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Back to the Bruce

June 10-13, 2011

Joanne Schlegel

Lighthouse at Tobermory

Could it really be that many years since we had visited the Bruce Peninsula? Well, yes it could. A quick check revealed that our last trip to "The Bruce" was in 2005. All agreed it was time to return. Reservations were made, and on Friday, June 10th ten NFBS members climbed into cars and headed to Tobermory at the tip of the peninsula. Our intrepid group included Ellie Donnelly, Herman Emmert, Judy Hoffman, Kalista Lehrer, Tom & Sue O'Donnell, Jack & Joanne Schlegel, Howard Wilson, and Natalie Yaskow.

For those who may not be acquainted with the Bruce, this peninsula of about 15 miles width and 55 miles length, extends northward from Owen Sound to separate Lake Huron to the west from Georgian Bay to the east. Its scenery is spectacular, ranging from sand dunes to old-growth forests to high cliffs. It is extremely rich botanically, with 44 species of orchids, 39 species of ferns, and the oldest trees in eastern North America. Geologically it is part of an immense dolomite limestone formation called the Niagara Escarpment which extends from Rochester, N.Y. to Tobermory (creating Niagara Falls along the way), then plunges under the waters of Lake Huron to re-emerge as the Door County peninsula in Wisconsin. No wonder we were excited about going!

DAY 1. Mother Nature threw us a curve ball for sure. The high temperature for the day was an unseasonably low 52°, we were drenched at least once, and some sites were more-or-less under water from recent heavy rains. However, we donned multiple layers of clothes (as many as we had) and boots, and enjoyed some fantastic botanizing. Led by Kalista Lehrer, we made seven roadside stops during the course of the day. Each stop offered something special or unusual.

At the first stop we saw a subspecies of Common Juniper with beautiful whitened undersides to its leaves. This plant does not grow in the U.S. At the second stop we found Round-leaf Bluebell.

The third stop brought us to an alvar just south of Dyer Bay Road. Here we walked through an alvar forest of White Cedar, Jack Pine, Black Spruce, Larch, Balsam Fir, and Canada Yew. In the open areas we saw Senega Snakeroot, the rare endemic Lakeside Daisy, Bastard Toadflax, Starflower, Fringed Polygala, Balsam Groundsel, Lyre-leaf Rock Cress, and Bunchberry. What a rich site, and so many of these plants were new to us.

Then it was on to Stop #4, where Kalista led us to the rarest of the rare, namely Wall Rue Fern. This tiny fern is only 3-6 inches high and was well hidden back from the road. Thanks to Kalista, who had been privileged to learn its location from Canadian naturalist Nels Maher, we were able to see this special plant.

Wall Rue, *Asplenium ruta-muraria*

Stop #5 brought us to Crane River Park, where Herman and Joanne lavished attention on an immense rock wall laden with Fragile Ferns and Maidenhair Spleenworts. Stop #6 took us to the Saugeen Indian Reservation where we appreciated large stands of Paintbrush and Balsam Groundsel and a solitary but very large Striped Coralroot Orchid (thanks to Sue for spotting that one).

Finally we arrived at Dorcas Bay, one of the Bruce's most famous botanical sites. On the sand dunes here we saw Sand Cherry, Ninebark, and Shrubby Cinquefoil. In the adjacent fen we found Indian Paintbrush, a rare species of Blue-eyed Grass, Pitcher Plant, Sundew, Long-leaf Bluet, Tuberous Indian Plantain, and Arrowgrass. And in the unusually wet, partly under water woods, we came to the highlight of the day: 50 Ram's-head Orchids in full flower. What a spectacular end to a very full day.

