

# Clintonia

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## NFBS Members Explore the Syracuse Area Nelson Swamp and Clark Reservation Park

Michael Siuta

This July nine NFBS members traveled to the area near Syracuse for a weekend of botanical exploration. Our plan was to visit some interesting habitats reputed to have an abundance of fern and orchids species. There were two full days in the field, July 21st and 22<sup>nd</sup>. We were privileged to have Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University at Syracuse as our guide. Dr. Leopold, Distinguished Teaching Professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental and forest Biology at SUNY Syracuse, is the author of several notable books on trees and forest ecology. Also, four of his graduate students accompanied us for all or parts of the weekend (Frances Delaney, Partick Raney, James Johnson and Tom Bumbelow) and they enthusiastically explained some of their research projects in the sites we visited.

### Nelson Swamp

We spent all of Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at various sites at the Nelson Swamp DEC Unique Area, located approximately 20 miles southwest of Syracuse in Madison County. This vast area includes, cedar swamps, fen areas, wet meadows, mixed coniferous and deciduous woods. Over 400 vascular plant species have been reported, including rarities. At our first stop, off of Lyon Road we noted an abundance of Balsam Fir, Black Ash, Mountain Maple, white Pine and White Cedar. Our guides pointed out a giant white Pine that is 462 years old. Ground-level species included some notable findings: Gold Thread, Creeping Snowberry, Spreading Globeflower and a variety of fine orchids.

In the afternoon we explored a marl fen laden with the alga, *Chara* and a variety of rushes and sedges. Also noted were *Spiranthes* orchids and *Liparis latifolia*, the Fen Twayblade. The sun was intense and the group seemed happy to escape to the adjoining forest. It was no escape from difficulty. We needed to use our acrobatic skills climbing through tangled brush, over logs and onto hummocks in a swampy woods. One of the students, Patrick Rainey had previously located a specimen of the tiny and rare fern *Botrychium simplex*, the Least Moonwort, noted its location on GPS. After much searching he found the very hummock where the plant was previously spotted, but alas, it was gone. Patrick speculated that a large leaf fell on the miniscule plant and it was no more. Fortunately, the woods held some other delights including two different species of the orchid *Platanthera*, Yellow Lady's Slipper and 3-Leaf False Solomon Seal. Some of the notable plants observed in Nelson Swamp:

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<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir	<i>Liparis lilifolia</i>	Fen Twayblade
<i>Acer spicatum</i>	Mountain Maple	<i>Maianthemum trifolium</i>	Three Leaf False
<i>Calla palustris</i>	Wild Calla		Solomon's Seal
<i>Coptis Trifolia</i>	Gold Thread	<i>Monotropa uniflora</i>	Indian Pipe
<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>	Yellow Lady Slipper	<i>Nemopanthus mucrinatus</i>	Mountain Holly
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping Snowberry	<i>Platanthera flava</i>	Grass-Green Orchid
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	Northern Oak Fern	<i>Platanthera sp.</i>	Platanthera Orchid sp.

*Streptopus roseus*  
*Trillium cernuum*  
*Trollius laxus*

Rose Mandarin  
 Nodding Trillium  
 Spreading Globeflower

*Thuja occidentalis*  
*Spiranthes sp.*

Arbor Vitae  
 Lady's Tresses Orchid



Exploring a marl fen Photo by M Siuta

**Clark Reservation Park In Search of Ferns**

On the next day, July 22<sup>nd</sup> it was off to Clark Reservation State Park, in Jamesville, not far from Syracuse. The park is renowned for the variety of fern species and particularly the largest assortment of Hart's Tongue Fern in North America. In the center of the park is an enormous depression in the earth. At the bottom is Green Lake, a rare meromictic lake i.e. a lake where the layers of water do not intermix. Chara appears to be the only life form in the water. We climbed to the bottom of the gigantic natural bowl down rock-laden walls. Near the top we first noted specimens Rock Elm, Pignut Hickory and Black Maple. On the way down we found American Yew, and Mountain Maple. All the way down the rocks were laden with ferns especially Bulblet and Walking Fern. Near the bottom to the side of the lake was a section of small rocky hills covered with a mature forest. Ferns were everywhere. There were fine specimens of *Diplazium pycnocarpon*, Narrow Leaved Spleenwort and *Dryopteris goldiana*, Goldie's Fern. The highlight of the trip was an isolated rocky hillside section covered with hundreds of specimens of Hart's Tongue Fern, *Asplenium Scolopendrium*. Unfortunately, due to the intense hot and dry summer, the plants were not in best form, many were wilted. At this point the group was also wilted from the intense heat and we climbed to the top. One unfortunate note: we also spotted large sections of the park inundated with Swallowwort. Some of the interesting plants noted:

