

**TNPS Board Meeting**  
**Email Discussion Jan. 10 - 25, 2017**

**Minutes**

Board meeting minutes of September 16, 2016, were approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Michelle has attempted to reach a person at Lone Pine on the royalty check, but the woman will not return her calls. It's time to send a certified letter. It may become necessary to involve a lawyer if a certified letter fails.

**Field Trip Report (Todd Crabtree)**

3/18	Fiery Gizzard Waterfalls and Flowers	Todd
4/1	Duck River Bottoms	Dennis
4/1-8	Natural Areas (NA) Week	
4/2	Short Springs, NA week	Dennis
4/11-15	Smokies Wildflower Pilgrimage	GSM National Park
4/22	Rock Creek TCWP	Larry (TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning)
4/29	Reelfoot Rarities	Bart
5/5-6	Elsie Quarterman Wildflower Festival	Cedars of Lebanon State Park
5/6	Piney River North TCWP	Larry
5/20	Big Hill Pond State Park	Bart
6/10	Beersheba Annual Meeting	
6/11	Beersheba Annual Meeting	
8/13	Middle Prong Trail, GSMNP	Sweetsers
9/16	Mowbray Mountain Powerline	Larry
9/23	Big Cypress Tree State Park	Bart
9/30	Flat Rock After The Fires	Todd

**Education Outreach Report**

Mitchell provided a detailed update for all three regions of the state. Report is attached.

The Nashville Lawn and Garden Show is March 2-5, 2017 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds. Margie has already submitted a booth application and payment for TNPS, TN-IPC, and Tennessee Naturalist Program. Cost for the booth, tables and chairs is \$298. TNPS agreed to pay half this cost. TN-IPC and TNP will each pay a quarter. Michelle will need to reimburse Margie \$149.

Margie has the set-up supplies, will handle setup Wednesday afternoon, and will solicit naturalist volunteers to help man the booth. We get 25 tickets to the show for volunteers. We'll need people to volunteer a minimum of three hours to insure we can cover all times and provide each person a free ticket. If we have extra tickets remaining, we can provide one for a spouse. Please note that volunteers will still have to pay for parking -- \$5. Anyone with TNPS who would like to volunteer, please contact Margie. Times are 10 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday.

Saturday March 4 is also the date of the Nashville Weed Wrangle. There will be many invasive plant removal projects throughout the greater Nashville area and in other cities across Tennessee that day. This is a joint project of Steve Manning (Invasive Plant Control,

Inc.), Garden Clubs of America, and TN-IPC. Therefore, Saturday may be a difficult day to secure booth workers, so if anyone could help out that day, please let Margie know!

### **2017 Annual Meeting**

Margie suggested that since we are one of the organizations who will be part of the Plant Conservation Alliance, perhaps a Friday night presentation by David Lincicome explaining the concept and vision for Tennessee's PCA would be of interest to the general membership. Todd has approached David about it.

Susan suggested Ken McFarland as a speaker on mosses. Susan secured Ken for Friday evening.

### **Bartram Documentary**

Todd saw a link on Dr. David Haskell's blog (<https://dghaskell.com/>) regarding a film documentary on William Bartram. People can donate funds toward the production costs. Todd does not propose that TNPS support it but is passing the information on to people who might be interested in supporting it as individuals.

[https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/ericbreitenbach/cultivating-the-wild-william-bartrams-travels?ref=thanks\\_tweet](https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/ericbreitenbach/cultivating-the-wild-william-bartrams-travels?ref=thanks_tweet)

### **Gatlinburg Fires**

Thanks to Sunny for a great article for the newsletter about this. An email to TNPS inquired about organizing a public planting of native species (seeds and plants) in the fire damaged wooded areas in and around the city. Park damage was restricted to natural areas where native plants are likely to ultimately benefit. Susan expressed skepticism about TNPS involvement in plantings on land outside the Smokies. Todd, Dennis, Sunny, and Louise concur that nature should be left to heal the wooded fire areas with attention reserved for treatment of invasive species.

Susan wondered if we might give the Gatlinburg Chamber our name and contact info for questions about native plantings. We would need a volunteer to field the requests and answer questions. Sunny supports finding avenues for folks to plant native plants but cautions that ecotype specific material should be planted when conducting large restorations. The benefit of planting native species would be more impactful in smaller landscapes around buildings. For our role, perhaps TNPS could act as a facilitator and educator on best practices and available resources. We should also be wary of individuals with nurseries (while potentially well-meaning) that may see the Gatlinburg fires as a business opportunity.

