



Native Plant News

Newsletter of the N. C. Native Plant Society

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APR — MAY 2009

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NCNPS Annual Picnic... and Photography

Saturday, June 13th
Hagan Stone Park, south of
Greensboro

It's time for our annual picnic and plant auction! Pack up your favorite picnic dish to share, pot up a couple of plants for the auction, and get out your map for Hagan Stone Park. And put your camera in the car, too.

A special treat for our members will be the opportunity to talk with and learn a little something from David Blevins, a full time photographer and web/graphic designer. He is also serving on the board of directors for the Friends of Plant Conservation.

David will present a mini-workshop on using your camera to capture the plants that you see when out in the field and forest.

Put the date on your calendar now so you won't miss this special event.

10:00 photo workshop

12:00 lunch

1:00 plant auction



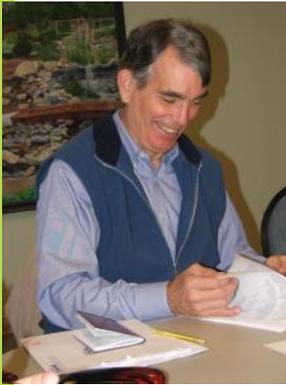
Parnassia grandifolia, Bigleaf Grass-of-Parnassus, Clay County, NC.

NCNPS will provide chicken or BBQ, beverages, and paper products (bring your own re-usable plates, cups, and flatware if you want to help conserve resources).

*Shelter 2
(if you don't see us, look to the left)
5920 Hagan Stone Park Rd
Pleasant Garden, NC*

Directions on page 3.

President's letter



Remember the last letter? Well, the putty-root is in full bloom right now. My *Hexastylis shuttleworthii* has fully opened, WOW! *Chamaelirium luteum* is starting to put on its white spike, *Polygonatum biflorum*, et. al are dangling their blooms, *Smilacina racemosa* is in its full plumage and I'm reading Doug Tallamy's book, *Bringing Nature Home*. I just started it and I know he has a strong tilt toward the plant-insect-animal-fowl connection but I sure hope he talks about how our natives are just good for the soul. Simply wandering around your garden and looking is soooo calming.

These busy, busy months of April and May make us crazy with all the opportunities to do stuff, but I will say that your Society presented one of the finest opportunities to connect with natives yet! The walks to Stoney Creek and the property on the back side of South Mountain were tops. The talks about the NC Natural Heritage Program and common SC-NC rare plants were very informative and the plant auction—what can I say! The ever informative, auctioneer Dr. Larry Mellichamp's comments, "you can't find this plant on the market," says it all. It was even more amazing that the rains abated on Sunday, the winds shook off the wet leaves and we were able to botanize to our hearts content in cool comfort.

Shift gears now and plan to come to the picnic in June.

I hope your spring has been at least half as enjoyable as mine so I know you are very happy native plant gardeners.

See you in the woods!

Tom

Tom Harville



Hexastylis shuttleworthii, ginger



Aplectrum hyemale, putty root



Smilacina racemosa, Solomon's plume

Directions to Annual Picnic

From the south:

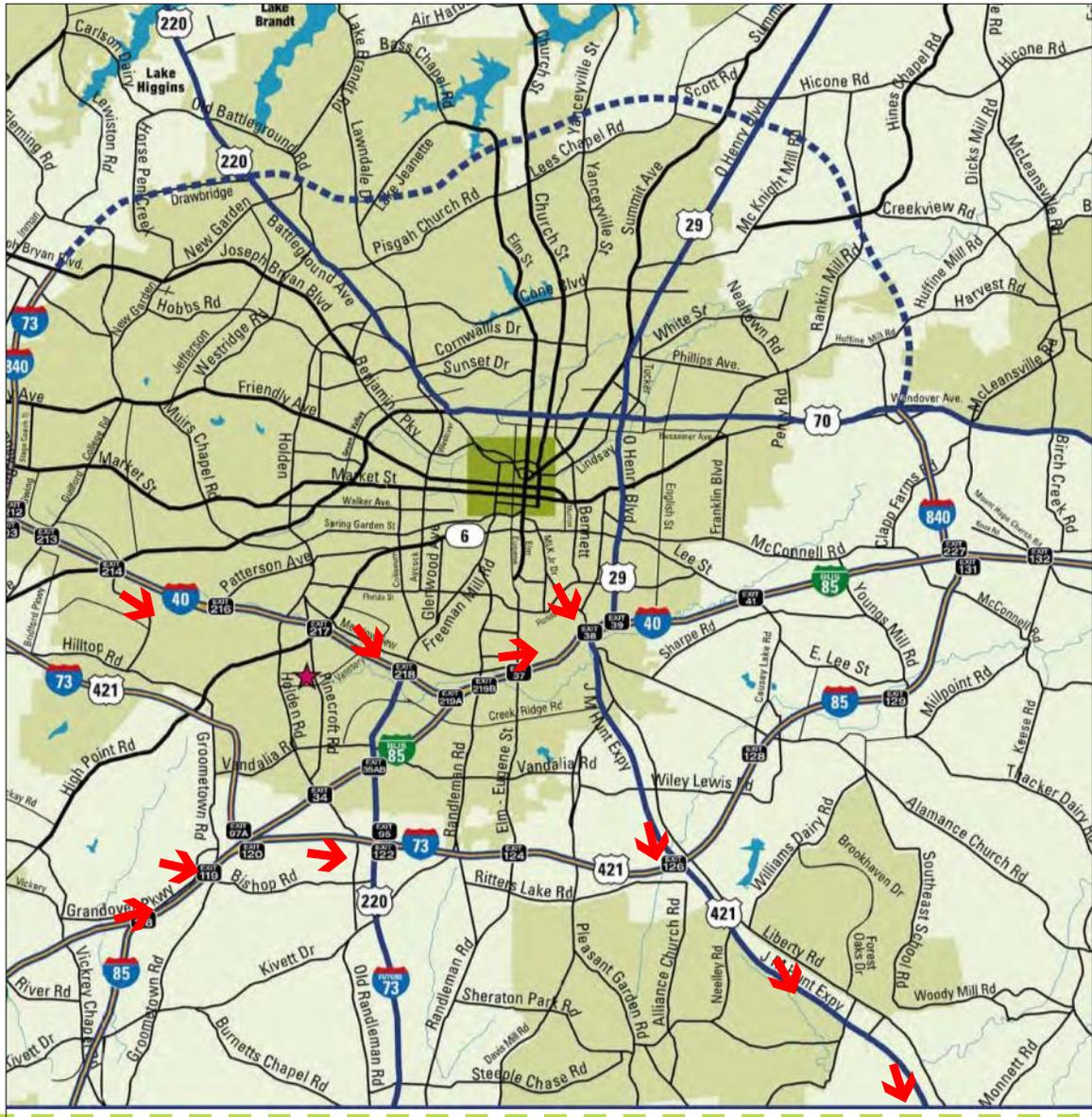
I-85 North (becomes I-73) to Exit 126A/ 126B (US 421), heading toward Sanford. Follow US 421 to Hagan Stone Park Road, turn right. Turn left into the Park. We will be in Shelter 3.

From the east:

Follow US 64 toward Asheboro/Pittsboro. Turn right onto US 421. Turn left onto Hagan Stone Park Road, then right into the park.

From the west:

Follow I-40 E to Exit 126 A/126 B (US 421). Follow 421 toward Sanford. Turn right at Hagan Stone Park Road, then right into the park



Stoney Creek Photo Record



Gathering at the Food Lion in Rutherfordton



Asimina triloba, pawpaw flower



Two fruits growing on the paw paw tree



Calycanthus floridus were in full, fragrant bloom.



Ed Schwartzman pointed out this Earthstar fungus. It is from a puff-ball type fungus that splits open to form a star-like shape. Difficult to see if you aren't looking for it.

More Stoney Creek, ...



Krigia virginica, dwarf dandelion



Leucothoe fontanesiana, doghobble



Dioscorea villosa, wild yam in flower



Carex intumescens, bladder sedge



At lunch time, even the side of the road is a good place to sit.



George Waldrep distributes the lunches and we eat!



Smilacina racemosa, Solomon's plume



Styrax grandifolius, *Styrax*



Trillium catesbaei

*All things by immortal power,
Near or far,
Hiddenly to each other, linked are
That thou canst not stir a flower
Without troubling a star.*

Francis Thompson (1860-1907)

It's the people that make the trip special. . . .



Ed Schwartzman with a butternut



On the trail with Alice, Jean, Horst, Terry, Ed and Judy



Larry Mellichamp: trail guide, auctioneer extraordinaire, and all-around great guy



Tom Harville takes up modelling



Enjoying Larry's antics. . . .





Rosemary Wheeler explores a creek



Doug Rayner provides the Saturday evening program, and joins NCNPS



Many thanks to George and Lynda Waldrep, Tom Harville, Ulana Stuart, Ed Schwartzman, James Padgett, and Larry Mellichamp for a great weekend.

