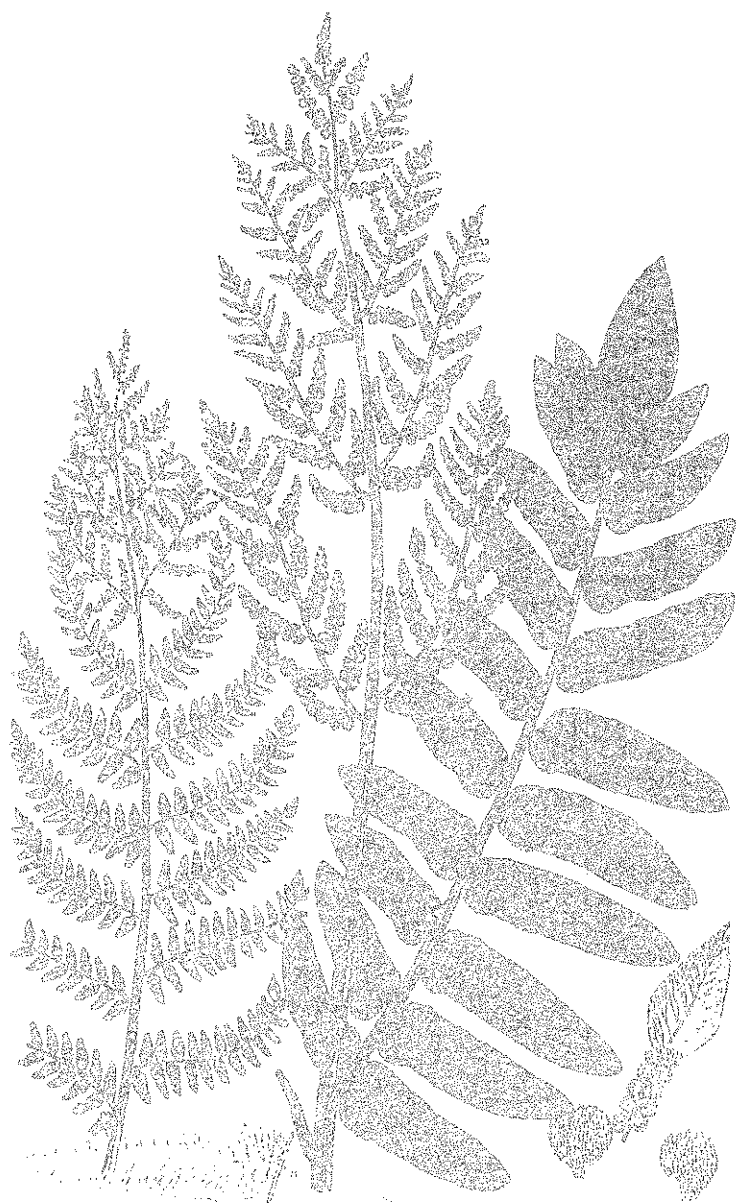


NORTH CAROLINA *wild flower* PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.



Royal Fern
Osmunda regalis

FALL 1993
Volume V, Number II N.S.

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NEWSLETTER
of
North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society

CONTENTS

President's Message	2
Calendar	3
Wild Weed.....Peter Maddrey.....	4
Spring Meeting 1993.....Edward C. Swab.....	7
Ancestors of Spring.....Laurence C. Early.....	6
Nature's Champion: B.W. Wells, Tar Heel Ecologist Book Review.....Benson Kirkman.....	7
Parks Bond	8
Spring Board Meeting	9
Spring Business Meeting.....	10
Rock Cliff Farm	11
Parks Fund.....	12

Cover: *Osmunda regalis*, royal fern, a fern of very wet areas. This print was taken from an early nineteenth century fern manual.

Editors' Note – Nature abhors a vacuum - and so do editors!

You will note in this issue of this statewide Society's *Newsletter* articles, announcements and materials that principally concern the Triangle portion of North Carolina. We include these with no apologies. They are interesting, germane and certainly these Triangle happenings are open to all members of the Society.

Do remember that we cannot include material that has not been submitted! We welcome material about wildflower related activities and concerns from all parts of the state.

Further, do remember that the *Newsletter* needs articles of North Carolina botanical import and interest.

We know that there are stories of wildflower knowledge, questions, problems solutions, opportunities in the hearts and minds and eyes of the Society's members. Please help us unlock these stories - and send wildflower related articles, squibs, notes, suggestions and other comments. Lengthy, footnoted scholarly material is not a requisite (although welcome); North Carolina interest is.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As an opener, I refer all members back to my message in the Spring *Newsletter*. In that message, I wrote of the transition of the Society, with some of our mainstays stepping down from leadership positions and new members coming into the Society. These new members come from all parts of the state and, in keeping with the Society's best traditions, from the full spectrum of knowledge and interest.

We have added new faces to our Board of Directors who bring new ideas and energy. All of us welcome our new members and additions to the Board, Ann Goodman as Recording Secretary and Charlotte Patterson as Trustee.

In that same message, I reminded you that the Society will hold elections in Spring 1994. Several important offices will be changing, including mine and possibly the *Newsletter* Editor. I will be appointing a Nominating Committee this fall, and would like suggestions from the full membership.

I recall from my old political theory course, that in the old Greek democracy if one was not an informed participant, then he was essentially a criminal.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to all members and we would like to have more members-at-large participate in the committees. Committee chairs are listed on the inside front cover of the *Newsletter*, and I invite you to contact me or one of them for committee participation. We are an all-volunteer organization, and as an all-volunteer organization some of the most rewarding moments come through true participation and the sharing of the fun and the responsibility.