Stop #3 – Alvar

Balsam Fir	*Abies balsamea*	Lyre-leaved Rock Cress	*Arabis lyrata*
Bunchberry	*Cornus canadensis*	Bastard Toadflax	*Comandra umbellata*
Larch	*Larix laricina*	Lakeside Daisy	*Hymenoxys herbacea*
Glaucous Honeysuckle	*Lonicera dioica*	Fringed Polygala	*Polygala paucifolia*
Black Spruce	*Picea mariana*	Senega Snakeroot	*Polygala senega*
Jack Pine	*Pinus banksiana*	Balsam Ragwort	*Senecio paupercula*
Canada Yew	*Taxus canadensis*	Marsh Fern	*Thelypteris palustris*
White Cedar	*Thuja occidentalis*	Starflower	*Trientalis borealis*

Stop #7 – Dorcas Bay

Indian Plantain	*Cacalia plantaginea*	Ninebark	*Physocarpus opulifolius*
Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja coccinea*	Silverweed	*Potentilla anserina*
Ram's Head Orchid	*Cypripedium arietinum*	Shrubby Cinquefoil	*Potentilla fruticosa*
Sundew	*Drosera sp.*	Sand Cherry	*Prunus pumila*
Longleaf Bluet	*Houstonia longifolia*	Pitcher Plant	*Sarracenia purpurea*
Sweet Gale	*Myrica gale*	Needle-tip Blue-eyed Grass	*Sisyrinchium mucronatum*
Grass of Parnassus	*Parnassia glauca*	Seaside Arrowgrass	*Triglochin maritimum*

Other stops

Wild Columbine	*Aquilegia canadensis*	Yellow Lady's Slipper	*Cypripedium calceolus*
Wall Rue Fern	*Asplenium ruta-muraria*	Fragile Fern	*Cystopteris fragilis*
Maidenhair Spleenwort	*Asplenium trichomanes*	Common Juniper	*Juniperus communis v. montana*
Round-leaf Bluebell	*Campanula rotundifolia*	Labrador Tea	*Ledum groenlandicum*
Striped Coralroot	*Corallorhiza striata*	Starry Solomon's Seal	*Maianthemum stellatum*

DAY 2. Could Day 2 be as good as Day 1? It was even better! At 9:00 a.m. we boarded a glass-bottomed boat for the trip to Flowerpot Island. Little did we know that the boat ride would be a major event in itself. As we left Tobermory Harbor we were enthralled to view the sunken remains of two 19th century schooners, their hulls crystal clear beneath our boat. We waved to scuba divers preparing to explore the wrecks. And then we cruised past 12 of the 22 scenic islands comprising Canada's newly created Fathom Five National Marine Park.

At 10:30 we arrived at Flowerpot, the largest island in the Marine Park. We were met at the dock by the park's resident ranger, who had agreed to lead us on our own private orchid tour. He seemed as thrilled to show us orchids as we were to see them. And did we ever see them! With his expert guidance we walked the Marl Trail, where we saw Striped Coralroots by the dozen. We also saw stunning Calypso Orchids, minute Heart-leaved Twayblades, Menzies Rattlesnake Plantain, and Round-leaved Orchis (not in bloom). Along the way our guide also pointed out White Death Camas, Fringed Polygala, Leafless Miterwort, and Twinflower.

After lunch our group split up, with some taking the trail to caves and lighthouse, and others opting for the more strenuous Mountain Trail. Ferns seen here included Northern Holly, Fragile, Ostrich, and Bulblet.

Flowerpot Island

Mountain Maple	*Acer spicatum*	Heart-leaved Twayblade	*Listera cordata*
Bearberry	*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*	Canada Fly Honeysuckle	*Lonicera canadensis*
Wall Rue Fern	*Asplenium ruta-muraria*	Ostrich Fern	*Matteuccia struthiopteris*
Maidenhair Spleenwort	*Asplenium trichomanes*	Miterwort	*Mitella diphylla*
Large-leaved Aster	*Aster macrophyllus*	Naked Miterwort	*Mitella nuda*
Rattlesnake Fern	*Botrychium virginianum*	Round-leaved Orchis	*Platanthera orbiculata*
Calypso Orchid	*Calypso bulbosa*	Fringed Polygala	*Polygala paucifolia*
Goldthread	*Coptis trifolia*	Polypody	*Polypodium virginianum*
Striped Coralroot	*Corallorhiza striata*	Northern Holly Fern	*Polystichum lonchitis*
Fragile Fern	*Cystopteris fragilis*	Canada Yew	*Taxus canadensis*
Wintergreen	*Gaultheria procumbens*	Large White Trillium	*Trillium grandiflorum*
Menzies Rattlesnake Plantain	*Goodyera oblongifolia*	White Death Camas	*Zigadenus elegans*
Twinflower	*Linnaea borealis*		

DAY 3. After a hearty breakfast we began the trek home, stopping three times along the way. Nothing could equal the spectacular beauty of Flowerpot Island, but each of our stops offered something special.

