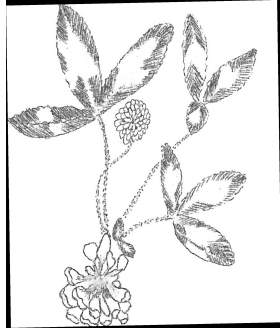


NATIVE NOTES



Kate's Mountain Clover*

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WEST VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 18:3

DECEMBER 2010

Judy Dumke-Editor: E-mail-dumke@live.marshall.edu Phone 740-894-6859

February 5th 2011

***Workshop and Board meeting of the WVNPS
West Virginia Wesleyan College Buckhannon West Virginia***

Schedule

11:15 AM board meeting starts

12 to 1:00 PM lunch buffet (\$6.70) on campus

1:00 to 4:00 PM talk and workshop see page 2 for details

Directions

From route 33 from either Weston or Elkins, take the Route 20 exit and turn south into Buckhannon. Continue on route 20 going south for a couple of miles. At the McDonald's intersection, turn left onto College Avenue. Take College Avenue for 3-4 blocks until you reach the College property where you will see a main entrance sign across from the intersection with Meade Street. Turn right onto Meade Street and continue until you reach the T-intersection with Camden Avenue. Turn left onto Camden Avenue, then take the next right that will take you past a large parking lot behind the Camden Avenue dormitories on your left. Continue until you reach a large open parking area where anyone can park. After parking, walk back between the Camden Avenue apartments, or to their left. Cross Camden Avenue (a boulevard with central tree-planted area) and take the sidewalk to the right of the new fountain. This sidewalk will take you past the dining hall, student center, and Rockefeller Gym on the right and then up to the Christopher Hall of Science, with its new Reemsnyder research wing. Enter the door of the old building, and go up to the second floor. The meeting will be held either in 216 or 217 Christopher Hall of Science. Kathy Gregg's office is 219. Her office phone is 304-473-8124 if anyone has questions. ❖

* DRAWN BY Betsy Tramell after photographs by Charles Garrett, Warm Springs Va.

February Lecture and Workshop

Where did my Orchid Go? And Why?

Dr. Katharine Gregg

What happens when herbaceous perennials don't emerge in the spring after seasonal dormancy? At first, we may assume that the plants are dead, yet they may emerge one to several years later from a condition termed prolonged dormancy. Over 60 species in 14 plant families exhibit this phenomenon, and 53% of them are orchids! Kathy's talk will describe what happens to one of West Virginia's orchids when it remains subterranean for one or more years and how it is able to re-emerge. Her talk will also outline some of the proposed hypotheses for why orchids and other species might or might not benefit from this mysterious phenomenon.



Dr. Gregg is one of the two authors of this species, technically *Cleistis bifara* (Fernald) Catling and Gregg (common name small spreading pogonia). She is currently a professor at West Virginia Wesleyan and curator of the George Rossbach Herbarium. In addition to her ongoing research on the ecology, taxonomy and reproductive strategies of orchids, she is currently working under a grant to digitize the herbarium collections.

Kathy was one of two authors of the treatment of *Cleistis* in *Flora of North America* Vol 26, pages 510-511. The genus currently includes two species in the southeastern United States. Her detailed treatment of the small whorled pogonia in West Virginia may be found in Gregg, K. B. 1989 *Reproduction biology of the orchid Cleistis divaricata* (L.) Ames var. *bifaria* Fernald growing in a West Virginia Meadow Castanea 54:57-78.

Keying Workshop with Kathy Gregg

In this year's winter workshop there will be an unusual opportunity to refine your skills and to examine why supposedly simple tasks are not always so simple. After the lecture Dr Gregg will lead a workshop on keying. To facilitate this there will be frozen plants emerging from Wesleyan's botany freezer to practice upon. Two things will determine the workshop direction: the experience level of the group and the particular plants in the freezer!

