For the second year in a row TCWP and TNPS participated in the Frozen Head State Park Wildflower Pilgrimage. Probably due to rainy weather about twenty five people turned out, half of last year’s turnout. Like last year we were able to divide the group up using the several fine nature interpreters that volunteered to lead.

Numerous species of wildflower were in bloom including southern red trilliums, large-flowered white trilliums, yellow trilliums, crested iris, spotted mandarin and about six species of violets.

For the suspicious looking weather we had a good turnout of ten people. We were able to get one last look at the spring wildflowers though most had finished blooming. The star of the show was Vasey’s trillium. We had the rare sighting of a white flowered Vasey’s. They are normally maroon and all but one we saw were maroon. We enjoyed seeing the fruit of twinleaf and celan-dine poppy. The shrub maple-leaf viburnum was in flower. A few rue anemones and purple phacelias continued to bloom.

Some information on Oak Ridge geography and geology was shared. We wonder if the chert rocks which are similar to flint could also produce sparks for fire starting.
This newsletter is a publication of the Tennessee Native Plant Society and is published four times a year, generally in February, June, August, and November.

The Tennessee Native Plant Society (TNPS) was founded in 1978. Its purposes are to assist in the exchange of information and encourage fellowship among Tennessee’s botanists, both amateur and professional; to promote public education about Tennessee flora and wild plants in general; to provide, through publication of a newsletter or journal, a formal means of documenting information on Tennessee flora and of informing the public about wild plants; and to promote the protection and enhancement of Tennessee’s wild plant communities.

Dues for each calendar year are:
Regular: $20
Student: Complimentary
Institution: $50
Life: $250

Dues may be sent to:
Tennessee Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 159274
Nashville, TN 37215

Officers
Susan Sweetser, President
Allan Trently, Vice-President
Bettina Ault, Secretary
Karen Hill, Treasurer

Directors
Louise Gregory
Dennis Horn
Bart Jones
Larry Pounds
Michelle Haynes
Suzy Askew

A Letter from the President

Hello Everyone,

Well........ It’s almost time for the Annual Meeting in July. Send in your reservation info and come enjoy this great weekend. It will be a different exploration of plants by water on the pontoon boats. A rare opportunity to see unusual water plants without getting wet.

I hope you all have enjoyed at least one field trip this year. We have had some good ones all across the state. There is still time to join along on a remaining one. We have trips scheduled all the way through October.

I also want to let you know to keep Tom Patrick in your thoughts and prayers. Tom is currently battling prostate cancer. Tom was an early member of TNPS and a former President. He was one of my early plant mentors and shared his knowledge with me through many years. I’m still trying to learn and remember what he has taught me. When you were in the woods with Tom, everything was a joy to see and an important subject to learn. I don’t think he ever met a plant that he didn’t like!!

See you on the trails,

David Hilgeman, Editor

Please send comments and material for the TNPS newsletter to djhilgem@gmail.com

Follow us on Social Media!

Twitter - We are the Tennessee Native Plant Society@plant_native.

Instagram – TNPS@plant_native

Please send content and photos to Jennifer Trently at jmtrently@gmail.com!

Use hash tag #tn native plant for both Twitter and Instagram.

Tweets can be photos but are composed of 140 words soon to be 280 words max.

Tweets can contain links.
Items for Instagram must be in the form of a photo or graphic and cannot contain links only information.

Cedar Glade Cress (Leavenworthia stylosa) by Bart Jones
Bridge Tribute

On Sunday April 7 the bridge over Bobo Creek at Short Springs Natural Area in Coffee county was officially named the Collier Horn bridge. The City of Tullahoma and the Friends of Short Springs were behind this effort. This was to honor Marjorie Collier and Dennis Horn. The Tennessee Valley Authority donated the bridge when it became necessary to replace the old one about a year ago. Naming structures in State Parks and Natural Areas is a rare event and is usually a result of a major financial donation. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation agreed that these 2 individuals were well-deserving of the honor. Dennis has been with Tennessee Native Plant Society from the beginning and has worked hard to build that organization and has also worked hard for almost 40 years to protect Short Springs State Natural Area. Congratulations Dennis! - Todd Crabtree

As always, out of the over 1500 bills filed for possible action in the Tennessee General Assembly in 2019, a few hundred passed. A few dozen are of particular interest to advocates for our environment and for the natural order. Please watch for more information and for our Scorecard which will have many more details later in the year.

