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American Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) -

Facts and Folklore

By Joseph M. McMullen

Terrestrial Environmental Specialists, Inc.

I grew up in the heavily forested Appalachian Mountain portion of southwest central Pennsylvania. My grandfather was probably one of the last of the old-time ginseng collectors from that area. Like many others, he found that he could earn a little extra money by searching the local, richly forested slopes that were well suited to ginseng. My grandfather was around when there were still vast expanses of virgin timber in the area—when American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) was king of the forest. He often told stories about collecting large quantities of ginseng in those times.

Ginseng collecting became popular in the United States in the 1800s, after people came to the realization that American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) was similar to the highly prized Oriental ginseng (*Panax pseudoginseng*). Oriental ginseng is native to the Far East. By the 1700s supplies of it had nearly been exhausted, due to centuries of over-collecting. The Orientals prized ginseng for its purported herbal properties, especially as an aphrodisiac. Then, as today, ginseng root was used to make an herbal tea, or the whole root was used as a symbol of virility.

It is the thickened, tuber-like root of ginseng that is collected. The fleshy root is tapered at both ends and has a rough, wrinkly surface. As a plant matures, the root increases in size; it is about the size of your index finger in an older plant. The root frequently forks at the base into small roots that taper into fine threads. There also may be similar small roots from the sides. A root that is dug up carefully often looks like a grotesque miniature man. The main root forms the body, with the arms and legs being the small side roots.



American ginseng fruit is initially green, but turns bright red in late summer. This is an older plant, with four compound leaves rather than three.

Early herbalists and physicians believed in the Doctrine of Signatures. Under this Doctrine, it was believed that God placed a sign on each plant for its use by man, so a plant was considered good medicine for what it looked like. For example, liverwort (*Hepatica* spp.), with its three-lobed leaves, was considered valuable to treat ailments of our three-lobed liver. Ginseng roots looked like a whole man, so I guess they thought it could be used to treat a whole man, or maybe they thought it would make a man feel whole. *Schinseng*, in Chinese, means man-form or man-shape. They considered it a panacea – a cure for all diseases, evils, or difficulties.

Ginseng is a perennial herbaceous plant. It produces a stalk every year from a fleshy root. A bud scar is developed from each year's growth, producing a long neck on the top of the root in older plants. The plant is about 10 to 20 inches tall. From the tip of the stalk, three or four compound leaves are produced. The size of the plant and the number of leaves generally increase with age. Each leaf has five toothed, obovate (wider toward the tip) leaflets; they remind me of a small version of the compound leaf of blackberries. A flower cluster in the form of an umbel is produced at the tip of a stalk surrounded by the base of the leaf stalks. The flowers are five-parted and greenish-white in color. The fruit is initially deep green in color. Around September, the fruit turns bright red. When mature, they look a lot like the fruit cluster of jack-in-the-pulpit.



Mature bright red fruit of American ginseng.

The seeds of ginseng take 18 months to germinate. Wild plants are slow growing and take six to eight years to develop a valuable root. Because of the time needed for the seeds to germinate and the years required for the plant to mature, ginseng is particularly subject to over-collecting.

There are only two plants that can be confused with ginseng – dwarf ginseng (*Panax trifolius*) and wild sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*). Both species are in the *Araliaceae* (ginseng) family. Dwarf ginseng is much smaller than American ginseng, has only three leaflets, and flowers early in the spring. It dies back before American ginseng flowers. Actually, when you see the real thing, it looks nothing like American ginseng.

Wild sarsaparilla is similar in appearance and may grow near where you find ginseng, although my grandfather, who showed me the difference between the two species, claimed they did not grow together. I have on occasion found the two species in close proximity. However, wild sarsaparilla is often in more acidic situations in association with hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), while American ginseng is in more alkaline situations with sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), maiden hair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*), ramps (*Allium tricoccum*), and hepatica (*Hepatica nobilis*). Wild sarsaparilla also has a long flowering stalk that comes up from the base of the stem early in the year, not like the short flower cluster produced at the stalk tip of ginseng.



Wild sarsaparilla is sometimes mistaken for ginseng. The flower stalk (not shown) of sarsaparilla arises from the base of the plant, not from the tip as in ginseng. Its leaf is pinnately compound and its lower two leaflets often differ in size.

Ginseng is usually found in rich deciduous forests, where the neutral to slightly alkaline soil has developed a rich duff from years of leaf decay. You usually do not find it in the open, or in forest soils that have been recently disturbed. It does not compete well with other plants, so it often grows where there are not other herbaceous plants that can crowd it out. I frequently look for ginseng on the slightly elevated humps of soil from root balls of trees that fell over many years ago. I think it occurs in these areas because there is less competition with other herbaceous species.

Historically, ginseng grew from Quebec to Minnesota, south to Georgia and Oklahoma (Gleason and Cronquist 1952). Mitchell and Sheviak (1981) indicate that it occurs in 46 New York counties, while the New York Flora Atlas (Weldy and Werier 2010) report records from 36 counties. Several historical and current regional New York floras report ginseng. Bye and Oettinger (1969) present the following for Onondaga County.

“Onondaga County was once the center of the ginseng industry. In 1718, Father Lafitan, a Jesuit, recognized ginseng as being similar to that in China, which was used by the Chinese for its “medicinal” properties. The Indians and white settlers used to collect the roots, which resembled human figures and were common in rich woods. In the 1800’s a market developed for the roots and ginseng farms were started primarily in Onondaga and Cortland Counties. By the early 1900’s, the industry started to die down due to the decline of the demand.”

In his New York flora checklist, Homer House (1924) reports it as frequent or local northward in the state, less common or rare southward to Rockland County and westward to Lake Erie. Other state regional floras report as follows: ravines and thickets where it has eluded the hunter, exhausted in many regions but common in remote woods (Paine 1865); in rich woods solitary to sparse (Zenkert 1934); damp woodlands in rich humus on subcalcareous gravelly soils, formerly frequent now occasional (Wiegand and Eames 1926); frequent in moist woods and thickets (Howe 1968); rare in rich deciduous woods (Domville and Dunbar 1970); and infrequent in mixed hardwoods, still heavily collected (Eaton and Schrot 1987).

Today, because of over-collecting, ginseng is considered rare in many of the eastern states. Some of these states have laws that legally protect it. In New York, it is protected under the Protected Plant Act (ECL 9-1503), and listed as “*exploitably vulnerable*” under 6 NYCRR Part 193.3. It is one of the few good examples of an exploitably vulnerable species.

Parts 193.5 and 193.6 of the New York regulations also specify rules for the collection and sale of wild ginseng. It can only be collected from September 1 to November 30. There are also restrictions on when ginseng can be purchased or sold. Only mature plants with three five-leaflet leaves can be collected, the fruit must be mature, and the seeds planted nearby.

The export of ginseng is regulated by the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora. The U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service oversees this convention, which also controls the export of bobcat, river otter, and lynx pelts. No export is permitted from a state that does not have an acceptable ginseng program that regulates harvest.

A pound of dried ginseng roots might bring over \$400 today. It takes a lot of ginseng roots to make a pound and it has to be thoroughly cleaned and dried. So when I see ginseng in the woods, I just admire it and leave it be. It is much more rewarding for me to see it growing from year to year, than to dig it up and earn a few dollars. If I spot some ginseng early in the year, I try to come back when the seeds are bright red and mature. Then I would pick them off and plant them nearby, just like my grandfather would.

