



41ST ANNUAL SPRING WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 12 - 14, 2010

BAINBRIDGE, DECATUR COUNTY, GEORGIA
&

ADJACENT AREAS IN SW GEORGIA AND NW FLORIDA

In the Appalachian Mountains high above Atlanta, the Apalachicola River begins its long trek toward Florida. Along the way it joins two other rivers to form a three-river system, the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) Basin which drains 21,794 square miles within Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. The

ACF Basin is one of the most biodiverse, productive and economically important aquatic regions of the United States. The basin's varied habitats, from rare steephead ravines to bottomland hardwood forests, give it one of the highest species density anywhere. We will be visiting a diversity of wildflower and plant communities in two states: the southwest corner of Georgia and the upper Apalachicola floodplain in the Florida panhandle. The variety of soil nutrients, drainage and slope orientation have spawned extraordinary biodiversity. The forested uplands are naturally covered by hardwood forests. When burned, uplands support wiregrass-longleaf pine communities that are home to many wildflowers and several unusual animals such as the gopher tortoise. Frequent burning and murky soils support pitcher plant bogs and marshy areas perched on impervious clay layers. Steep and moist river slopes form microhabitats where relict communities have managed to survive. The rare Florida yew and torreyia are found nowhere else.

Pilgrimage Schedule

Friday, March 12

9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Float trip, lower Flint River, led by Kay Kirkman and Jerry Hightower
8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Exploratory trip, Silver Lake WMA led by Phil Spivey, Rich Reaves, Jim Drake
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Registration and welcoming social at Charter House (see page 11 for details)
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Evening presentation "Plants and Wildflowers of the Apalachicola Region" by Dr. Gil Nelson
9:30 pm	Late registration

Saturday, March 13

7:30 am - 8:15 am	Early registration at Charter House
8:30 am	Morning and all day field trips assemble at Charter House or meet leaders at prescribed destination
1:30 pm	Afternoon field trips assemble at Charter House or meet leaders at prescribed destination
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	All field trips return to the Charter House
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Mini-social at Charter House (see page 11 for details)
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Banquet dinner at Charter House (catered by Ms. Jackie Willis)
7:45 pm - 9:00 pm	Evening presentation "The Fascinating World of Carnivorous Plants" by Dr. Loran C. Anderson

Sunday, March 14

8:30 am	Field Trips assemble at The Charter House and depart for destinations Don't forget the 1 hour time change forward!
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Have a safe trip home!

Evening Programs:

Friday, March 12, 7:30 pm
Dr. Gil Nelson

Plants and Wildflowers of the Apalachicola Region

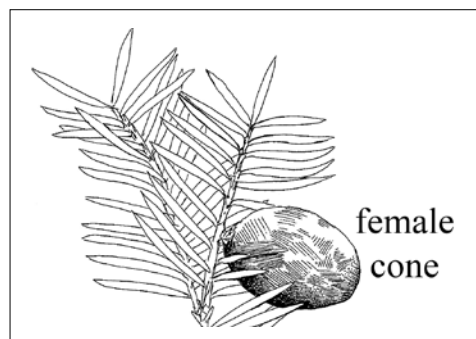
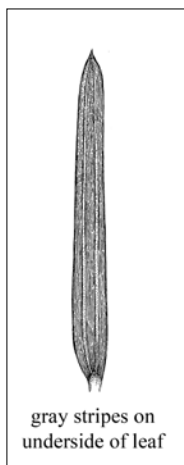
Abstract: The Apalachicola River basin of southwest Georgia and northwest Florida is one of the most biologically diverse regions on earth. This diversity includes ecologically significant natural areas. The basin supports habitats that vary from rare steephead ravines (with the only remaining native *Torreya taxifolia*), to towering limestone bluffs, forested floodplains, and estuaries. The region is home to numerous rare plants including species found nowhere else. Numerous trilliums, orchids and a variety of other species highlight the early-spring landscape. The eastern watershed from Bristol to Chattahoochee shelters many rare and endangered plants, its steepheads protecting *Croonia* and *Torreya* from climate extremes. Gil is intimately familiar with the flora of the region and will share with us a glimpse of the wildflowers we hope to see on our field trip excursions.

Biographical Information: Dr. Gil Nelson is a naturalist, botanist, author, and educator. He is a research associate in botany at the Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium at Florida State University. Gil has written widely about Florida and the southeastern United States. Among his numerous works include *East Gulf Coastal Plain Wildflowers*, *Atlantic Coastal Plain Wildflowers*, several field guides to Florida plants, a native guide to native landscape plants and co-authorship of two Audubon field guides and several others.