Our first stop was along Ira Lake Road, where the O'Donnells showed us Northern Green Orchids they had discovered the previous day while birding. They were growing in an ordinary roadside ditch and they were amazing, the largest being 3 feet tall! This unassuming ditch also yielded a number of other treasures, including Horned Bladderwort. Joanne was ecstatic to see Buckbean in flower for the first time ever. She was also thrilled to see Water Horsetail for the first time.

Our second stop was at Oliphant Fen. Here we saw many "repeat" plants such as Pitcher Plant, Balsam Ragwort, and Tuberous Indian Plantain. But there were new finds too: Swamp Fly Honeysuckle, Variegated Horsetail, Green-keeled Cottongrass, Northern Bog Orchid, and Pale-spiked Lobelia.

Finally we came to Walkers Woods. This is the Bruce's most significant remaining forested sand dune. We walked under a canopy of old-growth White Pine, White Cedar, and Hemlock, with some trees up to 400 years old. Many of the understory plants were the same as those in WNY. However, Joanne was delighted to spot Trailing Arbutus. Kalista was delighted to discover Pink Lady's Slipper. Herman was delighted to find a colony of Oak Fern. And everybody was delighted when Natalie found a late Yellow Clintonia in bloom. It seemed symbolic that this should be the final "find", the perfect ending to a wonderful trip.

Lake Ira Road

Marsh Marigold	*Caltha palustris*	Royal Fern	*Osmunda regalis*
Water Horsetail	*Equisetum fluviatile*	Northern Green Orchid	*Platanthera hyperborea*
Marsh Bedstraw	*Galium palustre*	Blue-eyed Grass	*Sisyrinchium montanum*
Buckbean	*Menyanthes trifoliata*	Horned Bladderwort	*Utricularia cornuta*

Oliphant Fen

Alder-leaf Buckthorn	*Rhamnus alnifolia*	Pale-spike Lobelia	*Lobelia spicata*
Slender-leaved Sundew	*Drosera linearis*	Swamp Fly Honeysuckle	*Lonicera oblongifolia*
Variegated Horsetail	*Equisetum variegatum*	Northern Green Orchid	*Platanthera hyperborea*
Green-keeled Cottongrass	*Eriophorum viridi-carinatum*	Seaside Arrowgrass	*Triglochin maritimum*

Walkers Woods

Sarsaparilla	*Aralia nudicaulis*	Buckbean	*Menyanthes trifoliata*
Bladder Sedge	*Carex intumescens*	Cinnamon Fern	*Osmunda cinnamomea*
Yellow Clintonia	*Clintonia borealis*	Royal Fern	*Osmunda regalis*
Pink Lady's Slipper	*Cypripedium acaule*	Grass of Parnassus	*Parnassia glauca*
Crested Shield Fern	*Dryopteris cristata*	Hooked Crowfoot	*Ranunculus recurvatus*
Trailing Arbutus	*Epigaea repens*	Salad Burnet	*Sanguisorba minor*
Oak Fern	*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*	Pitcher Plant	*Sarracenia purpurea*
Labrador Tea	*Ledum groenlandica*	Blue-eyed Grass	*Sisyrinchium angustifolium*
Twinflower	*Linnaea borealis*	Canada Yew	*Taxus canadensis*

Bunchberry, Cornus canadensis

World of the Wild

If You Can't Beat 'Em Eat 'Em

Allen Benton

This column was engendered by a particularly long and exhausting period of work in my garden. We love fresh vegetables, so each year we pore over the seed catalogs, select our seeds, and with hope in our hearts, bring seeds and soil together.

