

NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER
PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

MR. W. G. BUTLER, *Pres.*
R.F.D. No. 7
Fayetteville, N. C.

NEWSLETTER

Vol. VI No. 3

May 1964

DR. H. R. TOTTEN, *1st. V.-P.*
P. O. Box 247
Chapel Hill, N. C.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MRS. CARL H. PEGG, *Historian*
403 Laurel Hill Rd.
Chapel Hill, N. C.

It is gratifying to realize that our Society is constantly making such fine progress. I do not think that this progress has been made in any spectacular fashion but rather, interest has been sure and steady. Some new members have been added each year. Definite steps have been taken and progress made in Conservation practices related to roadside poisoning of plants, addition of more of the rare plants to State Park grounds.

MISS REBECCA CAUSEY
Recording Secretary
Liberty, N. C.

MISS BESSIE POPE, *Treas.*
Gatewood Ave.
High Point, N. C.

We should like to see each member doing anything that is possible to advance the aims of the Society through co-operation and public relations and personal service.

MISS SANDRA MELVIN, *Corr. Sec.*
Pleasant Garden, N. C.

With best regards,

MISS JOSEPHINE PRITCHARD, *Librarian*
400 Ransom Street
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Gordon Butler

MRS. WALTER B. BRAXTON
Editor, Newsletter
2111 Braxton Lane
Greensboro, N. C.

SPRING MEETING:

MRS. H. R. TOTTEN, *By-Laws Chmn.*
Laurel Hill Rd.
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Sunday, May 17, 1964 at High Point Municipal Park. The High Point Wild Flower Garden Club has reserved shelterhouse number 3 and 4 for our use. They also are going beyond the call of duty and will furnish drinks for the picnic lunch. The NCWFPS will convene at 10:30 with the picnic at 12:00. Bring a well filled picnic basket and come comfortably dressed for the occasion. Hope to see you at the Spring Meeting in High Point, N.C. Be sure to make and wear your identification card.

MISS MARY BESS COLEMAN, *Publicity Chmn.*
P. O. Box 505
Pleasant Garden, N. C.

MR. LIONEL MELVIN, *Consultant*
Box 313
Pleasant Garden, N. C.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF N.C.W.F.F.S.

DR. H. L. BLUMQUIST, *Consultant*
922 Demerius St.
Durham, N. C.

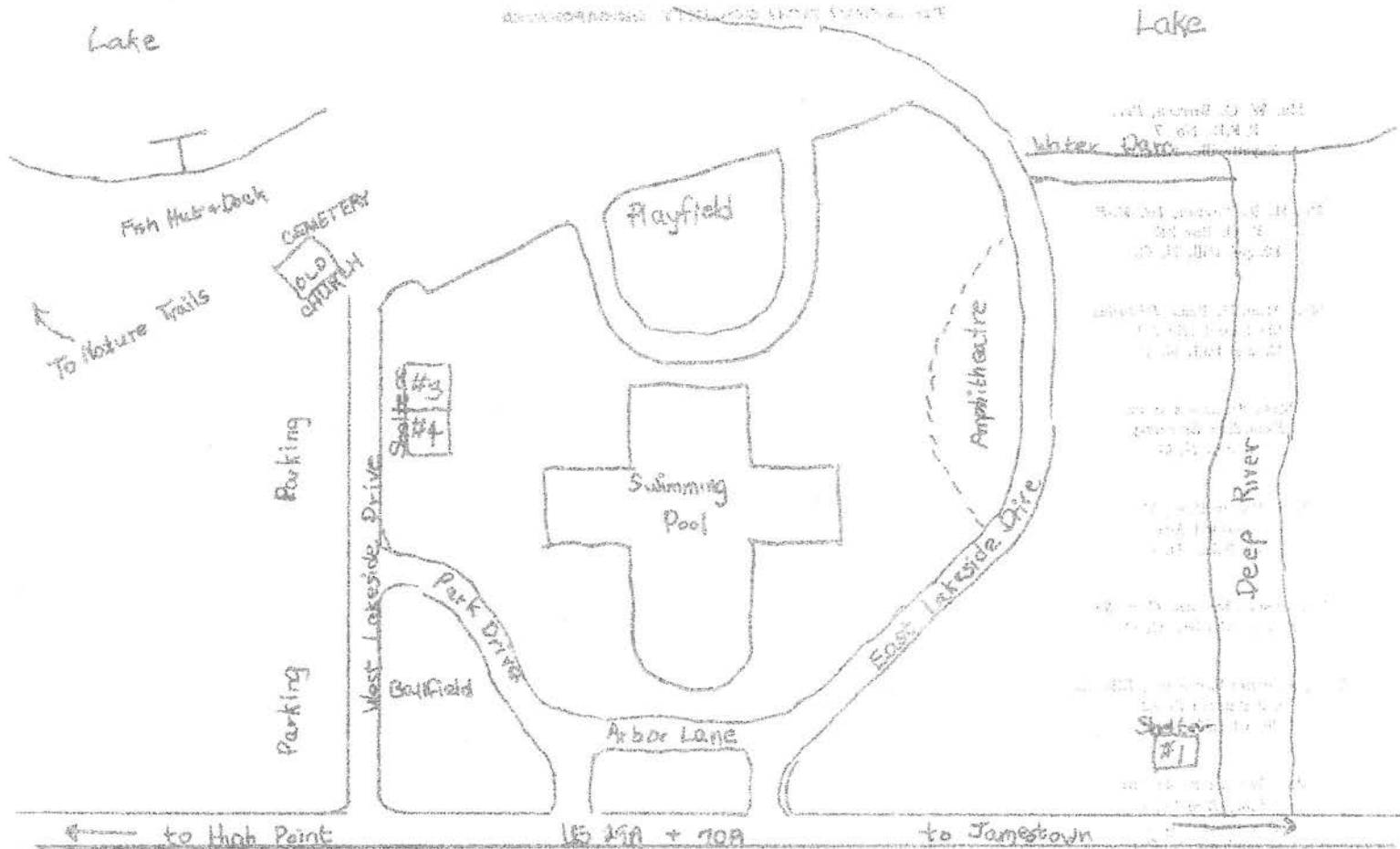
DR. B. W. WELLS, *Consultant*
Route 1
Wake Forest, N. C.

