



Native Plant News

The Newsletter of the North Carolina Native Plant Society

Volume III, Issue 3

September 2005

KEN MOORE 2005 Tom Dodd Jr. Award of Excellence Winner

From the early 1970's until his so-called retirement, our awardee has been a leader on local, state and regional fronts in the native plant conservation movement. His pioneering efforts have set a remarkably intelligent, positive tone for those concerned with the wise use of native plants as he reached out to those in the nursery industry, to botanical gardens and arboreta, to the academy, to the backyard gardener, and certainly to the general public. He engineered a practical, environmentally sensitive methodology for working with the ornamental potential of native and, where necessary, their preservation. That work included designing a seed collection and distribution program that allowed gardeners and nursery professionals to propagate many of our more attractive herbaceous perennials. That vision has resulted in the commercial availability of many of our attractive natives from propagated rather than wild collected sources. His determination to share propagation techniques spawned a new generation of growers both in the home garden and in the production greenhouse.

The enthusiasm and patience for this conservation through propagation approach served him well in his work as lecturer, workshop and hike leader, and conference presenter over the years. He has been as comfortable

and competent teaching a novice group to key out fall asters as he has been dividing a clump of tiarella or delivering a slide presentation. One result of this energy, enthusiasm, and patience is what has become known as Harry Phillips' book, *Growing and Propagation Wildflowers*. Another



Congratulations to our own Ken Moore!

result, though indirect, is Dick Bir's *Growing and Propagating Showy Native Woody Plants*. Yet another was a very effective video entitled *Saving the Tar Heel Heritage*.

Now that he has retired, our recipient continues to teach 11 year-olds at the Eno River State Park not just nature study, not just horticulture, but, of all things, botany! Wouldn't it be nice to put a tag on those students and watch them through the years?

The author of one supporting letter put it this way: I have traveled with [him] to out-of-state meetings, shared a hotel room, slept on his sofa when ice storms cancelled meetings and

prevented travel, eaten at his table, consumed his single malt, and come to know a bit of the man. His is a generous and caring spirit. He deserves major credit for many things, including the annual sculpture display at the North Carolina Botanical Garden, as well as a number of curators keeping their jobs. If he has a fault, it is that he is too giving .particularly when he is introducing/praising a speaker or telling you about a friend.

Our awardee this year holds the further distinction of having been director of the Cullowhee Conference for a longer period than anyone else.

His former boss, C. Ritchie Bell, a recipient of the Dodd Award in 1997, confided to me that, as he was walking down the stairs in the auditorium to accept the award, the thought in his mind was that the wrong person was getting the award, and that it should be going to today's recipient.

Avid Gardener, Keeper of our Natural Heritage 2005:

It is with deep appreciation and affection that I invite KEN MOORE to come forward to receive the 2005 Tom Dodd, Jr. Award of Excellence.

Remarks presented by Ed Clebsch. Award committee members also included J. Leo Collins and Dick Bir.

Weekend schedule

What to bring: water, snacks, sunscreen/hat, sturdy walking shoes, insect repellent, field guides, binoculars, rain jacket, and enthusiasm! Bring your lunch for Saturday and we will picnic at the preserve.

Friday, October 7, 2005:

Arrive at Clarion Hotel, Nags Head
3:00 5:00 pm NC Aquarium
5:00 7:30 Dinner on your own
7:30 9:00 Meet & Greet in the lobby

Saturday, October 8, 2005:

8:30 am meet at Clarion Hotel in Nags Head, NC
9:00 - 4:30 Botanize along the trails at Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve
6:00 7:00 Dinner at the Clarion Hotel's restaurant
7:00 8:30 Native Plants in the Rain Garden, Susan Ruiz-Evans and Kathy Mitchell, and Plant Auction

Sunday, October 9, 2005:

8:30 am meet at Clarion Hotel in Nags Head, NC
9:00 12:00 - Paddle the canoe trail at Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge or walk the 1/2 mile trail.

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The Newsletter of the North Carolina Native Plant Society.

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Hotel in Kill Devil Hills for October 7-9, 2005:
Clarion Oceanfront Hotel
Milepost 9.5
www.clarionhotel.com/hotel/nc416

\$87 plus tax/ night for street side or \$110 plus tax for Oceanside (252-441-6333)
Does NOT include breakfast (restaurant at hotel with breakfast specials about \$5)

Please make your reservation before September 26 for NC Native Plant Society rate.

