

TENNESSEE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



Volume 42, Number 1

February 2018

Flat Rock Cedar Glades and Barrens Rutherford County September 30, 2017

There are 40 designated state natural areas in Middle Tennessee with one-third identified as cedar glade ecosystems. Flat Rock Cedar Glades and Barrens State Natural Area is an 850+acre treasure located 8 miles from the obelisk marker that identifies the geographic center of Tennessee. Flat Rock was initially purchased by the Nature Conservancy in the late 1990s and then turned over to the state to manage in 1999. The property is characterized by limestone glades and grassy areas known as barrens, and also cedar-oak-hickory forests. Historically these areas burned but with habitation by humans, fire regimes no longer occur. In an effort to restore open areas the Division of Natural Areas and the Natural Heritage Program have been working collaboratively to manage areas like Flat Rock with a variety of strategies. One strategy that has yielded dramatic results has been accomplished with a machine known as a gyrotracker, which can remove woody vegetation up to 6-8 inches in diameter. The use of this machine in combination with prescribed burning has opened up multiple sections of Flat Rock, making visits to these areas full of floral surprises.

We couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day to leisurely hike the nearly 4-mile trail loop. We spent more than 4.5 hours exploring the plants in areas adjacent to the trail that wind through glades, barrens, and forest communities. We observed many fall plants but a few of the more colorful and noteworthy plants

observed were multiple species of Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), three species of Blazing Star (*Liatris squarrulosa*, *L. squarrosa*, and state listed *L. cylindracea*), two species of Purple Aster (*Symphotrichum* spp.), Autumn Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*), Field Thistle (*Cirsium discolor*), Slender-Lipped Ladies' Tresses (*Spiranthes lacera* var. *gracilis*), Pink Cloud (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*), Pov-



PRAIRIE GENTIAN (*GENTIANA PUBERULENTA*)

BY RICHARD HITT

erty Grass (*Sporobolus vaginiflorus*), Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), Plume Grass (*Saccharum giganteum*), and Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). We had a pleasant surprise when we stopped for lunch and noticed next to us a small population of Prairie Gentian (*Gentiana puberulenta*) and then a few feet further on the trail, one lone bloom of Southern Prairie Dock (*Silphium pinnatifidum*). I shared a photograph of what appeared to be a white Blazing Star with my colleague, Dr. Ashley Morris at MTSU, and she identified it as a rare prairie species, *Nabalus asper*.

Flat Rock - Continued on page 7

TNPS Newsletter

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

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Susan Sweetser, President

Todd Crabtree, Vice-President

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Bart Jones

Larry Pounds

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

A Letter from the President

Hello Everyone,

When you see this greeting, it will be the start of another great year for TNPS. This newsletter will contain the 2018 Field Trip Schedule. Lots of good opportunities to enjoy plants, nature and like-minded folks. We go to some pretty interesting spots too.

This is also the newsletter for the Annual Meeting information, registration and hikes. This is the first time I can remember an early spring meeting since I've been a member. Hopefully the weather gods will cooperate. For those of you who go on the School House-Gap trip in March, you'll have a chance to do the same trail in September. This will give us 2 different aspects of the same trail. Sign up early because trip size will be limited.

I also want to start out the year thanking the Board members, Outreach-Education folks, Karen Hill for the wonderful website and Joanna Brichetto for all the extensive Facebook posts. TNPS wouldn't function without GREAT volunteers. You may be asked to fill a need soon,