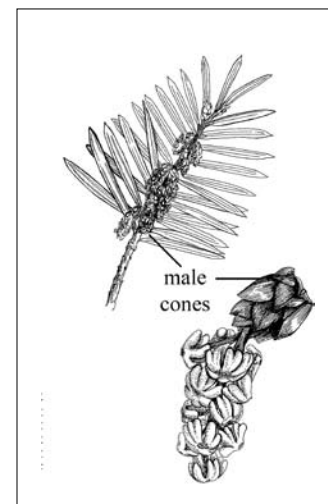
Saturday, March 13, 7:30 pm **The Fascinating World of Carnivorous Plants**
Dr. Loran C. Anderson

Abstract: Carnivorous Plants of the Apalachicola River Region, the Florida Panhandle and the World. These plants are fascinating because of their great beauty and intrigue. The Florida panhandle alone has 30 of the 33 naturally-occurring Florida species of these animal-eating plants. Dr. Loran C. Anderson of FSU will present a program of color slides of most of the thirty and discuss their life histories and the variety of mechanisms through which they attract, capture, and digest their prey. He will also share with us his worldwide experience with some additional examples of these interesting plants.

Biographical Information: Loran C. Anderson, Ph.D., Claremont Graduate School, 1962 is Professor Emeritus at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. A widely respected botanist, author and naturalist, some of Dr. Anderson's recent work includes plant taxonomy with emphasis on monographic and cytotaxonomic work in the Asteraceae, systematics of *Chrysothamnus* and related genera, and a checklist of the native plants of the Florida panhandle. Other interests include the study of rare and endangered plants of the Florida panhandle and ecological adaptation as expressed in plant structure.



Florida torreyia (*Torreya taxifolia*)
illustration by Jean Hancock in Field Guide to the
Rare Plants of Georgia



Pilgrimage Field Trips at a glance...

Friday, March 12, Pre-Pilgrimage Field Trips

Fri all day FT# 1 Float trip, lower Flint River, led by Kay Kirkman and Jerry Hightower

Fri all day FT#2 Silver Lake WMA exploratory trip led by Phil Spivey, Rich Reaves, and Jim Drake

Saturday Field Trips

Sat morning FT#3 Angus Gholson Nature Park led by Tom Patrick

Sat morning FT#4 Wolf Creek Preserve led by Ed McDowell

Sat morning FT#5 Maclay Gardens led by Dan Miller

Sat morning FT#6 Three Rivers Recreation Area led by Guy Anglin

Sat morning FT#7 J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center led by Kay Kirkman

Sat morning FT#8 Seminole State Park led by John Jensen

Sat afternoon FT#9 Angus Gholson Nature Park led by Tom Patrick

Sat afternoon FT#10 Wolf Creek Preserve led by Ed McDowell

Sat afternoon FT#11 Trillium Gardens led by Dan Miller

Sat afternoon FT#12 Three Rivers Recreation Area led by Guy Anglin

Sat afternoon FT#13 J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center led by Kay Kirkman

Sat afternoon FT#14 Seminole State Park led by John Jensen

Sat all day FT#15 Florida Caverns led by Linda Chafin

Sat all day FT#16 Torreya State Park led by Pam and Bill Anderson

Sat all day FT#17 Apalachicola Bluffs/Ravines led by David Printiss TNC Manager

Sat all day FT#18 Wade Tract led by Wilson Baker

Sunday Field Trips

Sun morning FT#19 Florida Caverns led by Gil Nelson

Sun morning FT#20 Faceville Ravines led by Tom Patrick

Sun morning FT#21 River Creek WMA led by Phil Spivey

Sun morning FT#22 Wade Tract led by Wilson Baker

Sun morning FT#23 Lost Creek led by Beth Grant/Richard and Teresa Ware

Sun morning FT#24 Doe Run led by Maureen Donohue

Special notes:

- Driving directions to the sites will be available at the registration desk along with a list of participants for your field trip(s). For those interested in carpooling, you may sign up by writing your contact information on the list. It is up to you to check back to the list in order to contact others in your group who may be interested in carpooling
- We will be visiting some parks that require an entrance fee. We have tried to indicate required fees in the trip descriptions. However, we may not have covered every one of those. Be prepared to pay a reasonable entrance fee in case the park requires one.
- Abundant information on most of the sites we will be visiting can be found on the internet using a search engine. You may wish to use this valuable tool for additional information on the sites you are considering.

Friday Pre-Pilgrimage Trips

Trip # 1 Lower Flint River Float Trip

(limited to 30 participants)

**Leaders: Kay Kirkman,
Jerry Hightower**

Meeting place: Meet at 9:00 am at Flint River Outpost (229-787-3004), south of Albany on Radium Springs Road.

Special requirements: Canoes can be rented at the outpost for \$35.00 (includes shuttle, paddles, personal flotation device). Shuttle service if you bring your own boat is \$10.00. Trip reservations are required by email or phone to Kay Kirkman. Note: the trip is limited to a shuttle for 30 persons (in rental boats and personal boats). 10 rental canoes are available.