Extend your stay additional nights Wednesday to Wednesday at same group rate.

There is a lot to see and do with nearby Outer Banks and Roanoke Island. www.outerbanks.org for attractions, other accommodations, restaurants

Directions to Clarion Hotel in Kill Devil Hills:

From the rest of North Carolina take US 64 east through Roanoke Island. If you are travelling at dusk watch out for bears on US 64 on the mainland. Once you are on the Outer Banks, bear left as the road becomes US 158 heading north. When you enter the island, the milepost is 16. Proceed north about 6.5 miles.

When you see the Burger King at milepost 9.5, turn right at the light on Neptune. The Clarion is straight ahead.

A group Dinner is at the Clarion Oceanfront Hotel on Saturday night October 8. Buffet-style Dinner includes Herb-baked

chicken, pasta entrée, salad, roll, vegetables, beverage, and dessert. \$13 per person includes tax and tip. Our guest speaker will speak after dinner about 7 PM. Plant auction will be afterwards.

The restaurant will be closed Saturday evening due to a family reunion at the hotel.

We will have dinner and our meeting in the closed restaurant as a private function.

- Camping and Hostel at milepost 4.5 in Kitty Hawk
- Adventure Bound Campground, 1004 West Kitty Hawk Road, in former school 252-255-1130 or 877-453-2545 www.outerbankshostel.com. Dorm \$20 per person; tent site \$20; Private room \$55 shared bath (1 double bed and 1 bunk bed) sleeps up to 4
- Kitty Hawk RV Park Milepost 4 (252-261-1636) khp@aol.com

Register in the lobby for Door Prizes to be awarded Saturday night!

Recommended books for coastal vegetation:

Duncan, Wilbur H. and Marion B. Duncan. 1987. The Smithsonian Guide to Seaside Plants of the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts. Smithsonian Institution Press.

Porcher, Richard. 1995. Wildflowers of the Carolina Lowcountry and Lower Pee Dee. University of South Carolina Press.

Stucky, Irene H. and Lisa Lofland Gould. 2000. Coastal Plants from Cape Cod to Cape Canaveral. UNC Press.

Wilson Kraus, Jean. 1988. A Guide to Ocean Dune Plants Common to North Carolina. UNC Press.

NCNPS Fall Trip

October 7-9, 2005

Botany on the Coast



Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve, Saturday 8:30 am

Nags Head Woods is considered one of the best remaining examples of a mid-Atlantic maritime forest with deciduous hardwoods. This pine and hardwood forest harbors trees up to 500 years old and has an extensive system of dunes, interdune ponds, and wetlands. The forest's great natural diversity is due to the fact that it draws water from an extensive freshwater aquifer and is sheltered by ancient dunes.

Two of the largest active sand dunes on the East Coast, Run Hill and Jockey's Ridge, run along the northern and southern borders of the preserve, respectively. Rising up to 100 feet, these dunes constantly move and change shape as the prevailing northeasterly winds blow sand into the forest, marsh, and sound.

More than 300 species of plants have been identified in the forest, including several that are considered rare in North Carolina, including wooly beach heather (*Hudsonia tomentosa*), water violet (*Hottonia inflata*), southern twayblade (*Listera australis*), mosquito fern (*Azolla caroliniana*)

The preserve is an important nesting area for more than 50 species of birds. The freshwater ponds are inhabited by turtles and salamanders and support a great diversity of floating aquatic plant life, including

the rare water violet. An extensive marsh system bordering Roanoke Sound on the western

side of the preserve supports a wealth of wildlife including river otter, muskrat, egrets, herons, and many species of migratory waterfowl.

Congress designated Nags Head Woods a National Natural Landmark in 1974. Protecting the forest was one of the North Carolina Chapter's first projects after the office opened in 1977.

Presentations, Discussion and Plant Auction, Saturday evening, 7:00-8:30 pm

Susan Ruiz-Evans, Dare County Extension Agent, and Kathy Mitchell, Horticulturist at the NC Aquarium in Manteo, will give a presentation on landscaping with native plants in the coastal environment.

