

Chinquapin

The Newsletter of the
Southern Appalachian Botanical Society



Vol. 6, No. 3

Fall 1998

From The Editor's Desk:

In the last newsletter I pondered if the summer would be hot and dry as predicted; about half of us in the East would say, "Certainly." For those from Iowa north to Wisconsin, I am sure you would have been happy to share with us some of the deluges you have been enduring. What is interesting to me is that retired climatologist, Gayther Plummer, in the mid 1980's predicted we would be having severe droughts during the last half of the 1990's. Those of you in Texas can share this prediction in classic form. For those of you that have been dry for the summer, I will give you one more prediction: autumn will have a brighter than usual leaf color show for you this year. This assumes, as usual, that there is not an early deep freeze but a normal weather pattern for the fall with only enough rainfall to keep the leaves from drying out before forming the leaf separation layer. If I am off base, please let me know!

Are we having more insect infestations in our forests than ever known? While I can agree with the Delcourts that the forest changes since the last glacial peak 18,000 years ago was really drastic compared to what we have been experiencing this decade, I believe that we are seeing more types of tree damage in the past couple of decades than was taking place in perhaps the past few centuries. This past spring I observed severe outbreaks of insect damage

at the high elevations here in the Southern Appalachians. There were at least two species involved: a cankerworm of the Geometridae and beetle, the locust leaf miner of the subfamily Anisostena. The cankerworms were so numerous in the northern red oaks in late May that is sounded like light rain as the frass fell through the remaining leaves to the herbs on the ground. Then to complicate the condition, the leaf miner beetles were busily eating the remaining leaves. This year the oaks, especially red oaks, will surely show declined growth with such a loss of canopy. Additionally, the black locust leaf miner that has been progressing south for the past several years has reached the Balsam Mountains here and is poised to flood south further next year. To top all this off, the gypsy moth has sporadic outbreaks in the Highlands area and the hemlock adelgid is bearing down on the North Carolina border.

If you have any thoughts about all this, perhaps to share your research findings with our readers, please send them to me for a briefing in upcoming newsletters.

My apologies to Don Windler for omitting his authorship of "In the Garden" report on Fairchild Gardens in the previous newsletter. He spent quite an effort to pull that together and certainly deserves the credit.

Greetings, Fellow Botanists!

First, to the members of the SE Section of BSA: Our Section needs some help, namely, candidates willing to serve! We are lacking a Secretary-Treasurer, who was to be elected at the recent April meeting. I spoke with Charlie Werth, Nominations Chair, about some possibilities. If he contacts you over the next month or so, please volunteer to run! We must elect this person by special ballot this fall! We also need to elect a new Activities Chair at next year's April meeting. This person and her/his committee have the responsibility of finding someone to conduct a teaching workshop at our meeting. Because we did not sponsor such a workshop this year, the National Office of BSA, which provides \$700 for such an activity, reclaimed the money. Please, if you are actively involved in updating botany laboratories, or know of someone who

is and would like to conduct such a workshop or coordinate such an activity, contact Charlie Werth. We need the help and support of many more of our Section members.

Second, to all botanists of the Southeast: August 1999 marks a momentous event in the life of the worldwide botanical community, as the USA is hosting the XVI International Botanical Congress in St. Louis, MO. For some of us, this may be the only opportunity we ever get to attend such a landmark event. Plan to be there, along with more than 5000 delegates from some 90 countries! If you are interested in planning a field trip, contact the Secretariat, XVI IBC at ibc16@mobot.org immediately! Full details on the Congress are available at <http://www.ibc99.org> — Kathy Hornberger, Chair, SE Section of BSA.

Call for Nominations

We will be holding elections for three offices this fall. These are:

- 1) Member-at-large to SABS Council,
- 2) Editor for Castanea, and
- 3) President-elect.

We solicit your nominations for any or all of these offices. Please e-mail or send your nominations to Don Windler by October 1, 1998 (his addresses are below).