Carpooling: Recommended

Bring: Pack a lunch for picnic along the river. Bring sunscreen, hat, rain jacket, and water (2 bottles recommended). Camera, binoculars, and snorkel (for examining springs and limestone) may be desirable. Bring a day pack, dry bag or plastic bag and string to secure items inside your boat.

Facilities: A restroom is located at the Outpost.

Conditions: This is an easy, 8 mile stretch with paddling suitable for beginners, but persons must have basic canoeing or kayaking skills and ability to swim.

Description: The Lower Flint River Canoe Trip (Georgia DNR Radium Landing to Mitchell County Landing/Flint River Outpost). The Flint River is a 350 mile river that flows through the central to southwestern region of Georgia. This outing will feature a distinctive section of the river that has eroded into the limestone rocks as it traverses through the Dougherty Plain. In this region the river channel makes a dramatic transition from a broad, forested swampy floodplain to a deeply incised well defined stream, flanked by a narrow band of diverse hardwood hammock vegetation. Large cypress and sycamores line the edge of the river. The limestone bedrock is evident in the river bottom and as outcroppings exposed along steep bluffs. Along this section, there are numerous groundwater springs and seeps that contribute to the river flow.

Contact: Kay Kirkman 229-854-5420 (cell) or kkirkman@jonesctr.org or Jerry Hightower 770-206-0338 (cell) or jerry_hightower@nps.gov

Trip # 2 Exploratory Trip to Silver Lake WMA

(unlimited participation but please register)

**Leaders: Phil Spivey,
Rich Reaves, Jim Drake**

Meeting Place: Meet at 8:30 am at the Charter House parking lot.

Special requirements: At 8:30 am we will meet to divide into groups. Each group will be assigned a time to begin the trip, hopefully in 30 minute intervals. Staggered starting times will avoid one large group on the trail at the same time.

Bring: Binoculars, hand lens, water, lunch

Conditions: Easy walking; wear hiking boots or appropriate shoes and long pants

Carpooling: May be required from Charter House

Directions: Approximately 10 miles southwest of Bainbridge in Decatur County, Georgia near Lake Seminole. We will caravan to the site from the Charter House

Description: The Silver lake WMA was purchased by the Georgia DNR from International Paper Co. in 2008 and covers 8,432 acres. Much of the upland forest was historically managed as a quail hunting plantation and therefore much of the native longleaf pine forest and associated prairie-like groundcover was maintained by very frequent fires. Eventually the company used this native longleaf to support a population of red-cockaded woodpeckers (RCW) to mitigate losses on other lands. Vast stands of undisturbed native groundcover still exist along the shores of Silver Lake and no extensive plant surveys are known from the tract. Expect to see RCWs, gopher tortoises, Bachman's sparrows and maybe even the elusive dusky pygmy rattlesnake, in addition to exploring the rolling hills of diverse native groundcover. We never know what we might find, so be prepared for surprises.

Saturday Pilgrimage Trips

Saturday Morning Trips:

Trip # 3 - Angus Gholson Nature Park (trip limited to 15 participants)

Leader: Tom Patrick

Date and time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting place: Charter House parking lot

Carpooling: recommended

Directions: Angus Gholson Nature Park (400 Park Street, Chattahoochee, FL 32324; formerly Chattahoochee Nature Park) is tucked away in the residential area of Chattahoochee known as Torreya Heights. From US 90 in downtown Chattahoochee, take Morgan Avenue south. It goes down a steep hill and makes a long curve. Park Street is to your right along the curve, with a sign for the nature park. The entrance road, Park Street, is also a steep downhill. **Facilities:** at the park

Description: Angus Gholson Nature Park presents a short but delightfully rugged hike through the Apalachicola valley's rare flora. The park was named, in honor of Chattahoochee's own world-renowned botanist, Angus Gholson, who has spent his life exploring the rugged ravines of the Apalachicola River in search of unusual plants. You'll find something in bloom here all times of the year. The grand parade of wildflowers starts each February with trout-lily and trillium. A mile of trails connects Chattahoochee Spring at the top of the bluff with the county campground below, with more trails being flagged for the future. Hopefully we will see trilliums, blue violets, rain lilies, the last of the trout lilies and much more.

Trip # 4 - Wolf Creek Preserve (trip limited to 12 participants)

Leader: Ed McDowell

Date and Time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting Location: Charter House parking lot

Conditions: Easy to moderate walking

Facilities: None at the site

Trip Description: The Wolf Creek Trout Lily Tract, a 140 acre preserve owned by Grady County and managed by local conservation organizations, is recognized as the greatest expanse of the trout lily *Erythronium umbilicatum* anywhere in the world. We will be a few weeks late for the prime flowering period but should see some late flowering. Mixed in with the masses of trout lilies, we will see *Trillium maculatum*, the terrestrial orchids *Listera australis* (Southern tway-blade), *Corallorhiza wisteriana* (Wister's coral root), and *Tipularia discolor* (crane fly orchid). These along with other spring flowering forbs and the surrounding forest will make this field trip seem like a botanical wonderland. For more information about this site, contact Ed McDowell at ed.mcdowell@cox.net.

