ON THE FRINGE

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NORTHEASTERN OHIO

Founding Chapter of

THE OHIO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Thomas A. Sampliner, Local President and Editor

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FROM THE EDITOR

Now is not too soon to calandar and make reservations for the annual dinner, Saturday, November 14th at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Social hour beginning at 5:30 pm.

Dinner ticket prices have been established. Individual tickets will be $12 with each additional ticket at only $10. Lecture only tickets are $4. Thus every couple or group reduces their net evening cost to only $11 per person. I'm sure everyone can appreciate this is a bargain while protecting the Society financially.

Dr. Thieret will be encouraged to bring copies of any of his books for autograph and sale during the evening. I'm sure he will probably also consent to autograph copies of his books you may already possess.

Due to expected wide appeal for a talk on poisonous plants, shrubs and trees you may want to notify any one who could be interested so they can sign up early; we could have a sell-out of the dinner. The lecture capacity is of course much larger.

Reservation forms along with ballot for officers and some constitutional changes is on the inside rear cover.

All of the officers have agreed to accept renomination.

The constitutional changes are mostly language clarifications with only three substantive changes.

1) The terms of office will change from one to two years starting with the election.

2) The composition of the board of directors will reflect the officerial positions actually functioning plus up to three additional but discretional choices by the President.

3) The quorum requirement will change from 2/3rd to simple majority.

These changes are recommended by the board to reflect the realities of a lack of interest by most members in the day to day business affairs of the Society. However, the lack of interest must allow then for greater delegation of authority to those who are willing to do the work.

For those of you who wish to provide input towards next year's schedule of events please prepare your suggestions and forward them either directly to Dr. George Wilder or to myself. We appreciate your thoughts on desirable classes, workshops, hikes, speakers, topics or any other of our endeavors. Your comments are also always welcome in regard to this journal.

Hope to see most of you at the annual dinner!

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LEW CAMPBELL PRAIRIE

By Tom Sampliner

In Lucas County, (Toledo area) in what has been historically referred to as the OAK Openings, a state nature preserve called "Lew Campbell", protects one of the finest remnant wet sandy prairies.

The preserve has many attractions throughout the year. In this brief article, I will limit the description to plants seen this June.

Almost guarding the fence in front of the preserve, your eye immediately is captured by the multiple blooming heads in waist high clumps of Ohio Spiderwort, (Tradescantia ohioensis). Don't trip too many times over the dewberry running all over the ground the first 25-50 yards into the prairie. We'll continue further to the right (North) of a line of shrubs and trees that seems to divide the first portion of the preserve in half. Here we start to encounter Grass pink orchids, (Calopogon tuberosus) among the sedges and rushes; the pink blossoms stand out as a bright beacons for both humans and the many interested insect pollinators. Growing lower to the ground in this same areas is the Arrow Leaved Violet, (Viola sagittata) a few remnant blossoms remained by late June this year. The leaves are often held pointing straight upward on a stalk as long or longer than the leaf. This last observation is a key one in distinguishing this species from (Viola fimbriatula), according to Clara G. Weishaupt in Vascular Plants of Ohio, 1971 third edition.

Growing in these same areas, and at least twice as tall as the Grass Pink Orchids but considerably shorter than the Spiderworts are the Colicroot, (Aletris farinosa). These members of the lily family present a stiff spike or raceme of tubular white flowers flaring to six lobes. These flowers were also busy hosting pollinators. In fact, the entire preserve is a great spot to look for insect pollinators.

Later in the growing season, do come back to this site for an uncommon species of gentians known as Soapwort gentian (Gentiana saponaria). Gentians, of course, herald fall - Lew Campbell is an excellant location for fall color. Sumac and Tupelo glow fire engine red. Aspen shine yellow. Quite a few different composites can also be found. Some of the greenery persists late in fall along with the conifers which when combined with the reds and yellows already described, make for a rich palette of vibrant fall color.

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EPIPACTUS HELLEBORINE

Weed and Yet an Orchid

By Tom Sampliner

Who would have thought that an orchid would show up on Garden Center of Greater Cleveland grounds of all places. No, they were not planted there. They just came up of their own initiative. I speak of Epipactus Helleborine.

They are most prominent in the beds next to the Clark Hall service entrance. From there, they are finding good homes admidst the English Ivy, Rhododendrons, Day Lillies and other beds all the way down the driveway towards the underground parking garage. I first noticed them this year the evening of July 9th as I was leading a camera club photo tour of the grounds.

The orchid has an interesting history and reputation according to Whiting & Catling in "Orchids of Ontario" as well as Frederick W. Case, Jr. in his "Orchids of the Western Great Lakes Region". This orchid was first noticed in this country in 1879 growing without cultivation near Syracuse, New York. The first Canadian collection was at Lambton Mills, near Toronto in 1890 (Whiting & Catling 1986). By the 1950's helleborine had spread through much of southern Ontario (Whiting & Catling 1986).