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, Sunday 8:30 am

Please note that there is an additional \$15.00 charge per person to cover canoe costs. No additional fee if you bring your own canoe.

Alligator River Refuge was established to preserve and protect a unique wetland habitat type - the pocosin - and its associated wildlife species. Located on the mainland portions of Dare and Hyde Counties, the refuge contains 152,195 acres. The diversity of habitat types that occur on the refuge include high and low pocosin, bogs, fresh and brackish water marshes, hardwood swamps, and Atlantic white cedar swamps. Considered among the last remaining strongholds for black bear in eastern North Carolina and on the mid-Atlantic Coast, the Refuge also provides valuable habitat for concentrations of ducks, geese, swans, as well as many other species of wildlife. It serves as the core area

for re-establishing the red wolf back into the wild. Bob Glennon, botanist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will lead a three to four hour tour along one and a half miles of blackwater paddle trails through the refuge. For additional information about Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge, see <http://alligatorriver.fws.gov>.

For those who would prefer not to canoe, a half mile walking trail starts at the canoe launch point.

Exploring on your own:

NPS members might want to come early or stay late in order to enjoy the Elizabethan Gardens on Roanoke Island (Manteo). The garden was created by the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc., in 1951 and is located adjacent to the "Lost Colony" waterside theatre and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.

For more information, visit <http://www.outerbanks.com/elizabethangardens/info.htm>

Friday afternoon option

NC Aquarium - Behind the Scenes Native Plant Tour

Kathy Mitchell, horticulturist at the N.C. Aquarium at Manteo on Roanoke Island will conduct a special tour of the Aquarium that will emphasize the use of native, temperate climate plants in an interiorscape setting. She will discuss the many challenges that she has encountered while trying to represent the diversity of native wetland species in a climate controlled setting. The aquarium plants a variety of native species in their terrestrial and aquatic (aquarium) exhibits. Kathy will also discuss the interactions of aquarium animals with these native species.

This option limited to 15 persons.



Barrier Island Ecology of Cape Lookout National Seashore and Vicinity

National Park Service managers try to reconcile conflicting demands and philosophies of coastal ecosystems. The "natural" ecological conditions of an area may be difficult to discern and it may not be practical to restore them. Attempts in this direction, in the form of erosion control or reforestation, sometimes have destroyed an existing "natural" ecology that is better adapted to today's conditions.

In their natural state, barrier island landforms are the result of, not the victim of, the oceanic environment. Having arisen from breached spits, engulfed dune ridges, or a combination of the two, the beaches undergo short-term cyclic changes in width, as well as longer-term retreat and rearrangement due to overwash, erosion, and the opening and closing of inlets. It is only by retreating that the islands are able to survive in the face of rising sea level. The island biota is uniquely adapted to stress in the form of storms, overwash, salt spray, and sand movement. In particular, certain grasses serve to absorb the energy of overwash water, trapping and growing up through the water-borne sand, thus keeping the island elevation and their own habitat above sea level. Even though barrier islands show a history of sweeping changes, evidence from old maps and records and from island stratigraphy indicates that they have maintained the same ecosystems and general appearance for hundreds of years. Such "dynamic stability" is the true natural state of barrier islands, but the processes that maintain it have been suppressed on managed strands. Total artificial control of a coastline, therefore, is recognized increasingly as physically and economically impractical.

The major ecosystems of



Ammophila breviligulata Fern. American

undeveloped islands (Cape Lookout National Seashore) are the beach and berm, maritime grasslands, woodlands, fresh marshes, and salt marshes. The most productive salt marshes are those that have grown up on recent overwash fans or on the flood tidal deltas of newly closed inlets. Maritime woodlands turn out to be transitory features, representing the natural vegetation of only the most protected sites; grasslands are far better adapted to oceanic stress. It is suggested that a high, continuous, artificial dune designed to prevent overwash may actually exacerbate erosion of the foreshore, while preventing the build-up of the island's interior and the extension into the sound of the backshore salt marshes. Thus, islands held in one place become lower and narrower and inherently less stable.

Original settlers of the Outer Banks affected the natural vegetation by cutting wood and grazing livestock. Overgrazing may have encouraged sand movement in some cases, but the overall appearance of the undeveloped islands is due to natural forces rather than to the activities of early settlers.