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Line drawing from Britton and Brown (1913)
Public Domain

NYFA Business

The NYFA Board of Directors, after consulting with lawyers from the Pro Bono Partnership in connection with incorporation and attainment of 501C(3) status, propose revising and amending the NYFA By-Laws. A copy of the currently existing NYFA By-Laws can be found in the NYFA Newsletter, Vol. 19 (1), Spring 2008. The existing By Laws require that the membership be given a period of thirty (30) days in which to comment on any changes proposed by the Board. The changes being proposed here will bring the NYFA By-Laws into compliance with rules governing 501C(3) corporations in New York State. We do not believe that the proposed changes represent or imply any significant change in the underlying purpose or content of the existing By-Laws. Please review the proposed draft Amended By-Laws provided below and forward any comments to Andy Nelson (anmah@verizon.net) by May 15, 2010.

AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS OF THE NEW YORK FLORA ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

NAME

Section 1.1 The name of this organization shall be the New York Flora Association (the "Corporation").

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

Section 2.1 The Corporation exists for the purposes enumerated in its Certificate of Incorporation, including any amendments or alterations (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Certificate of Incorporation").

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIPS

Section 3.1 Eligibility.

(a) Any individual who supports the purposes and goals as outlined in ARTICLE II may become a member of the Corporation (each, a "Member") as specified by the then-current membership policies of the Corporation as may be established by the Board of Directors of the Corporation (the "Board") from time to time.

(b) The Board may establish and revise classifications of membership as the Board may deem relevant and equitable. Such memberships may include individual memberships, family memberships, institutional memberships, organizational or group memberships, and honorary memberships.

Section 3.2 Dues.

(a) The Board shall establish, and may revise from time to time, annual dues rates for each membership classification and may also establish dues rates for extended periods of time including life memberships.

(b) Membership in the Corporation shall become effective upon payment of annual dues and shall lapse when dues become delinquent.

Section 3.3 Annual Meetings.

The Corporation shall hold an annual meeting of the Members (each, an "Annual Meeting"), at the time and place to be set by the Board.

Section 3.4 General and Special Meetings.

General meetings of Members shall be held at the dates and places to be decided by the Board. Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by either the Board or the written request of no fewer than ten (10) active Members. All Members shall be notified of each general meeting or special meeting, in writing at least two (2) weeks in advance.

Section 3.5 Quorum and Manner of Acting.

The Members present at a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise specified in the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws, at any meeting duly called and held and at which a quorum is present, a majority of the votes cast at such meeting by Members of any or all classifications entitled to vote thereon who are present shall constitute an act of the Members.

Section 3.6 Voting.

(a) Each Member who has an individual membership in the Corporation shall be entitled to cast one vote on any matter subject to or submitted to a vote of all Members.

(b) The Board may establish policies governing voting by Members who belong to all other membership classifications.

Section 3.7 Continuation and Termination of Membership.

(a) Each Member shall, subject to termination provisions set forth later in this section, continue as a member of the Corporation so long as all applicable dues are paid annually.

(b) Each Member shall be removed as a member of the Corporation upon the date on which such Member's annual dues are in arrears for one (1) calendar year. Any former Member shall be reinstated as a member of the Corporation upon payment of such former Member's current dues.

(c) The Board may terminate any Member as a member of the Corporation upon finding that such Member has either (i) acted contrary to the purposes of the Corporation, (ii) violated the Corporation's policies as established by the Board or (iii) utilized the name of the Corporation or identification with the Corporation without authority and contrary to the Corporation's policies as established by the Board.

(d) Any Member may resign at any time by giving written notice of such Member's resignation either to the Board, the President, a Vice President, the Secretary or Treasurer of the Corporation. Unless otherwise specified in such written notice, such resignation shall take effect upon receipt thereof by the Board, the President, a Vice President, the Secretary or Treasurer of the Corporation, as applicable, and the acceptance of such resignation by the Board shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 3.8 Ballot of Recall.

At any time, the Members, with an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the voting membership, may recall any officer of the of the Corporation, any chair of a standing committee of the Corporation, or Director (as defined herein) for failure to perform the duties required of the position or for any action inconsistent with the Corporation's aims and objectives; provided that any such recall vote must be requested by the Members in the form of a written petition signed by no fewer than two-thirds (2/3rds) of the Board. Once such petition for recall has been verified by the Board, the Nominations Committee shall distribute a Ballot of Recall for the said position(s) to the Members.

ARTICLE IV
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 4.1 Power and Authority of Board of Directors.

The Board shall have full power to manage the Corporation, including the power to make financial decisions, assign duties, create committees, appoint committee chairs, appoint a Newsletter Editor, and to delegate authority as needed.

Section 4.2 Composition.

The Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, one (1) or more Director(s)-at-large, and the Newsletter Editor (members of the Board are referred to herein as "Directors"). Any active Member may be elected to the Board; provided that such Member is in good standing during such Member's tenure of office. All of the above described Directors shall be voting members of the Board. Ex-officio, non-voting liaisons to the Board may be appointed as the Board deems appropriate.

Section 4.3 Number of Directors and Terms of Office.

(a) The Board shall be composed of no fewer than seven (7) Directors and no greater than eighteen (18) Directors. On the date these By-Laws become effective, the Board shall consist of fourteen (14) Directors (the "Initial Directors"). Thereafter, subject to such minimum and maximum, the number of Directors may be increased or decreased from time to time, by resolution of the Board, but such action by the Board shall require an affirmative vote of the Board and no decrease shall shorten the term of any incumbent Director.

(b) Each Director shall hold office until the expiration of the term for which he or she is elected or appointed, and until his or her successor has been elected, or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal in accordance with these By-Laws. The term of office of each Director shall be staggered and begin immediately following the applicable Annual Meeting in which such Director is appointed, or at whatever time votes can be validated, and last for three (3) years. The Board has the option to fill an unexpired term (whether resulting from the death, resignation or removal of a Director) by appointment. The appointed Board member shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term, after which the seat shall be filled by election. Directors may be elected to any number of consecutive terms. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, the terms of the Initial Directors will be as follows:

(1) each of Michael Corey, Ed Frantz, Gerry Moore, David Werier and Meg Wilkinson shall serve as a Director until the 2010 Annual Meeting;

(2) each of Bruce Gilman, Joseph McMullen, Connie Tedesco and Priscilla Titus shall serve as a Director until the 2011 Annual Meeting; and

(3) each of Christopher Martine, Andrew Nelson, Richard Ring, Troy Weldy and Steve Young shall serve as a Director until the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Section 4.4 Nominations and Elections of Directors.

(a) Other than the Initial Directors, elections of Directors for open Board positions shall be conducted by the Nominations Committee (as defined herein) and held every year at the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall nominate a candidate for each open Board position. Additional nominations may be submitted to the Nominating Committee for consideration or made via write-in of names on the ballot.

(b) Prior to each Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall cause (i) the names of the members of the Nominating Committee, (ii) a list of the open Board positions to be filled and (iii) the names of the nominees for Directors to be either (x) published in the Corporation's newsletter or (y) reported to the Members by mail, email or alternative form of technology along with a notification of such Annual Meeting.

(c) Members' ballots shall be cast by mail, email, or some other alternative form of technology prior to the Annual Meeting or at the Annual Meeting. The existing Board shall resolve all ties by a vote of the Board.

Section 4.5 Resignation.

