

Native Notes



Kate's Mountain Clover

The West Virginia Native Plant Society

Number 1 Volume 3

Juncus in W. Va., 1994 Annual Meeting

May 1994

A New Key to West Virginia Rushes

by Sam J. Norris

For years I ignored rushes. I lumped them with sedges, grasses and other nondescript little green things. But when my work with wetlands and rare species forced me into a study of this group, I found that rushes are interesting, beautiful, and many are easy to identify.

To help others get acquainted with West Virginia rushes (*Juncus* spp.), I offer a new, improved key to the genus. This key is brand new, so I invite you to use it in the field and make suggestions for changes. I've tried to emphasize the more easily observed characters and avoid those (e.g., the elusive **prophyllum**) that requires extraordinary effort to see. I have used a few very useful characters that do require some magnification. A 10X hand lens will do, and a dissecting microscope is a wonderful step up.

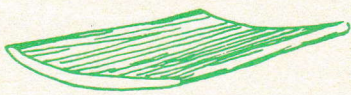
Look up unfamiliar terms in the glossary of any flora. **Channeled** refers to leaves that are thickened and enrolled (involute) until the upper surface remains only as a groove (channel). **Septate** refers to leaves that are hollow with cross-partitions (**septa**) at intervals. These little partitions may be felt by drawing a fingernail along the blade and are often visible (especially in dried material), but if in doubt, split a leaf open. The **auricles** ("ears") referred to are the small extensions at the top of leaf sheaths, where the blade joins the stem.

If you've never before put a rush flower under a lens, you may be surprised to see how much they look like lilies. This, and the capsules filled with an abundance of minute seeds, make rushes easy to distinguish from sedges and grasses. The number of stamens (3 or 6) is a very helpful character, but requires careful observation. With mature fruits and dry specimens especially, the anthers may be broken off and missing, though part of the filament usually remains. And there is the occasional freak flower that should have 3 stamens, but has 6. Examine more than one flower!

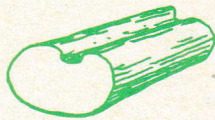
A good way to get started is to go out and collect as many different rushes (mature specimens!!) as you can find, and instead of keying one at a time, look at them all and sort them into piles as you go through the key. You will probably end up with one or two that show conflicting characters or are otherwise just plain doubtful. That's to be expected. Some species are very variable, some hybridize. Then again, there is always the (remote) possibility that you have a species new to the state and not in the key.

Many excellent references are available in addition to the good ol' outdated *Flora of West Virginia* (Strausbaugh & Core, 1977). *Juncaceae (Rush Family) of New York State* (Clements, ?) includes all but one of our West Virginia species. The key is full of ambiguity, but the descriptions are very thorough and the illustrations are beautiful. Godfrey and Wooten's *Aquatic and Wetland Plants of Southeastern United States* (Godfrey & Wooten, ?) gives a thoughtful and well-illustrated treatment, though almost half of our species are not covered. *Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas* (Radford, Ahles and Bell, 1968) and *The Monocotyledonae: Cat-tails to Orchids* (Braun, 1967) treat most of our rushes, plus some that might turn up in West Virginia when the state is more thoroughly explored. I've also found useful the keys and discussion in *Michigan Flora: Part I, Gymnosperms and Monocots* (Voss, 1972). I'm undoubtedly forgetting some equally useful references. For a wonderful

The purposes of the West Virginia Native Plant Society are to promote the preservation and conservation of the native plants and vegetation of West Virginia and to further the education of the general public on the values of native plants and vegetation.



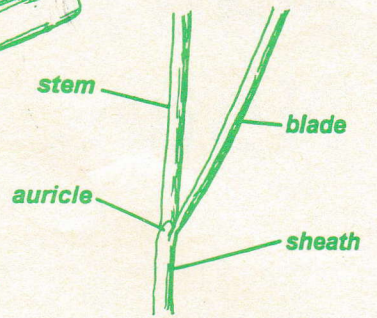
Flat



Channeled



Terete



stem

blade

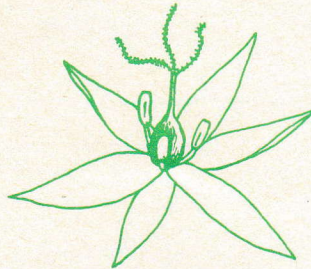
auricle

sheath

LEAF SECTIONS



Dry *J. canadensis* leaf showing septa.



FLOWER

J. dichotomus



J. canadensis



J. subcaudatus



J. acuminatus



SEEDS



CAPSULES



J. diffusissimus



J. canadensis



J. effusus



J. bufonius



J. brevicaudatus

discussion of the use of keys and relevant plant morphology (fully illustrated), don't overlook two thin volumes by Harrington: *How to Identify Plants* and *How to Identify Grasses and Grasslike Plants*. All of these books are in print and available from Patricia Ledlie and other booksellers.

