

NORTH CAROLINA *wild flower* PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.



Newsletter

Fall 1975

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Next April 29th, our Wild Flower Society will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Many of the charter members are still very active members today. Our membership approaches the 400 mark. What are we doing to preserve, conserve and increase the number of wild flowers?

The question is an important one, for the recently completed Smithsonian "Report on Endangered and Threatened Plant Species of the United States" lists 16 endangered and 48 threatened species in North Carolina.

The report also lists ways to protect endangered vascular plants:

Habitat preservation must be given the highest priority in all conservation activities.

The size of plant populations should be monitored.

Lists of endangered and threatened plants should be given wide exposure and publicity.

Transplantation and artificial cultivation should be a last resort, always with the ultimate objective of re-establishing the species in its natural habitat.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 is the first Federal law to protect endangered plants as well as endangered animals, but until lists are published in the Federal Register and the Secretary of the Interior issues regulations, habitat destruction and collecting will continue unchecked. Even after the lists become official, the regulations and laws must be enforced.

Our current North Carolina laws "protecting" certain plants need to be revised, since many plants listed are plentiful in some areas of the state while scarce in others. Let's work toward an enforceable law in North Carolina.

See you at the Fall meeting.

Jean Stewart

NORTH CAROLINA'S GARDENS OF NATIVE PLANTS

Throughout our nation there is, at last, concern and alarm focused on the problems of our vanished and threatened species of native plants and plant habitats. In addition to efforts to preserve habitats, much activity is presently being directed toward establishing living botanical collections of native plants. Well established botanical gardens and arboreta in many states are actively renovating neglected native plant collections or looking for additional woodlands and fields to add to their holdings specifically for preservation of regional native flora.

At this time, North Carolina is fortunate in already having five botanical garden developments directed primarily towards preservation of our regional flora through cultivation, propagation, and display. These gardens, situated near or adjacent to university campuses in our state are:

Herbert Bluethenthal Memorial Wildflower
Preserve, UNC at Wilmington;

North Carolina Botanical Garden, UNC at
Chapel Hill;

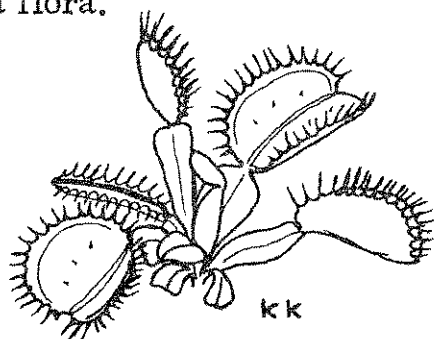
Daniel Boone Native Gardens, near Appala-
chian State University at Boone;

The Van Landingham Glen, UNC at Charlotte;

The University Botanical Garden, UNC at
Asheville.

The most recently initiated of these garden developments is the Herbert Bluethenthal Memorial Wildflower Preserve, begun in 1973 with funds from Mrs. Herbert Bluethenthal of Wilmington, honoring her late husband. The ten acre natural area includes several plant habitats: pond, evergreen shrub bog, swamp forest, and long-leaf pine savannah. The garden's entrance is framed by two impressive head-high cypress trunks which lead into a beautiful trail which is in effect a tunnel through the evergreen shrub layer comprising the lower level of a former swamp forest now in a successional stage leading to a deciduous due largely to ditching necessary for development of the adjacent university grounds. The log trail leads through a cathedral-like area created by selective removal of the shrub layer leaving the open forest canopy ceiling over a virtual ground-cover of waist-high cinnamon ferns, Osmunda cinnamome a. The trail leads to an open pond area and long leaf pine savannah site inspired by B. W. Wells. Here have been established a fairly complete collection of native insectivorous plant species, including the four N. C. species of Sarracenia, S. flava, S. minor, S. rubra, and S. purpurea and hybrids; several species of Drosera are present with Venus' Fly Trap, Dionea muscipula. Growing adjacent to this introduced collection are other savannah associates such as Marshallia spp., Habenaria spp., and Xyris spp. The sandy soil mounded near the pond area offers an excellent site for the establishment of characteristic sandhill and sandridge species. A protective fence

has already been installed and additional trails and plant community habitats are currently under development. Future plans include labelling of plants already present and species to be added in the appropriate habitats. Though very young, it is apparent that this native plant development is quickly progressing toward realization of its potential as a major preserve of southeastern North Carolina flora.

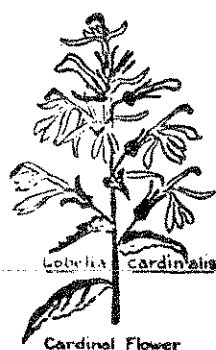


Dionaea muscipula
Venus' Fly Trap

The North Carolina Botanical Garden, adjacent to the UNC Campus at Chapel Hill, is our largest native plant development, comprised of 329 acres of various lowland and upland woods and bluffs of the native relict eastern piedmont form of Rhododendron catawbiense. This Garden, funded primarily by the state and given necessary supplemental financial support by the Botanical Garden Foundation, has an extensive nature trail system in the large unfenced area. Along the nature trail development are newly installed trail guide markers

keyed to two printed nature trail interpretive guides, a soil profile window, and beds prepared and partially planted with common woodland and open field species of wildflowers and interesting weeds. The wildflower habitats maintained within the small fenced maintenance and nursery area are impressive as a demonstration of creating and maintaining specialized plant habitats away from their natural sites. Within this area, a partially cleared flat eastern piedmont pine forest, are established such specialized habitats as mountain laurel bluff, mountain cranberry bog, coastal plain sphagnum bog, pine savannah, evergreen shrub bog, and pond and roadside ditch. These demonstration habitats are of particular interest to photographers who can make visual records of plants that normally would require travelling long distances to the coast or the mountains to find. The nursery beds, temporary sites for the many species propagated from seed or collected by volunteers on "plant rescue" operations are of particular interest during the spring blooming season. This Garden is perhaps most vital as a facility for educational programs for all ages. It covers subjects ranging from native plant identification, general ecology, and plant crafts to various aspects of plant propagation and cultivation.