SABS Officers And Newsletter Editor

Nancy Coile, President
P.O. Box 147100
Division of Plant Industry
Gainesville, FL 32614
e-mail: coilen@doacs.state.fl.us

Don Windler, Past President
Department of Biological Sciences
Towson State University
8000 York Road
Towson, MD 21204
(410)830-3042; fax (410)830-2405
email: windler@midget.towson.edu

Charles N. Horn, Secretary-Treasurer
Newberry College, Biology Department
2100 College Street
Newberry, SC 29108
Phone (803) 321-5257 or fax (803) 321-5232
email: CHorn@newberry.edu

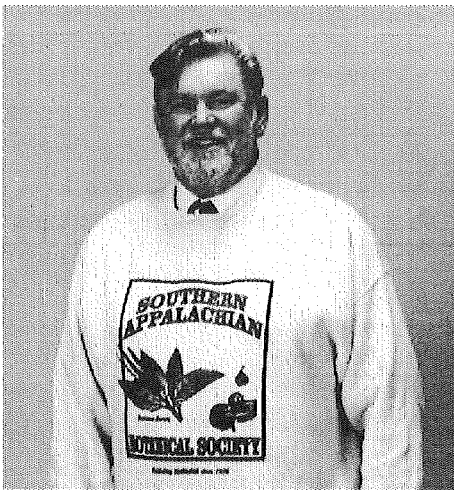
Ruth Douglas, Recording Secretary
108 Wildflower Dr.
Charlottesville, VA 22911
Phone (804) 961-5432
email: rd2d@jade.pvcc.cc.va.us

J. Dan Pittillo, Newsletter Editor
Department of Biology
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723-4073
(828) 227-3653; fax (828) 227-7647
e-mail: pittillo@wcu.edu

New Design Proves Popular

In its fall 1997 SABS Council meeting, it was recommended that orders for tee-shirts, sweatshirts, and totes be made for the annual meeting at Monroe, LA. The new design was agreed on and a new choice of colors made: black, sienna, and avocado. The changes were made and the design has proved popular, with over \$2,000 worth purchased to date.

The tee- and sweatshirts range in size from medium to 3XL and are printed on white or natural color cotton. Tee-shirts are priced at \$15 for medium to XL and \$16 for 2XL and 3XL. Sweatshirts, printed on natural fabric only, are priced at \$25 for medium to XL and \$26 for 2XL and 3XL. Tote bags are \$10. Caps are forest green with embroidered *SABS* over *CASTANEA* and are \$15. Packaging and postage is \$3. Orders may be directed to: Don Windler, Department of Biological Sciences, Towson State University, 8000 York Road, Towson, MD 21204, e-mail <dwindler@towson.edu>.



Don Windler modeling the new 3XL sweat shirt.

Letters To The Editor:

Robert F. Mueller, Secretary-Treasurer of the Virginians for Wilderness sends a letter recommending members may be interested in their web site (<http://spies.com/~gus/forests/vfw/>) and learning more about their organization. They offer a 12 page in-depth report on the relationship between flora and geology at Blowing Springs in Western Virginia. Surveys were conducted by geologist Dr. Robert Mueller and botanist Dr. Robert Hunsucker; 400 plants have been discovered to date. Blowing Springs is a potential outdoor classroom and Research Natural Area. The price for this report \$10. Make checks payable to Virginians for Wilderness:

Virginians for Wilderness
Route 1, Box 250
Staunton, Virginia 24401

“Industrial landowners and users, especially lumbermen and stockmen, are inclined to wail long and loudly about the extension of government ownership and regulation to land, but (with notable exceptions) they show little disposition to develop the only visible alternative: the voluntary practice of conservation on their own lands.”

— Aldo Leopold. 1949.
A Sand County Almanac. p. 213.