What we get mostly is a tremendous crop of weeds. Oh, we do fairly well with tomatoes and string beans, and usually get a good crop of zucchinis, but you ought to see what we can do with ground ivy, pigweed and purslane. Bumper crops every year!

In self-defense, I decided that if we can't grow everything we like to eat, we had better eat what we can grow. If you share my problems, maybe you'd like to know what weed you can eat and how you can prepare them. I'm not a gourmet chef, but herewith I give you a few suggestions which may make life with the weeds a bit more tolerable.

Probably many of you like to start meal with a salad. Nothing could be simpler. Harvest roughly equal amounts of smaller leaves of purslane, lamb's quarters, pigweed, dandelion and sorrel (either the sheep sorrel with halberd-shaped leaves or the Oxalis type with shamrock-like leaves. Larger leaves are tough and often bitter, so keep them small. Wash thoroughly (don't use them if they have been sprayed with herbicide) and toss with your favorite salad dressing. You can of course toss in some cucumber and tomato if you don't insist on a totally wild kind of salad.

Next course is soup. If you like broccoli-cheese soup you'll love purslane-cheese soup. Make it exactly the same way you would with broccoli, but replace with an equal amount of purslane leaves cooked al dente. Purslane has a delightful, tangy flavor, which I'm sure you will enjoy. In fact the reason we have purslane in our gardens is because it was originally brought over from Europe and grown in gardens as a pot herb. It has gone out of style as a food, but survives well as a weed.

There's no meat course in my garden, unless you might wish to sample some of the local snails, however, there are several possibilities for a beverage. One of the most noxious weeds in my garden is the one variously known as ground ivy, gill-over-the-ground, Creeping Charlie and other less-complimentary names. This nasty little plant forms long runners and will fill up any vacant space in a hurry. Personally, I am not fond of its flavor in tea (I guess I've pulled too much of it), but you can steep a tablespoonful of green leaves in a cup of water for about ten minutes and make a tangy brew. I prefer it's relative, the catnip, so if you have that around you might try it. I like a cup of catnip tea at bedtime rather than with meals, though.

You can make a tasty tea from leaves of the spearmint or peppermint, which grow profusely in moist places and are often found in roadside ditches. I also like tea made from the flower heads of red clover and the tender leaves of the red raspberry. Both of these are loaded with vitamin C, so they're good for you as well as tasting good.

A word of warning: before you eat any wild plant, be absolutely certain you know what you are eating. There are not many poisonous plants around, but there are some, so be sure of your plant before you cook it. Eating the weeds may not prove to bring about much of a reduction in your food bill, and you probably can't use them up fast enough to affect their position as a nuisance in your garden. But there is some satisfaction in new and exotic flavors, and the price is certainly right.

Exploring the Swamps of Cattaraugus County

Brown Road & Conewango Swamp Field Trip Report

On July 9th a large number of enthusiasts met for a field trip to some swampy areas in Cattaraugus County guided by group leader, Dick Rosche. We visited two sites. Most of the time was spent at the first location, which was along Brown Road, which borders Conewango Creek. Part of the road borders private land, but there is state land at the end of the road. We were able to see a lot by just walking down the road and only occasionally venturing in a bit. Much of the region is a swamp forest with luxuriant flora of wetland species.

Quite abundant along the roadside was a member of the umbel family, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, Wild Chervil. This is an alien species, not previously recognized by most of the group. We should probably be on the lookout for this plant, because it may well become a new, pesky weed in our region.

Prominent trees included White Willow, Swamp White Oak, American Elm, Quaking Aspen and Silver Maple. There was an abundance of ferns, wetland grasses and sedges. Some plants of note included Wild Yam, Button Bush, Swamp Milkweed and Ground Nut. The habitat apparently suits the plants, as many specimens appeared much larger than usually seen.

