

# NATIVE PLANT NEWS

the newsletter of the

## North Carolina Native Plant Society

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SUMMER 2013

### 2013 Fall Trip: October 11–13, Brevard/Pisgah National Forest, Transylvania County



Photo: David McAdoo

THERE ARE MANY beautiful and botanically rich places to visit in Transylvania County, and how fun it will be to explore some of them in autumnal splendor! The county receives some of the highest rainfall in the eastern United States, so it's no surprise that in addition to the rich vascular plant diversity (78 species listed as rare, threatened, or endangered by the NC Natural Heritage Program), there is also a rich diversity of mosses, liverworts, and lichens, including 51 listed species.

We'll begin the weekend Friday afternoon with an optional field trip on the Coon Tree Trail in Pisgah National Forest, near Looking Glass Falls. This is a rich area with a stream, and we'll explore along the creek for fall wildflowers and sharpen our tree identification skills.

Official activities will begin Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. at St. Philip's

Episcopal Church in Brevard, with social time and then a workshop with **Larry Mellichamp** (director of the UNC-Charlotte Botanical Gardens and professor in the UNCC Department of Biology), who will continue to tutor us on fern identification, using the *Fern Finder* featured at the June picnic (additional copies will be available for sale), and taking a look at various ferns that grow in the mountains. Larry will also stress fern and tree ID on the walks he leads during the weekend.

On Saturday we will enjoy an autumn hike on the North Slope Trail near the Davidson River Campground in the Pisgah National Forest. This is a four-mile, easy circle hike, but there will be a shorter option for those who don't want to walk that far. This hike has many ferns, which we hope will still be in evidence in mid-October. There will also be a variety

of wildflowers as well as opportunities to learn tree identification by examining the buds and bark.

Walk leaders for the weekend include Larry Mellichamp, **James Padgett** (inventory biologist for the NC Natural Heritage Program), and **Tom Ferguson** (an ecologist who has worked on some of the Natural Heritage inventories, including the one for Transylvania County).

Saturday night we'll have a catered dinner at St. Philip's Church and then a talk by **Jennifer Frick-Ruppert**, "Seeing the Forest and the Trees: How Mutualism Shapes Ecosystems." She will discuss symbiosis in local ecosystems and how that determines which plants, animals, and other organisms co-occur. Dr. Frick-Ruppert is author of *Mountain Nature: A Seasonal History of the Southern Appalachian Mountains* (UNC Press, 2010) and is an associate professor of ecology and environmental science at

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## President's Letter



*There are multiple ways to be involved in the NCNPS, from attending chapter meetings, to our semi-annual trips to places around North Carolina, to our June picnic. In addition, you can be a speaker in our Speaker Bureau, help at one of our many exhibits, participate in a Chapter work day or rescue, submit pictures for the Picture Gallery on our website, serve on a committee or on the Board, or be a local advocate for using native plants and taking a stand against invasive plants.*

*In this issue [see page 3], you have the opportunity to help with habitat preservation by supporting through contributions the conservation of the Caraway Site in McDowell County, where the only known variety of Oconee Bells (*Shortia galacifolia* var. *brevistyla*) is growing. Many of the sources of money for this type of preservation are currently struggling due to budget crises. We need to help raise money for the survey, and for the appraisal which precedes the acquisition.*

*On a lighter note, you can also be involved by having your yard designated a North Carolina Native Plant Habitat Certified Yard. The NCNPS Native Plant Habitat Certification is an indication that you recognize native plants as a way to common sense gardening, as a link to working with nature, and as a path to environmental wholeness. Your yard will be a haven for wildlife—particularly birds and butterflies—as well.*

*Achieving this certification indicates your commitment to preserving, enhancing, conserving, and protecting our environment. It reveals a desire to educate not only yourself, but also your friends and neighbors, about the intrinsic values of developing a native plant habitat.*

*The application asks you to describe the various groups of plants in your yard. I found it a fun way to assess my yard and see where I could add some variety and diversity. My yard is certification number 28. Upon completion of the process, your habitat will be listed on our website and if you choose, you may purchase a granite marker to display in your yard. Here's the information on how to get your yard certified:*

<http://www.ncwildflower.org/certification/certification.htm>

*I hope to see your name in our list soon!*

*Jean  
June 25, 2013*



# Urgent help needed for an endangered species

NORTHERN OCONEE BELLS, *Shortia galacifolia* var. *brevistyla*, is one of North Carolina's rarest plants and has a history that makes it special to botanists and plant enthusiasts. Found only in McDowell County, growing along a few stream banks, this endangered species is at great risk.

Collected by André Michaux on his initial journey into North Carolina in 1787, one specimen rested in the herbarium of the Jardin des Plantes in Paris. It was there, in 1839, that Asa Gray came across the unidentified specimen, and determining that it was a new genus, named it for Dr. Charles Wilkins Short.