Any Director may resign from office at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing to the Board, the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary, and shall take effect at the time specified therein, and if no time be specified, at the time of its receipt by the Board, the President, a Vice President, the Secretary or Treasurer of the Corporation, as applicable. The acceptance of a resignation by the Board shall not be necessary to make it effective, but no resignation shall discharge any accrued obligation or duty of a Director.

Section 4.6 Removal.

Any Director may be removed by the Board upon the death, disability or upon the occurrence of one or more of the following events: (a) such Director has three (3) or more consecutive unexcused absences from any meeting of the Corporation; or (b) such Director is removed upon the vote of the Members in accordance with Section 3.8 hereof.

Section 4.7 Meetings of the Board.

The Board shall meet at times and places to be specified by the Board. Special meetings of the Board may be called at any time or upon written demand of not less than three (3) Directors. At any special meeting of the Board, only the business specified in the notice of such meeting may be transacted. Written notice of the date, time, place, and purposes of each meeting of the Board will be sent to each Director at least seven (7) days prior to such meeting.

Section 4.8 Quorum and Manner of Acting.

A simple majority of the entire Board will constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise specified in the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-Laws, if a quorum is present at the time of a vote, the act of a majority of the Directors present will be the act of the Board.

Section 4.9 Action Without a Meeting.

Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if all Directors consent in writing to the adoption of a resolution authorizing such action. The resolution and the written consents thereto by the Directors shall be filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

Section 4.10 Telephonic Presence.

The Directors or any committee designated by the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board or of any committee of the Corporation, by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and such participation shall constitute presence in person at the meeting.

Section 4.11 Honorary Board Members.

The Board may appoint an unlimited number of honorary board members of the Corporation (each, an "Honorary Board Member"). Such Honorary Board Members shall be non-voting members of the Board and shall serve for a term of three (3) years. There shall be no limit as to the number of consecutive terms that any Honorary Board Member may serve.

Section 4.12 Rules of Order.

At the meetings of the Board, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall apply when procedures are not specified by these By-laws.

Section 4.13 Compensation.

Directors shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as Directors, except that nothing contained herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from being reimbursed by the Corporation for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with his or her service as a Director or prevent the payment of compensation for services provided to the Corporation by the Director in any capacity separate from his or her responsibilities as a Director; provided there is full disclosure of the terms of such compensation and the arrangement has been approved by the Board. The provisions of this Section shall not in any way limit reimbursement of or payment for services provided to the Corporation by any organization in which a Director is affiliated.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Section 5.1 General.

The Board may elect a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such other officers, employees and agents as it determines appropriate and necessary. A person may hold any number of offices, except that the office of President may not be held by a person also serving as Secretary or Treasurer at the same time. Each officer of the Corporation will have the authority and duties provided in these By-Laws and such other authority and duties as may be assigned to him or her from time to time by the Board.

Section 5.2 Elections and Term.

The officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the Board at the first meeting of the Board following each Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of offices to be filled and suggest a slate for consideration by the Board. Each officer of the Corporation shall hold office for one (1) year, until the next succeeding meeting of the Board or until his or her successor has been elected and qualified, or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal.

Section 5.3 Resignation.

Any officer of the Corporation may resign from office at any time. Such resignation shall be made in writing to the Board, the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary of the Corporation, and shall take effect at the time specified therein, and if no time be specified, at the time of its receipt by the Board, the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary of the Corporation, as applicable. The acceptance of a resignation by the Board shall not be necessary to make it effective, but no resignation shall discharge any accrued obligation or duty of such officer.

Section 5.4 Removal.

Any officer of the Corporation may be removed by the Board upon the death, disability or upon the vote of the Members in accordance with Section 3.8 hereof.

Section 5.5 Vacancies.

A vacancy of any office other than that of President may be filled by a vote of the Board. In the event that a vacancy of the office of President occurs, the Vice-President shall assume the post until the Board elects a new President. In the event that a vacancy of the office of President and Vice-President occur simultaneously, the Board shall appoint an interim President to complete the term of office.

Section 5.6 Duties and Powers of the President. The President shall:

- (a) be the chief representative of the Corporation;
- (b) preside at meetings of the Members and of the Board;
- (c) be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee;
- (d) perform other recognized duties of the office;
- (e) have served at least one (1) year on the Board before taking office;
- (f) have authority to act for the Treasurer when the Treasurer is unavailable;
- (g) be a resident of or work in New York State; and
- (h) have such other powers and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned by the Board.

Section 5.7 Duties and Powers of the Vice-Presidents. The Vice-Presidents shall:

- (a) preside at meetings of the Members and the Board in the absence of the President;
- (b) perform the recognized duties of the office;
- (c) fulfill the term of the office of President if that office becomes vacant;
- (d) chair the Grants and Awards Committee (as referenced herein); and
- (e) have such other powers and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned by the Board.

Section 5.8 Duties and Powers of the Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- (a) ensure that minutes are taken of all meetings of the Members and of the Board;
- (b) in cooperation with the Treasurer, maintain a roster of active Members;
- (c) oversee all correspondence of the Corporation, including website development;
- (d) preside at meetings of the Members and the Board in the absence of each of the President and Vice Presidents;
- (e) chair the Field Trips and Seminars Committee (as referenced herein); and
- (f) have such other powers and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned by the Board.

Section 5.9 Duties and Powers of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

- (a) in cooperation with the Secretary, maintain a roster of active Members;
- (b) chair the Finance Committee (as referenced herein);
- (c) keep and maintain accurate accounts of the transactions of the Corporation, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements;
- (d) deposit all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the Corporation with such depositories as may be authorized by the Board;
- (e) disburse the funds of the Corporation as may be authorized by the Board or by a vote of the membership of the Corporation, render to the members of the Board, upon request, an account of all transactions and of the financial condition of the Corporation;
- (f) complete all paperwork necessary to maintain and report the Corporation's not-for-profit status as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- (g) present an annual report to the Board on or before March 31 of each year and publish said report in NYFA Newsletter; and
- (h) have such other powers and shall perform such other duties as may be from time to time assigned by the Board.

Section 5.10 Compensation.

Any officer, employee or agent of the Corporation may be entitled to receive a reasonable salary or other compensation for services rendered to the Corporation, but only when such salary or other compensation is authorized by vote of the Board. If an officer, employee or agent is also a Director, then he or she may not participate in the discussion or vote with respect to his or her compensation. Officers of the Corporation may be reimbursed by the Corporation for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with their service as officers of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VI
STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

Section 6.1 Standing Committees.

The Board may create one or more standing committees (each, a "Standing Committee"), as needed to accomplish the goals of the Corporation. The Chairperson of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board. The majority of the members of the Standing Committees shall be Members. Each Standing Committee may adopt its own rules; provided that such rules are not inconsistent with such Standing Committee's stated powers and duties or with these Bylaws. The Chairperson of each Standing Committee may call committee meetings, and a summary of such meetings shall be submitted to the Board and entered into the minutes of the Board.

Section 6.2 Existing Standing Committees. As of the date of these By-Laws, the existing Standing Committees are as follows:

(a) Nominating Committee.

(1) Composition and Term. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee to consist of a chairperson plus two (2) additional members. At least one (1) member must also be serving on the Board. The term of office for all members of the Nominating Committee is two (2) years, concurrent with the fiscal year of the Corporation. No member of the Nominating Committee shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive terms. In case of a vacancy, the President shall appoint a new member to the Nominating Committee for the

remainder of the term.

