NORTH CAROLINA WILD FLOWER
PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Certainly this summer was a wonderful season for all growing things over the entire state from the coast to the mountains (even if it did end with almost too wet finale). Already I notice the small fall asters are showing their beautiful little sprays of white and lavender along the roadsides to make a lovely complimentary color scheme with the golden rods which have been blooming since early September.

I hope you will all consider the question of the selection of a national flower. Mrs. Doak has a review of an article concerning this on the following pages of the Newsletter. Also carefully read the information herein on the Daniel Boone Botanical Garden at Boone. In addition, N. C. Garden Club members see page 21 of the Sept.-Oct. North Carolina Gardener for a splendid write-up of this project by Mrs. B. W. Stallings. Be thinking of these two things so that we may have a discussion about them at our meeting with everyone familiar with the facts.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you good friends in Chapel Hill.

Eleanor Pegg

FALL MEETING

The fall meeting of the N.C.W.F.P.S. will be held on Oct. 18, 1959 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina at the home of Mrs. Carl H. Pegg on Laurel Hill Rd. The business meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. followed by the usual picnic lunch.

The program will be held in Davie Hall (commonly called the Botany Building) immediately after lunch. Mrs. H. R. Totten will tell us of her trip to Europe last year and will illustrate it with slides. She will discuss the wild flowers seen there and will call to our attention plants, native to the U. S., which the Europeans have introduced into their gardens. If time permits we plan a hike through the arboretum. Hope to see each of you at the meeting.

Walter B. Braxton
Program Chairman

NOTES FROM THE SPRING MEETING

Forty-two people attended the meeting held last spring at Mr. E. C. Robbins' "Gardens of the Blue Ridge". Before the guided tours Mr. Robbins told how he, as a boy, had become interested in starting such a garden and how it had grown into what he now has--a great and wonderful collection of wild flowers, plants, shrubs, and trees. These have come from many places and have been propagated from cuttings and seed. It was most interesting to see the wide variety of wild plants on the tours of the gardens, and to have the many questions answered by those familiar with the needs and habits of the plants. Plants were also available for purchase on the grounds and members made the most of the opportunity.

The business meeting was held immediately after the picnic lunch. The librarian asked what the Society thought of having some place in which to keep our library material and suggested the Chapel Hill City Library if space were available. The question was referred to the Administrative Board.

Dr. Totten reported that a group at Boone, N. C. was interested in the development of a Wild Flower Preserve and had asked that the idea be discussed by our Society. It was voted that the president name a committee of three, headed by Mrs. Totten, to investigate the proposed preserve.

Miss Mary Bess Coleman of Pleasant Garden was elected to serve as recording secretary and Miss Bessie Pope to continue as treasurer for two years. The group voted that the Trustees elected at the fall meeting be retained.

TRAILING ARBUTUS (EPIGEA REPENS) FROM SEED
by Herbert P. Smith

Supplementing my article on growing trailing arbutus from seed which appeared in the Fall 1954 Newsletter, I am pleased to report that this project has been most successful. The plants from my first planting of seed grew to adult size by the third year. This year they had several groups of blooms on them, and have put on a lot of buds for blooming next spring. The plants are very healthy and have increased in size.

Again this year I am repeating the planting of more seed from the plant I moved from Tryon, N. C. This time I kept the pot, wherein the seeds were planted, inside, a plastic bag. This has worked well, for it requires very little watering. The plants have grown taller which has made it easier to add fine dirt around them in order to deepen the roots. I have about 25 or 30 plants from seed which now have third leaf.

The next project with trailing arbutus will be to root some cuttings. I think this can be done in the right kind of soil and mositure with plastic covers. I will report on this later.

(Editor's Note: Individuals who have joined the Society since 1954 may be able to borrow from older members a copy of the Newsletter in which appeared the original article by Mr. Smith on his truly remarkable success in getting trailing arbutus to produce seed. It is well worth reading.)

ON THIS AND THAT

In the July 1959 issue of Wild Flower, published by the Wild Flower Preservation Society, Inc., Washington, D. C. there appears an article by Maxim E. Armbruster entitled "The Problem of a National Flower". In it he calls attention to the fact that resolutions in both houses of Congress would enable the President to declare the rose as the national flower.

He objects to the choice of this particular flower on several points and advocates instead the violet. By rose the resolutions do not necessarily mean the wild rose. Among criteria which he uses in his choice of a national flower are the following:

1. It should be a true species--not a horticultural creation--native to all our states, and it should be common.

2. It should not be associated with illness or unpleasantness, as the goldenrod unjustly is with hayfever.
3. It should be easily obtainable or inexpensive to buy and should be a flower which can be grown satisfactorily under the wide variety of conditions found in all our states.
4. It should not be weed-like, a point which might eliminate the daisy. (not a native)
5. It should not be the national flower of another country.

The author urges that groups consider the question of a national flower and make their desires known.