*Acer X freemanii*  
*Acer spicatum*  
*Acer nigrum*  
*Asplenium trichomanes*  
*Asplenium rhizophyllum*  
*Asplenium Scolopendrium*  
*Betula alleghaniensis*  
*Carya glabra*

Freeman Maple  
 Mountain Maple  
 Black Maple  
 Maidenhair Spleenwort  
 Walking Fern  
 Hart's Tongue Fern  
 Yellow Birch  
 Pignut Hickory

*Celtis occidentalis*  
*Cystopteris bulbifera*  
*Deparia acrostichoides*  
*Diervilla lonicera*  
*Diplazium pycnocarpon*  
  
*Dryopteris goldiana*  
*Dryopteris marginalis*

Hackberry  
 Bulblet Fern  
 Silvery spleenwort  
 Bush Honeysuckle  
 Narrow Leaved  
 Spleenwort  
 Goldie's Fern  
 Marginal Wood Fern

*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*  
*Polypodium virginianum*  
*Quercus muhlenbergii*  
*Taxus canadensis*

Green Ash  
Polypodium Fern  
Chinkapin Oak  
American Yew

*Thuja occidentalis*  
*Ulmus thomasii*  
*Zanthoxylum americanum*

Arbor Vitae  
Rock Elm  
Prickly Ash

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View of Green Lake from above Photo by M. Siuta



Hart's Tongue Fern Photo by James Johnson



A stilt tree in Clark Reservation Park.

#### Afterward

There was still a little time after our visit to Clark Reservation, so Dr Leopold took us on a more leisurely tour at the SUNY Lafayette Experiment Station. This is a 40 acre plot owned by the museum containing 223 different species of trees. Most memorable was the rare *Betula caroliniana*, Bog Birch. Some of the magnificent specimens are almost a century old. One could easily have spent an entire day exploring this site. Finally, he invited us onto the campus to the roof of Joseph H. Illick Hall which contains the biology department. It was up to the top of the roof for us to observe the Green roof project – a number of plots containing native plants growing in conditions similar to their native habitat. Finally we stopped at the neighboring Oakwood Cemetery to observe some venerable tree specimen including a fine Scarlet Oak, *Quercus coccinea*. It was time for farewell and thanks to our guide for a wonderful experience.

#### The Fish Tail Palm (*Caryota urens*)

Don W.H. Collure MD

Kenmore Mercy hospital is august institution which has cared for the residents of Kenmore and Tonawnda as well as those living in Western New York and the Niagara frontier for many decades. Upon entering its lobby, one is impressed by a very large potted palm (approximately ten feet tall) growing in an equally large pot.

This plant is a palm which is endemic to the South East Asian region including Sri Lanka and Myanmar. It is called Kutil in Sri Lanka and is of commercial importance to the inhabitants. In its native habitat, it grows to a height of 70 to 80 feet and when mature, produces an inflorescence about three or four feet in diameter.

The natives tap the flower bud before it blooms and collect the sap which exudes from the cut surface in clay pots. This sap is rich in sugars, and when boiled down produces treacle, which is much sought after. The common practice is to boil down the treacle even further down and allow it to solidify in coconut shells. The local inhabitants are quite adept at climbing the mature trunk of this palm tree and do this duty twice a day to collect the sap. The bark is quite smooth and has rings left from fallen leaves. There is a ritual associated with cutting the flower bud. It is tied with string to prevent it from opening up and each time shave off a layer, they apply a decoction to promote the flow of sap. The content of this decoction is a closely guarded family secret. It is interesting to note that if one does not collect the sap twice a day, it will ferment into toddy from the yeast in the air, and some would allow it to do just that! The authorities at Kenmore Mercy Hospital should have no fear that their plant will flower any time in the foreseeable future. It takes several decades before it matures sufficiently to flower.

***Centaurea x moncktonii* C. E. Britton,  
Meadow or Protean Knapweed in the Niagara Frontier Region**

by P. M. Eckel

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***Centaurea x moncktonii* C. E. Britton.**

Synonymy: *Centaurea debeauxii* Godron & Grenier subsp. *thuillieri* Dostal; *C. jacea* L. var. *pratensis* W.D.J.Koch; *C. jacea* subsp. *x pratensis* (W.D.J.Koch) Celakovsky; *C. nigra* L. var. *radiata* de Candolle; *C. thuillieri* (Dostal) J. Duvigneaud & Lambion

If you use an old edition of the flora of the Eastern United States, such as Gleason's 1952 Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern US, as I do (for the illustrations), you might miss out on the identity of what may be a common weed. The key in my copy of Gleason, as it has for years, would often get me to *Centaurea jacea*, *C. dubia* or *C. nigra* and the nice pictures would be sort of helpful and I would end up picking one of these three species to arrive at a name.