Margie noted that Gatlinburg was crawling with invasive species. The fire may have invigorated those seed sources as well. Perhaps we could ask Kristine Johnson, a supervisory forester for GSMNP and board member of TN-IPC, for her advice on this. It could be that our two organizations could work together on a simple document advising residents to be watchful for species like *Paulownia*, garlic mustard, etc., and encourage the use of native species in landscaping. Margie will send Kris an email and copy a few TN-IPC members to see what they'd be interested in doing.

Initial response from Kris Johnson and TN-IPC is positive to the idea of collaboration. Kris thought garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet, and coltsfoot seeds would be scattered this spring before other plants can become established in the open areas. She thought good information on native alternatives would be timely. Margie, Sunny, and Belinda Ferro (TN-IPC) will begin work on a brochure. Kris Johnson will investigate means of distribution. Sunny suggested we might sponsor a Weed Wrangle in the area in the future.

Todd suggested that any flyer recommend careful planning of new plantings to keep potential fuels away from structures. Some invasive species may take a couple of years to become evident.

### **Georgia Native Plant Society Pilgrimage**

The Georgia Botanical Society has scheduled its 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage for April 7 – 9, 2017, in Chattanooga, TN. Accordingly, 28 field trips are planned to interesting sites in East Tennessee and North Georgia over the three day period. Evening activities include a Friday night social and a Saturday evening banquet.

The Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage is well attended with an ample mix of professionals in the field of botany and amateur plant enthusiasts. The event is open to non-members. Detailed information on the 2017 Pilgrimage including a registration form is at the following link. [http://www.gabotsoc.org/?page\\_id=23](http://www.gabotsoc.org/?page_id=23)

Attendance is typically 100-150 people. Dennis Horn, Jimmy Groton, Larry Pounds, and Mary Priestley will lead field trips to several Tennessee sites.

### **Plant Conservation Alliance**

There will be an organizing meeting of the Tennessee Plant Conservation Jan. 19, 2017, on Cheekwood Botanic Garden and Museum in Nashville. Margie will be attending primarily as a representative of the Tennessee Naturalist Program but also as a member of TNPS and TN-IPC. Todd, Sunny, and Joey will also attend.

### **Board Election**

Margie reported there were no votes cast by mail for the board election as of Jan. 10. Bart reported no votes from the Web site. The slate of nominees is confirmed.

### **Awards--Conservation/ Hall of Fame**

Margie suggested a posthumous Conservation Award for Margret Rhinehart. Dennis concurred, "I think Margret Rhinehart, for either the TNPS conservation or botanist award, would be well deserved. She did a lot of plant collecting, vouchered many new county plant records across Middle TN, and through her husband, State Senator Shelby Rhinehart, helped influence legislation favorable to plants and their environment. She suggested to TNPS that Senator Rhinehart would be receptive to legislative support for our wildflower book, which resulted in TNPS receiving \$35K for publication expenses. She also led a number of field trips for TNPS down through the years." Todd added that her collecting contributed greatly to our knowledge of the Tennessee flora, particularly her home county Van Buren. Bart and Louise concurred.

We'll need to see if there is a relative to accept the award on her behalf. Dennis thinks she might have a son in Texas. Susan suggested Chuck Wilson as a possible lead on family. If we locate her son, we could simply mail him the certificate with a letter acknowledging the positive effects of his mother's work and that they continue to this day. Her efforts are still deeply appreciated by the botanical community and remain an inspiration to everyone who loves Tennessee and its flora. Joey thinks it could be "clunky" to award something if there isn't someone to accept it. However, the physical award merely represents recognition of valued contributions. Even without someone to accept, we can and should recognize, honor, and publicize her efforts.

## **TN Plant Atlas Contract**

Joey Shaw reports much of the work done to this point has been intangible, that is, phone calls, emails, and face-to-face communication with necessary and interested parties. We are currently working to set up the contracts with Shawn Landry at the University of South Florida, who will actually build the website based on Tennessee floristic data that Ashley, Dwayne, and Joey edit and get to him.