Though of little economic importance (we don't weave many baskets nor thatch our roofs much anymore), rushes are useful as wetland indicators and about half of our species are rare enough in West Virginia to be tracked by the WV Natural Heritage Program. So they deserve more of our attention.

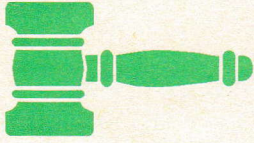
Key to West Virginia Rushes (*Juncus*)

1. Inflorescence pseudolateral, i.e. appearing to emerge from side of stem.
 2. Stems densely tufted; stamens 3 1. *J. effusus*
 2. Stems usually arising singly along rhizome; stamens 6.
 3. Stems 6 to 10 dm, not striate; capsule reddish brown 2. *J. balticus*
 3. Stems 1 to 3.5 dm, striate; capsule light brown 3. *J. filiformis*
1. Inflorescence terminal.
 4. Leaves flat or channeled, not septate (or so strongly involute as to appear terete, but not septate, in some *J. dichotomus*).
 5. Annual; inflorescence comprising more than 1/2 height of the plant 4. *J. bufonius*
 5. Perennial; inflorescence comprising 1/3 or less of the plant height.
 6. Capsule usually longer than perianth, globose, minutely speckled; inflorescence of glomerules of 2 to 20 flowers 5. *J. marginatus*
 6. Capsule shorter than or equaling perianth; inflorescence various but flowers not in glomerules.
 7. Auricles rounded, thickened, yellow-brown 6. *J. dudleyi*
 7. Auricles thin or thickened, whitish.
 8. Auricles prolonged 1 to 2 mm or more.
 9. Auricles deeply cut, basal leaves very short (1 to 3.5 cm) ... 7. *J. trifidus*
 9. Auricles entire, basal leaves longer (10 to 15 cm) 8. *J. tenuis*
 8. Auricles rounded, slightly prolonged.
 10. Lowest bract not exceeding inflorescence; inflorescence obviously secund 9. *J. secundus*
 10. Lowest bract usually exceeding inflorescence 10. *J. dichotomus*
 4. Leaves terete, more or less hollow, septate.
 11. Seeds definitely tailed.
 12. Seed with tail 1 to 1.5 times as long as the body 11. *J. canadensis*
 12. Seed with shorter tail, glomerules few-flowered.
 13. Inflorescence spreading 12. *J. subcaudatus*
 13. Inflorescence erectly ascending 13. *J. brevicaudatus*
 11. Seeds blunt or pointed but not tailed.
 14. Capsule slender, about 5 times as long as thick.
 15. Capsule linear, about 2 times as long as perianth; inflorescence large and diffuse, composed of glomerules of 3 to 10 flowers 14. *J. diffusissimus*
 15. Capsule tapering from base to beak; inflorescence composed of mostly spherical glomerules of 6 to 100 flowers.
 16. Stems stout, 4 to 10 dm tall, auricles 2 to 5 mm long; stamens 6 .. 15. *J. torreyi*
 16. Stems slender, 0.8 to 6 dm tall, auricles less than 2.5 mm long.
 17. Stamens 6; auricles 0.5 to 1 mm long 16. *J. nodosus*
 17. Stamens 3; auricles 1 to 2.5 mm long 17. *J. scirpoides*
 14. Capsule broader, less than 5 times as long as thick.
 18. Capsule only 1/2 to 2/3 length of sepals; sepals obviously longer than petals; glomerules spherical, of 30 to 100 flowers, stamens 3 18. *J. brachycarpus*
 18. Capsule equaling perianth or slightly longer; sepals and petals equal; glomerules mostly of fewer flowers.
 19. Stamens 6; capsule lustrous dark brown 19. *J. articulatus*
 19. Stamens 3 (rarely 6); capsule straw-color to light brown 20. *J. acuminatus*

