

Clintonia

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NFBS Members Explore the North Shore of Lake Erie Turkey Point, Backus Woods and Point Pelee National Park Michael Siuta

Ten NFBS members went on a three day botanical excursion to the north shore of Lake Erie from July 10th to 12th 2010. The group included Eleanor Donnelly, Hermann Emmert, Edward Fuchs, Ruth Hansen, Judith Hoffman, Kalista Lehrer, Joanne Schlegel, Michael Siuta, Rebecca Wightman and Natalie Yaskow. With us on the trip was our good Canadian friend, Albert Garafolo, who is currently involved with field studies of lakeside flora along Lake Erie. Our main goal was to visit Point Pelee, but we stopped at a couple sites along the way on July 10th.

Turkey Point

Turkey Point, located on the north shore of Lake Erie, and about 1/3rd of the way from Buffalo to Detroit, is an Ontario Provincial Park containing a variety of habitats including pine forests, oak savanna and sandy beaches. We were fortunate to have a well informed guide, Mary Gartshore. Mary spent several years in West Africa on biological surveys, mainly of birds. In Canada she has worked on several projects gathering data on birds and fauna. Also, she knows the Ontario plants and habitats quite well.

The site we visited at Turkey Point was an oak savanna. This is part of what is called the Lake Erie Sand Plain. The sand is particularly dense here. In the past there were plantings of species such as Scotch Pine, but we were informed that there have been some prescribed burns here in efforts to restore the habitat. As we explored the area in the bright sun that was beating down on sandy soil we were graced with an oven effect, keeping us quite toasty. The principal tree species were Black Oak with some Black cherry and Red Maple. Closer to the ground were several interesting grasses, Goat's Rue, *Tephrosia virginiana*, a member of the bean family and two unusual violets: Bird's Foot Violet, *Viola pedata* and Arrow Leaf Violet, *Viola fimbriatula*. Below is a list of some of the species noted in this habitat.

<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red maple	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem Grass
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly Weed	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	Tramp's Spurge	<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	Goat's Rue
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Moss Pink Phlox	<i>Toxicodendron rydbergii</i>	Creeping Poison Ivy
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	<i>Viola fimbriatula</i>	Arrow Leaf Violet
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak	<i>Viola pedata</i>	Bird's Foot Violet



Exploring the savanna woods at Turkey Point Photo by Rebecca Wightman

Backus Woods

After lunch our guide led us to a site about ten minutes away, and a little inland from Turkey Point. Here was a very different habitat. It was the Backus Woods Preserve. The property was originally owned by the Backus family, who were in the logging business. This 600 acre woods is one of Canada's southernmost Carolinian (Southern Deciduous) forests. Enormous mature trees towered above us and the rich undergrowth. We were happy to escape the direct sun, but the Ontario mosquitoes were there to greet and harass us as we walked, observed and furiously swatted along the trails. During this brief visit we were able to see quite a number of interesting species including the following:

<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Wild Sarsaparilla	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Canada Mayflower
<i>Asclepias exaltata</i>	Poke Milkweed	<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>	False Solomon's Seal
<i>Desmodium glutinosum</i>	Sticky Tick-Trefoil	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>	Indian Cucumber Root
<i>Desmodium nudiflorum</i>	Naked-Flowered Tickseed	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridge Berry
<i>Disporom languinosum</i>	Yellow Mandarin	<i>Viola palmata</i>	Palmate Violet
<i>Hepatica nobilis var. obtusa</i>	Round Leaf Hepatica	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon Fern
<i>Luzula acuminata</i>	Hairy Wood Rush	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak

Point Pelee

After our visit to Turkey Point and Backus Woods it was time to head out for our main goal: Point Pelee. Point Pelee, at the southern extreme of mainland Canada, is a large wedge-shaped peninsula jutting far into western Lake Erie just south of Leamington, Ontario, and roughly 50 miles from the border crossing to Detroit. Beyond the tip of the peninsula are several islands that extend in a line across the lake to Sandusky, Ohio. It is believed that there once was a

peninsula was in private hands and contained houses, cottage settlements, farms and logging operations. Since establishment of a national park some of the well-worn sections have reverted back to nature. The preserve features a number of habitats of great interest to the botanist or nature lover. Much of the island is sandy, and there are sand dune communities, open savannah, lush forests, extensive marshes and vast ponds of open water. The preserve is also famous as a migration magnet for birds and butterflies.

