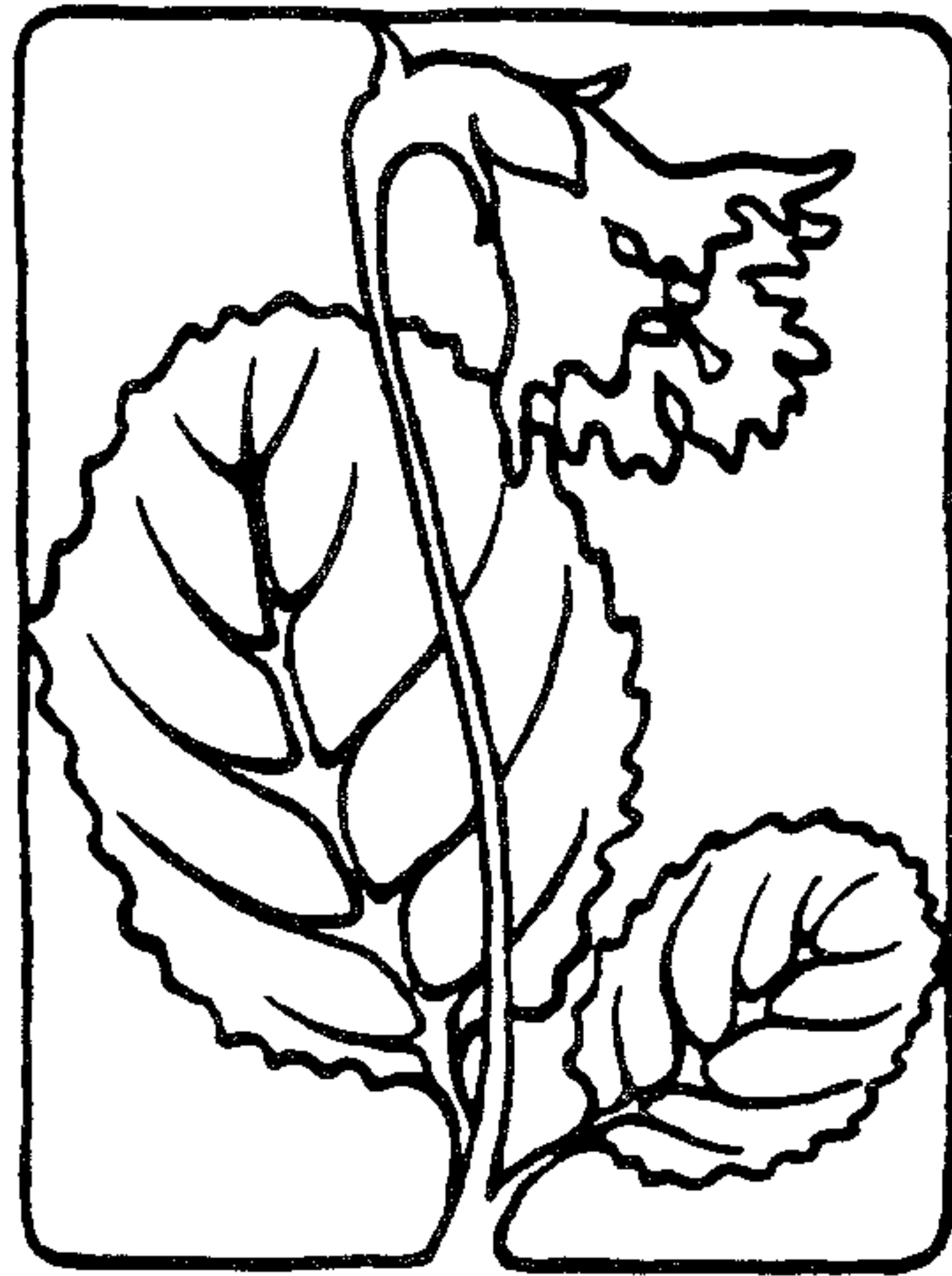


SHORTIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB

SUMMER 1994



ELTON and ALINE HANSENS
Editors

WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB

President:	Dorothy Rathmann	Treasurer:	Elaine Montgomery
Vice President:	Don Herrman	Recorder:	Erika Parmi
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FROM THE PRESIDENT..... Dorothy Rathmann