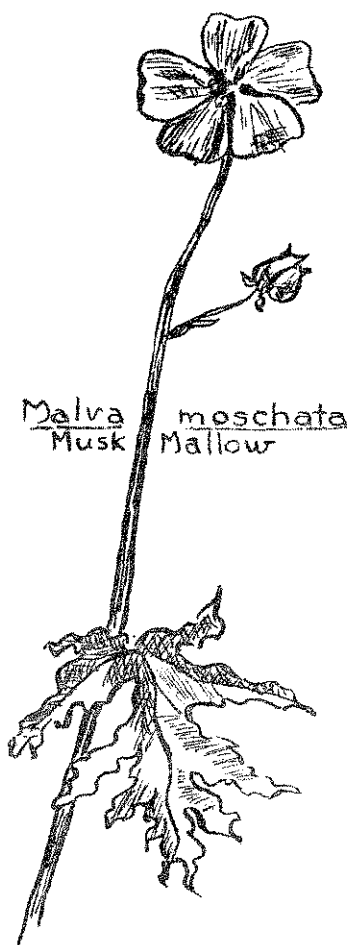
These programs utilize not only staff but also volunteers as instructors and guides.



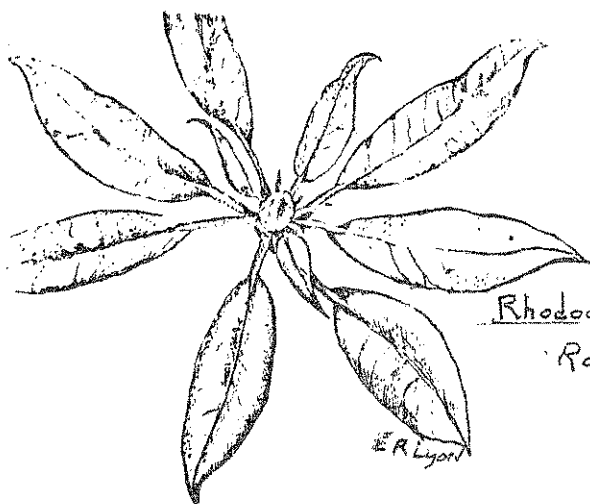
A tasteful blend of the semi-formal and naturalistic design provides an excellent framework for the display of western North Carolina species at the Daniel Boone Native Gardens at Boone. Designed by landscape architect Doan Ogden and supported by the Garden Club of North Carolina, this six acre native plant garden features an azalea-bordered lawn and flagstone path edged with beds of native annuals and perennials. An arbor provides excellent display for various vines including trumpet creeper, Campsis radicans, yellow jessamine, Gelsemium sempervirens, Dutchman's pipe, Aristolochia durior, and several species of Clematis. In the low rock garden area is an impressive ground cover of the high altitude Potentilla tridentata. Structural features of the Garden include a wishing well at the edge of a beautiful grove of paper or canoe birch, Betula papyrifera, a relocated log cabin from the famous pioneer Boone family (the retaining wall behind the cabin allows eye-level observation of a beautiful natural forest herbaceous layer including numerous clumps of Indian pipe, Monotropa uniflora), a maze-like walk formed by a circular Canadian hemlock (Tsuga canadensis) hedge leading to a quiet meditation area, and a high log-laced bridge crossing the service road to a completely natural woodland slope and rhododendron thicket. This woodland area contains a spring beautifully lined with a moss- and stone-covered stone wall, with a narrow stepping stone path along the small stream. The path leads through a thicket of Rhododendron maximum, giving a visitor the real feeling of a

laurel thicket without the effort of climbing over and under looking for a passage to sunlight. Of particular interest are unusually large specimens of Viburnum cassinoides, V. alni-folium, Chionanthus virginicus, Lindera benzoin, Malva moschata, and a beautiful Franklinia altamaha, which unfortunately blooms after the Garden is closed in early fall.

Primarily a rhododendron garden, the five-acre Van Landingham Glen, initiated and endowed by the late rhododendron enthusiast Ralph Van Landingham, is located in a wooded area of the UNC-Charlotte Campus. More than 2,000 rhododendron -- exotic and native -- already established along the quiet locust log-lined forest paths, form the basis of a major collection of Rhododendron species hardy in the Southeast. The development of this natural garden is directed toward maintaining it in its natural condition as an intensive botanical study area, to include as many of our native trees and shrubs as



can be successfully established within the available habitats. A low wet area, unsuitable for rhododendron varieties, is suitable for plants of the eastern coastal plain. In addition to the groundcover of violets and other spring herbs, a lover of very early spring wildflowers may consider a special trip to the Glen to see what is thought by many to be the largest natural stand of liverleaf, Hepatica americana, in our state.