The trouble is, Zenkert (1934) curiously indicated that those three species that were established at that time were all rare, although *Centaurea jacea* was "Rather rare but spreading." *Centaurea nigra* was considered to be a variety of that species and one collection was noted at the Buffalo airport. *Centaurea dubia* is now called *C. nigrescens* Willd. and Zenkert had not collected it in the Niagara Frontier.

Clearly, since 1934 the flora is quite different and *Centaurea* populations, the Knapweeds, have exploded - but what species? Our familiar garden Bachelor's Buttons belong to this genus (*C. cyanus* L.).

During the autumn, Knapweeds are conspicuous along the dry crest of the gorge of the Niagara River. I have regularly been calling the most common one *Centaurea jacea*, but the specimens never seemed to match all the details of the descriptions of that species - and there were characters that matched *C. dubia* (*nigrescens*) and *C. nigra*, except that the "conspicuous" black areas on the involucre bracts were not evident. The ones in my species were always brown (hence *C. jacea*). It couldn't be *Centaurea nigra*, because that species lacks conspicuous marginal ray flowers, which were always present in the specimens.

After some consultation with the literature and identified specimens, I have decided that my specimens were a hybrid between *Centaurea jacea* and *C. nigra*! This hybrid is called the Meadow Knapweed and its scientific name is *C. x moncktonii* C. E. Britton. It is said to prefer moist stations but at Niagara it seems to flourish along the dry, dolomite gorge crest (which is not without its seeps, however).

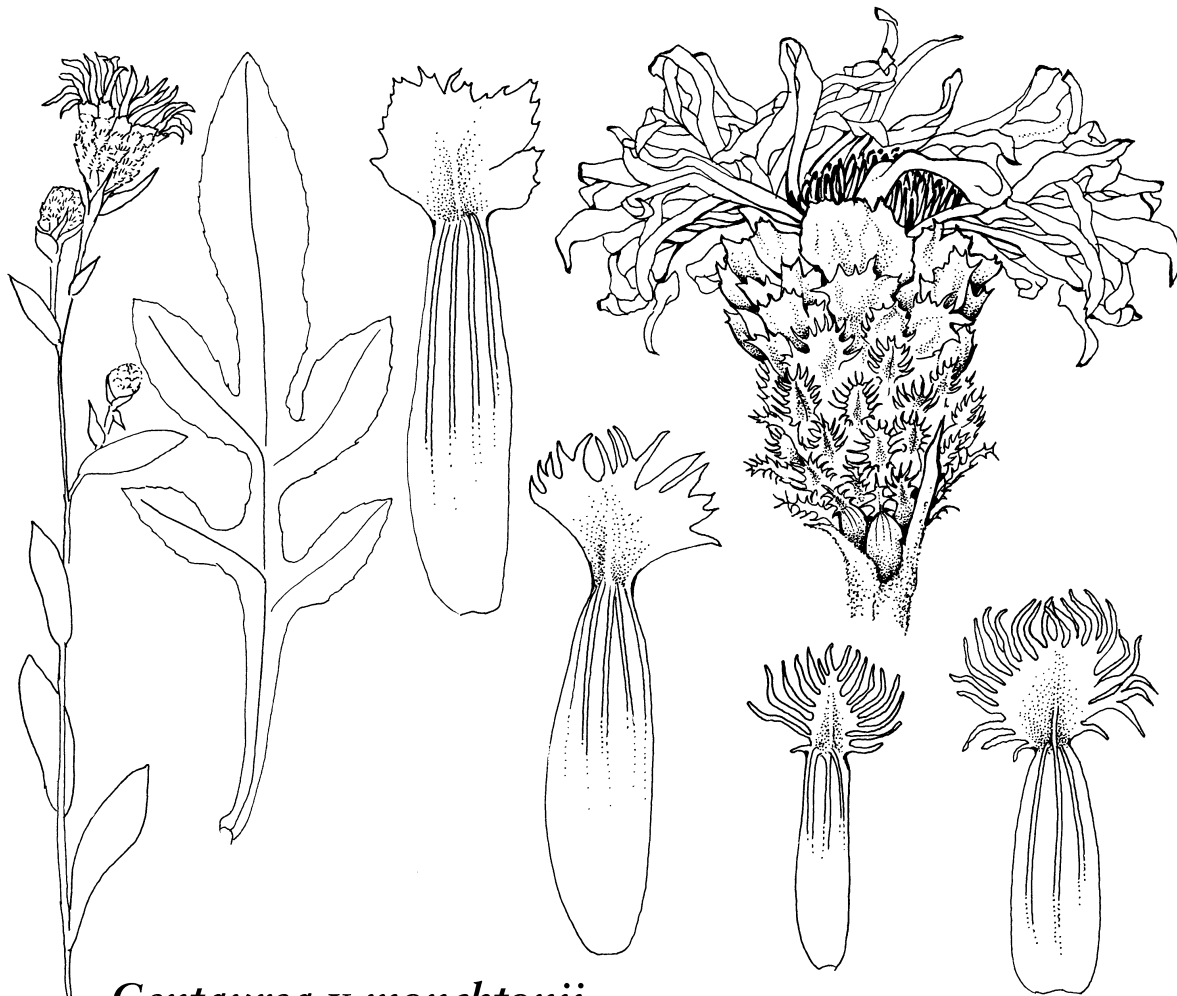
This hybrid is considered to be native to Europe, which is logical as its two putative parents are native to Europe. As a matter of fact, all species in our flora are native to Europe or Asia except *Centaurea americana* which comes up into the southern United States from Mexico.