During our stay we were able to visit each of these habitats, each with its own interesting flora. Others have already prepared detailed plant species lists for Point Pelee and space will not permit our own report of every species our group saw. The list following this article merely notes some of the dominant and unusual species that we observed.

Our home base was a simple 1950's style motel conveniently situated in Leamington. We were not the only residents. The grounds was also home to several (too many) skinny looking cats of all ages. As we sat on our lawn chairs in the evening we could watch their antics scurrying about, tending their young and even climbing atop cars.



Distinctive bark of the Hackberry tree, *Celtis occidentalis*

Our first stop was a woody patch near the water by the entry gate. Here we first spotted what is the most common tree on the peninsula, *Celtis occidentalis* (Hackberry.) Hackberry is quite unusual in the Niagara Frontier region, and more common in the southern US. The tree is easily recognized by its knobby or warty bark. Hackberry is apparently a pioneer tree here since it dominated the more disturbed sections, but was just one of many trees in the mature forests. Also common everywhere was *Ptelea trifoliata*, the Hoptree.

Our next stop was at the visitor center where we encountered some specimens of the Eastern Prickly Pear Cactus. Next it was a brief visit to a nearby oak savannah area. Sadly, there we noticed many dead or dying ash trees, victims of the ash borer. Also present were Hoptree, Gray dogwood, wild grape, Hackberry and Juniper. The heat was so oppressive here that cooler heads decided it was time to move on.

After a brief side-trip we arrived at a marsh with an extensive boardwalk providing access to a treasury of wetland species. Of particular interest was an abundance of *Hydrocharis morsus-ranae* - European Frogbit, *Asclepias incarnata* - Swamp Milkweed and *Rosa palustris* – Swamp Rose. After lunch we met a guide who led us to one of the highlights of the trip. We boarded a large canoe and wove our way through an endless marsh to an expanse of open water in a large pond. In the middle of the pond was a mass of what looked like green umbrellas sticking out of the water. It was a colony of *Nelumbo lutea*, American Lotus with their spectacular blossoms.



Passing through the American Lotus

After some short side trips our last stop on Sunday was to hop on a shuttle to the tip of the peninsula and the southern-most spot of mainland Canada. Here it was time to relax, enjoy the magnificent view and take photos. One interesting plant noted here was a member of the Four O' Clock family, *Mirabilis nictaginea*. This sandy point is popular with the public, but woe to anyone who dares to enter the water. The currents are treacherous!

On our final day we spent the morning exploring the Woodland Nature Trail, the oldest forest community in the park. It never was developed into a cottage community. Huge mature trees towered above. The diversity of species was great and included Black Walnut, White Ash, Hackberry, Red Oak, Black Oak, Shagbark Hickory, Basswood and Red Cedar. The area was heavily laden with vines giving it an almost tropical forest look. The vines included Grape, Poison Ivy, Virginia Creeper, Smilax and Moonseed. There was also a swamp woods with several wetland species including *Acer freemanii* - Freeman Maple, *Thelypteris palustris* - Marsh Fern and *Phryma leptostachya*- Lopseed.

In three days we had the opportunity to see quite a variety interesting habitats and plant species. The driving distance to Point Pelee and the other places we visited is quite reasonable. Plant lovers (also birders and butterfly folk) will not be disappointed if they check it out. A visit is highly recommended. I know I'll be back again.

Plants of Point Pelee July 10-12, 2010

Trees & Shrubs

<i>Acer freemanii</i>	Freeman Maple
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonbush
<i>Cornus foemina</i>	Gray Dogwood
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common Juniper
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Red Cedar
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop Hornbeam
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore
<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	Hoptree
<i>Quercus muhlenbergia</i>	Chinkapin Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak
<i>Ribes lacustre</i>	Bristly Black Currant
<i>Sassafras albidum</i>	Sassafras
<i>Tilia americana</i>	Basswood