Rhododendron maximum

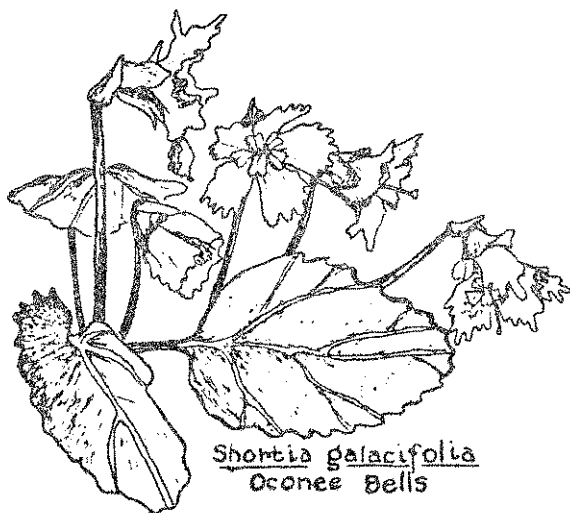
Rose Bay

Another native garden beautifully designed by Doan Ogden and executed and maintained entirely by volunteer workers and private donations is the University Botanical Garden at Asheville, formerly the Asheville Botanical Garden. The entrance to the Garden overlooks a grassy lawn divided by an active stream and bordered by long perennial beds and masses of native azaleas and rhododendron. Perhaps the finest feature of this Garden is the stone walk curving gently up and around

the wooded hillside at the center of the development. The upper side of the walk is lined with a rock wall which allows the observer to study at eye level the variety of mountain flora established and maintained by volunteer workers along the entire length of the walk, which leads past large beds of many species of orchids and sheets of Shortia galacifolia growing as if it were in its original native woodland. An authentic pioneer log cabin has been reconstructed on a restful grassy opening near the far turn of the path which leads back eventually to the main entrance. The lower return path passes through a shaded rhododendron collection and a sunny rock garden development having at its lower edge

a wet habitat for semi-aquatics. Several bridges offer various views of the streamside vegetation; a terrace area near the entrance features in the center a water fountain and several beds of insectivorous species, including many

of the coastal plain forms apparently very content in their mountain garden home. Along the edge of the flat terrace area, a stone wall supports a waist-high border of textured and scented herbaceous perennials and annuals and shrubs specifi-



Shortia galacifolia
Oconee Bells

cally planted for ease of feeling and smelling. In addition to the complete collection of mountain species, a fine display of piedmont and coastal wildflowers, shrubs, and trees are well established in this Garden.

For additional information or arrangements for special programs or guided tours:

Herbert Bluethenthal Memorial Wildflower Preserve: visiting hours not yet determined; contact Dr. David J. Sieren, Dept. of Biology, UNC at Wilmington, P. O. Box 3725, Wilmington 28401.

N. C. Botanical Garden: 8-5 weekdays all year except holidays, 10-4 Sat, 1-4 Sun, closed weekends Nov.-Feb.; for special programs or tours contact Ms. Dot Wilbur, N. C. Botanical Garden, Coker Hall, UNC, Chapel Hill 27514.

Daniel Boone Native Garden: daily except Mon., 9-5 May-June, 9-7 July-Aug., closed during winter months; for additional information call 704-264-5987 May-Aug. or Mrs. C.S. Stallings at 704-264-3830.

The Van Landingham Glen: open daily; for information write to Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner, Biology Dept., UNC at Charlotte, Charlotte, N. C.

University Botanical Garden - Asheville: open daily; for special programs or guided tours write to Mrs. John W. Davis, 17 D'arcy Lane, Asheville, N. C. 28804.

The following people generously supplied information for this article:

Dr. David J. Sieren, UNC at Wilmington; Ms. Dot Wilbur, UNC at Chapel Hill; Mrs. W. B. Braxton, Greensboro, for the Daniel Boone Garden; Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner, UNC at Charlotte; and Mrs. Charles S. Frost, UNC at Asheville.

Ken Moore

Editor's note: The above general description of North Carolina wildflower developments is the first of what we hope will be a continuing feature of NCWFPS Newsletter issues. Our next issue will contain a description of another native plant garden and Elizabeth Lawrence's early spring visit to the N. C. Botanical Garden at Chapel Hill. We wish to feature not only large public gardens, but also the numerous private native plant developments throughout our state, such as the Thomas Shinn native plant development near Asheville and the Greencroft Wildflower Garden near Louisburg. If you would like to report on a personal visit to any such wildflower collections in the state or if you know of a garden which should be featured, please contact us.

JOYFUL PLANT

Carl Linnaeus named the pitcherplant "nepenthe" which in Greek means "a freeing from or oblivion from grief." He chose that name because he felt it was such an unusual plant that any botanist seeing it for the first time would at once forget all his past troubles and be filled with joy.

PHLOX STOLONIFERA

A plant of open woodland in the Appalachian highlands from Pennsylvania to northern Georgia, *Phlox stolonifera* provides us with a handsome and floriferous mat-former of rather simple culture. Even well to the north of its native range, it will produce in abundance during May loose clusters of long tubed, flat faced blossoms atop stems of six to eight inches. These flowering stems arise from a clump of oblanceolate leaves that form along the stoloniferous stems at rooting nodes. After flowering, there are sent out from each leafy clump new stolons that in turn root and produce new flowering plants to flower the following spring. In this manner and in ideal situations of light shade, leaf-moldy but well drained soil, a single clump might in time march on to infinity.

A mat so formed may be endlessly divided for propagation in late summer after the new stolons have developed leafy clumps rooted beneath. Or stolons may be rooted as cuttings. Individual plants vary in their vigor, abundance and length of stolons, height of flowering shoots, size of flowers, and color of blossoms.

The general run of plants in the wild will produce flowers tending toward a rather dense purplish pink, but clones of distinctive color have been selected and named. "Blue Ridge," a strong grower, has a color leaning more to blue than purple. "Pink Ridge," less vigorous, is at the pale pink end of the scale. Dr. Wherry, our authority on the phlox genus, selected two outstanding clones which are slowly getting into the trade: "Melrose," named for a town in Louisiana near which it was found, a rapid grower with large flowers of a glowing deep pink, and "Daybreak," whose name suggests the delicate pink of its blossoms. There is another clone of a glowing deep violet color of considerable distinction. The source of this plant is not completely known. I received a division of it from Henry Fuller who thought that he, in turn, had gotten it from Edgar Totten, an early secretary of ARGS. Though not officially christened, this stunning clone of slow and rather weak growth is referred to in my garden as "Sherwood Purple" to commemorate Fuller's Sherwood, where I first acquired the plant.

