



New Award Named for Tom Patrick

As we all know, our Georgia Botanical Society (BotSoc) is among a number of groups interested in the conservation of botanical resources. Another such group, coordinated by Jennifer F. Ceska, is the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance (GPCA), a network of more than forty universities, botanical gardens, zoos, state and federal agencies, conservation organizations (including BotSoc) and private companies and individuals committed to botanical preservation and protection. Headquartered at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia in Athens, the GPCA's range includes the entire state of Georgia and beyond. In fact, The National Association of Environmental Professionals, during their May 20, 2019 meeting in Baltimore, awarded GPCA with an honorable mention for environmental excellence .

During the GPCA meeting of May 16, 2019 at the Beech Hollow Wildflower Farm in Lexington, Georgia, the attendees beheld a wonderful ceremony. Tom Patrick was recognized by the GPCA for his many years of botanical excellence and commitment to the study and preservation of Georgia's native flora. His award, represented by a specially designed medallion, was presented by Jennifer Cruse-Sanders, Director at State Botanical Garden of Georgia. The medallion's inscription reads:

"Tom Patrick, 2019 For Lifetime Achievement in study, teaching and service benefitting Georgia's native Flora. With love and gratitude, GPCA"

This new award in honor of Tom Patrick, the first recipient, will recognize career-long dedication to botanical conservation. Tom has dedicated his professional career as botanist at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division to conserving threatened plants and natural communities of Georgia. He still finds time to devote immeasurable assistance to a number of other groups.

Tom's influence is ubiquitous. He has unselfishly contributed to BotSoc by leading field trips, identifying plants, answering questions, mentoring, and providing excellent leadership. The Georgia Botanical Society is indeed fortunate to have Tom as a friend and contributor. We look forward to his association for many years to come. Congratulations to Tom and the GPCA.

This earlier photo was taken during a BotSoc field trip led by Tom. As with all of Tom's trips, this one obviously was highly successful. Tom's friendly disposition and remarkable knowledge of plants make his field trips very desirable.

Text and photo by Jim Drake



IN THIS ISSUE:

Society News
- P3

ESA News
- P4

*Field Trip
Reports* - P5

*Upcoming
Field Trips* -
P11

President's Perspective



BotSoc News

is published seven times a year (Jan, March, May, July, September, Nov and for the Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage).

Submission deadline

Is August 1 for the September issue.

Subscriptions

Are included with membership.

Website:

www.gabotsoc.org

Editorial Office

Ellen Honeycutt
Jacqueline Miller

© 2019 **Georgia Botanical Society** is a private nonprofit organization under IRS 501 (c)3. Founded in 1926.

July in Georgia. I can't help but look back fondly at April and those cool days full of trilliums, violets, bloodroot, and anemone. Even the milkweeds of May seem like a hazy dream now. Most of us are hunkering down in air conditioning and dreaming of September. July and August seem more like something we have to survive. Just look at our field trip schedule for those two months and you can see how popular field botany is during this time.

We do have one upcoming late-July event that I want to encourage everyone to attend. The annual meeting will be held at the Newman Wetlands Center in Hampton, just south of Metro Atlanta (and in air conditioned comfort) on Saturday, July 27. This is a great time to gather with fellow plant enthusiasts to network, hobnob, and come to realize that you aren't the only plant-obsessed person out there. I promise that the business portion of the meeting will be short and sweet. Bring a lunch, we'll provide drinks, some desserts, and the entertainment.

I'd like to thank everyone in the Society who donated to the Go Fund Me account to help Tom Patrick with the financial side of his long fight with cancer. The original goal of the account was to raise \$5,000. We far exceeded that with a total of over \$12,000! While many donors were from outside the Society, it was obvious from the donor list that most were Botanical Society members. I doubt there is a person in this organization who regularly attends field trips that hasn't been touched by Tom's knowledge, kindness, and willingness to share. I don't know when Tom led his first field trip for the Botanical Society (though it would be fun to find out), but I'm pretty sure that since that day he has been, by far, our most popular field trip leader. He has also held several positions in the Society over the years and is usually the first person we consult when we are trying to make decisions about things like where the next Pilgrimage will be held.

Speaking of being involved in the Society...I'd really like to see more of our membership playing active roles. Don't think you need to be a great botanist to help this organization (I'm certainly not and somehow they made me the president!). We need people who are good organizers, good leaders, good money managers, good at planning events, good at cleaning up our messes, good at art, and good at writing. Sometimes we just need people who are good at showing up, rolling up their sleeves, and doing what is asked of them. Like most volunteer organizations, only a handful of the membership actually does the work of making the Society function.