(Editor's Note: This article appears at an opportune time, since during the week of October 25 through 31, which has been designated National Flower Week, the members of the Florist's Telegraph Delivery Association will have ballot boxes wherein any individual may deposit a vote for his choice of a national flower. The question of whether to take action as a group will be discussed at our fall meeting.

Is anyone trying to propagate our native deciduous azaleas from cuttings? On page 168 of the July 1959 issue of The National Horticultural Magazine there appears a most interesting and informative article on this subject by Warren Baldsiefen who outlines a method used at Rochelle Park, N. J. Explicit directions are given for the selection and handling of cuttings, the preparation of the rooting bed, the winter care needed, and the process of bedding-out. While the method would undoubtedly need some adaptation to our more southerly clime, the article contains much valuable information.

For those who were not at our spring meeting and who do not have access to the copy of The North Carolina Gardener mentioned by Mrs. Pegg, a few words of explanation about the Daniel Boone Botanical Garden may be in order.

This conservation project is sponsored by the Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc. and is to be educational in nature. Native plants, from all parts of the state, will be planted and properly labeled so that the garden may be used for study as well as for pleasure. Land has been leased for 49 years at $1 a year with the right of renewal for another 49 years.

What help can our Society give? This question is best answered by quoting from a letter to Mrs. Pegg written by Mrs. B. W. Stallings of Boone, N. C. who is the Chairman of the Planning Committee. She writes in part as follows:

"We want advice and information from the Wild Flower Society rather than financial aid when we get ready to start planting. It is possible that the Wild Flower Society might like to plant the small pool around the Daniel Boone shrine with some of the more rare wild flowers, and you might start a small fund now, but it will not be ready for 1 - 3 years yet. Your club might recommend some plants to be used in groups, some easily grown, and some, more difficult, and give us information on their propagation--such as the orchids, for instance. We want a recommendation for the most suitable wild flowers to use, representing each of the ten districts. Very few from the coastal region could be used, but surely we could find some that would grow.

"Your club might like to make up our small education booklet for us.

"You might write an article for the 'N. C. Gardener' now, on 'The ten most interesting N. C. Wild Flowers' or 'The ten best native shrubs for use in N. C. Gardens'."

Please give this project some thought and be ready with suggestions when it is discussed at the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

It is two years since we have published a membership list. The following is a compilation of those whose dues have been paid for the current fiscal year (up to May, 1960). If your name does not appear, please send dues of one dollar to our treasurer --Miss Bessie Pope, P. O. Box 1264, High Point, N. C.

12 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alman, 1130 Westchester Dr., High Point
3 Mrs. Roy D. Apple, Rt. 7, Burlington
4 Mrs. T. R. Ballard, P. O. Box 664, High Point

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Mrs. Chas. A. Cannon, Box 146, Concord
Miss Edith Causey, Route 1, Liberty
Mrs. J. Robt. Chrisman, 407 Muir's Chapel Rd., Greensboro
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Mrs. Chester C. Haworth, P. O. Box 1551, High Point
Mr. and Mrs. Worth Ivey, 222 Woodrow Ave., High Point
Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Jackson, Rt. 2, Asheboro
Dr. William S. Justice, 14 White Oak Rd., Asheville
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Miss Sandra Melvin, Box 265, Pleasant Garden
Mrs. R. B. Moore, 418 Gatewood Ave., High Point
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Mrs. Jessie McDonald, 1528 Phillips Ave., Greensboro
Miss Monimia P. MacRae, 18 Cedarcliff Rd., Biltmore Forest, Asheville
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Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nance, 701 Summit Ave., High Point
Mrs. W. B. Neal, Chapel Hill
Mrs. Carl H. Pegg, 403 Laurel Hill Rd., Chapel Hill
Mrs. Henry Page, Jr., Aberdeen
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Plaster, 1875 Meadowbrook Dr. N.W., Winston-Salem
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Miss Josephine Pritchard, 400 Ransom St., Chapel Hill
Miss Cleta Rich, 845 S. Cox St., Asheboro
Mrs. J. W. Sechrest, 500 Forrest Ave., High Point
Mrs. Lena Shipwash, 117 E. Lexington Ave., High Point
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Smith, Smithwin Farm, Liberty
Dr. Minnie J. Smith, 893 Madison Ave., Winston-Salem
Mrs. Paul Spencer, 511 Greensboro Rd., High Point
Mrs. E. E. Stafford, 1723 Virginia Rd., Winston-Salem
Mrs. E. Roy Samuel, Route 1, High Point
Dr. and Mrs. H. R. Totten, Laurel Hill Rd., Chapel Hill
Mrs. P. P. Turner, 2408 Hawthorne, Greensboro
Mrs. Nat Walker, Thomasville
Mrs. Annie Wagoner, 407 Mendenhall St., Greensboro
Miss Margaret Wood, 863 Madison Ave., Winston-Salem
Miss Kate Wurreschke, 1918 S. Main St., Winston-Salem
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