For many years admirers of *P. stolonifera* had been wishing for a white-flowered form. It seemed reasonable that eventually a white sport would turn up. In the early '60's John Osborne received a shipment of the species that had been collected in Tennessee. Amidst the tangle of plants which resulted from close planting these collections, there appeared among the predominately good pink forms one that carried flowers whose circular faces were definitely white. On close inspection, to be sure, there was a flush of pink on the reverse of the petals and on the tube. But here, at last, was in effect a "white stolonifera." This plant was teased out of the snarl of its companions and propagated for distribution, and it was greatly admired.

Soon there arose the rumor of a true albino P. stolonifera without a trace of flush of color. In fact, such a plant seemed to appear rather simultaneously at the Arnold Arboretum, at the University Botanical Gardens at Asheville, N. C., at Harold Epstein's nursery in Larchmont, N. Y., and in at least one private garden in Wilmington, Delaware, about 1969.

Because of its outstanding beauty, Mr. Epstein propagated this clone and began distributing it, and because it had not been previously named, he christened it "Ariane" for a favorite grand-daughter. It was through the perceptive eye and propagating skill of Mr. Epstein that this splendid white-flowered P. stolonifera began to be made available to growers in the Northeast, and in fact it has been carried to England to grace the gardens there.

Because it seemed unlikely that an albino form so long sought would appear simultaneously in so many scattered gardens, I became curious as to the wild source of this plant. As I had previously done with the double bloodroot and the double pink anemonella, I began trying to trace down the original discovery of this new phlox. My intention was not to pierce the veil of mystery with which most owners of the plant wished to shroud this new Moby Dick, nor to diminish the rightful priority to its distribution. I just think it is of scientific interest to know that the double bloodroot was first found wild near Dayton, Ohio, and that the double pink anemonella, now in general cultivation, was first found by a Mr. Oscar Schoof in a graveyard in Minnesota.

When the name Thomas Shinn came up more than once in discussion of the albino P. stolonifera, I wrote to Mr. Shinn. He is the president of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society. His reply to my letter about the white phlox is dated February 14, 1973, and it gives the following background history:

April 23, 1959 was a real Red Letter Day for us. On that date Mrs. Shinn visited a spot in the western part of Haywood County, N. C., where we had seen what was taken for P. stolonifera. It was then in bloom. The most of it was in varying shades of blue, and there were some which were definitely pink. What really stood out prominently, however, was a small patch of pure white. We were both highly elated over her find, but not until later did we realize just what a prize it was. The habitat was a wide level area bordering a mountain stream. A mixed growth of hemlock, birch, and alder made it moderately shady. The soil was somewhat sandy, but very rich in humus. Other plants growing in the same area were galax, hepatica, trillium, phacelia, violets, and ferns. Later, the same day, she found both the white and pink forms of double anemonella on a hillside of mixed hardwoods.



Phlox STOLONIFERA

In May 1967 the American Rhododendron Society held its annual meeting in Asheville. Quite a number of the delegates visited our place to see our wildflowers. One morning Mr. and Mrs. Epstein came out, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Lukins. When told that we had a white form of *Phlox stolonifera* since 1959, Mr. Epstein stated that he and Dr. Wherry had been looking for such a plant for more than 20 years and that he would have slept easier for the past eight years had he known of its existence. He was given a start for his own garden and a second clump for Dr. Wherry. He wrote me the following spring to say that the phlox was growing nicely, but that it had not bloomed. At about the same time he sent me a number of plants, including double blood-root and double rose-colored anemonella.

During the summer of 1969 I had a number of rooted cuttings on hand. These were given to friends and to gardens attached to the various branches of the University of North Carolina. In addition we made donations to other botanical gardens along the Eastern Seaboard, between and including Arnold Arboretum and Callaway Gardens.

In 1970 I began propagating cuttings early in the season, so that by late spring I had between four and five hundred rooted cuttings on hand... In the fall of that year... I set out as many of the plants as I could handle and donated the rest to garden club members or other interested people.

Thanks to the sharp eyes of Mrs. Shinn and the promotion of Mr. Epstein, this wonderful plant is now gracing many of our gardens.

H. Lincoln Foster

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HELP PRESERVE ROAN MOUNTAIN

A letter from John Curry, President of the Conservation Council of North Carolina, voices concern that only a very small portion atop Roan Mountain is owned by the government. The Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy is currently trying to raise the two million dollars necessary to purchase 12,000 acres, a tract large enough to insure preservation of the meadows, before the area is sold by private land owners for commercial or resort development. They are counting on a collective effort of many individuals and organizations interested in the preservation of native plants in their natural habitats. Tax deductible donations of \$500.00 will purchase one acre in the name of an individual or organization. Likewise, \$25.00 donations will symbolically purchase a rhododendron, azalea, or mountain ash. Donations payable to Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy should be mailed to: Mr. R. Philip Hanes, Jr., P. O. Box 749, Winston-Salem, N. C. 27103. Mark checks: "For Roan Mountain."

Support of this effort is worthwhile, particularly since it is positive action to save our endangered natural areas before land developers actually own the land and before the bulldozers have begun their work. Roan Mountain on the North Carolina - Tennessee line is one of the finest Southern Appalachian examples of subalpine grassy balds and natural rhododendron heaths.