Trip # 5 - Maclay Gardens (trip limited to 15 participants)

Leader: Dan Miller

Date and time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting place: Meet trip leader Dan Miller at Maclay Gardens. Please allow enough travel time for 8:30 meeting.

Conditions: Easy walking.

Bring: \$4 per person for Maclay Gardens' entrance fee

Car pooling: Highly recommended

Directions: From Charter House, Bainbridge, GA: Take US 27 South to Tallahassee, 39 mi. Merge on to I-10 East. Proceed 3.7 mi to exit 203 (next exit) and turn left on to Thomasville Rd. Turn left at the 5th light. Maclay Gardens' entrance is 200 yards on right. Note: allow for recent road construction in the area.

Facilities: At the Gardens

Special circumstances: Although not required, due to travel times it may be desirable that this trip be combined with the Saturday afternoon Trip #11 to Trillium Gardens

Description: Maclay Florida State Gardens, 3540 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, FL is about a 1 hr drive from Bainbridge, GA. The Gardens are the former estate of Alfred B. Maclay who developed the gardens between 1920's to the 1950's. The 28 acres of lakeside natural gardens have spectacular displays of Kurume and Indica azaleas, camellias, hollies and native companion plants. Several fine specimens of two winged silver bell (*Halesia diptera magniflora*), Florida yew (*Taxus floridana*) and Chapman's rhododendron will be seen. Mr. Maclay's former winter home is open for tours also.

Saturday Morning Trips: (cont.)

Trip # 6 - Three Rivers Recreation Area (trip limited to 15 participants)

Leader: Guy Anglin

Date and time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting place: Three Rivers Recreation Area, 7908 Three Rivers Park Road, Sneads, FL 32460

Directions: Located two miles north of Sneads, Florida on River Road. From Charter House take GA Hwy 97 (Faceville Rd.) south for approx. 23 miles. Turn right onto US Hwy 90 (Blue Star Hwy) and go approx. 8.8 miles. Go right (north) onto River Road (State Road 271) for approx. 2 miles. Three Rivers Park Rd. is on right.

Bring: Admission fee \$3.00 per vehicle

Conditions: Moderately demanding hiking on relative steep trails (for Florida)

Description: Where Florida meets the southwest corner of Georgia, the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers converge to form Lake Seminole, the setting for this peaceful park. Hiking through forested hills of pine and mixed hardwoods, visitors might catch sight of fox squirrels, white-tailed deer, gray foxes, or many species of native and migratory birds. Recently completed prescribed burns allow visitors to see the geography of the area and provide a beautiful contrast to the brightly colored plants bursting through the ash. Some of the species we may see are: *Trillium decipiens*, *Matelea baldwiniana*, *Calycanthus floridus*, (*Callirhoe papaver* and *Spigelia gentianoides* are there, but will not be in flower yet), *Cornus amomum*, perhaps more than one *Viola* spp., *Spigelia marilandica*, *Marshallia obovata*, *Arisaema dracontium*, hardwood species such as *Quercus pagoda*, *Q. falcata*, *Q. stellata*.

Trip # 7 - J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center, Ichauway (trip limited to 15 participants)

Leader: Kay Kirkman

Date and time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting place: J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center. About 35 miles north of Bainbridge at 3988 Jones Center Drive Newton, GA. 39870

Directions from Bainbridge: Take Hwy 253 North until you come to the intersection of Hwy 91 North. Turn right onto GA Hwy. 91 N. Go 2.8 miles, crossing the Big Cypress Creek Bridge (small concrete bridge), and turn left at the first paved road. You will see a Jones Center sign. Go approximately 2/10 mile and turn right at the first paved drive with gates on each side. This is the main entry drive to the Jones Ecological Research Center.

Carpooling: Recommended

Conditions: 1 mile walk in forest over flat to slightly rolling terrain. Wear hiking boots

Description: The once-dominant longleaf pine-wiregrass ecosystem is currently one of the most threatened. It has evolved with and is maintained by frequent fire and has the greatest plant diversity in North America. Associated with longleaf-wiregrass communities are diverse riparian hardwood hammocks and isolated depressional wetlands. The field trip will include an overview of natural history of the longleaf pine ecosystem, conservation efforts, visits to longleaf stands and a walk through a riparian hardwood forest.