Many of you have volunteered in the past, and some of those volunteers have been utilized. To those who have given valuable service and shared the excitement without acknowledgement, I thank you. To those who have volunteered and not been properly utilized, I apologize – but don't give up. As we build our committee structure, more and new opportunities will develop.

To all of our members, old and new, I offer these simple opportunities. Share the NCWFPS with friends by showing them a *Newsletter* and inviting them to join and participate in our outings. In addition, gift memberships are appropriate for all sorts of occasions. Help the NCWFPS grow by sharing the excitement.

Please note that I have repeated several lines from the last *Newsletter*, but I believe that they are worth repeating. Maybe that comes from being the first three-term president of the Society, or from the fact that I have become a political candidate in recent weeks. My personal belief that the Society needs new leadership and the fact that I am a candidate for the Raleigh City Council from District D (southwest Raleigh) aid my resolve. I will be around like many of my predecessors to assist new officers and Board, but not to criticize them for any changes in style or form. That's part of the wisdom of our By-Laws; former presidents become members of the Board of Directors for life. I also hope to be a more active contributor to the *Newsletter*.


Benson Kirkman

CALENDAR

NCWFPS EVENTS

April 23-24, 1994

Spring 1994 Meeting; Uwharrie Mountains (volunteers needed to help with local arrangements; contact Eric Hawkins or Benson Kirkman.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

October 3, 2 PM

B.W. Wells/Rockcliff Farm hike led by Slip Stoddard (NCSU Geology) and Donna Wright (NCSU Botany); call Falls Lake Recreation Area office to register (919-676-1027).

October 24, 2 PM

B.W. Wells/Rockcliff Farm hike led by Benson Kirkman; call Falls Lake Recreation Area office to register (919-676-1027).

October 30

"Planning for Livable Cities – Protecting Our Rural Landscapes" conference (A Vision for Quality Growth) at the NC Biotechnology Center, Research Triangle Park; for registration information, contact: UNC-CH Environmental Resource Program, CB 8165, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8165, phone 919-966-7754.

November 13, 9AM

November 20, 9AM

Martin Marietta Plant Rescue; Christmas fern, ebony spleenwort, evergreen ginger, partridge berry, running cedar, hepatica, dwarf iris, native shrubs, trees, and more. Call Benson Kirkman (859-1187) to register or for more information: \$12.00 for TLC members, \$15.00 for nonmembers; proceeds to the Reid Wildflower Garden Endowment.

Helpers Needed for Triangle Land Conservancy Workdays (call the TLC office at 919-833-3662, or Benson Kirkman)

October 9, 9AM

White Pines Workday; trail and bridge construction, removal of exotic species, etc.

October 16, 9AM

Margaret Reid Workday; stream stabilization, removal of exotic species, trail construction, wildflower transplanting, free tours of the garden and more.

October 23, 9 AM

Swift Creek Bluffs Workday; parking lot construction, trail construction and maintenance, removal of exotic species, etc.

Every Wednesday evening from 6 PM until dark, volunteers meet at Margaret Reid's Wildflower Garden to remove exotics, transplant wildflowers, prune, and many other tasks. Helpers with any level of expertise are needed; workers get free tours of the garden, free advice from leaders, and a chance to learn and contribute to this wonderful project. To volunteer or for more information, call the TLC office at 919-833-3662.

SAVE A TREE

Chemical spills, Paint, paint thinners, oil, concrete washings, and other items are frequently poured near trees and can kill roots.

Preventive measures can be taken during the design and construction phases to alleviate much of this damage. A professional arborist or urban forester should evaluate the trees and decide which are the most practical to save, considering the tree's growth habit, life cycle, location, health, age, and desirable characteristics.

Younger trees often can withstand disturbance better than older ones, and healthy ones better than diseased ones. Some tree species with a higher root regeneration capacity can better tolerate root disturbance. Some tree root systems are not extensively branched and some are quite shallow, so when their roots are damaged, it is more detrimental.

Trees are among our most valuable resources. They can't get up and run away when they see a bulldozer or backhoe coming their way, so they need us to protect them. We must continue our efforts to reestablish and preserve our existing and native plants whenever it is feasible.

Denise D. Delaney

Horticulturist

National Wildflower Research Center

NCWFPS GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for a friend or relative who shares an interest in the "natural gardens" of North Carolina? Give them a membership in the Society and invite them to our next meeting. A gift membership is also appropriate for a thank you, a birthday, an anniversary, a graduation, or just a friendly gesture. **SHARE YOUR SOCIETY!**

WILD WEED

Purple Loosestrife is Choking Off Forsyth County Plants

Purple loosestrife, a pesky aquatic weed that can be as aggressive as kudzu, has found its way to North Carolina, where it has infested about seven acres on two sites in Forsyth County.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection Section has started measures to eradicate it and to control the spread of the weed across the state, according to Gene V. Cross, an NCDA weed specialist who heads the project. "It's a very aggressive plant," Cross said.

Purple loosestrife is spread by seeds floating on water. The seeds can move downstream and take hold on stream banks and wetlands, he said.

"Loosestrife establishes itself quickly and will choke out cattails and other aquatic plants, Cross said. the weed can replace native vegetation that provides food and nesting habitat for wildlife, and it can clog drainage ditches that are vital in farming operations.

Purple loosestrife, botanically known as *Lythrum salicaria*, has purple to pale pink blooms in summer and will grow from 2 feet to 8 feet tall.