Vines

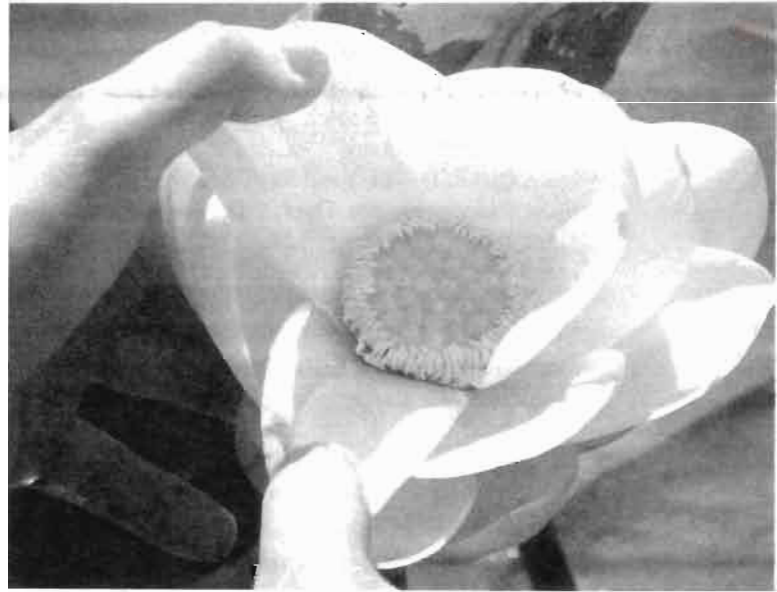
<i>Menispermum canadense</i>	Moonseed
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper
<i>Smilax herbacea</i>	Carrion Flower
<i>Smilax hispida</i>	Bristly Greenbrier
<i>Smilax lasioneuron</i>	Greenbrier
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Poison Ivy
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	River Grape

Aquatic Plants

<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed
<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	Water Shield
<i>Cicuta bulbifera</i>	Bulb Bearing Water Hemlock
<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>	Water Willow
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	Water Weed
<i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>	European Frog's Bit
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Lesser Duckweed
<i>Nelumbo lutea</i>	American Lotus
<i>Nuphar advena</i>	Spatterdock
<i>Nuphar variegata</i>	Bullhead Pond Lily
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	Fragrant White Water Lily
<i>Pontaderia cordata</i>	Pickering Weed
<i>Potamogeton natans</i>	Floating Pondweed
<i>Potamogeton zosteriformis</i>	Flat Stem Pondweed
<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Swamp Rose
<i>Spirodela polyrhiza</i>	Greater Duckweed
<i>Thelyperis palustris</i>	Marsh Fern
<i>Utricularia macrorhiza</i>	Great Bladderwort
<i>Wolffia columbiana</i>	Watermeal

Other Herbaceous Land Plants

<i>Asclepias viridifolia</i>	Green Milkweed
<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	Wild Leek
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Thimble Weed
<i>Cakile edentula</i>	Sea Rocket
<i>Campanula americana</i>	Tall Bellflower
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Bottlebrush Grass
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	Virginia Waterleaf
<i>Leonurus cardiaca</i>	Motherwort
<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	Fringed Loosestrife
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Canada Mayflower
<i>Maianthemum stellatum</i>	Starry False Solomon's Seal
<i>Mirabilis nictaginea</i>	Heartleaf Umbrella Wort
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	Eastern Prickly Pear Cactus
<i>Phryma leptostachya</i>	Lopseed
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	Large Solomon's Seal
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Virginia Mountain Mint
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Bouncing Bet
<i>Scutellaria sp.</i>	Scullcap
<i>Stachys tenuifolia</i>	Creeping Hedge Nettle
<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	Tall Meadow Rue
<i>Tragopogon sp.</i>	Goat's Beard



Flower of *Nelumbo lutea*, American Lotus

Outdoors!

with Mabel James

selected and edited by Jim Battaglia

For many years Miss James led the Buffalo Hiking Club, she herself being an inveterate hiker who walked ten miles every day. In her October 3, 1942, edition of *This Week Outdoors*, Miss James recounts the botanical and other discoveries made on September's field trips to various locales. The trip to Fort Erie, Ontario, on September 19 has some special interest to NFBS members who have been botanizing the beaches of Lake Erie these past two years.

Elsewhere in her newsletter Miss James reminds her audience that, "I never go on a field trip without learning new things, and I believe those who go with me will say the same." Certainly, we who follow her a bit further in time agree.

from *This Week Outdoors*, Issue #68, October 3, 1942.