“Nor would I forget the dense pitch-pine wood east of the Deep Cut, which I remember as an open grassy field with a pigeon place in it, where also I used to gather blackberries. It contains now one of our pleasantest wood paths, which we call Thrush Alley, because the wood thrush sings there in the shade of the pines in the heat of the day.”

— Henry D. Thoreau. 1993.
Faith in a Seed. p. 34.

Stanford University's Vegetation and Plants

<http://www-sul.stanford.edu/depts/branner/vegmmaps.htm>

Stanford University Libraries' Branner Earth Sciences Library and Map Collections has made available their incredible resource of online vegetation and plant distribution maps. Under each classified area (world, continent, or region), users will find hyperlinked titles and brief descriptions of websites offering vegetation distribution information. Most of the world's forests are covered here, with many protected areas highlighted. This massive effort will reap rewards for those who take the time to explore. In addition to the extensive listings of plant distribution sites, a final section, Other Sites, offers a compilation of cartographic links for botanists and an internet directory for botany.

— William Kirwin,
Western Carolina University Libraries

WILD Ideas

Ideas are born from inquisitive minds. Perhaps some of us have had speculative thoughts that turned out to be basically correct when the facts were properly evaluated. Researchers often are driven by hunches and due to discipline must work for years to come to publishable conclusions. Many of us do not feel that these wild ideas

should be left unexplored but personally will not have an opportunity to probe them further. This is the basis of this column. The wild idea needs to have some factual basis, though it does not necessarily need to be fully supported as in a reviewed publication.

What bright thought have you had lately you are willing to share with us?

Official Trees and Flowers Collection

As mentioned in the last newsletter, state representatives have been asked if they would provide a specimen of the state tree and state flower for a commemorative SABS collection to be deposited at West Virginia Herbarium. This SABS Commemorative Collection was begun this year and the materials are being displayed from time to time. Perhaps this collection will be displayed at a future annual meeting. If you have a chance, drop by 425 Brooks Hall in Morgantown and inspect the collection. Following are some facts gathered by Mary Longanbach, herbarium volunteer at West Virginia Herbarium.

A Sampling of Official Botanical Names

The majority of state flowers and trees were designated or adopted by acts of legislatures. Still others were suggested by groups such as the Garden Clubs of America or the Herb Growers and Marketers Association. The state flower and trees movement was started in New York in 1890, although the state of Washington was the first to officially adopt a state flower. All states now have designated their botanical symbols. A sampling of these designations are:

Rhododendron maximum (Great Laurel) was chosen as the state flower of West Virginia on January 23, 1903 by joint resolution of both houses of the legislature. This followed a vote by public school children of the state under the direction of the state school superintendent. The great laurel is found in most counties of West Virginia and often forms dense thickets in the mountains. Its flowers are rose colored or white and lightly spotted in yellow or orange. It is also called deer-laurel, cow-plant, rosebay, and spoon-hutch.

Rosa laevigata (Cherokee Rose), though not native to the South, was adopted as the state flower of Georgia by an act of the legislature in 1916. It was named for the Cherokee Indians who were fond of the plant and responsible for its widespread propagation. The Cherokee rose was first introduced to the New World from England in the later half of the 18th century.

Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip Poplar) was designated as the state tree of Indiana in 1931 by the legislature. In 1947 it was also adopted as the official state tree of Tennessee. It is one of the most valuable timber trees.

Acer saccharum (Sugar Maple) was designated as the state tree of West Virginia and Vermont in 1949 and later in 1956, as the state tree of New York. It was recommended by West Virginia public school children and civic clubs because the *sugar maple* was used to make furniture and is enjoyed for its syrup.

Trillium grandiflorum (Large White Trillium) was adopted as the official wildflower of Ohio in 1987. It joined the state flower, the scarlet carnation, which was chosen by the general assembly in 1904 in memory of William McKinley.