To identify this hybrid using the old keys, one needs to understand the bracts surrounding the involucre just below the flowers (corolla) perched on top of the receptacle of the Composite flower-head. The involucre is the complex structure just under the flowers and made up of bracts of various sorts. When bracts occur in the Compositae (Asteraceae), they can be specifically called phyllaries. In the genus *Centaurea*, these bracts are arranged in several rows, or series, below the conspicuous corolla. The shape of the bracts in each series (outer, middle and innermost series or rows) are somewhat different.

In every species in the genus *Centaurea* these individual bracts are differentiated into a lower part with even margins, and a distinct upper part which is like a crown, ornamented with a papery (scarious) texture and even edges, or most often with a fringe of torn (lacerate) or comb-like (pectinate) processes or appendages radiating out from a central area which is often of a different, darker color - black or brown or tan.

In the most recent treatment of the genus *Centaurea* for North America by Keil and Ochsmann (2006), the phyllary appendages of *Centaurea jacea* L. are described as “scarious, light to dark brown, more or less undivided to irregularly lacerate.

Those of *Centaurea nigra*, *C. nigrescens* (= *C. dubia*) and *C. x moncktonii* are “brown to black, more or less wholly pectinately fimbriate.” In this group, only *C. x moncktonii* have the fimbriate appendages light to dark brown, as in *C. jacea*. The appendages of the other two are black.



*Centaurea x moncktonii*  
(*Centaurea jacea* x *C. nigra*)

Illustration by P.M. Eckel

In the illustration drawn to accompany the present article, a flowering head of *Centaurea x moncktonii* is drawn from a specimen from Niagara Falls. The phyllaries, or involucre bracts, are drawn below the flowers that radiate out around the periphery of the flower-head. Here may be seen two types of variation in the phyllaries, strongly pectinate-fimbriate in the lower or first series, with intermediates in the middle series and the series just below the corollae are merely lacerate, as in *C. jacea*. Note also that although the upper leaves are entire, at least the leaves at the base may be strongly lobed.

This hybrid is a member of a complex of “mutually interfertile intermediates derived by hybridization and backcrossing among the various cytotypes of the *Centaurea jacea* complex. The plants variously combine features of *C. jacea* and *C. nigra*, and perhaps *C. nigrescens* as well.” (Keil and Ochsmann 2006).

The hybrid occurs in various counties in New York State but has not been reported for the eight western counties (NYFA). Oldham (2010) reported it for the Regional Municipality of Niagara, Ontario, as a “rare weed. B. Miller #405 (HAM) from Ridgemount in 1948,” otherwise the plant appears to be new to the Niagara Frontier Flora.

It would be interesting to see whether the species occurs all along the crest of the Niagara River gorge on the Ontario side of the river. The plants are known as “noxious weeds in British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington” (Keil & Ochsmann 2006) and the active government websites from those states have extensive information on line. So far, only *Centaurea stoebe* ssp. *micranthos*, the Spotted Knapweed (= *C. maculosa* Lam. of Zenkert, 1934), is considered invasive in New York State according to the Department of Environmental Conservations website for 2012

#### **Specimens observed:**

USA. New York. Erie Co. City of Niagara Falls, Whirlpool State Park near the rim of the gorge of the Niagara River. Northern area just east of the top of DeVeaux steps. Infrequent and isolated. Strongly appearing as though a garden Bachelor-Button (*C. cyanus*). Possibly hort. to appear as though *Liatris cylindracea*. Amid dense wall of *Lonicera tartarica*, *Rhamnus cathartica*. Coll. P. M. Eckel, Sept. 3, 2009.