At Humboldt Park September 12 the Museum Hikers found a coliseum maple (*Acer cappadocicum* – ed.) not hitherto mentioned there, as well as European hornbeams that much resemble the American except in trunk and bark. Other trees noted were white ash in fall color, European ash still green, a row of small cut-leaf Norway maples, Scotch, English and Russian elms, and many others. We looked unsuccessfully for rosemary willow (probably *Salix elaeagnos*, see Dyer, **Manual of Woody Landscape Plants**, p. 924 – ed.), a shrub or small tree with very narrow leaves. (Later I saw it near a path leading from the Museum to Best Street.) At Delaware Park we... noted a surprising number of blossoming wild flowers, including fall dandelion, found fruit on sweet gum, bald cypress, hackberry and ginkgo trees, but had difficulty in finding acorns with which to make positive identifications of some of the oaks...squirrels.

At Fort Erie and along the lake shore September 19th we found trailing wild bean (probably *Strophostyles helvula* – ed.) which I had never seen before. Since both blossoms and fruit were present it was not hard to find in the books. It does not appear on the earlier lists of plants of our region but was first found by John F. Cowell in 1882 near the ruins of Fort Erie. It is found only along the sandy shores of Lake Erie and possibly of Lake Ontario also. Leaves are tri-foliolate, flowers bean-like, pods cylindrical and about 2 1/2 inches long or more...

Other seldom noted plants seen that day were biennial gaura (*Gaura biennis* – ed.) with its daintiest of pink flowers on tall branching plants. Kalm's lobelia (*Lobelia kalmii* – ed.), equally dainty and of a pale blue hue, so named for the famous pupil of Linnaeus who botanized in our region around 1750, clammy weed (*Polansia dodecandra* – ed.), as representative of the Caper Family with tri-foliolate leaves and pods in which the seeds rattle, purple loosestrife, gerardia, *Aralia spinosa* in fruit (the clusters much resembling its near relative American spikenard) and a beautiful clump of rosemary willow in Fort Erie Park. We enjoyed beautiful Mather Park but did not like the weeping willow with the "weep" neatly cut off to give the trees a most unnatural look. Deptford pink was one of the bravely blossoming plants in the neatly clipped grass of the park. Everywhere New England asters spread their glorious purple, flanked by other asters of lighter hue and by goldenrod... Fort Erie is easy to get to since the ferry from the foot of Ferry Street leaves at frequent intervals and the trip costs but 5¢.

On September 26th we took the Greyhound bus... for ...Grand Island, getting off at Burnt Ship Creek bridge. (Round trip ticket, 50¢)...

Shagbark hickory nuts were falling, reminding me of nutting days in very early youth; moonseed (*Menispermum canadense* – ed.), a vine with handsome leaves, was abundant. Its fruit resembles bunches of very small grapes and in each the solitary seed is a thick crescent, hence the name. Miss Folsom's sharp eyes discovered a closed gentian, though here in Holland its season is well past. Viburnums, dogwoods, witch hazel, speckled alder, common reed grass (probably *Phragmites australis* – ed.), which may be anywhere from 5 to 15 feet in height bittersweet nightshade and true bittersweet, ground cherry or wild tomato (these we ate), woodbine and poison ivy, fringed loosestrife, silverweed, false Solomon's seal, ferns of many kinds and other plants... I have learned the appearance of great ragweed *Ambrosia trifida* – ed.) in fruit. Its blossoming spikes look much the same as those of the common ragweed, but in fruit the fertile heads are found clustered in the axils of the upper, bract-like leaves and are topped by the naked stems from which the sterile flowers have fallen. This is said to be a greater menace to health than the common ragweed...Pleasantly fragrant mountain mint was one of the less common plants found.

World of the Wild

Silkworms and Mulberries

Allen Benton

When Alexander the Great's armies moved triumphantly across Asia, some 350 years before the birth of Christ, he discovered in India a new type of cloth, produced in China, and superior in many respects to the coarse wool and cotton fabrics which he was familiar. This new cloth (new to the western world that is) was silk, and from that time on it became a major item of commerce between China and Europe, to the extent that the route along which it was transported from China became known, and is still known as the Silk Road.