This Spring we've been fortunate in having good weather for most of the field trips. From my point of view the best were those into the Smokies: Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail, Cove Hardwood Nature Trail, the Greenbriar area and, especially, the Fines Creek area up to Max Patch. Outstanding displays of silverbell (but no service berry), spring beauty, trillium, trout lily, bellwort and many more. If you missed these trips I hope you were still able to explore those areas on your own. We are fortunate to live so close to the Smokies and their beauty.

The Program/Scheduling Committee is lining up field trips and indoor meetings through next January. Look for the new schedule in your mailbox about mid-June.

But before then, there's an important extra meeting in May: on the 28th when we will be honoring Tom and Barb Hallowell. Details appear elsewhere in this issue SHORTIA. See you then!

Members Reinstated as of May 9, 1994.

Arrington, Daisy	2940 F Windsor Woods Lane, Norcross, GA 30071
Burgess, Ralph & Adele	209 Balsam Rd., H'ville, 28792 693-0822
Butenof, Edward & Barbara	201 Red Oak Dr. 697-9773
Gray, Mary	3210 Debbie Drive 693-1970
Perry, Pat & Lois	32 Dvdaidi Court, Brevard 28712 885-2435
Sager, Mimi	PO Box 816, Sagar Rd., Rosman
Schifeling, Daniel & Anna Lee	5 Dogwood Lane, Brevard 28712 885-8487
Spear, Margaret	200 Skyway Dr., Sky Village 692-6660

Add these names and addresses to your 1994 Membership List.

*Come to the Party
a farewell to the Hallowells
Barbara and Tom*

TIME: Sat., May 28, 1994 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: CAROLINA ROOM at CAROLINA VILLAGE!

In early June, Barbara and Tom will be moving to Kendal at Longwood, a retirement community near Kennett Square, PA. We shall miss them!

The Hallowells were on hand when the Western Carolina Botanical Club was born and, with a few others, saw the club through its first growing pains. They have since contributed much to its continuing success by sharing their enthusiasm for nature, presenting outstanding slide programs, organizing "learn and share" sessions, and leading field trips and workshops.

Let's give Barb and Tom a happy send-off by attending the party on the 28th. If you are unable to come but would like to share your good wishes, please write a few lines in black ink on plain white paper. Send or give your note to Dick Smith or Elton Hansens as soon as possible!

ON THE MAKING OF LISTS.....BILL VERDUIN

Are you serious about learning the names of the flowers we see? Then make your own list -- it can be a great help if made right and used right. Here are some suggestions.

ON THE FIELD TRIP: forget about trying to make a complete list of everything we see -- nothing to be gained by that. Let the circumstances as you walk along dictate which and how many you record. Write the name, just the act of writing helps you learn. You may be happy with only the common name but you will soon find that the Latin name is not difficult and often is very helpful. Note three or four features of the plant/flower/location, especially any that seem to differentiate this species from similar appearing flowers. Add sketches if you have the talent. Use a clipboard or other hard surface to write on. Use Newcomb's Wildflower Guide or some other field guide. Learn how to use the key in Newcomb---it is easy!

WHEN YOU GET HOME: DO your homework. Look up the flower in whatever suitable books you have. Organize your field notes, supplement them with info from the books, add especially any specific features that are used to differentiate the species. Use sheets of paper (not a notebook) so copies can be made. Use place and date in the heading, and file chronologically.

Now, USE YOUR LISTS: take a copy with you on your next field trip, some of the species will still be in bloom. Check what you

(Continue on P. 4)

have for accuracy, add relevant comments. Direct questions (about technical terms, for instance) to more knowledgeable members of the club. Next year dig out your lists for corresponding dates (not necessarily same locations), review your info on plants you might see, refresh your memory a day or two before the trip. You may be surprised at how soon you will be able to attach some names with confidence. Your own list, with your own notes, will be a great help and satisfaction. TRY IT!