Trip # 8 - Seminole State Park (trip limited to 15 participants)

Leader: John Jensen

Date and time: 8:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot.

Carpooling: Recommended. It will be an approximately 20-25 minute caravan drive to Seminole State Park.

Directions: Seminole State Park, 7870 State Park Dr., Donalsonville, GA 39845 Located 23 miles west of Bainbridge on GA Hwy 253 (Spring Creek Rd.)

Conditions: Trail is approximately 2 miles long, although we may or may not complete the entire trail. The trail is wide, mostly flat, and easy to walk. A portion of the trail is along a boardwalk through a small wetland.

Bring: \$5.00 per vehicle entrance fee

Description: The Gopher Tortoise Trail winds through predominantly sandhill habitat characterized by an open canopy of longleaf pine, turkey oak, and sand post oak, and a highly diverse groundcover dominated by wiregrass. This habitat is regularly control burned to mimic the natural cycle of lightning-caused fires that historically shaped this ecosystem. Gopher tortoises and their burrows are numerous along this trail, and their role as a keystone species in this habitat will be discussed. A small portion of this trail travels through an isolated wetland via a boardwalk. Numerous amphibians that normally reside in subterranean sandhill retreats depend on these wetlands for brief breeding episodes. The trip leader will identify and discuss plants and animals in both the sandhill and wetland habitats.

Saturday Afternoon Trips:

Trip # 9 - Angus Gholson Nature Park (trip limited to 15 participants)

Date and time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010
Meeting place: Charter House parking lot
Description: same as trip #3

Leader: Tom Patrick

Trip # 10 - Wolf Creek Preserve (trip limited to 12 participants)

Date and time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010
Location: Charter House parking lot
Description: Same as trip #4

Leader: Ed McDowell

Trip # 11 - Trillium Gardens (trip limited to 15 participants)

Date and time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting location: Trillium Gardens, home and 7 acre natural preserve of Dan Miller and his native plant nursery.

Note: Although not required, this is ideally combined with the Saturday morning trip #5 Maclay Gardens.

Directions: Your field trip leader, Dan Miller, will guide the group from Maclay Gardens to his home, about 2 mi. away. For those not attending the Maclay Gardens (Saturday am trip #5), travel from Charter House on US 27 South to I-10 exit 203. Turn left going north on Thomasville Rd. Turn left at the 2nd light on to Timberlane Rd. Go 1 mi, down steep ravine, then left onto Trillium Ct. Home is 5th house on the left, 3532 Trillium Ct.

Conditions: Easy hiking.

Description: The preserve is an old growth beech/magnolia slope forest featuring mature trees, an extreme concentration of *Trillium underwoodii*, jack-in-the pulpit, green dragon, crane fly orchid, the endangered *Silene polypetala* as well as plantings of the three other species of Trillium native to Florida and other interesting wild flowers. In addition, plantings of the rare *Torreya taxifolia* and *Stewartia malacodendron* and several of the deciduous magnolia species will be seen. Be for warned that poison ivy is prolific! Afterwards, we will visit his nearby native plant nursery where native plants will be offered for sale.

Leader: Dan Miller

Trip # 12 - Three Rivers Recreation Area (trip limited to 15 participants)

Date and time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting place: Three Rivers Recreation Area, 7908 Three Rivers Park Road, Sneads, FL 32460

Description: Same as field trip #6

Leader: Guy Anglin

Trip # 13 - J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center, Ichauway (trip limited to 15 participants)

Date and Time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting Location: J.W. Jones Ecological Research Center

Description: Same as trip #7

Leader: Kay Kirkman

Trip # 14 - Seminole State Park (trip limited to 15 participants)

Date and time: 1:30 pm Saturday March 13, 2010

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot.

Description: Same as field trip #8

Leader: John Jensen

Saturday All Day Trips (bring lunch and water)

Trip # 15 - Florida Caverns

(trip limited to 20 participants)

Leader: Linda Chafin

Date and Time: Saturday March 13, 2010, 8:30 am (all day)

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot

Conditions: Hiking easy, on well maintained park trails.

Facilities: Restroom facilities available at park HQ.

Bring: \$5.00 per vehicle entrance fee; lunch and water.

Driving Directions: From Charter House to Florida Caverns State Park (3345 Caverns Rd, Marianna, FL): Head north on Tallahassee Hwy/US Hwy 27 North, staying in the left lane, and shortly make a U-turn at Antioch Church Rd/Calvary Rd/GA-262 North in order to head south on US Hwy 27 South. Stay on Hwy 27, crossing the Florida line, for about 7 miles. In Havana, turn right at 9th Ave/FL Hwy12 West. Stay on FL Hwy12 West for about 11 miles. In Quincy, turn left at N Madison St and take the 3rd right onto E Jefferson St. Turn left at FL-267 South/Pat Thomas Pkwy and go 3.5 miles, where you will take I-10 West toward Pensacola. Drive 38 miles to exit 142 for Marianna. At the end of the ramp, turn right onto FL-71 North and go about 2 miles. Turn left at US Hwy. 90 going West. Follow US-90 West for 3 miles, and turn right at Co Rd 167/S Jefferson St/Caverns Rd. Continue for about 2.5 miles, and the park will be on the left.