(2) Duties. Acting by majority vote, the Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of nominations for Directors (presented to the Members) and officers of the Corporation (presented to the Board). Nominations by petition of the Members shall be automatically placed on the slate, without distinction from nominations from the Nominating Committee. The Nomination Committee shall conduct all elections of Directors and officers of the Corporation.

(b) Native Plant Conservation Committee. The Native Plant Conservation Committee shall (1) monitor issues affecting the native plants of New York and their habitats, (2) inform the Board and Members of these issues, and (3) promote the conservation of native plants.

(c) Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall propose an annual operations budget to the Board and suggest other fiscal directives to support the purpose of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall be the chairperson of the Finance Committee.

(d) Grants and Awards Committee. The Grants and Awards Committee shall provide recognition awards for outstanding service, research, and presentation of botanically important projects in New York State. The Grants and Awards Committee shall administer the Corporation's Small Grant Program in efforts to stimulate research, conservation, and educational activities contributing to scientific knowledge about plants of New York State. The Vice-President shall be the chairperson of the Grants and Awards Committee.

(e) Field Trips and Seminars Committee. The Field Trips and Seminars Committee shall promote an understanding and appreciation of the flora of New York State through field trips, seminars, and workshops conducted by knowledgeable Members and other botanical experts.

(f) Newsletter Committee. The Newsletter Committee shall create and edit the NYFA Newsletter, which is the Corporation's newsletter, to be published on a regular basis to the Members. The editor(s) of the NYFA Newsletter shall be chosen by the Board. The Newsletter Editor shall be the chairperson of this Newsletter Committee.

(g) New York Flora Atlas Committee. The New York Flora Atlas Committee is responsible for maintaining the New York Flora Atlas. The New York Flora Atlas is a joint effort between the Corporation and partners, including various herbaria and other organizations, with the goal of providing users with a comprehensive searchable database of the vascular and non-vascular plants of New York State and providing advice to the Members on plant taxonomy and nomenclature.

Section 6.3 Ad Hoc Committees.

The Board may create ad hoc committees as needed by the Board or as directed by a vote of the Members at a regular or special meeting of the Members. Each such ad hoc committee shall be provided specific charges of responsibility and reasonable deadlines for final reports to be made to the Board and/or the Members. The chairpersons of such ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the Board.

ARTICLE VII

CONTRACTS, CHECKS, BANK ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS

Section 7.1 Checks, Notes and Contracts.

The Board is authorized to select the banks or depositories it deems proper for the funds of the Corporation and shall determine who shall be authorized on the Corporation's behalf to write checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, acceptances, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, to enter into contracts or to execute and deliver other documents and instruments.

Section 7.2 Investments.

The funds of the Corporation may be retained in whole or in part in cash or be invested and reinvested from time to time in such property, real, personal or otherwise, including stocks, bonds or other securities, as the Board may deem desirable.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICE AND BOOKS

Section 8.1 Office.

The office of the Corporation shall be located at such place as the Board may from time to time determine.

Section 8.2 Books.

There shall be kept at the office of the Corporation correct books of account of the activities and transactions of the Corporation including the minute book, which shall contain a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation, a copy of these By-Laws, and all minutes of meetings of members and of the Board.

ARTICLE IX

FISCAL YEAR

Section 9.1

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be the period commencing on January 1 and ending on December 31 of each year, or such other period as determined by the Board.

ARTICLE IX

INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

Section 10.1 Indemnification.

The Corporation may, to the fullest extent now or hereafter permitted by law, indemnify any person made, or threatened to be made, a party to any action or proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she, his, her, or testator or intestate was a Director, officer, employee or agent of the Corporation, against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees ("Damages"). No indemnification may be made to or on behalf of any such person if such Damages were primarily caused by such person's willful misconduct or knowing violation of criminal law.

Section 10.2 Insurance.

The Corporation shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance to indemnify the Corporation for any obligation which it incurs as a result of its indemnification of Directors, officers and employees pursuant to Section 10.1 of this Article, or to indemnify such persons in instances in which they may be indemnified pursuant to Section 10.1 of this Article.

ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended, restated or repealed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the entire Board; provided that any such amendment, restatement or repeal shall be presented in writing to the Members, and the Board shall give the Members at least thirty (30) days' prior written notice of its intention to amend, restate or repeal, as applicable, these By-Laws. The Members shall be encouraged to contact the Board and comment on any such changes to the By-Laws within such thirty (30) day period.

ARTICLE XII
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, CONTRACTS
AND SERVICES OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 12.1 Disclosure.

Immediately upon election or appointment to the Board and as needed thereafter, all Directors shall disclose any relevant interest which may pose a potential conflict of interest. Disclosure shall include any interest, financial or otherwise, in any corporation, organization, partnership or other entity which provides professional or other services to the Corporation. However, such interests shall not include positions on legislative matters of general impact. Disclosure statements shall be available to any Director or officer of the Corporation on request. When any matter comes before the Board or any committee of the Corporation in which any Director has an interest, that interest shall be immediately disclosed to the Board or such committee.

Section 12.2 Determining whether a Conflict of Interest Exists.

Whether a Director has a conflict of interest in a matter shall be determined by whether that person would derive an individual economic benefit, either directly or indirectly, from the decision on the matter by the Board or the applicable committee. After disclosure of the interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, the interested person shall leave the Board or the applicable committee meeting while the determination of whether a conflict of interest exists is discussed and voted upon. The remaining Board or the applicable committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists by majority vote.

Section 12.3 Voting.

No Director shall vote on any matter in which he or she has a conflict of interest.

Section 12.4 Attempts to Influence.

Directors shall not attempt to influence other Directors regarding matters in which they are interested, without disclosing that interest to such person and the Board.

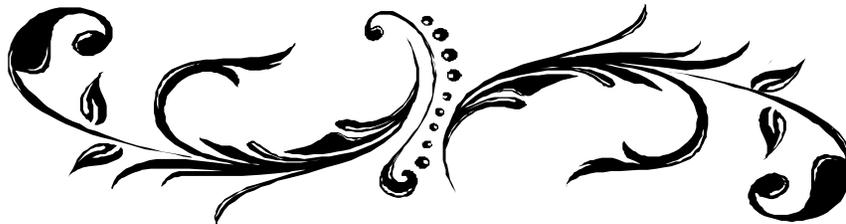
ARTICLE XIII
NON-DISCRIMINATION

In all of its dealings, neither the Corporation nor its duly authorized agents shall discriminate against any individual or group for reasons of race, color, creed, sex, age, culture, national origin, marital status, sexual preference, or mental or physical handicap.

ARTICLE XIV
REFERENCE TO CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

References in these By-Laws to the Certificate of Incorporation shall include all amendments thereto or changes thereof unless specifically excepted.

Date of Adoption: [_____], 2010



UPCOMING NYFA EVENTS

NYFA FIELD TRIPS 2010

May 15 and 16: Allegheny State Park led by Kim Smith and Steve Young, NYNHP

Join us for a two day excursion to Allegheny State Park to enjoy the spring wildflowers! During this trip we will see the rich spring understory flora of maple basswood rich mesic forests and rich mesophytic forests common at Allegheny State Park. We will keep an eye out for the rare *Trillium flexipes*, *Clintonia umbellata*, and *Platanthera hookeri*, all reported from that area. We will also explore Bear Cave Rocks and Thunder Rocks in search of *Trichomanes intricatum*, a rare fern that only exhibits a minute gametophyte phase in New York. The rocks are covered with lichens and bryophytes, so moss and lichen guides and enthusiasts are welcome as well!

