

BotSoc News



Georgia Botanical Society

Volume 88
Number 5
September
2013

Annual Meeting Sept 28th

*IN THIS
ISSUE:*

**Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center
8615 Barnwell Road
Johns Creek, GA 30022**

Join the members of the Georgia Botanical Society for the 2013 Annual Meeting and pot luck luncheon. You are cordially invited to bring an appetizer and/or a lunch dish to share and enjoy the lodge, the covered two story deck with views of the meadow, pond, and forest. After lunch Jerry Hightower will lead a wild flora walk on the Lutra Loop Trail.

10:00 am - 11:00 am social, seed/plant swap, & appetizers
11:00 am - 12:00 pm meeting
12:00pm - 1:00 pm lunch
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Lutra Loop Walk

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The lodge has a full kitchen with stove top, two microwave ovens, and three conventional ovens. There will be lemonade, tea, coffee, and some soft drinks provided. Please email Penny Costanzo at PennyPerel@aol.com with the dish that you will be providing. And bring a friend!

Invasive Pest Alert

The emerald ash borer was detected in DeKalb and Fulton counties in July. The emerald ash borer is an insect that belongs to a group of metallic wood-boring beetles. Our native beetles normally serve to kill weakened trees, which is a part of the natural nutrient recycling process. However, emerald ash borers can kill vigorously growing trees. The beetle is not native to the United States and was first found near Detroit, Michigan in 2002. Emerald ash borer (EAB) is now found in 21 states and has already killed tens of millions of ash trees.

Do not move firewood outside the county in which it originated as that contributes to the spread. Learn more and see pictures of this pest: www.gainvasives.org/eab

Book Review by Avis Winfield



BotSoc News

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

Submission deadline

Is Oct 1 for the November issue.

Subscriptions

Are included with membership.

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www.gabotsoc.org

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The Natural Communities of Georgia

By Leslie Edwards, Jonathan Ambrose and L. Katherine Kirkman and Photographs by Hugh and Carol Nourse

This book came out early in 2013. The first time I saw it was when I purchased my copy in March. By now, no doubt, many if not most of you have purchased the book and, perhaps, have even read it from cover to cover. Probably any one of you is better equipped than I to review this book. I have only been “botanizing” about three and a half years. Many of you have been doing this for three and a half decades.

Nevertheless, long before this book was published, I was asked to review it for the BotSoc News. Why--since I am basically a “newbie”--would anyone want me to review such a monumental publication as this? As it turns out, it was my very lack of botanical know-how that got me into this. I was asked to review the book from the perspective of a novice for the sake of other fledgling botanists who might be drawn to the “cause” by someone who is interested in all living things, slime molds included, but who uses Latin sparingly so as not to frighten. Since I had no clear idea of what I was agreeing to, naturally, I accepted. When it comes to “not knowing too much,” I’m your girl. Please, consider this not so much a “review” as an invitation to discover *The Natural Communities of Georgia*.

These are the things that I like most about this book:

1) The book is beautiful and pleasing to the senses. It is colorful, full of Hugh and Carol Nourse’s photography, not only on the inside, but also on the cover.

It is printed on a type of paper that was selected (quoted from the credits) “for permanence and durability.” The pages feel good as you turn them. It even smells good, like a new encyclopedia. An electronic reader just can’t provide this kind of experience.

2) The writing style is fluid; the language is straightforward, comfortable and comprehensible for all readers regardless of their college major or level of scientific expertise. For example, both the common and the

Book Review: The Natural Communities of Georgia (cont'd)

scientific names are used when mentioning or listing the pertinent organisms; the common name is always shown first. I think this makes the text less intimidating for folks who are not “fluent” in binomial nomenclature. Essential terms used in describing the communities are listed and defined in the introduction and first chapters. Most of these sound familiar and are, therefore, easily assimilated. (Who knew that “small patch” was a *bona fide* term with an implied quantitative value?)

3) The book is well organized. The general plan of the book is laid out in the “Introduction.” The essential concepts “natural community” and “ecoregion” as well as the terms used to define and describe the features of specific communities are presented in various lists and explained. “Chapter One” specifically focuses on environmental challenges and management strategies and “Chapter Two” describes the abiotic factors (such as: type of rock, soil, topography, rainfall, sunlight, temperature, etc.) that combine to form the physical setting of each specific community. Chapters 3-7 contain descriptions of the natural communities within the five ecoregions. Each section includes a “Featured Place,” a site open to the public where an example of that specific community can be visited. The final chapter of the book addresses “Future Conservation Challenges.”