Happy New Year,



865-938-7627

ssretiree@yahoo.com

Nashville Perennial Plant Sale
April 8, 2018

The Fairgrounds Nashville
625 Smith Avenue, 37203

2018 TNPS Field Trips

| Annual Meeting 3/31/2018 | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Warner Parks</p> <p>4/07/18</p> <p>10:00 am Central</p> <p>Easy</p> <p>Bring Lunch - we'll eat at the Nature Center</p> <p>Facilities at the Nature Center</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Warner Park Nature Center, 7111 Hwy 100, Nashville TN 37221</p> <p>Directions: From Nashville going west on Hwy 100, 0.3 miles past intersection with Old Hickory Blvd turn left into Park, then immediately left again to the parking lot. (35.252304,-85.74302-parking lot)</p> | <p>Margie Hunter and Dennis Horn (H) 931-461-0262, e-mail – horndd@lighttube.net</p> | <p>Edwin Warner and Percy Warner are two adjacent parks in Southwest Nashville separated by Old Hickory Blvd. Some parts of these parks are highly developed while other areas remain in their natural state. The rich slopes and ravines in these Harpeth Hills harbor many species of spring wildflowers. We will plan to visit 625 acre Edwin Warner Park in the morning. There we should see False Rue Anemone, Cutleaf Toothwort, Yellow Trout Lily, and Virginia Bluebell. After lunch we will visit 2060 acre Percy Warner Park and hike parts of the Mossy Ridge Trail. There we can compare Trillium Sessile and T. cuneatum side by side. We should also see Dutchmen's Breeches, Harbinger of Spring, Spring Beauty, and many others.</p> |
| <p>Frozen Head Wildflower Walk</p> <p>4/14/18</p> <p>9:00 am / 10:00 am Eastern</p> <p>Moderate</p> <p>Bring Water and Lunch</p> <p>Facilities at Meeting Place</p> | <p>Meeting Place: 1. Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) 9 A.M. Eastern Time. 2. Frozen Head State Park at the Park Office 10 A.M. Eastern Time</p> | <p>Larry Pounds 865-705-8516 (cell) PoundsL471@aol.com and Jimmy Groton</p> | <p>This is a joint outing for the 51st Frozen Head Wildflower Pilgrimage with TNPS and TCWP. We will have an excellent opportunity to see spring wildflowers. The first mile is ideal for those with rather limited hiking capabilities; the trail is wide and flat. It is a loop with quick return to the parking area (Interpretive Trail). For those continuing the next 2 miles is steeper and rougher but still moderate (Judge Branch and S.Old Mac Trails).</p> |
| <p>Jackson County/Washmorgan</p> <p>4/21/18</p> <p>10:00 am Central</p> <p>Easy to Moderate - 2 miles</p> <p>Bring Lunch & Water</p> <p>Facilities at Meeting Place</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Love's Truck Stop includes the McDonalds and Subway. Located on I-40 at exit 280, 7 miles west of Cookeville</p> | <p>Louise Gregory and Dennis Horn Dennis Horn (H) 931-461-0262, e-mail – horndd@lighttube.net</p> | <p>Jackson County has some beautiful rugged country in the hills and hollows along the Roaring River and Spring Creek east of Gainesboro. Both are designated as Tennessee Scenic Rivers. We will drive to Gainesboro, then drive along the Roaring River, stop at the "Boils" to see springs bubbling up in the river. We will continue to Spring Creek Road and explore 1-2 miles of hillside wildflowers along the road. After lunch we will explore Wash Morgan Hollow, a Nature Conservancy property and now designated a State Natural Area. The hollow is extremely rich with spring flowers, including Celandine Poppy, Guyandotte Beauty (Synandra), Sharp-lobed Hepatica, Toothwort, and many more. The hollow is 0.7 miles long. We will follow the small intermittent rock-bottomed stream (no actual foot trail) as far as anyone wants to walk. Wildflowers will be abundant throughout the hollow.</p> |
| Smokies Pilgrimage 4/25 - 4/29, 2018 | | | |
| Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Wildflower Festival 5/4 - 5/5, 2018 For more information check: https://www.mtsu.edu/glade-center/ | | | |



Do you have photos from trips you'd like to share? Are you interested in other TNPS News? Stay up to date and follow us on facebook! [facebook.com/tennesseanativeplantsociety](https://www.facebook.com/tennesseanativeplantsociety)