A showy plan in bloom, it has been offered by some nurseries and garden stores as an ornamental for backyard landscapes, he said.

Cross said he does not know how the Forsyth County infestations started.

Toby Bost, a Forsyth County cooperative-extension agent, said that nursery-men saw the loosestrife last fall as they rode southeast of Winston-Salem on the new section of Interstate 40, and reported it to agricultural officials.

About five acres of purple loosestrife infestation has been identified off Robbin Road in sight of I-40. It is mostly Duke Power Co. right of way. Another two acres has been identified adjacent to I-40 east of its intersection with High Point Road. Both areas drain into Fiddler's Creek.

Duke Power and N.C. Department of Transportation personnel helped Cross and other NCDA specialists survey the area.

Mike Angell, the NCDA plant specialist for this area, said they surveyed about 4 square miles of the watershed surrounding the infested sites but found no other infestations.

At the Robbins Road site, last year's growth is dead but still stands about seven feet tall.

This year's growth of loosestrife is thick and already 2 feet tall.

"The first growth comes from the rhizomes. Growth from seeds comes later," Angell said.

The plant is distinguished by its square stem. Otherwise, it can be mistaken for other plants. Cross said that look-alike plants include smart weed and joe-pye weed.

Cross said that purple loosestrife was brought from Europe to North America in the mid-1850s. It is now found across the United States and the southern provinces of Canada. In Minnesota, it is found in more that 1,440 sites covering 38,000 acres.

The N.C. Board of Agriculture voted unanimously on March 30 to declare purple loosestrife a noxious weed. Effective June 1, movement of this plant will be restricted. The N.C. Department of Agriculture is preparing pamphlets to help people identify purple loosestrife.

Cross said that a sighting of suspected loosestrife may be reported to his office at N.C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh N.C. 27611-7847, or by calling (919) 733-6930.

He said that information needed in a report include the location – county, township, nearest road intersection – and the approximate number of plants or acreage of the affected area.



Purple Loosestrife
Lythrum salicaria

Editor's Note: Only a few days after the previous article appeared in the NC Farm Journal and a similar one by the same author ran in the Winston-Salem Journal, I was at Reynolda House, the beautiful mansion of the pioneer tobacco family, helping with flower arrangements. Imagine my surprise to find great drifts of *Lythrum salicaria* dominating the perennial gardens adjoining the terrace.

I called the newly appointed landscape designer for the gardens and asked her if she realized the present status of this purple loosestrife. She was aware, she said, but continued that the plant lists she inherited from her predecessor listed it as "Morden's Pink", a supposedly sterile cultivar.

Since then I have tried to get information from nurseries. The local nurseries had no information on any of this. Both Kim Hawks of Niche Gardens (a native plant nursery in Chapel Hill) and Toby Bost, Forsyth County Agricultural Agent were aware of so-called "sterile hybrids". Kim said she did not trust them and declined to stock them. Toby faxed the material I am using.

This subject intrigues me and I am doing some research which I shall report in the next *Newsletter*. Incidentally, USDA has prepared a slide program on this subject. For additional information on this, write or call Gene Cross, Weed Specialist, NCDA, PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611, 919-733-6930.

SPRING SOJOURN AT STONE MOUNTAIN

Edward C. Swab

Fine weather, enthusiastic members, beautiful scenery, and lovely late spring flowers converged at the spring Wild Flower Preservation Society meeting at Stone Mountain State Park on May 15-16, 1993. Although the meeting was headquartered at the Comfort Inn in Elkin some miles away, nothing dampened the spirits of the large number of participants once in the desired habitat.

On Saturday, May 15, we had the help and expertise of Vaughn McGrady, former staff member, and his daughter Robin McGrady, former Seasonal Naturalist, of Stone Mountain Park. Jack Green, Western District Interpretation and Education Specialist for the Division of Parks and Recreation, along with Bob Tuggle, Benson Kirkman, Eric Hawkins, and Craig Moretz became our leaders as we biked up, over, and around Wolf Rock and Cedar Rock. Because of the large turnout, the group was divided and hiked from opposite ends of the trail, meeting and exchanging leaders at Wolf Rock.

The granitic domes with their large size were a sight to behold in addition to the fantastic views of the surrounding countryside from the outcrops. A closer look at the rock, with its potholes, rivulets, exfoliation grooves and pockets, revealed the subtle process of primary succession on bare rock. Lichens of different colors could be observed, along with the blackish moss *Grimmia*. On the edges of depressions where rock detritus, plant materials, and moisture collect, we found Greenland wort (*Minuartia* = [*Arenaria*] *groenlandica*) at its peak, Pine weed [a St. John's Wort] (*Hypericum gentianoides*), False Dandelion (*Krigia*), Panic Grass (*Panicum*), Fescue (*Festuca*), and other herbs. Where the soil was somewhat deeper, we observed Shrubby St. John's Wort (*Hypericum prolificum*), Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), Virginia Pine (*Pinus virginiana*), and Rock Chestnut Oak (*Quercus montanus* = *Q. prinus*). The endangered Keefer's Bristol Moss (*Orthotrichum keeverae*) was found and examined from one of the trees listed above. Needle Grass (*Stipa avenacea*), was common and very lovely in the Cedar Rock area, giving a soft grassland-like appearance to the fringes of the rocks and trail sides. Janice Swab, while responding to a question about mosses, entered her lecture mode and gave one group a well-received mini-lecture on the life cycle of mosses. Although the rocks were beautiful, they were heating up, and the cool shade of the dry oak-hickory forest was welcomed.

