
WILD FLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • April 2004

Meetings: April 12 and May 10

The next meeting will be Monday, **April 12**, 7:15 p.m., at **Kresge Theater**, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland). Kresge Theater is on the top floor of the Grace Library and is accessed from the upper campus. Place a note on your dashboard saying "Botanical Society Meeting," or use your parking permit.

Dr. Mary Joy Haywood will present the "Flora and Fauna of Tanzania." Dr. Haywood visited this African country in 2003, and will share her discoveries.

Please mark your calendars for the next meeting on Monday, **May 10**, 7:15 p.m., at the **A. J. Palumbo Hall** at Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland). As you approach the campus on Fifth Avenue (heading toward downtown Pittsburgh), do not turn right into the Carlow Campus entrance. Instead, pass the entrance, stay in the right lane, and make the immediate right into the parking area. Park here and cross the street.

The month's meeting is "**Back to Botany 101.**" Botanical lab stations will be set up, and we will examine plant specimens and dissect them. We will learn flower types and structures. We will learn the technical terms for a number of flower types and structures.

Cultivation and Stewardship of American Ginseng Publication Available

Are you interested in American ginseng cultivation and stewardship in Pennsylvania?

The Penn State School of Forest Resources (<http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu/>) has a new publication available on ginseng forest culture entitled: *Opportunities from Ginseng Husbandry in Pennsylvania*. 2004. Michael Jacobson and Eric Burkhart. Forest Finance Series #5, College of Agricultural Sciences. 11 pp. [UH162]

This publication is available upon request from the Penn State Natural Resources Extension Office (<http://rnrext.cas.psu.edu/>). To order a copy by phone, call (814) 863-0401. Requests may also be made by writing to 7 Ferguson Building, University Park, PA 16802.

Hepatica is a friend. But is it also Anemone?

Notes on the taxonomy and nomenclature of some of our spring ephemerals

We have sharp-lobed hepaticas and round-lobed hepaticas in Pennsylvania. On that point, there is broad agreement among botanists. The taxonomy (and thus also the nomenclature) of those two hepaticas is a matter of some dispute. Hepaticas have long been placed in the genus *Hepatica* (note that "hepatica" in normal typeface refers to the common name, while "*Hepatica*", capitalized in italics, refers to the scientific name for the genus). Recent molecular evidence suggests that hepaticas may actually belong in the genus *Anemone*¹ (ironically, Linnaeus first described hepatica as a species of *Anemone*). At another level, some botanists maintain that sharp-lobed hepatica and round-lobed hepatica are distinct species, while others believe it makes more sense to treat them as two varieties of a Eurasian species.

Note that neither of these taxonomic adjustments requires any change in common names. People will still call them hepaticas even if they no longer recognize the genus *Hepatica*. Also, the modifiers “sharp-lobed” and “round-lobed” can just as well be used to distinguish two varieties of the same species as to distinguish two different species. In fact, there are no commonly accepted formal rules governing the application of common names of plants (in contrast with the situation for birds). What are the scientific names of our hepaticas? It depends on whose opinion you wish to follow (Table 1).

Table 1. Three treatments of *Hepatica* in commonly used plant manuals.

	Round-lobed hepatica	Sharp-lobed hepatica
Gleason and Cronquist ²	<i>Hepatica americana</i>	<i>Hepatica acutiloba</i>
Keener in Rhoads and Block ³	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i> var. <i>obtusata</i>	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i> var. <i>acuta</i>
Dutton et al in Flora of North America ¹	<i>Anemone americana</i>	<i>Anemone acutiloba</i>

What if we accept that American plants belong to two varieties of the Eurasian species, and that hepaticas are best treated in the genus *Anemone*?” If we (BSWP) wanted to publish such a treatment, we would have to publish new combinations. If *Hepatica* is included in *Anemone*, *Hepatica nobilis* Garsault becomes *Anemone hepatica* L. Our task then is to transfer our species of *Hepatica* into varieties of *Anemone hepatica*. Since our taxa have been previously published as full species, there is no need to invent new names, designate type specimens, or provide Latin descriptions; all we have to do is make new combinations from existing names. The new combinations would be *Anemone hepatica* L. var. *americana* (DC.) BSWP, and *Anemone hepatica* L. var. *acutiloba* (DC.) BSWP.