Limit is 25 people so please
sign up with Kim Smith at:

kimbalinajoy@gmail.com

or

518-486-1373

Contact Kim Smith for more
information.

July 24 and 25: Peatlands led by Bernie Carr and Anne Johnson

This trip will visit various peatlands, from bogs or poor fens to rich fens, in the Star Lake/Cranberry Lake area including a visit to the Streeter Lake area and bog. Streeter Lake adjoins the old Schuler estate (of the Schuler potato chips; there you can see old potato fields and his mausoleum).

For more information, directions,
and to register contact:

Anne Johnson (315-322-4058/
ritzko@northnet.org)

or Bernie Carr (315-469-9379 /
mycocarex@hotmail.com).

August 7: Tug Hill Gulfs led by Anne Johnson

Numerous deep gulfs cut through the limestone and shale border the Tug Hill plateau. We will explore the bottom and walls of one (or two, if time permits) of these gulfs on the western side of Tug Hill. Interesting plants include *Saxifraga aizoides* and *Primula mistassinica*. Wear footwear that you don't mind getting wet as we may walk through the streams in places.

For more information and to
register contact Anne Johnson at:

315-322-4058

ritzko@northnet.org.



NYFA FIELD TRIPS 2010 (cont.)

September 19: Cryptogamic field trip to Chaumont Barrens led by Scott LaGreca

After 20 years, NYFA finally has a Cryptogamic Committee. The head of this committee, lichenologist Scott LaGreca (Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA), will be leading NYFA's first-ever cryptogamic field trip to Chaumont Barrens, located between Watertown and Cape Vincent in Jefferson County (about 1.5 hours north of Syracuse). An unusual grassland community called "alvar vegetation" occurs here, and the barrens are home to several rare vascular species. A rich diversity of lichens can also be found, including a number of interesting *Dermatocarpon* and *Cladonia/Cladonia* species. NYFA has visited this natural area twice before, but lichens and bryophytes were not on the agenda. The preserve is owned by the Nature Conservancy; we are pursuing the possibility of

Directions:

From Watertown take Route 12E west to Limerick (about 7 miles). Turn north on Perch River Road (Route 180). Go about 1.25 miles. Turn left (west) onto Ransome Road. We will meet along Ransome Road. Look for the posted TNC signs.

Please call Scott LaGreca at

617-962-2327

if you plan to attend.

2009 Genera Quest Wrap-Up

By Steve Young, New York Natural Heritage Program

For the three Genera Quest trips in 2009, we increased the number of native genera we have seen in New York to 64%. We have also seen 18% of the exotic genera in New York. In 2009 we saw 15 new exotic genera or 3% of the total in the state and 117 new native genera for an increase of 20%. We have now seen 82% (295) of the native genera we had ranked as easy-to-find, 46% (56) that we ranked medium and 14% (13) that we ranked hard-to-find.

As a final tally we saw 21 genera at Mount Skylight, 256 genera (the highest count so far in one day) at Mendon Ponds and Auburn trail near Rochester, and 141 genera in the Napeague area on Long Island. A total of 24 happy plant people participated in what were three enjoyable and productive days in the field. So far Ken Hull and Ed Fuchs are the members that have seen the most genera at 411.

REMINDER

Don't forget that all programs and trips are posted on the NYFA calendar at www.nyflora.org/Calendar.html. Let us know if you have any others you would like to post by sending them to Steve Young at young@nynhp.org

NYFA WORKSHOPS

THE NEW YORK FLORA ASSOCIATION (IN
CONJUNCTION WITH THE BAILEY HORTORIUM)
PRESENTS



ROSA & RUBUS – A ROSES & BRAMBLES WORKSHOP

JUNE 25TH TO JUNE 27TH, 2010

Who: Arthur Haines is a plant biologist specializing in the taxonomy and identification of New England tracheophytes. He is currently employed by the New England Wild Flower Society as a research botanist and is involved in writing a new tracheophyte flora of New England. His extensive publications include *The Flora of Maine* and papers on a wide diversity of often “challenging” taxa from *Lycopodiella* to *Viola* to *Salix* to *Eupatorium* to *Bidens* to *Eleocharis* to *Poa* to *Chenopodium* and more! In addition, Arthur is a regional reviewer for the North American Flora project and director of the Delta Institute of Natural History in Maine.

Besides being a highly recognized and astute botanist he is a skilled and approachable teacher. He has the ability to make difficult taxonomic groups feel at least somewhat manageable if not downright easy. His work and insights, although grounded in past work, are highly original and attempt to correct past mistakes. In addition to plant taxonomy, Arthur has also become highly proficient in “primitive skills”.

What: This will be an intensive weekend studying *Rosa* and *Rubus* (roses and brambles) of the central NY region.

The weekend will consist of presentations, indoor study of specimens, and plenty of field work. Participants will learn the characters useful to identifying and distinguishing between the species of *Rosa* and *Rubus* that occur in central New York. There will also be time to work on specimens that participants bring to study.

Where: Ithaca, New York. We will be based out of the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University and will spend time both indoors and in the field in the Ithaca area.

When: Friday June 25th 7PM to Sunday June 27th 12 Noon, 2010

Cost: The entire weekend program cost including a group dinner at a local restaurant Saturday evening is \$130 for NYFA member or \$170 for non-NYFA members. Other meals and housing are the obligation of the participants. Participants are encouraged to become NYFA members at the time of registration.

What to bring: a 10x hand lens, field journal, appropriate clothing to be outside most of the day, *Rosa* and/or *Rubus* specimens, and bag lunches for Saturday (These can be purchased locally in the morning prior to the workshop, if necessary)

Registration: Participation is limited to 10 so sign up early to assure a slot. To register, please send a check for the full amount to the New York Flora Association / 3140 CEC / Albany, NY 12230. Checks should be made out to the New York Flora Association. If you would like to pay by credit card please request a credit card form from David Werier (see contact information below).

In addition please send an email to David Werier (Nakita@lightlink.com) letting him know you have sent in your registration.

Questions?

Please contact David Werier:

Phone: 607-273-1765

Email: Nakita@lightlink.com

Address: 30 Banks Rd.

Brooktondale, NY 14817

HANDY RESOURCES

NEW BOOKS

Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East

By Carolyn Summers, with illustrations by Michele Hertz

The beautifully-illustrated *Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East* approaches landscape design from an ecological perspective, encouraging professional designers and backyard enthusiasts alike to intensify their use of indigenous or native plants. These plants, ones that grow naturally in the same place in which they evolved, form the basis of the food web. Wildlife simply cannot continue to survive without them—nor can we. Summers introduces our wild flora into designs for common garden landscapes, such as foundation plantings, mixed borders, even formal knot gardens.

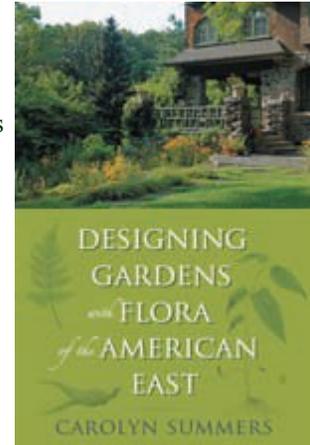
Emphasizing the importance of indigenous plant gardening and landscape design, Summers provides guidelines for beginning gardeners as well as experienced designers.