Identification of an unknown plant's family is a hugely important step along the road to a final plant id, yet in the *Flora of West Virginia* keys to genera and species are much easier to use than the family key. Use of this family key can be the emphasis of the keying workshop if folks are so inclined. We can also talk about why plant names change and how this sometimes irritating and inconvenient process works.

If anyone would like to request a special type of keying lesson, or to let Kathy know your level of expertise, please email her at Gregg@wwvc.edu.

To facilitate this exercise please bring keys with you. Maybe you have some that bother you, offer different ways of looking at the keying experience, or ones you just love and can't do without. But don't bring books from outside North America unless you use them. Kathy will have some books and keys and the editor plans to bring a few. If you bring books be sure you can identify them so that you go home with what you brought.

If the Weather is Not Nice

February in West Virginia is always somewhat uncertain, so if there is a question of driving safety, an e mail will be sent to all members by Helen Gibbins, if she has your contact information. If you are not sure she has your current address please contact her at gibbins@frontier.com supplying your current information. If you do not have e mail access consult the list of officers and call to ask.

West Virginia NPS Annual Meeting Hikes!

This year's annual meeting included three outstanding hikes in which 16 people and one very small dog participated. The first hike was led by ecologist, Kent Karriker, and included a hike around Big Run Bog, an undeveloped U. S. Forest Service Research Natural Area (see map). The bog covers an estimated 44 acres with an irregular mosaic of several plant communities growing on hummocks and in the valleys between. Some of the most interesting species seen included Golden club (*Arisaema triphyllum*), three way sedge (*Dulichium arundinaceum*), grass pink (*Calopogon tuberosus*), and more tawny cottongrass (*Eriophorum virginicum*) than you could shake a stick at!

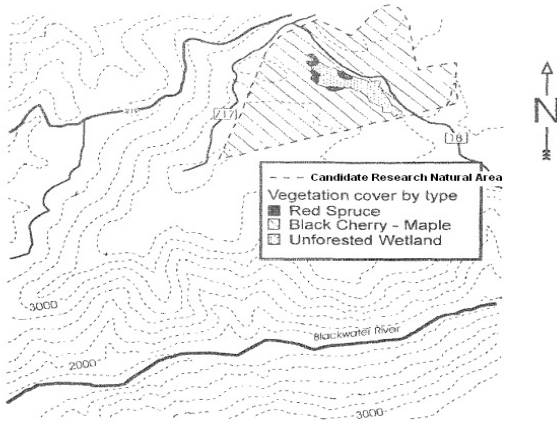


Figure 1.—Boundary area and cover types of Big Run Bog candidate RNA.

The second hike covered an 8-acre wetland restoration project occurring on a high terrace along Shaver's Fork River. This project was completed over the summer and those attending the hike helped to create an initial inventory of the species found in the project area. The group identified over 100 species including big blue stem (*Andropogon gerardii*), groundnut (*Apios americana*), slender spikerush (*Eleocharis elliptica*), glade St. John's wort (*Hypericum densiflorum*), cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), and one very delicious prairie crab apple (*Malus ioensis* var. *ioensis*). The final hike was led by botanist, Ron Polgar, and included stops along Shaver's Fork River. The group was able to see rare, river scour plant communities and species such as Barbara's buttons (*Marshallia grandiflora*) and long-stalked holly (*Ilex collina*). Even the parking spots were spectacular and featured fields of nodding ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes cernua*). For a complete checklist or to see photos of the trip, please visit our website at <http://www.wvnps.org>. A special thanks to everyone who attended the hikes and to our great trip leaders! ❖ Submitted by Cynthia Sandeno

Events of Interest

Ohio Moss and Lichen Association annual meeting will be held at the Museum of Biological Diversity Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio **February 26th 2011** from 9-4 information dassler.1@osu.edu

The **Ohio Botanical Symposium** will be held on Friday, **March 25, 2011** from 9:15 to 3:45 at Villa Milano in Columbus Ohio. Keynote speaker is Dr. David Karowe who will be speaking on climate change and what it means for Midwestern plant communities and plant species. Other topics include: running buffalo clover & other clovers, western Ohio prairie fens, history and meanings of scientific names, invasive plants, butterflies and their host/nectar plants, and Ohio's best plant finds of 2010. Exhibitors from various conservation agencies and non-profits will be there as well as vendors selling native plants, books, and other nature related items. The Registration fee of \$30 includes refreshments and a lunch buffet. You may visit <http://www.cmnh.org> for online registration and more information.