DR. H. R. TOTTEN, *Consultant*
Chapel Hill, N. C.

1951 - 1952
1952 - 1954
1954 - 1956
1956 - 1958
1958 - 1960
1960 - 1962

Mrs. Herbert P. Smith
Mr. J.A. Warren
Mrs. Paul Spencer
Mr. Lionel Melvin
Mrs. Carl Pegg
Mr. Walter Braxton

SITE OF SPRING MEETING
 NEWTON GUY ANNEASAD STATION



HIGH POINT MUNICIPAL PARK

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Mrs. Braxton:

I received your letter yesterday, and I see that you have really been at work. The plans you have made are good, and I am looking forward to the meeting. The date coincides with the annual meeting of the National Garden Clubs, this time in New York, and Addie is already committed to being at that; but I can be present and will represent the Totten family.

It was my understanding from our planning meeting at Butler's that we would not have a formal speaker; but put in more time in the field. I called Gordon Butler this morning, and found that he had the same opinion. In a letter from Lionel Melvin, received earlier than our planning meeting he mentioned two speakers that he had heard recently and thought that we might use at some time. One was Dr. Edmund Berkley, of the Greensboro Section of U.N.C. Dr. and Mrs. Berkley have recently published a good biography on John Clayton, one of the very early Virginia botanists. Melvin had heard him discuss the new book and was quite pleased with his talk. The other suggestion was for a talk from Mr. Clark, of the State Section of U.N.C. at Raleigh, on landscape architecture. Either of these would be good, but would require considerable time, and weather permitting, we both thought that the members would enjoy more getting into the field and seeing the wild flowers of that section. I suggest a program of this

Vice President's Message - Spring Meeting

11:00 A.M. Business Meeting of the Society
12:00 M. Picnic Lunch
1:00 P.M. Field Trip, led by Lionel Melvin

I have not cleared this with Lionel, but he knows that region like a book: and he would know if the Nature Trail would be sufficient; and if not, the additional place or places to go. Could you call him up, and clear it with him, so that he would have time to put in more scouting time if he needs it. In case of rain, Lionel could tell us about his hybrid oaks, and I could back him up on that. Also in that eventuality, we could call on the Berkleys to tell us something about John Clayton. I know the Berkleys well and can urge them to be there.

Don't hesitate to make changes in the above program. If you feel that we should meet earlier, all right: but I have noticed that though we usually say 10:30, I do not believe that we have ever started before 11:00. However, I must say that the time was not wasted; but was spent in greeting old friends, meeting new ones; and in giving time for the stragglers to arrive.