A Summary of
MY SEARCH FOR A BLIGHT-RESIST-
ANT NATIVE AMERICAN CHESTNUT TREE,
CASTANEA DENTATA

Apparently a completely blight-resistant American chestnut tree does not exist. However, may I share the information I have gathered in the hope you will lead me to such a treasure if, by chance, you discover one.

European chestnuts, hot and roasted, were always a special treat in my family. My interest in the American chestnut began when my mother told of gathering the sweetest of chestnuts during her childhood. Articles about that mythological delicacy have always caught my eye. When my wife and I acquired our Virginia Blue Ridge Arcadia two years ago, and I saw the skeletons and shoots of those once magnificent trees, I decided to search for blight-resistant chestnut trees. Thus far I have obtained few promising seedlings to add to the native shoots which are struggling for survival. I plan to propagate this material by grafting or planting shoots as soon as possible. Even these seedlings may not prove resistant on our land. It seems that distribution of the most promising plant material is almost limited to exchanges between organizations engaged in research programs. To date I have found two nurseries which list American or American-hybrid chestnut trees.

The loss of chestnut trees in the forests of eastern United States is surely one of the greatest tragedies ever to occur from introduction of foreign plants. The parasitic fungus, Endthia parasitica, native to Japan, China and Korea, was introduced into New York in the 19th century and was first observed and recognized at the turn of the century in the New York Zoological Park. The fungus spread rapidly and no tree in its path seems to have been able to resist eventual destruction. According to James Thurber, even his great uncle Zenas succumbed to the blight!¹

Restoration of the American chestnut tree is worthy of effort comparable to that expended in sending man to the moon! At the very least, the United States Department of Agriculture should be encouraged to revive its program of chestnut tree research, discontinued in 1960. No tree can fill so many needs of man as the chestnut once did. Its nuts are reputed to be the sweetest of the 13 known varieties. Its wood has many desirable characteristics. The surface assumes a beautiful gray finish by weathering or a warm brown satin-like finish by oiling and rubbing or varnishing, rivalling walnut in beauty. The wood is a cabinetmaker's delight and makes attractive paneling, with or without the help of worms. Many an attractive chestnut rail fence still stands due to its decay resistance. Chestnut wood rives into fine shingles and has been used for railroad ties, poles, fence posts, pilings, mine props, siding, building logs,

pulpwood and fuel. As a shade tree it had few peers and its spreading habit of growth over the American scene is universally remembered through Longfellow's poem, "The Village Blacksmith."

Several isolated patches of susceptible trees exist where fungus has not been carried by birds, insects, wind, or man. There are rays of hope because the basic genetic material survives through the existence of these trees and the tenacity of the tree to send up shoots or bear a few nuts before succumbing to the blight. However, the new shoot growth rarely becomes large before it, too, succumbs.

There is general agreement that a genetic change is necessary before a blight-resistant American chestnut tree can appear. Genetic changes may come from natural causes, seed irradiation or hybridization. Systemic fungicide treatment with chemicals shows promise.² Other modern fungicides also have been used for blight control. I am inclined to favor hybridizing as the best approach to achieving blight-resistance along with the desirable characteristics of the native tree.

1. Thurber, James, MY LIFE AND HARD TIMES.

2. See Item 1 under Bibliography.



Castanea dentata
American Chestnut

Note: Travis Thompson of Stantonsburg has furnished the writer with chestnut seedlings which came from Dr. Totten's.

My meager contribution to progress after several years of searching and much letter writing, is only the following compilation of references:

Organizations Active in Chestnut Research

1. Northern Nut Growers Association (NNGA), 4518 Holston Road, Knoxville, Tennessee 37914. Membership--\$6.00; publication, "The Nutshell," issued quarterly; members report information of interest in annual report. Latest issue was 65th for year 1974, includes transactions, papers, nut growing plans, "minor" fruits, too. Comments: emphasizes commercial aspects; reviews research reports; strong ties with NAFEX.
2. Stronghold, Inc., 4931 Upton Street, NW, Washington, D. C. 20016 or Sugarloaf Mountain, Dickerson, Maryland 20753. Membership--\$6.00; publication, bulletins with many contributions from Dr. Albert Dietz; reviews research reports.
Comment: Non-profit organization; 3,000 acres of natural area; restoration of chestnuts is one aspect of activity, including planting of 2,000 trees; emphasis appears to be toward irradiation of seed nuts; 5,000 - 10,000 irradiated nuts are being distributed annually as well as seedlings when available.
3. North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX), c/o Henry Converse, 1848 Jennings Drive, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431. Membership--\$3.00; publication, "The North American Pomona," issued quarterly. "Head Tester" for chestnuts: A. H. Freer, Route 1, Fordsville, Kentucky 42343.
Comments: Non-commercial, emphasizes fruit, but includes berries and nuts; members exchange and make available various plant material; strong ties with NNGA.
4. National Parks and Conservation Association, 1701 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, D. C. 20009. Leo F. Pahl, Chestnut Consultant, 8136 Ventnor Road, Pasadena, Maryland 21122.
Comment: Only native nuts and shoots are being planted; seedlings being grown for planting in national parks; seed nuts may be available for distribution when surplus exists.
5. University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
6. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee (Dr. Eyvind Thor)
7. University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
Comment: Professor Ralph Singleton was associated with U Va before his retirement. He is now consultant to the Lesesne State Forest, Virginia Division of Forestry, Charlottesville, Virginia.
8. Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven Connecticut. (Dr. Richard A. Jaynes)
Comment: large collection of chestnut species and hybrids; none available for general distribution.