USA. New York. Niagara Co., City of Niagara Falls, DeVeaux Woods State Park near gorge of Niagara River; northern verge of Robert Moses Parkway. No-mow and horticultural plantings. Growing in shade of artificial woods on either side of the asphalt path leading from the western Park boundary to the Parkway, in grown up young forest of *Gleditsia triacanthos*, *Robinia pseudoacacia* and *Rhus hirta*. with planted *Silphium perfoliatum*, *Panicum virgatum*. Coll. P. M. Eckel, Aug. 24, 2010.

Note that the repository for these specimens is provisionally at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis, MO but in the private collections of the author. Ordinarily specimens would be deposited at BUF, but the collections policy at that institution and ability to conduct research at the herbarium is in transition.

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## Fire Ecology and Conservation Practices in Western New York

Jason Sorens

I am very pleased that we will be having Captain Daniel Richter of the New York State Forest Rangers to speak to us at our November membership meeting. He has experience with the use of fire as a conservation tactic at sites such as the Quinn/Rush Oak Opening. While fire is frequently used as a management tool in the prairie states, it is almost unknown in western New York.

Nevertheless, the evidence shows that fire was a common occurrence in much of our region historically. Nowacki and Abrams (2008) collected geospatial data on historical and present-day fire regimes in the United States and produced maps of the region showing how the fire regime has changed. Most of the Niagara Frontier fits within the historical regime defined by frequent, severe (greater than 75% top kill) fires. While some of these fires were set by lightning, most were set by American Indians, who had settled the area thickly.

Contrary to popular misconception, the Americas were not a “virgin, untouched” land prior to American settlement; Native Americans constantly manipulated their environment for agriculture, forage, settlement, and transportation (Denevan 1992). The first American colonists in New England reported seeing miles of maize fields (Calloway 2006). American Indians frequently burned vast areas of grassland in spring to encourage native grass growth and attract grazing bison. They burned small areas of woodland near settlements to clear out understory and create fields for planting (Russell 1983). Clark and Royall (1996) find evidence that fires in hardwood forests were rare in most places, but common in xeric savanna and grassland sites.

Human settlement came quickly to the Niagara Frontier after the receding of the glaciers, and with it an “unnatural” fire regime. It is likely, therefore, that many plants in this area are well adapted to seasonal fires. According to Nowacki and Abrams (2008, 123):

Fire regimes changed in various ways with European settlement, often profoundly. In many instances, fire frequency and severity increased as forests were cut and burned, either intentionally (for agricultural land clearing) or unintentionally (e.g., sparked by wood- and coal-burning steam engines). This transition was most stark for mesic hardwood systems that seldom burned in presettlement times (e.g., northern hardwoods, mixed mesophytic forests). Most noteworthy were the postcutting conflagrations of the upper Great Lakes, which led to unprecedented changes in vegetation composition and structure. For instance, a sizeable proportion of northern hardwoods converted to aspen-birch (*Populus-Betula*) or oak through repeated cutting and burning. Fire frequency remained the same or even increased where settlers adopted Native burning practices, such as in the central hardwood region. Here, frequent understory burning helped maintain the dominance of oak and of fire-adapted associates, especially grasses for pasturage.

The historical frequency and severity of fire in our region may in part account for some unusual features of our historical and present-day flora and fauna. Western New York is the easternmost extent of many prairie species. *Liatris cylindracea* and *Symphyotrichum oolentangiense* are examples of prairie species that are found only in the Niagara Gorge within this state (Eckel 2001). Harris Hill and the Quinn Oak Opening represent rare examples of naturally full-sun, prairie-like ecosystems in the northeast, although geology is responsible for their



survival to the present day. Quite a few midwestern species have naturalized here and even become weedy (e.g., *Penstemon digitalis*, *Rudbeckia* spp., *Silphium perfoliatum*). And the American bison once roamed as far east as present-day Utica (Reynolds et al. 2003).