Rutgers University Press

Cloth ISBN: 978-0-8135-4706-0

Paper ISBN: 978-0-8135-4707-7

224 pages; 16 color and 62 black and white photographs, 9 illustrations, and 26 tables

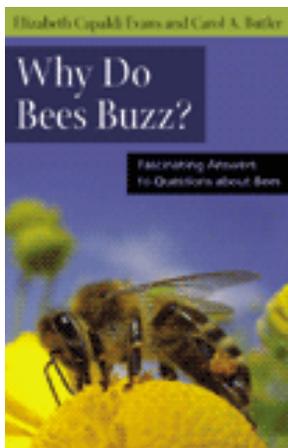


Why not buy your copy at the May 22nd: lecture and book signing at the Wildflower Festival at Catskill Native Nursery, near New Paltz, NY?

Why Do Bees Buzz?

Fascinating Answers to Questions about Bees

By Elizabeth Capaldi Evans and Carol A. Butler



With clarity and depth, bee biologist Elizabeth Capaldi Evans and coauthor Carol A. Butler examine the lives of honey bees, as well as other species such as orchid bees, bumblebees, and stingless bees. Accessible to readers on every level, and including the latest research and theory for the more sophisticated reader, the authors reveal more than one hundred critical answers to questions about the lives of bees. Concepts about speciation, evolutionary adaptation and pollination, as well as historical details about topics such as Mayan beekeeping and the appearance of bees in rock art, are arranged in easy-to-follow sidebars that highlight the text. Color and black and white photographs and drawings enhance the beauty and usefulness of *Why Do Bees Buzz?*

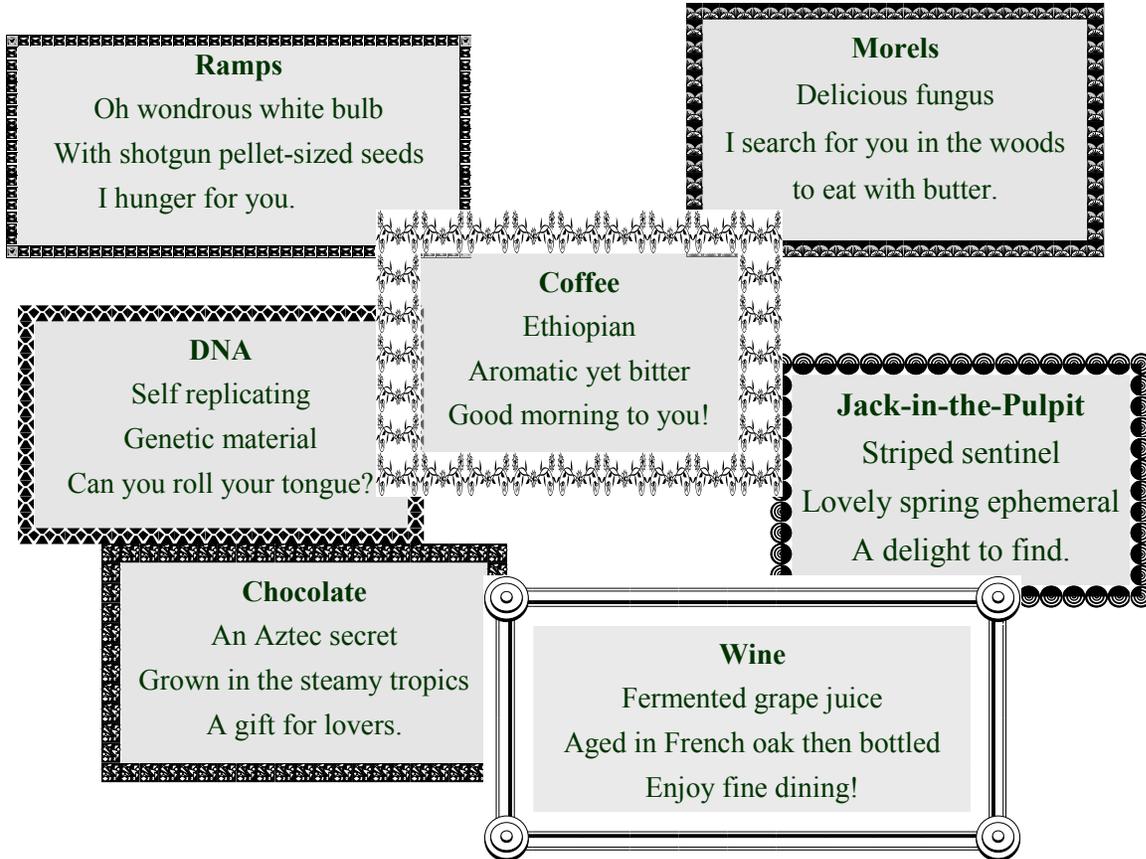
Rutgers University Press

Paper ISBN: 978-0-8135-4721-3 \$21.95

248 pages · 16 color and 44 black-and-white-photographs

MUSINGS

The following Haiku poems were written by NYFA members Dr. J. Forrest Meekins and Dr. Todd Egan who are on the biology faculty at Elmira College. They were inspired to write the poems during field trips, teaching Ethnobotany, and at the Ramp Festival in Richwood , West Virginia. Haiku are three lined poems with five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second line, and five syllables in the last line.



Do you have a photograph, article or poem, or pondering that you would be willing to share with other NYFA members? We are always looking for interesting contributions for our newsletter and blog. Please send your contributions and suggestions to:

EDITOR@NYFLORA.ORG

Seeking your Comments

REGULATING NON-NATIVE SPECIES

The New York State Invasive Species Council is seeking comments on a draft report: A Regulatory System for Non-native Species

The Council comprises nine State agencies and is co- led by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The Council is required to prepare a report for the Governor and Legislature recommending a system for non-native animal and plant species that contains three lists:

- a list of prohibited species, which should be unlawful to possess, import, purchase, sell, transport, or introduce except under a permit for disposal, control, research, or education;
- a list of regulated species ,which should be legal to possess, sell, buy, and transport but not be introduced into a free-living state;
- a list of non-native species that should not be subject to regulation.

The report must also recommend a procedure for the review of a non-native species that are not yet on the prohibited, regulated, or unregulated lists.

The draft report recommends a regulatory system for preventing the importation and/or release of non-native species. It would create the first-ever official lists of invasive species for New York State that would apply to all species of animals and plants.

The Report is available on-line at: \

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/63402.html>

The comment period runs for 45 days, from March 31 through May 14. The Council urges all to send comments via e-mail to:
invasivesreport@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Written comments may be sent by conventional mail to: NYS DEC - Office of Invasive Species Coordination, Fifth Floor, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233.

Contact: Steve Sanford, NYS DEC, Fifth Floor, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233, Phone: (518) 402-9148, E-mail: sxsanfor@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

CONFRONTING CLIMATE CHANGE

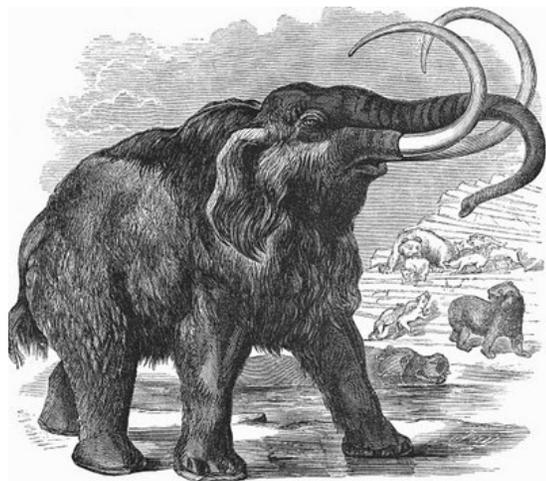
NatureServe and its network of member programs have been observing and documenting our environment's biodiversity and changing landscape for more than 30 years. As climate change continues to emerge as the major threat to the continued survival of many plants and animals, and the ecosystems on which they depend, NatureServe is uniquely positioned to track the impact of those changes and to help identify ways to mitigate them and adapt to them.