Solidago odora (Sweet Goldenrod) was proclaimed the state herb of Delaware on June 24, 1996 by the state legislature and the governor. The designation came at the request of the Delaware Herb Growers and Marketers Association. Having a state herb shows support for the state's herb growers and increases awareness of herbs among all citizens. Delaware is the first state to designate a state herb.

— Donna I. Ford-Werntz, WVA Herbarium

White Spruce in Northern New Hampshire

The photograph is an idled farm in Coos County, New Hampshire. The view is south toward Gore Mountain (elev. 3597 ft).

Depicted in the photo are three stages of old-field succession. The photo was taken on June 18, 1963.

In the foreground, on either side of the road, is a hayfield dominated by grasses and herbs. In the mid-distance, below the buildings is a stand of white spruce and balsam fir in a pasture abandoned 20 years. On the hill above the buildings, is a stand of spruce and fir in a pasture abandoned 55 years. White spruce dominates most of the stand, but red spruce is common near the top of the hill.

Near the bend in the road, a creek crosses the road. On the margin of the creek can be seen the dark, rounded forms of speckled alder (*Alnus rugosa*). The grayish area toward the road

from the alders is a portion of the field dominated by shrubs of the genus *Spirea*. There are three species: hardhack or steeplebush (*S. tomentosa*), and two species of meadowsweets

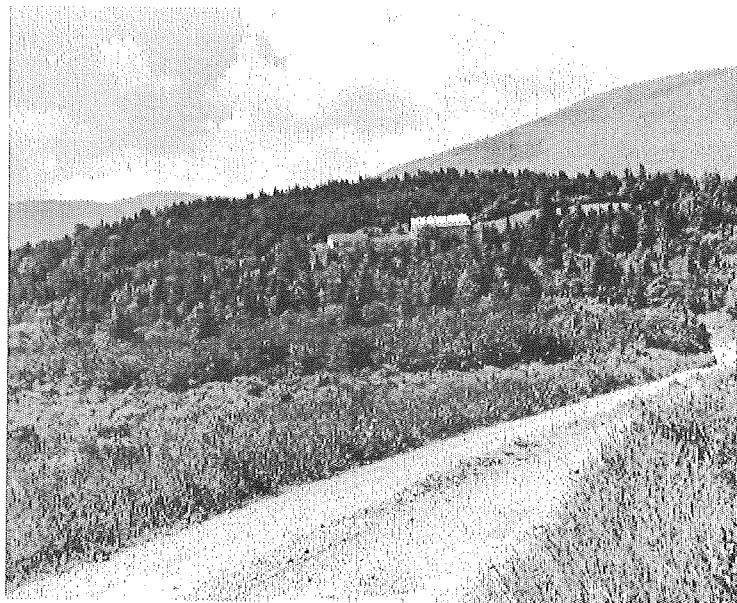
(*S. alba* and *S. latifolia*).

Gore Mountain, in the background, is covered by a forest of northern hardwoods and red spruce. The darker patches on the

mountain are stands of red spruce, which is also scattered among the dominants of the hardwood forest, including sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), paper birch (*B. papyrifera*) and beech (*Fagus grandifolia*).

In New Hampshire three species of conifers may colonize former agricultural land. In southern New Hampshire the common species of old fields is white pine (*Pinus strobus*). In and around the White Mountains in central New Hampshire old fields are dominated by red spruce (*Picea rubens*). North of the White

cont. on page 21



Pittillo Honored By Southern Appalachian Botanical Society

Dr. Dan Pittillo, Professor of Biology at Western Carolina University (and editor of this newsletter) was recently awarded the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society's highest award for service to the public, to plant systematics, and to the organization, the Elizabeth Ann Bartholomew Award. The award was announced at the society's annual meeting, held in conjunction with the Association of Southeastern Biologists meeting in Monroe, Louisiana. Elizabeth Ann Bartholomew served as secretary of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Club (now Society) from 1946 until 1981. Her life was devoted to plants, and she transferred her interest in plants and nature to students of all ages and walks of life.