A Garden of Eden: Medicinal and Edible plants of the Appalachian Mountains. Meigs County Ohio **April 14, 2011** seating limited to 100. Contact information <http://www.porterbrooknativeplants.com>

Kentucky Native Plant Society Wild Flower Weekend April 29-May 1 2011 Natural Bridge State Park <http://www.knps.org>

Joint Meeting of the 2nd Kentucky Invasive Species Conference and the 13th Annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Conference May 3-5 2011 Hilton Lexington, Downtown Lexington Ky. [Http://www.ca.uky.edu/invasives](http://www.ca.uky.edu/invasives)

50th Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage Blackwater Falls State Park Davis WV **May 5-8, 2011.** See [Http://www.Blackwaterfalls.com/special.htm](http://www.Blackwaterfalls.com/special.htm) Contact 304-259-5216.

WV State Park Wild Flower events:

April 15-17 Redbud Weekend Cacapon Resort St. Park

April 22-24 Wild Flower Weekend New River Gorge and Hawks Nest State Park

April 23 Osbra Eye Memorial Walks Kanawha State Forest

April 24 Wildflower Walks Babcock State Park See http://www.wvstateparks.com/Hikes_Walks.html.❖

Wicked Weeds of West Virginia

Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed Management Area Progress

This summer the Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area (CWPMA) was off and running. After many agencies, associations, non profits (including the West Virginia Native Plant Society) came together to fight the ever growing menace of invasive plants. The first Coordinator was hired and in place in Elkins. Andrea Brandon is based in The Nature Conservancy office and may be reached in any of the following ways:

Snail mail: PO Box 250, 21 Third St. Suite 4 Elkins WV 26241 phone (304) 637-0160 ext. 100
e-mail abrandon@tnc.org

One activity of the CWPMA has started is a Newsletter, *Weed Watcher*, which details the activities of the CWPMA and issues facing the four counties, three in West Virginia and one in Virginia, but much of the information can be extrapolated to other parts of the state. You may sign up for copies by contacting Andrea at the e-mail address above.

Grants to the CWPMA have enabled not only the hiring of the coordinator but also two seasonal employees to battle selected invasive plants in the Smoke Hole Canyon, Blister Swamp and on Cave Mountain.

. Additional Resources on Invasives and Japanese Knot Weed

An interesting power point with audio on the biology of Japanese Knotweed can be found at <http://www.naeppc.org/08conference/talk.html?id=118>

Chemical control of Japanese Knotweed is discussed in an article *Integration of Chemical Control with Restoration Techniques for Management of Fallopia japonica populations* www.managementofbiologicalinvasions.net

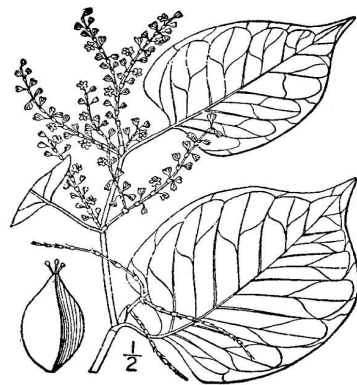
Sample from Weed Watcher

Japanese Knotweed

Japanese knotweed is an upright shrub-like herbaceous perennial that can grow to over 10 feet in height. The minute greenish-white flowers occur in attractive, branched sprays in summer and are followed soon after by small winged fruits. It reproduces primarily by seed and by vegetative means with the help of long, stout rhizomes. It can be transported to new sites by water, wind, as a contaminant in fill dirt, or on the soles of shoes. Japanese Knotweed can tolerate a variety of adverse conditions including full shade, high temperatures, and drought. It is found near water sources, such as along streams and rivers.

