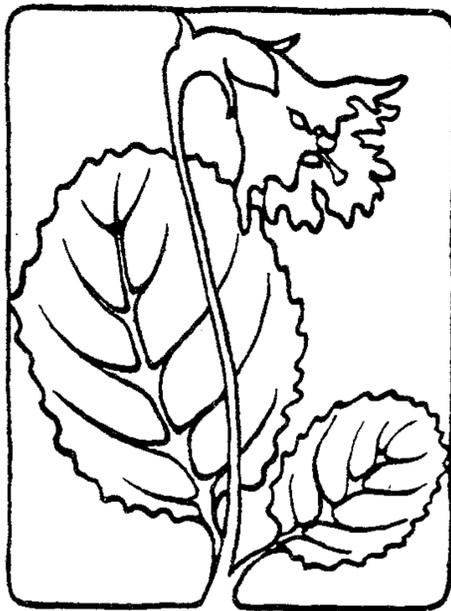


SHORTIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB

WINTER 1986-87



DOROTHY RATHMANN, Editor

OFFICERS

President: Elton Hansens Treasurer: Margaret Kuhn
Vice President: Millie Blaha Historian: Anne Ulinski
Secretary: Ruth Mack

DON'T FORGET Elton Hansens

Workshop -- Plant Fruits: Dec. 5; 1:30-4:00 PM; Blue Ridge Tech., Industrial Skills Bldg. (behind Life Sciences Bldg.), Room 129.
Parking is available adjacent to the building. Call Elton Hansens (692-7245) if you plan to attend. Bring hand lens.

Places, Plants and People plus a Holiday Party: Dec. 12; 2:00 PM; Carolina Room, Carolina Village. A slide show will feature our 1986 trips to Calloway Gardens, Bat Cave, Green Swamp and Carolina Bays. Bring cookies or other goodies to share; beverage furnished by Club.

Annual Meeting and Covered Dish Luncheon: Jan. 23, 1987; Parish House of Saint John in the Wilderness Church. Business meeting and election of officers begins at 11:00 AM. We especially urge new members to attend and get better acquainted. The "covered dish" is always superb with generous dishes and great variety. Bring your own table service and a covered dish to share; beverage will be furnished.

The 1987 Membership List will be available and you can pay 1987 dues.

WCBC Patches: Several new Club members have inquired about the availability of embroidered WCBC patches for packs or jackets. They can be obtained from Margaret Kuhn, Treasurer, for \$1.00 each. Our supply is down to about 20.

RECOGNITION BY THE UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL GARDENS Elton Hansens

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to our Club at the annual dinner of the University Botanical Gardens at Asheville on October 18. We appreciate this recognition of our assistance on scheduled work days and in other activities. Many of our members have joined the Gardens and two; Lowell Orbison and Dick Smith, have served on the Board.

Did you know that Dr. Orbison received special recognition? He was named a Life Member for his extraordinary contribution as a leader and worker. Most of the labels on trees and shrubs were the result of Lowell's work and, in addition, he has contributed in many other ways. Congratulations!

WELCOME -- NEW MEMBERS

Hendersonville unless otherwise stated

Crawford, Dean A. & Joann C., 3229 Debbie Drive 697-6761
Montgomery, Robert S. & Elaine Z., 1636 O'Hara Circle
Stephens, Wesley & Annette, 335 Rivermont Rd., Athens, GA 30606

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB--IT'S BEGINNINGS.....
Barbara Hallowell

Back in the olden days--that is, in the fall of 1972--Dr. Ritchie Bell, an enthusiastic professor of botany at UNC and director of the NC Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill, came to Brevard to teach classes on fall wild flowers. His five weekly sessions delighted a group of 28 participants from Hendersonville, Brevard, and between and beyond.

Circumstances found Harry Logan of Hendersonville traveling back and forth to classes with Barbara Hallowell. En route home one day, Harry stated, "Barbara, [can't you hear him!] I've had an idea. I think it would be nice for some of us who've gotten to know each other in these classes to get together regularly and go out to various interesting places to look at flowers and other plants." Hearty agreement! A great idea!

"At the end of the course," Harry recalls, "we were given evaluation sheets. On mine I proposed forming a club. Dr. Bell sent me a list of fall course members."