Sincerely,

Roland Totten

MINUTES OF FALL MEETING

The North Carolina Wildflower Preservation Society met October 27, 1963 at Butler Nurseries in Fayetteville, N.C. with over 50 members and visitors present. The president called the meeting to order and David Cason opened the meeting with prayer, after which the minutes of our last meeting were read, discussed and approved.

Mr. Melvin emphasized the fact that places of natural beauty should be saved and the wanton destruction of these places stopped. Everyone was urged to send in names of any areas worthy of preservation. Our letters are to be directed to Dr. A.E. Radford, North Carolina Academy of Science, Chapel Hill, N.C. Dr. Totten suggested that we get in touch with our Legislators and Mrs. Warren asked that a report be given on this at our next meeting. Dr. Doak proposed a letter on this from our group which was moved and seconded.

Mr. Shinn asked President Butler if he had gotten in touch with the Hope Mill officials about setting aside a plot or spot at their mills for natural beauty.

In Miss Pope's absence the treasurer's report was given as having a balance on hand of \$113.84 and Viola Braxton collected \$10.00 in Dues.

President Butler read the resolution in opposition to the use of poisonous chemicals along the right of ways of our roads, highways and utility lines. Dr. Totten reported the condition he encountered along the highways. Mr. Shinn announced that some companies were discontinuing the uses of some of the herbicides.

Mrs. Carter was absent but it was moved and seconded that a word of greeting be sent to her on her recent marriage to Mr. Colon Carter.

Members were asked for a photo of a spring blooming wildflower for the "North Carolina Gardener". Mr. Wallace Patterson was suggested as maybe having one for that purpose, Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Jackson were to check on this.

Minutes of Fall Meeting (Contd.)

Mrs. Ferguson came up with the idea that each person should have an I.D. card , telling who she or he might be so that everyone would know each other. Mrs. Jackson suggested that each one do their own and Mrs. Doak asked that it be put in the next newsletter.

Mrs. Whitfield, Mrs. Alley and Mrs. Shepherd were introduced as visitors. Mrs. Jackson recently lost her father.

Everyone stood up ;and gave their names and home towns.

Dr. Harper gave a report on John Lyon, a nurseryman, planter and hunter.

Spring meeting place was discussed. Mrs. Trozler asked that we not forget about the Boone Botanical Garden and she gave us a report about it. Mrs. Totten asked that Mrs. Shinn report on a new garden in Asheville. She described the Asheville Biltmore Botanical Garden as a beautiful garden just started.

Mr. Shinn was asked to have an article in our next news letter on conservation and propagation.

Mrs. Smith sent her regrets at not being able to be present.

There being no further business we adjourned for one of the best picnic lunches known to our group. We missed Mrs. Pegg and her ham but someone sure had a good one there.

After lunch we were taken for a trip to one of Mr. Butler's farms where all the pulp wood had been cut away, there we all were free to gather whatever plants we desired, which were many. Then we were brought back to the nursery for another trip through his hundreds of plants and shrubs.

Everyone had a good day and most of us learned more about plants and shrubs.

Walter Braxton

Secretary pro-tem

MINUTES OF SPRING BOARD MEETING

Board members of the North Carolina Wildflower Preservation Society Inc. met March 22 at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Butler in Fayetteville, N.C.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given by President Butler as our treasurer was unable to be there. A balance of \$128.84 was give as a report.

New Hope Dam project will take all of Dr. Well's farm on the Neuse River, a beautiful place that we had the pleasure of meeting at last May.

President Butler was to check with the Hope Mills officials as to whether they had set aside a spot on their property as a natural beauty place. We were to contact Mrs. Paul Spencer to see if they still wanted us to come to High Point for our Spring meeting; if not, we would consider going to Boone.

Minutes of Spring Board Meeting (Contd.)

A plaque was suggested for Mrs. Smith honoring her as our first president and for what she has done for the Society through the years. Mr. Butler was to check on that.

Mrs. Butler and her daughter served us some delicious lazy man's punch with some cashew nuts and brownies.

A short social hour followed after which we all took leave of our host and hostess and headed for home.

Walter B. Braxton
Secretary, pro-tem

EDIBLE WILD PLANTS

Mrs. J. Robert Chrismon, F.R.H.S.

We wonder how long a tender-foot would survive should he suddenly be confronted with the necessity of getting his food Nature's way. It seems that we have gotten too far away from the simple remedies and foods of our forefathers, and now depend upon antihistamines and aspirins. Perhaps the answer would be for us to remember Mother Nature's full Cupboard.