Knotweed spreads quickly to form dense thickets that exclude native vegetation and greatly alter natural ecosystems. It poses a significant threat to riparian areas and once established, populations are extremely persistent.

Japanese Knotweed is difficult to control because of its ability to re-grow from vegetative pieces and from seed. To control, hand pull young plants; remove all roots and runners to prevent re-sprouting. It can also be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Apply herbicides to freshly cut stems or to foliage. Follow label and state requirements.



Japanese Knotweed

West Virginia's Tantalizing Trilliums

Trilliums are common in the Appalachian Mountains but keying them can be quite a challenge as the characters separating them are obscure and few. In addition hybrids and morphological oddities abound. An odd factoid is that what seem to be leaves are really bracts, there are no real above ground leaves.

Almost everyone knows *Trillium grandiflora*, the large flowered white trillium, however there are only 24 current records for the species and 16 older ones, which means there are no herbarium records for 15 counties, one of which is Kanawha. Even with this most iconic of the spring ephemerals there are opportunities to enlarge our knowledge of a species.



Trillium erectum, the ill scented trillium or wake robin, is also known from 24 counties currently as well as 15 additional older records scattered throughout the state. The Ohio River Counties and the eastern panhandle are the least well represented. This is a pediculate Trillium with a dark ovary.



The two above species were used at one time to induce labor or to make births easier.

Trillium sessile, toad or sessile trillium or toadshade, is known from 10 current records and 21 older records scattered throughout the state, clearly new vouchers are needed. This is a trillium with strongly to weakly mottled young leaves, the dominant flower color is a green with some maroon streaks often present. The ovary color is not diagnostic.



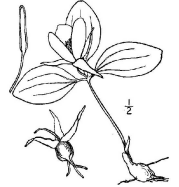
Also known from 10 current counties and 8 older records is *Trillium undulatum*, the painted Trillium. Confined to the mountainous counties this is unmistakable with the white petals having a dark red basal marking, often in a V shape. The flower is stalked.



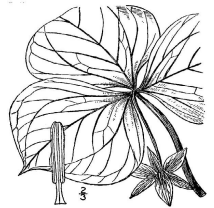
Illustrations from: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 1: 526. Courtesy of Kentucky Native Plant Society. Scanned by Omnitek Inc.

There is no illustration of *Trillium sulcatum*, the southern Red Trillium, because it was described in 1984, long after the illustrations in the 1913 Britton and Brown were drawn. The WV distribution is erratic with 5 current records and 7 older ones. With additional attention more locations are probable. It has dark red-maroon petals about 1.5 times as long as the bracts. The flowers face outward at right angles to the pedicel.

Trillium nivale, the snow trillium, is a very small, very early, bloomer restricted to calcareous substrates. Existing records are from Cabell, Grant, Hardy and Pendleton Counties, with older records from Preston and Tucker counties. This is very small, less than 10 cm tall, and blooms very early in March or April. If you see it you will know it.



Trillium flexipes, the drooping, bent or declined Trillium, is a very uncommon plant in WV with current records from Putnam and Wood counties and older records from 9 other counties, this is another species that merits attention. The flower does decline or lean away from the pedicel, the greenish white to white ovary and creamy white petals and anthers help to distinguish this plant.



Trillium cernuum, the nodding trillium has only been recorded from Jefferson County. It is a plant with a range primarily to the north of West Virginia. The flower is tucked under the bracts, thus nodding, with white to pink (rare) petals that are recurved. The bracts can be almost orbicular.



