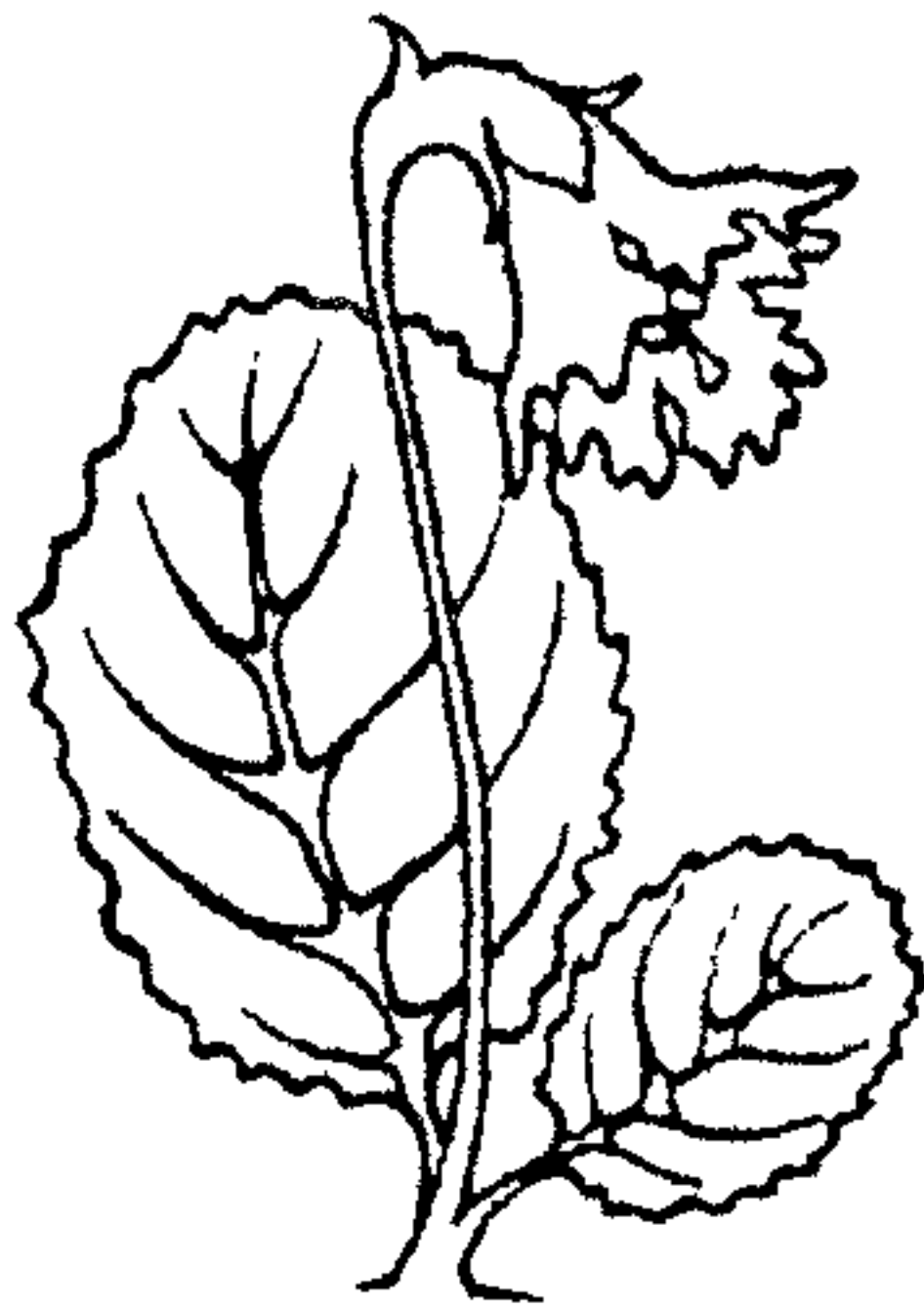


30TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION  
of the  
WESTERN CAROLINA  
BOTANICAL  
CLUB



MARCH 14, 2003

## The Early Days

This March 14, 2003 meeting of the Western Carolina Botanical Club provides an opportunity to celebrate the 30th anniversary of this remarkable organization.

The inspiration for the founding of the Botanical Club can be traced to a series of wild-flower classes taught in Brevard during the fall of 1972 by Dr. C. Ritchie Bell, then Professor of Botany at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The enthusiasm generated by the experience prompted one of the class to suggest that the group "get together regularly and go out to various interesting places to look at flowers and other plants". And that is what the Club has been doing ever since.

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The purposes of the Club were recently rewritten to add a statement on conservation but basically the purposes are identical with those articulated 30 years ago. They are:

1. To study, enjoy and appreciate the plants of Western Carolina in their natural environment.
2. To compile data on the plants of Western North Carolina and disseminate such data to interested persons.
3. To encourage members and the public to protect plants, especially native plants, and to preserve the habitats in which they are found.

## Today's Program

“THE FRAGMENTED HABITAT OF MICHAUX’S  
BEAUTIFUL DISCOVERY: *Shortia galacifolia*”

presented by Charlotte Lackey

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Community Projects through the years:

### Holmes Educational State Forest.

Millie Blaha led a group of Club members in a project to list the plants at the Forest. This was a two-year project.

### Buck Springs Trail

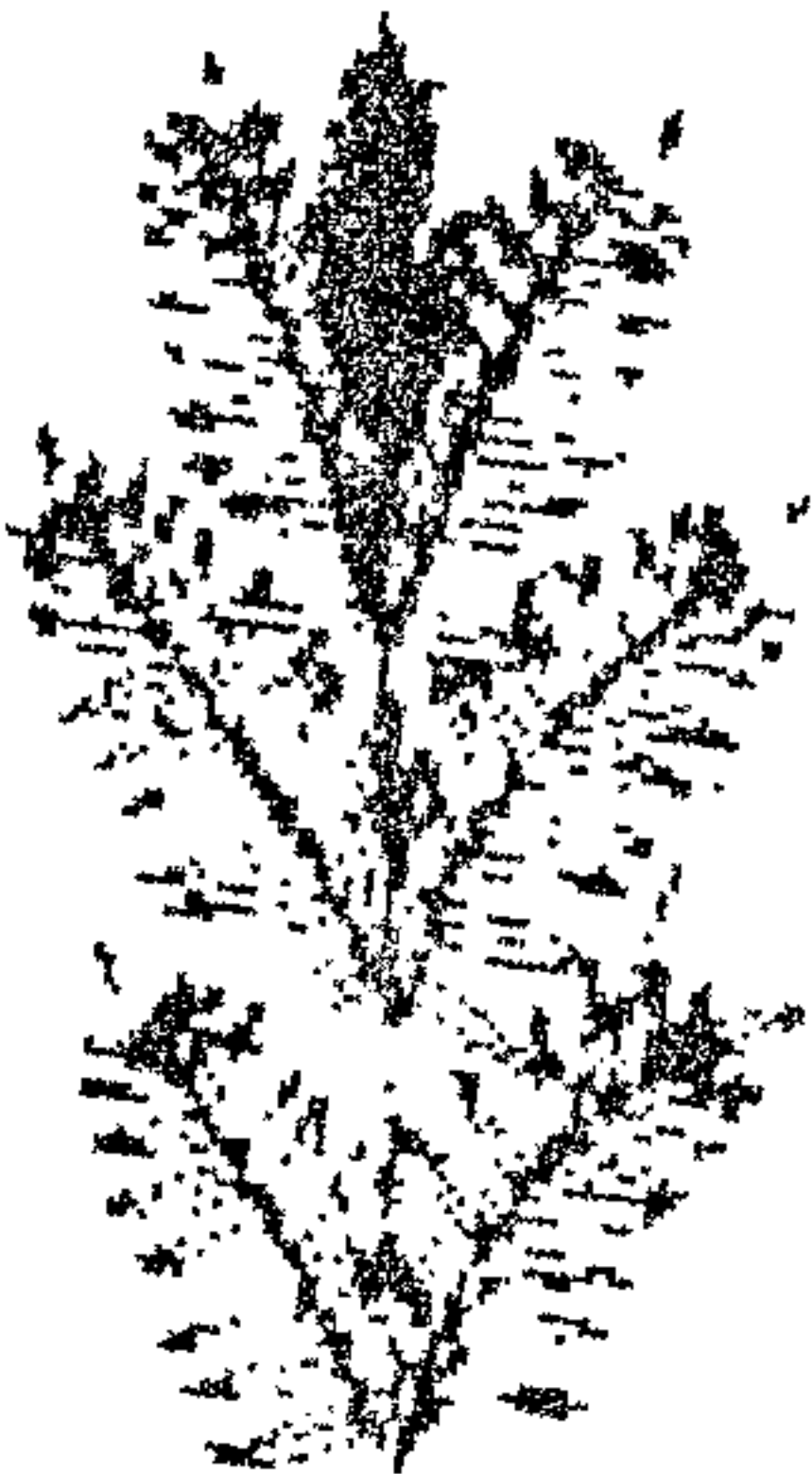
Under the leadership of Dick Smith and Elton Hansens, a one mile trail segment was developed as a self guiding interpretive botanical tour with an accompanying brochure. More than 200 species of plants were identified and 24 designated on numbered posts.

### The Cradle of Forestry.

Eight members working in two teams visited the Cradle weekly during two growing seasons to survey the plants along the Biltmore Campus Trail and the Forest Festival Trail. Members were: Bonnie Arbuckle, Peggy Ellis, Elisabeth Feil, Betty Jones, Elaine Montgomery, Erika Parmi, Helen Smith and Anne Ulinski. The Club received a U.S. Forest Service Certificate of Appreciation for this project.

## PRESIDENTS

Lincoln Highton  
Harvey Krouse  
Bruce Leech  
August Kehr  
Dick Smith  
Elton Hansens  
Millie Blaha  
Bill Verduin  
Bessie Sinish  
Don Herrman  
Anne Ulinski  
Bonnie Arbuckle  
Jeanne Smith



## Editors of "Shortia"

Harvey Krouse  
Helen Turner  
Dorothy Rathmann  
Millie Blaha  
Bud Pearson  
Elton and Aline Hansens  
Anne Ulinski