One (actually it could be several people) person we need right now is a newsletter editor. Ellen Honeycutt has graciously stepped in as the interim editor, but we really need to find a replacement for her. If you have an interest in this position, or would be willing to serve on a team to produce the newsletter, please contact me or one of the Board members.

Have a great summer. Stay cool, but stay interested in that green world out there.

Hal Massie

Society News

by Jo Anne Romfh

Welcome to our new members who joined from February 1st through May 30th; we look forward to seeing you at a field trip or a meeting.

Connie Gray (Athens)	Allison Griffin (Macon)
Karen & Jim Porter (Athens)	Ginger Beshears (Menlo)
Karen Schaefer (Atlanta)	Susan Luciano (Peachtree City)
Alexander Terry (Atlanta)	Lisa Kimmerling (Plainville)
Margaret Bergeron (Berkeley Lake)	Wendy Higgins (Rincon)
Deborah Harris (Bishop)	Doug Allen III (Roswell)
Debbie Tulsen (Bishop)	Melanie Landrum (Sharpsburg)
Olivia Harris (Brookhaven)	Kim Mallett (Snellville)
Christopher Chambers (Decatur)	Sheryl Woods (Stone Mountain)
David & Lori Lann (Demorest)	Veverly Harrison-Smith (Suwanee)
Carl & Dawn Schmidt (Forsyth)	Susan McCollum (Valley, AL)
Michelle Stephens (Hartwell)	Carrie Blair (Brevard, NC)
Raina Singleton (Jefferson)	Jess Schaner (Burnsville, NC)

And please welcome our new **LIFE** members: Susan & Ron Determann; Sharon Fisher; Irene Hall & Scott Deitchman; and Eric Martin.

From June 8, 2018 through May 30, 2019, the Georgia Botanical Society received the following :

MEMORIAL OR HONORARY GIFTS:

In honor of Jennifer Ceska and Eddi Minche
- Elizabeth M. Fox

In honor of Nicholas Lawson – Julie
Lawson

In Memory of Maureen Donohue – Jennie
Inglis, Allyson Read and Karen Schaefer

Our DONOR MEMBERS (Joined at Donor Level or donations of \$100+ in addition to membership fee)

Nancy L. Barber

Sam & Laura Breyfogle

Amy Delaplaine

Shepherd Howell

Kim Mallett

Tom Painter & Carla Roncoli

Linda Parrish

Betty & Peter Vinten-Johansen

Patricia Warren

We would also like to thank all the other members who supported BOTSOC'S FUNDS:

MMR Grant Annual Fund - 23 donations

General Fund – 16 donations

Tipularia - 34 donations

Habitat Conservation - 24 donations

Two Ecologically Sensitive Areas Designated

By Rich Reaves

Two of the areas that we regularly visit on our roadside botanizing excursions in the Waycross area have been designated as ecologically sensitive areas (ESAs) by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The two locations are the area along either side of Highway 177 north of Okefenokee Swamp Park and the area on the west side of Highway 301 approximately 8.75 miles south of Nahunta.

The Highway 177 ESA has a very diverse floral composition, including two species of pitcher plants (*Sarrecenia minor* and *Sarracenia psitticina*), at least three orchid species (*Calapogon pallidus*, *Spiranthes vernalis*, and *Cleistiopsis oricamporum*), spoon-leaved sundew (*Drosera intermedia*), and many other species including one of the very few locations where large-flowered rose-gentian (*Sabatia grandiflora*) occurs in Georgia. Large-flowered rose-gentian was first observed in Georgia in this area on a BotSoc trip and was subsequently collected and vouchered by Tom Patrick from another location on a BotSoc trip.

The Highway 301 ESA is notable for its large population of night-flowering wild petunia (*Ruellia noctiflora*), in addition to several other species associated with wet flatwoods. Night-flowering wild petunia was rediscovered in Georgia after a 49-year absence, also on a BotSoc roadside botanizing trip. This was an accidental rediscovery, as we had stopped to look at red milkweed (*Asclepias lanceolata*) about four miles south of this ecologically sensitive area. While walking back to the cars, one of our members who was very interested in moths, casually said “What is this night-flowering plant over here?” It was around lunch time, and the flowers had dropped, but were still in good enough shape identify the plant. Our early morning Sunday trip to look at this species in flower was born the next time we went back.

On May 17, I met with GDOT representatives, a Georgia Department of Natural Resources biologist, and the environmental scientist from Okefenokee Swamp Park to identify the extent of the ESAs and to discuss future management of these sites. GDOT will implement management measures, primarily based on mowing regimes, that will promote the continued growth of the plant species that occur in these ESAs. I applaud GDOT for initiating these actions and look forward to BotSoc being able to assist them in similar future endeavors.