4) The book has a clear purpose. It is dedicated to Dr. Charles H. Wharton who wrote *The Natural Environments of Georgia* in 1978. His book documented the conditions of the environmental regions as they were 35 years ago; it serves as a baseline for measuring environmental change in our state. This new book describes the current health or vigor of the natural communities as they exist now. Comparing the information in both books gives us a better understanding of just how climate change and human population growth are impacting the biological diversity of the state. This information should help in the development of strategies for managing and conserving our natural communities. The last sentence of the book proclaims its purpose: “It is our hope that this book will serve as a foundation for future research, education, outreach, and land protection efforts to help conserve the natural communities of this state.”

Dr. Wharton was a strong proponent of environmental education for everyone. Hopefully, this beautiful book will attract a multitude of people to the outdoors, inspire reverence for the intricate web of interactions that constitute an eco-system, and instill a sense of responsibility for protecting the environment locally and globally. After all, a round planet doesn't have sides.

We should all buy this book for ourselves and buy at least one as a gift for someone else. Leave it sitting out on a table, opened to entice children to look through it. Use it as a way to begin conversations. Be a spokesperson for all the wonderful things that cannot speak for themselves. (However, don't think of this as a field guide. Unless you are in training for the Ironman Triathlon, do not slip a copy into your backpack. It's a bit heavy.)

2013 Pilgrimage Trip #6: Fort Gordon

Fort Gordon has an array of different habitats. We first observed an escarpment with an eroded edge. This area was dominated by large hawthorn trees (*Crataegus* spp.) above the escarpment. Our second stop was where some dormant pitcher plants (*Sarracenia rubra* ssp. *rubra*) were located. At the edge of the bog was beargrass (*Nolina* spp.), then horse sugar (*Symplocos tinctoria*), redbay (*Persea borbonia*), and the large-leaf gallberry (*Ilex coriacea*).

On the third stop we observed a roosting box, constructed for the American kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*). Our guide, wild life biologist Dallas Grimes, had a long handled camera where we could observe the nest with eggs. These birds dine on lizards and frogs.

We then went to a wetland where numerous American white cedar trees (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) surround a small lake. A boardwalk with an observatory has been constructed with a view of the lake and beaver home. Some of our group observed bladderwort (*Utricularia* spp.) and fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*). On the way back to the cars, on the other side of the road in an open pineland, we observed *Viola palmata*. On our way to see bats under a bridge we spotted a beautiful Piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*) in peak bloom.



Wetland with *Chamaecyparis thyoides*



Bladderwort (*Utricularia* spp.)



Rhododendron canescens

2013 Pilgrimage Trip #6: Fort Gordon (cont'd)

Fort Gordon is actively restoring longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and wiregrass (*Aristida beyrichiana*) communities. We saw two of these sites. One was planted in alternating rows of wiregrass and longleaf while the other was more random. The botanists also pointed out Carolina ipecac (*Euphorbia ipecacuanhae*) in bloom amongst the plantings. Then we went to another mature longleaf pine habitat where the blue lupine (*Lupinus angustifolius*) was growing in large colonies and was at its peak!



Lupinus angustifolius



Longleaf pine forest with large colonies of lupine

We also saw some active nesting sites of the Red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) in the pines (see picture at right). We also observed bird's foot violets (*Viola pedata*) amongst the pines.

Finally we observed the sandhill rosemary (*Ceratiola ericoides*) down an embankment, growing in what appeared to be pure sand. We were fortunate to have a great guide and two botanists, Steve and Max, to point out flora and fauna.



Field Trip Report: Big Hammock Natural Area

Five people showed up at the trailhead either early or on time. We had invited Dr. John Bozeman, currently living in Conyers, to join us and he did. Other participants were Mike Chapman from Brunswick, Ward Milner from the Townsend area, and Celeste Ray and Susan Yarborough, both from Augusta. Using maps, John and I gave an introduction in which we talked about the history and ecology of the place. We applauded efforts by Lisa Kruse and others at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to restore the plant communities using fire as a management tool. I distributed a species-by-habitat list to attendees. Plant indicator species were an important focal point of this trip.