With all the delectable herbs at our command we should be able to concoct teas far more tasty than "Constant Comment". I still have pleasant memories of sassafras tea brewed each spring with the belief that it purified the blood. Along with the tea came that inevitable dose of sulphur and molasses.

Catnip tea is one of the favorites of all time. Combined with Chamomile will relieve jittery nerves. Few beverages surpass a well-brewed, steaming cup of lemon balm tea, touched up with a bit of mint. Speaking of mints, their clan is legion, the dried leaves of most yield good, invigorating drinks.

You may think of our Bee Balm only as ornamental, but resourceful Americans of early days knew it as Oswega Tea, the leaves were used, as a medicinal tea.

Should my family ever catch up with the deceit practiced in getting them to eat certain "greens", it would lower my "kitchen prestige". Things like fiddle-head soup would cause them to swear off soups for life, yet these fiddle-heads have a combination of flavors which are very palatable, whether served as soup or in salads.

There are thirty-nine known salad plants growing in the Piedmont. The young leaves of dandelion are much prized as a spring green (serve with butter and vinegar). The "creasy" green is one eagerly sought for in early spring. This one is chock full of vitamins, and may be used as a tart green salad or cooked. I grow the corn salad or Lamb's lettuce for both flowers and leaves. This variety forms a rosette of leaves in early fall and may be used all winter.

Of the three varieties of Dock, the spinach dock is considered one of the best of the "Pot Herbs". Always parboil as it has an acrid taste. We enjoy poke salad as a spring tonic, for we believe it contains as much iron as in a pound of calf's liver.

The much despised chick-weed makes a delightful salad, and when boiled has the flavor of spinach. In a nearby stream grows the true water cress and the supply never seems to diminish. The Romans considered this plant excellent food for deranged minds.

The Shepherd's Purse and Lamb's Quarter are also used extensively in our spring mixed greens.

Plants for food - Plants for beauty - Medicinal products - North Carolina grows them all.

Edible Wild Plants (Contd.)

One reference listed over 1400 past and present medicinal plants in North Carolina.

One plant woman who lived near the Dismal Swamps in a small cabin met life's many vicissitudes, and she won. In the winning she had collected that rare ability to understand Nature and all her works. In all my mountain experiences, a firmer friend was never had. In the back of her cabin there were hundreds of "Yarbs", gathered in season and prepared for market from which much of our medicine is made. She told us that she could gather 200 crude drugs in her area, and they have a remedy for all ills known to mankind -

"Yellow burdock for cough syrup, Golden Seal for Stomach disorders, Yellow lady's slippers for neuralgia, Dogwood root for toothache" to mention a few.

I fear that we do not appreciate these kind folk and what they do for us. Their knowledge of the medicinal herbs abounding in the mountains goes back to pre-Revolutionary days when the early settlers learned valuable lessons from the Indians. The formulas for such remedies have been handed down from one generation to the next. From 1776 when William Bartram, famous Philadelphia botanist, until 1794 when Andre Mischeaux was sent from France by King Louis XIV, botanists were "herbalizing" on the slopes of Grandfather - Roan - Linville and Table-Top Mountains, and thus the fame of our fine resources spread.

We are aware of the importance of the edible seeds and seed-pods in our diet - the cereals, corn, wheat, oats, rice, etc. Of these the grass family forms the most important group - all our cereals are grasses except buckwheat.

There are twenty-four edible roots and tubers. The tuberous roots of the arrow-root (arum) were used by the Indians much the same way we use potatoes. Calamus root has a pungent, biting flavor, said to be eaten by the Indians for indigestion. The Alliums constitute a large family. The tubers of some varieties are used by heart patients and eaten raw.

The Camassias were highly prized as foods for the Indians and the pioneers, but today is a prized garden plant.

The Jerusalem artichoke is found in most parts of the U.S. Producing tubers much like potatoes, are used in soups, for pickling, etc. Fine for reducing diets as they contain less starch than potatoes.

There are plenty wild nuts, berries and honey, for the taking, and don't think our Red Brother ever went hungry.

Generally, mushrooms fall into three classes, in the effect they have. They are edible - sick-making - or fatal. It would not be wise for the amateur to go mushroom hunting without a competent guidebook. Dr. Couch, who is Kenan professor of Mycology, Chapel Hill, tells us that number one rule for mushroom hunters is to eat only the mushrooms you know. At the same time, Dr. Couch added, "learn the three or four deadly species, so that you will not confuse them with the edible varieties."

who has studied Mycology knows that the Amanitas are the most deadly species known in North Carolina.