RECORDER'S REPORT - FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL 1994....ERYKA S. PARMİ

This spring will be engraved in my memory as "The Year of the Silverbells." The timing of some trips might have been a little off for early spring flowers, but the flowering trees more than made up for this. On the trips via I-40 to the Smokies (Roaring Fork, the Cosby/Greenbrier overnight, Fines Creek) we were treated to beautiful displays of dogwood, black locust and princess tree. Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*) was encountered on all of these trips. In places the forest canopy was a sea of white and pale pink silverbell blossoms.

Predicting peak flowering is about as predictable as predicting the weather. Too many variables must be considered, especially when scheduling must be done before the arrival of the season.

According to the Recorder's Trip Reports we hit it right at Station Cove Falls with abundant displays of *Anemone quinquefolia* (windflower), *Chrysogonum virginianum* (green and gold), *Obolaria virginica* (pennywort) and several species of violets. The Roaring Cove Nature Motor Road and the Cove Hardwood Trail at the Chimneys picnic area presented us with a total of 75 species and some spectacular displays of *Mitella diphylla* (miterwort), *Iris cristata* (crested dwarf iris), *Phacelia fimbriata* (fringed white phacelia), and *Phlox divaricata* and *P. stolonifera* (wild blue and creeping phlox). For the Smokies overnight a scouting trip revealed that most of the plants at Cosby already had blossomed, so that at the Leader's suggestion the group substituted Fines Creek where we were treated to a spectacular display of *Claytonia caroliniana* (Carolina spring beauty), *Erythronium americanum* (trout lily) and *Trillium erectum* (wake robin) all intermingled on the same slope. Five days later on May 2 on the scheduled Fines Creek trip the spring beauties and trout lilies had disappeared. *Trillium grandiflorum* (large flowered white trillium) was at its peak, as was *Delphinium tricorne* (dwarf larkspur). The road to Sugarloaf Mountain on April 29 was lined with a magnificent display of *Carolina rhododendron* but it was too early in the season for blooms in the mountain top pasture. We did see a group of *Dodecatheon meadia* (shooting star) in full bloom.

This was a much more satisfactory season than last spring---remember all the cancellations of field trips and the blizzard of March 1993! Most of this season's trips were blessed with sunny weather. Jones Gap (after botanizing in the parking lot for an hour in light rain) and the South Carolina overnight trip were cancelled.

LET'S BE SAFE.....Elton Hansens

Safety on the trail should be a prime consideration of all of us but often we are careless and court disaster. My purpose is to stimulate more thought of safety on our hikes. Let me begin by citing the case of the jogger in California who set forth in his jogging outfit and suffered a sudden fatal heart attack. His identity was learned several hours later when his wife reported to the police that he had not returned home.

How about your identity in case of a serious emergency? Do you always carry an identification? I'm quite sure that some of our ladies leave their purses (and identification) in the car. Many of us carry identification in our packs and leave them behind when carrying lunch is unnecessary. Generally the men carry identification in their billfolds on their person. But does your identification include name, address, and phone number of the person to notify in case of an emergency?

How about special health needs? Those highly allergic to bee and wasp stings should carry an emergency kit including directions for use. Possibly you carry emergency heart stimulants. Does someone on the hike know of your needs and how to administer the medication? And do you carry a list of chronic medications for emergency use in a hospital?

How about first aid kits? Some hikers carry a few first aid supplies in their pack and have larger kits in their car. I use mine so seldom that I wonder if I would remember it in a real emergency. Nonetheless, emergency items should be with us.

How about an extra leg? A walking stick can avert many a fall and can also be used to assist others to ford a stream or climb a steep place.

These are a few thoughts to consider when you prepare for your next hike. Take action too, if necessary.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....ALINE HANSENS

Bieg, Anne 2407 Laurel Park Hwy. Unit 4, H'ville, NC 28739 (no phone).