By late winter the imminence of spring wildflowers pressed Harry, already a man very busy with hiking, gardening, and planting jobs, to act. He arranged a meeting at the library, March 12, 1973, for discussing ideas about the club. He notified members of the wild-flower class and others who might be interested. As accurately as can be remembered by those who were there, attendees were Harry Logan, Joe Schatz, Harvey Krouse, Lincoln Highton, Harriet Corwin, Pat Tooley, Gordon Tooley, Peg Camenzind, Nan Morrow, and possibly a few others.

Harry Logan presided at this meeting, which scheduled an organizational meeting for March 27, with publicity to be via newspaper and word of mouth. A nominating committee was appointed: Gordon Tooley and Harvey Krouse. Harry suggested strong consideration of Lincoln Highton, a friend and highly qualified botanist from Torrey Botanical Club days in New York, for president. Eager to get going on trips even before the organizational meeting, Harry began scheduling.

Friday, March 16, 1973, goes down in club history as the first field trip of the unnamed, unorganized group. The weatherman challenged us by predicting rain--all day! Barbara Hallowell has a record of the event from a letter she wrote her family: "A botany group, formed just a few days ago, had its first trip today--to Bat Cave, where there are magnificent stands of wildflowers. Despite steady rain, three people turned out: Linc Highton, Harry Logan, and I. By the end of the 20 minute ride, the rains had stopped. For several hours three excited people reveled in this superbly rich woods. New foliage was lush green in the wetness, the humus rich black, and blossoms everywhere! We not only had fun, we learned more botany from each other and agreed we'd needle those folks who had stayed behind because of a weather report. NO RAIN fell--that is, not until we got back to the car, when it deluged! What a day!"

On Monday, March 19, a small group met at the A & P north (now

Opportunity House) for the group's second field trip, led by Peggy Camenzind. No record of participants exists, but all enjoyed a delightful venture to the Augerhole in SC to see Shortia.

Glowing reports from the Bat Cave trio and disappointment among those who missed that trip prompted a second visit there on Friday, March 23. About ten people attended on a magnificent spring day. Barbara wrote: "We sat on mossy logs for lunch amid masses of deep red trilliums--1000s of them--and hepatica, spring beauty, and bloodroot."

Tuesday, March 27, a small but enthusiastic group met to organize the botany club officially. Attendees: Harry Logan, Harvey Krouse, Joe Schatz, Lincoln Highton, Gordon Tooley (representing the Brevard group), Harriet Corwin, Barbara Hallowell, and possibly others.

- The transactions at that meeting are on record. Among them are:
1. Voting that the name of the organization will be Western North Carolina Botanical Club.
 2. Deciding that the discussed purposes of the club will be carried out mostly by means of field trips.
 3. Voting for officers:
President--Lincoln Highton
Vice President--Gordon Tooley
Secretary-Treasurer--Barbara Hallowell
 4. Agreeing that one formal meeting per year will be enough. In it will be election of new officers.
 5. Setting up two committees:
Field trips--Harry Logan
Publicity--Joe Schatz

Except for notices in the newspaper, no record exists of ensuing field trips until the first printed schedule, dated Sept. 1973 to Feb. 1974. (It is interesting to note that while in recent years we think of Bat Cave only in terms of spring, on this fall-winter schedule it is listed for Oct. 22 and Feb. 18!)

A June 18, 1973, meeting seemed necessary to iron out the kinks in field trip mechanics. At that time Harriet Corwin and Peggy Camenzind were appointed to Harry Logan's field trip committee.

The first membership list, late 1973, includes 25 people. (The late 1986 list has nearly 200!) Of that original list, nearly half are still members: Peggy Camenzind, Harriet Corwin, Barbara Hallowell, Harvey Krouse, Bruce Leech, Harry Logan, Nan Morrow, Gladys Mulvey, Richard Tish, Gordon Tooley, and Pat Tooley.

As of 1986, the club has had 7 presidents:

- Joe Schatz--1973
- Linc Highton--1973, 1974, 1975, early 1976
- Harvey Krouse--1976, 1977, 1978
- Bruce Leech--1979, 1980
- Augie Kehr--1981, 1982
- Dick Smith--1983, 1984
- Elton Hansens--1985, 1986.