1. *J. effusus*. Common or Soft Rush. Common throughout the state. This is the only rush with a pseudolateral inflorescence that you are likely to see. Very variable. Most of our plants are var. *solutus*; var. *pylabei* and var. *conglomeratus* are northern forms occasionally found here.
2. *J. balticus*. Baltic Rush. A northern species found in W. Va. only in the calcareous waters of several marl marshes in Jefferson Co. Included by some in *J. arcticus*.
3. *J. filiformis*. Thread Rush. A northern species, rare here at several high elevation places, plus one site on an island in the Ohio River.
4. *J. bufonius*. Toad Rush. Frequent in the mountains. Our only rush in which the inflorescence comprises 1/2 or more the height of the plant.
5. *J. marginatus*. Grass-leaved Rush. Common. Almost all our plants are var. *marginatus*, with few (5 to 15) glomerules of 6 to 20 flowers each. Var. *odoratus*, often treated as a species, *J. biflorus*, with many (20 to 200) glomerules of 2 to 5 flowers is rarely encountered in W. Va. Intermediate forms are very common in southeastern U. S.
6. *J. dudleyi*. Dudley's Rush. Probably common (I recall seeing it often in the central part of the state). Typical plants are easily recognized by the thick, yellow brown leaf auricles, but apparent hybrids with *J. tenuis* are frequent enough that it has been treated as *J. tenuis* var. *dudleyi* by Hermann.
7. *J. trifidus*. Highland Rush. Rare in dry rock crevices of the eastern mountains. Variable. The separation of Appalachian plants as spp. *carolinianus* is probably unjustified.
8. *J. tenuis*. Path or Yard Rush, Wiregrass. Very common, especially on path where its tough stems and leaves withstand much trampling. Very variable and known to hybridize with related species. A fairly distinct and common form is var. *antheratus* with a markedly diffuse inflorescence and smaller flowers.
9. *J. secundus*. Local in eastern counties on infertile, sandy soils. Characterized by one-sided arrangement of flowers on branches of the inflorescence (secund), and short basal leaves usually less than 1/3 the plant height.
10. *J. dichotomus*. Rare. Potentially throughout the state, but currently known from only four counties. Flat-leaved plants have been called *J. platyphyllus*, but this appears to be a sporadic form not worthy of taxonomic recognition. Leaves of the typical form are very narrow and appear terete, with only a slight (if any) channel, but are not septate.
11. *J. canadensis*. Canada Rush. Common in the higher mountains. Look for conspicuously tailed seeds. There is much variation in inflorescence and flowers, and several indistinct varieties have been named. The following two species are not always readily distinguished from *J. canadensis* and from one another.
12. *J. subcaudatus*. Mostly in the higher mountains. Plants more slender and weak than *J. canadensis*, with looser, more divergent inflorescence.
13. *J. brevicaudatus*. Common in the mountains. Compared with the previous two species, the inflorescence is narrower and more erect, with fewer-flowered glomerules, and capsules longer relative to the perianth.
14. *J. diffusissimus*. Chiefly a coastal plain species, here found mostly in the southern third of the state. Recognized by the large, spreading inflorescence and the long, narrow capsules exerted from the perianth.
15. *J. torreyi*. Torrey's Rush. Rare, Eastern Panhandle. A large, stout rush with dense, spherical glomerules.
16. *J. nodosus*. Mountains of the Eastern Panhandle.
17. *J. scirpoides*. Rare, in the Eastern Panhandle, and reported from Jackson County.
18. *J. brachycarpus*. Collected by Strausbaugh and Core in Hardy Co. in 1927, and at a second site in the same county near Old Fields.

19. *J. articulatus*. Jointed Rush. A northern species, rare in W. Va.'s higher mountains. Look for the shiny, dark chestnut brown capsules.
20. *J. acuminatus*. Very common throughout the state.

WVNPS Board of Directors Meets



The first WVNPS Board of Directors meeting for 1994 was held February 5, at the Western Steer Restaurant, in Flatwoods, WV. The meeting was well attended and a lot of new ideas were explored.

As of December 31, 1993, the organization had acquired 107 memberships. Our membership goal is - 200 plus! Two hundred newsletters is the minimum required to qualify for a bulk rate mailing permit. This would be of considerable savings to our society. [Editor's note: as of this writing, 53 individuals or families who were members in 1993 have not paid their 1994 dues! See important note elsewhere in this issue.]

We have received a few newsletters from other native plant societies. It was decided that we would exchange our Native Notes with these and other like-minded organizations. Steve Mace volunteered to be curator of these newsletters. They will be brought to the annual meeting for all to review.

The Board Members agreed that someone should scan the original database, and contact all previous members who are not yet current members, and invite them to join. Terry Harmon will delete the names of those who do not join.

An enthusiastic discussion of the WVNPS newsletter, Native Notes, followed our lunch break. It was decided that the newsletter should have a minimum of three issues per year. The first should be mailed in March/April to announce field trips and workshops. The second newsletter should be out sometime in July to notify members of the annual meeting, and the last one in November.

P.J. Harmon asked for articles to be prepared well in advance to avoid last minute rushes.

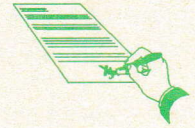
Emily Grafton was appointed to the editorial board.

A Letter From the President

by John Northeimer

"Large streams from little fountains flow,

Tall oaks from little acorns
grow."