Editor’s note: see Rich’s field trips scheduled for July 6 and 7th for an opportunity to see these areas.



Ruellia noctiflora photo by Rich Reaves
from our 2013 newsletter.

Photos from our Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage



Top: Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) and Dennis Horn with Jess Riddle (both by Sue Harmon).

Middle: BotSoccers on the road (by Charles Seabrook); gaywings (*Polygaloides paucifolia*) (by Bobby Hattaway)

Bottom: Edna's trillium (*Trillium persistens*) (by Chris Inhulsen)

Photos from our Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage



Top left: John Harrison takes a tumble (by Penny Longhurst); Top right: *Trillium discolor* (by Chris Inhulsen)
 Bottom left: Silvery blue butterfly on host plant *Vicia caroliniana* (by Ellen Honeycutt); Bottom right: Hal Massie and Carrie Radcliffe in the Mountain Bog (by Bobby Hattaway).

Field Trip 14: Till Ridge Cove

Text and photos by Debbie Harris

This was a morning trip led by Rich Reaves. On the drive to our site, we stopped to see red trillium (*Trillium erectum*) blooming on a slope above the road.

We started our hike at Grassy Ridge Trail which was a moderate walk along a dry slope with Carolina rhododendron. We ascended a steep uphill and walked down into Till Ridge Cove. Some of the ephemeral spring-blooming plants we saw along the walk included bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), bear corn (*Conopholis americana*) early meadow-rue (*Thalictrum dioicum*), sessile-leaf bellwort (*Uvularia sessifolia*), bristly buttercup (*Ranunculus carolinianus*), round-leaf violet (*Viola rotundifolia*), Appalachian bluet (*Houstonia serpyllifolia*), and common blue violet (*Viola sororia*). When we got to Till Ridge Cove, we saw a large population of the large-flowered white trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*). Till Ridge Cove is well known for these beautiful white flowers.



Upper left: red trillium (*Trillium erectum*)

Upper right: large-flowered trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*)

Lower left: bear corn (*Conopholis americana*)

Field Trip 16: Geology and Natural Communities of Tallulah Gorge

By Debbie Harris

We met our trip leaders Leslie Edwards and Bill Witherspoon at the Tallulah Gorge State Park Visitor Center. The trip consisted of walking along the north rim, down the stairs to cross the river on the swinging bridge, climbing back up a set of stairs to the South rim and then walking back along the road back to the Visitor Center. During the four hour trip, we learned about both the geology of the gorge and how it formed and observed the associated plants communities and ecology. We came to recognize how the geology and soils are one of the main determinates of the formation of the plant communities.

We were able to see all six of the iconic plants of Tallulah Gorge. Along the woodland oak/pine habitat on the north rim, we saw several large groups of the very colorful gay-wings (*Polygaloides paucifolia*), a single site of the sweet pinesap (*Monotropsis odorata*) which we got down on our hands and knees to smell, a few of the federally endangered persistent trillium (*Trillium persistens*), and the table mountain pine (*Pinus pungens*).

We took a side trail under the swinging bridge to see the branch lettuce (*Micranthes micranthidifolia*) growing in the seepage on the side of the cliff. This plant is gathered as a spring green for salads in the mountain communities.

We crossed the swinging bridge with water roaring underneath us from the dam release. After crossing the bridge, we ascended the stairs to the south rim. Along the way we saw more gaywings and persistent trillium. At the top of the south rim, we walked east a short distance to see the Carolina hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) along the rocky ridge top.

In addition to the six iconic plants, we also saw many other acid-soil loving plants such as Virginia pine, blueberry, maple-leaf viburnum, mountain laurel, rhododendron, azalea, sourwood, witch hazel, sensitive fern, birds-foot violet, and partridgeberry.



Left: Bill Witherspoon and Leslie Edwards (facing);

Right: gaywings (*Polygaloides paucifolia*)

Pigeon Mountain Field Trip (March 30)

By Debbie Cosgrove

My first time to The Pocket could not have been more incredible! This is by far the richest place of plant diversity I have ever seen in Georgia or could have imagined. Bill and I decided to get here the night before since we were coming from Athens and were unfamiliar with the area. We took in the National Cemetery in Marietta on the way along with the museum containing “the General” from The Great Locomotive Chase in Kennesaw.