Photos by Trena McNabb and Kathy Schlosser.

Field Notes from members...

From Tom Baugh, Hidden Springs

Green River Trail

From the Hendersonville, NC area take US Highway 176 through Saluda. From the lower end of Saluda turn right following the direction to Interstate 26. Pass under Interstate 26 and turn left on Green River Cove. Follow Green River Cove down a paved series of sharp switchbacks until the road flattens, straightens, and runs along the Green River. Several miles below the switchbacks the road crosses the Green River for the first time. Cross the bridge and park on the right side of the road. Walk across the road. The trail starts up the hill on the left a few steps beyond the asphalt and wanders alongside and above the river for miles, with mostly gentle inclines. Much of the trailside is rich in native perennials from early April through May and into June. On April 17 I noted at least a dozen species in bloom from the Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), through the foam flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*), to extensive areas of the colorful *Trillium cuneatum*. Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia tetraptera*) were also beginning to bloom.

Pearson's Falls Road

Passing through Saluda, NC on US 176 continue downhill toward Tryon until coming to Pearson Falls Road. This road becomes gravel and parallels the Pacolet River, normally, looping back up hill to Saluda. However, in early 2009 work began on the bridge over the Pacolet River temporarily interrupting the loop. From April through June the slopes above the road and the flats between the road and the river are often covered with dense displays of flowering native perennials. Pearson's Falls Glen is the gem along this stretch of river. Since 1931 the Tryon Garden Club has owned and operated this beautiful location. After paying the minimal entry fee, follow the trail up to the falls. Pearson's Falls Glen hosts dozens of native perennials, shrubs, and

trees including Jack in the Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), several species of Trillium, and Fairy Wand (*Chamaelirium luteum*), among many others.

Moore's Cove

From Hendersonville, NC take US 64 to the community of Pisgah Forest. Where US 64 turns toward Brevard stay straight ahead on US 276 to enter the Pisgah National Forest. Continue along the Davidson River for several miles, passing the turn to the fish hatchery and Looking Glass Falls until you reach the Moore's Cove parking area on the right. With the exception of a short steep section at the beginning and end, the trail is relatively gentle and the several water crossings are on logs or wood bridges. About .7 mile from the parking area the trail ends behind a waterfall. On April 16 a number of species including Foam Flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*), Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), and the Trout Lily (*Erythronium umbilicatum*) were either blooming or beginning to bloom.



Trillium cuneatum

**Send your suggestions for places to
botanize to:**

kathys@ncwildflower.org

Have you heard???

HUGH PARTRIDGE

After several years of tireless efforts to organize NCNPS finances and manage our membership lists, Hugh Partridge is taking a well-deserved break. We will miss his attention to detail and accuracy, and his dedication to the well-being of the N.C. Native Plant Society.

Our hats are off to you, dear friend, in appreciation for all that you have done for us.

NEW TREASURER

Bravely stepping up to fill the spot vacated by Hugh Partridge is Jeff Prather of Chapel Hill. Many of you have met Jeff and his wife, Cheryl, on the trail or at their garden, which is on display from time to time.

Jeff is warmly welcomed to service on the NCNPS board of directors.

ALMOST-NEW VICE PRESIDENT

While we are mentioning changes to the board of directors, be sure to note that **ULANA STUART** has stepped up to take the position as Vice President, Programs. Ulana cut her board teeth on the Stoney Creek trip this spring, and is already at work planning our Fall Trip.

GIVE A FREE NCNPS MEMBERSHIP !!!

The North Carolina Native Plant Society is offering an opportunity for our members to sponsor a one year (2009-10) complementary membership. This free membership is intended for enthusiasts who might like to become members of the NCNPS.

NCNPS members that qualify for sponsoring a one year complementary membership are: Life members, members who have paid their 2009-2010 dues and members who pay their 2009-2010 dues by the renewal date. (May 31, 2009)

Complementary memberships will be electronic only (Newsletter by e-mail and registration on line only).

If you are a Life member, member who has paid their 2009-2010 dues or a member who pays their 2009-2010 dues by the renewal date. (May 31, 2009), you may nominate someone for a free membership by having them fill out a registration form on line at:

http://www.ncwildflower.org/membership_form.html

The Sponsors First and Last Name must be filled in for a complimentary membership.

Give your complimentary membership before the offer expires !!