David Everett could not have better defined potential when he wrote these lines for a school declamation. I find the potential of WVNPS to be no less proportional than Everett's acorn and oak. The WVNPS, now more than 100 members strong, has entered a second year of exciting field trips, workshops and special events.

During February and March, we completed winter workshops and sponsored the first ever "Rare Plant Roundup". Society Committees are building a strong platform for native plant conservation and public education, through publications, news releases and field studies. We have scheduled the 1994 Annual Meeting for September 9-11 at Watoga State Park. Activities are to include special trips into the Cranberry Glades, cookouts, youth activities and the membership meeting.

We're a healthy organization, one of which we can be proud. However, we must look and function far beyond our internal workings to have a significant impact on native plant conservation. We must reach the group that ultimately controls conservation efforts, the public.

I believe there is a limited public understanding of ecology and environmental issues. The popular comprehension is of recycling and community cleanups, or building bird feeders out of old milk cartons. These are fulfilling pursuits, but do they cut to the core of problems facing our environment or instill conservation as a lifestyle? The advancement of technology and emphasis on consumption has slowly separated us from our natural connections. The "bottom line" rarely considers assimilation of the natural setting into our proposals for development or use of natural resources.

This is not despair or cynicism, but a realization that we need to do more. Efforts to conserve must not only include study and documentation of diminishing resources, but an integration of "conservation-mindedness" into our culture. The average person must view the protection of our native plant heritage as part of being human.

A close association with the natural world would enable all people to begin to care enough to protect it from destruction. I am not suggesting that our society become too philosophical or serious, but the design and collective force of our field trips, workshops, social outings and public education efforts must be to invigorate the public to care about the Earth. The WVNPS

membership has huge potential to achieve this step forward. Look up WVNPS ... something extraordinary is about to happen!

1994 Annual Meeting News

The 1994 WVNPS Annual Meeting will be held September 9-11 at Watoga State Park.

We will be headquartered at a staff cabin adjacent to Beaver Creek Campground. This cabin has kitchen facilities and will sleep 8 persons barracks style. Cost will be around \$5.00 per night, plus a \$5.00 linen charge. Priority will be given to those who would like to help prepare meals or who are serving as field trip leaders. We would like to have some organized meals if there is enough interest. There would be a small fee charged for the food.

Other accommodations include 33 cabins and two campgrounds. Eight cabins are deluxe four-person style, and 25 are standard cabins housing from two to eight persons. The deluxe cabins



are of frame construction, featuring wood-paneled walls, forced-air furnaces and stone fireplaces. The standard cabins are of log or log and stone construction with natural stone fireplaces. You could reduce the cost of lodging by sharing cabins in small groups. Reservations should be made as soon as possible. Reservations may be made for cabins by writing or calling Watoga directly or by dialing toll-free to 1-800-CALL WVA and asking for Watoga State Park.

Check in time is 4 pm and check out time is 10 am. No pets are allowed in the cabins or in areas immediately surrounding them.

The Beaver Creek Campground is a 38-unit facility located eight miles south of Huntersville, near the park's east entrance. Only one tent or trailer is allowed per site, and check-out time is 12 noon. Hot showers are available in a central bath-house. A restaurant and commissary are located in the park's administration building and are open daily throughout October.

Date: September 9-11 (Friday-Sunday)

Where: Watoga State Park - Beaver Creek Campground/Cabin

Time: Friday 7 pm - Sunday noon

EVENTS PLANNED FOR SATURDAY INCLUDE:

- Early morning birdwalk
- Board of Directors meeting
- Annual membership meeting
- Afternoon field trip to Cranberry Glades and a wild plant garden
- Children's program
- Evening cookout
- Potpourri of slides

EVENTS PLANNED FOR SUNDAY INCLUDE:

- Early morning birdwalk
- Field trips to the Brooks Arboretum and Greenbrier River Just north of Hillsboro and south of Mill Point (Pocahontas County) on U.S. 219, a sign directs you to Watoga State Park. From this point, travel two miles on paved secondary road to the western park entrance. An alternative route is to turn south from W. VA. 39 at Huntersville and travel nine miles to the north entrance of the park.

What's Happening Around the State?

There are many opportunities for botanical excursions in the "wilds" of wonderful West Virginia. We can't list them all, but here are a few of the more significant ones.

The WV Chapter of The Nature Conservancy has a full schedule of outings April through November. A hike is scheduled for Cathedral State Park on August 13th. It will be led by Norma Venable, who wrote a WVU Extension booklet on the preserve. Our own P. J. Harmon will lead a walk across the heath barrens of Dolly Sods on July 16th.

Other organized TNC trips planned for this summer include Ice Mountain, Smoke Hole, Greenland Gap and Slaty Mountain. These walks are open to members of the TNC, and attendance is limited. For more specific information on dates and registration contact The Nature Conservancy field office at 304/345-4350, or write them at The Nature Conservancy, P.