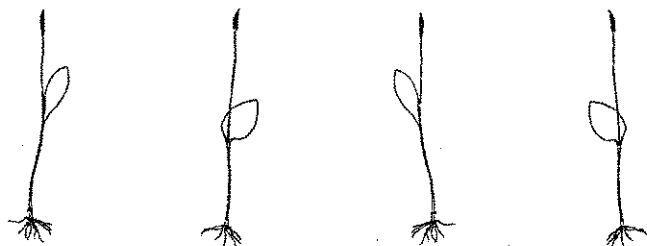
From the rocks we adjourned to lower elevation and some refreshing stream-side shade for our picnic lunch. After lunch, we headed for Garden Creek Natural Area. We had some uncertainty as to where the trail was, but the faithful flock followed fearless flower finders forward finding fabulous flora. Bushwhacking is a fine way to become intimate with many plant characteristics and properties. We saw lots of interesting things, including one large concentration of May-apples (*Podophyllum peltatum*), but no really outstanding species. One memorable event was the writer's demonstration of a *Peziza* (a cup fungus) "puffing." Just opposite the Garden Creek Baptist Church was a small popula-

tion of large Jack-in-the-Pulpits (*Arisaema triophyllum*), one of which has two spathes (pointing toward each other) and over the spadix (the Jack)! None of us had ever seen one like it!

The catered dinner at the Comfort Inn was outstanding - plenty of food, well-prepared, attractive, and the final test, delicious. It was followed by a program of beautiful slides of roadside flowers and plantings by Ed Ingle of the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Roadside Environmental Section. A long and involved question-and-answer session stimulated much discussion and many ideas.

Sunday's sojourn to the meeting place at Doughton Park proved that many of the members are more adept at reading botanical keys or hiking trails than they are with deciphering tiny road maps and fuzzy photographs! (I just checked the Sunday schedule and saw that there was no stated starting time for the Sunday hike; therefore, no one was late!). The huge crowd (it looked HUGE), was divided into several groups with official or newly-drafted leaders. Some of the members in the more advanced (distance-wise) group made numerous stream crossings on their way up toward the Blue Ridge. The intermediate group hiked a bit slower and made fewer crossings, and the last group took in "everything" up to the first major stream crossing. Eric and Tim Hawkins made it to the Showy Orchis (*Orchis spectabilis*) site only to find a few past-flowering plants (maybe it was a bad year for them), but a lot of Adder's Tongue Fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum* var. *pycnostichum*) in the same area. Bob Tuggle was amazed at the willingness and enthusiasm with which the "senior citizens" took off and on their shoes many times on this long hike. He also found and carried a snake in his pack until someone was able to identify it (it was a water snake). Benson Kirkman said his group was generally awed by the raw beauty of the site, even without showy displays of flowers. Although many expected wildflowers were not found, Pink Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), Squawroot (*Conopholis americana*), and Fire Pink (*Silene virginica*) were seen.

This weekend reminded us that though we do not always find what we had expected in Nature, we still find infinite variety in what She has to offer. There was something special for everyone. From strolling in the lush cool woods, or sitting on a liverwort-covered rock with bare feet caressing smooth pebbles, to hearing the streams' soft murmurings from afar, or listening to the sweet song of the wood thrush, no one would argue that the group excelled in enthusiasm and appreciation for this beautiful natural area of North Carolina.



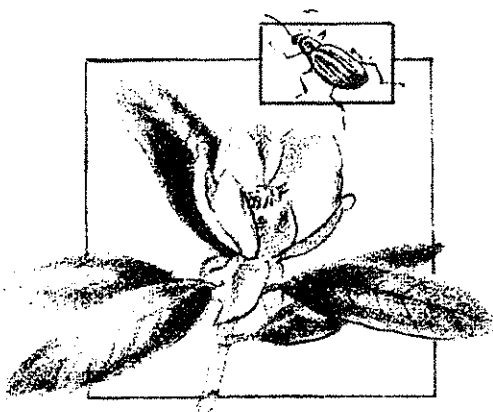
Adder's-Tongue Fern: *Ophioglossum vulgatum*

ANCESTORS OF SPRING

by Lawrence S. Earley/illustrated by David Williams

You can't go anywhere in the lowlands in June without being floored by the heady fragrance of magnolia. With their large, creamy-white flowers – in some species they grow as much as a foot across – and dark green leathery leaves, these beautiful and aromatic trees are familiar presences in landscapes of every sort.

Though magnolias are among the latest of our spring bloomers, their ancestors were among the earliest of earth's flowering plants. Fossil remains of extinct, magnolia-like plants have been found as far back as the early Cretaceous Period (about 125 million years ago), and their descendants persist today with remarkably little change.



The origins of these primitive flowering plants are still mysterious. Flowering plants, or angiosperms, are thought to have arisen well after the conifers (gymnosperms) had advanced plant evolution through wind pollination. But during the dinosaurs' reign, plants resembling today's magnolias pioneered what was then a revolutionary kind of reproductive method – pollination by insect. It was so successful that the result is all around us today – a springtime display of flowers of every size and description, ranging from the relatively simple structures of the magnolias to the complex and highly specialized organs of the orchids.

Beetles were the dominant insect when magnolias first evolved; it would be several million years before other pollinators – bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, birds and bats – enabled plants to diversity in a thousand directions. Even today it's mainly beetles, and only secondarily bees, that carry on the work of magnolia pollination. Searching for pollen and other foods, the beetles crawl into the tight, erect blossom of a young magnolia flower. Clumsily negotiating the inner recesses of the flower, they deposit pollen carried from another flower's stamen onto the stigma, thus completing pollination.