The trip was introduced as the first of what will hopefully become a series of Georgia Botanical Society field trips in which we highlight the “featured places” in the new (2013) Natural Communities of Georgia book by Leslie Edwards, Jon Ambrose and Kay Kirkman. For brevity, in this field trip report, I will refer to it hereafter as the “nat com book” or simply the book. The authors list Big Hammock Natural Area (BHNA) as a featured place to see the Dry Evergreen Oak Woodland. Another community, Dry Deciduous Hardwood Forest, adjoins the woodland. Despite the use of the word “dry” in both plant community names, the forest is more mesic than the woodland. BHNA is home to the largest known population of the rare Elliott’s plume (*Elliottia racemosa*). The uncommon (in GA) myrtle oak (*Quercus myrtifolia*) also has a large population.

In addition to those two natural communities, we would also see transitions from Pine Flatwoods (where we started) which occur on a low, flat, or mildly depressional sites, with moist to hydric soils all the way to dry upland sites such as turkey oak-longleaf pine sandhills. And we would see one Cypress-Gum Swamp Depression.

Before we left the parking area, I pointed out the differences between three of the four pines we would see. These were slash pine (*Pinus elliotii*), longleaf pine (*P. palustris*) and loblolly pine (*P. taeda*). All three were growing within 10 feet of each other in the parking area. We later would see the fourth species, the shade tolerant spruce pine (*P. glabra*), a member of the Dry Deciduous Hardwood Forest.



Elliott's plume (*Elliottia racemosa*)

I had originally planned to follow the 1.3 mile trail laid out for the DNR by Carol Schneier using the nice brochure featuring work by Suzi Mersmann. Since it was cool, we decided to walk up on the ridge immediately to the south of the parking area. That area had recently undergone a prescribed burn. Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*), despite earlier logging, is already making a comeback at BHNA. This species, though not listed as a member of the Dry Evergreen Oak Woodland, the natural community book authors cite Daubenmire (1990) when they state that longleaf pine can be present in younger stands of this community type. It will eventually be diminished in numbers by shade and fire exclusion.

The ridge community had the typical park-like woodland appearance and will probably keep that look even with the few scattered regenerating longleaf pines. I had already warned folks that based on what I saw last week, we would not likely see Elliott’s plume (*Elliottia racemosa*) in bloom. Fortunately I was wrong as within five minutes of ascending the ridge, we saw a number of trees in the early stages of blooming. I took a few pictures of it which I added to my album at DiscoverLife.org. Most, if not all, the species seen on the trip are on that site. I currently have over 1200 species of plants on the album. For serious users of my album, I can E-mail a 6-step protocol to make it easier to use.

Big Hammock Natural Area (cont'd) by Bobby Hattaway

On the ridge, besides *Elliottia*, we pointed out the myrtle oak, (*Quercus myrtifolia*), a shrubby evergreen oak which is uncommon in Georgia, plus some other characteristic species. We then joined the nature trail near marker #3 which highlights sand live oak (*Quercus geminata*). This evergreen and the semi-evergreen sand laurel oak or Darlington oak (*Quercus hemisphaerica*) dominate the canopy. In the understory, along with the still-abundant *Elliottia*, we find lots of sparkleberry or farkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*). Associated with these species, we encounter witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), devilwood or wild olive (*Osmanthus americanus* – now *Cartrema americana* in Weakley's 2012 on-line Flora), spruce pine (*Pinus glabra*) and *Asimina parviflora* (small-flowered pawpaw, erroneously called small-fruited pawpaw in the nat com book). Here and once more on the trip, we encountered Carolina holly (*Ilex ambigua*). Having seen it on the recon trip, I expected to see it. I think the reason this upland somewhat xerophytic species is often overlooked is because when it is sterile, it is rather nondescript. The many species of heaths such as vacciniums, including the often ignored black highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium fuscatum* (syn. *V. atrococcum*)), bear testimony to why Dr. Bozeman included the acid-loving heaths in his earlier publications as important components of the Oak-Pine-Heath forest type.

After trail marker #6 (Dune Ridge Crest), we start descending into a more mesic community that best fits the description of the nat com book's Dry Deciduous Hardwood Forest. In the canopy we see white oak (*Quercus alba*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*) and even a few scattered loblolly pines (*Pinus taeda*). The understory features hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) and dogwood (*Cornus florida*). *Elliottia* is still with us.