Bryophyte Workshop a Large Success with Very Small Plants

Dr. Tom Weeks was "overwhelmed" by the great turn-out, P. J. was ecstatic that there was so much enthusiasm, and the 19 participants in the workshop, "An Introduction to the Bryophytes of WV" were a little mesmerized but excited about getting started learning mosses and liverworts of West Virginia! The first workshop of 1994 began at 9 AM with an introduction to moss and liverwort ecology and conservation, and after a brief break, Dr. Weeks told us a little about the life cycles of mosses. Soon after, we rolled up our sleeves and began tackling the compound microscopes and keying the first mosses. After lunch, and a brief tour of the Marshall herbarium, we car-pooled to Wayne County and enjoyed being introduced to 19 of the more common mosses of the lower elevations of our state.

The 19 genera / species of mosses and liverworts we saw in the afternoon included *Bryoandersonia ilicebra* (Fox Moss), *Atrichum angustatum*, *Fissidens sp.*, *Climacium americanum* (Tree Moss), *Mnium cuspidatum* (Cusp-leaved Mnium), *Hypnum curvifolium*, *Brachythecium sp.*, *Dicranum scoparium* (Wind-blown Moss), *Dicranum fulvum*, *Leucobryum glaucum* (Pin-cushion Moss), *Polytrichum ohioensis*, *Bartramia pomiformis* (Green Apple Moss), *Hedwigia ciliata*, *Aulacomium heterostichum*, *Grimmia sp.*, *Anomodon sp.*, *Thuidium recognitum* (Fern Moss), *Calopogon sp.*, and *Callicladium hyalidanianum*. It was an excellent workshop! We hope you'll join us for the next non-vascular plant workshop.

Committee News

Nominations and Elections Committee P. J. Harmon, Chair

Seventy members in good standing submitted timely and valid 1994 election ballots. As a result, the following persons were elected to the indicated office:

President:	John Northeimer
Vice-President:	Libby Chatfield
Treasurer:	Mike Breiding
Corresponding Secretary:	Terry Harmon
Recording Secretary:	Steve Mace
Director-at-Large, Class of 1977:	Bill Grafton

The committee recommended to the President and the Board of Directors that efforts be made in the coming year to seek nominees earlier and to get at least two nominees for each position. Having completed its assigned tasks, the 1994 Nominations and Elections Committee dissolved itself.

Congratulations to the new officers and Director-at-Large, and thanks to all the nominees for their willingness to run for office.

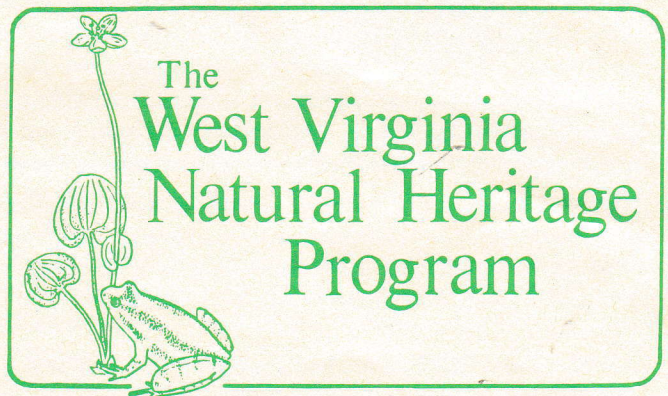
Education and Outreach Committee John Northeimer, Chair

The final proofs of the "Native Plants in Wildlife Landscaping" fact sheets are nearing completion. These informative flyers were compiled and written by Native Plant Society members and are being reformatted for publication. John Northeimer is finishing design and layout, Frank Pelurie has electronically scanned illustrations from the Flora of WV for incorporation into the fact sheets and Bill Grafton has completed final text editing. Printing and publishing will be funded by a previously awarded WV Nongame Program grant.

Other activities of the committee include statewide news releases for Society activities to boost our exposure to the general public and construction of a WVNPS display with an anticipated completion date of May 14 - in time for the Wildflower Pilgrimage.

Field Studies Committee Clete Smith, Chair

This year we are asking people to pay special attention to the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program Rare Plant Element Tracking List. A copy is available by contacting Data Manager, Barbara Sargent of the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program, DNR, P. O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241, (304/637-0245).



Everyone is asked to participate to some degree. If you want to contribute information about a rare plant species, a form for providing the significant information needed by WVNPS is available from Barbara as well.

We have set up a network to address questions people might have for any non-determined sightings or unusual finds. This info should be relayed to myself (412/561-7267) and I will put you in touch with a botanist in your region to help identify or confirm your find. May we suggest that you limit collection where possible; good slide photography is normally sufficient.

