

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

JULY - AUGUST
1996

Field Trip Schedule

July 13, 1996 - **DYSART WOODS**, near Wheeling, W. Va.
Leader: Mitch Bartels
Time: 1:00

Directions: Take **Rte 70 West** to Wheeling. Continue on Rte 70 approx. 17 miles to **Exit 208**. Head south on State Rte. 149 for 2.5 miles. At T intersection, make a left to travel on Rte 147/149 through the town of Belmont. (Zigzag through town, staying on Rte 147, not Rte 149 which branches away). Continue on State Rte 147 East for approx. 4 miles. Turn right at the **Dysart Laboratory sign**. Turn right at the next gravel road. Travel this road approx. 7/10 mile, until you see a sign for Dysart Woods Parking.

A hilly 2 mile hike through undisturbed, virgin deciduous woods, with 170 foot oaks. A chance to look at plant succession in the forest and surrounding fields (which we can explore for summer bloomers). Mr. Bartels will provide a history and background of the area before our walk.

July 27, 1996: **MORAIN STATE PARK**, Butler County
Leader: Esther Allen
Time: 1:00

Directions: From I-79 N take the **Portersville exit** and turn left toward Rte. 19. Take Rte. 19 north. After passing Rte 488 on the left, take the road bearing right at a Y (West Park Drive). After going over Rte 422, travel less than a mile to the bicycle rental area on North Shore Drive.

Expectations: Featherfleece, Canadian burnet, red and yellow milkweeds, and many more!

August 3, 1996: **TEN-MILE CREEK**, Greene County
Leader: Dr. Mary Joy Haywood
Time: 1:00

Directions: Take I-79 south and exit at **Ruff Creek**. Turn left, and turn left again onto State Rte 221. Continue 4 or 5 miles to **Lippincott**. Turn left just past the second church (Faith Baptist in a converted red brick school). Meet at the Haywood home (third house on the right, brick with tall columns).

August 10, 1996: **MARKLEYSBURG BOG**, Fayette County
Leader: Phyllis Monk
Time: 1:00

Directions: From **Uniontown** take Rt. 40 east. At the **Summit Hotel**, measure your mileage. At 12.2 miles, look for log buildings (Leber Bakery) on the left and an oversized sign on the right reading "Truck Warning". Turn right at the foot of this sign onto a blacktop driveway into a church camp where we will meet.

Expectations: Green adder's mouth, cranberries, and Aster radula.

August 17, 1996: **PRESQUE ISLE STATE PARK**, Erie, PA
Leader: Randy Neyer, Park Naturalist
Time: 11:15 A.M. - TAKE NOTE!

The park naturalist will take the Society on a specially reserved **Pontoon Boat Tour** of emergent, shrub, and climax wetlands.

Meet at the Interpretive Center and Nature Shop at 11:15. Tie a yellow ribbon around your antenna, so that you can be provided with special parking. The tour is for our group only, so please be prompt!

Following the Pontoon tour, Mr. Neyer will guide us along the Ridge Trail to view the wetlands from the trail.

Directions: Take Rte 79 north to Erie. Exit at **26th Street**. Turn left and drive approx. 1 mile until 26th St. intersects Rte. 832 (Peninsula Drive). Turn right and continue to Park entrance. The well-marked **Interpretive Center** is approx. 1 mile from the entrance on the left hand side.

August 24, 1996: **WILDFLOWER RESERVE**, Raccoon Creek St. Pk
Leader: Jeanne Poremski
Time: 1:00

Directions: Take Rte 30 west of Pittsburgh to **Imperial**. Continue on Rte 30 approximately 7 miles. Meet in the parking lot of Wildflower Reserve. This is just east of the main park entrance.

Expectations: Gaura!! (Biennial gaura and many more.)

For field trip questions, comments, ideas, please call Loree Speedy at 521-9425.

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THINKING CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Just a reminder to start collecting wild edibles for the Botanical Society's Christmas Party. Now is the time to begin looking for plants ready to harvest or those that will be ready for harvest later this summer and fall.