By leveling dunes and interfering with natural island dynamics, modern man has increased the islands' susceptibility to storm damage. Temporary engineering solutions nearly always make the situation

worse. Salt-water intrusion into the fresh-water lens, ill-advised dredging operations, off-road vehicle use, and the introduction of litter and derelict cars are further ecological and aesthetic problems accompanying modern use of barrier islands.

It is suggested that ideal management of these areas should avoid attempts to hold back the ocean or stabilize the land. Development should be minimal and should be located so as not to require extensive protection. The natural dynamics of sand and vegetation should function unimpeded; where grass planting and dune building are deemed necessary, they should mimic the natural pattern. Of course, allowing natural processes complete freedom on already developed islands is no more realistic than are continued attempts at total engineering protection of roads and buildings against rising sea level. Rather, a middle course, sensitively orchestrated for a different area, is indicated.

PAUL J. GODFREY, Department of Botany and National Park Service Cooperative Research Unit, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

MELINDA M. GODFREY, Institute for Man and Environment, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

¹This is an abstract of a presentation which has been expanded into NPS Scientific Monograph No. 9, under the same title, printed by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/symposia/1/chap17.htm

Featured Plant: Stoneroot



Stoneroot about as accurate a common-name description as there can be for a native plant. Other common names for this plant, *Collinsonia canadensis*, include horsebalm and knotroot.

Named by John Bartram to honor Peter Collinson, the English merchant-botanist who financed much of Bartram's travels, *Collinsonia canadensis* is known for its large horizontal, rough, and knotty rhizome. The common name has been attributed to the Shakers, who in the late 1700's began businesses harvesting and growing native and European medicinals for members of the medical profession. Among those plants was *C. canadensis*, used by the Iroquois and other eastern nations as a remedy for heart and kidney ailments, as well as a general tonic. The name came about because the heavy root, the part generally used medicinally, was difficult to pulverize whether fresh or



USDA Plants Database distribution map

Collinsonia canadensis L.

dried. In 1904 John U. Lloyd, author of *A Treatise on Collinsonia Canadensis*,ⁱ wrote that he had seen stoneroot break steel mills in the process of pulverizing the root for medicinal preparations. *C. canadensis* was adopted by immigrants and was known as an excellent stimulant, tonic, and diuretic, making it a good commercial product. It received considerable praise for a variety of ailments from Minister's Sore Throat to hemorrhoids.

It is available today in capsule form from several companies, but does not approach the popularity of better known medicinals like *Actaea racemosa* (black cohosh) or *Panax quinquefolia* (ginseng). However, there is some concern that its tonic properties and historical usage might lead to its being "rediscovered" some day, and this could quickly lead to a popular demand far beyond what could be wildcrafted in an ethical manner.

C. canadensis is an attractive, though not showy plant, growing from New England to Florida and west to Missouri. Not uncommon in the dappled shade of Piedmont and mountain forests, often in ravines and on wooded slopes, it is endangered in Wisconsin. Stoneroot grows 2 to 3' tall with large, sharply toothed, ovate, light green opposite leaves (4 to 8") on square stems. September and October bring branching, loose, pyramidal, terminal clusters of tiny, 2-lipped tubular yellow flowers. The leaves and flowers, when crushed, have a citronella-like fragrance. The fresh root has an odor described as disagreeable.

Collinsonia is a slow growing perennial, taking several years for

Family: Lamiaceae

the root to reach harvestable size. Those plants rescued from Piedmont sites and growing in my garden are quite happy and bloom every year, but have not spread. For those interested, seed can be sown outdoors in late fall or early spring. In a coldframe or covered flat the seeds will germinate in 8-10 weeks, and seedlings can be planted out when large enough to handle.

Collinsonia tuberosa, a slightly smaller species, has been found in several Piedmont and one mountain county. *C. verticillata* is also a smaller species and has lavender flowers. It is reported only in Polk County in North Carolina.



Line Drawing: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada, Second Edition.

ⁱ Sumner, Judith. *The Natural History of Medicinal Plants*. Timber Press, Portland, OR, 2000.

ⁱⁱ A Treatise on Collinsonia Canadensis. Issued by Lloyd Brothers, Pharmacists, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio. 1904. Accessed June 30, 2005 at <http://www.herbaltherapeutics.net/Collinsonia.doc.pdf>.