Description: Florida Caverns State Park supports a high quality Coastal Plain mesic hardwood forests, with a mature canopy of oaks, elms, beeches, and spruce pines over a brilliant display of wildflowers. Flowering plants we will see include calciphiles, disjuncts, and Florida rarities, such as southern columbine, several trilliums, pachysandra, blue phlox, isopyrum, wood spurge, may apple, cutleaf toothwort, coralberry, Godfrey's privet, and two-winged silverbell. Cavern tours are offered by the Park throughout the day.

Trip # 16 - Torreya State Park

(trip limited to 20 participants)

Leader: Pam & Bill Anderson

Date and time: Saturday March 13, 2010 8:30 am (all day)

Park location: About 50 miles southwest of Bainbridge

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot 8:30 am.

Carpooling: Highly recommended. The park is about 50 miles southwest of Bainbridge

Bring: \$3.00 per vehicle entrance fee, lunch and water

Conditions: 3 to 4 mile trails with rolling terrain. Some sharp inclines possible. Wear hiking boots or sturdy shoes.

Description: Torreya State Park is one of Florida's most beautiful and botanically interesting parks. Located on the eastern bank of the Apalachicola River, it is known to many for the Florida yew and torreya, both of which are Florida endemics. However, it also harbors an interesting array of northern disjuncts and a large number of unique and/or rare early spring wildflowers. Mesic slopes, floodplain forests, longleaf pine uplands, bluffs, ravines and sandhills contribute to the park's biological diversity.

Trip # 17 - Apalachicola Bluffs/Ravines

(trip limited to 20 participants)

Leader: David Printiss

Date and time: Saturday March 13, 2010, 8:30 am (all day)

Meeting location: Apalachicola Bluffs/Ravines, 10394 NW Longleaf Drive, Bristol, FL 32321

Directions: From Bainbridge take GA 97 toward Faceville. Just before Faceville, take GA 302 (not Spur 302). GA 302 becomes FL 267 toward Quincy. In Quincy take US 90 west to FL 12 West (South) toward Greensboro. Go on through Greensboro and continue on several miles toward Bristol. Appx. two miles before coming into Bristol, there will be Garden of Eden (dirt) Road on the right with a large sign "Apalachicola Bluffs - Garden of Eden Trail." Take the Garden of Eden Road 0.4 miles to the trailhead.

Bring: Lunch and 1 – 2 quarts of water per person; maybe a hiking stick to assist with the steep climbs and descents.

Conditions: Difficult, the trail is steep and the climbs are arduous.

Description: There are two trails. We will take the one that goes through several habitat types where we hope to find a number of wildflowers. Included among the plants we hope to see are: Florida anise Tree, Apalachicola rosemary (federally listed), sky-blue lupine, green fly orchid, American snowbell, storax, croomia, and leatherwood. The trail climaxes at Alum Bluff - 150 ft. bluff above the Apalachicola River. There are no Torreya on this trail. After completing the hike it is suggested that members of the group who are interested, travel to Torreya State Park which is adjacent to ABRP where they can easily see several Torreya that have been planted near the historic Gregory House.

Saturday All Day Trips cont. (bring lunch and water)

Trip # 18 - Wade Tract (trip limited to 20 participants)

Leader: Wilson Baker

Date and time: Saturday March 13, 2010, 8:30 am (all day)

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot

Bring: Water and lunch to eat in the field

Conditions: Mostly easy hiking.

Description: Longleaf pine woodlands were one of the dominant upland forests of the southeastern U.S. Today, not even 5% of these majestic forests remain, and only a small portion of which are managed with prescribed fire regimes that approximate natural conditions. The extent of losses makes old-growth longleaf forests one of the most endangered ecosystems in North America. The Wade Tract Preserve is a 200-acre old-growth research plot managed by Tall Timbers Research Station surrounded by a 3,200-acre private hunting estate near Thomasville, GA. The Wade Tract is but one of a very few old-growth stands which has been managed with fire for decades, and the only stand specifically dedicated to research purposes. The history of research work and effort conducted on the Wade Tract, together with the extreme rarity of this old-growth forest type, make it one of the most important ecological research sites anywhere.

Sunday Pilgrimage Trips - Remember daylight savings time change 1 hour forward. No carpooling - we will not return to the Charter House.

Trip # 19 - Florida Caverns (trip limited to 30 participants)

Leader: Gil Nelson

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 at 8:30 am.