2018 TNPS Field Trips

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| <p>Searching for the Hog Plum in Flower (new Cumberland Trail section)</p> <p>5/05/18 9:00 am / 10:00 am Eastern</p> <p>Moderate. The distance is about 3 miles round trip or 1 mile for the first loop.</p> <p>Bring Lunch, Water, Bug Spray</p> | <p>1. Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) 9 A.M. Eastern Time.</p> <p>2. Marathon Gas Station I-40 Crab Orchard exit 329 east of Crossville at 9 A.M. Central Time, 10 A.M. Eastern</p> | <p>Larry Pounds 865-705-8516 (cell) Pound-sL471@aol.com</p> | <p>Special requirement: I do not yet have the hunt schedules for next year for the WMAs we will be walking through. It is possible though unlikely that we will be required to wear orange, orange hat and orange top. The top can be shirt, vest, coat etc. Contact me if you need or can share some orange clothing.</p> <p>This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. We will caravan from Crab Orchard to the trail head. We will walk a rough jeep road to the Cumberland Trail. Then we will cross a lovely new bridge, visit table rock (hog plum, <i>Prunus umbellata</i> site) and perhaps reach the Twin Towers Rocks. We may catch upland iris (<i>Iris verna</i>) and chinquapin (<i>Castanea pumila</i>) in flower.</p> |
| <p><i>Cypripedium kentuckiense</i> and Natchez Trace State Park</p> <p>5/12/18 10:00 am Central</p> <p>Easy with some slopes to traverse</p> <p>Bring Lunch, Water, Bug Spray</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Shell gas station on the south side of I-40, exit 126. Meet behind the station.</p> <p>Facilities at meeting place and in the park</p> | <p>Bart Jones (cell - 901-485-2475, email – bjones7777@hotmail.com)</p> | <p>We will visit the Southern lady's slipper (<i>Cypripedium kentuckiense</i>) site on my family farm to see this state-listed endangered orchid. These sport the largest flowers of all the lady's slippers and are quite impressive. We will make a quick stop just before to do some roadside botanizing. After we finish with the orchids, we will journey to Natchez Trace State Park where we will have a quick picnic lunch before exploring some ravines that flow into Pin Oak Lake. Near the water, there are impressive stands of ferns and other forbs.</p> |
| <p>Sherwood Forest Spring Flower</p> <p>5/19/18 10:00 am Central</p> <p>Difficult</p> <p>Bring Lunch & Water</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting place(s)</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Sherwood Forest trailhead (35.09598,-85.90141)</p> <p>Directions: From Monteagle go west on Hwy 41 for ~3.5 miles and turn left on Hw 156 and travel 8.5 miles and turn right on old CCC road. Trail head is about 1.8 miles ahead where road dead ends</p> | <p>Todd Crabtree (615-532-1378, todd.crabtree@tn.gov)</p> | <p>We will explore a portion of the old abandoned CCC road down the side of the plateau a few hundred feet in elevation and then return by the same general route. Some off-trail excursions will make this a strenuous outing but we should see some uncommon and possibly rare plants of spring.</p> |



2018 TNPS Field Trips

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| <p>Sunk Lake and Lower Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge</p> <p>8/04/18 10:00 am Central</p> <p>Easy, but weather may be very hot. Bring water, sunscreen, hat, and appropriate clothing.</p> <p>Bring Lunch & Water</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Woodard's Store (7390 Hwy. 87 W, Henning, TN) about 6 miles west of Henning on TN Hwy. 87.</p> <p>Facilities: Meeting place</p> | <p>Allan Trently (allan.trently@tn.gov) and Bart Jones (cell - 901-485-2745, email - bjones7777@hotmail.com)</p> | <p>Sunk Lake was created by the same earthquakes that formed Reelfoot Lake. The area around the lake is a botanical refuge in a sea of agriculture and is home to ovate-leaf arrowhead (<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>), a state rare plant and the formerly-listed opposite-leaved spotflower (<i>Acemella oppositifolia</i>) as well as other near-aquatic species. We will go to the Lower Hatchie refuge where we will try to find a shady spot for lunch, after which we will visit a river dunes community, highlighted by plains snakecotton (<i>Froelichia floridana</i>), a species that is only found in two counties in Tennessee.</p> |
| <p>Sherwood Forest Woodlands</p> <p>9/01/18 10:00 am Central</p> <p>Difficult</p> <p>Bring Lunch & Water</p> <p>Facilitites: None</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Sherwood Forest trailhead (35.09598,-85.90141)</p> <p>Directions: From Monteagle go west on Hwy 41 for ~3.5 miles and turn left on Hw 156 and travel 8.5 miles and turn right on old CCC road. Trail head is about 1.8 miles ahead where road dead ends</p> | <p>Todd Crabtree (615-532-1378,todd.crabtree@tn.gov)</p> | <p>We will explore a portion of the old abandoned CCC road down the side of the plateau a few hundred feet in elevation and then return by the same general route. Some off-trail excursions will make this a strenuous outing but we should see some uncommon and possibly rare plants. Woodland wildflowers and a few grasses may be found in hidden habitats within the forest.</p> |
| <p>Schoolhouse Gap</p> <p>9/09/18 10:00 am Eastern</p> <p>Easy</p> <p>Optional early picnic lunch prior to hike at meeting place.</p> | <p>Meeting Place: Schoolhouse Gap Trailhead</p> <p>Directions: From the Townsend "Y" junction the trailhead is about 2.7 miles along Laurel Creek Road, towards Cades Cove</p> <p>Facilities: None</p> | <p>Allen & Susan Sweeter (ssretire@yahoo.com)</p> | <p>We'll walk a few miles along the trail and see ironweed, joe pye weed and other fall wildflowers as well as views of a small stream near the beginning of the trail.</p> |
| <p>Fall Flowers of Daddy's Creek Cobblebars</p> <p>9/15/18 9:00 am / 10:00 am Eastern</p> <p>Moderate - 5 miles or less</p> <p>Bring Lunch & Water</p> <p>Facilities: Meeting Place</p> | <p>Meeting Place: 1. Gold's Gym/ Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) 9 A.M. Eastern Time. 2. Marathon Gas Station I-40 Crab Orchard exit 329 east of Crossville at 9 A.M. Central Time, 10 A.M. Eastern</p> | <p>Larry Pounds 865-705-8516 (cell) Pound-sL471@aol.com</p> | <p>This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. As time and energy allows we will make up to three walks into cobble bar areas. These are excellent areas for the fall asters, goldenrods etc.</p> |

Come Join a Hike!