- December 15, 2016: TNPS signed the contract with UTC and Joey to establish the Tennessee Plant Atlas.
- December 16, 2016: Joey, Ashley Morris, and Dwayne Estes reached out to the botanists of Tennessee to announce TNPS's funding of the Tennessee Plant Atlas and put out a call for future collaboration.
- January 5, 2017: Joey and Shawn Landry (University of South Florida) had phone conversation about getting started on the Tennessee Plant Atlas.
- January 6, 2017: Joey contacted USF to establish contracts and the grants offices from UTC and USF are in communication. He anticipates that the contracts between the universities will be completed by mid-February.
- January 18, 2017: The internal account numbers were generated at UTC. This means that Joey is free to begin establish contracts with the USF. Work is progressing to this end.
- Future timeline: Joey hopes to have all of the contracts in place by mid-February, 2017, at which point Shawn Landry will build the website. During site construction, Joey will establish the database framework that will underlie the website. Much of the work will be done during the summer of 2017.

Dennis asked how the user-friendly issues will be addressed.

## **Seed Restoration Project TNPS Logo**

Amelia Taylor accepted our offer of 10 books. She is in the process of requesting funding and will let us know if our offer is needed. Susan gave her several nurseries to contact. Susan will let Dennis know about transporting books when she hears from Amelia

## **Bylaws Change**

Susan has not found a copy of the bylaws. Bart cannot find a copy of the new bylaws either but did locate an old version. He suggested checking with Kay Jones and perhaps Nita Heilman. Dennis has a draft copy of the constitution and bylaws but the latter is not dated, and he doesn't know if there is a more current version. Sunny asked if we should post a copy on Google Drive for all members to access. Karen said we can post it on the board of directors web page.

## **Newsletter**

December 2016 was distributed December 14. 2017 dates represent general timeframes and may change somewhat. Sunny needs material for March. Suggestions include Gatlinburg fire effects and replanting, GA BotSoc pilgrimage. Writers may be in or outside TNPS.

- March edition -- Copy in by Feb 12, to the printer by Feb 20
- June edition -- Copy in by May 12, to printer by May 20
- September edition dates -- Copy in by Aug 19, to printer by Aug 26
- December edition dates -- Copy in by November 11, to printer by Nov 20

### **Web Site Report -- Karen Hill**

- Board information was updated and will be again after our election is finalized.
- Year categories were added to the membership form for easier tracking of multiple year membership payments.
- Directions and passwords for PayPal were again provided to Michelle. Money was swept from PayPal to the TNPS bank account. A PayPal 2016 year-end report of all transactions (except one) was sent to both Bart and Michelle this week.
- Book inventories can now be tracked through a new page on our website. Access is through a link at the very bottom of our homepage labeled "BOD". Only those with books can update the numbers, since they have passwords. Anyone who knows where to look can see book locations and totals. Additional information (besides the Book Inventory) is available on our "BOD" page and this is where our By-Laws will be posted when available. Any suggestions for this page? The page is not password protected, but the inventory is.

### **Facebook Report -- Joanna Brichetto**

Joanna's goal is to post our own news (field trip in advance, field trip photos), seasonal plugs for our wildflower book and associated publications, and news about Tennessee native plant conferences, events, hikes, etc. Mitchell Kent is part of the team, and he posts photos of field trips. People *love* those. Joanna listed the last ten post topics for those not on Facebook, i.e., Natural Areas 2017 events, Weed Wrangle, Wild Ones seminar, etc.

Total for "likes" for TNPS facebook page = 1874. Most popular post so far has been the grouping I did of "frostflowers" on December 11, which "reached" 6,856 viewers.

Ideally, the "likes" could become "members," but I still feel our page justifies its existence by keeping us in the public eye.

If a board member wants to post directly to Facebook, the post will be from your personal account rather than TNPS. If you want the post to be "official," just let Mitchell or Joanna know and they can post for you, or Joanna can add you as an "editor" and you can be official all the time. Suggestions and photos of seasonal native plants are always welcome.

### **TN Conservation Voters**

No report.

### **Next Board Meeting June 11, 2017**

Respectfully submitted,  
Margie Hunter  
Secretary

## TNPS Outreach / Education Report Feb-May 2017

### West Tennessee Region

David Hilgeman provided the following information on plans for TNPS education and outreach activities in the West Tennessee Region for this year.