Nurseries Which List American or Hybrid Chestnut Trees

1. Lundy's Nursery, Route 3, Box 35, Live Oak, Florida 32060.
Comment: Very limited supply of grafted hybrid chestnut trees of at least two strains developed by Dr. R. T. Dunston.
2. St. Lawrence Nurseries, Route 2, Heuvelton, New York 13654.
Comment: Specializes in home orchard plantings. Has at least six strains of promising American and hybrid chestnut trees.

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1. "Control of American Chestnut Blight by Trunk Injection with Methyl-2-Benzimidazole Carbonate (MBC)," Jaynes, Richard A. and Alfien, Neal K. Phytopathology, vol. 64, no. 11, Nov. 1974.
2. "Propagation of Chestnuts and other Difficult-to-root Plants from Softwood Cuttings," Jaynes, Richard A. Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Annual Report of Northern Nut Growers Association, Knoxville, Tennessee, 1974.
3. HANDBOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN NUT TREES, Jaynes, Richard A., editor. Knoxville, Tenn., Northern Nut Growers Association, 1969.
4. "Germplasm Reserves of North American Nut Trees," Jaynes, Richard A. Fruit Varieties, vol. 28, no. 4, pp. 95-99, Oct. 1974.
5. "Nursery Practices for the American Chestnut," Dietz, A. (Paper). Wadsworth, Ohio. Jan. 14, 1972.
6. "The Search for Blight-resistant Chestnuts Continues," Jaynes, Richard A. Horticulture, Aug. 1974
7. "Chestnuts," McKay, John W. and Jaynes, Richard A. HANDBOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN NUT TREES. (See Item 3).
8. "Dear Chestnut Friend," identification bulletin by Pahl, Leo F., National Parks and Conservation Association.
9. "Chestnut Blight and Resistant Chestnuts," United States Department of Agriculture Bulletin 2068, 1959.
10. "The Use of Radiation to Produce Blight Resistant Strains of the American Chestnut, *Castanea Dentata*," Paper by Singleton, W. Ralph. (Continuation and up-dating is included in 65th Annual Report of the Northern Nut Growers Association, Knoxville, Tennessee).
11. NUT GROWERS HANDBOOK, Bush, Carrol D. Orange Judd Publishing Co., 1953.
12. "The American Chestnut 1973," Thor, Eyvind. National Parks and Conservation Magazine. Reprinted in Nutshell (Northern Nut Growers Association), Fall 1974.

C. C. Grassia

To all those who have yearned to see the late Francis Harper's definitive book about the Okefinokee Swamp folk come into being -- there is exciting good news!

Watch for THE OKEFINOKEE FOLK -- Dr. Delma E. Presley of Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, Georgia, is editing this book.

LOOKING

When we were negotiating the purchase of our home place in Chapel Hill, if the real estate agent had said we would find a wide variety of wild flowers and weeds on our quarter acre lot we would have regarded his statement as nothing more than "Sales talk" and would have considered it with a large "Grain of Salt." But our first March when we saw a bluet blooming in the yard our interest was aroused and our farming background and horticultural curiosity prompted us to keep LOOKING until heavy frost in the fall. When we made our final count in November, eighty one species representing fifty five genera and twenty nine families had been found and there were a few we could not classify with assurance. Our trees, of which there are pines, oaks, hickory, red cedar, ash, wild cherry, red-buds, sourwood and dogwood, were not included.

When we were living in another state, friends and neighbors had heard us speak often about the North Carolina mountains. That because of their ancient origin they were different from mountains of more recent origin, because with the passage of eons of time, the rugged starkness of newness had been eroded away and they now presented a more symmetrical contour covered with hardwoods, pines, firs and hemlocks that presented a soft beauty no other mountains possessed. That in the spring they presented the appearance of vast soft carpets of every shade of green and in the fall another vast carpet of brilliant fall colors. About mountain-top meadows covered with acres of rhododendron, mountain laurel and flame azalea.

The knowledge we gained from looking carefully at our vegetation gave us a familiarity with the place that made us feel more at home. The experience also reminded us that different species prefer and require different habitats. This fact is worth remembering when we go to rescue plants from the path of the bulldozer and the concrete-mixer. We know of one garden in the Piedmont in which Shortia transported from the mountains has been planted repeatedly where looking carefully at its habitat might have meant the difference between failure and success.

One couple was sufficiently impressed by our sales talk to drive down and see for themselves. They returned full of enthusiasm and told us about a "Most majestic and beautiful tree." As we discussed the tree and its tulip-like flowers, it became quite obvious that from a mountain slope they had been able to look down at -- instead of the usual up at --

a yellow poplar or tulip tree. When we reminded them that they had a rather nice specimen in their own back yard, their reaction was that of total disbelief. Their poplar was about two feet in diameter at the base.

Their having to travel hundreds of miles to discover something of beauty in their own back yard reminds one of Maeterlinck's Bluebird that flew away from home looking for happiness and, after years of looking, flew back home and found it.

A very close acquaintance of ours who was an executive in a large organization visited the flower show at the Grand Central Palace in New York City and was so impressed that he determined to have a small rose garden at his suburban home. He had never planted a rose bush and knew nothing about rose culture, but as an executive he had learned that decisions not based on knowledge could be unfortunate and also that half-way measures were not the most profitable. He therefore, by reading and talking to knowledgeable people, learned the proper preparation of the rose bed, the planting, feeding, watering, the diseases of roses and how to control these diseases. He followed explicitly the advice of the authorities, even to enriching his rose bed with cow manure, which his wife discovered was not easy to come by in a large suburban community after much telephoning and search by automobile. The second blooming season after his roses were planted he exhibited them in the flower show and was awarded a blue ribbon.

The difference between "Green thumbs" and "Brown thumbs" is knowledge and attention to details. Fortunately, both of these assets can be acquired.