Michaux scholar and *Shortia* enthusiast, as well as long-time NCNPS member, **Charlie Williams**, tells the story from there:

*For almost a century after its discovery by French botanist André Michaux, Shortia galacifolia was lost to*

*science. This low-growing evergreen ground cover was the most sought-after plant in America during the 19th century because it captured the imagination of the dean of American botanists, Asa Gray. The story of Gray's long quest for the "Lost Shortia" is simply the best story in American botany.*

*After eluding the searches of the botanists Gray sent to find it, a teen-ager rediscovered Shortia in McDowell County, N.C., in 1877. The Shortia found in McDowell County, NC, is recognized as a unique variety: brevistyla. It is found only in a handful of populations in McDowell and nowhere else in the world.*

*One extraordinarily good population is privately owned. The owner is willing to sell it to the N.C. Plant Conservation Program in order to ensure its perpetual preservation and care.*

*The approximately 30-acre site is north of Marion bordered on one side by the Pisgah National Forest and on the*

*other three by private lands. It is accessible by a single gated gravel road off the paved highway that has an easement.*

*A small spring-fed branch flows through the property and the Shortia hugs the banks of this small stream for perhaps 3/8 of a mile. The springs feeding the stream are on the property so this entire small watershed could be protected.*

*The owner inherited this property from his father who purchased it in the late 1960's or early 1970's and lived there until he passed away a few years ago. As a boy and young man living nearby, the elder gentleman hunted in the area and knew this property and its forest of giant hemlocks before it was logged in the 1940's. When the larger tract that included the Shortia site was divided, he purchased it, built a small dwelling on the site of the old sawmill, and lived there quietly in his own nature preserve.*

*(continued, page 13)*



Photo: Mark Rose

# Concerning *Amelanchier*

IN THE LAST ISSUE of *Native Plant News*, an article by the late Lionel Melvin was reprinted. Lionel was a dear friend and relative of mine, and one of the greatest botanists I ever knew.

This article is probably his only one that had species confused and I really think he knew better! The confusion lies in the fact that he describes *Amelanchier canadensis* but gives the pertinent characters of *Amelanchier obovalis*. *A. canadensis* is not rhizomatous, does not form colonies and the single trunks may be ten inches in diameter and 24 feet tall. Conversely, *A. obovalis* rhizomatizes to form 4–6 foot tall colonies.

The late J. C. Raulston also was confused on these same two species during his time. He knew little about *Amelanchier* species and could hardly pronounce the word. I had several species in my orchard, mostly dug from the wild. I carried him leaf specimens from a 12 foot tall single one with a six inch diameter trunk. He identified it as *A. obovalis* and I labeled it thusly in my orchard. A few years later I determined it was *A. canadensis*. Why these two brilliant botanists had these two species backward, I don't know!

During my college years and into my professional years, I went up to Lionel Melvin's nursery and studied plants. I bought every species of *Amelanchier* he offered and grew them. I later found every species but the two in question were correctly labeled.

I find that the three species mostly encountered in the coastal plain (and into the piedmont of North Carolina) are *A. obovalis*, *A. arborea*, and *A. canadensis*. In the coastal plain, *A. obovalis* is quite common and blooms first. *A. arborea* reaches the upper coastal plain and is common in the piedmont, but is not very common in the coastal plain. *A. canadensis* is much less common and blooms at least two weeks later than the early blooming *A. obovalis*.

There is a 24 foot tall *A. canadensis*



with a single 5 inch trunk near the northeast Cape Fear River in Duplin County near Wallace.

Around Raleigh, *A. arborea* is rather common, and this species usually is the only one of the above three with cordate (heart-shaped) leaf bases. The Lionel Melvin reprint states *A. canadensis* has a heart-shaped leaf base. He must be describing the *A. arborea* leaf base by mistake. Contrary to this article, I find *A. canadensis* blooms on average two weeks later than the other two.

I have grown most of the *Amelanchier* species, *A. stolonifera*, *A. laevis*, and have an *A. laevis* x *A. canadensis* hybrid now growing. My favorite species is *A. canadensis*. Of my five specimens of this species, I have one close to 20 feet tall with an 11 inch diameter trunk. The fruiting is heavy and the fruit delicious.

For eastern N. C. botanists, the most common one is *A. obovalis*. I've enjoyed this one for close to 70 years but only knew it as "currant," an area name in Sampson, Duplin and Wayne Counties. It was growing wild on my aunt's fencerow.

As I explored and grew *Amelanchier* from the 1960s to the present, I learned a few things both interesting and helpful about the genus. The fruit is delicious

either raw or in pies. There is an *Amelanchier* borer (one for every genus) that enters the tree around ground level and girdles the trunk. These must be controlled similarly to greater peach borers.