There are white forms of this orchid, one all white except for purple at the lip base, while another is pure white (Marsley 1927).

It has become well established and spreading throughout the northeastern states, according to Case. Case's gardening experiences with this orchid began with a single clump in 1965. Four years later, he reports the plant had colonized all over his property including in his lawn and even on one driveway.

Apparently, the orchid can live as a saprophyte from germination to flower (Case 1985). All of the authors consulted characterize this plant as an aggressive colonizer, happy in numerous varied types of habitats and ecosystems. You can verify this by examing our local plants amidst some heavy English Ivy groundcover at the Garden Center, right next to the upper service entrance.

The flower scapes and leaves are light green strongly ribbed and pubescent or puberulent (covered with very short hairs). The attractive flowers have light green sepals, white petals, madder or perhaps mahogany brown on the inside of a saccate base of the lip while the distal pertion of the lip is white with yellow on a fleshy callus at the base. These colors really make a handsome flower.

As I did my photographic set-up for macro shots of the plant, I was amazed at the wide variety of insect pollinators that stopped in for what I presume was a nectar cocktail. Little bees, flies and even mosquitoes paid the plants their respects. Though facinating, the movement these constant visits cause on the plants can be frustrating to the nature photographer.

I suppose I can close by opening up a rhetorical debate. Being here only slightly more than 100 years, does this orchid now qualify as a native plant? I'll leave all of you to ponder that.

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NORTHERN MICHIGAN & THE UPPER PENNINSULA

(One Year Later On Two Trips One Week Apart)

By Tom Sampliner

Though said by many people for very different reasons, what a difference one year can make. In this instance I'm not referring to local sports teams or economics. Instead, I refer to this year's pre and post memorial weekend trips to Northern Michigan and the Upper Penninsula. The comparison of the growing season to last year's and the sightings each trip at the same sites was extremely educational from a naturalist's perspective. Each of us can view seasonal progression right here at home base; but have you ever had opportunity to experience seasonal progression in so short a time span in the north woods?

All sites referred to are north of 45 N latitude. Trip one was Saturday, May 16th - Sunday, May 24th. Trip two this year was Saturday, May 30th - Sunday June 7th. Last year the trip was approximately May 20th-30th. We were told that this May heavy frost occurred until about two weeks prior to the first trip up.

Firstof all, Wilderness State Park was visited, all three trips as well as at the beginning and end of each trip. This year the earliest trip manifest all woodlands heavily carpeted with (Trillium grandiflorum) and to a lesser extent with (Trillium cernuum), nodding trillium. This carpet was frequently as solid mass of plants many knee high with huge blossoms. Last year and the latest trip this year revealed most trilliums fading or finished blooming. Such was the case in 90% of the woodlands visited. One notable exception was a strange woods located slightly south of the study areas near Traverse Bay. Here the entire woods consists of 60 - 80% mutant trilliums having every possible number of petals (or are they Tepals?) with color variation from all green, green and white, pink and green, pink green & white, you name it.

All ditches and wet areas were a solid mass of Marsh Marigold (Caltha palustris), on the earliest trip this year. By the second trip as well as last year, they were well past prime in most cases. It was an exception to find a display still in photo quality conditions.

During the earliest trip this May to Wilderness, there were just a few early specimens of Ram's head orchid, (Cypripedium arietinum), Calypso orchid (Calypso bulbosa), Gay wings (Polygala paucifolia), Indian Paint brush (Castilleja coccinea), Bird's-eye primrose (Primula laurentiana), Dwarf Crested Iris, (Iris cristata). Both last year and the second trip this year, revealed an abundant display of these plants. Earlier, some species were only out in the open areas namely: the Iris, Primrose and Ram's head, whereas the later trip, these all bloomed into the woods as well. One interesting difference between this year's two trips was finding several specimens of Yellow Indian Paintbrush on the earlier trip; Though the later trip had the greater abundance of plants, no yellow specimens could be found. By the time of the second trip, the Primrose which had been a solid carpet of pink in this same wet meadow off Waugoshance Point, was now a greatly reduced sporadic display amidst the now dominant paintbrush. The carniverous Butterworts (Pinguicula vulgaris), were constant in numbers on both trips though the later trip evidenced more flowering stalks.

Wilderness completely lacked any sign of Yellow lady's slipper orchids, the earliest trip this Spring; By my return, they were literally everywhere. Columbine, (Aquilega canadensis) was merely leafing out the earlier trip, while last year and most recently this Spring, they were in good supply and prime condition. Buckbean, (Menyanthes trifoliata) was completely absent the first trip this May. Last year and the recent trip saw the plants doing nicely in prime condition in open dark water ditches lining the road into the park.