The heat and humidity was at bit much and as we sat along the roadside for an enjoyable lunch, some of the local mosquitoes zeroed in on some sweaty hikers for their own midday repast. Next it was off to a second site five minutes away on Swamp Road. One very sad observation on this road was the great number of dead trees. They are victims of the Emerald Ash Borer and perhaps an evil portent of what may be in store for our lovely native ash trees. We stopped at large pond and spotted a local osprey hovering above. The water was filled with a variety of emergent and floating aquatics including Spatterdock, Bladderwort, Water Plantain and Arrow Head. The two locations, a bit northwest of Randolph are highly recommended for a visit.

Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	*Lyssimachia ciliata*	Fringed Loosestrife
Agrimonia sp.	Agrimony	*Lyssimachia nummularia*	Moneywort
Alisma subcordatum	Water Plantain	*Matteuccia struthiopteris*	Ostrich Fern
Angelica atropurpurea	Purple Stem Angelica	*Monarda fistulosa*	Wild Bergamot
Anthriscus sylvestris	Wild Chervil	*Nuphar sp.*	Spatterdock sp.
Apios americana	Groundnut	*Onoclea sensibilis*	Sensitive Fern
Arctium lappa	Great Burdock	*Osmunda regalis*	Royal Fern
Arisaema triphyllum	Jack in the Pulpit	*Polygonum hydropiperoides*	Water Pepper
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	*Polygonum virginianum*	Virginia Knotweed
Athyrium felix-femina	Lady Fern	*Populus deltoides*	Cottonwood
Boehmeria cylindrica	False Nettle	*Populus tremuloides*	Quaking Aspen
Carex crinata	Sickle Sedge	*Quercus bicolor*	Swamp White Oak
Carex lupulina	Hop Sedge	*Quercus rubra*	Red Oak
Cephalanthus occidentalis	Button Bush	*Ricciocarpos natans*	Ricciocarpos
Cicuta bulbifera	Bulb-Bearing Water Hemlock	*Rosa palustris*	Swamp Rose
Dioscorea villosa	Wild Yam	*Rubus pubescens*	Dwarf Raspberry
Dryopteris intermedia	Common Wood Fern	*Rumex crispus*	Curled Dock
Elytrigia repens	Quack Grass	*Sagitaria latifolia*	Arrowhead
Epilobium hirsutum	Hairy Willow Herb	*Salix alba*	White Willow
Fragaria virginiana	Wild Strawberry	*Salix eriocephala*	Stiff Willow
Fraxinus americana	White Ash	*Sisyrichium montanum*	Blue Eyed Grass
Geum canadense	White Avens	*Smilax herbacea*	Carion Flower
Glyceria sp.	Manna Grass sp.	*Thalictrum thalictroides*	Tall Meadow Rue
Impatiens capensis	Jewelweed	*Thelypteris palustris*	Marsh Fern
Iris versicolor	Blue Flag	*Ulmus americana*	American Elm
Lemna minor	Lesser Duckweed	*Urtica dioica ssp. dioica*	Stinging Nettle
Lilium canadense	Canada Lily	*Utricularia macrorhiza*	Great Bladderwort
Lycopucs americanus	Cut Leaved Water Horehound	*Veratrum viride*	False Hellebore

Field Trips to Bergen and Letchworth

July 31—August 1, 2011

Joanne Schlegel

This summer members of the New York Flora Association (NYFA) invited NFBS to join them for two days of botanizing in Western New York. What follows is a brief description of two wonderful—and exhausting!—days in the field.

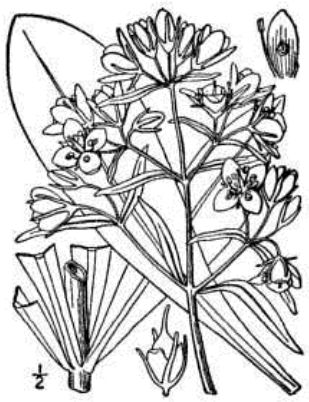
On July 31, six NFBS members (Ed Fuchs, Jim Pisarczyk, Joanne Schlegel, Jason Sorens, Dave Spiering, and Susan Willavize) joined four other avid botanists at Bergen Swamp. They were led by Steve Daniel, a Rochester area naturalist and expert botanist who has spent years exploring Bergen and knows it intimately. The group proceded at a snail's pace through a beautiful and diverse forested wetland, ate lunch in a hemlock grove, spent time in three "marl rooms" where a marl substrate supports numerous unique species, and unfortunately witnessed first-hand the damage invasive plant species can do to an ecosystem. Two invasive species seen were swallowwort and a Eurasian grass (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), both carpeting large areas.