It seems in eastern N. C. that *A. canadensis* was the species of choice in old nurseries and orchards. The Worth Aycock Nursery in Fremont knew all about this species of "currant," which is long-lived and can thrive upland. Some of mine are 45 years old. I even found two still thriving in Wayne County that were FDR homestead project trees. They were then close to 60 years old and bearing heavily.

In other areas, states, and countries, there are many synonyms for the several species of *Amelanchier*. Chris Frye of the Maryland Natural Heritage Program is a real expert in this genus (including N. C. species). Alan Weakley in his *Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States* is very accurate and emphasizes leaf and flowers in particular.

*Amelanchier* are rather low-maintenance shrubs for landscaping and the backyard orchard.

A. J. Bullard  
Mt. Olive, N. C.



# Cullowhee Native Plant Conference 2013

The Cullowhee Native Plant Conference was held on July 17–20, 2013, at Western Carolina University. It was the 30th anniversary of the Conference and my first time attending. Although I can't compare it to previous years (maybe the anniversary year was extra special?), I can say without a doubt: the Cullowhee Conference is one of the most informative and inspiring events I've ever attended.

Speakers and their programs included **Doug Tallamy**, "Maintaining Curb Appeal with Native Plants" and "Networks for Life: Your Role in Stitching the Natural World Together"; **Charles Allen**, "Edible Native Plants of the Gulf Coast"; **Tradd Cotter**, "Native Plants and their Fungal Partners"; **Nancy Adamson**, "Native Plants and their Pollinators"; **Johnny Randall**, "Invasive Plants: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"; **Janisse Ray**, "Growing a Wilder Planet."

Combined with good company, a beautiful setting, great field trips, and vendors selling the best of what native plant lovers want to buy (books, t-shirts, and plants!), it was truly an unforgettable experience.



Striped Maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*)



Photo: Robert Jones

*The North Carolina Native Plant Society was well represented in Cullowhee.*

A few notes and facts from Doug Tallamy's sessions that you might find interesting:

Biodiversity cannot be sustained by our parks and preserves because they are too small. We must begin to "landscape for life" in our own yards. This requires reducing lawn. Keep lawn in the areas where you'll walk or play and create outdoor rooms of densely layered native plants everywhere else.

Forest fragments that are separated by pavement are detrimental to many species which cannot negotiate the distance between fragments. Box turtle populations, for example, decline dramatically when their habitat is fragmented. The single most important thing we can do to decrease the damage of fragmentation is to create corridors (of native plants) to reconnect the forest and provide a way for wildlife to move between fragments.

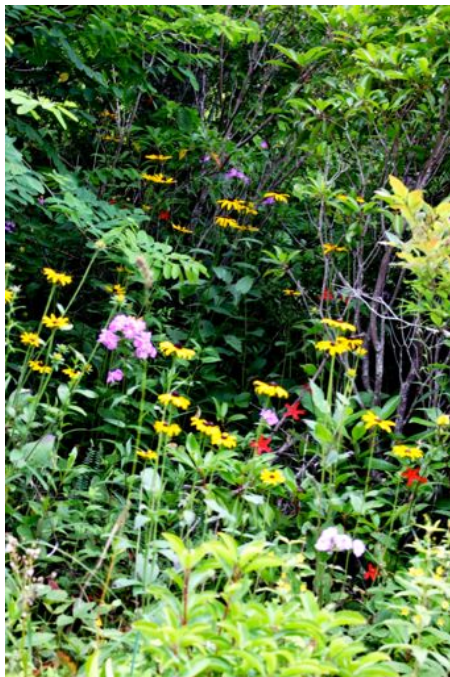
It is fine to have ornamental plants, but think of them as statues—pretty to look at, but they don't do much to support foodwebs; you don't need very many.

With regard to the risk of snakes in a lush landscape: There were 3 snake related deaths in the United States in 2010. There were 361 toaster related deaths.

Concerning insect damage to native plants: In a balanced ecosystem, this is not a problem. And look at it this way: A spicebush caterpillar eats approximately 3 leaves. Can you spare 3 spicebush leaves to make a spicebush swallowtail?

Keep in mind that birds need insects during nesting season, not berries which aren't available until Fall. A baby bird's diet is 95% caterpillars.





Field trips into the gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountains are one of the sweetest benefits of attending a Cullowhee conference. Fields of wildflowers, a seepage bog, and high altitude forests were on the agenda during the “Mount Pisgah to Balsam Gap” tour led by **Tim Spira** and **George Ellison**. Photos clockwise from top left: 1) A favorite stop—the group pulled over to inspect the unusual mountainside bog; 2) Sundew, with buds unfurling, on the moist rocks; 3) Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja coccinea*); 4) one of many colorful wildflower vistas along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Environmental activist and award-winning author, Janisse Ray, read to us from her books such lyrical passages as this one from *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*:

*“Savannas are magnificent wildflower gardens. Something is always blooming grass pink orchids, rose pogonia, rosebud orchids, ladies’ tresses. In the heat of the summer the fringed orchids are torches through the meadows. Blue-eyed and yellow eyed grass, white eyed sedge. Meadow beauties. Fall brings on the composites, purple spires of liatris, also called blazing star, brown rayless sunflowers, goldenrod, bigelowia and coreopsis. The aster balduina pools like orange juice in the wettest places and clumps of pearl-tipped hatpins stick the carpet of forbs to the flat earth. White violets hover low.”*

*Daricia McKnight  
Southern Piedmont Chapter*



# June Picnic and Plant Auction



THE ANNUAL PICNIC was held June 1st at Hagan Stone Park in Greensboro. It is always a good time, and this year was no exception! The food was wonderful and the plant selection fantastic! **Larry Mellichamp**'s fern program provided everyone with some ID and cultivation tips for this under-appreciated group of plants. Thank you to **Lisa Gould** and all who helped bring this party together!

1. We love to eat, don't we? So many good dishes and good friends to share them with!

2. Larry Mellichamp doing what he does so well—from leading a session on native ferns to convincing us we have to have something at the plant auction, there's always a Plant Appreciation class going on!

3. *Calopogon* sp.—just one of the treasures waiting to be snatched up.

4. Getting the scoop and plotting the strategy for the plant auction. You might hear someone ask, "Anyone want to split that six-pack of *Franklinia*?"



# Notes From the Board

## New Way to Manage your Membership!

As our membership has grown, the challenge of managing our data has also increased. To remedy that, we have switched our membership data to software that is accessible across the internet. You will now receive renewal email notices automatically, and will have the option to pay by Paypal. If you would rather pay by check, you can still renew online and then mail in your check. If you don't have email, we will continue to contact you by regular mail, same as before.

You will also be able to register for our events online and pay for them online as well, or register online and then mail in a check. A registration form is available on our website and in this newsletter. You can print that, fill it out, and mail it in as before. If you can register online (even if you prefer to mail in a check) that will help us greatly to reduce paperwork.

Registration is now open for our Fall Trip to the Brevard, NC area. You can register by going to: [northcarolinanativeplantsociety.wildapricot.org](http://northcarolinanativeplantsociety.wildapricot.org)

If you received a renewal notice, you will have received instructions to create a password. If you do not have a password, type in your email address and click "Forgot Password" and you will be directed to a screen where you can create a password. Once you log in, you can click on Events and register. We are working to integrate this software into our website and that should happen soon, but for right now, this will help you manage your membership with us.

*Jean Woods, President*



*New display board in use at the Cullowhee Conference*

## Displaying Our Native Beauties a New Way

The NCNPS spreads the native news at many events across the state throughout the year. The Society now owns the pictured display pop-up board. It provides a professional and appealing backdrop for our educational materials and for the live native plants that often accompany us. It will allow us a new medium for education and to promote our native beauties, not to mention display some of the wonderful photographs from the gallery on our website. The fabric is velcro-receptive. The dimensions of the curved display are 54"W x 12"D x 48"H. It is about 15 pounds with a protective case making it easy for an individual to carry. No tools are required for assembly. It also has a light that can be mounted at the top if there is electricity available at the occasion.

As the Education Chair of the Native Plant Society, I will be working on display materials for the various functions the NPS attends. I look forward to your input and wonderful photographs. The displays will be designed for different audiences. The audiences include, but are not limited to, native plant enthusiasts, the general public, and children. These displays will help us in yet another way to spread the native news and increase our membership. After all, more members means the word will spread farther, faster.

Do you have great, high resolution photographs from educational events put on by the Society? Maybe ones of your native garden that you would like to share? If so, please email them to me at [christyheislars@yahoo.com](mailto:christyheislars@yahoo.com). They may show up in a display and help to show people how beautiful natives are in the landscape, or help to educate someone about the important role of natives in our earth's ecosystem.

We have a wonderfully talented group of individuals that make up our society. Several have volunteered to serve as an email working group to help me with education and outreach efforts such as this. My personal thanks to Mossin' Annie for her in-depth input on displays and materials.

*Christy Larson, Education Chair*



# Notes from the Board

## NCNPS 2014 Spring Trip: May 16–19, 2014

### *The Green Swamp & Lake Waccamaw State Park*

We usually head for the hills for our Spring Trip, but in 2014 we'll visit some of North Carolina's most rare and fascinating habitats, exploring areas of the Green Swamp on Saturday, and Lake Waccamaw State Park on Sunday. The trip is timed to catch Venus Flytrap in bloom, and there will be a variety of orchids, other carnivorous plants (but don't worry, we'll still have a vegetarian option at the Saturday night dinner!), and much else to enjoy. Look for more details at [www.ncwildflower.org](http://www.ncwildflower.org) and in the Fall 2013 newsletter.