For lunch, we stop near trail marker #8 which highlights the "Old Field Site." At this stage of recovery this part of the site is designated as a hammock. That is because of its evergreen oak canopy. A hammock is a band or island of evergreen vegetation within a surrounding different vegetation type. Dr. Bozeman gives us some interesting historical perspectives on pre-public ownership and acquisition. We note the absence of *Elliottia*. The hypothesis behind its absence offered by John is that when the site was cleared to plant corn more than 75 years ago, the mycorrhizae in the soil were destroyed. Since the members of the heath family (Ericaceae) are known for having a strong tie with fungi, this seemed the most plausible explanation. Before leaving the old field site we saw two notable species, not necessarily associated with this disturbed habitat – gum bully (*Sideroxylon lanuginosum*) and woody goldenrod (*Chrysoma pauciflorescens*).

After lunch, we continued on the trail encountering some Sand spike moss (*Selaginella arenicola*) which we had seen earlier but not in as much abundance along with three species of *Cladonia* (*C. subtenuis*, *C. evansii*, and *C. leporina*). The first two are commonly called reindeer lichens and *C. evansii* is often singled out as powder puff lichen. The very presence of these four cryptogams (non-seed plants) indicates that fire has been absent from this particular spot. We then passed a Cypress-Gum Swamp depression (#17 on the trail marker and brochure) that had myrtleleaf St. Johnswort (*Hypericum myrtifolium*) in bloom and the holly which is typical of this habitat, myrtle dahoon (*Ilex myrtifolia*). Roads and trails are often built along ecotones. Near the end, on the left side of the trail is the xeric ancient dune ridge vegetation and on the right, moist flatwoods with slash and longleaf pines.

Weather-wise, it was milder than it had been earlier in the week and except for an occasional tick, the trip had no notable negative aspects. At about 1:30 we said our good-byes and headed home.

President's Perspective

Fellow BotSoccers:

I would like to extend my personal invitation to all members to join us September 28th at the Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center for our annual meeting, which will include a pot luck luncheon, plant & seed swap, show & tell, and a wrap up hike. Oh, yes ... and our annual meeting. Hopefully we will have some late summer wildflowers adorning the margins of the meadows and a few ferns to test your fern identification skills. The goldenrods often do more than test my abilities, but we will have some of those, too. For our pot luck lunch - as a guideline, but not a strict one, please use: Last name starting with A – F: appetizers, G – M: Salads, N – S: Entrees, T – Z: Desserts. I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the 28th.

It is already time to mark your calendars for the 2014 Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, March 28th – 30th in Waycross. Vice President and Pilgrimage Chair Maureen Donohue, once again, has done a fantastic job in securing headquarters lodging and the Saturday banquet room. Field trip leaders are needed, so please volunteer or recruit a leader. First hand knowledge of the field trip location is more important than vast botanical knowledge, so sign up now. Please not only invite a new person to join us in Waycross, offer to bring them along. Every new member that joined us in Augusta was most favorably impressed with the great people and outings.

With the extensive summer rains many areas will have a fantastic late summer/early autumn wildflower display. Although identifying of some of these beautiful flowers to the species level might be difficult, it is worth the effort to get out and take advantage of the diversity of blooming species. Your frustration levels might be abated a bit if you join in field trips where everyone shares knowledge. However, my frustration levels have remained high this year because I work most Saturdays and have been forced to miss so many terrific outings with knowledgeable leaders. So if you have not taken advantage of the field trips this year, what is your excuse?