Cronkhite, Philip & Virginia 26 Waxwing Way, H'ville, NC (704) 692-0331. Phil and Virginia moved here about 15 years ago. Both are avidly interested in plants and flowers.

Dupree, Alfred & Agnita 24 E. Wesley Dr., Givens Estates, Asheville, NC 28803. Al, a retired chemist from Illinois, has great interest in birds and plants and a hobby of photography. Agnita, a retired teacher and administrator, looks forward to increasing her knowledge of nature. Recently, both were resident naturalists at Snowbird Mountain Lodge for a week.



Laporte, Lise 281 Laurel Dr., Fletcher, NC 28732. 684-3198. Lise lives in Vermont, is visiting this area for the summer and lives with club member Peggy Ellis. Lise is a herbalist and looks forward to club trips to assist in her study of plants.

Lee, Dianna 359 Paint Fork Rd., Barnardsville, NC 28709 (704) 6266-3776. Originally from Florida, Dianna has lived 5 years in the Asheville area. She is interested in the medicinal use of herbs and is an independant distributor for a herbal products company. She is eager to know the plants of our area.

THIS ARTICLE IS CONTINUED FROM THE SPRING 1994 SHORTIA. (ED.)

GET A HANDLE ON PRONOUNCING SCIENTIFIC NAMES

by Larry Mellichamp

UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens, Biology Department, Charlotte, NC 28223

These two rules take care of many ordinary pronunciations. But here are additional cases you will encounter. Many species are named after people. There are two situations: generic names and specific names. It would be nice if we could pronounce the Latin plant name so as to preserve the name of the person being commemorated. Sometimes that works well, as in *Lobelia* (after the 17th Century herbalist l'Obel), *Tradescantia* (after 17th C. royal gardener John Tradescant) and *Sarracenia* (after 18th C. Quebec botanist Michel Sarrasin). But what about our silverbell tree, *Halesia*. It was named after the Rev. Stephen Hales, yet we usually say it hal-EES-cia, rather than HALES-ee-ah. And the beautiful garden perennial stoke's aster: some say stoke-EES-cia rather than STOKES-ee-ah. Would people like to know about Dr. Jonathan Stokes? Or would they even know what name you were saying? When you say the words the way they look, you often lose something.

Similar variations concern the hard and soft pronunciation of the "ti" of such genera as *Stewartia*, *Tradescantia* and *Sabatia*. We say stew-ARE-tee-ah (or stew-ART-sha), and trad-es-CAN-tee-ah (or trad-es-CANT-sha), but sa-BAIT-she-ah (or sa-BAIT-sha); can the "ti" go either way in every case? Or should we try and preserve personal names?

The second situation deals with species names ending in i or ii, like *Senecio smallii*, *Lilium grayi*, and *Sarracenia jonesii*. Those i's are added to Latinize a non-Latin word and they should be pronounced, both of them. Thus: SMALL-ee-eye (not just SMALL-eye), GRAY-eye (the y counts as one i), and JONES-ee-eye (not joan-ESS-ee, as I have heard). Here preserving the person's name, with one or two "eye" sounds added, should be the rule. The tendency among inexperienced people is to pronounce only one "eye."

Sometimes, given alternative ways of emphasizing syllables, you would want to preserve a component of the name that refers back to a structure for which the name was chosen to reflect. For example, in the white-top pitcher plant *Sarracenia leucophylla* the species name means "white leaf") should be pronounced lew-co-PHILL-ah to preserve the Latin word "phyll" that means leaf (rather than saying lew-COPH-ill-ah as the antepenultimate Latin rule would have). And in another example, the genus of filmy fern *Trichomanes*, so-called because it has a hair-like, or trichome-like, central vein in the spore capsule, should be pronounced trike-OHM-an-knees, rather than trike-oh-MAIN-ees.