RSVP to the Leader!

2018 Registration

2018 TNPS Annual Meeting Registration

Tally Ho Inn, Townsend

March 30-April 1, 2018

Please complete and return by **March 15**.

Registration fee \$15 per person # people _____ @ \$15 = _____

Rate per night, *single or double* occupancy:

Standard room with one king bed: \$83 per night x # nights = \$ _____

Standard room with two queen beds: \$83 per night x # nights = \$ _____

Standard room with two double beds: \$83 per night x # nights = \$ _____

Economy room with one queen size bed: \$72 per night x # nights = \$ _____

Those sharing a room should register together. Two checks may be sent.

ROOM TOTAL \$ _____

ALL MEALS ARE ON YOUR OWN.

A RESTAURANT IS NEXT DOOR AND ROOMS HAVE MINI-KITCHENS.

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Registrant #1 Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Special Needs _____

Registrant #2 Information (if sharing a room):

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Special Needs _____

Mail check(s) payable to TNPS and send to:

Karen Hill, 2152 Ravenscourt Drive, Thompsons Station, TN 37179

Questions? Email: karen.hill@ripples-on-water.com

March 30 - April 1, 2018

**Annual Meeting in
Townsend**

Tennessee Conservation Voters

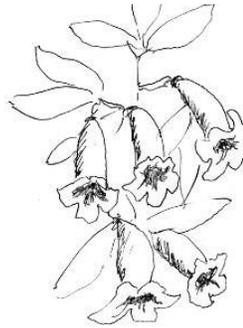


NABALUS ASPER BY KIM SADLER

Flat Rock Continued from Page 1-

Dennis Horn also reported this species at the Arnold Engineering Development Center at the Arnold Air Force Base in Tullahoma about 15 years ago,

I want to thank Todd Crabtree, State Botanist and TNPS vice president, who graciously met me at Flat Rock earlier in the week to update me on burning/management strategies and updated me on many noteworthy plants. He also emailed me (from memory) a list of some of the federal and state listed plants at Flat Rock. Members in attendance included Richard Hitt, Susan Stahl, Lindsay Lawrence, and Jane Griffin. It was Lindsay's first TNPS hike!



- Kim Sadler

Tennessee Conservation Voters

Help support TCV efforts on behalf of several Tennessee nonprofits by attending the annual fundraiser

Annual Fundraiser

When: Friday February 23, 2018
6:30-9:00

Where: Waller, Nashville City Center
511 Union Street, suite 2700.

TCV works to engage and connect citizen conservation values to the legislation that travels through the lawmaking process. Be it presenting pro-environment bills or fighting efforts to increase pollution, irresponsible growth or unbalanced regulation, the TCV family of organizations and individuals is on the job making your voice heard and your vote count. It is in an election year, and the Tennessee General Assembly is back in session but they are barred from fundraising while in session. This perhaps explains why most observers think it will be a short legislative year.

What can we do? Bookmark and familiarize yourself with this site: www.capitol.tn.gov. It will help you stay on top of legislation and the General Assembly. Check TCV website www.tnconservationvoters.org and follow us on Facebook - Tennessee Conservation Voters for up to date information.

Come have take part in the fun, food, spirits, silent auction, and social mix with of friend and elected officials in a unbelievable venue on the 27th floor of the City Center overlooking the downtown lights of Nashville.

2018 Annual Meeting Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

2:00pm BOARD Meeting

4:00-6:00pm Mix and Mingle

6:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Welcome Program: Rob Klein, Fire Ecologist for GSMNP “The Role of Fire in the Great Smoky Mountains: Past and Present Perspectives”

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:30am Field trips Half-day options (lunch between hikes): 1. Chestnut Top Trail w/Dennis Horn 2. Schoolhouse Gap Trail w/Susan and Allen Sweetser 3. West Prong Trail w/Mac Post and Margie Hunter

Non-hiking and/or rainy day options: 1. Mountain Heritage Museum (entrance fee) 2. Tuckaleechee Caverns (entrance fee)

5:30-7:00pm Dinner

7:00pm General Business Meeting & Program: Margie Hunter “The Smokies on Foot: 1,244 Miles and Counting”

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

8:00-9:00am Breakfast CHECKOUT before 11:00am

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

TNPS Newsletter
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Nashville, TN 37215