But if Nowacki and Abrams are right, the suppression of fire over the past several decades has had significant and possibly irreversible consequences for our region. They find that the displacement of fire-tolerant, heliophytic plants by fire-sensitive, shade-sensitive plants (e.g., oaks by maples) generates a positive feedback cycle, which they call “mesophication”: cooler, damper soils, even less natural frequency of fire, and even better conditions for shade-tolerant species. As they put it: “Stand-level species richness is declining, and will decline further, as numerous fire-adapted plants are replaced by a limited set of shade-tolerant, fire-sensitive species. As this process continues, the effort and cost required to restore fire-adapted ecosystems escalate rapidly” (123).

These findings suggest that it may be impossible to restore anything like the historical fire regime in this region and expect the vegetation to revert to its historical character. Nevertheless, on early-successional sites and wherever heliophytic plant communities have been preserved, fire may be a very useful management tool for discouraging aliens and promoting vulnerable native species.

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World of the Wild

Dr. Allen Benton

The Sycamore

In the forests of the northeast, the hearty sycamore is not one of the more common trees. With its piebald bark, spotted with grayish-white, brown and yellow, its trunk presents an unusual appearance. Its huge leaves, shaped roughly like those of a maple, but much larger, make the sycamore a desirable shade tree and you will find it along many city streets. The wood of the sycamore is unusual in texture, being very close-grained and virtually unsplittable. One result of it is that it is not used for firewood. A second result is that the wood is used a good deal for butcher's blocks, because the butcher can whack it with his meat cleaver for years without causing any significant damage.

In addition to this use, wood of the sycamore has been used to some extent for making furniture, but it does not have the natural beauty of such woods as maple, walnut or cherry. More often sycamore wood was used for making boxes and barrels where its unsplittable characteristic was important, but beauty of finish was not a factor.

Sycamores grow best in wet situations. There are very large swamps in the southeast where sycamores are the dominant trees. There, festooned with Spanish moss, their speckled trunks seem somehow right for the situation. The long bleat of the narrow-mouthed toad echoes among its trunks, yellow-throated warblers flit among its branches and water moccasins crawl about its roots on the damp ground. In these areas, sycamore becomes the largest tree east of the Mississippi – not necessarily the tallest, but the bulkiest. They may live for five hundred years and reach a diameter of ten feet or more.

The American Indians made use of the remarkable girth in the manufacture of huge war canoes, really only large dugouts, up to sixty feet long. Since a dugout of this size would weigh four tons, it must have been quite a job for them to get it into the water, and once there it had to stay there. Possibly, they only used the sycamore, which grew beside watercourses; so that it could be felled into a stream and moving it would not be necessary.

The Sycamore is an unusual tree in at least one other way. Its flowers are produced in the form of a ball and when the seeds mature, they form a perfect sphere about an inch in diameter, hanging from a long stem near the top of the tree. In parts of its range, the tree is generally known as "buttonball," because of these particular seed balls. Because of its immense bulk and long life, the sycamore frequently becomes hollowed it becomes an important resource for all kinds of wild creatures – raccoons, all species of tree squirrels, wood ducks and anything else that needs to crawl into a hole. Not many species will eat into a sycamore, although deer may browse on the lower branches if they can get them.

Sycamores occur in the old world and this tree is one of the few trees mentioned in the Bible. Zacchaeus, we are told, climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus pass by, since he was short of stature. They are also important ornamental trees in many cities. A close relative, the plane tree, is one of the most popular urban shade trees and there are many thousands of them along city streets in Paris, London and other European cities. They are extremely hardy and survive under conditions, which would kill most trees.

Since there is a not huge demand for butcher blocks and almost no demand for war canoes nowadays, the sycamore is not one of the more valuable timber trees of our eastern forests. It remains, however, an interesting part of the forest and a useful part of the lives of many forest creatures, even if it is of less importance to humans than it once was.



Field Trip to Heartland Forest Preserve - April 28, 2012

Joanne Schlegel

The first field trip of 2012 saw NFBS members Jim Pisaczyk and Joanne Schlegel plus guest Pat Rogers heading off with passports in hand to visit the Heartland Forest Preserve in Niagara Falls, Ontario. This 296 acre preserve, which opened in 2004, was largely the result of one man's vision and effort. Local businessman Dan Bouwman fought for years to save this former estate from industrial developers, finally purchasing it himself in 1999. He then dedicated himself to making the preserve open to "all people" and "giving something back to the community, especially the children."

All trails on the property are barrier-free. Children's oriented outdoor learning centers include a turtle pond with blind, fish and frog ponds with boardwalks, ladders for tree climbing, and an enormous tree house. Two years ago, in consultation with the Special Olympics and the March of Dimes, the first barrier free miniature golf course in Canada was built at the entrance to the property. Admission is free, and Dan himself is on the premises every day to greet newcomers and share his passion for nature.