NatureServe is addressing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity by developing tools and information that enable you to build climate-change considerations into broader conservation efforts.

NatureServe works closely with its member programs and other partners to carry out these strategies. Together, we will make a significant difference at helping society respond to this urgent threat to the survival of both wildlife and people.

Please take a look at the NatureServe Climate Change Vulnerability Index at the link. provided below. The current version is 1.2 (Jan 10) and work will begin on version 2.0 soon, so please provide your feedback (via survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/X67MB7J> or email Bruce Young bruce_young@natureserve.org).

<http://www.natureserve.org/prodServices/climatechange/ClimateChange.jsp#v1point2>



Other Selected Regional Events

Native Plants in the Landscape 20th Anniversary Conference

June 2-5, 2009, Millersville University, Millersville, PA

This conference sponsored by Millersville University Department of Biology will feature the following speakers:

Bill Cullina - The Web of Life

Neil Diboll - The Future of Gardening

Larry Weaner - Ecological Restoration

Jim McCormac-Guilding with Goldenrods

The conference will include many other topics, field trips, and a native plant sale. The conference is intended for home gardeners and professionals who are interested in regionally appropriate plants and sustainable landscapes. CLE credits and financial aid are available.

Cost: \$250 and up includes room (2 nights) and meals

To register online, go to:

www.millersvillenativeplants.org.

Or contact: (717) 871-2189, npilc@yahoo.com

Millersville University, Department of Biology,
P.O. Box

1002, Millersville, PA 17551-0302.

Niagara Frontier Botanical Society Field Trips

Niagara Frontier Botanical Society Field Trips are coordinated by Joanne Schlegel. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. If you plan on going on a trip, please contact the trip leader and leave your phone number, not only to let the leader know that you are coming but also in case of a scheduling change. For more information about the Niagara Frontier Botanical Society see <http://www.acsu.buffalo.edu/~insrisg/botany>

- ◆ **Saturday, April 24, 2010, 10 a.m.: Counterfeiters Ledge Nature Conservancy Preserve, Akron.** Join us at a beautiful site along the Onondaga Escarpment where spring wildflowers are earliest and best. Call ahead to arrange carpools as parking is limited. Leader: Laurie Baldwin at 716-735-3727 and Joanne Schlegel at 835-6042. Note: Laurie grew up here and knows the site well.
- ◆ **Saturday, May 1 or Sunday May 2, 2010, Rock City State Forest.** We have been invited to join members of the Nature Sanctuary Society on a field trip led by Dick Rosche to search for Trailing Arbutus and other spring plants characteristic of unglaciated oak woodlands. Call Dick at 716-652-8409 for a confirmed date, meeting place and time.
- ◆ **Saturday, May 8, 2010, Arkwright Falls, Chautauqua County.** to look for spring ephemerals. Meet at 8:45 a.m. at the Home Depot parking lot, just east of the Mile Strip Road exit (Exit 56) from the I-90. Once in Fredonia we will be guided by Jon and Priscilla Titus, and will be joined by some of Jon's botany students from Fredonia State College. Call Joanne Schlegel, 716-835-6042 if you plan to come.
- ◆ **Saturday, May 15, 2010: Foraging Trip to Ellicottville.** Our March speaker, Bill Soules, will lead us on a trip to a 200-acre private property near Ellicottville, where we will enjoy forests and wetlands while searching for edible wild plants. Details to come. Call Joanne Schlegel for more information at 716-835-6042.
- ◆ **Saturday, May 22, 2010, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Plant Sale** Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Rd, Amherst, NY
- ◆ **Saturday, June 5, 2010 (rain date: June 6): Barcelona, New York.** We will visit a rare grove of pawpaw trees, which should be in bloom, then go on to additional sites. Leader: Dick Rosche, 716-652-8409.

Eagle Hill Seminar
Introduction to Modern Phylogenetic Methods
with Brigid O'Donnell and Hilary McManus
May 30-June 5, 2010

This seminar will provide participants with working knowledge to construct phylogenetic trees using modern methods. Course content will include lectures, hands-on work with phylogenetic programs and roundtable discussions of journal articles relevant to the topics at hand. Participants are strongly encouraged to bring a personal laptop (PC or Mac). Participants can elect to bring their own dataset or work with a dataset provided by the instructors. For more detailed information please contact:

Humboldt Field Research Institute
PO Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680-0009
207-546-2821, Fax 207-546-3042
office@eaglehill.us www.eaglehill.us

For information on a variety of other seminars offered by Eagle Hill, visit:

<http://www.eaglehill.us/programs/nhs/nhs-calendar.shtml>

Long Island Botanical Society
Presentations

Presentations are preceded by refreshments and informal gathering and take place at the Bill Paterson Nature Center, Muttontown Preserve, East Norwich.

- ◆ **Tuesday, May 11th, 7:30 p.m. "Plants of Three Rare Ecosystems" by Mike Feder.** This talk will highlight plants from Cape Town, South Africa's Fynbos, Colombia's Paramo, and Trinidad's Aripo Savannah. Mike travels extensively, and is a member of the Torrey Botanical Society and the New York City Butterfly Club. He is a Forest Restoration Crew Chief in the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation Natural Resources Group.
- ◆ **Tuesday, June 8, 5:30 p.m. Annual Barbecue.** The annual barbecue, featuring Chef Eric's made-to-order hot dogs and hamburgers. Salads, deviled eggs, desserts, etc. gladly accepted. The traditional location—on the green behind the Muttontown Preserve meeting house.

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society
Upcoming Presentations

Presentations are from 7-8:30 at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building, 615 Willow Ave., Ithaca NY, and are free and open to the public.

- ◆ **Thursday April 22, 2010, 7 p.m. Carolus Linnaeus and the Origins of Organized Natural History Studies by Charlie Smith, Cornell University**
- ◆ **Thursday, May 20, 7 p.m. Systematics of Western Hemisphere Pitcher Plants: Old Problems and New Data from Symbiotic Arthropods by Rob Naczi, New York Botanical Gardens** The Western Hemisphere Pitcher Plants (Sarraceniaceae) are a small family of carnivorous herbs native to North America and northern South America. Despite much popularity with horticulturists and ecologists, the relationships among those fascinating plants remain obscure. Data from obligately symbiotic, host-specific flies and mites are shedding new light on these questions.

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society
Field Trips-Spring 2010

- ◆ **May 15 – Saturday – 10 am** – Wildflower Walk at Dorothy McIlroy Bird Sanctuary. Led by Robert Wesley
- ◆ **May 30 – Sunday – 1 pm** - Willows. Led by David Werier.
- ◆ **June 6 – Sunday – 1 pm** - Hammond Hill. Led by Susanne Lorbeer.
- ◆ **June 13 – Sunday – 1 pm** – Sedges and Grasses. Led by David Werier.
- ◆ **June 16 – Wednesday - 5:30 pm** - Bloomsday Moss Walk. Led by Norm Trigoboff

For more information about FLNPS or the above field trips, call Anna Stalter at:

607-379-0924

or

Susanne Lorbeer at

607-257-0835.