Those of us particularly interested in the orchids of the region are asking for your help regarding locations in the state of the following: Platanthera (Habenaria) flava, Malaxis unifolia, any purple fringed orchid blooming 7-15 to 8-15, any white Lady Slippers - these can be Cypripedium kentuckiense, or Cypripedium candidum, any albino forms of orchids such as Calopogon and the purple fringed (yes! white purple fringed), Wister's coral root, spotted coral root and Three Bird's orchid. Please call Clete Smith at 412-561-7267 or Scott Shriver at 412-367- 8610 to report findings.

We hope everyone has a wonderful "Botanical Year."



Rare Plant Roundup Workshop Report

There was some fear by a few of us that this workshop was not going to be as well attended as we had hoped. All fears were allayed as eighteen hardy souls made it to Elkins on a very cold, snowy, and slippery March 19, 1994.

PJ Harmon and Bill Grafton had a program that was only a basic idea in the beginning but with their direction and input from all who attended it developed into what was a most interesting, informative, and enjoyable day.

An open forum discussion was held using the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program's Rare Species List as a guideline. Discussions were held surrounding individual species, addressing historical sites, known existing (extant) sites, and

new sites as well. With this "roundup" it was hoped that a new commitment from all members of the WVNPS would be encouraged for locating and identifying both existing and new sites for the rare plant species of West Virginia. Volunteerism is such an important part of this endeavor. People who do aid in this should understand that accurate mapping and identification are critical in keeping the records of these plants for posterity.

The Roundup was such a resounding success that a second meeting has been scheduled for October 29, 1994 (see note elsewhere in this issue). At this meeting more botanical adventure yarns will be spun for everyone to enjoy!

Field Trips and Workshops

Here we go folks . . . a chance to get into the field with people who know the flora of the state! For each field trip or workshop there is information on the name, date, time, description, directions, where to meet, who the leader is, what you are to bring, and any limits or special information for that field trip or workshop. Field trips are meant to be in-the-field, hands-on hikes, while workshops may involve more indoor lessons as well as hands-on work and may or may not involve going outside. **All registrations must be in writing, using the field trip registration form included below. Some field trips or workshops may involve a registration fee, but most programs are free or have a very minimum fee. Stated limits of number of participants will be observed especially in fragile habitats. For further information, contact Bill Grafton at 304/293-4797 extension 493.**

Cheat River Gorge Hike

Date: June 18, 1994 **Time:** 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Description: We will explore the riverbank plant communities for the unique plant species which occur there. We should see the following species: balsam squawweed, smooth azalea, royal fern, Barbara's buttons, tasselrue, and yellow stargrass.

Directions: Meet at the junction of WV Rt. 7 and 72 east of Kingwood.

Leader: Bill Grafton, 304-292-0229

What to Bring: Wear rugged hiking boots for walking on rounded river boulders and rough sandy ground. Bring your lunch and enough liquids for four hours of exploration. Camera, binoculars, handlens, notebook, wildflower book, and raincoat are other options.

Limit: 25 people

The Geology Factor

Date: August 20, 1994 **Time:** 10:00 AM

Description: A trip across the Allegheny Front from the

Appalachian Plateau to the Valley and Ridge Province. The wetlands of Canaan Valley and the heath barrens of Dolly Sods will be visited as the relationship of geology to topography, climate and plant distribution is illustrated. This is a terrific scenic area, so bring your camera! This trip will involve driving over a distance of approximately 50 miles - some in remote areas. Walking to areas of interest will be of short distances on rocky terrain.

Directions: Meet at the Canaan Valley State Park Nature Center. The Nature Center can be reached by taking the first right after you enter the park. Canaan Valley State Park is located 11 miles south of Davis, WV on State Route 32.

Leader: John Northeimer, Naturalist and Geologist, Canaan Valley Resort

What to Bring: Boots, long pants, windbreaker, camera and binoculars. Bring a bag lunch and drinks.

* **Special Note:** Make sure you have a full tank of gasoline and a spare tire. No service available on Dolly Sods!

Limit: 30

Map: Map and other interpretive materials will be distributed to participants on field trip date. More information can be obtained from John at (304) 259-5377 (evenings).

Workshop: Rare Plant Roundup!

Date: October 29, 1994 **Time:** 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Description: This is the second "roundup", designed to help people catch up with one-another about what exciting plants they saw last season. At the same time, it helps the Conservation Committee get rare plant information into the WV Natural Heritage Program database. We'll snack, swap stories, share some slides, and get the details onto paper and locations mapped. If you're not sure how to gather conservation botanical data, we'll show you how, or if you're interested, but don't have anything specific to share, come have fun learning about this exciting new field of botany!