Public Chapter 125 regarding ginseng is of special importance to TNPS. This effort seems to be positively motivated by a desire to increase the potency of cultivated ginseng via cloning, hence reducing the temptation to illegally harvest “wild ginseng.” The following links provide more general information about ginseng:

- [https://ag.tennessee.edu/plantsciences/Pages/Ginseng.aspx](https://ag.tennessee.edu/plantsciences/Pages/Ginseng.aspx)
- [https://www.wilsonpost.com/community/rooting-for-ginseng/article_6fe9e506-05a2-11e9-a295-ef29c35c5c02.html](https://www.wilsonpost.com/community/rooting-for-ginseng/article_6fe9e506-05a2-11e9-a295-ef29c35c5c02.html)

Other public chapters include:

Public Chapter 172 creates a task force to study and report on the feasibility and benefits of creating the Tennessee Outdoor Education and Recreation Grant Program. See this summary for more information:


Public Chapter 158 bans local government efforts to regulate or tax certain solid wastes, specifically “auxiliary containers”. Also described by some as the “pro plastic in landfills” bill. See this summary for a fuller explanation:


A bill passed which does not yet have a public chapter number that establishes a commercial paddlecraft advisory committee, among other things. See this summary for a fuller explanation.


No further coal legislation passed in 2019.
May 11 had a very wet forecast but as I usually do I go if there is no significant safety threat. I carpooled with one person from Oak Ridge and met zero people in Spring City. Two for an outing may be some sort of record. With one vehicle the shuttle was off. Amazingly the weather turned out pretty well. We had about five minutes of rain during the whole day.

The scenery in the Stinging Falls area was glorious with an equally beautiful trail passing through it. We caught the white bead-lilies (*Clintonia umbellulata*) at their flowering peak. On an even newer section of the Cumberland Trail heading on toward Hinch Mountain we viewed fairy-wand (*Chamaelirium luteum*) with male and female wands also at peak.
2019 Annual Meeting Schedule

Friday (July 12)
Meet/Greet and Registration at the auditorium 3:00-5:00
Dinner on your own 5:00-7:00
General meeting 7:00-7:30
Talk by Rita Venable, “Butterflies and Other Pollinators” 7:30-8:30
Meeting wrap-up 8:30-9:00

Saturday (July 13)
Breakfast on your own
Field trip (two groups) 9:30-4:00 (meet at Visitor’s Center Parking lot) Bring your own lunch! There will NOT be a box lunch provided.
Dinner on your own 4:00-7:00
Talk by Dr. Tom Blanchard, “A History of Reelfoot Lake and the Work of the UTM Reelfoot Lake Environmental Field Station” 7:30-8:30
Meeting wrap-up 8:30-9:00

Sunday (July 14)
Breakfast on your own
Pontoon boat lake tour 10:00- TBD. (Limit 30, first come first serve at the dock behind the Visitors Center, $10)
The weather was great. Besides our two groups (TNPS and Wild Ones of Middle TN) of 25-30 participants, two additional groups were on the trail that day (Tennessee Trails and a local University group). We started at the Domain gates near St Andrews School and hiked to Green's View. This allowed the wildflowers to be introduced gradually and then grow in number and variety as we proceeded along the trail.

In the sandstone escarpment, in the initial part of the trail, we found Shrub Yellowroot (*Xanthorhiza*), Sweet white Violet (*V. blanda*), Halberd-Leaved Yellow Violet (*V. hastata*), and False Hellebore (*Veratrum parviflorum*). This later plant is interesting because the basal rosettes are always present in the spring but never in flower. It is poisonous and sometimes mistaken for Ramps (*Allium burdickii*), which we found further down the trail.

The flower display grew quickly as we dropped below the escarpment. We picked up 3 species of trillium (*T. grandiflorum*, *T. cuneatum*, and *T. sulcatum*). Other plants included Dutchman's Breeches, Celandine Poppy, Dwarf Larkspur, Purple Phacelia, Blue Cohosh, May Apple, Foamflower, Carolina Spring Beauty (the wide-leaved one), and Bloodroot (past). Always a treat, we found Spotted Mandarin (*Prosartes maculata*) with its large creamy flowers peppered with maroon specks.

The steep climb out to the top was challenging, but the view from the overlook into the valley from Green's View was rewarding and made up for the effort.
Please complete and return with payment by **July 1st**.

Please note:
- Lodging and meals are on your own. We will provide a list of options shortly.
- On Sunday an optional pontoon boat trip is available for a cost of $10 per person, **paid at time of departure**. Do NOT include with registration.

**Registration fee $25 per person;**  
# people _______ @ $25 =_______

**Registrant #1 Information:**
Name _______________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________
Telephone ___________________________________________________________
Email _______________________________________________________________
Special Needs __________________________________________________________

**Registrant #2 Information:**
Name _______________________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________________
Telephone ___________________________________________________________
Email _______________________________________________________________
Special Needs __________________________________________________________

Make check(s) payable to **TNPS** and send to:
Karen Hill, 2152 Ravenscourt Drive, Thompsons Station, TN 37179

Questions? Email: *treas@tnps.org*
2019 Annual Meeting

Sign up now for the Annual Meeting!

Registration is due **July 1**!

---

When Dues Are Due?

Unless you are an email subscriber, check your mailing label for your membership date. You are paid through the year listed just above your name. You can pay TNPS dues at any time, and now you can pay online at the TNPS Website. Just go to www.tnps.org, click “Membership,” and follow directions there. If your address has changed, you can email the new address to info@tnps.org. We cannot print the newsletter in full color, but you may be pleased to find all the color in email copies and at the website.  

www.tnps.org