Naturally, every country in Europe wanted to get into the silk business, and equally naturally, the Chinese took great pains to prevent this from happening. Finally, more than 800 years after Alexander's discovery, one enterprising person smuggled some silkworm eggs out of China, cleverly concealed inside the hollow stems of bamboo.

All of the silkworms involved in the development of silk industries in Europe descended from these smuggled eggs. In addition to the silkworms there was one other essential to the manufacture of silk, the mulberry tree on which the silkworm larvae fed. Before long mulberry trees were growing all over Europe, and silk industries were being operated in several European countries.

In the 16th and 17th centuries efforts were made to establish such an industry in England, but the climatic conditions proved to be inhospitable. King James I, therefore decided to try to establish a silkworm business in the new colony of Virginia, where the climate was more equitable (or so he hoped). He exported both trees and worms to the colony, and for some years there was a successful and significant silk industry in America. Unfortunately, this was a highly labor-intensive operation. After a time the growth of tobacco proved to be more profitable and easier, and gradually Virginia's agricultural economy shifted to that crop and the silkworm industry was abandoned.

The mulberry trees, however remained and spread until they were found all over the eastern states. The luscious berries are much desired by birds, as well as some people and the birds soon spread the seeds accompanied by a dab of fertilizer in the form of bird droppings, from Maine to Florida. One such tree in my neighbor's yard is a wonderful place to watch birds during the fruiting season.

For human use, the mulberries are primarily used to make pies and sauce, and many people irresistibly delicious. However, the trees have one major drawback as ornamentals. When growing along streets or in yards as they often are, the berries drop into grass and onto sidewalks and make a tremendous mess. The berries are a deep purple and dye everything they touch, making them a problem when children play and roll around in the grass under the trees, or when people tread on them get purple shoe-soles.

In my own yard, I have the best of both worlds. The lovely glossy foliage of my tree, no doubt planted by birds leaving the tree next door, are attractive and shady, but up to now it has never borne fruit. According to my botany book, this species sometimes produces individuals with only male or only female blossoms. It appears that I have a male tree, which of course makes it useless as a bird attractant or as a pie producer, but also means it doesn't produce any mess on my lawn. As long as the birds flock into my neighbor's tree, I can enjoy them without the accompanying mess, and I'm not all that fond of mulberry pie anyway.

Field Trip - May 15, 2010
Private Property North of Ellicottville
 Joanne Schlegel

As a follow-up to our March lecture, "Spring Foraging for Wild Edibles", speaker Bill Soules led five NFBS members plus two guests on a field trip to a 200 acre private property south of Lindberg Road near Ellicottville. And a lovely property it proved to be.

Participants proceeded through a wetland traversable only by boat this time of year, then across a wet meadow and up a steep slope into a mature hardwood forest of Sugar Maple, Red Maple, Beech, Red Oak, Black Cherry, Yellow Birch, Hemlock, and Red Pine, with an understory of Witch Hazel, Ironwood, and Hophornbeam. While nothing rare was seen, good finds included Interrupted Fern, Partridgeberry, Marsh Blue Violet, Longspur Violet, Sweet White Violet, Indian Cucumber Root, and a Black Cherry with a trunk circumference of 184 inches. (15 feet).

Of interest was a huge grove of Arrowwood Viburnums covering the top of a ridge. While 75% of them were dead or nearly dead, the remainder were rebounding from the recent Viburnum Leaf Beetle devastation by showing new growth. Dozens of new saplings were also present.

During the course of the day Bill pointed out various edible spring plants, including Pennsylvania Bittercress, Mayapple, Plantain, and Strawberry. The two visitors with us collected sparingly—with permission from the owner—from the abundant Wild Leek population present. Thankfully they harvested in a conservation-aware manner, with only small amounts taken from several locations. Additional plants seen are listed below.

Striped Maple	<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i>	Interrupted Fern	<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>
Wild Sarsaparilla	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>	Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>
Cut-leaved Toothwort	<i>Cardamine concatenata</i>	New York Fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>
Two-leaved Toothwort	<i>Cardamine diphylla</i>	Foamflower	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>
Pennsylvania Bittercress	<i>Cardamine pensylvanica</i>	Arrowwood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>
Ground Cedar	<i>Diphasiastrum digitatum</i>	Sweet White Violet	<i>Viola blanda</i>
Intermediate Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	Marsh Blue Violet	<i>Viola cucullata</i>
Indian Cucumber Root	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>	Long-spur Violet	<i>Viola rostrata</i>
Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>		

Field Trip - June 5, 2010
Lake Erie Shore
 Joanne Schlegel

Fourteen members of NSS and NFBS, led by Dick Rosche, joined forces on June 5 to explore Lake Erie beaches in Westfield and Dunkirk, Chautauqua County.