- David will be attending the Tree Planting Volunteer Day at Shelby Farms February 25.
- The Memphis Botanical Gardens and Lichterman Nature Center will conduct native plant sales in early April. He had a TNPS booth there last year and plans on doing the same this year.
- TO Fuller State Park Spring Hike is scheduled for March 18 that he will attend on behalf of TNPS.
- He plans to attend events at the Strawberry Plains Audubon Center in northern Mississippi and at the Wolf River Conservancy in Memphis, when scheduled.
- David requests to be informed of other scheduled events in the region we become aware of that he may support for TNPS. He volunteers at Univ. of Memphis herbarium.

### Middle Tennessee Region

Kim Sadler provided the following status and plans for outreach / education activities for the Middle Tennessee Region.

- The MTSU Center for Environmental Education has relocated to the main MTSU campus and with new facilities, we will be offering professional development workshops monthly such as tree identification, invasive pest plant identification, microscope techniques, and other workshops related to natural history. I certainly plan to include a wildflower identification workshop and of course, cedar glade field trips.
- The Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Festival will be held May 5 and 6 at Cedars of Lebanon State Park. The festival begins at 1:00 p.m. with a research roundtable that brings together those interested in research and management questions related to cedar glades. The evening program is at 7pm which features an interesting presentation and then folk music following. On May 6, Saturday, hikes and presentations will occur throughout the day. A TNPS booth is being considered for the event.
- The State of Tennessee Department of Education has developed and finally approved new science standards beginning Fall 2017. It's an opportunity for TNPS to reach out to schools to offer expertise and advice about native plants to inspire future generations to preserve and protect our beautiful Tennessee natural heritage. The science content, of course, has not changed but teachers are being asked to teach about science from an interdisciplinary perspective and 'out of the box'.
- Contact Kim for other events in Middle Tennessee Region where TNPS outreach / education support may be needed.

### East Tennessee Region

Mitchell Kent provided the following plans for TNPS education and outreach activities in the East Tennessee Region for this year.

- He plans to represent TNPS with a booth at the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Wild Ones at their Plants Native 2017 Symposium, March 18, and at the Pollinator Rally event April 1.
- He will make return visits to area state and private parks representing TNPS. These include: South Cumberland State Park, Frozen Head State Park, Fall Creek Falls State Park, Chattanooga Audubon Society's Audubon Acres and Reflection Riding Arboretum and others.
- He is serving in the Pilgrimage Planning role for the Georgia Botanical Society and will oversee the 2017 Pilgrimage activities in Chattanooga that includes 28 field trips scheduled for April 7 – 9, 2017. Thanks to TNPS members Dennis Horn and Mary Priestley who are serving as field trip leaders for the Pilgrimage event.

- He will conduct wildflower walks during April at the Chattanooga Audubon Society's Audubon Acres Park and other local sites.
- He will monitor the *Certificate in Native Plants* program being presented jointly by the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Wild Ones and TNPS. He attends related meetings representing TNPS and assists with future planning when possible. The class schedule showing information on 10 class for the year may be found at the following link. <http://tennesseevalley.wildones.org/cnp/2017-schedule/>
- Contact Mitchell for other events in East Tennessee where outreach / education support may be needed.

1/18/2017

Michelle Hayman

Cash Flow - Last year

1/1/2016 through 12/31/2016

Checking

Category

1/1/2016-  
12/31/2016

**INFLOWS**

Uncategorized	paypal	6,101.70
Annual Meeting 2016		2,264.95
Annual Meeting Income		985.00
Book Sales		1,705.00
Dues		2,745.00
Interest Inc		2.66
Membership List		100.00
unknown deposits	by Lorie	2,450.59
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>		<b>16,354.90</b>

**OUTFLOWS**

Uncategorized		100.00
216 annual meeting		-30.00
annual meeting 2017		4,765.84
annual meeting 2106 expense		67.36
Book Expense		715.44
Community Relations		731.09
Copies		30.00
dews		-20.00
Newsletter and Website		1,355.24
Organization Membership - TCV		400.00
Postage and Delivery		123.00
printing and postage		461.12
Public Relations - brochures, etc.		149.00
software		217.41
speaker		407.00
Supplies, Bus		398.19
Website		175.00
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>		<b>10,045.69</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL**

**6,309.21**

Savings account \$ 7,676.49  
 Book savings \$ 29,892.65  
 Outstanding Lone Pine check #007057  
 \$ 1,018.85