Congratulations to our 2009 Shinn Grant recipients

Christina P. Stoeckel will conduct a project measuring gene flow, genetic distance and mating barriers among species of the erectum complex of trillium. (Trilliaceae)

Philip B. White is studying High Elevation Grassy Bald Dynamics and Spruce-Fir Forest History, Roan Mountain, North Carolina.

Now available...

It has been spring cleaning time for the N.C. Native Plant Society, and as thankless as the task may be, the results can be wonderful...especially for you!

For a limited time, and on a first-come, first-served basis, we have sets of old newsletters available for purchase.

Some sets are nearly complete records of the history of the NCNPS, with meeting notes and articles from such dignitaries in the botanical world as B.W. Wells, H.R. Totten, Herbert Heckenbleikner, and a great many others.

Just a sampling of the articles included in these old issues are listed below.

These old newsletters have been bundled into sets. The first orders received will get the most complete sets. If you miss those, as the supply is limited, there are less complete sets, at a lesser price.

We have on hand:

7 nearly complete sets (1951—2007) \$25.00 set

10 sets of 28—36 issues (assorted dates) \$12.00 set

Some of these are 'new,' others once belonged to another member.

You will receive an invoice, which will include shipping charges, with your order. If you would rather not pay shipping, you can pick up your order at the June picnic or the Fall trip.

To pick them up at the June picnic, we must have your order before May 24th.

CONTACT: KATHYSCHLOSSER@TRIAD.RR.COM

Call: 336-855-8022

**Write: 1402 Bearhollow Road
Greensboro, NC 27410**

SAMPLE ARTICLE LIST

- The Propagation of Native Plants,
Tom Shinn (Fall 1973)
- Neglected Natives,
Elizabeth Lawrence (Spring 1974)
- The Hoffman Trail,
Linda Lamm (Fall 1977)
- Horsemints: Big Splash of Color
William Lanier Hunt (IFall 1978)
- Which Goatsbeard Did You Say?
Larry Mellichamp (Spring 1979)
- Franklinia
Lionel Melvin (spring 1982)
- The Missing Bateau or The Discovery of a Dendro-
chronologist
Steven W. Leonard (Fall 1985)
- The White Pines Natural Area...Saving A Piece of
The Ice Age
Julie Moore (Spring 1986)
- Botanizing in the Butner Area
Harry LeGrand, Jr. (Fall 1986)
- Two Trout Lilies of the Piedmont
Milo Pyne (Spring 1990)
- Ecological Concerns about Raking Pine Straw
Michael Schafle and Alan Weakley (Fall
1990)
- The H. L. Blomquist Garden in Spring
Edwin Steffek, Jr. (Spring 1991)

**Don't miss this opportunity...these will
make great summer reading!**



Chapter News...

TRIAD CHAPTER

Thanks to the leadership of David McAdoo, and the help of a handful of volunteers, the Triad Chapter was represented at the Earth Day activities sponsored by the Kathleen Clay Edwards Environmental Library in Greensboro.



Members of the Chapter will be working, over the course of the next year, on a plant inventory at Haw River State Park. A small group of volunteers will be working with Ken Bridle, who has taken the lead with the project .



Botrychium simplex
© David McAdoo

The Triad Chapter will soon begin a summer plant study project. We will begin with *Botrychium simplex*, moonwort. The study will include locating plants at a site on Roan Mountain, and sending a report to the NC Natural Heritage Program.

To join the study, send an email to kathyschlosser@triad.rr.com

Check out our re-vamped website

www.ncwildflower.org

NCNPS Calendar of Events

- May 17 Board Meeting, Sandhills
Contact tom@ncwildflower.org if you would like to attend and need directions
- June 13 Annual Picnic,
Photography Workshop
Hagan Stone Park, Greensboro
- Aug. 22 Board Meeting, location TBA
- Oct. 2-4 Fall NCNPS Trip, details TBA
- Nov. 21 Board Meeting
- Jan. 10 A Conversation with People who made a difference in Endangered Plant Protection,
Sunday, January 10, 2010, 2 PM, NC State Museum of Natural Science, Room A Level
(See below for details)

Vonda Frantz worked with the program during the time that Rob Sutter served as the original staff.

The NC Native Plant Society welcomes you to take part in this historical conversation.

For further information, contact Alice Zawadzki, 919-834-4172, alice@ncwildflower.org

DETAILS:

This is the third in a series of conversations with people who made a difference in Endangered Plant Protection in North Carolina.

The conversations in 2009 included the originators of the enabling legislation passed in 1978.