The Morel is a fool-proof mushroom because there is no mushroom which resembles it close enough to deceive any alert amateur hunter. It always has the appearance of a wet sponge, the pores are large and unmistakable, growing 2 - 6 inches in height. When cooked has the flavor of beef.

We are fond of the Oyster mushroom, found on decaying logs or sides of trees. They grow so large that one is enough for a meal, and tastes like the breast of a chicken. Cut in strips and fried in deep fat. they are superb. These are found from mid-summer until late fall.

Edible Wild Plants - continued -

As a small child I lived with my maternal grandmother and there learned to eat the Puff-balls, found only in late summer. Following the edible stage, they became a great brown ball, and if I had a stubbed toe or cut finger, she applied the dry powder of the Puff-ball on the wound to stop the flow of blood. The spores of this variety were carefully gathered and saved for emergencies occurring through the year.

May we repeat a warning sounded many times: Never eat a wild mushroom unless you are sure of its identification.

NATURAL FLORA THROUGH PROPAGATION

By T.S. Shinn
Asheville, N.C.

The belief that the practical approach to conservation of our natural flora is through propagation of the species has led the Horticultural Committee of the Asheville-Biltmore Botanical Gardens to start some activity in that direction.

The results have been very gratifying. From a nucleus of four or five interested persons, whose efforts were co-ordinated last fall, the group has grown to more than thirty members.

It is not to be expected that each participant will become a full-fledged, one hundred per cent successful propagator of all species of native plants, since this is an area not yet fully explored, and much is to be learned through disappointing experiences. The cultural requirements of the different species vary widely, and propagation presents many problems which are not encountered in growing the more common garden flowers.

There will probably be many failures, and interest may falter from time to time for that reason, but all participants are being urged to keep accurate records of all proceedings, so that mistakes may be remedied rather than repeated.

Meetings are being held at intervals of two months for the discussion of problems and progress, and for the exchange of ideas. Seeds which were collected during the 1963 season, and others obtained from seedsmen and seed exchanges, have been distributed, and plantings have already begun.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 24th at the Wild Flower and Bog Garden where Mrs. Shinn and I have spent all of our spare time for the last several years - weather permitting.

EXCERPT FROM ASHEVILLE BILTMORE BOTANICAL GARDENS, INC.
Newsletter No. 5.

Have you visited the Gardens recently? Have you seen the progress being made? Our third birthday, Nov. 12, 1963, has just passed. Approximately \$10,000 has been obtained through memberships, gifts, and memorials during this time. Many hours of work and planning have been donated by individuals in making the best use of the funds. Mr. T.S. Shinn, Vice President in charge of Construction, Horticulture and Education, and Mr. R.E. Perkins have been largely responsible for implementing Mr. Doan Ogden's plans. Approximately 30 per cent of the ten acres has been cleared and seeded to grass. The two open park lawns are grassy mowed areas; the Moss, Fern and Evergreen Wild Flower Path is graded; a drain has been installed; the north side of the Rhododendron ravine has been grubbed and tilled; and in recent weeks, construction of a stone wall for about 420 feet along the Wild Woods Flower Trail has been under way. Beds have been prepared above and below the wall and will be planted when the weather permits. The Asheville Garden Club, the Mimosa Garden Club and Kenilworth Garden Club made the first 420 feet of the wall possible. It would be wonderful if other organizations could see their way to continue the construction.

N.C. WILDFLOWER CONSERVATION LIST

Mrs. J.W. Ormand, Conservation Chairman of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. informs us that the Garden Club of North Carolina is considering revision of its Conservation List. She would like to enlist the aid of the NCWFPS members to study the enclosed list and would like their comments or suggestions for improving the list. Mrs. Ormand is compiling a set of slides to accompany this list for distribution to Garden Clubs through the Program lending File at the Raleigh office. If any members have sharp 35mm color slides of any of the plants marked with a star on the list, please inform Mrs. Ormand if you are willing to loan them to her so that she may have duplicates made. She will be very happy to credit you with the photography. Wild Flower Photography is Mrs. Ormand's hobby and she has quite a collection of those in the Piedmont section of our state. Her present project is mapping a farm they own about 10 miles south of Monroe, with slides of the various wild flowers growing there.