ⁱⁱⁱPlant Conservation Alliance, Medicinal Plants Working Group, http://www.nps.gov/plants/medicinal/plants/collinsonia_canadensis.htm

Katherine Schlosser

NCNPS members at Cullowhee



It's like herding cats, Tom Harville was heard repeating to himself as he tried to organize NCNPS members for a group photo. Not everyone made it for the photo, but as you see, we were well represented at the Cullowhee Conference. If you haven't been, put it on your calendar for the third week of July next year.

Tips from Bob Head for rooting and care of cuttings

- Soil or rooting medium temperature should be 60 – 75°.
- A pine bark (soil conditioner – very fine pine bark) and perlite mixture makes a great rooting medium. Mix in a little slow-release fertilizer. Note: pine bark has a natural root-rot preventative in it!
- Rooting hormone needs to make contact with the cambian layer. Remove a sliver of bark on both sides of the stem just above the place where you cut the stem from the plant. Then dip the end of the stem into the rooting hormone.
- Rooting medium needs to be well-drained, not saturated with water. You will need to water the cuttings for the first few days, then far less.
- 6 to 8 cuttings are said to be best, but it will work with much larger cuttings are long as you keep the humidity high.
- If taking cuttings from rhododendrons, only use the current year's growth, which may be less than 6 .
- Create a mini-greenhouse using plastic bags or upside-down clear plastic pots on top of the rooting container. Once roots initiate, open the plant up a bit to reduce humidity – a good practice in the evening. Do not leave in full-sunlight, or you will have a cooked plant.
- Time to re-pot: carefully remove plant from pot and check for root growth. Pot up into a container and remove greenhouse cover.
- Time to Transplant: when root growth is abundant and plant is growing, remove from container and make a couple of cuts into the roots, being sure to cut any circling roots, which will strangle the plant.



Ken Moore accepting award



Emily Allen and Tom Goforth



Shelley Rutkin, Emily Allen, and Lynda Waldrep



Jan Stratton and Kathy Schlosser

Adventures in Prairie Restoration

My two favorite garden tools? Chain saw and blow torch yeah! the man on the stage shouted with infectious enthusiasm. Man was born to burn, he went on, it's primal instinct.

Who is this man who advocates wreaking total destruction on the land before you begin to plant? This man who works with tankers filled with Round-Up, who walks with a flame dripper in hand, and whose favorite method of tamping down seeds is drinking and driving ?

This is Neil Diboll, owner of Prairie Nursery in Wisconsin, who is well known and widely respected for his work in prairie restoration.

His appearance at the 2005 Cullowhee Native Plant Conference, with trim hair and beard and average stature didn't prepare you for the booming voice full of crazy fun and absolute practicality about the natural world and man's place in it. He's quick to tell you that experience means making mistakes, and he's made plenty of them. He tells with glee and self-deprecation about some of his bigger mistakes, like melting the brand new vinyl-siding on his office building when the heat of a fire came closer than expected, and the time he filled with back of his pick up with back of mix with seeds for spreading), but failed to cover the load with a tarp. By the time he got home, all that was left was a little pile of sawdust just under the back window - the rest was spread across backcountry Wisconsin roads. He kicks himself around on the stage, bringing howls of laughter from the audience, usually because we recognize ourselves in his foibles.

His antics quickly give way to serious business when he starts to talk about his life's work - restoring and creating prairies and prairie gardens. He knows his business and respects the earth. Diboll says the biggest problem faced by those who would restore or install a prairie or meadow garden is invasion by woody and herbaceous plants. He follows a five-step plan for success:

1. Site selection. Seems obvious, but you

have to know your land before you start. You need to know the soil, the lay of the land, and the climate. This will ultimately influence the seed mixture you choose. It also HAS to be full sun. No way around it. Grasses will form the backbone of the area, and they won't grow under a canopy.

2. Plant selection. Biodiversity is the key here. For success, you need broad ranging species.
3. Site preparation. Till, herbicide, or smother until the land is bare. This is, of course, after you have been in with chain saw and fire. Take no prisoners, then kill some more, Diboll demands. A successful prairie will

tractor tires. His mind went to work and he decided, Hey, I can run my car back and forth over the seeds at home, there being no space for the big tractors. So he planted the seeds, got his beer, and drove back and forth over the land, tamping in the seeds.