Our guests will include Cecil Frost and Vonda Frantz. Cecil Frost was the second person to staff the NC Plant Conservation Program. During the late 1990s he was successful in the initiation of securing habitats for protection of endangered plants by the NC DA&CS through grants from NCNHTF and NCCWMTF.

Like husband, Gould lands top honor

Sunday, May 3, 2009

http://www.projo.com/outdoors/environmentaljournal/Environmental_Journal_3_05-03-09_CTE7L5T_v6.24a92fd.html



Photo courtesy of Todd McLeish

Lisa Lofland Gould, a founder of the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society and Rhode Island Natural History Survey, has been given the 2009 Distinguished Naturalist Award.

Lisa Lofland Gould, an educator, plant expert and widely sought speaker on Rhode Island native plants, has been given the 2009 Distinguished Naturalist Award by the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, a collaboration of many of the state's natural resource scientists. It is the group's highest honor.

The survey gave the same award in 2000 to Gould's late husband, Mark D. Gould, who had been a co-founder of the survey, a highly regarded scientist and director of the Center for Economic and Environmental Development at Roger Williams University. The two are the first husband and wife to receive the award.

After 33 years, Gould returned to her native North Carolina in 2006 to be closer to family. She returned to receive her award April 23 at the Quonset "O" Club in North Kingstown from Marion Gold, head of University of Rhode Island's Cooperative Extension Education Center.

She was greeted by survey leaders who said her name has become "synonymous with plant ecology, plant identification, invasive species preparedness and natural history trips."

Gould earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. She came to Rhode

Island in 1969 to study for her master's degree in zoology at URI.

She went on to do biological inventory projects as an environmental consultant for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, URI and others. She eventually became one of the state's most widely sought speakers on native plants.

She taught classes for the university's Master Gardener Program and Watershed Watch, the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, the New England Wild Flower Society, The Nature Conservancy and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

She served on the steering committee of the New England Invasive Plant Group and as a volunteer for the Invasive Plant Atlas of New England and the New England Plant Conservation Program.

In 1987, Gould took part in founding the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society, and she served as its president for its first two years. Under her leadership, the group got sea lavender protected under the so-called "Christmas Greens" law.

In 1994, she was part of a group that founded the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, and she served as its first executive director.

Gould also was author, co-author or editor of more than two dozen books and articles, including *Coastal Plants from Cape Cod to Cape Canaveral* with Irene H. Stuckey.

She helped create the annual ecology conferences and brought the annual BioBlitz event to survey various localities in Rhode Island.

The Rhode Island Natural History Survey also presented a posthumous award to William Whitman Bailey, who was the first chair of the natural history department at Brown University.

Born in 1843, Bailey was a field trip leader, author, private school teacher, artist and poet who inspired a generation to study botany at a time when it was considered frivolous. The award was accepted by Johanna Schmitt, a professor of natural history at Brown.

For more information, go to www.rinhs.org.

Lisa is also a member of the Triad Chapter, NCNPS.

Charlie Williams receives award...

Each year, the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society presents the Elizabeth Ann Bartholomew Award in memory of her untiring service to the public, to plant systematics, and to their organization.

The award is presented to individuals who have also distinguished themselves in professional and public service that advances knowledge and appreciation of the world of plants and their scientific, cultural, and aesthetic values, and/or exceptional service to the society.

This year, that award went to Charlie Williams, who said "It came as a stunning surprise at the SABS meeting in Birmingham, AL last month and is for my work on French botanist André Michaux."

You can find a description of the award and a list of previous recipients at: <http://www.sabs.appstate.edu/Awards/Index.htm>

Click on the link for the Bartholomew award.



Charlie Williams in one of his many appearances as André Michaux.

Congratulations, Charlie!



Shortia galacifolia, Oconee bells. One of the plants 'discovered' by André Michaux in the late 1700's.

Photo by Dan Pittillo and posted on the USDA Plants Database site.

© J. Dan Pittillo

From the Archives...

A Report on *Lindera melissaefolium* Found in Bladen County, North Carolina

By Lionel Melvin

It was in June or July of 1933 or 1934 on a Sunday afternoon walk with friends that I happened upon a plant that I had never seen before. Although I had collected herbarium specimens in nearby areas, and I knew most of the woody vegetation of Bladen County, North Carolina, I did not know this shrub; however, I suspected its relationship to *Sassafras*.