¹ Gleason, Henry A., and Arthur Cronquist. 1991. Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada, ed. 2. Bronx, NY.

² Keener, C. S. 2000. Ranunculaceae. In A. F. Rhoads and T. A. Block. The Plants of Pennsylvania, an Illustrated Manual. Philadelphia.

³ Dutton, B. E., C. S. Keener, and B. A. Ford. 1997. Anemone. In Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds. Flora of North America North of Mexico, vol. 3, Magnoliophyta: Magnoliidae and Hamamelidae. New York and Oxford.

Steve Grund

Field Trip Schedule

Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. For questions, call the trip leader or Loree at (724) 872-5232. Note varying dates and times!

Sunday, April 18, 2004
Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center, Armstrong County
Time: 2 p.m.
Leaders: Dennis Hawley

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take Route 28 north to US 422 east into Kittanning. Pick up Route 66 south in Kittanning and travel south for about 6.5 miles. Turn left onto Crooked Creek Dam Road (SR2019). Travel 0.5 mile. Turn left onto Kerr Road (T670). Travel 0.25 mi. The ELC is located at the end of Kerr Road.

Saturday, April 24, 2004
Friendship Hill National Historic Site, Fayette County
Time: 2 p.m.
Leader: Robert Coxe (412) 531-0137

Directions: From Pittsburgh, head toward Uniontown (via Route 51 south or via the PA Turnpike to New Stanton Exit, then Route 70 west to Route 51). As you approach Uniontown, take Route 119 south about 17 miles to Point Marion. Just before you cross the bridge into Point Marion, turn right onto Route 166 north. The park entrance is on the left, 3 miles north of Point Marion. Meet at the mansion parking lot.

Sunday, April 25, 2004
Forest Trail, Raccoon Creek State Park,
Beaver County
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Leader: Esther Allen (412) 366-0786

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take the Parkway West (I-279 south/US 22-30) to the Airport Expressway (Route 60). Continue past the Airport entrance to Exit 7 – Clinton. At the end of the ramp, turn left and continue 1.1 miles to Route 30. Turn right on Route 30 and drive about 5 miles to the entrance for the Raccoon Creek State Park, on the left.

Travel the park road about 0.6 mile, and turn right at a sign for Lakeside Lodge. Continue about 0.7 mile to a parking area for the trail and boat launch.

Saturday, May 1, 2004
EverGreen, Villa Maria, Lawrence County
Leader: Robert Coxe (412) 531-0137
Times: 1 p.m.

Directions: Travel the PA Turnpike to Exit 10, PA/Toll 60 and merge onto Beaver Valley Expwy/PA 60 N and travel about 13 miles. Merge onto the Benjamin Franklin Hwy/US 422 W toward Youngstown. Travel about 7.5 miles and turn left onto Evergreen Road. Travel 1 mile to EverGreen. Meet at the farm by the barn, which can be reached by taking the southernmost entrance to EverGreen.

Sunday, May 2, 2004
Enlow Fork Spring Extravaganza!
Enlow Fork Natural Area, Greene County
Leader: Mary Joy Haywood (412) 232-8441

The day begins at 8:00 a.m. with guided bird walks directed by local ornithologists. Wildflower tours with members of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania will occur throughout the day.

If you can help lead wildflower tours for the event, please call Mary Joy at (412) 232-8441.