Of course, he says, you don't leave home! Don't know how true this was, but it makes a good story and an amusing slide for the presentation.

5. Post planting management and maintenance. Burn, mow or graze, Diboll says. You have to do something, and burning is the first choice. Burning at the correct time and intensity will clear weeds and promote healthy growth for your prairie plants. Human beings were clearly born to burn, he says, and ought to do so every other spring to maintain a prairie.

Responding to objections about the use of herbicides and cutting down all those trees, he answers with down to earth and accurate information on his methods and the ways of the world. The results of his work are stunning in their beauty. He restores to prairies and meadows what America looked like before Europeans got here. His prairies are teeming with wildlife insects, birds, amphibians,

butterflies, reptiles, small mammals everything that's missing from so many landscapes. They are full of diversity of plant material as well, and his seed mixtures are adapted to suit soil, climate, and site. These are healthy prairies the way nature intended, and if it takes a little muscle to remove what man has put in the way, that's what Diboll will do. The result is a garden that takes care of itself, without need for fertilizers, pesticides or other of man's inventions.

Visit his website and order a catalog. It's full of good information, ideas, plants and seeds.

www.prairienursery.com

Katherine Schlosser



Prairie Dropseed - *Sporobolus heterolepis*

take at least three years to establish and can't handle competition from weedy plants and tree seedlings.

4. Planting time and method. You have to pay attention to the requirements of the seed you use. For example, prairie grasses do best with late spring or early summer planting. Wildflowers will often do well with a fall planting, but if you plant in spring, you have another opportunity, before the seedlings are up, to get rid of weeds. Here's where Diboll gets to drink and drive. He tells the story of first moving to Wisconsin, where he was immediately handed the drink of choice in Wisconsin - a Budweiser. He wasn't much of a beer drinker, but being a friendly fellow, he accommodated people. Then one day after seed installation in a prairie setting, he noticed the germination was great in the deep tread of the

News from Cullowhee 2005

Here are a few tidbits gleaned from various lectures and fieldtrips:

Bad news from the Great Lakes region:

Yes, we have the wooly adelgid decimating our hemlocks in the western part of the state. How much worse can things get? News is that there is a beetle in the Great Lakes region with a liking for viburnums and they aren't particular about which ones. Word is that in 10-15 years they will be here, changing our landscape significantly. There is also a lily beetle headed south.

Reported at a Propagation Chat moderated by Peter Heus of Enchanters Garden in W. VA. And John Strawn of Hanging Dog Nursery.

A new vitamin for native plant people:

Vitamin W will restore your soul and renew your energy. Where do you get it? A long walk in the woods!

from Paula Reith of the Ga. Native Plant Society

Plants of Promise

An annual feature of the Cullowhee Conference is the Plants of Promise segment: attendees are encouraged to present native plants new to the nursery industry or old favorites that should be considered by gardeners, landscape architects and other nurserymen. Among the plants presented this year were the following. Watch for them at native plant nurseries:



Diervilla lonicera (bush honeysuckle) - attractive yellow blooms in late summer and great fall color.



Schisandra glabra (magnolia vine). A deciduous twiner that can be a bit aggressive if not kept in check. Small red flowers followed by scarlet berries in October. Found in the coastal plain and Piedmont.



Itea virginica 'Theodore Cline'. Late to color in the fall, but great scarlet foliage in December or January. A good substitute for Burning Bush.



Cephalanthus occidentalis 'Sputnik'. A pink buttonbush. Good for massing in damp areas. Slightly fragrant.

No photos available
for the following

Hypericum densiflorum Creels Goldstar. A dwarf Hypericum with a fountain-like growth habit. Prized for its growth habit even more than the flowers.

Leucothoe axillaris Jenkins Form. Stays low, with rounded leaves. Fragrant. Plant only in dormancy.

Viburnum nudum Winterthur. Another burning bush substitute, with great burgundy color in the fall. Fast growing to 7', glossy leaves.

Phlox pilosa Forest frost. A pure white phlox a prairie plant.