On the margin of a pond that was dry at this season, I found one lone clump 20 or 30 inches in height, bearing fruit, with handsome light green foliage. I took a rooted sprout of it for the purpose of having it identified by the botany department of the University of North Carolina; nevertheless, I forgot about it and left it "heeled in" in a damp spot at the end of a water trough never returning to get it. It was not until the Fall or Winter of 1938 that I gave this plant any further thought, and it came about having dinner one evening in the home of the late Dr. W. C. Coker. After we were settled in his living room, the conversation turned to plants and he inquired of my observations of those in the coastal regions. Upon my mention and description of this forgotten plant found four or five years earlier, Dr. Coker surmised that I had found *Lindera melissaefolium* which the botany department of the University had searched for in vain over a period of many years. He asked me to bring living specimens of it when I returned to the University after the Christmas holidays, which I promised to do if I could find the location again.

The leaves were gone and the large pines around the pond had been cut away changing the entire appearance of the locality, but I finally found the clump and brought back three living specimens which were



Lindera melissifolia, southern spicebush. Photo: USDA Plants Database.

planted in the Coker Arboretum for observation. They turned out to be *Lindera melissaefolium* as Dr. Coker suspected. I returned to the location again on the 2nd day of July, 1939, and collected some very good leaf and fruit specimens of *Litsea aestivalis* (L.) Fern. which I had seen growing there when I first found the *Lindera* but did not at that time consider of any importance or interest.

In the Winter following, I visited for the fourth time this location for the purpose of securing plants of both *Lindera* and *Litsea* for propagation purposes and was alarmed to learn that the *Lindera* had suffered from frost. The upper and more tender portions of the plants were dead. The cutting away of the timber left the plants unprotected. My efforts of propagating were interrupted by World War II. When I returned from service, not a living specimen of those I had transplanted could be found.

Archives continued...

In 1949 or 1950 my aunt, Mrs. R. F. Whittle, of R.F.D. #5, Fayetteville, N.C. became interested in the propagation of Lindera, and we succeeded in relocating it, but we collected very sparingly in finding the plants in such plight: there were less of them and they looked sickly. They were dwarfish and the tops were killed back almost to the ground. Since my aunt's attempt at propagation failed, I became more concerned and wrote Dr. H. R. Totten of the botany department of the University of North Carolina about the condition of the plants in the arboretum.

Dr. Totten replied saying that the last of the plants that I had brought up in January of 1939 had died in about 1948, and that Dr. A. E. Radford, curator of the herbarium, with a class of students had already made an effort to relocate Litsea and Lindera without success. He would like very much to make contact with Lindera again and would meet me in Bladen Easter day, April 5, 1953, and have me take him to the location. Plants were fewer but healthier on this visit. The preceding winters had not been quite so severe as others.

I returned again last summer to see whether or not the Lindera had suffered from the drought and found them holding up fairly well, although many of the plants of Litsea had died. On this trip, I found another clump of Lindera on the opposite end of the pond with plants ranging in height from 10 to 20 inches.

My last visit was this past winter and I found the Lindera again sugaring from winter-kill.



Lindera melissifolia. Photo by Joe Ditto, Center for Plant Conservation, http://www.centerforplantconservation.org/ASP/CPC_ViewProfile.asp?CPCNum=2573

This season's efforts by Mrs. Whittle in Bladen County, Mrs. H. R. Totten in Chapel Hill, N. C. and myself in Guilford County promise to be successful. It seems that a loose, loamy, moist and acid soil is needed to assure its growth. Fertilizers used in azalea culture are satisfactory. We are not certain that we can produce fertile seed, but it is reproducing by stolons. No other location of this rare plant is known in North Carolina, and efforts to find it elsewhere, so far, have failed.

This article, re-typed as it appeared, was printed in the May 1954 issue of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society news sheet. It was noted that it was presented by Mr. Melvin at the Spring 1954 meeting of the North Carolina Academy of Science.



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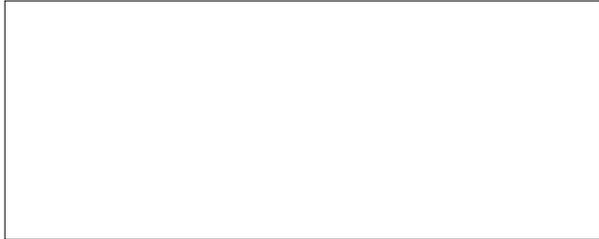
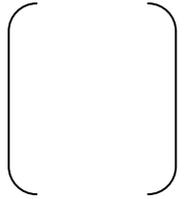
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