



## Elaine Nash - A Passion for Grasslands

By Linda Chafin and Ellen Honeycutt

The word that comes first to all our minds when we think about Elaine Nash is: PASSION; running a close second is: DEDICATION; and third, but far from last, is KNOWLEDGE.

Combined, these words draw the outline of a woman who has dedicated her life to the conservation and restoration of Georgia's natural areas and native plants. She is a woman who is described as "inspiring, dedicated, incredibly generous, excited and exciting!"

According to those who have been involved with the creation of the native grassland at Panola Mountain State Park, which has inspired and fostered grassland creation across the state, that project simply would not have happened without Elaine's dedication and knowledge and, above all, her eagerness to share her knowledge and passion with others. As a result, the Park now has a thriving grassland that has an enormous impact on bird and insect diversity in the area. Prescribed burns, butterfly counts, and bird-banding projects are all underway in the Panola Mountain grassland as a result of Elaine's work. The grassland is so successful that the park now donates seed from the grassland to other restoration projects around the state. These projects -- restored and created grasslands across the Georgia Piedmont -- are Elaine's "botanical grandchildren" -- a legacy of biodiversity conservation.

Elaine currently lives on 8 acres near Conyers with her husband Charles. She has lived in Georgia for about 50 years, moving here from Birmingham, AL where she was born and raised. Their two children have blessed them with four grandchildren. She became interested in native plants while a Soil and Water District Supervisor for 10 years. She studied grasses specifically and became an expert.



Elaine Nash (photo by Lisa Kennedy)

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## President's Perspective

As you plan and prepare for this coming spring and the great field trips offered by the Georgia Botanical Society, please plan to invite new people to discover the benefits of becoming a member of the Society. Encourage potential members to join us on a field trip or two as your guest. Membership is without a doubt one of the better bargains in Georgia. Your friends will appreciate your introducing them to this terrific bargain.

Speaking of bargains; because of the great work by Maureen Donohue, the 2014 Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage will be much more than just a great bargain. The diversity of fantastic field trips and other activities is very impressive to say the very least. A number of new members received their first real exposure to BotSoc in previous Pilgrimages. The reviews by these new BotSocers were nothing but praise. The Pilgrimage is one of our most effective recruitment resources. If each and every one of us invited just one potential member to the Pilgrimage this March, I think that the results would be noticeable. Keep in mind that when a new member participates in a pilgrimage, they are very likely to share their wonderful experience with others. I think that this is an important way to expand our membership.

The 2014 field trip calendar is extraordinary and Linda Chafin did an excellent job putting together an exceptional diversity of trips throughout our state. Much more impressive is the fact that she managed to extract trip write ups from the field trip leaders, myself included. This is a daunting and difficult task that she managed with great skill and minimum threats of physical violence.

The Georgia Botanical Society is an important organization that offers a great deal to its members and has in its long history accomplished much in promoting conservation, advancing knowledge, and increasing awareness. However, the Society has its long and impressive legacy because of its members. My sincerest thank you to each of you and my hope is that your 2014 is filled with many smiles.

*Jerry Hightower*

## In Memorial

### Angus Kemp Gholson, Jr.

Angus was born on September 24, 1921 and died peacefully on January 15, 2014 at the age of 92 in his home surrounded by family.

He was a legendary botanist, conservationist, story-teller, and witty southern gentleman with a great sense of humor. His love of nature and his lifelong quest to acquire and share his knowledge of botany brought him much joy, and earned him many opportunities, accolades, honors, and awards. This will be his legacy for generations to come.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 70 years, Mary "Eloise" Eubanks Gholson of Chattahoochee, Florida; his two children, Laura Gholson Smith (Jerry) of Alachua, Florida, and Angus "Kemp" Gholson, III of Chattahoochee, Florida; 4 granddaughters and 7 great-grandchildren.

After serving in World War II, he returned to the University of Florida after the war and earned a Bachelor of Science in Forestry in 1948 with honors. Angus' first job out of college was as a forester with the St. Joe Paper Company in Bay County, then for a short time, he served as horticulturalist at the Apalachee Correctional Institution. He later managed Lake Seminole, a reservoir created by a dam where the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers meet to form the Apalachicola River, until he retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1983 after 30 years of service.