The moral of these true fables was expressed three hundred years ago by Samuel Butler when he wrote

Look before you, ere ye leap;

For as you sow, ye are like to reap.

Andrew J. Warren

REMINDER: Treasurer is now Mrs. Gretchen Cozart, 900 West Nash St., Wilson, N. C. 27893. Membership is \$2.00/year, due on May 1st.

CLARIFICATION OF INFORMATION IN AN EARLIER ARTICLE

Dear Mrs. Stronach:

I wish to thank you for the fine presentation of my carnivorous plant article in the spring, 1975 issue of the NCWFPS Newsletter. A few additional comments seem in order.

In my CP inventory listed on pages 13-14, the editor has asterisked (*) the plants native to North Carolina. Drosera brevifolia should have been included. While not easily found because of its size and close resemblance to D. capillaris with which it often occurs mixed, the species is locally abundant. It is listed as D. leucantha in the Manual, the double designation being the result of a debate between Shinnars and Wood regarding the status of the taxon. Shinnars was for splitting the herbaria specimens listed as D. brevifolia into three taxa: D. brevifolia, D. capillaris (specimens allegedly misclassified) and a new taxon D. leucantha. To make a long and rather complex story short, Wood answered the challenge several years later in a paper far more reasoned, researched and eloquent than Shinnars' somewhat testy attitude, and made a strong case for retaining one taxon: D. brevifolia. Unfortunately, Shinnars passed away and was not able to rebut. As the matter stands presently, I am inclined to agree with Wood until something more compelling comes up in the way of studies than Shinnars'.

Also, Sarracenia purpurea ssp. purpurea has been mistakenly marked; S. purpurea ssp. venosa should have been indicated. Again, this is a long story, but briefly this species has the widest range of all pitcher plants, extending in a roughly oblique range across nearly the entire North American continent. As would be expected in such a large range, there is rather striking clinal variation at either extreme, the plants of the diffuse clinal junction in the New Jersey pine barrens having a somewhat intermediate character in some bogs. There is continuing debate on whether the variations are genetic or environmental, but my own transplant studies lead me to believe that Dr. Wherry is correct in designating two subspecies, the more southern one which occurs in North Carolina being ssp. venosa.

Route 4, Box 275B
Statesville, North Carolina 28677

Also, I would like to mention that S. rubra ssp. jonesii (I strongly endorse Dr. Wherry's designation) does indeed have a very pronounced flower fragrance similar to that of the lowland S. rubra plants. I have noted this fragrance repeatedly over several seasons of flowering in culture, as have many others who are growing the plant. There is no chance that cultures of the ssp. have been mixed with lowland S. rubra since the latter does not occur in the range of ssp. jonesii (contrary to one earlier report) and the morphologic differences between the two taxa are quite clear when flowering size is reached. I think much of the confusion on where this ssp. lies in relationship to lowland S. rubra lies with the fact that pitchers of ssp. jonesii have the character of S. rubra when the former are juvenile, collected in early spring or if the plants are depauperate. This problem points up the error in rapidly collecting herbarium material from the field and accepting this particular stage and variant of a large population as typical when indeed the collections are rather static and represent relatively few plants. One cannot come to know a plant well from herbarium and one or two field trips alone; he must make multiple visits to marked locations throughout the seasons and must successfully cultivate the plant in order to truly learn its biology. If this were done by those who debate mainly on the basis of herbaria alone, I think Dr. Wherry's thesis would be seen more clearly.

Sincerely,
(signed)
Donald Schnell

CORRESPONDENCE

Winston-Salem, N. C.

2 June 1975

Dear Mrs. Lamm:

Thank you for your review of my husband's book, Trees and Shrubs of North Carolina, in the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society Newsletter...

I have kept some copies of the book and am glad to fill orders for it. I have, however, given 1600 copies to the Department of Biology of Wake Forest University, the proceeds from which will go to the Coker Memorial Fund, and I should like to direct orders to the University. That fund, established by gifts of family and friends, will be used by the Department of Biology in training students to serve mankind.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Elton C. Coker

MINUTES OF THE SPRING MEETING

The Spring Meeting of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society was held on May 25, 1975, at Elk Shoals Methodist Camp, located on the New River in Ashe County, North Carolina.

The new Treasurer, Mrs. Sydnor Cozart, and the new Secretary, Mrs. Lee Murray, were introduced by the President, Mrs. Pearson Stewart.

Miss Bessie Pope reported a current treasury balance of \$881.26. She also reported that Miss Clela Rich, long-time member, was deceased.

Mercer Hubbard expressed appreciation for the fine articles submitted to the Newsletter.

Teeny Stronach displayed the new brochures featuring the Lady Slipper on the cover; they are to be placed in the Botanical Gardens and in schools.

A successful Field Trip to Raven Rock was reported, with 25 members participating.

Nell Lewis reported that some progress had been made on Operation Wildflower. Banks of Highway 421 between Greensboro and Siler City have been planted. Seeds are being collected and sent to Mrs. Clayton Beane in Siler City.

Ken Moore suggested a special page in the Newsletter in order to list any plant and seed exchange among members. This way more people will know what is available.

North Carolina has proclaimed New River a Wild and Scenic River. Now the issue is before our national leaders. The Society went on record favoring preservation of New River and voted to contribute \$100 to the committee for this purpose. Members were urged to write supportive letters.

A very special "thank you" was given to Miss Bessie Pope, treasurer for the past 18 years. Mrs. Braxton presented her with a copy of The Appalachian Wilderness as a token of appreciation from the Society. Mrs. Emma Nance was recognized as the Society's first treasurer.

Genera of the Eastern Plants, new publication by Mr. Wade Batson, was announced. Copies may be secured from Mr. Batson.