Thankfully many unique and rare native species were also seen on this day, including three rare species of wetland goldenrods (*Solidago houghtonii, S. ohioensis*, and *S. patula*). Species of note found in the forested wetland included Kalm's Lobelia (*Lobelia kalmii),* False Asphodel in the lily family (*Tofieldia glutinosa*), Shrubby Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*), and a five-foot tall spikerush that typically arches over and roots at the tip (*Eleocharis rostellata*). The marl rooms displayed Creeping Juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*), the beautiful and very poisonous Death Camas Lily in full flower (*Zigadenus elegans*), and two rare sedges (*Cladium mariscoides* and *Scleria verticillata*).

The next day, three NFBS members (Herman Emmert, Judy Hoffman, and Joanne Schlegel) climbed back in their cars for the trip to Letchworth State Park and a second day of botanizing. Doug Bassett, Park Naturalist for over 30 years, led a group of seven on an exploration of the east side of the park, which is mostly trail-less and seldom visited. The up-and-down journey was exhausting but exhilarating as the group clamored out onto pinnacles for spectacular views, hiked part way down steep forested slopes, saw some very old trees, and visited rare plant communities.

Highlight of the day? Two foot-high flowering stalks of Pine-drops (*Pterospora andromedea*), a parasitic plant which grows on the roots of White Pine and which is critically endangered (S1 rank) in New York State. Another great find: a large colony of American Columbo (*Frasera caroliniensis).* This is the colony which provided the plants the Norm Zika transplanted to the Alexander Preserve in southern Erie County many years ago.

Among the many other species of note seen were American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*), Fern-leaf False Foxglove (*Aureolaria pedicularis*), Soapberry Bush (*Shepherdia canadensis*), Yellow Pimpernel *(Taenidia integerrima*), New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus),* and Greenstem Joe-pye-weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*).



American Columbo, *Frasera caroliniensis* Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions.*

West Seneca Oxbow Preserve Field Trip Report

Michael Siuta

On June 25th a dozen members gathered for a visit to the West Seneca Oxbow. The site covers about 30 acres, with half owned by the Town of West Seneca, and the remainder privately owned. Efforts are in place for the purchase of the remaining half. It is located south of Clinton Street near the intersection of Clinton and Old French Road. This big bend in Buffalo Creek was cut off when the creek was channelized in the 1950's as part of a flood control project. There is still some connection to the main creek at one end. The site contains a horseshoe-shaped oxbow that is alive with healthy snapping turtles and interesting aquatic plants. Much of the area is a wet, marshy meadow, interspersed with shrubby thickets. There is also a small wooded section with impressive black walnuts and ash trees shading a luxuriant growth of ostrich fern. Of special note was a large patch of very robust bloodroot plants.

While there is significant infestation by invasive species in many areas, on the whole the site still contains impressive wetland habitats and a fine representation of wetland flora. It appears fortunate that efforts for acquisition, restoration and preservation are under way.