*Lisa Gould, Vice President*

## Congratulations to our Notable Members!

The North American Orchid Conservation Center, established by the Smithsonian Institution and the U.S. Botanic Garden, has made **David McAdoo** a featured photographer on the NAOCC website. A nice write-up about David, and many of his beautiful photographs, are now online at this address: <http://northamericanorchidcenter.org/featured>

The Friends of the University of North Carolina Charlotte Botanical Gardens have sponsored the frontispiece of Volume 6 of *Flora of North America North of Mexico* in honor of **Dr. T. Lawrence Mellichamp**. Larry's treatment of Droseraceae will be part of this volume. Larry was author of the treatment of Sarraceniaceae in Volume 8, and also for the treatment of *Aruncus*, Rosaceae, in Volume 9. The frontispiece for Volume 6 will include a drawing (by Linny Heagy) of *Dionaea muscipula*, the plant which first piqued Larry's interest in insectivorous plants.



*Copper Top Pitcher Plants at the Green Swamp Preserve, photo by Daricia McKnight*

## Horticultural Symposium at Daniel Boone Native Gardens

The first High Country Horticultural Symposium was held this year on June 8th. Coinciding with Daniel Boone Native Gardens' 50th anniversary and National Garden Week, the Symposium, "Harnessing the Beauty... Wildflowers and Native Plants," featured four noted speakers: Derek Smith, NC Department of Transportation's roadside vegetation asset management engineer; Dr. Johnny Randall, director of conservation at the NC Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill; Dick Bir, extension horticulture specialist emeritus at NCSU; and Alan Weakley, curator of the UNC Herbarium. The daylong event provided ideas from experts on plantings for landscaping gardens and homes. **Lynda Waldrep** and **Ruth** and **Robert Jones** represented the NCNPS, providing native plant information and inspiration to attendees of the event. Many thanks to them! The event was sponsored by The Garden Club of North Carolina Inc., and Appalachian State University's College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Biology.



*Lynda Waldrep promoting natives at the Horticultural Symposium, photo by Jean Kolk Wilson*



# Two new Native Plant Habitats

The NCNPS has certified two new Native Plant Habitats in the Triangle area.

**Susan Dakin**, in Durham, describes her entire yard as a native habitat, rather than formally designated areas of plantings. As you can tell from her pictures (top three, right), she has planted a rich blend of canopy and understory trees, shrubs, ferns, flowering perennials and vines. We welcome Susan to the Certified Habitats of NCNPS.

**Carolyn Ikenberry**, Chapel Hill, lives in the first home of Paul Green in Chapel Hill. She has drawn heavily on his writings about native plants to develop her habitat. A combination of shade and sun, flat and steep terrain, and stony earth provide challenges as well as opportunities for planting. (Photos at the bottom of this page.) Since Carolyn is the current NCNPS Habitat Coordinator, Tom Harville reviewed and approved her application.

Carolyn strongly urges others who employ conservation practices and plant natives extensively to apply for Native Plant Habitat Certification. The application is found on the NCNPS website, <http://ncwildflower.org>. Carolyn encourages, "The process of applying will help you learn a lot about your garden, and in addition, you'll be a great ambassador in your neighborhood for planting natives." For more information, consult the NCNPS website or call Carolyn Ikenberry, 919-967-6796.





# Chapter News

## TRIAD

For the past year, one of our Triad Chapter members has quietly organized and encouraged a plant data collection study for our surrounding counties. Each month, **Lisa Gould** reminds members to record native plants observed within our geographic area. The information gathered is checked by Lisa, compiled, and sent via email to the full chapter membership, as well as to the Audubon Society of Forsyth County and the Triad Chapter of the Carolina Butterfly Society listservs. A sample of the types of reports we receive, this one from April 10th, is re-printed on page 14. The reports also include a photograph or two from local observers.

This is a relatively simple project that is packed with information and inspiration. If there is a particular plant that you would like to see but haven't known where to look, the information arrives every two to four weeks (depending on the season)—year-round—in your email inbox. How simple is that? We know where plants are found (approximately), when they are in bloom or fruit, and/or when they leaf out. Recently, Lisa has added invasive species status, using the NCNPS invasive list available at <http://www.ncwildflower.org/invasives/list.htm>.

If you would like to contribute, Lisa asks that you send her:

- 1) your observations, including common name, and scientific name (if possible)
- 2) place observed (locale, town, county)
- 3) date observed
- 4) stage (e.g., in bloom, in fruit, leaves only, etc.)
- 5) your name (or name of observer)

Report only for the following counties: Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin. Include only plants that are in the wild (native or naturalized)—no

garden plants. Species with an asterisk (\*) are not native to our area but have naturalized here.