The magnolia's fruit develops during the summer and, in the fall, the seeds, now bright red, emerge from the cone-like fruiting structure and hang by threads to be eaten by birds. The bright colors of the seeds attract birds to carry them farther than the tree could drop them.

Magnolias have an unusual distribution. They were once part of a broad forest that occupied much of the northern hemisphere, growing quite close to the polar region. But when the climate grew colder, this forest pushed south into two main areas: eastern North America, with outlying populations from Mexico

to Venezuela, and eastern and southern Asia (China, Japan and India). Thus magnolia trees are among many other tree species – including sassafras, yellow popular and sweet gum – common to North America and Asia.

About 80 magnolia species are found worldwide, although only eight are native to the United States and six to North Carolina. Native magnolias include the Coastal Plain's Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), the sweetbay magnolia (*M. virginiana*), also found in the Coastal Plain, and the Fraser magnolia (*M. fraseri*) located in the mountains. Although native to North Carolina, many of these magnolias are only a small component of our forests, appearing normally as ornamentals. Along the coastal Gulf region, however, magnolias are an important part of the beech-magnolia forest type.

As the aroma of magnolia trees softens the air, think of these trees as haunting relics of the earliest days of flowering plants, an experiment so successful that today we measure spring by their presence.

(From *Wildlife in North Carolina*, June, 1993)

Conservationist

As one who in 1922 hiked up the old trail to Indian Gap (New Found Gap had not yet been found) and the crest trail to Clingman's Dome, I am in a position to know much about the scientific and scenic value of the high Smokies. I am going to be blunt. To put any more roads across this surviving wilderness will be a social crime! It will cheat the coming generations of sensitive lovers of the natural world from experiencing the undisturbed grandeur of our longest and highest eastern mountain range. The people who are really interested in and appreciative of our mountain preserves are always willing and glad to hike many miles to enjoy them. To open up this proposed road will be a start on the way of developing another Maggie Valley. Let me repeat. It will be a social crime to initiate any further inroads on this remarkable wilderness area. –Bertram Whittier Wells, 1966

NATURE'S CHAMPION: B.W. WELLS, TAR HEEL ECOLOGIST

A Review by Benson Kirkman

To those of us who were fortunate enough to meet and know Bertam Whittier Wells during his lifetime, he remains a positive force, motivating us to lofty goals. For those who have been introduced to B.W. Wells only through his pioneer work and publications in ecology, or through his devoted "disciples," the picture of the man and the mystique is often sketchy and disjointed. Many in North Carolina and elsewhere know Dr. Wells only through his classic book, The Natural Gardens of North Carolina, first published in 1932 and still the best introduction to the natural diversity and ecology of North Carolina.

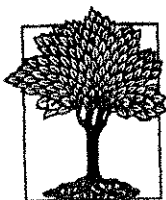
James R. Troyer's new book, Nature's Champion: B.W. Wells, Tar Heel Ecologist, is perfect for all audiences, ranging from the curious who just enjoy a good book to those who seek a deeper understanding of B.W. Wells. Troyer, who is himself an accomplished and dedicated teacher at N.C. State University, translates his in-depth, factual research and first-hand knowledge into an entertaining and informative biography.

From his opening glimpse of the 20th-century Renaissance Man in the Acknowledgements and Prologue to his closing summation in the Epilogue, Troyer presents a realistic picture of B.W. Wells. He paints a portrait of a highly-motivated human being - the consummate teacher at all levels who helped push N.C. State College to a university with world-class teaching and research programs; the pioneer ecologist whose understanding of natural communities and natural processes affecting them is still relevant; the artist able to paint a beautiful picture with words or paint; the champion of nature, academic freedom and humanity; and the caring friend and colleague. Troyer weaves throughout this portrait explanations of the relevance of Wells' work, as well as the true stature of Wells as a pioneer in the field of ecology.

All of us should read Jim Troyer's biography of B.W. Wells carefully, and reread Troyer's final paragraph daily. We will be better for it, and the earth will be better for it. In that paragraph, Troyer eloquently states Wells' philosophy:

"So his championing of nature directs us. He spoke mostly in North Carolina, but his message still sounds for the whole world. Make progress, it says, for the betterment of humankind, but respect the meshwork of our earth. Stride purposefully ahead, but stride softly, hear the trees, the grass, the flowers; read the land, the air, the waters; honor all nature, of which we are but part."

We hope to have copies of the book available at a special price at our Spring 1994 meeting.



NORTH CAROLINA PARKS BOND

In the final days of the 1993 legislative session, the General Assembly passed a bonds authorization bill entitled the Education, Clean Water, and Parks Bond Act of 1993. The bill calls for a public vote in November on \$35 million worth of bonds for state parks.

If the voters say yes, this \$35 million would go to buy land and fix up our state parks. No more than 30 percent of the money can be spent on land acquisition and that would likely be spent to complete existing parks. The remaining 70 percent would be spent for repairs, renovations and improvements.

Since the creation of Mount Mitchell State Park in 1915, the North Carolina State Parks System has grown to encompass almost 135,000 acres in 44 locations. More and more people are visiting our state parks. In 1992, these public lands hosted approximately 10.2 million visitors compared to 7.5 million in 1987.

However, expenditures for state parks haven't grown at the same rate. In the 77-year history of the state parks system, the state has spent only \$73,959,111 buying land and developing state parks. Of that total, 47.5 percent has been appropriated in the last eight years.