On the day of our visit we walked quickly through the parking lot and children's activities area and headed for the main loop trail. Almost immediately we entered an absolutely pristine wet woods filled with wetlands and vernal pools. Newly-opening leaves displayed 40 shades of green. Interestingly, we saw no skunk cabbage and no marsh marigold. Instead, the dominant understory plant in bloom was Narrow-leaved Spring Beauty, which is not the same species we see on our side of the border. Here their flowers formed carpets across the forest floor.

Jim proved to be an especially good "plant finder", locating the first Red Trillium of the day, the first Large White Trillium, and best of all the first Sessile-leaved Bellwort. These very uncommon plants were inconspicuous with their small, nodding pale yellow flowers hidden in their own foliage. Once Jim found the first one the rest of us were able to locate numerous others. Other good finds included Wood Anemone, rather uncommon in WNY but abundant at Heartland, Running Strawberry Bush, and a few plants of Purple or Limestone Bittercress (*Cardamine douglassii*). This plant is listed as rare on the Niagara Peninsula.

A partial plant list follows.

<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>	Wood Anemone	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	Mayapple
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Ranunculus abortivus</i>	Kidney-ld Buttercup
<i>Cardamine douglasii</i>	Purple Bittercress	<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>	Prickly Gooseberry
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	Narrow-leaved Spring Beauty	<i>Salix discolor</i>	Pussy Willow
<i>Epifagus virginiana</i>	Beech Drops	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Foamflower
<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	Yellow Trout Lily	<i>Trillium erectum</i>	Red Trillium
<i>Euonymus obovatus</i>	Running Strawberry Bush	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	Large White Trillium
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Wild Cranesbill	<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>	Sessile-leaved Bellwort
<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	Spicebush	<i>Viola cucullaria</i>	Marsh Blue Violet
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Canada Mayflower	<i>Viola pubescens</i>	Downy Yellow Violet
		<i>Viola sororia</i>	Woolly Blue Violet

## On This and That

### Montezuma's Revenge

On the way back from the NFBS weekend trip to Syracuse, Ed Fuchs, Joanne Schlegel and Michael Siuta decided to visit the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, located north of Lake Cayuga and bisected by Route 90. After a brief visit to the nice visitor's center we explored the nearby hiking trail bordering the marsh. The effect of a hot, dry summer was evident – water level was low. In the marsh we spotted some magnificent specimens of the Swamp Rose Mallow, *Hibiscus palustris* in peak of blossom. Most troubling however was a horrid infestation of Swallowwort. It was almost everywhere in the dry land sections and crowding out native vegetation. We had originally planned to visit some of the other trails, but were too disgusted to continue. Montezuma may be a fine spot for ornithologists, but for botanists it is for the birds.

### Successful Plant Sale

On May 19<sup>th</sup> the NFBS held its biannual native plant and wildflower sale at the Harlem Rd. Community Center. There was a nice variety of specimens at a reasonable price. Proceeds from the sale were \$857, and after expenses the profit was \$737. Many thanks to Hermann Emmert, the organizer and all the volunteers for making the event a success.

### Reminder for Forgetful Members – Dues

We sent our membership renewal form in the last issue of Clintonia. As always, a few haven't responded yet. Please send in your check so you will not be dropped. Membership Categories:

Individual Membership	\$20
Family	\$25
Senior Individual	\$15
Senior Family	\$20
Student	\$15
Contributing	\$50
Sustaining	\$100
Institutional	\$20

Send payment to Hermann Emmert, NFBS Treasurer,  
182 Fairvale Rd, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-2263

### Welcome to the Club

We are happy to report that several people and organizations joined the NFBS recently, or returned after some time away. We extend our welcome to:

- Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques  
Bibliothèque, Geneva
- Mary Hughes
- Laura Lehtoner & Stephen Young
- New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx, NY
- Leane Schultz
- Arthur Smith
- Timothy Tatakis



**REALIZATION**  
Gathering the fruits of the well-tended garden.  
Care is needed here, too.

**GENERAL MEETINGS**

General meetings are held on the second week of each month, September—May, at the Harlem Road Community Center, 4225 Harlem Road, one block south of Main Street in Snyder (except April meeting). All General Meetings are open to the public and free of charge.

**Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Dr. Ken Kurbs, member of the recently-formed Western New York Carniverous Plant Club.** Dr. Kurbs will present a talk titled “Little Shop of Horrors”- Fact or Fiction? Everything you wanted to know about carnivorous plants but were afraid to ask!!!” He has promised to also bring along a number of his carnivorous plants.



