GSM Natural History Assn. 865-436-7318

June 1-8 Coastal PULSE in Albemarle area  
Details will be available later in the spring. This week is a fabulous opportunity to work with botanists in making permanent plant study plots and learning a whole lot of botany. Come for a day or a week. This ongoing project in the Carolinas is lots of fun with great people, rustic accommodations, and sometimes challenging environmental conditions. Send a email to [alice@ncwildflower.org](mailto:alice@ncwildflower.org) so she can pass it on to the PULSE coordinators.

## Triangle Study Group

The Triangle Study Group that you see listed in the Calendar of events has been a small, loosely organized group for the past year or so. Originally meeting at the NC Botanical Garden for study in taxonomy, the group continues to meet and to go out for easy hikes in the local area.

Alice Zawadzki was the initial organizer of the group. An invitation to join the group was sent to all NCWFPS members who have submitted email addresses, and the group continues to invite anyone interested to join them.

At the last Board meeting, it was suggested that Alice talk with the group about organizing a bit more formally as the Triangle Chapter of the NCWFPS. We eagerly await the results!

Know an interesting place  
to go for an easy to moderate hike  
to see native plants?

Send in directions,  
a few plants that can be seen,  
good times to visit the area.

We will post the information  
in the next  
*Native Plant News.*

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## Board Member Spotlight: Vonda Frantz , Vice President

I have most recently been working, with other Board members and the entire Board, on the strategic plan for the Society. I think it would be good to say that the Board sees the strategic plan as a very important step in moving the Society forward, in setting some long term and then some short term goals, in determining how the Society can be most effective in accomplishing those goals.

Carla Handrinos and I will be working on a membership development plan for the next year; we would love to have volunteers to staff a booth in your community at any fairs or public places where non-profits can have booths. We will be planning to go to some of these events in the Triangle area, like the Eno Festival, Centerfest, AppleChill, etc.

I enjoy the opportunity the Society's outings give me to get out in some of North Carolina's natural areas. I have a great interest in helping the Society evolve into a strong organization for promoting the protection of our native plants.

Vonda Frantz, Membership

*Note: Following the resignation of Jean Woods as VP, Vonda was voted into the position of Vice President by the Board at it's Feb. 2003 meeting.*