And what about SHORTIA, our quarterly bulletin? When did it start? At the annual meeting on January 30, 1979, club members decided to have a publication to be edited by Harvey Krouse, with Verna Krouse as secretary and "literary critic." The first issue was March 1979. Helen Turner became editor in the spring of 1982 and Dorothy Rathmann in autumn 1986.

Harry's idea has come a long way!--and it's going strong!

PREVIEW HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY - JULY 1987 SCHEDULE

Learn and Share Barbara Hallowell

Two previous Learn and Share sessions were so thoroughly enjoyed by participants that we've scheduled another for Friday, February 13. Choose some nature-oriented subject you'd like to learn about, dig out the facts on it, and plan to talk for 1-10 minutes, with or without props. These aren't to be polished presentations! And, of course, you're welcome to come even if you don't have a topic to present. We estimate a couple hours learning and sharing in the morning, then lunch (you bring it, as usual), and some carryover into the afternoon. Those who wish to attend should call Barbara Hallowell (692-4316) to sign up. Call SOON!

Four Overnight Trips Elton Hansens

3. X April 16-17: Baxter Creek and Cosby areas of Great Smokies National Park. Attend the first day at Baxter Creek or, better still, plan for overnight and a second day in the Cosby area. Led by Bill Verduin.

April 22-24: By popular request, another 3-day outing with two full days at Snowbird Lodge. Something for everyone, even non-hikers. Contact Elton Hansens for reservations.

2. X May 14-15: Overnight at Cullowhee with leadership by Dr. J. Dan Pittillo, Botany Professor, WCU. Evening illustrated lecture; field trips to Wasulik Trail and Kinsey Creek. Contact Anne Ulinski.

1. X June 25-26: Overnight at Franklin, NC. Visit Perry's Water Garden and hike Wayah Bald and other trails. Contact Elton Hansens.

ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST Larry Kenyon

The Community Relations Committee has recommended WCBC donations to the following organizations and, in addition, urges that Club members consider individual donations or memberships in these groups:

University Botanical Gardens: membership \$10; family \$15. Newsletter including Dick Smith's contributions. Raymond L. Joiner, Treasurer, 24 Hampton Road, Asheville, NC 28805.

North Carolina Nature Conservancy: membership \$10; renewal memberships are shared with national Nature Conservancy. Among current projects are Bat Cave, Green Swamp and Carolina Bays -- all sites visited by WCBC this year. State and national publications sent to members. PO Box 805, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: subscribing member \$10-24. News bulletin; annual meeting. Especially concerned with preserving Roan Mountain and adjoining Southern Highlands. PO Box 3356, Kingsport, TN 37664.

WERE YOU THERE? DO YOU REMEMBER? Anne Ulinski, Historian

Each year we see the common familiar plants--old friends like ox-eye daisy, cinquefoil, bluets, trout lily, heal-all, dogwood, mountain laurel and rhododendron. On almost every hike we may see an uncommon or even a rare plant, or a display of a common plant, a display that stands out in our memory.

I've gone back through this year's records to find some of those special plants or displays and I've listed them in column one below. In column two are the locations of the plants, "scrambled" to test your memory. I hope this matching test will recall some of the delights of this past year. If you missed these plants this year, check next year's schedules. Some of the trips are sure to be repeated.

Look for answers on another page of this issue of SHORTIA.
(NOTE: Not all plants were seen at blooming time).