Saturday was perfect weather. Mike Christison and Richard Ware met our small group in the parking lot, and we headed to the left first, crossing a small creek and heading down a multi-use trail. We didn't go very far before being greeted by large clumps of Canada violets (*Viola canadensis*) and long-spurred violets (*Viola rostrata*). Richard says there are four different toothwort (*Cardamine* spp.) around Pigeon Mountain. Some were still in bloom. We saw *Trillium decumbens*, *Trillium cuneatum*, and bent trillium (*Trillium flexipes*) in this area. We also saw large colonies of *Trillium lancifolium*. To both Mike and Richard's surprise, we saw the mycotrophic plant one-flowered cancer-root (*Aphyllon uniflorum*). The trout lilies (*Erythronium americanum*) were mostly done, but there were a couple still in bloom. The lovely sharp-lobed hepatica (*Hepatica acutiloba*) stuck out with clumps of mottled leaves and others with solid leaves. We saw white to lavender flowers. Rue anemone was also in bloom along with a yellow violet. Wild hyacinth (*Camassia scilloides*) was in bud. Star chickweed (*Stellaria pubera*) was in bloom around the mottled leaves of Water leaf (*Hydrophyllum canadense*) and mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*). Wild blue phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) was spotted throughout. Up on the hillside was a small patch of the leaves of puttyroot (*Aplectrum hyemale*) or as some call it Adam and Eve. We saw a few flowers on stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*). We saw many buckeyes (*Aesculus* species). Richard later pointed out the differences between the yellow and Ohio buckeyes (*A. flava* and *A. glabra*). We also saw a pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) in bloom.



Left: long-spurred violet (*Viola rostrata*)

Right: woodland stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*)

Photos by E. Honeycutt

Pigeon Mountain Field Trip (cont'd)

We then headed back into the parking lot and headed for the boardwalk, greeted by a row of Eastern redbuds (*Cercis canadensis*) at their peak. Charlie Seabrook got a lovely photo of a Tiger swallowtail visiting the flowers. Almost the whole floor of this area is covered with Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)! As we continued along the boardwalk, we noticed the diversity along the way. The yellow Celandine poppies (*Stylophorum diphyllum*) were scattered, but they preferred the hillsides, going way up the slope. Blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*) was just getting ready to bloom. The pink blooms of *Geranium maculatum* were also stunning. The bent trillium (*Trillium flexipes*) were larger here. We also saw a few large-flowered bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*) still in bloom. One might see six different species in a square yard. Before leaving the boardwalk, a yellowwood tree (*Cladrastis kentukea*) was pointed out. Teresa Ware said the base of the trunk looks like an elephant's leg. Yes, it did have that wrinkled skin look!

We then drove to the other side of Pigeon mountain, but on the way out, wood betony (*Pedicularis canadensis*) was spotted in bloom. Don't be fooled by its fern shaped leaves. The valley is so pretty here with the soft ridges in the background. We turned on a dirt road and immediately stopped near a field. We marched through it to get to the creek's edge and found *Phacelia purshii* (Miami-mist) just starting to bloom. Our second stop we saw two tiny orchids in bloom, spring coralroot (*Corallorhiza wisteriana*), that I had never seen before. Squawroot (*Conopholis americana*) was abundant here. A very dainty fine-leaved toothwort (*Cardamine dissecta*) species was blooming here that we didn't see on the other side. We saw a few flowering twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*) amongst *Trillium decumbens*, *Cardamine*, and *Viola*. Then we ran into larger colonies not flowering, some amongst mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*). Amongst the limestone rocks and on top were the leaves of the Alabama snow wreath shrub (*Neviusia alabamensis*).

Finally we drove to the end of the road with a small blue pond, stained by the minerals below. Near this site we found the rare goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*). What a lovely ending to a perfect day!

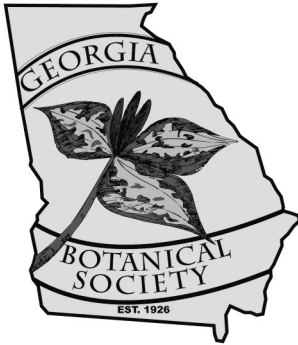


Left to right: *Geranium maculatum*; Celandine poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*); Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*)