Dan was cited for his long and devoted service to the Society, including serving as President, Editor of *Castanea*, and his current work as founding editor of *Chinquaphin*; his excellence as a teacher, with a number of his students going on to contribute much to the knowledge of the flora of the Carolinas; his excellence as a field botanist and his own contributions to the flora of the Carolinas; and his many contributions to biology and conservation, including the North Carolina Bartram Trail Society of which he is a charter member and has served as President, newsletter editor, and Board member; the Highlands Biological Foundation, and many other organizations as well. His nominator stated, "There is no finer person to represent the goals and ideals that SABS has stood for over the years...and no one has worked harder for SABS over the years."

Congratulations, Dan, and we all thank you again for your many contributions!.

— Ruth Douglas

"Excellence is not an act but a habitat."

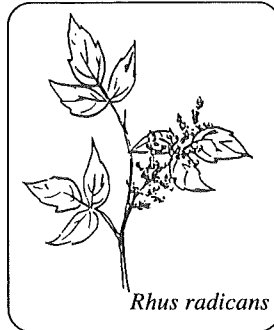
—Aristotle

(restated by Stephen Gould).

- Look Again -

by Dick Smith

As a guide to avoiding contact with poison ivy, the maxim *Leaflets three, let it be* is excellent — for children. Adults who do not wish to be kept away from other interesting (and harmless) plants can easily learn the features that distinguish it, and after applying this knowledge by practicing identification in the field a few times, recognition becomes automatic.



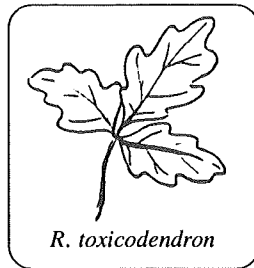
Rhus radicans

Poison ivy (*Rhus radicans**) is essentially a vine, and may be found trailing along the ground or climbing high into trees by means of thick stems which adhere to the trunks with hairy aerial roots. Its leaves are ternately compound with long petioles, and the terminal leaflet is conspicuously stalked. The margins of the three leaflets may be entire or have irregular shallow teeth. New growth is shiny, but this does not necessarily hold for mature foliage; autumn colors are often attractive shades of orange or red. In the spring, it bears axillary panicles of small yellowish or greenish flowers, and these are succeeded by nearly round, pale gray fruits.

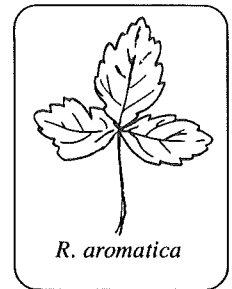
To argue the question of whether poison oak (which is more common in the Piedmont) is a variety of *R. radicans* or a separate species (*R. toxicodendron*) would serve no purpose here; it exists and is equally noxious. The principal differences are that the plants are erect, the leaves are thicker and pubescent, and the leaflets tend to be lobed.

The sumacs are close relatives of only one — fragrant sumac (*R. aromatica*)—is similar, and it is not-poisonous. (poison sumac and other species of

sumac have pinnately compound leaves, and will be treated as a group another time). Fragrant sumac is a shrub with ternate leaves, but the margins have course, rounded teeth, and the terminal leaflet is sessile. Its flowers are short, catkin-like clusters proceeding the leaves, and the fruits are bright red.



R. toxicodendron



R. aromatica

— Reprinted with permission from *Shortia* 8:7, Autumn, 1986.

*Ed. note: Alan Weakley, in his developing *Flora of the Carolinas and Virginia,* is suggesting we follow Barkley and Gillis, calling the white-fruited and dermatitis-causing species, *Toxicodendron*, thus *T. radicans*, and the red-fruited ones *Rhus*, as in *R. aromatica*.