Destination # 1: a trail along the north edge of Chautauqua Creek in Barcelona leading from Route 5 to a sand beach on Lake Erie. Unfortunately, the rare pawpaw trees along this trail disappointed, as they had already finished flowering due to the unusually early and warm spring. However, a number of other uncommon plants along the trail offered alternate rewards. These included Clustered Black Snakeroot, Long-style Sweet Cicely (in fruit), Honewort, and Salad Burnet. At the edge of the beach a Hop Tree was discovered in full bloom.

Destination # 2: Ottaway Park at the north edge of Westfield. This lovely park offered a covered picnic shelter for lunch, beautiful little Doty Creek flowing into Lake Erie between high shale walls, and a bluff overlooking the lake. Uncommon finds here included Black Maple, Cut-leaf Blackberry (a non-native), a vining Honeysuckle, Plantain-leaved Pussytoes, Sharp-leaved Goldenrod, and Deerberry.

Destination # 3: a sand beach adjacent to the Dunkirk Small Boat Harbor. Here the good finds were few, but they did include Sandbar Willow and Scouring Rush.

Black Maple	<i>Acer nigrum</i>	Hop Tree	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>
Plantain-leaved Pussytoes	<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	Cut-leaf Blackberry	<i>Rubus laciniatus</i>
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Sandbar Willow	<i>Salix exigua</i>
Honewort	<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	Salad Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>
Scouring Rush	<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Clustered Black Snakeroot	<i>Sanicula odorata</i>
Fly Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera hirsuta or dioica</i>	Sharp-leaved Goldenrod	<i>Solidago arguta</i>
Long-style Sweet Cicely	<i>Osmorhiza longistylis</i>	Deerberry	<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>

FIELD TRIP - MAY 2, 2010
ROCK CITY STATE FOREST

Joanne Schlegel

Occasionally a field trip experience brings raves, superlatives, and exclamations of “one of the best trips ever.” This was definitely one of those trips.

The destination was Rock City State Forest in Cattaraugus County, and the primary goal was to find Trailing Arbutus in bloom. This goal was achieved almost immediately with the discovery of a late patch blooming near the picnic area at old Camp Seneca.

The group then continued on through the State Forest, with many roadside stops, short walks, and good finds along the way. Early stops revealed blooming Hobblebush in profusion, this beautiful shrub having been decimated by deer in many other places. Also appreciated along the way were quantities of Yellow Clintonia, Dwarf Ginseng, Golden Saxifrage, and additional Trailing Arbutus (though here not in flower).

The final stops found the group wandering along trails between boulders as big as houses and richly adorned with ferns, mosses, and lichens. These boulders, known as “Olean Conglomerate” rocks, are the youngest rocks in WNY and are also the only rocks in New York State not covered by glaciers during the most recent glacial period.

Three of the day’s best finds were discovered among these huge rocks: Mountain Holly, Painted Trillium in quantities never before seen by the author (she stopped counting at 250), and Appalachian Polypody, a recently declared “new species”. This species has now been separated from our more familiar Virginia Polypody by virtue of its more triangular shape which is widest at the base and by segments more pointed at the tips. Virginia Polypody, in contrast, has an oblong shape and segments rounded at the tips.

Many thanks to Dick Rosche for leading members of NSS and NFBS to this spectacular site. And also a thank you to Mother Nature, who ignored the weatherman’s ominous forecast and provided us with a safe and dry day.