Purple Cliff Brake Fern

Among the ferns that Tom Goforth, Crow Dog Company, brought with him to Cullowhee was *Pellaea atropurpurea*, or Purple cliff brake, an attention-grabbing fern.



©Kathy Siebosser,

The tag reads:

Neutral soil epipetric in the cracks of limestone, masonry walls, amphibolite or marble in shady to partly sunny areas. Short rhizomatous. In limestone areas of the Valley & Ridge Province and the Cumberland Plateau. Rare in the Appalachians around marble and mafic rocks. Evergreen fronds to 15 inches.

According to the Manual of Vascular Flora of the Carolinas, it grows chiefly in the mountains and is infrequent in the Piedmont and coastal plain.

Tom said it does well where it can grow down rocks or walls. It needs moisture, and doesn't respond well to too much heat. It is an attractive blue-green plant and worth a try.

Southeast non-native invasive plants



Shep Zedaker, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

chocolate vine

Ranunculales

Lardizabalaceae

Akebia quinata (Houtt.) Dcne.

Fiveleaf akebia, also called chocolate vine, is a deciduous to evergreen climbing or trailing vine that invades forested areas throughout the eastern United States. The twining vines are green when young, turning brown with age. The leaves are palmately compound with up to five small (1 ½ to 3 inches long) oval leaflets.

Flowers are chocolate-purple in color, inconspicuous, and give way to purple flattened seed pods.

Fiveleaf akebia is shade tolerant and invades forested habitats. The dense mat of vines formed can displace native understory species. It can also climb into, smother, and kill small trees and shrubs. Fiveleaf akebia is native to eastern Asia and was first introduced into the United States in 1845 as an ornamental.

Prevention and Control

Young plants can be pulled by hand. Cutting can be done any time of year and vines should be cut to the ground.

Akebia vines may also be dug up, removing as much of the roots as possible. For large infestations, apply a systemic herbicide.

Native Alternatives
pipevine (*Aristolochia macrophylla*),
cross vine (*Bignonia capreolata*),
trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*),
trumpet honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

Photos from 2005 annual picnic



Ken Bridle and Jane Sraill



Ken and Margo Perkiins



Diane Laslie and Luann Bridle set up the lunch



Marion & Harry Sledge

Calendars

All NCNPS members are welcome to attend any Chapter meeting. Just call or email ahead

Triangle Chapter

Meetings monthly on the third Sunday afternoon. Meet at the Reid Garden to carpool at 1:00 pm or meet at the site by time specified.

Sunday, August 21 1:30
Mitchells Mill

Sunday, Sep. 18: 2:00
Couch Mountain Slope
Triadic Basin , Orange County

Contact Margaret & Hugh Partridge
(mhpart@bellsouth.net) for details

News from Charlotte...

The Charlotte Chapter had an outing this spring to the UNCC Botanical Gardens in Charlotte. Dr. Larry Mellichamp, who is a member of the NCNPS, led us on a tour of the gardens which are filled with native plants from across the state. Not only were the gardens in full spring beauty, but we also learned much from Dr. Mellichamp, whose vast knowledge of native plants is an asset to Charlotte.

We also had a trip to Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens to see how the Head Gardener, Doug Ruhren, also a member of the NCNPS, has used native plants at the gardens. The day was cool and windy, but definitely worth the effort for those who went. Doug has added quite a number of native plants to the Gardens and we all profited from his knowledge of how best to locate and grow native plants.

Our thanks to Dr. Mellichamp and to Doug Ruhren for taking time to share the beauty of their gardens with us.

Jean Woods

Charlotte Chapter

If Charlotte/Mecklenberg area members will send their email address to Jean, she will keep in touch and send updates for events.
Jean14424@aol.com



Larry Mellichamp and the Charlotte Chapter

Triad Chapter

Sat., Sept. 3rd 9:00 2:00
Piedmont hike: Looking for mature Piedmont forest. Call for details.

Wed., Sept. 21 6:30 8:00
Buffalo Creek Restoration site

Wed., Oct. 19 6:30 8:00
Plant Study
Details tba

Call Kathy (336-855-8022 to register, or email
Kathyschlosser@aol.com)

WELCOME ! To new NCNPS members since the last newsletter:

Virginia Tate
Christine Reinke
Marcia Angle
Eric Indermaur
Catherine Stokes
Jeannette Lundy
Louise Romanow
Kevin Lapp
Gary Walker
Brenda Wichmann
Peter Smith
Bill & Jennifer Cure
Jeff & Cheryl Prather
Beverly Cato
Ruth Cole
Emily Tyler

Wipe your Feet!