The American Chestnut Foundation Research Continues Expansion

The Meadowview, VA farm now has 11,258 plantings after the spring planting of 2,944 trees and nuts. There are nearly 1,600 third backcrossed trees plus 1,806 nuts planted this year and the anticipation is that there will be seedlings of these third backcrosses available within 10 years. The budget for maintaining this research farm continues to rise and this year it is for \$65,000. Anyone interested in this project is encouraged to contact the Foundation at PO Box 4044, Bennington, VT 05201 or phone at (802) 447-0110.

BOTANICAL EXCURSIONS

By George Ellison

“NEW YORK IRONWEED & THE COLOR-SHIFT FACTOR”

“This is one of the prettiest and most striking of the late summer, early fall wildflowers. Calling ironweed flowers purple is like calling the Grand Canyon deep. It’s accurate, but not vividly descriptive.”

—Jim Horton, *The Summer Times*
(Tampa, Fla.: Cider Press Inc. 1979).

Emerson said many things, including “A weed is a plant whose virtues we have not yet discovered.” There are many so-called “weeds” whose virtues need to be praised. One such is New York ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*), now profusely flowering in moist low ground and alongside streams from Massachusetts to Georgia and Mississippi, inland to West Virginia and Ohio.

At least six other *Vernonia* species are found in the East. Four of these appear in the Blue Ridge Province, but New York ironweed is by far the most common; indeed, it is the only one that I ever encounter here in the mountains of western North Carolina. So when I refer to ironweed, that’s the species I have in mind.

To my sensibilities, this handsome plant needs to be discovered. If you don’t already have ironweed growing wild on your property, you should consider introducing it this fall.

Ironweed grows from three to seven feet tall, with a foliage spread of about three feet. It’s easy to spot from your car. Whereas Joe Pye weed (a complex of several *Eupatorium*

species) with which it often associates, produces soft rounded plumes of lavender-pink flowerheads, ironweed presents a rugged flat-topped appearance with 30 to 50 flowers of a vivid deep purple, sometimes electric blue hue gathered into a compact head about a foot wide.

The genus designation honors the English botanist William Vernon, who did fieldwork in North America, while the species tag means “of New York.” The plant has a minor reputation as a tonic and blood purifier among herbalists. It was used by the Cherokees for those purposes as well as for relief during and after childbirth. In *Cherokee Plants: Their Uses — A 400 Year History* (Sylva, N.C.: Sylva-Herald Press, 1975, p. 41), Paul B. Hamel and Mary U. Chiltoskey noted they steeped the bruised roots of ironweed with those of sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)

to make a tea that was reputed to prevent menstruation for up to two years.

My main interest in the plant lies with ironweed’s striking dark green foliage and eye-catching flowers. A closer look at a flowerhead reveals that each is composed of minute tubular-shaped five-petaled flowers. From a distance the purples and greens of the plant merge and blend perfectly. Unlike the flower and foliage colors of many plants, they

are — as an artist would say — “in harmony.”

And this harmony can vary according to the time of day. The botanist-author-photographer William Ricketts observed that “A curious difficulty exists in photographing these plants: the flowers of many species are bright pink in the color transparencies, apparently no matter what make of film is used or who is using it. The blue elements of the natural purple color disappears in the process. The cause is unknown. I have seen a plant of *V. noveboracensis* in the evening with bright blue flowers; next morning they were the

usual purple. Perhaps the blue is produced by refraction of light from the surface, while the actual pigment of the corolla is red.”

Wildflowers of the United States: The Southeastern States (New York: McGraw-Hill, part two of two parts, vol. 2, 1967, p. 618.)

One could speculate that perhaps this color transfer in response to changing light conditions might help the plant attract different groups of

pollinators during various parts of the day and evening. Or perhaps it helps the same pollinators locate the plant under different light conditions? At any rate, this color-shift phenomenon further enhances the attractiveness of this distinctive “weed.”