KNOW THE NORTH CAROLINA LAW:

The following are excerpts from the General Statutes of North Carolina:

G.S. 14-128 (a) Any person, not being on his own lands, or without the consent of the owner there-of, who shall, within 100 yards of any State highways of North Carolina or within a like distance of any other public road or highway willfully commit any damage...to or upon any tree,..plants... or who cuts, breaks injures, or removes any tree, plant or flower within such limits, or shall deposit any trash, debris, garbage, or litter within such limits, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction fined not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50) or imprisoned not exceeding thirty days...

KNOW THE NORTH CAROLINA LAW:

G.S. 14-129 No person, firm or corporation shall dig up, pull up or take from the land of another or from any public domain, the whole or any part of any venus fly trap, trailing arbutus, American holly, white pine, red cedar, hemlock, or other coniferous trees, or any flowering dogwood, any mountain laurel, any rhododendron, or any ground pine, or any Christmas greens, or any Judas tree, or any leucothoe, or any azalea, without the having in his possession a permit to dig up, pull up, or take such plants, signed by the owner of such land...Any person convicted...shall be fined not less than ten dollars (\$10) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50) for each offense...

G.S. 14-129.1 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell or barter or to export for sale or barter, any venus fly trap plant or any part thereof. Any person, firm, or corporation violating the provisions...shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court....

WILD FLOWERS IN SPECIAL NEED OF CONSERVATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

- * Aaron's Rod-*Thermopsis caroliniana* (T.Villosa) Woods near the Mts. April-June
- * Bird-foot Violet-*Viola pedata* Roadside banks, open hardwood-slopes March-April
- Bloodroot-*Sanguinaria canadensis*-Rich, moist woods, stream banks April-May
- * Brook Saxifrage-*Boykinia aconitifolia* - mountain streams July
- * Blue Dogbane-*Amsonia tabernaemontana* Bottomland woods April-July
- Cardinal-flower-*Lobelia cardinalis* Moist, stream banks July-Sept.
- Columbine-*Aquilegia canadensis* Wooded, often rocky slopes April-June
- * Dutchman's Breeches-*Dicentra cucullaria* Rich, shaded talus slopes March-April
- * Gentians-*Gentiana* spp. Late summer & Fall
- * Ginseng-*Panax quinquefolius* Shady wooded river bluffs June-July
- Hepatica-*Hepatica americana* and *acutiloba*-Rich woods, stream banks March-May
- Jack-in-the-Pulpit-*Arisaema triphyllum* Rich, damp woods April-June
- * Lily-*Lilium* spp (all Species) 6 species in N.C. July-August
- * Lupine-*Lupinus* spp. Dry, sandy places April-May
- * Maidenhair Fern-*Adiantum pedatum* Rich, wood soil, slopes, ravines April
- * Monkshood-*Aconitum uncinatum* and *reclinatum* Rich flood plain woods June-Sept.
- May Apple-*Podophyllum peltatum* Moist rich woods April-May
- * Orchids (all species)
- * Pitcher Plant-*Sarracenia* spp. Boggy places May-June

Conservation List (Contd.)

Shooting Star-Dodecatheon meadia	Wet cliffs, mostly mts.	Spring
Shortia, Oconee Bells-Shortia galacifolia	Near Mtn. streams	Spring
* Solomon's Seal-Polygonatum spp.	Rich woods & wooded slopes	April-May
Trailing Arbutus, Mayflower-Egigaea repens	Dry, rocky stream banks	March-April
* Trailing Christmas Greens-Lycopodium(fern ally)	Upland woods	
* Trillium-Trillium spp.	Rich, moist woods, stream banks	April-May
*Venus' Fly-trap-Dionaea muscipula	In sandy bogs, eastern	Early Summ.
* Virginia Bluebells-Mertensia virginica	Moist wood mtn. slps.	Spring

SHRUBS AND TREES WHICH SHOULD NOT BE PICKED:

American Holly-Ilex opaca	Rich moist woods	April-May
Flowering Dogwood-Cornus florida	Understory in pine & dec. woods	April
Fringe tree, Grandsir-Graybeard-Chionanthus virginicus	moist thickets, wooded slopes	April May
Mountain laurel, Calico Bush-Kalmia latifolia	stream bluffs	May-June
Redbud, Judas Tree-Cercis canadensis	Understory tree in woods	March-April
Rhododendron-Rhododendron spp.	stream bluffs	May-July
Wild Azaleas-Rhododendron spp.	Wooded slopes	April-May

MAIRSEY DOATS & DOSEY DOATS NOT SEA OATS

Mrs. W.A.Florance, F.R.H.S.