JOINT FIELD TRIP OF THE FINGER LAKES LAND TRUST and the FINGER LAKES NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Saturday May 15, 2010

Join botanist Robert Wesley for a botanical tour of the **Dorothy McIlroy Bird Sanctuary**, which features wetlands, wooded wetlands, and forest. From Cortland, follow Rt. 281 north to intersection with Rt. 90. Turn left (west) on Rt. 90 and follow for 5 miles to Lake Como Rd. Turn right on Lake Como Rd. and continue for about 2 mi to Fire Lane A. Make right onto Lane A to find parking area on right. Trip begins at 10:00 a.m. For more information about the preserve see : http://www.fllt.org/protected_lands/protected_lands1.php?id=28



JOINT FIELD MEETING OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL SOCIETY, THE PHILADELPHIA BOTANICAL CLUB, AND THE NORTHEAST SECTION OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

BUXTON SCHOOL, WILLIAMSTOWN, MA.

June 20-24, 2010

The 2010 meeting will explore the Botany of Berkshire County, Massachusetts. The meeting is based at Buxton School in the heart of Williamstown, down the street from the Clark Art Institute and Williams College. This is a lovely country setting with hiking trails close by.

Program: Field trips, by bus, will include Mt. Greylock, the highest mountain in Massachusetts with its own unique sub-alpine boreal forest and rare plants, and Bartholomew's Cobble, National Natural Landmark, which has one of North America's greatest diversity of fern species and many interesting plants amid the unusual geology of the cobbles. Other trips will depend on the best botanical locations at the time. There will be a variety of evening lectures. Leaders are Pam Weatherbee, Berkshire County Botanist, and Dr. C. Barre Hellquist, Biology Professor Emeritus, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

Housing, meals, and cost: Accommodations are in the school dormitory rooms, though other options are available. The price of the field meeting will be \$350 including four nights lodging and meals from Sunday night through Thursday breakfast. Buxton has the reputation of having very good meals using local produce when available. The price without room but including meals is \$225.

For registration and additional information: download the invitation at:

http://www.ansp.org/hosted/botany_club/field_trips.html

or contact:

Nan Williams, Chairperson, at 413-339-5598 or Email: nnwrowe@gmail.com.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Emerald Ash Borer Training Workshops

The Cornell Department of Natural Resources will be conducting a series of workshops in New York State in order to train educators and community volunteers as source for trusted information and guidance helping communities prepare for the eventual arrival of this devastating pest.

Fourteen 14 workshops are scheduled throughout the State. The workshops will cover topics of vital importance helping individuals and communities prepare for the arrival of the EAB and minimize the potentially devastating economic impacts.



The target audiences for these workshops are Cornell Cooperative Extension educators, Master Gardeners, Master Forest Owners, Master Naturalists, members of NY's Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISMs), foresters, tree care professionals, and land management professionals in county and municipal governments.

Each 3-hour workshop includes refreshments. DEC pesticide, SAF, ISA, CN/LP and ASLA rectification credits are available or were requested, call for details. We invited are CCE educators, County agency staff, PRISM volunteers and professional land managers.

For a list of workshop dates, locations, and registration information, see:

http://nyis.info/Insects/PDFCCE_EAB_Training_Workshops_Schedule_Final_033110.pdf

Volunteers Needed

Invasive Plant Species Removal at Alexander Preserve

Sunday, April 25

Owned and managed by the Nature Sanctuary Society of Western New York, lovely Alexander Preserve is located about seven miles from Springville in the beautiful Zoar Valley. This 118-acre preserve was purchased in 1940 and was named in honor of one of the founding members of the Society. The Preserve lands rise steeply from the Cattaraugus Creek valley bottom and support three major forest types: Beech-Birch-Maple, Oak-Hickory, and Mixed Mesophytic. Along the banks of Cattaraugus Creek there is a well-developed flood plain community which has for many years supported one of the most showy stands of Virginia Bluebells, *Mertensia virginica* (L.) Pers., in Western New York each spring.



On April 25, a group of volunteer will gather for the 2nd Annual Alexander Preserve Invasive Species Removal.

Species targeted for removal include garlic mustard, bush honeysuckle, and day lily. If you are interested in helping out, contact Jon Titus at 716-679-4509 or by email at titus@fredonia.edu for information and directions.

On Display Now in a Forest Near You



Left: According to the New York Flora Atlas, showy lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) has been recorded in 33 counties in New York State. This stunning orchid occurs in rich fens, cedar swamps, and rich calcareous swamps. Often populations are rather small but occasional populations can be extensive and large.

Below: Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) are represented in 18 counties included in the Atlas. These early beauties occur in floodplains and bottomland forests.

Why not check out your favorite plant in the Atlas today to find out its known distribution throughout New York State and other things you may be wondering about?

<http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/>



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<http://jameshoggardphotography.com/>
For requests to use this copyright-protected work in any manner, contact
jameshoggardphoto@yahoo.com

REMINDERS



NEW YORK FLORA ASSOCIATION BLOG

Reporting on the Flora of New York

It's easy to stay up to date on the latest in New York state plant sightings, plant related events, job postings, conservation issues, and many other topics throughout the state by visiting:

<http://nyflora.wordpress.com/>

facebook

Become a fan of the New York Flora Atlas on Facebook.

Just enter "New York Flora Atlas" into search from your facebook page. It is a great place to connect with other fans, and upload photos you would like others to help you identify.

Gearing up for field season? Our website provides a link you can follow to purchase our Café Press items. These will have you looking dapper in the field and at the same time promote awareness of the New York Flora Association. There's even a choice for your littlest sprout!



<http://www.cafepress.com/nyflora>



Over 1600 new photographs have been recently added to the New York Flora Atlas, many of which were contributed by NYFA board member Andy Nelson and member Kimberly Smith. These are very high quality photographs with excellent educational value. Please check them out!

Here's a link to one sample:

<http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/Plant.aspx?id=29> Click the "Photo Gallery" tab on the right side of the page.

NYFA Board of Directors

Ed Frantz – President: Term Expires: 2010

Steve Young – Treasurer: Term Expires: 2012

Currently Vacant– Vice-President

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David Werier – Secretary: Term Expires: 2010

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Meg Wilkinson - 2010



Go Green with an Electronic Newsletter

If you don't need to renew at this time and would like to receive the newsletter electronically in .pdf format, please send an e-mail to young@nynhp.org and put "NYFA electronic newsletter" in the subject line. We appreciate your efforts to save paper, money, and time by receiving your newsletter electronically. An electronic membership has the added advantage of delivery before paper copies are sent out and includes full color photographs. To date nearly half of our members receive the newsletter electronically. In the future, we hope to convert most of our members to the electronic newsletter format!



NEW YORK FLORA ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM 2009

Annual Membership dues:

New \$20

Renewal \$20

New Student Members Free the First Year. School: _____

Additional donation to support NYFA efforts like botany presentation awards and small grants.

Total \$

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

I would like my newsletter electronically. My email: _____

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Make checks payable to the **New York Flora Association** and mail to:

NY Flora Association, 3140 CEC, Albany, NY 12230

Thank you for supporting NYFA and the flora of New York State!