Ironweed - By Elizabeth Ellison

White Spruce, continued from page 19
Mountains white spruce (*Picea glauca*) is dominant in old fields, chiefly in Coos County. A common associate of white spruce on abandoned fields is balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), as it is in the boreal coniferous forests of North America.

The natural habitat of white spruce in New Hampshire is along streams and at edges of bogs and swamps. One reason that it is able to colonize abandoned fields in Coos County is

that soils were derived from glacial deposits, carried from nearby Canada, that contained large amounts of schist. Thus the soils have finer texture and are more alkaline than soils derived from granitic till farther south.

White spruce has two other common names: *epinette blanche* (Quebec) and cat spruce. The later name is deserving, for the foliage emits a distinct, fetid odor when crushed or dried.

White spruce exudes droplets of gummy

sap through the bark. When these droplets have hardened after one year’s exposure to the air, they are at the right stage for spruce gum. A droplet the size of a small marble should be gently chewed until it is sufficiently moistened to reach the consistency of chewing gum.

White spruce also colonizes former agricultural land in northeastern Vermont, southern Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

In the Garden

One of our most common linkages to nature and plant life is with gardens. Our country is quickly becoming noted for its gardens, much as the Old World has. We invite those associated with gardens, small or large, to share a brief history and description of your garden, perhaps a unique feature or purpose, and whether there is an entrance charge.

Cherokee Arboretum and Nature Trail

Adjoining the North Carolina side of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the Qualla Boundary of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Here, on a rugged mountain terrain known as the Cherokee Indian Reservation, live the descendants of the Cherokees who stayed hidden in the Smokies when the rest of their people were forced west by the U.S. Government along the Trail of Tears. One of the most attractive features on the Qualla Boundary is the Cherokee Arboretum and Nature Trail. Its entrance is just above Oconoluftee Indian Village, replica of a Cherokee community of the 1750's, and it is operated and maintained by the Cherokee Historical Association, producers of the Indian Village and the outdoor drama of the Cherokee, "Unto These Hills."

Its solitude and quiet are part of the charm of the Arboretum as well as the comprehensive collection of trees, flowers, shrubs, and herbs native to the Southern Appalachians. The forested area is dominated by rosebay rhododendron with borders of moss along the trails that have developed after the leaf removal over the past decades. Native plants including wild geranium, dwarf iris, trillium, and many



*The vegetable garden and Loney Toineeta cabin. In addition to traditional vegetables, Cherokees often grow jacob's tears (*Coix lacryma-jobi*) which are used in bead work and other items obtained over the years. Photo compliments of the Cherokee Historical Association.*



The Cherokee Nature Trail has been planted with native herbs, shrubs, and some trees. Some interplantings of decorative cultivars are included. Cherokee Historical Association photo.

others have been enhanced with plantings. A small pool with trout, a garden of indigenous plants, plants commonly cultivated by the Cherokees, and an ancient Cherokee cabin provide diversity and historical perspective. The forest trail was designated a National Recreation Trail in 1991. The trail is open free to the public from mid May until late October.

— **Margie Douthit,**
Cherokee Historical Association.

"There are checks and balances but no equilibria in nature."

— E.P. Odum, 1998,
Ecological Vignettes,
Harwood Academic Publishers,
Amsterdam. 269 p. (p. 27).

Castanea Back Issues

The special issue of the Barrens (1994) and the Invasive Plants (1996; 6 remaining) symposia are available for \$10.00 each. The last three years' issues are 1996 volume \$25 (individuals @ \$6), 1995 volume \$20 (individuals @ \$6) and 1994 volume \$16 (including the symposium issue; other individuals @ \$2). This price reflects the current production, handling and shipping costs. Prices for 1990-1994 are \$2 per issue and \$6 per volume. Members can still get back issues before 1990 for a bargain \$1 per volume plus shipping and handling. This bargain price is subject to availability (there are some missing numbers in many volumes). Contact Secretary-Treasurer Charlie Horn whose address is listed on the front.