**Tuesday, October 9, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Mark Whitmore, Extension Associate, Dept. of Natural Resources at Cornell University.** Mr. Whitmore will discuss the impact of non-native invasive insects on forest health, and will recommend strategies to minimize this impact.

**Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Capt. Daniel Richter, New York State Regional Forest Ranger.** Capt. Richter will present a talk titled “The Use of Fire in WNY as a Conservation and Restoration Tool.” Capt. Richter has participated in controlled burns at Rush-Oak Openings preserve near Rochester.

**Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 7:30 p.m. “Annual Members Night.”** Come one and all! Members are invited to bring a topic for discussion, botanical specimens or photos to share, or information on a subject that will expand our knowledge.

**FIELD TRIPS – AUTUMN 2012**

***Please remember to let the trip leader know you are coming!! Mishaps have occasionally happened when plans were changed at the last minute. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.***

**Saturday, September 22, 2012, 10:00 a.m. 75-acre private property, Grand Island, adjacent to BOS preserve.** Jerry Lazarczyk is caretaker of this property and would like help compiling a plant list. The fields should provide a good display of goldenrods and asters. However the adjoining areas are wet so prepare accordingly. Bring lunch or not, depending on how long you want to stay. Directions: I-190 north to the first Grand Island exit (Grand Island Blvd.). Meet at the Burger King which will be directly ahead of you as you drive the exit ramp. Leaders: Jerry Lazarczyk & Joanne Schlegel. Call Joanne if you are coming, 835-6042.

**Saturday, October 13, 2012, 9:00 a.m. Fall Foliage Trip to Luensman Overview Park (also called Thayer Overview Park),** Town of Portland, near I-90 in Chautauqua County. Enjoy a fabulous 70-acre view of forests and Lake Erie from the top of a glacial ridge, and hike a trail or two. Bring lunch; the park has pavilions and picnic tables. Meet at the Home Depot, just east of Exit 56 (Mile Strip Road) on the I-90. Leader: Michael Siuta, 822-2544.

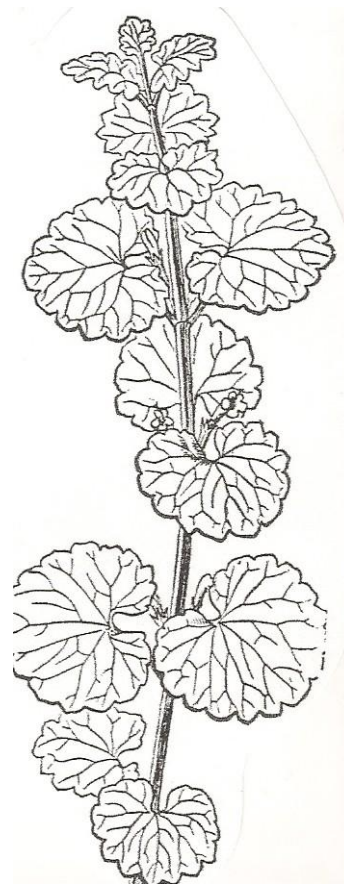
Niagara Frontier Botanical Society  
Buffalo Museum of Science  
Humboldt Parkway  
Buffalo, N.Y. 14211

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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## Niagara Frontier Botanical Society

**Jason Sorens, President**, 1148 Engelwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14223, 361-1259  
**Edward Fuchs, Past President**, 267 Cazenovia St, Apt 18, East Aurora, NY 14052, 598-1307  
**Joanne Schlegel, Vice President**, 32 South St, Buffalo, NY 14226, 835-6042  
**Hermann Emmert, Treasurer**, 182 Fairvale Dr. Cheektowaga, NY 14225, 634-4741  
**Judith Hoffman, Secretary**, 6514 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086, 684-2049  
**Eleanor Donnelly, Director**, 10500 Bergtold Rd, Apt 201, Clarence, NY 14031, 864-3004, Term expires 2014  
**David Spiering, Director**, c/o Tiff Nature Preserve, 1200 Fuhrmann Blvd, Buffalo, NY 14203 825-6397 Term Expires 2013  
Term expires 2013  
**Carol Sweeney, Director**, 114 Greenhaven Terr. Tonawanda, NY 14150, 694-1886  
Term expires 2014  
**Elizabeth Wells, Director**, 92 W. Winspear, Buffalo, NY 14214-1116, 837-0486,  
Term expires 2013  
**Michael Siuta, Clintonia Editor**, 55 Norma Dr, West Seneca, NY 14218, 822-2544



Ground Ivy, *Glechoma hederacea*