Now, for the important exception I alluded to earlier, that is, when to NOT



Clematis virginiana

enunciate every vowel. There are plenty of examples in Latin, just as in English, of diphthongs: a double vowel pronounced together as one. The most important diphthong in Latin names is "ae," though you will find plenty of examples of "eu" (*Eupatorium*), "oe" (*Coelogyne*), and here you do pronounce all of the latter vowels sea-LODGE-eye-knee, a tropical orchid), etc. The first place you encounter "ae" is in plant family names: *Asteraceae*, *Rosaceae*, *Geraniaceae*, etc. The "ae" is pronounced invariably as a long "e," as in "bee." (The classical Roman pronunciation would be as a long "i," as "eye.") So, as-ter-A-see-ee, and ger-ain-ee-A-see-ee. All family names end in -aceae, which is pronounced -A-see-ee (not A-see-ah), but as if it is written "a-c-e" and given the pronunciation of those exact letters). There are countless examples of generic and

species names with the "ae" diphthong: enchanter's-nightshade, *Circaea* (sir-SEE-ah); white-cedar, *Chamaecyparis* (came-ee-SIP-ah-rus); and hawthorn, *Crataegus* (krat-EE-gus). Do not be confused by the occurrence of "ea," which is NOT a diphthong normally, in such genera as New Jersey Tea, *Ceanothus* (see-ah-NOTH-us) and chestnut, *Castanea* (cass-TAIN-ee-ah), not cass-tan-EE-ah). As a self-quiz on this rule, try to pronounce the family of climbing fern: *Schizaeaceae*. [By the way, all family names are plural, and should be accompanied by plural verbs. For example: The *Schizaeaceae* are a family of ferns.] (answer: sky-zea-A-sea-ee).

I hope this brief lesson has helped. I'm sure you will know more examples, exceptions and variations than I have listed here. I realize it is tedious to try and put in writing the pronunciations of words and syllables, but if you are interested, you will spend many hours reading and trying to learn them. Find a willing companion, get a copy of Dr. Ritchie Bell's wildflower book (for the pictures!) and practice saying the names.

These references will be most helpful:

- Bailey, Liberty Hyde. 1933. *How Plants Get Their Names*. 181 pages. [Clear, easy to read, interesting; names with pronunciations.]
- Fernald, M.L. 1950. *Gray's Manual of Botany*. [gives pronunciation and meaning of generic and specific names of northeastern plants.]
- Johnson, A.T. & H.S. Smith. 1972. *Plant Names Simplified*. 120 pages. [Names, pronunciations and meanings.]
- Smith, A.W. and W.T. Stearn. 1972. *A Gardener's Dictionary of Plant Names*. 391 pages. [very good; extensive lists of pronunciations.]