Endowment Update

The Society still needs more donations to reach its 1998 goal of passing the \$100,000 mark. All members were sent a mailing this summer urging participation. If you haven't contributed thus far, please write a check for \$100 or more (we are also happy to receive less) to Dr. Charles N. Horn, Secretary Treasurer, as soon as possible
— Endowment Committee

“It often pays to design with natural forces and pulses, rather than against them.”

— E.P. Odum, 1998, *Ecological Vignettes*, Harwood Academic Publishers, Amsterdam. 269 p. (p. 51).

Welcome To Our New Members:

Deborah Benesh, Norman, OK;
Billy Boothe, Sarasota, FL;
Michael Buske, Hendersonville, NC;
Don Flenniken, Wooster, OH;
David Brian Long, Irmo, SC;
Ethel Mitchell, Valdosta, GA;
John Popenoe, Hancock, MD;
Peter Smith, Boone, NC;
Galen Swindell, Glennville, GA;
Layla Waldrop, Seneca, SC;
Michael Weir, Salisbury, NC;
Herbert Young, Jr., Forest Hill, LA.

Welcome aboard the fastest growing regional organization in botany!

SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY Application for Membership

Name: _____ Date: _____
(name and address should be four lines as given)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Optional: Phone () _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

AFFILIATION (Check one): College or university _____ Other educational or research institution _____ Non-institutional _____

NOTE: Memberships are only for the calendar year, January-December. Individuals joining in mid-year will be sent all back issues of *Castanea* and *Chinquaphin* unless advising otherwise. Year you wish to start: _____.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

Regular membership () \$25.00	Sustaining membership () \$50.00
Family membership () \$30.00	Emeritus () \$15.00
Student () \$10.00	Life membership () \$400.00

Send To: Charles N. Horn, Secretary-Treasurer
Newberry College, 2100 College Street
Newberry, SC 29108

Book Corner

Cathie Katz has shown us real magic of the seashore in **The Nature of Florida's Ocean Life Including Coral Reefs, Gulf Stream, Sargasso Sea, and Sunken Ships** (1998, Atlantic Press, PO Box 510366, Melbourne Beach, FL, 73 p., ISBN 1-888025-11-5, \$8.95 + p/h and FL tx). She makes you feel the salt air and sand in the imaginary walk with her on the beach. You will learn about Cuban rafts and bottles, worms, nudles, duckies, toys, whale lice and ambergris, woven together with stories and wonders in the night. In all, 78 categories are discussed and illustrated copiously.

—Charles R. Gunn

Our regular contributor to "Look Again," Richard (Dick) M. Smith, has provided us with an excellent resource in **Wildflowers of the Southern Mountains** (1998, University

of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, 456 p., 600 color plates + 112 line drawings, ISBN 0-87049-992-0 @\$24.95). "Solid, useful botany and outstanding color photographs make this work a valuable addition to the bookshelf of anyone interested in mountain plants of the Southeast," stated John B. Nelson. While written in non-technical style, it is technically accurate and helpful in many ways, including the illustrations with pictorial keys based on flower shape and color. The historical notes, uses as food and medicine, and lack of technical jargon will be appreciated by many of our readers. This is one book we can recommend to both student and novice with an interest in our Southern Appalachian flora that includes nearly all the showy flowers between Pennsylvania and Georgia.

— J. Dan Pittillo

Photos Wanted!

Have you any good quality (high contrast) photos you would like to share with our readership? Please send to the editor:

Dan Pittillo,
Newsletter Editor
Department of Biology
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723-4073
(828) 227-3653; fax (828) 227-7647
e-mail: pittillo@wcu.edu



Complimentary addressed issues: Please share with your interested friends who might wish to become members of SABS. Thank you - Ed.

Charles N. Horn
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2100 College Street
Newberry, SC 29108

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**Southern
Appalachian
Botanical Society**