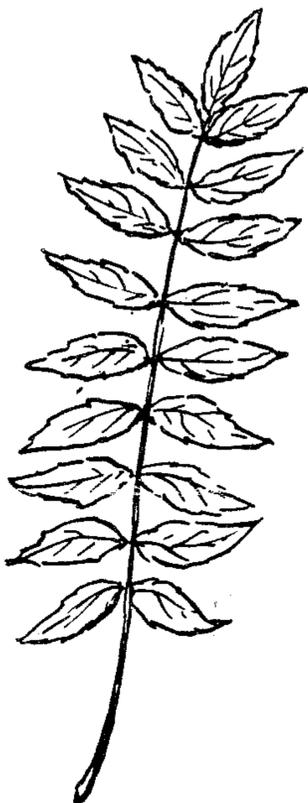
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|----|------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | American Climbing Fern | a. | Albright Grove, Cosby Area, Smokies |
| 2 | Anise Tree | b. | Bat Cave |
| 3 | Appalachian Avens | c. | Calloway Gardens |
| 4 | Creamy Violet | d. | Charlie Moore's Preserve |
| 5 | Cup Plant, Silphium | e. | Craggy Gardens |
| 6 | Dwarf Ginseng | f. | Daniel Creek |
| 7 | Dwarf Pawpaw | g. | Dupont |
| 8 | Fragile Fern | h. | FENCE |
| 9 | Fraser's Sedge | i. | Frying Pan Gap |
| 10 | Golden Saxifrage, Water Mat | j. | Green Cove Woods |
| 11 | Nodding Onion | k. | Green Swamp/Caroline Bays |
| 12 | Persistent Trillium | l. | Holmes State Forest |
| 13 | Princess Tree | m. | Ike Slickrock Trail (Entrance) |
| 14 | Purple Fringed Orchid | n. | Joyce Kilmer Trail |
| 15 | Pyxie Moss | o. | Lake Jocassee |
| 16 | Red Buckeye | p. | Log Hollow, Wolf Mt. Overlook |
| 17 | Rose Pink, Sabatia | q. | Millie Pearson's Woods |
| 18 | Round-leaved Hepatica | r. | Ogle Meadow |
| 19 | Round-leaved Sundew | s. | Paris Mt. State Park |
| 20 | Shortia, Oconee Bells | t. | Parkway East, near Craggy Gardens |
| 21 | Small Green Wood Orchid | u. | Pearson Falls |
| 22 | Stiff Gentian | v. | Roan Mountain |
| 23 | Stoneroot, Dittany | w. | Shut-in Trail |
| 24 | Turk's Cap Lily ^W | x. | Trestle Gap |
| 25 | Upland Prairie Willow | y. | University Botanical Gardens (April) |
| 26 | Venus Fly Trap ^R | z. | University Botanical Gardens (June) |
| 27 | Whorled Pogonia | aa. | University Botanical Gardens (Oct.) |

LOOK AGAIN !

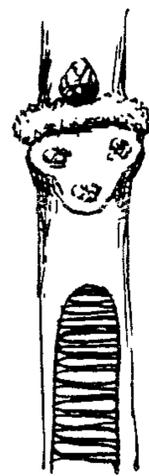
In nut-gathering season a squirrel roaming the southern forests can count its blessings in dozens of forms, but we humans--if we bother to partake of this bounty at all--are likely to confine our attention to the Walnuts.

In addition to the Black Walnut (Juglans nigra), which is renowned equally for its superb wood and pungent nut-meats, we are favored with the Butternut (J. cinerea), sometimes called White Walnut, a tree especially suited to acid soils.

Both are easily recognized by their pinnately-compound leaves with up to 23 toothed leaflets of nearly uniform size. In contrast, our Hickories (Carya spp.) seldom have more than nine leaflets, and often the basal ones are smaller and the terminal one the largest.



In the absence of leaves, the branchlets furnish diagnostic clues. The chambered pith (in Carya it is solid) is light brown in J. nigra and a dark chocolate color in J. cinerea. Moreover, the latter sports a "mustache"--a woolly ridge across the top of each three-lobed leaf scar.



The foliage of an unrelated tree, American Mountain Ash (Sorbus americana) might appear to be similar, but its leaflets are smaller, the pith solid, and the leaf scars narrow.

Still other differences occur in the fruits of the two Walnuts. Both the husk of J. nigra and the corrugated nut it encloses are almost spherical, while J. cinerea has a slightly pear-shaped husk and a nut which is more cylindrical and bears four distinct vertical ribs.



J. NIGRA



J. CINEREA

Dick Smith

S H O R T I A

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Distribution: Frances Gadd

Please submit contributions for next issue by February 15, 1987

to: Dorothy Rathmann, Editor
Carolina Village Box 23
Hendersonville, NC 28739

Answers to plant quiz: 1g, 2aa, 3v, 4q, 5z, 6n, 7s, 8b, 9a, 10u, 11t,
12c, 13m, 143, 15d, 16y, 17f, 18j, 19p, 20-0, 21x, 22r, 23h, 24w, 25i,
26k, 27-1.

SHORTIA
c/o Frances Gadd
218 Pheasant Run
Hendersonville, NC 28739



Mr. & Mrs. H. Pearson
2514 Kanuga Road
Hendersonville, NC 28739