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot.

Bring: Lunch if you plan to stay after noon

Description: Same as trip 15, except different leader.

Trip # 20 - Faceville Ravines Exploratory Trip (trip limited to 30 participants)

Leader: Tom Patrick

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 at 8:30 am.

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot.

Directions: From Bainbridge, take Highway 97 South ~10 miles, turn right at Faceville Landing Rd and follow the signs to the park.

Conditions: Moderate, no trails some bushwhacking required.

Bring: Lunch if you plan to stay after noon.

Description: Faceville ravines is an area of limestone exposures located approximately 15 miles southwest of Bainbridge near the Faceville landing recreation area. This will be a roadside botanizing trip and walks will be within short distances of the vehicles. Among the rare plants found in this beech-magnolia forest will be leather wood. We should also see an array of blooming spring wildflowers including *Trillium underwoodii*.

Trip # 21 - River Creek WMA (trip limited to 30 participants)

Leader: Phil Spivey

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 at 8:30 am.

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot

Conditions: Easy walking; advise hiking boots and long pants

Bring: Lunch if you plan to stay past lunch time

Description: Nestled between the Ochlocknee River and Barnett's Creek in western Thomas County, River Creek is one of the original quail hunting properties of the famous Red Hills. The tract was purchased in 1936 by comic book tycoon T.T. Scott, publisher of the original Superman comics and creator of Sheena of the Jungle. Longleaf pine forest covers over 500 acres varying from very upland sandhill sites grading into rich low mesic flatwood areas dotted with cypress dome wetlands. The steep slopes along the Ochlocknee River bluff are dominated by beech/magnolia/spruce pine community quickly dropping into several hundred acres of mature blackwater river floodplain forest. Acquired by the DNR in 2005, River Creek is one of only 5 known sites in Georgia for flame flower (*Macranthera flamma*).

Sunday Pilgrimage Trips (cont.):

Trip # 22 - Wade Tract (trip limited to 30 participants)

Leader: Wilson Baker

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 8:30 am

Location: Charter House parking lot

Bring: Lunch if you plan to stay after noon

Description: Same as trip #18

Trip # 23 - Lost Creek Forest (trip limited to 30 participants)

**Leaders: Beth Grant
Richard and Teresa Ware**

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 8:30 am

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot

Bring: Lunch if you plan to stay after noon

Directions: Caravan from the Charter House. Take Hwy 84 East from Bainbridge toward Thomasville; before Thomasville (after the Ochlocknee River), take a left onto the 84 bypass; turn right onto Hwy 19 South, turn left onto Hwy 122 at the Office Depot. We will meet Beth Grant at the Office Depot and then proceed 5 miles farther down Hwy 122 then go left onto Airport Rd, then halfway down the hill the entrance is on the left (this is just south of the Thomasville Airport).

Description: A tree-lover's paradise - the canopy is highly diverse with many large individuals, especially American beech, live oak, sand hickory, white oak, Shumard oak, spruce pine, a swamp chestnut oak that two people can barely reach around and southern magnolia. There is no sign of tree cutting for at least a half century, perhaps over a century. Both wetlands and uplands are intact. The bottomland hardwoods include laurel oak, sycamore, Shumard oak, cherrybark oak and water tupelo. The Lost Creek Forest has a newly discovered population of the rare Florida milkvine (it will not be in bloom at the time of the trip). Although possibly not in bloom, the forest floor is carpeted in native herbs, such as wild sarsaparilla-vine (*Smilax pumilla*, a red-berried, thornless relative of the greenbrier), Partridge-berry, and little brown jug (*Hexastylis arifolia*).

Trip # 24 - Doe Run (trip limited to 30 participants)

Leader: Maureen Donohue

Date and time: Sunday March 14, 2010 8:30 am.

Meeting location: Charter House parking lot

Site location: About 55 miles NE of Bainbridge. Site entrance is ten miles north of Moultrie, GA on the right off GA Hwy 133. A desirable trip for those on the way home to the northern part of the state.

Bring: Footwear for wet conditions (boots or a change of shoes), lunch if you plan to stay after noon.

Conditions: Easy walk, less than a mile in boggy terrain.

Description: We will explore a lowland bog habitat and see three species of pitcherplants (*Sarracenia* sp.) and bog bonnets (*Chaptalia tomentosa*), and other early spring bog flora beginning to bloom.