The graceful plumes of the sea oat, nature's "finger-in-the-dike," can be seen at its golden best nodding against the autumn azure of the coastal seas.

The sea oat (Uniola paniculata) is an interesting as well as a beautiful plant; it is especially adapted in its cell and leaf structure to the salt spray, shifting winds and the reflection of heat and light of the seaside environment. Only such grasses can survive this unfriendly habitat.

Few of us realize the importance of the sea oat in the holding of our shoreline.

This is how it works. When a seedling sea oat thrusts its first leaves above the surface of the sand, it forms a tiny wind brake and more sand is piled around it by the wind. The plant immediately makes use of this additional soil for added root growth and top growth and a larger wind brake is formed providing for still more future growth. In a few years dunes like those at Kitty Hawk may be formed.

The underground stems and roots of a stand of sea oats provide an invisible net which holds the sand against the unending winds that threaten to blow away many miles of our coastline.

For unimaginable centuries the shores of our seas have followed, as the night the day, their seasonal cycle of wild oating without help or hindrance from man.

It is sad...and terrifying to observe that the sea oat, small as it may seem, may one day be still another casualty in the consumption of his own environment by the great "human predator."

Seed-bearing oat panicles are now a very popular commercial item and as such are being gathered by the thousands and sold for use in floral arrangements.

It is encouraging to note that South Carolina garden clubbers have added the sea oat to their list of native plants not permitted in flower show exhibits.

Surely it is time for North Carolina to follow their good example. In the meantime, we can all be responsible citizens and leave nature's "fingers-in-the-dike" where they are needed and where their beauty can be enjoyed by all.

PLANTS & ANIMALS

W. Gordon Butler

For many years I have met with and spoken to most of the garden club members in our area. I find it easy and almost compelling to approach the subject of gardening, and it's related study of the plant kingdom, from purely a philosophical standpoint. I do this because it has always occurred to me that the pursuit of any subject is just about useless, unless one is filled with interest, enthusiasm and an untiring curiosity, for knowledge of the subject. Many have told me that this interlude of subject matter has definitely eased the pain of drudgery when gardening time comes. It was also told, by some few members, that they were delighted with this manifestation of the wonders of the plant world found so abundantly all around them. Even with all this instinctive liking for the plants and flowers, many people show remarkable ignorance of the names and fascinating habits of the individual plants.

Maybe the above paragraph is to lay the foundation for a very short treatise of some of the facts regarding the most interesting part of the live world.

As an introduction to our live world lets consider the two great divisions of this live world. We know them as the animal world and the plant world. Now, of course we understand, that all life on earth began with and is dependent on plants. Plants are the only living things that can make food for animals, insects and ourselves, as well as themselves. To be sure, scientists have learned how to synthesize some foods by chemical action, but the process is expensive and not practical. Maybe some day it will be done.

Now, after having taken a mere peep into the why and wherefore of this most interesting subject, let us consider only plant life for our purpose in this paper. We should like to begin way down the scale of this life, where it is sometimes hard to determine which side to place the little creatures on. There are myriads of these creatures in the waters of the sea. While having the structure and appearance of a small tree or shrub, really they are animals because they ingest their food. Now, there are those little wiggling, worm-like creatures, counted by the microscopic billions, and they are classified as plants. The disease germs carried around in our bodies belong to this classification, because they absorb their food.

PLANTS OR ANIMALS Contd.

Now, after having taken a look at the first, or lowest order in the scale of plant life, lets consider the classes we are most interested in: these are the aquatic and land plants that we can see and enjoy knowing and using. For the purpose of brevity we should like to leave out the fission plants, which consist of the pond scums, brown seaweeds, red seaweeds, Next in order are the Fungi. They consist of the Lichens, Mushrooms, Ascus fungi, Algae-like fungi. Next we have the Bryophytes. They are the Mosses and Liverworts. Next the Monocots. They are the Aroids, Grasses, Orchids, Lilies, Palms. Next will be found the highest order of plants, the Dicots. They are the ones we are most interested in. They are Willows, Walnuts, Oaks, Mulberries, Pinks, Buttercups, Poppies, Peas, Roses, CRcti, Heather, Compositae, Mints. Of course all the species are not listed here but this is only a sample suggestion.

Now, I hope that the above rather feeble attempt to outline to you some impressions that may cause you to dig a little deeper for a few of the most interesting phases of this fascinating subject. Of course we understand that we cannot all be learned scientists, but lets not let that fact deter us from indulging in the joy of just looking, handling and propagating the many fine species of flowering plants and trees surrounding us on every side.