Trillium pusillum var. *virginianum*, the dwarf trillium is known from only Pendleton county.. It is a small sessile trillium with white flowers having spreading petals with wavy edges. ❖

Resources

2002 Flora of North America Editorial Committee; Flora of North America Vol.:26 Magnoliophyta:Liliidace Oxford University Press. Available on http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=133668

Case, Frederick; Trilliums 1997 Timber Press Oregon ❖

Tri State Chapter in the Field

Public Service at Spring Hill Cemetery In Huntington WV

During the January planning meeting of the Tri State Chapter of the WVNPS Mr. Niebergall, Cemeteries General Manager for the Huntington Park District, asked if the chapter would be willing to identify the trees in Spring Hill Cemetery, one of the largest in the state. After some discussion the chapter agreed to do so, if the cemetery would provide labels to be attached to trees and provide a base map of the cemetery.

During the summer and fall of 2010 210 trees were tagged with the common and scientific names using waterproof inks. Approximately 12 trips were made, primarily by Romie Hughart with Helen Gibbins and Judy Dumke assisting on some trips. Forty-five species were identified which included 27 native to West Virginia and 18 non-native species. Looking at the distribution on the map it was clear that waves of planting fashions had happened over the life of the cemetery.

Native Species included:

Black maple - *Acer nigrum*; Red maple - *A. rubrum*; Silver maple - *A. Saccharinum*; Sugar maple - *A. saccharum* (including cultivars); Downy serviceberry - *Amelanchier arborea*; Pignut hickory - *Carya glabra*; Shagbark hickory - *C. Ovata*; Fringe tree - *Chionanthus virginicus*; Dogwood - *Cornus florida*; Persimmon - *Diospyros virginiana*; White ash - *Fraxinus americana*; Holly - *Ilex opaca*; Butternut - *Juglans cinerea*; Red cedar - *Juniperus virginiana*; Tulip tree- *Liriodendron tulipifera*; Cucumber magnolia - *Magnolia acuminata*; crab apple - *Malus sp* (probably *ioensis*); Black gum - *Nyssa sylvatica*; White pine- *Pinus strobus*; Sycamore *Platanus occidentalis*; Black cherry - *Prunus serotina*; Scarlet oak- *Quercus coccinea*; Pin oak - *Q. Palustris*; Chestnut oak - *Q. prinus*; Post oak *Q. Stellata*; White cedar - *Thuja occidentalis*; Hemlock - *Tsuga canadensis* American elm - *Ulmus americana*..

Non Native Species included:

Trident maple - *Acer buegeranum*; Black maple - *A. Nigrum*; Norway maple *A. Platanoides*; Crimson King Maple *A. platanoides* cultivar; Ginkgo - *Ginkgo biloba*; Golden Rain Tree - *Koelreutera paniculata*; Southern magnolia - *Magnolia grandiflora*; Princess tree - *Paulownia tomentosa*; Blue spruce - *Picea pungens*; Ponderosa pine - *Pinus ponderosa*; Flowering Purple Plum - *Prunus cerasifera*; Flowering plum - *P. Sp* cultivar; Japanese Cherry - *P. Cultivar*; Willow oak - *Quercus phellos*; Pagoda tree - *Sophora japonica*; Lilac - *Syringa sp*; Little Leaf linden - *Tilia cordata*; Large Leaf Basswood - *T. platyphyllos*; ❖

Mill Creek Wildlife Management Area Cabell County WV

On August 28th 2010 seven members of the Tri State Chapter visited the Mill Creek Wildlife Management Area near Milton, north of I-64. This long narrow valley is seldom visited and may present the opportunity for significant finds in the future. On this trip the usual fall flora was observed but the potential for other visits, beyond the bottom lands seen on this trip, remains strong.

County records included:

Tall coreopsis - *Coreopsis tripteris*; Ground Pine - *Lycopodium digitatum*; wild bergamot - *Monarda fistulosa*; Orange coneflower - *Rudbeckia fulgida*; Brown-eyed Susan - *R. triloba*; Heartleaf Skullcap - *Scutellaria ovata*

Old records updated included:

Horsetail - *Equisetum arvense*; Great Lobelia - *Lobelia siphilitica*; Wreath Goldenrod - *Solidago caesia*.❖

Blue Licks State Park Nature Preserve Robertson County Kentucky

On October 2nd 2010 five members of the West Virginia Native Plant Society, including one from Louisville visited Blue Licks State Park Nature Preserve hoping to see Short's Goldenrod, *Solidago shortii* and Great Plains Ladies Tresses, *Spiranthes magnicamporum*. Both plants were quickly found and search images formed for future searches. The Nature Preserve was very well managed, particularly as it is located in a resort park and has somewhat heavy visitation. The barrens plant populations were very well represented. The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission is to be commended for their work on this site.