Directions: The Roundup will be held at the Division of Natural Resources' Operations Center, in Elkins. From the junction of U.S. Rts. 33, 250 and 219 at McDonald's in Elkins, travel south on U.S. Rts. 250/219 2 miles to Ward Road (immediately opposite the entrance to Wal-Mart). Turn right, and follow Ward Road about 1.5 miles West. The Operations Center is on the hill to the right at the DNR entrance sign.

Leaders: Bill Grafton, Clete Smith, & P. J. Harmon

What to bring: Bring any notes or documentation you have for any rare plant locations you want to register. You might want to bring any interesting slides, photos, or specimens you want to share. Also, bring a sack lunch and something to drink. The Society will provide some snacks for the morning and afternoon. Since we're an out-door-oriented group, you may want to wear some field clothes along in case we want to take a short hike between indoor sessions.

Limit: 30

Changes to our Membership Records

Welcome to these new members:

Arnold, Raymond L.

P.O. Box 114
Ghent, WV 25843-0114
Homephone:304/787-3034
Business 1 phone: 304/256-6770

Bowen, Joe & Polly

Rt. 1, Box 50
Cottageville, WV 25239
Homephone:304/372-6098

Cantley, Chuck & Sandra

1009 Montrose Drive
South Charleston, WV 25303
Homephone:304/744-7697
Business 1 phone: 304/348-4894

Concannon, Julie A.

209 Central Street
Elkins, WV 26241
Homephone:304/637-5315
Business 1 phone: 304/636-1800

Lambert, David

1712 S. Nelson Street
Arlington, VA 22204
Homephone:703/920--4329

Leyzorek, John

Route 1
Marlinton, WV 24954
Homephone:304/799-7191

McClintock, Elizabeth

P.O. Box 8251
South Charleston, WV 25303
Homephone:304/744-9704

Miller, Joe & Charli Fulton

10 Lynn Brooke Road
Charleston, WV 25312-9521
Homephone:304/744-1654
Business 1 phone: 304/348-6710

Reed, William E.
Rt. 3, Box 131 B
Beckley, WV 25801
Homephone:304/934-5828

Trianosky, Paul
2 Apple Creek Estates
Elkins, WV 26241
Homephone:304/636-8470
Business 1 phone: 304/637-0245

Tuckerman, Robert G. & Millie
HC 72, Box 24-A
Franklin, WV 26807
Homephone:304/358-7647

Wenger, Constance L.
10901 Street Road
Oxford, PA 19363
Homephone:215/932-5361

Whitcomb, Robert F. & Judith B. Leach
10610 Belfast Place
Potomac, MD 20854
Homephone:301/299-5215
Business 1 phone: 301/504-8339
Business 2 phone: 604/636-7238

Wilson, Leon P.
P.O. Box 105
Ona, WV 25545-0105
Homephone:304/743--4013

Here are some address and/or name changes:

Cooper, Joyce
HC73, Box 24
Valley Head, WV 26294
Homephone:304/339-6309

Cronenberger, Ginnie & Ken
Route #1, Box 37
Petroleum, WV 26161
Homephone:304/628-3382

Gerse, Rick & Martha
1277 Highland Drive
St. Albans, WV 25177
Homephone:304/727-8254

Business 1 phone: 304/755-6486

Gibbins, Helen & Neil L
6128 Gideon Road
Huntington, WV 25705
Homephone:304/736-3287

Miller, Patricia
409 Cobun Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26505-6153
Homephone:304/296-3827
Business 1 phone: 304/293-4191
Business 2 phone: 800/624-8301

Pierce, David W
P.O. Box 330
Naugatuck, WV 25685
Business 1 phone: 606/353-7722

Wood, Doug M. & Dianne Anestis
Rt. 1, Box 182
Forest Hill, WV 24935
Homephone:304/466-2724
Business 1 phone: 304/256-6850

Spring Weekend Outing Was Great Fun!

Nine Kanawha Valley members enjoyed a beautiful weekend botanizing on the nearby the property of Doug Wood May 6-8. The weather was cooperative (except a brief shower on Sunday), and folks found numerous spring wildflowers in bloom in Monroe and Summers Counties.

On Saturday morning, the group hiked along Stony Creek and Little Stony Creek near Barger Springs (Summers Co.), a great variety of flowers, including Shooting Star (*Dodecatheon*), American Yew (*Taxus canadensis*), Large Flowered Heartleaf (*A sarum shuttleworthii*), Rattlesnake Orchis (*Goodyera* sp.), Lady Fern (*Athyrium asplenoides*), Galax (*Galax urceolata*), Moccasin Flower or Pink Ladyslipper Orchid (*Cypripedium acaule*), Showy Orchis (*Orchis spectabilis*), and Table Mountain Pine (*Pinus pungens*).