North Carolina ranks 49th in the nation in per capita expenditures for the operation of its state parks system. Our state spends \$1.38 per citizen, while the national average is \$5.01 per person. North Carolina also ranks 49th in the percentage of the state budget to operate its state parks. In fact, out of every \$100 spent to operate state government, only eight cents is spent on state parks. That's way below the national average of 43 cents per \$100.

The Division of Parks and Recreation has documented over \$168 million in capital improvement needs in order to make existing facilities safe for visitors and to complete park master plans created 15 to 20 years ago. Over 17,000 acres of land for 27 parks, at an approximate cost of \$56 million, still need to be acquired to complete existing master plans.

With more than \$200 million of documented needs for the state parks system, should the voters approve the \$35 million bond, there will be plenty of ways to spend the money. The question will be where to begin and the Division of Parks and Recreation will be required to devise a spending plan that would then have to be approved by the 1994 General Assembly.

The Directors of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society have recognized the uniqueness of our state parks - the highest peak east of the Mississippi, the highest sand dune on the east coast and one of the oldest rivers in the world - and the value of our public lands. They have voiced their opinion that it's time for these unique natural features to receive the same financial support that parks in other states do. At their last meeting, the Directors of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society passed a resolution in support of the \$35 million bond for state parks.

Voters will have their opportunity to voice their support for state parks when the bond referendum comes up on November 2.

1993 SPRING BOARD MEETING

The Spring Board Meeting of the N.C. Wildflower Preservation Society was held February 7, 1993, in the home of Jane and Bob Welshemer in Chapel Hill with President Benson Kirkman presiding.

Elvira Howard, recording secretary, had asked to be relieved of her duties due to family obligations, and Ann Goodman of Kinston was appointed in replacement.

Minutes of the fall board meeting were approved.

President Benson gave the treasurer's report in the absence of the treasurer. There is a balance of \$2,806.81 in the general account and \$10,403.55 in the Shinn Fund (used for scholarship grants).

Kirkman went over a list of Conservation organizations the NCWFPS belongs to and supports. These include The National Wildflower Research Center, Eastern Native Plant Alliance, Conservation Council of NC (up top renewal at \$35 for membership), and The Nature Conservancy. (We will go to the latter's site this fall at Nags Head.)

The list also includes the Umstead Coalition, 14 or 15 groups (we helped found and plan it) of mostly conservationists. \$50 is the membership fee. The Coalition is working with Umstead Park, trying to keep out roads, making a wildflower garden, offering public hikes, and much more.

Dues of the Triangle Land Conservancy, which we dropped a year or so ago when we were in the red, are \$25 a year. The Society made a \$300 contribution last year to the NC Botanical Garden Foundation.

Jane Welshemer mentioned sending complimentary copies of the newsletter to places like Burlington Botanical Society. Kirkman said we already send 12 or 14 to various organizations, but could consider others.

Ray Noggle reported a balance of \$5207.91 as of 12-1-92 from sales of the NC Native Plant Propagation Handbook. This money will be transferred to the same bank that NCWFPS uses. The next printing of the Handbook will have about 90 pages, 10 more than now, and is expected later this year.

We will pay Elvira Howard to re-format the propagation manual on the computer.

Jim Bellington and Janice Swab are new members of the Shinn Fund (scholarship fund). Ray Noggle is also on the committee. The Society can award up to \$1500 in one year, under guidelines adopted several years ago.

Spring meeting was discussed. It is to be at Stone Mountain. Local experts Vaughn McGrady, a living history book, and his daughter, Robin, former seasonal naturalist, will lead walks.

1993 fall meeting will be on the Outer Banks the weekend after Labor Day, Sept. 11 & 12, with Harry LeGrand from the Natural Heritage Program as one of the leaders.

1994's spring meeting will be April 23 and 24 in the Uwharrie Mountains. Harry LeGrand is helping with the meeting.

Local outings were discussed. There are several places around the Triangle

which have interesting plants, such as the March-blooming Least Trillium. Flower Hill, near the Johnson-Nash County line, a rhododendron bluff in the coastal plains was mentioned as a hike location as were other locations throughout the state.

We will participate in the Arborfest at the Arboretum March 20, and we usually pick up a few new members there. The Society needs all members to recruit new members and advertise the fun and goals of the organization.

A symposium on Landscaping with Native Plants will be at Cullowhee July 21-24.

"Gardening with Native Wild Flowers" is a good new book by Samuel B. Jones and Leonard E. Foote. Craig MorteZ volunteered to review the book for the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned.

Ann Goodman
Recording Secretary

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kaye Mason Amos, 3674 Hwy 73 East, Concord, NC 28025
Richard & Susan Bir, 210 Grove Street, Brevard, NC 28712
Stephen G. Boyce, 27 Maytoy Lane, Conneestee Falls, Brevard, NC 28712
Charles Bransford, 2710 Asbury Terrace, Greensboro, NC 27408
Ms. Claire Christopher, 2837 Reynolds Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27104
David Coffin, 1023 Sycamore Street, Durham, NC 27707
John & Julia Crowley, 2923 Susses Road, Augusta, GA 30909-3531
Dr. David Johnston, 3615 English Gardens Road, Charlotte, NC 28226
Juliet Jacobsen Kastoroff, P.O. Box 246, Bryson City, NC 28713
Stacy & Frances Kirkman, 3461 Stimpson Drive, Pfafftown, NC 27040
Robin McGrady, 609 Sixth Street, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Hervey McIver, 110 N. Occoneechee Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278-2430
Dee Medley, 564 Martin Lane, Augusta, GA 30909
Thomas Moestl, 6915 Providence Lane W, Charlotte, NC 28226
Mr./Mrs. Wilton Powers, Rt. 2 Box 56 Bernard Purvis Rd., Bennett, NC 27208
Mrs. Pat Tremaine, 225 Brookridge Drive, Cary, NC 27511
Ellen Turner, P.O. Box 1673, Blowing Rock, NC 28605
Jan Weems and Kris Matson, 5624 Millrace Tr., Raleigh, NC 27606-9227
Balinda D. Ferree, 4485 Fork Creek Mill Rd., Seagrove, NC 27341
Gerri Austin, 5122B Williams, Norcross, GA 30093
Robert W. Hutson, 2755 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062