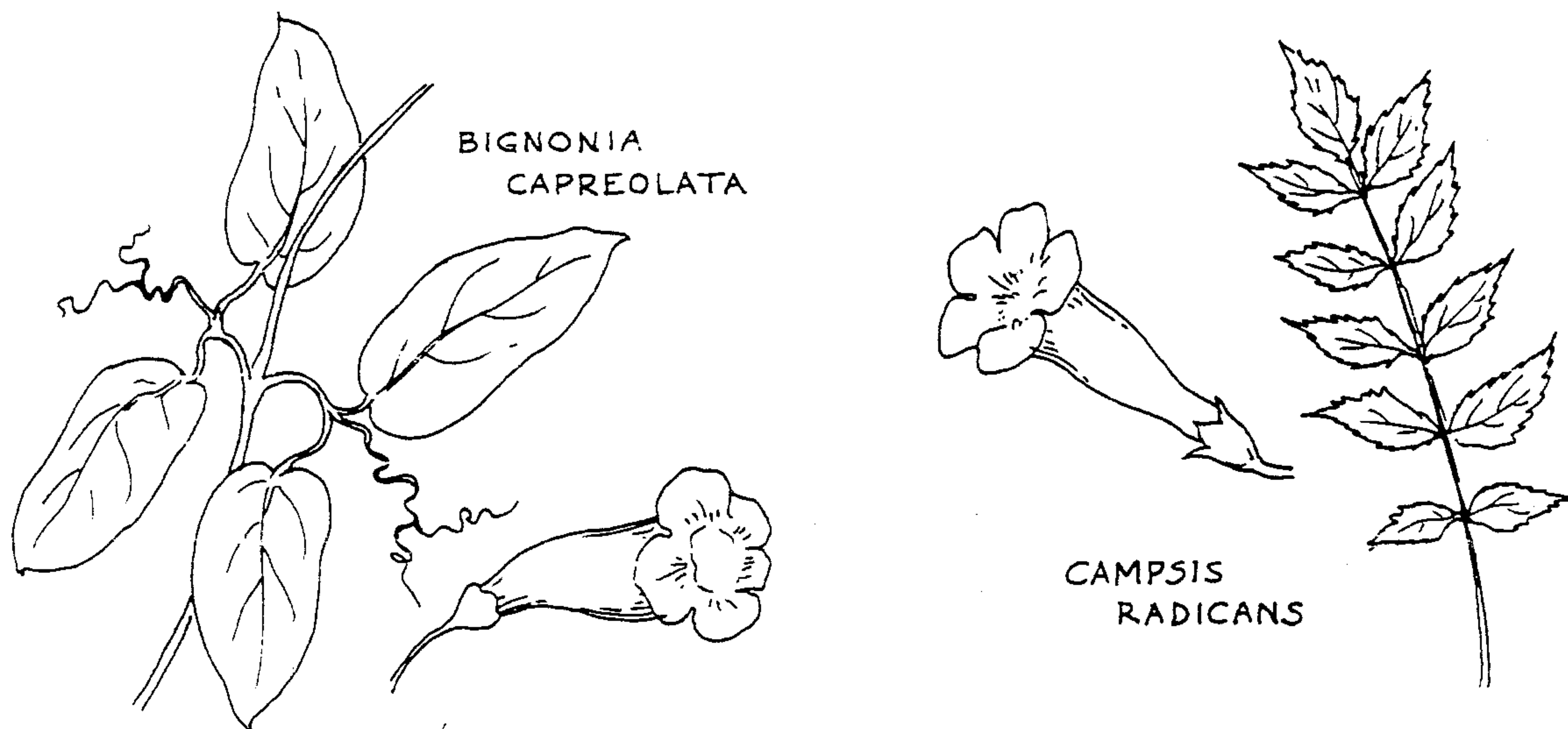
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FIND THESE COMMON NAMES IN THE PUZZLE
 up, down, forward, backward, or any diagonal!!

Arbutus	Dandelion	Little Pigs	Sweet Shrub
Baneberry	Doghobble	Magnolia fraseri	Toadshade
Bellwort	False Solomon's Seal	Mandarin	Trillium
Birds-foot Violet	Flowering Dogwood	Oxeye Daisy	Trout Lily
Bloodroot	Ginger	Phlox	Wake Robin
Bluet	Ginseng	Ragwort	Wild Geranium
Buttercup	Ground Ivy	Showy Orchis	Wild Oats
Chickweed	Iris	Spring Beauty	Wood Anemone
Cinquefoil	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	Squaw Root	Yellow Root

LOOK AGAIN !

The Bignonia Family consists almost entirely of woody plants, mostly native to the tropics but often cultivated in Florida where specimens of African Tulip Tree, Jacaranda, Flame Vine and Cape Honeysuckle attract attention with their showy blossoms. In our more temperate climate, the most familiar representative is the so-called Cigar Tree or Indian Bean (Catalpa sp.), a native tree with large heart-shaped leaves and ruffled white flowers followed by slender bean-like pods more than a foot long.



Two of our woody vines--both indigenous--also claim membership in this family. The more common is Campsis radicans, Trumpet Creeper, prized by some as an ornamental but despised by others as an aggressive weed. It trails or climbs by means of aerial rootlets, and has opposite, pinnately compound leaves with up to 15 toothed leaflets. The flowers are trumpet-shaped, 2" to 3" long, and orange-red, in terminal clusters.