Acer negundo	Boxelder
Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard
Allium canadense	Wild Garlic
Ambrosia trifida	Great Ragweed
Anemone canadensis	Canada anemone
Apios americana	Groundnut
Apocynum cannabinum	Indian Hemp
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Asclepias syriaca	Milkweed
Asparagus officinalis	Asparagus
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry
Brassica nigra	Black Mustard
Carex granularis	Limestone Meadow Sedge
Carex tribuloides	Blunt Broom-sedge
Carex vulpinoidea	Foxtail Sedge
Ceratophyllum demersum	Coontail
Cichorium intybus	Chicory
Cirsium arvense	Canada Thistle
Collinsonia canadensis	Horse Balm
Coronilla varia	Crown Vetch
Cuscuta sp.	Dodder
Dactylis glomerata	Orchard Grass
Desmodium sp.	Tick Trefoil sp.
Elodea canadensis	Water Weed
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail
Eleocharis sp.	Spikerush
Equisetum arvense	Common Horsetail
Erigeron annuus	Daisy Fleabane
Euthamia graminifolia	Narrow Leaf Goldenrod
Fraxinus americana	White Ash
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Galium asprellum	Rough Bedstraw
Galium boreale	Northern Bedstraw
Galium palustre	Marsh Bedstraw
Geum laciniatum	Rough Avens
Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy
Glycera striata	Nerved Manna Grass
Hesperis matronalis	Dame's Rocket
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Iris
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut
Juncus dudleyi	Dudley's Rush
Juncus effusus	Softstem Bullrush
Juncus tenuis	Path Rush
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort
Leersia oryzoides	Rice Cutgrass
Lemna minor	Lesser Duckweed
Leucanthemum vulgare	Wild daisy
Ligustrum sp.	Privet
Lonicera morrowii	Morrow Honeysuckle
Lycopus americana	Cut Leaved Water Horehound
Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife
Lysimachia nummularia	Moneywort
Matteuccia struthiopteris	Ostrich Fern
Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot
Panicum clandestinum	Deer Tongue Grass
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed canary Grass
Phleum pratense	Timothy Grass
Phragmites australis	Common Reed
Pilea pumila	Clearweed
Plantago major	Common Plantain

Plantago rugelii	Rugel's Plantain
Polygonum cuspidatum	Japanese Knotweed
Polygonum virginianum	Virginia Knotweed
Populus deltoides	Cottonwood
Potamogeton foliosus	Leafy Pondweed
Ranunculus acris	Tall Buttercup
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose
Rhus hirta	Staghorn Sumac
Riccia fluitans	Riccia
Rubus occidentalis	Black Raspberry
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock
Salix alba	White Willow
Salix interior	Sandbar Willow
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot
Sanicula canadensis	Canada Black Snakeroot
Scirpus atrovirens	Black Bulrush
Scirpus lineatus	Reddish Bulrush
Sicyos angulatus	Wild Cucumber
Stellaria aquatica	Giant Chickweed
Teucrium canadense	Wild Germander
Thelypteris noveboracensis	New York Fern
Tilia americana	Basswood
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover
Trifolium repens	Lawn Clover
Tilia americana	American Basswood
Toxicodendron radicans	Poison Ivy
Urtica dioica	Stinging Nettle
Vitis riparia	Riverbank Grape
Wolffia columbiana	Watermeal

On This and That

Weeds Will Win the Battle

Glyphosphate, better-known by the trade name Roundup, is a popular and widely-used herbicide. It acts by inhibiting synthesis of certain amino acids and is effective during rapid growth phase of plants. Much effort has gone into the development of "Roundup-ready" varieties of crops. When applied, weeds die but these resistant crop varieties thrive. It now seems that those crafty weeds have a few tricks of their own.

The current issue of the journal "Weed Science", Vol. 59, Issue 3, contains a number of papers on the subject. These studies report that several weed species now have strains that show resistance to Glyphosphate. The species in question include: *Poa annua, Sorghum halpense, Lollium perene*, and *Amaranthus palmeri*. One can only speculate on how long it will be until the resistant weed strains become abundant. In the end, will the super weeds win the fight with the super crops?

Link: http://wssajournals.org/toc/wees/59/3

More on Weeds: Book on Urban Flora

Readers may be interested in "Wild Urban Plants of the Northeast, a field guide" by Peter del Tredici, Comstock Publishing Associates, Cornell University Press, 2010. There is an interesting discussion on the harsh habitats where our weedy urban plants can thrive, and how they can manage to do so. Numerous species are described with a good description of the vegetative and reproductive features, habitat preferences, cultural significance and related species. Each species is accompanied by several nice pictures, helpful for identification as well as shots of these hearty plants growing in not-so-pretty places (e.g. in asphalt piles, crushed stone, railroad yards, parks, along fences, in stagnant pools and by old factories.) The author shows that the door is open to explore an interesting world of urban plants at a place where many people call home. A lengthy trip is not needed to visit this world. The book should be of interest to the specialist but it would also be useful for the armature plant enthusiast.