Your mother's admonition is correct, and gives you a simple way to contribute to efforts to slow the spread of non-native invasive plants.

From the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society come the following suggestions:

Invasive plants move around in many ways fruits that are carried away by birds, seeds that catch on animals fur, seeds designed to be spread by wind or water. Some of our invasive plants, though, are moved primarily by you.

Invasive plants that have small seeds like garlic mustard, Japanese stilt grass, dame's rocket, and even purple loosestrife can be picked up and carried in boot treads, bike or car tires, and horse hooves .

To make sure you are not spreading these species, use a stiff brush to get the dirt off your boots before hiking in a natural area. Preferably, do this brushing in an area nowhere near the natural area, but if you're going to brush your boots at the site, try to do it over a parking lot where the plants have less chance of establishing.



Help Wanted

Workshop developer

Intense work to start, then just as much as you want, no pay, possible statewide recognition and certain appreciation.

Requirements: some education or workshop background, good writing skills, good organizer.

The NCNPS board is looking for someone to assist with developing a workshop to be submitted to the NC Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources Environmental Education Certification Program.

We need a comprehensive workshop on a native plant topic. Guidelines are available to assist in the process, along with support from members of the board. If you have an interest in working on such a project, or would like more details before making a commitment, please contact Katherine Schlosser at kathyschlosser@aol.com.

Information router

Short bursts of time, no pay, opportunity to meet lots of nice folks and a few nuts.

Requirements: friendly demeanor, good writing skills, computer literate.

The NCNPS website periodically receives requests for information on various topics. If you have a good background in plants, NCNPS history, and/or knowledge of statewide resources, we need you. Your job, should you decide to accept, will be to forward queries to the appropriate person(s) and in some cases to answer the questions yourself. If you are willing to put your name on the website (using an official NCNPS address) and receive information requests, please contact Tom Harville at tomhar@bellsouth.net.

Native Plant Coordinator

Flexible schedule, no pay, ample praise and appreciation.

Requirements: creativity, organization skills, enthusiasm.

The NCNPS board is considering a Native Plant of the Year program to foster interest and knowledge within the Society and the general public.

This program needs to be developed with input from Society members and in such a way that it will not conflict with the Garden Club/NCBG Wildflower of the Year program.

If you are enthusiastic about native plants, love people, and would like to take a stab at this, contact Katherine Schlosser at [Kathyschlosser@aol.com](mailto:kathyschlosser@aol.com)

Native Plant Artist

No pay, flexible schedule, admirers across the state and nation.

Requirements: ability to draw and/or paint, especially detailed drawings for newsletters, Journal, and t-shirts.

The NCNPS newsletter and Journal would like to have artwork, submitted by members or friends, that can be used in publications and promotional items.

Photographers also welcome! Contact Katherine Schlosser at [Kathyschlosser@aol.com](mailto:kathyschlosser@aol.com)

NATIVE PLANT NEWS

*The Newsletter of the North Carolina
Native Plant Society
1402 Bearhollow Road
Greensboro, North Carolina 27410*



We use recycled paper

Botany on the Coast

Outer Banks

October 7-9, 2005



Registration Form: October 7 - 9 Botany on the Coast Trip

Name (s) _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

- Registration fee: \$15.00 per person (\$8.00 limited income)
 Friday Afternoon NC Aquarium program (limited to first 15*)
 Sunday Canoe Trip \$15.00 per person (limited to 23)**
 Saturday night dinner \$13.00 per person

\$ _____
\$ _____ N/C
\$ _____
\$ _____

Total Enclosed:

\$ _____

Please make checks payable to NC Native Plant Society and mail to:

Dale Suiter, 2508 Fields of Broadlands Dr., Raleigh, NC 27604-3787

Registration deadline: September 26

* We will notify you if you are among the first 15 to register for this event.

** Canoe space is limited to 23 people .first come, first served. Space will be assigned as registration forms are received. If you don t make the cut, we will return your canoe fee. If you bring your own canoe, there is no additional fee.