1993 SPRING MEETING NOTES

At the Spring Meeting in May at Stone Mountain, a short business meeting was held with President Benson Kirkman presiding to announce a new trustee appointment, Charlotte Patterson of Summerfield, N.C.

NCWFPS dues now are up to where the Society can function and sustain itself, \$15 a year. The Society used to be always in the red when dues were lower! Lifetime dues of \$180 are the bargain of a lifetime!

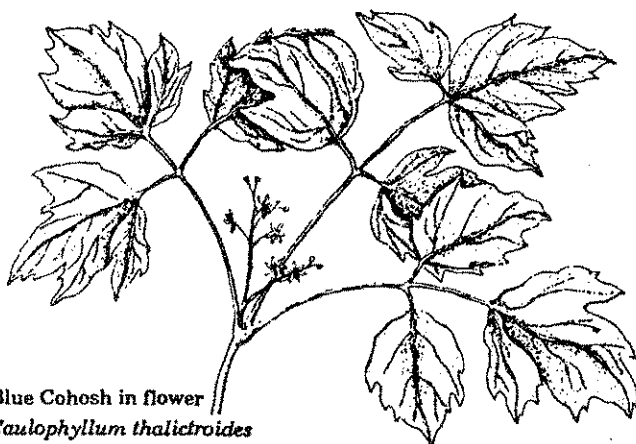
The Society has two candidates for scholarships for the Shinn Fund. When you pay your dues, add a little for the Shinn Fund! It is not up to endowment levels and with low interest rates, there could be a declining principal in the Shinn Fund. Many beneficial research projects have been supported over the years, often allowing students to do projects they couldn't manage otherwise.

President Kirkman mentioned an organization called "Friends of State Parks" as being a positive support for our North Carolina parks. He urged people to join. Kirkman and Janice Swab are both on its board of directors.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS 1993

Sara Hodges, Charlotte, NC
Mr. E.C. Morris, 5275 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, NC
Mrs. Ann Fitz-Simons

A Woman's Herb



Blue Cohosh in flower
Caulophyllum thalictroides

A woman's herb is primarily used to treat and/or tone the female reproductive organs or system, regulate the menses and aid in childbirth. Blue cohosh has been used in all of these cases.

— Becky Wellborn
NC Botanical Garden Herb Curator

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY CELEBRATED WITH WORKDAY AT ROCK CLIFF FARM

National Trails Day, June 5, 1993, was celebrated with a day of trail construction, trail maintenance, and other trail related activities at Rock Cliff Farm in the Falls Lake State Recreation Area. The Triangle Land Conservancy (TLC), Triangle Greenways Council, the B.W. Wells Association, NC Division of Parks and Recreation and REI (Recreation Equipment, Inc.) forged a new coalition for this cooperative effort under the leadership of Benson Kirkman, NC Wild Flower Preservation Society President and TLC Stewardship Chair. Carolina Power and Light provided back-up support as a part of its continuing commitment to State Parks.

Rock Cliff Farm was the retirement homestead of Dr. Bertram Whittier Wells and his wife, Maude Barnes Wells. Dr. Wells was head of the NCSU Botany Department of thirty years and a pioneer in the development of the science of ecology. His landmark book, *The Natural Gardens of North Carolina*, is still recognized as the best introduction to the natural landscape of North Carolina for novices or experts. Rock Cliff Farm is an ideal setting for the study of plants and animals in their natural habitats, as well as the ecological relationships of biological elements, including humans, with the physical environment. Exemplifying Dr. Wells' philosophy of man living in harmony with nature through understanding the natural environment, the farm is a living historical-ecological memorial to him.

The Triangle Land Conservancy is a nonprofit regional land trust established to identify, acquire protective interests in, and manage natural areas, scenic areas, and conservation lands throughout the Research Triangle area. Rock Cliff Farm is listed in its *Inventory of Natural Areas of Wake County* completed in 1988.

The Triangle Greenways Council is also a nonprofit group operating in the Triangle region. Its focus is promoting greenways and trails in the region. It has constructed major segments of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail along Falls Lake.

The third nonprofit group, the B.W. Wells Association, is a dedicated group of volunteers who have provided stewardship for Rock Cliff Farm for many years. Many of the members are longtime friends and associates of B.W. Wells and Maude Wells.

REI is a national sponsor of National Trails Day and retailer of outdoor gear and clothing. The local REI store adopted Rock Cliff Farm project as part of its service/outreach program after discussions with Benson Kirkman. REI provided volunteer recruitment, publicity, and supplies for the event under the guidance of Grady Britt, REI Outreach Coordinator. The three nonprofit groups, with Benson Kirkman and Beverly Norwood, another TLC volunteer, serving as liaisons, provided coordination, tools, and skilled leaders. Almost 50 workers participated in the event.