Nomenclature is from *Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States*, Working Draft of November 2012, by Alan S. Weakley, UNC Herbarium, Chapel Hill NC. Available as a free download (a searchable pdf) from: <http://www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm>

We are grateful to Lisa for putting this together, and it occurred to us that other Chapters might be interested in setting up a similar program. It would be wonderful to have all of this information, from around the state, shared on our website!  
*Kathy Schlosser*

## SOUTHERN PIEDMONT

The Southern Piedmont Chapter will be participating in the Hummingbird Festival on August 17th, 10am–4pm, at Reedy Creek Park. **Lisa Tompkins** will be giving a talk at 11am, “Gardening for Hummingbirds.”  
<http://charmec.org/mecklenburg/county/parkandrec/specialevents/pages/hummingbirdfestival.aspx> This event attracts thousands of people and will be a good opportunity to spread the word about native plants! We will not be selling plants, but free handouts and packets of Columbine seeds will be

available.

In September we will visit Mineral Springs Barrens, considered one of the best remaining examples of Piedmont prairie and home of Schweinitz's Sunflower. <http://info.ncagr.com/blog/?p=2839> Details will be available in September.

Also in the works, a trip to Cowan's Ford Preserve in October (date TBA) and a Native Herb Tasting and Fern Propagation meeting, November 10th at 2:00pm.

*Lisa Tompkins*

## SOUTHEAST COAST

The Southeast Coast group visited the farm of **Dr. A. J. Bullard** on June 30. A botanist's paradise, Dr Bullard's place has a large collection of native and exotic fruits as well as rare natives. Our thanks to Dr. Bullard for sharing his wealth of botanical knowledge!

The group also met early on July 21 at Wade Park in Wilmington to remove invasive plants. Popcorn Tree, or Chinese Tallow Tree (*Sapium sebiferum*), and Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*) were cut and the stumps treated. Thank you to **Melanie Doyle** and all the volunteers who gave their time to this worthwhile project.  
*Cary Paynter*



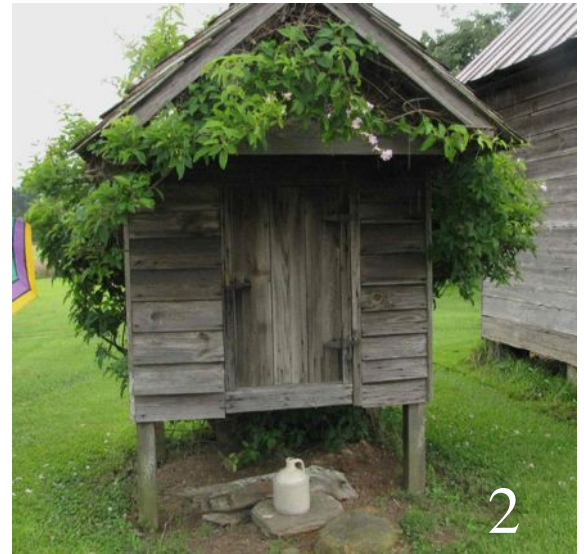
*Wade Park wetland with thriving native species*



# Chapter News

SOUTHEAST COAST, cont.

Field trip to Dr. A. J. Bullard's botanical paradise in Mount Olive



1. Dr. Bullard showing off one of the many vines growing on his property.
2. Exact copy of an old milk house where milk could be held briefly in a cool spot.
3. The native coralbean (*Erythrina herbacea*) is thriving!
4. The grape arbor includes both native and exotic species that will grow in the climate of eastern North Carolina.
5. Enclosure using parts of an old outhouse rebuilt with old wood. This “playpen” was originally devised as a place to grow sandhill plants which need to grow in sterile sand. Many rare native plants grow within. In this small space, there are 67 species, mostly native, from 24 families, including 25 from the Ericaceae family—blueberries, huckleberries, pixie moss and more.





(Fall Trip, continued from page 1)

Brevard College.

On Sunday morning we will go up on the Blue Ridge Parkway to Wolf Mountain Overlook, where there is a vertical bog by the road. This is a very rich site with four species of St. John's-wort, Grass of Parnassus, and several species of gentian, which may still be in evidence. From there we will drive to the next overlook and park for a hike along the Mt. Hardy Trail, with the possibility of seeing Appalachian Turtlehead and a number of other wildflowers.

\* \* \*

For lodging, we have a *very* cool motel offering us group rates. We have reserved a block of rooms at the newly renovated Sunset Motel, Brevard NC; 1-828-884-9106; owner@thesunsetmotel.com; <http://thesunsetmotel.com/>. Group rates range from \$74.99+ tax to \$99.99+ tax/night, depending on the # of beds in the room; there is also a cabin that can sleep 6 people, for \$149.99+ tax/night. All rooms in the Sunset Motel have refrigerators and microwaves. **BOOK SOON (by September 20 at the latest to get the group rate)—this is a holiday weekend at the peak of foliage season, and accommodations will be in high demand. Participants must make their own reservations.**

Other lodging in the area:  
Hampton Inn, 275 Forest Gate Drive,  
Pisgah Forest 28768; (828) 883-4800