Jerry Hightower

Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Sept 8 Sunday, 1:00 PM	Fort Mountain State Park North facing cove/boulderfield forest	See July newsletter or website	Debbie Cosgrove turtle127@ windstream.net
Sep 14 10:00 AM	Fall Line Sandhills WMA Fall Line Sandhills contains the highest density of state-listed species (animals and plants) of all. No less than 12 listed species, including at least six plants, are found here. The state's largest population of federally listed pondberry is among them. Its bright red fruits are a rare sight and should be present. Other specialties at this site include sandhills golden aster, Pickering's morning-glory, lax water-milfoil, and dwarf witch-alder. Late summer and early fall is a great time to visit the sandhills due to the high diversity of colorful composites in bloom. We'll also explore depressional wetlands and seepage slopes.	Directions: From the junction of GA Hwy 96 and US Hwy 19 in the town square of Butler (Taylor County), travel west on GA Hwy 96 for 2.6 miles (turn right at a stop sign to remain on 96 at about 2.4 miles) to Taylor County Industrial Park; turn right. Meet at the entrance kiosk for the WMA. Facilities: None Walking: Easy Bring: Lunch, snacks, water, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and rain gear. See BotSoc website for other tips.	John Jensen john.jensen @gadnr.org 478-550-4406
Sep 21 1:00 PM Note: late start time.	Burks Mountain Field Trip We have permission from the owners to roam Burks Mountain and adjacent Rose Mountain, the two peaks comprising the Burks Mountain geological complex. We will learn the interesting tectonic processes that squeezed a bunch of ultramafic ocean crust up on land, and will roam through the serpentine glades that resulted. We will encounter the unique plant assemblage adapted to the high magnesium soils of the glades. On Rose Mountain, we'll see piles of corundum and possibly spinel, mineral cousins of the ruby, and learn how these rocks are associated with the serpentine glades on Burks.	Directions: Take Highway 47 south from Lincolnton, Georgia. Cross the big bridge over Lake Strom Thurmond and keep going. Go past Wildwood Park to the stop sign and flashing light where Highway 150/221 crosses. Pull in on the left at Pollards Corner Store where we will meet. Look for Dan's red Nissan pickup with the big yellow homemade camper top! Facilities: At Pollards store only. Walking: Easy to moderate. Bring: Lunch, snacks, & water. Remember to dress for the weather and wear hiking shoes. You may wish to bring binoculars, hand lens, notebook, and camera.	Dan Williams williams @warnell.uga. edu
Sep 28 10:00 AM	Annual Meeting See page 1 for details.	Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center 8615 Barnwell Road Johns Creek, GA 30022	

Due to space considerations, please check the website for more details on some of these trips or contact the trip leader.

Upcoming Field Trips

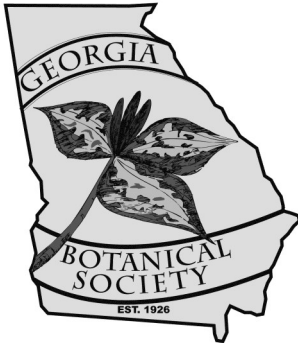
Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Oct 5 10:00 AM	<p>Greenwood Plantation</p> <p>We will see one of the largest stands of old growth longleaf pine left in existence. Other natural communities will include slash/pond pine flats, and shortleaf pine ridges. Expect to see a diversity of upland native groundcover species and wetland ecotonal species including the rare species, flameflower (<i>Macranthera flammea</i>). Red-cockaded woodpeckers are abundant. This driving/walking tour will include a hike of about 1.5 miles.</p>	<p>Directions: Meet at the Greenwood gate on the west side of Thomasville. For GPS use this address: 4340 Hwy 84 West, Thomasville GA 31792.</p> <p>Facilities: At Greenwood office.</p> <p>Walking: Easy to moderate.</p> <p>Bring: Five dollars for parking fee, and lunch, snacks, and water. Dress for hot weather, bugs, and possible thunderstorms.</p>	Phil Spivey wrensong105@gmail.com
Oct 6 10:00 AM Note: this is a Sunday	<p>Williams Bluffs Preserve, Early County</p> <p>We will meet at the preserve gate, and carpool around the 1000-acre preserve, hitting the major habitats. The preserve includes longleaf pine sandhill woodlands (regularly burned), isolated limesink depressional wetlands, mixed-pine flatwoods, rich hardwood bluff forests, and various bottomland swamp communities along the Chattahoochee River. We should see at least two rare species, Florida willow (<i>Salix floridana</i>) and swamp black-eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia auriculata</i>), the latter in flower. We will drive to the different habitats and explore from the vehicles on foot.</p>	<p>Directions: Allow 3.5 hours from Atlanta, going south on I-85 to I-185 towards Columbus to US 27 south to SR 62 to Hilton. In Hilton, turn left on S.R. 370 south, just before RR crossing—please see BotSoc website for details to the exact location.</p> <p>Facilities: None.</p> <p>Walking: Mostly easy with some steep.</p> <p>Bring: Lunch, snacks and water. Dress for predicted weather.</p>	Malcolm Hodges mhodges@tnc.org 770-776-9194
Oct 12 10:00 AM	<p>Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge: Piedmont Natural Communities Workshop</p> <p>We will explore various natural communities of the Georgia Piedmont, seeing how the bedrock, landscape setting, fire, and moisture levels of a site create completely different natural communities, including mafic woodlands, acidic woodlands, oak-pine forests, flatwoods (Monticello glades), mesic forests and floodplains. This will be a true workshop, modeled on a class about Georgia's Natural Environments taught at Georgia State University. We will take soil cores to look at moisture levels, perched water tables, and soil texture; we'll look for red-cockaded woodpeckers and other wildlife; we'll note fire scars on trees; we'll note what direction a slope is facing; we'll move from higher to lower sites and observe how tree species (and other vegetation) change as these conditions changed.</p>	<p>Please register in advance for this workshop and materials will be provided.</p> <p>Meet: Visitor Center of the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, which is located in central Georgia, approximately 25 miles north of Macon and 18 miles east of Forsyth. The refuge may be visited by exiting I-75 at Exit 186 in Forsyth and driving east along Juliette Road for 18 miles to the refuge office and visitor center. An alternate route is State Highway 11, between Gray and Monticello. Just north of Round Oak on Hwy 11, turn west on Juliette Road and proceed for 3 miles to the office/visitor center.</p> <p>Facilities: Yes.</p> <p>Bring: Lunch, snacks and water. Comfortable shoes, notebook, camera, hand lens, binoculars.</p>	Leslie Edwards edwa1616@bellsouth.net

Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Oct 14 10:00 AM Note: this is a Monday	Blackjack Crossing Nature Conservancy Conservation Area Wildflower season in the sandhills is in the autumn and we should see good displays of typical sandhill species, including <i>Liatris elegans</i> , <i>Pityopsis pinifolia</i> , <i>Eriogonum tomentosum</i> , the rare Michaux's Whitlow-wort (<i>Paronychia herniarioides</i>), and a variety of other fall wildflowers and grasses. We will walk over a sandhill to a seepage bog that has another unique set of plants.	Directions: Meet at Blackjack Crossing; see BotSoc website for detailed directions. Facilities: None. Walking: Easy to moderate. Bring: Lunch, water, snacks, hand lens, curiosity.	Hal Massie massiefarm@aol.com 478-957-6095
Oct 19 10:00 AM	Yonah Mountain This is a popular site for rock climbers & hikers seeking a mountaintop view. Expect to see bush honeysuckle, staghorn sumac, table mountain pine & hop tree near the top.	Directions: Meet at Mount Yonah trailhead. From Cleveland, travel north on GA Hwy 75 approximately 2½ mi to Tom Bell Rd on the right. Turn left from Tom Bell Rd onto Chambers Rd & follow it to the gravel road on the left to the trailhead. Facilities: Yes. Walking: Difficult. Bring: Lunch, snacks, water, hiking shoes.	Ben Cash bencash@hemc.net 706-778-5155 706-968-3841 (cell)
Oct 26 10:00 AM	Echeconnee Natural Area In the power line area, we expect to see blue curls (<i>Trichostema dichotomum</i>), Georgia savory (<i>Clinopodium georgianum</i>) sand jointweed (<i>Polygonella articulata</i>), purple false foxglove, (<i>Agalinis fasciculata</i>), and much more, embedded in the sea of goldenrods. We will venture into the low boggy area and look for fragrant lady's tresses (<i>Spiranthes odorata</i>).	Directions: Meet at Entrance to Echeconnee Natural Area. See BotSoc website for detailed directions. Facilities: None on site. Walking: Easy to moderate. Bring: Lunch, snacks, water, hat, camera, hand lens, binoculars, sun screen, and bug spray.	Ed McDowell ed.mcdowell@cox.net 478-396-8901
Oct 27 10:00 AM	Lake Chapman Trail, Sandy Creek Park The trail is a 7-mile loop around Lake Chapman, a picturesque reservoir in Athens-Clarke County. The trail runs mostly through a Piedmont oak-hickory forest where we should see late-blooming wildflowers, good fall color, and the hardwoods and pines typical of this area. There are also short stretches of creek crossing and floodplain with interesting wetland plants.	Directions: Sandy Creek Park (not nature center) is about 5 miles north of the Athens by-pass (GA 10). See BotSoc website. Facilities: At beginning and end. Walking: Easy to moderate. Bring: Two dollars for daily parking fee, and lunch, snacks, and water.	Linda Chafin lchafin@uga.edu 706-548-1697

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