Upcoming Field Trips

<p>July 6 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Roadside Botanizing: Waycross to Folkston</p> <p>We will travel along US1 south toward Folkston. We will make several roadside stops along GA 177 where we will see non-blooming pitcher plants (<i>Sarracenia minor</i> and <i>Sarracenia psitticina</i>), snowy orchid (<i>Platanthera nivea</i>), and Bartram's rose gentian (<i>Sabatia bartramii</i>), spoonflower (<i>Peltandra sagittifolia</i>), narrow-leaf Barbara's buttons (<i>Marshallia tenuifolia</i>) loblolly bay (<i>Gordonia lasianthus</i>) and others. Then continue down US1 to a wonderful wet ditch just north of Folkston. We will then take GA 23 south from Folkston to a stop at Spanish Indian Creek and then continue into the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge (ENTRY FEE REQUIRED) for the Swamp Island Drive. Other flowers we may encounter include Pickering's dawnflower (<i>Stylisma pickeringi</i>) and maybe large-flowered rose gentian (<i>Sabatia grandiflora</i>). We will be a little flexible in what we do, as the flowers ultimately will dictate where we go.</p>	<p>Directions: Lowe's Parking Lot on HWY 1 in Waycross. Take I-75 south to US 82. Take US 82 east to Waycross. In Waycross, turn south on US 1 and Lowe's will be on the right between 1.1 and 1.2 miles after the turn. Meet behind the Zaxby's.</p> <p>Bring: Lunch to eat on the road (purchase along the way will be difficult due to extremely sparse pickings), water, bug spray.</p> <p>Walking: Short excursions along the roadside, never out of sight of the vehicles – can be muddy or wet.</p> <p>Facilities: Possible at stores/stops along route, but unlikely after leaving hotel.</p> <p>Carpooling is encouraged to make pulling off easier for our roadside botanizing.</p>	<p>Rich Reaves rich.reaves@att.net 770-827-5186</p>
<p>July 7 7:00 AM</p> <p>Note: This is a Sunday and the start time really is 7 AM</p>	<p>Eastern Okefenokee Swamp and Night-Flowering Wild Petunia</p> <p>We will start the day heading to GA 301 south to look for the <i>Ruellia noctiflora</i> and we likely will see Michaux's milkweed (<i>Asclepias michauxii</i>) at this location as well. After that we will return to US 82 in search of <i>Sabatia foliosa</i> and then continue with other roadside stops along 82 until lunch time: Plants we should see on this day include yellow meadow beauty (<i>Rhexia lutea</i>), snowy orchid and Bartram's rose gentian, few-flowered milkweed (<i>Asclepias lanceolata</i>), and others.</p>	<p>Directions: Hampton Inn Waycross parking lot: Take I-75 south to US 82. Take US 82 east to Waycross. Hampton Inn is on US 82 just past intersection with US 1. Address: 1720 Brunswick Hwy, Waycross, GA 31501</p> <p>Bring: Lunch to eat on the road, water, bug spray.</p> <p>Walking: Short excursions along the roadside. Usually within sight of the vehicles (except boardwalk) but it can be muddy/wet.</p> <p>Facilities: Possible at stores/stops along route, but unlikely after leaving hotel.</p> <p>Carpooling is encouraged to make pulling off easier for our roadside botanizing</p>	<p>Rich Reaves rich.reaves@att.net 770-827-5186</p>
<p>July 27 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Annual Meeting - Newman Wetland Center</p> <p>The Annual Meeting of the Georgia Botanical Society will be held at the Newman Wetlands Center, 2755 Freeman Rd, Hampton, GA, on Saturday, July 27 at 10:00 AM. We will have a brief business meeting, eat lunch (member provided), and have a presentation that involves wildflowers.</p> <p>Further information provided closer to meeting date. Those of you who are the highest bidders in the auction of the books that Maureen Donohue bequeathed to the Society will be able to pick up those books at the meeting.</p>	<p>Directions: Newman Wetlands Center, 2755 Freeman Rd, Hampton, GA</p> <p>Bring: A dish to share.</p>	<p>Hal Massie massiefarm@aol.com 478-550-1062</p>

Society Contacts



115 Farm Dale
Roswell, GA 30075
www.gabotsoc.org

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ATHENS, GA
PERMIT NO. 1

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS

President - Hal Massie massiefarm@aol.com
Vice-President - Bobby Hattaway botanikman@g-net.net
Treasurer - John French gabotsoc.treasurer@gmail.com
Secretary - Karan Rawlins
Past President - Heather Brasell
 Rich Reaves
 Brandi Griffin
 Tipularia Editors - Richard Ware & Teresa Ware
 Webmaster - Merrill Morris
 Newsletter Editor - Ellen Honeycutt ehoneycutt@bellsouth.net
 Field Trip Chair - Elliott Horner fieldtrips@gabotsoc.org
 Membership - Jo Anne Romfh joannromfh@aol.com
 BotSoc Boutique - Jenneke Somerville
 Marie Mellinger Grant Fund - Linda Chafin
 Nominations Chair - Ed McDowell