FERNS

Ground Cedar	<i>Diphasiastrum digitatum</i>
Shining Club Moss	<i>Huperzia lucida</i>
Ground Pine	<i>Lycopodium obscurum</i>
Intermediate Woodfern	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>
Northern Beech Fern	<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>
Appalachian Polypody	<i>Polypodium appalachianum</i>
Common Polypody	<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>

FLOWERING PLANTS

Striped Maple	<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i>
Mountain Maple	<i>Acer spicatum</i>
Goutweed	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Wild Sarsaparilla	<i>Aralia nudicaulis</i>
Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
Winter Cress	<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>
Yellow Birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>
Two-leaved Toothwort	<i>Cardamine diphylla</i>
Pennsylvania Sedge	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>
Ironwood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>
Golden Saxifrage	<i>Chrysosplenium americanum</i>
Carolina Spring Beauty	<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>
Yellow Clintonia	<i>Clintonia borealis</i>
Trailing Arbutus	<i>Epigaea repens</i>
Yellow Trout Lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
Squirrel Corn	<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>
Wintergreen	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>
Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Sharp-lobed Hepatica	<i>Hepatica nobilis var. acuta</i>

Mountain Holly	<i>Ilex monanum</i>
Canada Mayflower	<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>
Indian Cucumber-root	<i>Medeola virginiana</i>
Hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Dwarf Ginseng	<i>Panax trifolius</i>
Mayapple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Solomon’s Seal	<i>Polygonatum sp.</i>
Kidney-leaf Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus abortivus</i>
Dwarf Raspberry	<i>Rubus pubescens</i>
Red Elderberry	<i>Sambucus pubens</i>
American Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>
Canada Yew	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>
Foamflower	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>
Starflower	<i>Trientalis borealis</i>
Red Trillium	<i>Trillium erectum</i>
Large White Trillium	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>
Painted Trillium	<i>Trillium undulatum</i>
Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
Sessile-leaved Bellwort	<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>
Lowbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>
False Hellebore	<i>Veratrum viride</i>
Persian Speedwell	<i>Veronica persica</i>
Maple-leaved Viburnum	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>
Hobblebush	<i>Viburnum alnifolium</i>
Sweet White Violet	<i>Viola blanda</i>
Northern White Violet	<i>Viola macloskeyi v. pallens</i>
Smooth Yellow Violet	<i>Viola pennsylvanica</i>
Barren Strawberry	<i>Waldsteinia fragarioides</i>

On This and That

Arthur Pankow

We are sorry to report the passing on May 11th of a long-time Niagara Frontier Botanical Society member, Arthur Pankow. Although he was not seen much in recent years, many members will remember him as a regular at the monthly meetings that he enjoyed so much. Art was a few days short of his 95th birthday. Art, we will miss you and your pleasant smile.