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-79 south to Exit 14- Waynesburg, then follow Route 21 west through Waynesburg to Wind Ridge. At the eastern edge of Wind Ridge, turn north to follow Nebo Ridge Road for about 3 miles. Make a right onto Walker Hill Road, then left onto Smokey Row, the dirt road that leads to the game lands parking lot.

Saturday, May 8, 2004
Ralph Bell's Farm, Greene County
Leader: Mary Joy Haywood (412) 232-8441
Times: 1 p.m.

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-79 South to Exit 19 (Ruff Creek/221/To 19). Exit onto Route 19. Go left about 100 yards. Make a left on Route 221. Go to the end of Route 221 (about five miles). Make a left onto Route 188 to Jefferson. In Jefferson, make a left at the intersection on Pine St. Go about 1 mile. Go under the underpass and straight up the hill. A short distance up you will see a sign that says R. Bell's Christmas Tree Farm. Make a right. Go about 1 mile to the bottom of the hill. There is a creek there.

Sunday, May 16, 2004
Randall Reserve, Westmoreland County
Time: 2:00 p.m.

This is a joint field trip with the Botanical Society of Westmoreland County.

Directions: Take I-76, Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 91 – Donegal/31/711. (Alternatively, to avoid Turnpike construction, take PA Route 31 to the town of Donegal). At the end of the Turnpike ramp, turn left onto Route 31, travel 1/4 mile and turn left before the PNC Bank onto Route 711 North. Continue approximately 1.9 miles and turn left at the green Fish and Boat Commission sign for Donegal Lake. Proceed about a mile to the **second parking lot**.

Nominations for Our Wildflower—Please Cast Your Vote

What wildflower do you think should represent the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania? The submitted nominations follow:

Cast your vote by mailing your selection to: Dr. Mary Joy Haywood
3333 Fifth Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165

Or e-mail her at: mjhaywood@carlow.edu

- [] ***Trillium grandiflorum*** (Large-flowered Trillium) - There are several stands at Wolf Creek, the Trillium Trail...you will see that it is almost confined to western Pennsylvania, from McKean, Clearfield and Cambria Counties westward.
- [] **Blue-eyed Mary** (*Collinsia verna*) - Some of the loveliest outings with the Botanical Society have been to Enlow Fork, where this little flower adds so much to the blooming profusion of the hillsides.
- [] ***Mertensia virginica*** (Virginia Bluebells) blooms in April.... I think it is a good representative because it likes to bloom in the floodplain of a river, and we have so many rivers in Pennsylvania.
- [] **Mountain Laurel** (*Kalmia latifolia*)...is very tough and tenacious, and appears in the wildest and sometimes most inhospitable parts of our ranges...a mountainside of these flowers puts on probably our most spectacular display of natural beauty. A close look shows a beautifully complex geometric perfection, constructed to scatter seeds by a spring-loaded mechanism...
- [] I associate **Spring Beauty** (*Claytonia caroliniana* or *C. virginica*) with Esther Allen, the field naturalist that we depend on the most. Its very nature calls up what we are all looking forward to, spring!
- [] How about the **Passion Flower** (*Passiflora lutea*)? After all—are we not all passionate about flowers? Besides, it has the most intricate designs.
- [] ***Viola pensylvanica*** syn. *V. eriocarpa* (Smooth Yellow Violet) A beautiful yellow violet with magnificent purplish lines on the petals.... The species name, *pensylvanica*, dictates that its range is here.
- [] **Spring Beauty** (*Claytonia virginica*)... is a delicate and beautiful native wildflower..., is abundant and widespread,...lets us know that Spring has really arrived,...has thrived in spite of the large deer population...making it a symbol of survival. It has 5 petals, which can represent the five digits of our hand,...important in the enjoyment and care of plants...
- [] **Appalachian Violet** (*Viola appalachiensis*) was discovered and described by LeRoy Henry (former president of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania). It is known from most of western Pennsylvania, from Erie County to Potter County and South to Somerset County. The type locality is in western Pennsylvania. It is also listed as Threatened in Pennsylvania.
- [] I would like to nominate ***Arethusa bulbosa*** (Dragon's Mouth Orchid) as the official flower.... Our Society has had a historic interest in this plant having helped purchase Titus Bog to preserve it. The plant's limited distribution suggests habitat preservation as basic to the survival of a fragile species. The *Arethusa* was selected for our wildflower book cover, so we as a Society are already associated with it.