The other is Bignonia capreolata (Anisostichus capreolata), known as Cross Vine because the pith is cruciform in cross-section. Its leaves also are paired and compound, but they consist of only two entire leaflets, one on either side of a tendril that clings by adhesive disks. The flower clusters grow out of the axils; each 2" corolla is dull red outside and paler or yellow within.

Dick Smith

S H O R T I A

Vol. XVI, No. 2.

Summer 1994

A Quarterly Publication of the Western Carolina Botanical Club.

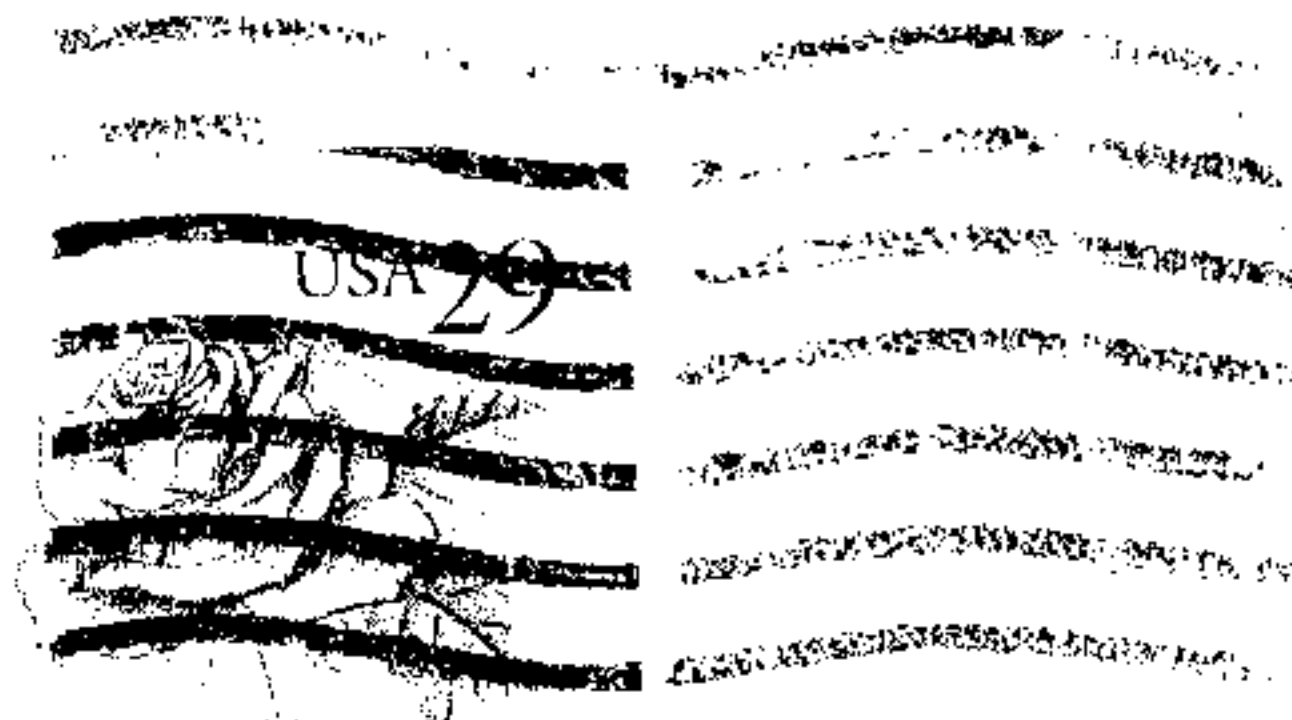
Editors: Elton J and Aline Hansens Distribution: Ruth Hoerich.
Please submit contributions (articles, letters, notes, etc.) for
next issue by August 15, 1994 to Elton J Hansens, Givens Estates,
125 Far Horizons Lane, Asheville, NC 28803. (Telephone: (704)
277-7486.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ON PAGE 3.



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