Plants of interest included:

Trees Green ash - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*; Blue Ash - *Fraxinus quadrangulata*; Honey locust - *Gleditsia triacanthos*; Bur oak - *Quercus macrocarpa*; Black Jack Oak - *Q. marilandica*; Post oak - *Q. stellata*; Basswood - *Tilia americana*.

Monocots Prairie Three Awned Grass - *Aristida oligantha*; Poverty grass - *Danthonia spicata*; False Aloe - *Manfreda virginica*; Little Blue stem - *Schizachyrium scoparium*; Great Plains Ladies Tresses - *Spiranthes magnicamporum*.

Dicots Whorled Milkweed - *Asclepias verticillata*; Green Flowered Milkweed - *A. viridiflora*; Columbo - *Frasera caroliniensis*; Guara - *Guara biennis*; Five Flowered Gentian - *Gentianella quinquefolia*; Straggling St. John's Wort - *Hypericum dolabriforme*; Prairie Dock - *Silphium terebinthinaceum*; Short's Goldenrod - *Solidago shortii*; blue wood aster *Symphycarichum lowrieianum*; Narrow leaved Bluets - *Trichostema setaceum*.❖

News of The West Virginia Plant Society

Highlights of the 2010 Annual Meeting

- Held September 18 at the Monongahela NF Supervisor's Office in Elkins, West Virginia.
- Membership report 17 life, 64 of 113 total members are current.
- Fiscal conditions remain sound
- WVNPS Brochure updated and approved
- A list of missing Native Notes will be compiled and distributed.
- Winter workshop to be organized for January or February, suggestions welcome.
- \$15 allocated to Florida NPS for a native plant landscaping DVD.
- \$150 authorized to WVU and \$100 to Marshall Herbariums
- Concern expressed about DEP's lists of recommended plants for reclamation because many invasives included.
- Officers as in sidebar were elected.

DUES NOTICE

The dues for 2011 are now being received by treasurer, Mae Ellen Wilson. Please send them to her at 1525 Hampton Road, Charleston WV 25314 as soon as possible, so that she does not have to make multiple trips to the bank to deposit them. If you postponed paying your 2010 dues she will also accept them, gratefully.

Welcome to New Members

Natasha Chaber, Hurricane, WV
Helen McGinnis, Harman, WV
Lorree Speedy, West Newton, PA
Beverly Spurlock, Huntington, WV.

West Virginia Native Plant Society Officers

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(304)-742-3639

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rch25704@yahoo.com
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Editor
Judith Dumke

2011 DUES

Life membership-----\$200
Regular membership-----\$12
Student Membership----- \$8
Tri-State Chapter membership-----\$6

You must be a member of the statewide WV-NPS in order to be a member of a local chapter.

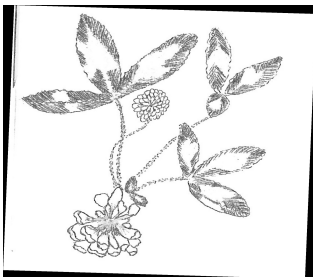
Make your check payable to “West Virginia Native Plant Society”. Just write one check and state if you are joining the tri state chapter. The Treasurer will distribute Chapter dues.

Send dues to:

Mae Ellen Wilson
WVNPS Treasurer
1525 Hampton Road
Charleston, WV 25314

WV Native Plant Society
Attn: Helen Gibbins
6128 Gideon Rd.
Huntington WV 25705

WWW.WVNPS.ORG



TRIFOLIUM VIRGINICUM
Kate's Mountain Clover