The Inn at Brevard, 315 E. Main Street,  
Brevard NC 28712; <http://www.theinnatbrevard.com/>

The Inn on Main Street, 243 West Main  
Street, Brevard NC 28712; <http://theinnonmainstreet.webs.com/>

The Red House Inn, 266 W. Probart  
Street, Brevard NC 28712; <http://www.brevardbedandbreakfast.com/>

*Many thanks go to Jean Woods, Susan Sunflower, Nina Shippen, and Karen Hudson for their help in planning the Fall Trip outings.*

\* \* \*

**Registration form available on page 15 of this newsletter. Or, you may register online at: [www.ncwildflower.org](http://www.ncwildflower.org)**

(Shortia, continued from page 3)

*He was a gracious, gentle man who knew the story of Shortia well and appreciated what a special plant it was. The Shortia plants growing on his property gave him special pleasure and he came to understand what the plants needed to flourish. For years, he actively managed for Shortia by trimming lower Rhododendron branches and blowing leaves off the plants. Under his care, the site thrived and the number of plants increased. His son has followed his father's practices and has an equal, if not greater love for the site and for Shortia.*

*The McDowell Co. Shortia site on the Catawba River visited by Asa Gray in 1879 was destroyed by over-collecting years ago. That should be a reminder to us that we could easily lose this unique variety of Shortia. This site could be the "jewel in the crown" of the N.C. Plant Conservation Program.*

In 2012, Rob Evans, Program Coordinator for the N.C. Plant Conservation Program, had a telephone call from the owners of the McDowell County site. Following a number of visits and deliberation by the N.C. Plant Conservation Board, chaired by Mark Rose, the decision was made to seek funding to purchase the site in order to protect this singular species.

Plans were made, grant application completed, and with some indication that the grant to the Natural Heritage Trust Fund (NHTF) might be favorably received, the Friends of Plant Conservation (FoPC) set about the process of seeking funds for an appraisal and land management. NCNPS graciously offered \$3,000 toward those expenses as soon as FoPC raised a matching amount.

As fundraising proceeded, word came from the NHTF board that the state legislature would be shutting down the fund and transferring any remaining money to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund. The board for that Fund, as we also heard, would likely be dismissed

with new members appointed. With no understanding of how much money the CWTF would have, nor the priorities that would be set, and with time working against us, all involved felt that the purchase of the McDowell County site was in jeopardy.

The FoPC, however, took on the challenge and has been working diligently to raise the \$150,000 needed to purchase, and protect, the site. Grateful for the \$3,000 matching grant, the FoPC asks individual NCNPS members to consider making a donation toward the purchase and management of this most precious of North Carolina sites.

To do so, you can send a check for any amount to Friends of Plant Conservation, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27611-1060. All donations are tax-exempt as permitted by section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. You can keep up with progress at [www.ncplantfriends.org](http://www.ncplantfriends.org)  
Katherine Schlosser  
Charlie Williams

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*Native Plant News* is a publication of the North Carolina Native Plant Society. It is published 4 times a year for our members. Memberships are available online at <http://ncwildflower.org/member.htm> or by contacting Trena McNabb at [trena@tmcnabb.com](mailto:trena@tmcnabb.com). Submissions to the newsletter may be made to Daricia McKnight at [daricia@ncwildflower.org](mailto:daricia@ncwildflower.org).

## DAVIE COUNTY

**Redbud**, *Cercis canadensis* (in bloom—beginning). Woodland edges, 4/6/13 (Lisa Gould).

## FORSYTH COUNTY

**Box Elder**, *Acer negundo* (in bloom). Woods, 3/30/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Red Maple**, *Acer rubrum* (in fruit). Throughout county, 4/1/13 to present (Lisa Gould)

**Sugar Maple**, *Acer saccharum* (in bloom). Throughout county, 4/3/13 to present (Lisa Gould)

**\*Chinese Grape-holly**, *Berberis bealei* [syn. *Mahonia bealei*] (in bloom (mostly past) + fruit). Ruderal, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Hoary Bitter-cress**, *Cardamine hirsuta* (in bloom & fruit). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Redbud**, *Cercis canadensis* (first seen in bloom). Woodland edges, 4/6/13 (Lisa Gould).

**Flowering Dogwood**, *Cornus florida* (first seen in bloom). Throughout county, 4/8/13 (Lisa Gould).

**\*Henbit**, *Lamium amplexicaule* (in bloom). Ruderal, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Purple Dead-nettle**, *Lamium purpureum* (in bloom). Ruderal 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Poor-man's Pepper**, *Lepidium virginicum* (in bloom & fruit). Ruderal, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Fragrant Honeysuckle**, *Lonicera fragrantissima* (in bloom [4/7/13 passing] and fruit [some ripe 4/7/13]). Roadsides, 3/21/13 to present (L. Gould).