The B.W. Wells/Rock Cliff Farm Nature Interpretive Center has been in the Falls Lake Master Plan for years, but State Parks has lacked funding to develop

the site. The Wells Association has provided volunteer support for maintaining the site and developing trails under the dedicated leadership of John Lawrence, retired park planner and landscape architect. John approached Benson Kirkman, a member of the boards of directors of all three nonprofit groups, about broadening the support group for the project. The June 5 event provided a major boost to trails activities at Rock Cliff Farm, has brought the project into the public eye, and helped develop a large group of new supporters and workers. These efforts will help move this badly needed facility closer to becoming available to students of all ages.

The three nonprofit groups are planning additional activities and public outings starting this fall (see the **CALENDAR** for more information). The Division of Parks and Recreation and the three nonprofit groups welcome any volunteers who would be willing to lead outings or participate in workdays; contact Benson Kirkman for more information.



STATE PARKS AUTHORITY/STATE PARKS FUND LEGISLATION - WHITHER GOEST THOU???

The early days of the 1993 session of the NC General Assembly produced cautious optimism among friends of our beleaguered State Parks System. Senate Bill 733 and House Bill 1332 were introduced with a strong coalition of support from environmentalists, recreationists, the League of Municipalities, the Association of County Commissioners, and many more. The governing bodies of dozens of towns and counties, advisory boards, nonprofit organizations, and other groups passed resolutions of support for this landmark legislation.

This legislation would restore the funds from the real estate tax that were diverted to the General Fund during the recent budget crisis back to parks and recreation. The tax was originally proposed to help state Parks, the NC Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund, and other park and recreation needs statewide. As passed in the previous session, however, only a small percentage of the real estate tax went to the Trust Fund, with the rest going to the General Fund.

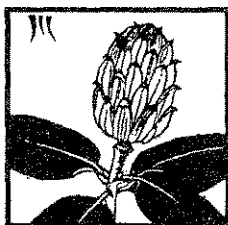
The new legislation forged a coalition of supporters by restoring funds to their original purpose with increased funding for the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Fund, sustained and dedicated funding for the NC Division of Parks and Recreation, funding for local parks and recreation, and small amounts for other parks and recreation related needs. Increases for the Trust Fund would allow an increased role in the important work of preserving and protecting the state's unique natural resources (the places our organization values so much). The dedicated funding for the State Parks System would remove State Parks from "pork barrel" funding and provide sustained funding for maintenance and capital improvements as well as funding for land acquisition (primarily buffer and recreation needs, not the natural areas covered by the Trust Fund). The funding for local parks and recreation would replace lost federal Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars.

The Senate version passed with a resounding vote after amendments that deferred the restoration of the funds from the tax until 1995. The House version was also amended but appeared substantially intact until late in the session. It was stalled in committee, despite intense lobbying (including your Society President) on all fronts, and has been deferred until the 1994 session. Although many of those who worked for the passage of this landmark legislation are not completely satisfied with some of the amendments, we still support the legislation, and, believe a House/Senate Conference Committee can resolve any differences positively.

PLEASE! Write or call your State Representative and Speaker of the House Dan Blue supporting HB1332/SB 733 and send a copy to Senator J.K. Sherron, principal sponsor of the original legislation. We must keep applying positive pressure to see that this legislation is passed. Feel free to call or write me for more information.

On another front aiding the NC Division of Parks and Recreation, please read

the article on the State Parks Bond Referendum and support the bond on November 2 at the ballot box. These funds will be used to correct some of the enormous deficits in the system, while HB 1332/SB 733 provides for the future. The combined effects of these two packages will be a major step toward putting North Carolina where it ought to be with our State Parks System.



NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

Aims & Objectives

The North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society was formed in 1951 by a group of individuals appreciative of native plants throughout the state and region. The purpose of the Society is to promote enjoyment and conservation of native plants and their habitats through education, protection, and propagation.

Spring and fall meetings are held at "natural gardens" across the state. Members exchange seeds and propagate plants at these meetings. Other excursions are organized on a local basis throughout the year.

The Society Newsletter is issued twice a year with articles and illustrations by professional and amateur contributors.

The Society publishes the "N.C. Native Plant Propagation Handbook" that is available for sale at the Botanical Garden or by mail (\$5.00 postpaid).

The Society Scholarship/Grant Fund sponsors research on native plants by undergraduate and graduate students. The fund is supported by member contributions and by gifts and memorials. Applications are made to the Scholarship/Grant Fund Committee for awards in May of each year.

The Society is a nonprofit organization under North Carolina and Internal Revenue Service regulations. Donations are tax deductible.

Correspondence concerning the Society and its programs should be addressed to: North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society, Inc., c/o North Carolina Botanical Garden, Totten Center 3375, INC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3375.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ANNUAL DUES:

Individual or Family: \$15.00
Sustaining: \$25.00
Lifetime Membership: \$180.00

Scholarship Fund Donation: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Please send this and all address

corrections to:

*North Carolina Wild Flower
Preservation Society, Inc.*

Miss Nancy C. Julian

1933 Gaston Street

Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Please include your added four digit

zip number to your address in your

dues payment.

It will soon be mandatory.

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Mr. Lionel Melvin.....	1956-58
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Mr. Walter Braxton	1960-62
Mr. Gordon Butler.....	1962-66
Dr. H. Roland Totten.....	1966-68
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Mr. Tom Howard	1982-84
Mr. G. Ray Noggle.....	1984-88
Editor Emeritus.....	Mrs. W.T. Lamin

The above are permanent advisors and members of the board of directors.



North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society, Inc.
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North Carolina Botanical Garden
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599-3373

Mr. Ken Moore
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Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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