Dues Reminder

Did you forget about your dues? The renewal notice went out with the last issue but some have forgotten. If you forgot please send a check to: Hermann Emmert, Treasurer 182 Fairvale Drive, 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**
Institutional (subscription only)	**$20.00**

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the second week of each month, September--May, at the Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Main St, (one block south of Main St.) in Snyder. All General Meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

Tuesday, September 13, 2011, 7:30 p.m. "Spreading the Word About WNY Land Conservancy". Nancy Smith, Stewardship Manager, will introduce us to some new Land Conservancy preserves, including a fen near Springville and a rich forest on the Onondaga Escarpment, and will discuss some of the group's current projects.

Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 7:30 p.m. "A Look at Lichens". Jim Battaglia, NFBS Past President, will share knowledge acquired at the Humboldt Field Research Institute in Maine, where he has taken lichen courses the past several summers. Come and learn a little about the fascinating world of these minute organisms.

Tuesday, November 8, 2011, 7:30 p.m. "Natural History Explorations in Southern Africa". Professor Jon Titus and botanist Priscilla Titus will recount their sabbatical year spent in Botswana. They will introduce us to the local flora and fauna and discuss current land management practices.

Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 7:30 p.m. "Annual Members Night". All members are welcome to bring photos or specimens to show or a topic to present or discuss. All are also asked to bring in a holiday treat to share afterwards.

FIELD TRIPS

Autumn 2011

Saturday, September 17, 2011, 8:30 – 4:30. Aster/Goldenrod Workshop led by Dr. John Semple, renowned authority on the Aster Family. The workshop is sponsored by the New York Flora Assn, and will be held at Wilson-Tuscarora State Park in Niagara County. Cost to NYFA members is $55, cost to non-members is $75. To register or for information contact Connie Tedesco at TEDECL17@oneonta.edu

Saturday, October 8, 2011: Allegany State Park, Bee Hunter trail. Join us for a hike to see the autumn leaves. The hike will be about 6 miles. Bring lunch. We will meet at the park and ride on route 20A (Orchard park exit) of route 219 at 8:30am. The hike will start at 10am at the Beehunter trail head on ASP 2A (Red House area). Please call or email Ed Fuchs if you plan to come. 598-1307

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Niagara Frontier Botanical Society
Buffalo Museum of Science
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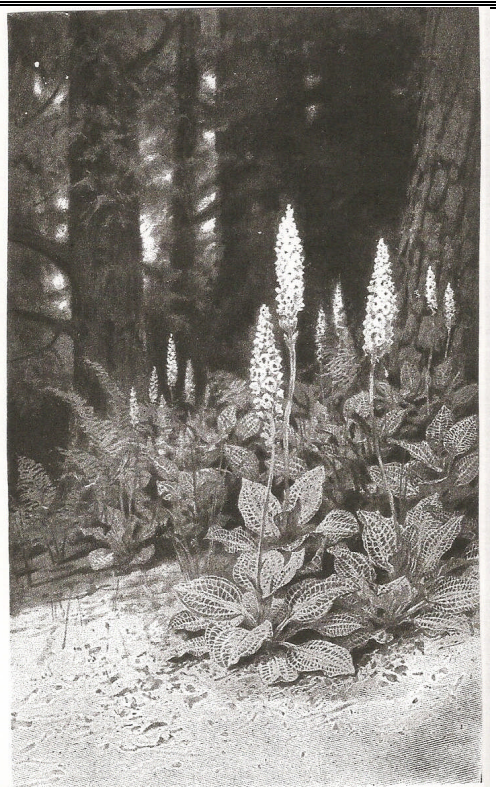

Rattlesnake Plantain Orchid, *Goodyeara tesselata*