**\*Money-plant**, *Lunaria annua* (first seen in bloom). Ruderal, 4/7/13 (Lisa Gould).

**\*Creeping Ladies-sorrel**, *Oxalis corniculata* (in bloom). City yards, 4/3/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Indian Strawberry**, *Potentilla indica* [syn. *Duchesne indica*] (in bloom). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Willow Oak**, *Quercus phellos* (first seen in bloom). 4/9/13 (Lisa Gould).

**Other Oaks**, *Quercus* spp. (first seen in bloom). 4/10/13 (Lisa Gould).

**White Sassafras**, *Sassafras albidum* (first seen in bloom). Woodlands, 4/4/13 (Lisa Gould).

**\*Common Groundsel**, *Senecio vulgaris* (in bloom). Ruderal, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Field-madder**, *Sherardia arvensis* (in bloom). Ruderal, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Common Chickweed**, *Stellaria media* (in bloom). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (L. Gould).

**\*Common Dandelion**, *Taraxacum officinale* (in bloom & fruit). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*White Clover**, *Trifolium repens* (in bloom). 4/7/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Toad Trillium**, *Trillium cuneatum* (in bloom). Woodlands, 3/19/13 (Ron Morris).

**\*Ivyleaf Speedwell**, *Veronica hederifolia* (bloom). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**\*Periwinkle**, *Vinca minor* (in bloom). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**American Field-pansy**, *Viola bicolor* (in bloom). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

**Common Blue Violet**, *Viola sororia* (in bloom—both purple and “Confederate” varieties). City yards, 3/21/13 to present (Lisa Gould).

## YADKIN COUNTY

**Round-lobed Hepatica**, *Anemone americana* [syn. *Hepatica americana*] (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Wood Anemone**, *Anemone quinquefolia* (in leaf). 4/4/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Solitary Pussy-toes**, *Antennaria solitaria* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Spring Beauty**, *Claytonia virginica* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Trout Lily**, *Erythronium umbilicatum* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Virginia Heartleaf**, *Hexastylis virginica* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Bluets**, *Houstonia caerulea* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**\*Henbit**, *Lamium amplexicaule* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Spicebush**, *Lindera benzoin* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Pennywort**, *Obolaria virginica* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Mayapple**, *Podophyllum peltatum* (in leaf & bud). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Bloodroot**, *Sanguinaria canadensis* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Early Saxifrage**, *Saxifraga virginiana* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**\*Common Chickweed**, *Stellaria media* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**Rue-anemone**, *Thalictrum thalictroides* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).

**American Field-pansy**, *Viola bicolor* (in bloom). 3/31/13 (Matthew Perry).



## Brevard/Pisgah National Forest Registration Form

NC Native Plant Society Fall Trip: October 11–13, 2013

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Home)

(Cell)

*We like to have your cell phone # so we can communicate during the weekend, if necessary.*

*Be aware that cell phone reception may be spotty or non-existent in Pisgah National Forest.*

\_\_\_\_\_ NCNPS member registration fee: \$30/ person (\$20 limited income)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ NCNPS member single day fee: \$20  
PLEASE circle *Saturday* or *Sunday*     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-NCNPS member registration fee: \$40/ person     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-NCNPS member single day fee: \$25  
PLEASE circle *Saturday* or *Sunday*     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday box lunch (optional): \$5/ person     \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE circle choice: *carnivore* or *vegetarian*

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday night dinner (optional): \$15/ person     \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE circle choice: *carnivore* or *vegetarian*

\_\_\_\_\_ Join the NCNPS: \$25 for individual membership, \$35 for family     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Registration deadline: RECEIVED by October 4, 2013***

\_\_\_\_\_ I/ we will bring a food item for the Friday evening social (enough for ~4 people—large amounts not necessary).

**Please make check payable to: NC Native Plant Society and mail to:**

**Terry Ball, Treasurer, 716 Kemp Road W, Greensboro NC 27410**

*Confirmation of registration, directions to meeting sites, and other details will be sent on receipt of registration, via email.*

***We have reserved a block of rooms at the newly renovated Sunset Motel, Brevard NC***

***1-828-884-9106     <http://thesunsetmotel.com/>***

*Group rates range from \$74.99+ tax to \$99.99+ tax/night, depending on the # of beds in the room; there is also a cabin that can sleep 6 people, for \$149.99+ tax/night.*

***BOOK SOON (by September 20 at the latest to get the group rate)—this is a holiday weekend at the peak of foliage season, and accommodations will be in high demand.***



**North Carolina Native Plant Society**

% Daricia McKnight  
4635 Carmel Vista Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28226

The North Carolina  
Native Plant Society  
promotes enjoyment and  
conservation of North  
Carolina's native plants  
and their habitats through  
education, protection,  
propagation, and  
advocacy.

[www.ncwildflower.org](http://www.ncwildflower.org)



Carolina Lily (*Lilium michauxii*)  
Photo: Lisa Tompkins