A constant supply of flowering plants seen on all three trips all in pretty good condition would include: Bearberry, (Arctostaphylos uva ursi) Blueberry, (Vaccinium sp.), Starflower, (Trientalis borealis) and Canada Violet, (Viola canadensis).

On only the first trip this Spring, I saw just a few Clintonia (Clintonia borealis) with most in tight bud. Both last year and the later Spring trip this year, most flower heads were open wide in excellent condition.

By the latter portion of this Spring's 2nd trip, (Iris cristata) and (Polygala paucifolia) were an extensive ground cover in the woodlands and forest edges along the lake.

Small Yellow Ladyslipper orchids, (Cypripidium calceolus var. parviflorum) poked out from forest edges under conifer boughs and lining many wet ditches by the end of May.

Turning to another lower Pennisula site just south of Cheyboygan is a nature conservancy property called "Grass Bay". Both last year and the latest trip this Spring one encountered beautiful fresh specimens of the Pink ladyslipper orchid (Cypripedium acaule). The early trip this year we found only a few plants up and all in very tight bud. An unexpected treat the second trip was finding white varieties of this orchid; the pouch is all white while the sepals and remaining petals are almost a pea green.

Another surprise at the site the early trip this May was the amount of Trailing arbutus in both white and pink color varieties, (Epigaea repens). I've never seen so much. You literally had to watch your step in the forest along side Lake Huron or you'd crush some.

Another pleasant surprise both trips this year was the display of the Morel and look alike False Morel mushrooms in the sandy conifer woods near Lake Huron; (Morchella esculenta), (Gyromitra esculenta).

Grand Sable Dunes area just outside Grand Marais in the upper Penninsula is a worth while visit at anytime. Early this year, there were rich displays of Reindeer, moss and lichens of all different varieties in open areas among the Jack Pines, (Pinus banksiana). There was no hint that just a few weeks later, say a few days into June), these same areas would be covered with thousands of Ram's Head Orchis, (Cypripedium arietinum). This year, as opposed to my first visit some three years ago, I didn't need double layers of clothing, gloves and head-net for protection against a voracious population of mosquitos. In other words we could enjoy the experience this year. Perhaps last year's drought had a redeening value.

The sandy areas between the woods and dunes offered other interesting plants not yet in bloom like Pipsissewa sometimes called Prince's Pine, (Chimiphila umbellata). Up on the dunes, a few of the hoary puccoon were just coming into bloom, knee high and bright yellow - they're hard to miss, (Lithospermum canescens). Also, present on the dunes were Harebells (Campanula rotundifolia), Beach Wormwood, (Artemesia stelleriana) Beach Grass, (Ammophila breviligulata) and Sea Rocket, (Cakile edentula).

The woods bordering Grand Sable Dunes had the same northern boreal species seen at Wilderness and Grass Bay.

Grand Sable Falls is not just a beautiful waterfall, but also an excellant site to see large populations of Rosy Twisted Stalk, (Streptopus roseus) waist high with deep madder color on the bell shaped flowers as opposed to NE Ohio's scrawny light colored specimens. Also present in robust specimens with excellent color are Red and White Baneberry, (Actea rubra and pachypoda), Starflower, (Trientalis borealis), Clintonia (Clintonia borealis),

and Twinflower, (Linnea borealis). If you have trouble distinguishing the two Baneberries, go up north. When you see much of each, especially when side by side, it really helps.

to be continued . . . .

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NE Ohio State Nature Preserve Schedule for rest of 1992

Sat Sep 19	10:00AM	Eagle Creek-Wildflower Walk
Sat Sep 26	11L00AM	Tinkers Creek-Wildflower Walk
Sat Oct 3	11:00AM	Jackson Bog-Fen Species
Wed Oct 7	8:00AM	Eagle Creek-The Stars
Sat Oct 17	10:00AM	Eagle Creek-Color Walk
Sun Oct 18	2:00PM	Tinkers Creek-Fall Color Walk
Wed Oct 28	7:00PM	Eagle Creek-Halloween Walk
Sat Nov 14	10:00AM	Eagle Creek-Fall Walk
Sat Nov 14	2:00PM	Tinkers Creek-Waterfowl Walk
Sat Dec 19	10:00AM	Eagle Creek-Winter Solstice Walk
Sat Oct 17	2:00PM	Kyle Woods-Fall Color Walk

For more info call 216/527/5118 Emliss Ricks or 216/928/4336 Art Kuhlman

Eagle Creek-from Garretsville go NE out Center St. past Brosius to Hopkins Rd, turn right or south to NP sign on the right at park lot.

