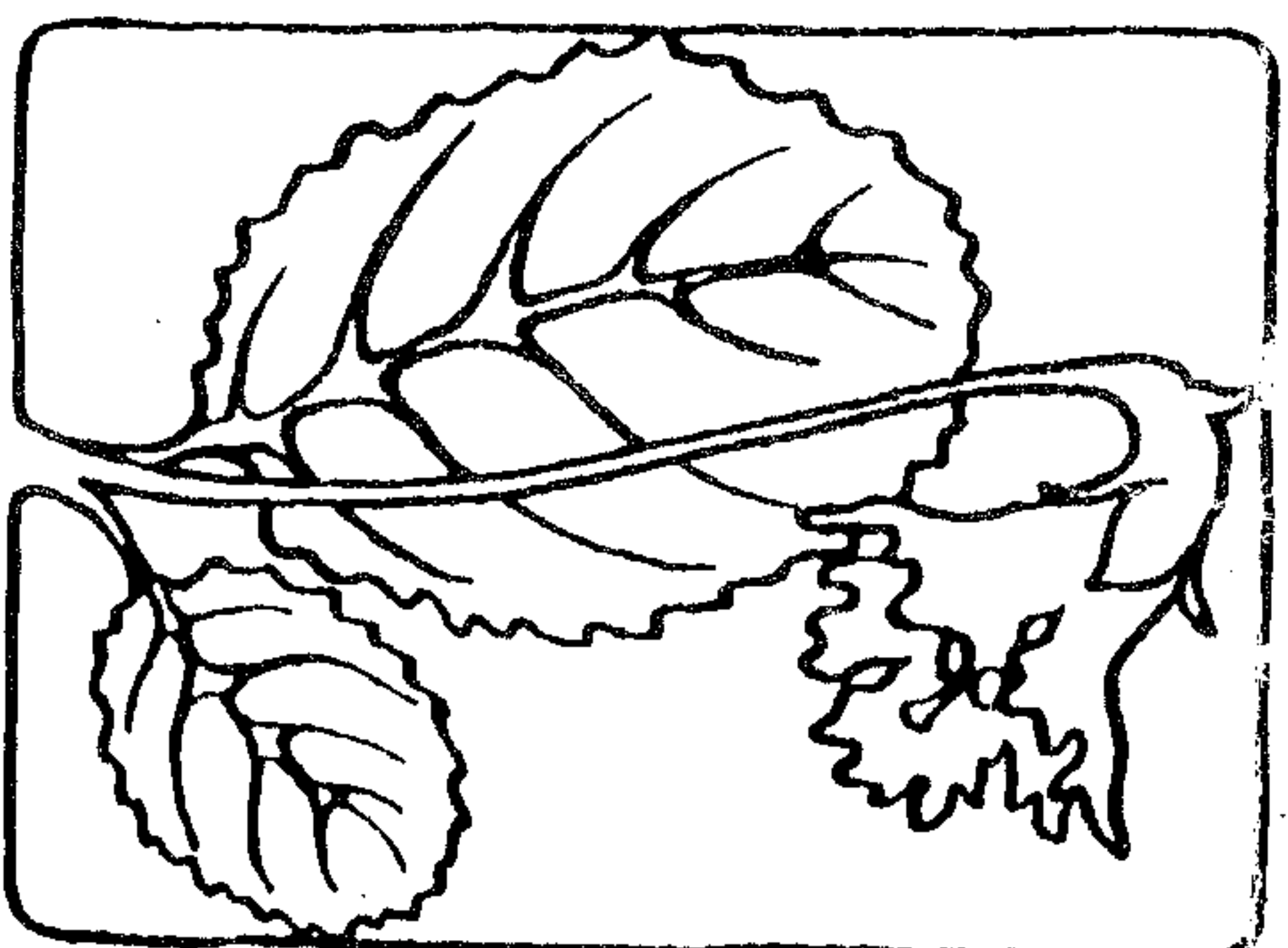


SHORTIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB

SPRING 1999



Anne Ulinski

Editor

WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB - 1999

President:	Anne Ulinski	Recorder:	Betty Jones
Vice President:	Bonnie Arbuckle	Historian:	Anne Matthes
Secretary:	Peggy Ellis		
Treasurer:	Rachel Conway		

From the President.....Anne Ulinski

Annual Meeting. With cooperation from the weather we had a good turnout for our annual meeting. Carl and Margaret Byrd again coordinated the food and service. Connie Updike assisted them and made the colorful table decorations. Many thanks to all of them.

Don Herrman, Elaine Montgomery, Aline and Elton Hansens and Erica Parmi are all "retiring" from their official duties with WCBC. Thanks to all of them for their service to the Club. The 1999 leadership met after the annual meeting to exchange ideas. We hope to continue the 25 successful years of the Club with another successful year.

"Shortia". We need an editor(s) for "Shortia" to replace the retiring Elton and Aline Hansens. Please call me if you are interested in being editor or in helping with the newsletter. Until we find a replacement, I'll edit Shortia with assistance from Dean Crawford who has volunteered his computer skills for typing and layout.

We will be reprinting one of Dick Smith's articles Look Again! in each issue this year. The Look Again! in this issue was the first of Dick's series, printed in Shortia in 1981.

Program. Our Vice-president, Bonnie Arbuckle, will be doing the programming this year -- scheduling our field trips and indoor meetings. Preliminary work on the Schedule for the period July 1, 1999 to January 31, 2000 has already begun. If you have some ideas for field trips or meetings, call Bonnie at 696-2077.

Scouting for new field trips. Erica Parmi has agreed to take on a new Club position as scout for new locations for our field trips. We have had suggestions for Dupont State Forest, Green River Game Lands, the old growth forests of Mackey Mountain (Old Fort area) and a spring overnight trip to Athens, Ga. If you know of some new trails that would be interesting to the Club pass the information on to Erica.

Telephone tree. Peggy Ellis is putting together a "telephone tree" which will be put into action when a field trip or indoor meeting is cancelled and we need to contact all the members. If you are willing to make calls or if for some reason, such as you don't attend field trips and prefer not to be called, please let Peggy know. Her telephone number in Fletcher is 684-3918.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership in the Club. Please notice the current dues are now \$12 for each individual/family. For new members who join during the year from July 1-December 31 the dues will be \$6 to the end of the year for each individual/family. All membership renewals will be on January first of each year.

The Western Carolina Botanical Club was founded in 1973 and it was not until 1983 that the Club assessed dues. These first dues were set at \$3 for an individual and \$4 for a family. The following year, 1984, the dues were raised to \$8 per individual/family and remained at that level until the increase this year.

Please send your dues promptly to our Treasurer, Rachel Conway, 211 Aldersgate Circle, Asheville, N.C. 28803 so that we can prepare the 1999 membership list and mail it to you as soon as possible. If you have a new address or telephone number, please alert the Treasurer to those changes.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU**Aline Hansens**

Ballard, Larry - 161 Surrey Land, Hendersonville, N.C. 28791.
Tel: (828) 891-4318. Originally from Indiana, Larry retired to this area two months ago. With a general interest in plants, a newspaper notice led him to look us up and join the Club.

Lenhart, Jean - Rt. 4, Box 285C, Hendersonville, N.C. 28739.
Tel: (828) 693-6849. Originally from the Cumberland Mts. in Kentucky, Jean moved to this area 10 years ago from Maryland. She is very interested in all aspects of nature and the environment.

Middleton, Dave and Milly - 301 C. Kensington Place, Asheville, N.C. 28803.
(828) 681-5841. During their early years the Middletons lived in the Piedmont area of N.C. Their work led them to Wisconsin with transfers to other places in the U.S. and to Canada and Australia. They retired to Atlanta, Ga. where they both volunteered at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. They moved to Asheville in 1997. One of their hobbies is photographing wildlife, particularly wildflowers.



WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 1999 St. John Episcopal Church, Hendersonville, NC
Attendance: 38

The meeting was called to order by Don Herrman, President at 11:00 am. A reading of last years annual meeting minutes by Peggy Ellis was followed by the treasure's report by Rachel Conway. Both were accepted as read.

Treasure's Report: December 31, 1998 -- balance on hand.....\$1,797.65
Harry Logan Account:.....\$261.88

Details of debits and credits is attached to minutes.

Elton Hansens reported he looked over the financial records of the club, by request of Rachel, and found them to be in excellent order. (See report attached to minutes)

Report from historian, Ann Matthes: She thanks all the people who have contributed items to keep the clubs events recorded accurately. We thank Ann for her dedication to this immense project.

Elton reports on Shortia: He has put together several complete copies of Shortia which are being held at: The New York Botanical Garden, Hunter Library of Western Carolina University at Culliohee and at UNC Asheville: University Botanical Garden Library. We also have our own complete set which is presently in the hands of our new President, Anne Ulinski.

Elton formally announces to the group his and Alines' resignation as co-editors of Shortia. They produced 23 issues since 1993 and the club is extremely grateful for all of their efforts.

Recorders Report: Read by Betty Jones due to absence of Erika Parmi. In spite of the drought it was a good botanizing year with 41 field trips scheduled, 4 canceled and 3 reports not received. The 1998 Champion Trip was to Coleman Boundary Road where 76 species were in bloom on May 8th. Runner up was the trip to Grassy Ridge Mine Overlook on the Parkway, June 26th, where 70 species were identified. Lake Issaqueenas on September 11 had 51 plants in bloom, followed by Kurinsky's Garden with 50 on May 11th.

Average attendance was 16 people per trip. Two trips drew over 30 people: Pearson's Waterfalls and the picnic at Don Herrman's. Least attended was the Hardy Souls trip on Feb. 28 when 4 people walked in a downpour on the Laurel Mtn. Trail.

Erika resigns as recorder. Betty Jones has agreed to take over the position with her combined knowledge of botanical names and computers.

Aline Hansens reports on the condition of Don Bender who is coming home from Thom's Rehab today after suffering from a hemorrhage to the brain. A card is being

sent from the club members.

The Nominating Committee, which consisted of Dick and Jeanne Smith and Aline and Elton Hansens, presented the slate for officers for 1999 as follows: Anne Ulinski, Pres., Bonnie Arbuckle, VP., Rachel Conway, Treas., Peggy Ellis, Sec. All were elected unanimously.

Dues Increase: Discussion was held on the necessity to increase the clubs dues from \$8.00 per year to \$12.00 per year with a pro-rate of \$6.00 after July. All dues being due on Jan. 1st of each year. Anne Ulinski estimates expenses for the coming year to be between \$1200.00 and \$1300.00. Connie Updike make a motion to raise dues to \$12.00 per year with the \$6.00 pro-rate after July. Al Dupree seconds motion. Motion revised by Connie to include the honorary members non payment of dues as in the past. Al seconds the revision and dues increase is voted in unanimously.

Discussion was held on the gas monies given to the car pooling drivers. Many members refuse payment even though it is club policy to pay the driver. One suggestion by Bonnie is to keep an envelope in the car for receiving monies and when it's your turn to pay take the money out of the envelope and if there is any left over at the end of the year, donate it to the club. Many agreed this was a great suggestion.

Don Herrman, as outgoing President, welcomes in Anne Ulinski as the incoming President. She gives a warm speech regarding her support and intent to the original purpose of the club written down on March 27th, 1973 and reprinted in Shortia Vol. XX, NO. 4. Anne asks for volunteers to fill the Editor position. Elton offers to assist the new editor when that time comes.

Bonnie Arbuckle mentions the study going on by the Bartram Garden to collect data from people growing Franklinia. You can pick up a form from her.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Peggy Ellis
January 15, 1999.

WESTERN CAROLINA BOTANICAL CLUB

Treasury Report

Year Ending December 31, 1998

January 1, 1998 - Balance on hand \$2,170.21

Receipts

Membership dues	\$768.00	
Donations	20.00	
Interest	14.67	
	<u>\$802.69</u>	<u>802.69</u>
		<u>\$2,972.88</u>

Disbursements

Program schedules inc. postage	\$247.64	
Shortia " "	578.89	
Membership list	61.09	
Plant list	39.91	
St. John in Wilderness	75.00	
Annual meeting supplies	7.03	
Botanical Gardens at Asheville	100.00	
Treasurer, postage/supplies	16.06	
Bank Service Charge	6.61	
Check starting kit -new account	43.00	
	<u>\$1175.23</u>	<u>1,175.23</u>
December 31, 1998 - balance on hand.....		<u>\$1,797.65</u>

Re: Harry Logan Bequest:

January 1, 1998 - on hand	\$840.77
Disbursements	578.89
December 31, 1998 balance	<u>\$261.88</u>

(This balance is included in the total balance above.)

Respectfully submitted

Rachel M. Conway
Rachel M. Conway
(Treasurer)

RECORDER'S REPORT.....THE YEAR 1998.....ERIKA S. PARMİ

It was a good year in spite of the drought, although we did not do as well as in 1997 when all the field trips were held. This year, of the forty-one field trips scheduled, four were cancelled and I received no reports from three. The following statistics are based on the remaining thirty-four. Despite the dry year we had two trips where more than seventy species in bloom were counted.

The 1998 champion was the Coleman Boundary Road where we found seventy-six species in bloom despite the effects of a hailstorm a few days before. That trip was held on May 8. The runnerup was the trip to Grassy Ridge Mine Overlook on the Parkway on June 26 where we found seventy species blooming. From the 70's we dropped down to the 50's with only two other trips producing that much bloom: Lake Issaqueena on Sept. 11 with fifty-one and the Kurinsky's garden on May 11 with fifty. Four trips produced species in bloom in the 40-49 range, eleven trips in the 30-39 range, four trips in the 20-29 range and nine trips had less than twenty. (Last year we had only four trips with less than twenty species blooming).

Our attendance of 511 was comparable to 1997's 564, which was based on more trips. As with last year the attendance averaged out to around sixteen people per trip. Of the thirty-two outings for which we have attendance reports, two attracted more than thirty people (the same popular outings as in 1997), namely to Pearson's Falls on March 27 and the picnic at Don Herrman's in June. Five outings attracted 21-29 folks, twenty attracted 11-20 people and only five times did less than ten show up. The lowest turnout was for the Hardy Souls trip in February when only two people appeared and one went on home on that cold, foggy, drizzly day!

With this 1998 report I am resigning as your Recorder. My first report was in the Summer 1992 Shortia. I've enjoyed the work over these years and have found it the best way to learn the scientific names of plants in our area. I want to thank everyone who has been a field recorder, especially those who pitched in with more than their share of assignments. If it weren't for you there would be no Recorder's Report. A special note of thanks to Anne Ulinski who has this year put most of the plant lists on her computer and has suggested new computer-friendly formats for reporting lists and trip reports.

Now it is time to turn over the reins to someone who has mastered computers in addition to botanical names. Betty Jones has consented to be our new Recorder and I am sure that she will do a superb job. Let's all support her. I know that I will enjoy continuing as one of the field recorders and I hope others of you will volunteer as well.

On January 27, Millie Pearson, Ivan Kuster and I spent the morning walking the trails on the FENCE property near Columbus, N.C. enjoying the warm (60 degree) weather and listening to the kingfisher scold as we crossed on the boardwalk at the pond. Our purpose was to look at plants in winter.

We collected some specimens and took them to the January 29 indoor meeting. A few of the specimens identified were: An agrimony(*Agrimonia sp.*), asters(*Aster spp.*), elephant's foot(*Elephantopus sp.*), broom sedge(*Andropogon virginicus*), seedbox (*Ludwigia alternifolia*), pale meadow beauty(*Rhexia mariana*), a foxtail grass(*Setaria sp.*), goldenrods(*Solidago spp.*) and ironweed(*Vernonia noveboracensis*).

Some of the plants that we saw but did not collect were: Rattlesnake plantain orchid (*Goodyera pubescens*), swamp thistle(*Cirsium mutilum*), a pussytoes(*Antennaria sp.*), spotted wintergreen (*Chimiphila maculata*), partridgeberry(*Mitchella repens*), a Joe-pye-weed (*Eupatorium sp.*), virgin's bower(*Clematis virginiana*) and the ferns: Resurrection fern(*Polypodium polypodioides*) and Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*).



a foxtail grass

Nature guides for winter:

Herbaceous Plants*

Wildflowers and Winter Weeds by Lauren Brown 1997 W.W. Norton

A Guide to Wildflowers in Winter by Carol Levine 1995 Yale U. Press

Grasses only: Grasses by Lauren Brown 1979 Houghton Mifflin

Native Trees & Shrubs: Winter Botany (Third revised edition) by William Trelease 1983 Dover Publications

Weeds, birds, insect evidence, etc.: A Guide to Nature in Winter by Donald W. Stokes 1976 Little, Brown & Co.

Many of these books are written for the northeastern U.S.A. but with a range as far south and west as Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.

Also of interest: Fall Wildflowers of the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains by Gupton and Swope 1987 U. of Virginia Press

* Although herbaceous plants die down to the ground in winter, dried remnants of stems, leaves and fruits often remain standing above ground.

LOOK AGAIN!



Goodyera repens

One of the difficulties that we amateur botanists have with unillustrated keys is that the characteristics cited to differentiate similar species often appear to be minor ones and give the impression that we are going to have trouble deciding which is which.

Actually, it usually comes as a surprise that the second species, when we finally come across it, looks so unlike the first - and in so many respects.

The two species of rattlesnake plantain orchid (*Goodyera*) found in our area are good examples. The average amateur probably will see hundreds of the relatively abundant *Goodyera pubescens* before finding his first *G. repens*, which is much less common. When he does, it will indeed look very different, but since he might put it down as a depauperate *G. pubescens*, it would be well to fix the differences in his mind beforehand:

In the first place, *Goodyera repens* is a smaller plant, and it is this, more than anything else, that is immediately evident. It is perhaps two-thirds as tall as *G. pubescens*, the leaves half as long, and the raceme definitely shorter. Also, the flowers are fewer, less crowded, and distinctly secund.



G. repens

But the best field mark (and this will serve for year-round identification)

is the leaf venation. *G. pubescens* has a prominent whitish midvein and a network of numerous fine, pale green veinlets. In *G. repens* these markings are dark green instead of light, and in our plants (which are distinguished from the European ones as "var. *ophioides*") they are

bordered in greenish white. The veinlets seldom are branched, run roughly at right angles to the veins, and having wider bands of white are more conspicuous than the veins.

Goodyera repens is confined to a more northern range than *G. pubescens*, and in our region grows in the cold Canadian-type forests of the mountains. Look for it under spruces and firs along the Blue Ridge Parkway, for instance. And think small!



G. pubescens

Dick Smith

S H O R T I A

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1212 Chanteloupe Drive, Hendersonville, N.C. 28739

The purpose of the Club is to study the plants of the Southern Appalachian Mountains and the Southeast through field trips and indoor meetings. Membership is open to all. Individual/family memberships are \$12. New members joining from the period July 1-December 31, pay \$6. All memberships are renewable on January first of each year. Please send dues to:

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USA 33

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