Later that morning, the group hike in the Sweet Springs Area (Monroe Co.) and saw Water Cress (*Nasturtium officinale*), Calamus (*Acorus calamus*), Dwarf Larkspur (*Delphinium* ?), Vernal Iris (*Iris verna*), Wild Honeysuckle (*Rhododendron roseum*), Gaywings (*Polygala pauciflora*), Large Flowered Trillium (*Trillium gradiflorum*), and Wood Anemone (*Anemone quinquefolia*), among others.

Perhaps the highlight of the weekend was a visit to The Nature Conservancy's Slaty Mountain Shale Barren Preserve, where a number of common and rare plant species were seen, including Moss Pink (*Phlox subulata*), Wild Pink (*Silene pennsylvanica*), Shale Barren Pussytoes (*Antennaria plantaginifolia*), Rocktwist (*Draba ramosissima*), Yellow Buckwheat (*Eriogonum allenii*), Cliff Stonecrop (*Sedum glaucophyllum*), Yellow Pimpernel (*Taenidia integerrima*), Birdsfoot Violet (*Viola pedata*), Pussytoes Ragwort (*Senecio antennarifolius*), Purple Cliffbrake (*Pellaea atropurpurea*), Shale Barren Bindweed (*Calystegia spathamiae ssp. purshiana*), and Dwarf hackberry (*Celtis tenuifolia*).

It's too bad that so many things were going on that same weekend so that many of us couldn't attend, but look how much fun the Kanawha Valley Chapter had! If you missed it this year, maybe you can make it yet. The chapter plans to do it again next year!

Chapter News

Huntington Area Chapter

Rumor has it that the Huntington Area Chapter is getting organized! A number of new members have stated that they want to be members of that chapter. Of course, the chapter hasn't officially been initiated by the Board of Directors, but we only need 15 WVNPS members to sign up for membership in that chapter, and it will be on its way. If you're interested in joining the Huntington Area Chapter, call Dr. Dan Evans (304/696-6467) for more information.



Kanawha Valley Chapter

The Kanawha Valley Chapter had a great time at their Spring Weekend Outing! The next activity planned for the chapter is a trip to Chief Logan State Park in June. Keep an eye out for the chapter newsletter or call Gay Brown (304/744-8344) for details.



Membership Dues Now Past Due for Some

As explained in the last newsletter, 1994 memberships were due after January 1, and members who did not pay their 1994 dues by April 1, 1994 are ineligible to vote in Society elections. Termination of membership will be considered final if dues are not paid by May 30, 1994. Enclosed is a membership registration coupon for your convenience.

Membership Registration Coupon

Please sign me up as a member of WVNPS!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone: H ____ / ____ W ____ / ____

Membership Dues:

- Individual:** \$8 (New members, only: Jan 1-Mar 31, \$8; Apr 1-Jun 30, \$6; Jul 1-Sep 30, \$4; Oct 31-Dec 31, \$2)
- Family:** \$12 (New members, only: Jan 1-Mar 31, \$12; Apr 1-Jun 30, \$9; Jul 1-Sep 30, \$6; Oct 31-Dec 31, \$3)
- Student:** \$5 **Life:** \$200.00

Preferred chapter: _____

I wish to make an additional contribution to WVNPS in the amount of:

- \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$

This is a Gift Membership. Please include a card with my name as donor:

I am interested or skilled in the following:

- Field botany Photography
- Art Propagation
- Public speaking Typing
- Telephoning Display development
- Publications Leading Field Trips
- Organizing, filing, preparing mailings, etc.
- Stewardship of wildflower plantings/preserves
- Service on state Board of Directors
- Service as state officer
- Service as chapter officer
- other
- Check here if you do not wish your name to be exchanged with similar organizations.
- Check here if you do not wish to be listed in the WVNPS members' telephone/address directory.

Members Donate Artwork for *Native Notes*

Sam Norris only recently left the West Virginia hills for Austin, Texas, but not before spending many years as a conservation botanist in our state. Sam worked seasonally for the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program and contributed in a huge way to the success of that program. He not only wrote the cover article but illustrated it, too! Sam does botanical and fungal illustrations, and wetland and rare plant element consulting field work.

David Pierce, of Naugatuck, West Virginia, provided three pen and ink drawings of native plants for this issue. He was born on the Alleghany Indian Reservation in western New York and now lives in the remote mountains of Mingo Co., West Virginia. He's primarily a sculptor, and has shown and taught in such diverse places and New York, Washington, DC, Ripley and Huntington.

Program Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone, Day: _____

Program Name: _____

No. Participants: _____ Fee (if any): _____

Mailing address: WVNPS
Corresponding Secretary
P. O. Box 2755
Elkins, WV 26241

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Corresponding Secretary
P. O. Box 2755
Elkins, WV 26241



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