Tinkers Creek NP is S of RT 82, W of RT 43 and E of I 480 and RT 91. From RT 91 Go east on Davis (Old Mill Rd) cross RR track and sign and park lot is on your left. From RT 43 go west on Mennonite Rd to Aurora Hudson Rd, go one block to left and turn right onto Old Mill Rd. the sign and park lot is on right just before RR.

Jackson Bog-is west of Beldon Village Mall, S of Akron off I-77 exit west at Everhard Rd and go SW to RT 687 (Fulton Rd) Turn right onto Fulton at gas station, go west on Fulton past the Jackson Twp High School to an entrance at the School Administration Bldg the bog parking lot is back behind the barn-like building by soccer fields.

Kyle woods-In SE corner of Youngstown, Go down RT 11 to RT 224 exit Rt 11 at Rt 224 to the east, turn south or right at Tippecanoe go under the turnpike and turn right at the turnpike onto the turnpike maintenance road and turn left at the NP sign up hill to the park lot.

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Explore and enjoy the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreational Area every Friday from 9 AM to noon. For more info and a reservation call Art Kuhlman 216-928-4336. A different area every week.

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Sunday, September 20th, 9:30AM - RESTHAVEN WILDLIFE AREA Art Kuhlman, a member of the board of the Native Plant Society, will lead this trip. Diverse praire plants will be observed here, particularly, species of Compositae (e.g., of the genera Coreopsis and Liatris). In Erie County, from route 2 go southwest on route 101 and follow this road to Castalia. We will meet at the duck pond in town, and there we will travel together to the wildlife area.

Tuesday, October 6, 7:30PM - ROCKY RIVER NATURE CENTER Dr. Roger Laushman, Assistant professor of Biology at Oberlin College, will discuss "Water Plants". This will be a combined meeting with the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society (our liason with the Society is Mrs. Carol Ball; phone no. - 234-0505). From route 90 (somewhat west of Cleveland), go south on Clague Road and procede to the point where Clague Road dead-ends. Go right (west) on Mastick Road and procede for ca. one-quarter mile. Make the first-left turn onto Shepherd Lane; however there is a sign labelled "Rocky River Reservation". Procede to the end of Shepherd Lane, ca. one-quarter mile. Turn right onto Valley Parkway. After travelling ca. 200 yards, turn

right into the driveway of Rocky River Nature Center, and park. (Note: the driveway begins at a curve in Valley Parkway, and opposite the driveway is a subtle sign labeled "Nature Center").

Saturday, November 14, 5:30PM - CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
Annual dinner and meeting.

Thursday, December 10, 7:30PM - DON MEYER NATURE CENTER (BIG CREEK PARK, CHARDON [9160 ROBINSON ROAD])
A panel of naturalists will undertake an informal discussion about "Significant changes in the natural history of Geauga County". This program will represent a continuation of a series of comparable discussions, already held, pertaining to Summit County and Lake County. According to Bob Bartolotta (a representative of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and a Member of the Native Plant Society), who will serve on the panel, "we will touch upon change that has been witnessed directly by our panelists but we will also present information about specific natural areas that has been known and passed down over a century or more". In Geauga County, beginning in Chardon (situated at the junction of route 6 and route 44), procede north out of town, on North Street (which is called Painesville-Ravenna Road once you get out of town). Continue for 1.5 miles. Go right (east) on Woodin Road and travel 0.8 miles. Turn left (north) onto Robinson Road and then procede for ca. one mile, to the large sign labelled "Big Creek Park". Turn left (west) at this sign and follow the signs to Meyer Center.

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ANNUAL DINNER REGISTRATION FORM

Number of Tickets You are Purchasing

Name(s) of People in Your Party _____

_____ _____

Calculation of Amount You Pay:
Calculation of Amount You Pay:
1 Person $12.00/ each additional person $10.00
Lecture Tickets Only $4.00

Total Enclosed _____

BALLOT

	For	Against
President - Tom Sampliner	_____	_____
Vice President - George Wilder	_____	_____
Treasurer - John Augustine	_____	_____
Secretary - Art Kuhlman	_____	_____
Two Member of Board at Large	_____	_____
1) Tom Yates	_____	_____
2) Duane Ferris	_____	_____

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

1) The term for the officers and board members at large will be two years commencing with the election of 11-16-92 (the new board will be a two year term board)

_____ _____

2) The president may appoint up to three additional persons to serve on the board; their terms will be two years

_____ _____

3) A quorum shall now consist of 1/2 of the voting members.

_____ _____

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Annual Dues and Membership Category - Check One

( ) Active $10.00 ( ) Sustaining $25.00
( ) Family $15.00 ( ) Patron $50.00
( ) Life Membership $500.00

Make check payable to the **Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio** and mail with this form to :

Thomas A Sampliner, President
Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio
2651 Kerwick Road
University Hts., Ohio 44118

Name:_____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____