A “Rare” Pest

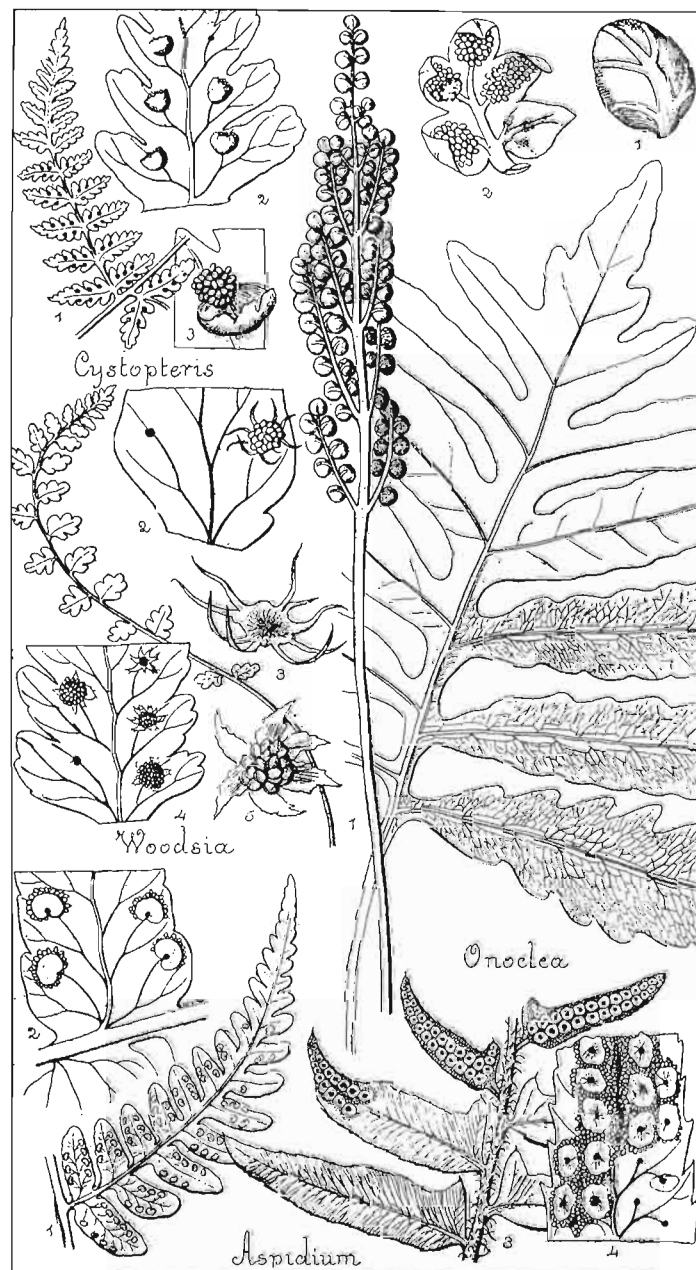
Readers may recall recent news reports about an infestation of Tonawanda Creek by ‘water chestnuts.’ The water was so severely clogged by this plant that the DEC had a harvester boat remove the plants and the material was disposed of thanks to the Buffalo River Keepers. The plant in question is *Trapa natans*, water chestnut (not the kind you would eat in a Chinese restaurant.) It is a floating plant with clusters of diamond-shaped, toothed leaves and it produces a swollen nut over an inch wide with several sharp points. The plant is a native of Eurasia and probably escaped from an aquatic garden in the 1870’s. It has spread to many areas of the Northeast. It’s a major concern in Lake Champlain. It has the unfortunate habit of forming huge mats of vegetation, and upsetting the lives of native aquatic plants and fauna. Michael Siuta visited the creek at Tonawanda Island Park in late July. The entire surface of the water was carpeted as far as the eye could see. Given the area covered, there must have been a couple hundred thousand plants! It seems that this is a new visitor to our area. It is not mentioned in *MADCapHorse* as part of the local flora. A specimen was collected for the Clinton Herbarium. You can be sure that the “harvest” will not be the end of this pest. A harvest was also done last year, but it bounced right back. The plants observed in July already had some mature nuts. They are reported to be viable for up to 12 years, so the seeding was probably done for next year’s crop.

Plant Sale a Success!

The NFBS held a native plant sale on May 22nd at the Harlem Rd. Community Center. It was a great success. We earned \$1064.50 and our customers got some great bargains on outstanding plant specimens. Many thanks to Joanne Schlegel for her efforts in organizing the event. Thanks are also due to the other volunteers, those who donated plants and everyone who purchased plants.

Vice President Steps Down

Our Vice President, Daniel Potts regrettably informed us that he needed to resign from his post because of conflicts with some of his other responsibilities.



General Meetings

General meetings are normally convened at 7:30 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September through May at the Harlem Road Community Center, Harlem road at Lincoln St. (a quarter mile south of Main St.) in Snyder, N.Y. These meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Butterflies as Botanists, by Steven Daniel Our speaker will take a look at the interrelationship between plants and butterflies.

Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Native American Perspective on plants: Medicine, Food and Culture by Mike Bastine

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Reinstein Woods by **Kristen Rosenberg** Kristen is Environmental Educator at the Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve

Tuesday, December 14, 2010 "Annual Member's Night" Members are asked to bring in your own slides, photos, specimen and stories to share with the club. All are asked to bring in a Holiday treat to share also.

Field Trips

Saturday, September 11, 2010, Trip to Point Abino at Fort Erie, Ontario. This will be a joint field trip with the Bert Miller Nature Club, a Canadian group. Members of Point Abino Homeowners' Association will also be invited to join us to look at the local flora including shoreline species. . Meet at Front Park by the Oliver H. Perry statue at 8:30 AM. Bring a lunch and passport (or alternate ID.) Call Joanne Schlegel if you are coming. 835-6042

Are you forgetful?

Thirteen members did not send in their renewal for membership, which was due with the last issue. To get back on board, send a check to Herman Emmert, Treasurer, 182 Fairvale Dr, Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

Membership Categories:

Individual	\$20.00
Family	\$25.00
Senior Individual	\$15.00
Senior Family	\$20.00
Student	\$15.00
Contributing	\$50.00
Sustaining	\$100.00

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