General Pilgrimage Information:

All participants are expected to sign a liability waiver as a condition of attending. Please be aware that these are outdoor field trips with some risk involved. We indicate the physical nature of the trip in the description so that you may determine if the trip is appropriate for your abilities. Most involve easy to moderate walking at a leisurely pace suitable for virtually anyone who goes outdoors. Trips marked "exploration" can be strenuous, in difficult terrain where we don't know what we'll find. Canoe trips expect that all attending can swim and have at least novice ability at canoeing (these trips are not the time to learn to paddle a canoe!). Personal flotation devices will be worn when on the water. Dress for an entire day in the field – sturdy shoes and layers of clothing. Bring rain gear and an extra pair of socks in case your feet get wet. Bring a lunch for all day trips – there are refrigerators in your rooms. Evening dress is casual.

Our rules are minimal:

No plant collecting - please don't use our trips to "scout" for plants for your garden or for any other purpose.

No picking of plants - please, no bouquets!

Stay on the trails. When we have to walk on vegetation, we spread out so that we do not all stomp the same plants.

No smoking - Except in your privately owned vehicle.

No pets on the trail.

Registration and Lodging:

REGISTRATION MUST BE MAILED (POSTMARKED) BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010.

Complete the enclosed registration form clearly indicating your field trip choices by number not by name. Make your check payable to the Georgia Botanical Society and return it to Anita and Rich Reaves at the address on the form.

Headquarters: The Charter House in Bainbridge, Georgia will be the headquarters for the 2010 Pilgrimage Friday registration, Friday and Saturday Evening Programs and Saturday evening banquet.

Lodging: Everyone is responsible for making their own room reservations and paying for their own room including canceling the room if that is necessary. We have 41 rooms blocked with The Charter House and 30 rooms blocked at the nearby Days Inn at special room rates. Blocked rooms at both hotels have room refrigerators; Days Inn rooms also have microwaves. **To receive the special room rates at The Charter House and Days Inn, you must call by 4:00 pm, February 19th and you must inform the reservations agent that you are with the Georgia Botanical Society.**

The Charter House Inn
1401 Tallahassee Hwy (Hwy 27 South)
Bainbridge GA 39819
Hotel is on the left, just south of the Hwy 84 bypass
229-246-8550
888-984-3466 (toll free)
staff@thecharterhouseinn.com
\$69.99 plus tax (1 to 4 people per room)
41 rooms blocked

Days Inn
1407 Tallahassee Hwy (Hwy 27 South)
Bainbridge, GA 39819
Hotel is on the left, just south of the Hwy 84 bypass
229-248-6300
\$54.99 plus tax each for single king bed
\$59.99 plus tax for two double beds
30 rooms blocked (19 king size and 11 double)

The Jameson Inn (229-243-7000) and several other motels are located near the Charter House, but we have no special arrangements there. A new Holiday Inn Express may be completed by the pilgrimage date, but no information is available for that facility as yet. Also located near the Charter House are Zaxby's, Sonic, Walmart and Home Depot.

There are several options for those interested in camping. As with the hotels, you must select and make your own arrangements for camping sites:

Chattahoochee RV Park
(next to the Angus Gholson Nature Park)
269 River Landing Rd
Chattahoochee, FL. 32324
850-663-8000

KOA Bainbridge
229-246-5802
800-562-1225
www.koa.com/where/ga/10152/

Other parks in the area also allow camping at various levels of convenience:

Three Rivers State Park, Sneads, FL 850-482-9006
Seminole State Park, Donalsonville, GA 39845 800-864-7275
Florida Caverns State Park, Marianna, FL 850-482-9598
Torreya State Park, near Bristol, FL 800-326-3521
City of Bainbridge Camping Facilities 229-248-2010.

Friday and Saturday Night Social: Please **DO NOT** bring outside food to the social hour or banquet. To protect their county food service permit, the Charter House has a strict rule against outside food in their food service areas. The Landing Bar and Grill located inside the Charter House serves a good variety of sandwiches and hors d'oeuvres.

However, we do need volunteers to bring canned or bottled soft drinks for the Friday social. Contact Candee or Jim Drake if interested in volunteering at 678-482-2127 or drake3800@charter.net

BotSoc Pilgrimage Shirts - 2010 Limited Edition

All profits from the sales of Pilgrimage shirts benefit
the Marie Mellinger Field Botany Research Grant Fund



Our beautiful 2010 T-shirts and sweatshirt, designed and drawn by Jenneke Somerville, depict the lovely Atamasco lily, which can be found blooming in the Bainbridge area during mid-March. The shirts will be a special limited edition production based ONLY on the number of orders received. To order, please use the Pilgrimage Registration Form and place your order by the February 16 deadline. Short sleeve t-shirts are \$13 (\$15 for XXL and XXXL); long sleeve t-shirts are \$15 (\$17 for XXL and \$18 for XXXL); sweatshirts are \$19 (\$21 for XXL and \$22 for XXXL).

If you will not attend the pilgrimage but would like a shirt, please include \$5.00 for postage for the first shirt and \$1.50 for each additional shirt with your order.

Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper

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Marietta, GA 30066-7906
www.gabotsoc.org



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