SPRING, to me there is a bit of magic in just the word. All fall and winter as the days minute by minute grow shorter, I live for the time when spring will be with us again in all its splendor.

The Southeastern Flower Show in Charlotte in March was a thing of beauty. I hope that many of you were fortunate enough to get there to enjoy it. Untold hours of back breaking work went into producing the show. Many members of our organization were asked to show arrangements for a two day period. I was there on March 8, 1964 and loved Mrs. J.W. Ormand for her creation of art. To me it was the loveliest arrangement that day. Mrs. Phil Wicker showed and also Mrs. H.R. Totten. I am sure there were others that I would be proud to mention but I do not know who they were.

Mrs. B.W. Stallings and her committee did a lovely job in presenting the Boone Botanical Garden. As you know this is a project that the NCWFPS Inc. has supported financially.

Mrs. Warren G. Ferguson suggested that for the spring meeting each person make and wear an identification card with their name and address.

For those who visited with Dr. & Mrs. Well's lat spring on their one-hundred=fifty acres in the bend of the Newse, we learn the New Hope Dam project will put his entire farm many feet under water. Civilization, Man's desire for conquering the earth keeps pushing nature's domain farther and farther away as it builds dams, roads, houses, business structures and recreational areas, leaving in its wake much destruction of plants and wildlife.

I am MOST GRATEFUL to Mrs. J.R. Chrismon, Mr. Thomas S. Shinn, Mrs. Thomas S. Shinn, Mrs. J.W. Orman and Mrs. W.A. Florance for their contributions to our Newsletter. I am constantly on the outlook for material that I think will be of interest to our members. Please, Please help. All of you know things about plants that we would like to know. Put this knowledge in writing and send it to your Newsletter.

ED. Notes--

It is with a thankful heart that we report Dr. Hollis G. Rogers continues to improve from a March 13 heart attack. His enthusiasm, knowledge and ability is an inspiration to us all.

Mrs. J.N. Plaster of Winston-Salem, N.C. was most kind to open her garden May 3 to friends in the Piedmont area. I hope to use my rain-check at some future date. The Greensboro Wild Flower Club meets with the Robert G. Troxlers at their cabin by the lake on the same date.

Mrs. Plaster reports that it has been necessary for Mr. Plaster to take some rest from the stress and strain of business. To me twenty-four in bed is quite rejuvenating. I do hope his rest cure will be effective.

Following is our invitation from High - Point:

Members of the Wildflower Garden Club of High Point are looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to the third Sunday in May, when the North Carolina Preservation Society will meet with us at the High Point City Lake.

May we have a b g group of flower lovers, a beautiful day and a wonderful time together.

With kindest regards,

Leone Ivey - Corr-Sec.

Mrs. Ross Davis, Pres.

Remember May 17.....High Point.....Name tag.

Mrs. Walter B. Braxton,
Editor

NATURAL AREAS IN NORTH CAROLINA

The state of North Carolina has established a Natural Area System under the jurisdiction of the State Parks Division of the Board of Conservation and Development. The Conservation and Legislative Committee of the Academy feels that a great step has been made in the formation of the System. We now need to locate and evaluate areas considered worthy of preservation by members of the Academy, whether they be five or 5,000 acres in size. The committee is interested in conservation of local areas by any public agency. Our interest is in the preservation of typical communities and areas as well as the unique so that future generations will know what North Carolina was like and would be like without man's destructiveness.

Think of what you would like to see conserved in your area for present and future generations. LOCATE AND EVALUATE THE NATURAL AREA. Send the Evaluation Sheet on the other side of this page to the Chairman of the Conservation and Legislative Committee. A Pineland in the Sandhills near Southern Pines is the first Natural Area in the State Parks System, let's add other conserved areas in the near future.

Your help is needed!

A. E. Radford
Botany Department
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

February 24, 1964

NORTH CAROLINA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

NATURAL AREA EVALUATION SHEET

1. Name and/or location (give a precise location using county road numbers and mileages if possible).

2. Important features of area (primary features which warrant consideration as a natural area):

3. Quality of area (indicate past history and past disturbance and protection):

4. Current ownership (including estimate of attitude of current owners toward area and possible preservation):

5. Estimate of the extent to which the area is now threatened with activities which would diminish its value as a natural area--circle one.
 - A. Immediate danger
 - B. Moderate danger
 - C. No immediate danger

6. Name and address of person submitting evaluation: