

Fortieth Anniversary
of the
Western Carolina
Botanical Club



OCONEE BELLS
Shortia galacifolia

Richard M. Smith 1998

June 28, 2013

Origin of Western Carolina Botanical Club (WCBC)

Inspired by a series of wildflower classes taught in Brevard in the fall of 1972 by Dr. C. Ritchie Bell, Professor of Botany at UNC-Chapel Hill and Director of NC Botanical Gardens, Harry Logan stimulated organization of the WCBC. Harry said, "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 plants."

On March 12, 1973, Harry Logan, Jo Schatz, Harvey Krouse, Lincoln Highton, Harriett Corwin, Pat and Gordon Tooley, Peggy Carmenzind, and Nan Morrow met. At an organizational meeting on March 27th, officers were elected: President, Lincoln Highton; VP, Gordon Tooley; Secretary/Treasurer, Barbara Hollowell.

Four decades later, the essential purpose and guidelines of WCBC remain including a 2003 amendment focusing on conservation.

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

At the 1979 Annual Meeting, the publication of a newsletter was approved. In March 1979, the first issue of "Shortia," edited by Harvey Krouse was published. The title was stimulated by a field trip to Augerhole in 1973 to see the Shortia plant. In 1982, the newsletter got a logo – sketch of *Shortia galacifolia*. This year's program cover is by Richard M. Smith and used with permission of his wife Jeanne Smith. Dick authored Wildflowers of the Southern Mountains (which many club members use as a field guide) and Wild Plants of America: A Select Guide for the Naturalist and Traveler.

Today's Program

**André Michaux, Asa Gray,
and the *Shortia galacifolia***

Our guest speaker, Charlie Williams, is recognized as a Michaux authority. Charlie is a retired librarian from Charlotte. He is the editor of The Annotated Memoirs of the Life and Botanical Travels of André Michaux, by J.P.F. DeLeuze. He is also the author of several papers and articles on Michaux.

Editors of "Shortia"

Harvey Krouse

Helen Turner

Dorothy Rathmann

Millie Blaha

Bud Pearson

Elton and Aline Hansen

Anne Ulinski

Paula Robbins

Louella Pearson

Past Presidents

Joe Schatz 1973 (acting)
Lincoln Highton 1974-75
Harvey Krouse 1976-78
Bruce Leech 1979-80
August Kehr 1981-82
Dick Smith 1983-84
Elton Hansen 1985-86
Millie Blaka 1987
Bill Verduin 1988-90
Bessie Sinish 1991-92
Dorothy Rathman 1993- (1/2) 94
Don Herrman (1/2) 1994-98
Anne Ulinski 1999-2000
- Bonnie Arbuckle 2001-02
Jeanne Smith 2003
- Bonnie Arbuckle 2004
Larason Lambert 2005
Helen Smith 2006
Jenny Lillinger 2007
Juanita Lambert 2008-09
Helen Smith 2010
Karen Koeling 2011
Mary Kathryn Hardman 2012
Helen Smith - 2013
Juanita Lambert - 2014
Helen Smith - 2015