Japanese Knotweed Feast is Saturday, April 10!

On **Saturday, April 10**, the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania and the Western Pennsylvania Field Institute will sponsor a Japanese Knotweed Feast! From **2 to 5 pm**, in Pittsburgh's Highland Park, we will cook heaps of this rhubarb and buckwheat relative, serving up several fine recipes from naturalist "Wildman" Steve Brill. The day's menu includes Knot Soup, Steamed Knotweed Sesame, and Apple-Knotweed Pie, and other wild edibles.

There will also be short hikes to see and harvest samples of Japanese knotweed in its wild habitat, while learning about the plant and why it has spread so dramatically since coming to this country.

Volunteering

Too many botanists won't spoil the knotweed soup! Members of the Botanical Society are needed to forage, cook, and show others how to identify this and other nasty invasives. Members who volunteer for any period of time will not pay the admission fee.

Call or e-mail Sean Brady at (412) 255-0564 or sbrady@wpfi.org to let him know that you can volunteer. Let him know how you can help, or ask him how you can help. Sean is also looking for recipes using wild edibles in season that might be available at that time of the year.

Attending

To attend the event, call Western Pennsylvania Field Institute during business hours: M-F, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at (412) 255-0564. The cost is \$12, \$10 for members of WPFI.

Wear appropriate clothing for the weather and bring your appetite for some delicious food. Feel free to bring any Japanese Knotweed recipes or stories you might know! Also, garden shears/pruners might be handy! Bathroom facilities will be available.

Directions to Knotweed Fest: From Rt. 28, take the Highland Park Bridge Exit and cross the bridge. Stay in the right lane across the bridge and take the Butler Street Exit off the bridge. Stay on Butler Street till the first Stop Light. Turn left onto One Wild Road through the zoo. At a fork, go to the right (this is a sharp turn). Follow the road till it leads out of the zoo. You will see a apartment building on your right. Turn left onto Bunkerhill Road.

Go up the hill and take another left into Highland Park (Highland Ave). We will meet at the Rhododendron Grove, which is located on Lake Road. Follow signs to the pool and you will see the pavilion on your left.

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – April 2004

279 Orr Road
West Newton, PA 15089

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WILDFLOWERS is published monthly by the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. We welcome short articles of botanical interest, drawings, and notices of botanical events and group activities. Send to the editor at the above address. Deadline for submissions is the 23th of the previous month.

The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information

The Botanical Society was founded in 1886. The object of the Society shall be to bring together those who are interested in Botany and to encourage the study of this science and a knowledge of plants. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individual and \$15.00 for family. Students can join at half-rate. To join, mail your name, your address, and check payable to "Botanical Soc. of W PA" to Loree Speedy, 279 Orr Road, West Newton, PA 15089. Your membership includes a subscription to the monthly bulletin WILDFLOWERS.

The Society meets the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 7:15 p.m. sharp, at Kresge Theater, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. All are welcome to the informative program and business meeting.

Wildflowers of Pennsylvania – Ordering Information – 400 pages of text and 612 color photographs

Wildflowers of Pennsylvania can be purchased for \$20.00 (plus \$1.40 sales tax for PA residents). Forward your check, made payable to Botanical Society of Western PA, to Dr. Haywood at the address below. If you order by mail, add \$2 postage and

handling for one book, \$3.00 for two, \$4.00 for three, \$4.50 for four. Send your request to Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, Ph.D., 3333 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165 (412) 578 -6175; mjhaywood@carlow.edu