Upon information from Mr. Bob Connor, the Society agreed to support the Beverage Container Bill and also to request the Natural and Economic Resources Department of the State Government to refrain from using State Park moneys for the new State Zoo.

After lunch, Mrs. Polly Jones, Secretary for the Committee for the New River, introduced the speaker, Mr. Sidney Gambill, retired lawyer from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The New River is the second oldest river in the world and the only river in the East that flows North. The Blue Ridge Project would flood the farm lands along the valley and cause many people to have to relocate. It is very important that the New River be protected nationally by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Mr. Gambill urged the very active support of the Society.

Mary Margaret McLaurin, a native of the area, then led a caravan of trucks and cars up to her father's home overlooking the river. There members had the privilege of a guided tour, viewing many rare and endangered plants of Western North Carolina.

Availability of life memberships for \$100.00 was approved.

Clara Murray, Secretary

PLANT PROPAGATION COMPILATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Members of the NCWFPS, Inc. possess a vast storehouse of practical, first-hand knowledge in the propagation of wild flowers, the compilation and printing of which would be of invaluable use, not only within our organization, but to anyone interested in the conservation of wild flowers.

Board members voted at the August business meeting to accept this compilation as a project. We would like for each of you to share your secrets of success in growing wild flowers, especially the difficult species. Of equal importance is what might have caused failure in your efforts to propagate these plants.

Lionel Melvin, Gordon Butler, Thomas Shinn and I have agreed to edit this material. Please bring any information, whether of success or failure, to the next meeting, or mail any time to one of the above members.

Julie Moore, who will work with us as an advisor, feels that our combined expertise can result in a publication that we might eventually sell for the benefit of our botanical gardens.

Nell Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Smoky Mountain Autumn Trail Ride

October 14, 15, 16, 17, 1975 (Tuesday 3:00 pm to Friday 1:00 pm)
Cataloochee Valley, Great Smoky Mountain National Park

A three-day base camp in the Cataloochee Valley with daily rides to different habitats from 2000 to 6000 foot elevations in the valley, up the coves and along the ridge to see the array of fall flowers. The rides will be led by Dr. C. Ritchie Bell, Director of the N. C. Botanical Garden and co-author of Wild Flowers of North Carolina.

Fee: \$160 (\$150 for members of the Botanical Garden Foundation). The fee includes all meals, camping equipment and horses. Cameras are welcome and realistic time will be allowed for photography.

For application and further information, write: Mr. Frank Schell, Mondamin Wilderness Adventures, P. O. Box 8, Tuxedo, N. C. 28784. The ride will be limited to 10 participants; spaces will be filled in order of the receipt of the completed registration forms and a 25% deposit.

Smoky Mountain Autumn Wild Flower Camp

October 17, 18, 19 and 20, 1975 (Friday at 3:00 pm to Monday at 2:00 pm).
Cataloochee Valley, Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

A three-day base camp in Cataloochee Valley with daily hikes to different habitats from 2000 to 6000 feet elevations in the valley, up the coves and along the ridges to see the array of autumn colors and flowers. The hikes will be led by Dr. C. Ritchie Bell, Director of the N. C. Botanical Garden and co-author of Wild Flowers of North Carolina.

Fee: \$100 (\$92.50 for members of the Botanical Garden Foundation). The fee includes all meals and camping equipment. Participants will be sleeping on the ground in lean-tos or tents, using sleeping bags -- all provided by Mondamin Wilderness Adventures at no extra cost. Cameras are welcome and realistic time will be allowed for photography.

For application and further information, write: Frank T. Schell, Director, Mondamin Wilderness Adventures, P. O. Box 8, Tuxedo, N. C. 28784. The camp will be limited to 20 participants; spaces will be filled in order of receipt of the completed registration form and a 25% deposit.

SEED AND PLANT EXCHANGE

It is hoped that many will be interested in sharing seeds and plants, so that an effective exchange may be brought about. If you can share, please notify us; if you have needs, perhaps some member can help you.

List of seed, available either now or later in the season from Tom Shinn (his address is found in the membership list);

Aesculus pavia
Ac. sylvatica
Aquilegia canadense
Baptisia alba
B. pendula
Cassia marylandica
Chionanthus virginicus
Fothergilla parvifolia
Halesia carolina
Helonias bullata
Lilium canadense (yellow with red strips on outside of petals)
L. superbum
Lobelia cardinalis
L. syphilitica
Minutus ringens
Parnassia grandifolia
Pedicularis canadensis
Belamcanda chinensis (a few. Not a native)

The North Carolina Botanical Garden has available seeds of Sarracenia flava, Liatris spicata, and Lobelia cardinalis. Write to Charlotte Jones, N. C. Botanical Garden, Coker Hall, UNC, Chapel Hill 27514.

The Fern Ladies at the N. C. Botanical Garden would like healthy rhizomes of native ferns for the Garden's display collection of North Carolina ferns. Species needed for this fall include

<u>Osmunda claytoniana</u>	<u>D. campyloptera</u>
<u>Adiantum pycnocarpon</u>	<u>D. cristata</u>
<u>Cystopteris protrusa</u>	<u>D. celsa</u>
<u>Dryopteris marginalis</u>	<u>D. Goldiana</u>
<u>D. spinulosa</u>	<u>Thelypteris phegopteris</u>

Please get in touch with Mrs. Thomas C. Butler, University Lake Road, Chapel Hill 27514 or send plants UPS to N. C. Botanical Garden, Laurel Hill Road, Chapel Hill, N. C. or to Coker Hall, UNC, Chapel Hill, attention Ken Moore.

N. C. WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION
SOCIETY, INCORPORATED
P. O. BOX 58
PITTSBORO, N. C. 27312

FIRST CLASS MAIL