Lazy summer days are perfect for researching cookbooks for recipes and ideas to help you create a sweet or savory delight to share with friends. Good hunting & Bon Appetit!

Mary Jane Seipter

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RUMEX CRISPUS

The sketch of Curled Dock was made by our member, Tammy Watychowicz. Hey, how did that bird manage to get in there, any way?

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VIRGINIA CRAIG AND THE WORLDWIDE WEB

Virginia writes to us from Florida --

Just returned home from our Magnolia Chapter monthly meeting of the Florida Native Plant Society and thought some of the people in the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania might be interested in surfing the Net for wildflowers. Mike Abrams, a journalism professor at FSU, gave the presentation. Sometimes he even uses a digital camera (no film) that can be plugged into the computer. He has now 300 pictures that he had put on CD-ROM. The technology is mind-boggling.

I personally do not have a computer at home yet, but use one every day at work. This has almost convinced me to buy a computer. I still would rather get out there in nature and see what there is to see.

Sunday last I went botanizing the dirt roads of the Apalachicola National Forest. Found the yellow butterwort (*Pinguicula lutea*) and Crow Poison (*Zigadenus densus*). It sure is fun being in a new area to botanize. On the way home found a stand of blue star (*Amsonia ciliata*) right along the roadside. Well I could go on-and-on but out of time.

She enclosed Abrams' report for the benefit of our members who may have access to the Internet --

Among the hundreds of botanical sites on the Worldwide Web, these are some of my favorites and we will view some tonight. I hope you will be able to visit some of them as you get onto the superhighway. If you search on **Alta Vista** or **Web Crawler** for any of the people, you will be able to find related sites.

1. The Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants by Richard Wunderlin at USF enables you to choose a species, click on it, and see where it is known to occur in Florida on a map of counties. He will only use vouchered material. The address is <http://www.usf.edu/~lsb/projects/hb-atlas.html>
2. The University of Florida IFAS has almost 200 aquatic plants on the web with many useful pictures. It is located at <http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/ph-a-ca.html>
3. Jeff Hapeman, a botanist in Wisconsin, has been doing genetic studies of *Platanthera* around the world. That hasn't stopped him from working with Wisconsin to put an exhaustive electronic herbarium onto the web. Hapeman is also a fine photographer. Try <http://muse.blo.cornell.edu/archive/gophtax.apr.95/0108.html>
4. Marco Bleeker takes photos in the rainforest of Suriname and in Holland. He's got some of the most spectacular photographs of tropical orchids I've seen. He also is an educator who believes the web is a place for learning. He's at (among other sites): <http://herb.biol.uregina.ca/pl-plcs/surinam>
5. Bruno Barsella is a physicist at the University of Pisa in Italy who likes to climb mountains and find orchids. He and others have brought great riches to the web. His incredible work can be found at <http://astrpl.difi.unipi.it/Orchids/Minishow/Orchids.html>
6. Beautiful Orchids in Madagascar can be discovered at <http://www.mobot.org/MOBOT/madagasc/orchid.html>
7. The purple orchid we viewed (*Orchis tridentata*) with the bug on it can be found at http://astrpl.difi.unipi.it/Orchids/Genera/Orchis/tridentata_detail-1.html
8. The yellow orchid we saw is *Ophrys tarentina* and can be found at http://astrpl.difi.unipi.it/Orchids/Genera/Ophrys/tarentina_detail.jpg
9. And, of course, Florida Wildflower Showcase is my own site with about 200 flowers (including the insects) and it is located at <http://www.wane.scri.fsu.edu/~mikems>

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BOTANIZING BY TRAIN

Come the Fourth of July, Anne and I will be off on a month-long Amtrak trip around the country. We'll be getting off to botanize in Montana, Oregon, and California, but most of all, we'll be visiting Jason and Sally and their California Poppy, Jim, and also our wonderful daughter, Dr. Carolyn.

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NO MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST

As usual, we have no monthly meetings in July or August. See you on September 9.