While with the Corps of Engineers, Angus began helping scientists who were cataloging plants. After retirement, he began his second career as a botanist. With a home office and library equipped with a microscope, he started his own herbarium and collected and preserved over 19,000 specimens, mostly of plants and flora collected from around the North Florida region.

His notable collection was gifted to the University of Florida in 2008 and is housed there today. He gave countless hours in many capacities to the Florida and Georgia Chapters of The Nature Conservancy, Tall Timbers Research Station, the Apalachicola National Forest, the Florida Department of Natural Resources, the Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center, the Walker Cancer Research Institute, and the Division of Parks and Recreation for the State of Florida.

Of the many honors and awards that were bestowed upon him during his life, the following made him the most proud. Three species of plants are named for Angus: *Liatris gholsonii*, *Carex gholsonii*, and *Hymenocallis gholsonii*. The City of Chattahoochee named the local Nature Park after him in 2003 "to honor an indefatigable field botanist and Chattahoochee's most famous citizen."

Angus was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church in Chattahoochee. He was gifted in composing and delivering heartfelt and memorable prayers, and did so at many a large family gathering, including holiday meals, wedding rehearsal dinners, and wedding receptions. He delivered smiles with his handwritten get well and thank you letters. He captured attention with his respect for nature, and his charismatic and clever delivery of one of a kind stories.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in memory of Angus K. Gholson, Jr. to the First United Methodist Church of Chattahoochee, 18 W. Marion Street, Chattahoochee, FL 32324; the Northwest Florida Division of the Florida Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, 222 S. Westmonte Drive, Suite 300, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714; and the City of Chattahoochee Angus Gholson Nature Park, P.O. Box 188, Chattahoochee, FL 32324.

Adapted from the obituary published in Tallahassee Democrat on Jan. 16, 2014.

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## Elaine Nash (continued from Page 1)

Like many of those who have made the largest contributions to plant conservation, Elaine's background does not include an academic background in grasses or ecological restoration. Elaine's expertise is the result of passion plus a scientist's dedication to hard work— countless hours of field work, seed collection, and observation of native grasses and forbs in their natural habitats. She has spent hours and days and years propagating these plants, learning their requirements, experimenting with different techniques, then monitoring results and re-adjusting methods. She has spent much time sharing her expertise, working closely with biologists and botanists to pass on her knowledge; volunteering her time with organizations to spread the word and to support those coming along behind her. She has taught countless classes and led many a field trip. As a DNR biologist says, "When you go out to meet Elaine, bring a notebook!"



For many years, Elaine has made major contributions to the Georgia Native Plant Society (GNPS) and the Georgia Botanical Society; she has been an active member of both since the early 1990s. For both organizations she chairs a committee that disburses scholarship funds to graduate students who are researching native plants, enabling critical research work to be done. The scholarship program at the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference benefited from 10 years of her leadership. She is a co-author of [Native Plants for Georgia](#), a comprehensive 4-part web-based publication of the UGA Extension Service.

Today she teaches GNPS members how to propagate plants at their collaborative facility in Stone Mountain Park. She serves as the GNPS representative to the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance and teaches grass classes for the SBG Certificate in Native Plants and other organizations. She is herself a graduate of the Certificate Program and an avid supporter of it and other educational efforts for native plants, restoration and habitat conservation.

At the State Botanical Garden, Elaine Nash has spent years teaching us about grasses and inspiring us to turn lemons into lemonade -- ten acres of utility right-of-way has become a Piedmont Prairie, bursting with plant and bird and insect diversity in a community that has nearly disappeared from the landscape. Georgia Power provided the clearing and the permission, Mother Nature supplied the right bedrock and sun-loving plants, but it was Elaine and her passion for grasslands that gave us the knowledge and boldness to undertake the creation of a prairie. In recognition of this and with gratitude for all she has done for plant conservation in our state, we are pleased to name our prairie The Elaine Nash Prairie.





## A Passion for Grasslands



Photo upper left by Jenny Cruse Sanders; Photo upper right at GNPS propagation facility (photo by Karen McCaustland). Photo below at SBG Prairie dedication Nov 2013 (photo by Lisa Kennedy).





## Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Mar 15 10:00 AM	<p><b>East Palisades of the Chattahoochee</b></p> <p>The Chattahoochee River cuts a gorge of significance through quartzite and mixed schist creating the palisades. The cliffs and access to the river are home to sites from the Woodland Period, long before European contact. We'll begin hiking along the floodplain of the gorge along the river, home to some substantial trees, then climb a bit over 200 vertical feet to a great view of Thornton Shoals then traverse a slope full of gorge rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron minus</i>) and some impressive oaks, then descend to Cabin Creek and up to Long Island Creek Ridge to our cars. Being early spring, we're likely to find many spring ephemerals.</p> <p><b>A Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area annual (\$25), daily (\$3) or federal pass (America the Beautiful or Senior Pass) is required.</b></p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> From I-285 &amp; I-75 southbound: Exit 22, Northside Drive. Drive 1.7 miles and turn right onto Harris Trail. Go 0.8 miles and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> right onto Whitewater Creek Road, then turn right into the park and parking area.</p> <p>From I-75 northbound: Exit 256, Mt. Paran Road, heading east for 0.4 miles and turn left on Harris Trail. Continue 0.6 miles then turn left onto Whitewater Creek Road for 0.1 mile and turn right into the park.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> None</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Moderate but long.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch, snacks, &amp; water. Remember to dress for the weather and wear comfortable hiking shoes. Dress in layers so that you can adjust to changes in the temperature and your activity level. You may wish to bring binoculars, hand lens, notebook, and camera.</p>	<p>Scott Ranger</p> <p>scott @scottranger. com 404-210-3088</p>
Mar 16 2:00 PM Note: this is a Sunday with a late start time	<p><b>Montezuma Bluffs Natural Area</b></p> <p>Montezuma Bluffs Natural Area, located on bluffs overlooking the Flint River, contains beautiful stands of mature hardwood forest. Cool, moist ravines contrast with dry exposed limestone bluffs and provide a high degree of species diversity. A ramble around the bluffs and ravines should provide ample viewing of the federally listed relict trillium and the more common spotted trillium as well as many other spring wildflowers including woodland phlox, hepatica, wild geranium, Solomon's seal, and Atamasco lilies. We may even spot the rare orchid, southern twayblade.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> From Hwy 49, turn west on Crook's Landing Road and follow this short paved road half way down the hill (about a half mile). Meet at the kiosk in the gravel parking area on the north side of the road.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> None</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> First half easy; can skip the second half if necessary.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch, insect repellent (there are always ticks), and rain gear; camera, hand lens, field guide, notepad, binoculars optional. Wear comfortable sturdy walking shoes.</p>	<p>Chris Inhulsen</p> <p>cinhulsen @yahoo.com 478-396-4941</p>
Mar 22 10:00 AM	<p><b>Pocket of Pigeon Mountain</b></p> <p>Every year we look forward to a trip to what is perhaps Georgia's premier spot for early spring wildflowers. This area, part of the Cumberland Plateau, contains many species rare to our state. We hope to see Virginia bluebells, celandine poppy, Dutchman's-breeches, Harbinger of Spring, and Ohio buckeye, along with a large number of other wildflowers. And, since our trip is a little early this year, there is an excellent chance of seeing twin-leaf in bloom at a nearby site.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> See website for detailed directions.</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Easy boardwalk</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> None on site.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Water, lunch, camera.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> A Georgia Outdoor Recreational Pass (GORP) is now required for 31 GA WMA properties, including all of Pigeon Mountain, but is not required for those under 16 or over 64. Purchase on-line and by phone prior to trip. For more info: <a href="http://www.georgiawildlife.com/Georgia-Outdoor-Recreational-Pass">http://www.georgiawildlife.com/Georgia-Outdoor-Recreational-Pass</a></p>	<p>Mike Christison</p> <p>mikepaddler @netscape.net 770-973-6482 770-596-3564 (cell)</p>

## Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Mar 23 10:00 AM  Note: this is a Sunday	<b>Sosebee Cove: Lesser celandine-<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> eradication workday</b>  Two years ago, we made an initial effort at controlling this pernicious weed, which has become established around the large buckeye tree, where it was displacing trout lilies and Dutchman's breeches. We did not get it all (you never do in one try), and it is time to follow up. I saw several plants last year, but had decided to let the area rest from disturbance. Now is time to strike again. After we are done, we can enjoy the early bloomers at the cove.	<b>Meet At:</b> Sosebee Cover parking area (see website for more details). Carpooling is encouraged due to limited parking area.  <b>Facilities:</b> None.  <b>Bring:</b> Lunch and water and wear clothes that can get dirty.  <b>Pre-registration with leader prior to trip required. Date may change to April 5th if plant is not up in time.</b>	Rich Reaves  rich.reaves@att.net 770-827-5186
Mar 23 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM  Note: this is a Sunday	<b>Chattahoochee River NRA—West Palisades</b>  The hike will lead us across the upper section of Trout Lily Creek, through a mature oak – hickory forest, around Blood Rock Ridge, along Rottenwood Creek to the ruins of Akers Mill, and along the river to Paces Mill. We will see the dramatic effects of the Brevard Fault, great botanical areas, and the site of "Nancy Old Towne", a Woodland Culture Village site. Please note: persons wishing a shorter hike have the option of leaving the group at Rottenwood Creek and proceeding directly to Paces Mill, which is .5 miles by multi-use trail. <b>Pre-registration with leader prior to trip required. Parking fee or pass required.</b>	<b>Meet At:</b> Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, West Palisades Unit, Paces Mill parking area (3445 Cobb Parkway, Atlanta). We will shuttle everyone to our starting location at Akers Drive. We will leave as many cars as possible at Paces Mill. If you drive a multi-passenger vehicle and could help with the shuttle, please let me know. We will conclude our walk at Paces Mill. For directions see <a href="http://www.nps.gov/chat">www.nps.gov/chat</a> <b>Facilities:</b> At Paces Mill. <b>Difficulty:</b> Moderately strenuous.  <b>Bring:</b> A lunch and water to carry along and we will picnic in the forest. You may wish to bring binoculars, hand lens, and camera.	Jerry Hightower  jerryhightower@hotmail.com 404-953-9331
Mar 23 1:00 PM  Note: this is a Sunday and a late start time	<b>Nature Ramble at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia</b>  We will explore the Dunson Native Plant Garden and some of the natural areas of the State Botanical Garden. In the Dunson garden expect to see a variety of native wildflowers in bloom but being a nature ramble, we will stop for anything that is interesting to talk about (insects, trees, lichens, mosses, liverworts, etc.).  2450 South Milledge Ave., Athens, GA.	<b>Meet At:</b> The Wisteria Arbor. Turn right into the Garden and continue through the cattle (deer) guard and past the greenhouse facilities, which are on the right. Take the next right and then the next left, following signs to the Administration Building.  <b>Walking:</b> Easy to moderate.  <b>Facilities:</b> Yes  <b>Bring:</b> Weather-appropriate clothing, lunch, snacks and water. Food is available inside the Conservatory.	Hugh Nourse Dale Hoyt  hughandcarol@att.net 706-340-1765  dhoyt5@charter.net 706-372-5140

## Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Mar 28 – 30	<b>Spring Pilgrimage, Okefenokee Swamp</b>	See separate brochure for more details; brochure is available on the website.	Maureen Donohue
Apr 5 10:00 AM	<p><b>Coosawattee Bluffs/Carter's Lake</b></p> <p>We will explore the river floodplain and bluffs on the south side of the Coosawattee river, where a few year's ago we were introduced to one of the richest wildflower areas in Georgia, with more Dutchman's britches (<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>) that we've ever seen. The site also contains the rare yellow fumewort (<i>Corydalis flavula</i>), along with Jacob's ladder (<i>Polemonium reptans</i>), Virginia bluebells (<i>Mertensia virginica</i>), decumbent trillium (<i>Trillium decumbens</i>), yellow trillium (<i>T. luteum</i>), nodding trillium (<i>T. rugelii</i>), Canada wild ginger (<i>Asarum canadense</i>), and much more. After lunch at the recreation area we will walk the Hidden Pond Trail for some of the same flowers as in the morning, plus shooting stars (<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>), dwarf larkspur (<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>), wild columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>), harbinger-of-spring (<i>Eriogonum bulbosum</i>), narrow-leaf toothwort (<i>Dentaria multifida</i>), columbo (<i>Frasera caroliniensis</i>) (not in bloom), and many more.</p> <p>We will carpool approx. 3/4 mi. to Coosawattee Bluffs. The walk to the river is an easy 3/4 mile.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Take I-75 north from the Atlanta / Marietta area. Take exit #293 Ga. 61/US411/Chatsworth Highway. Turn right (north) on US411. Continue through White and Fairmount. Continue north on US 411 for 10.9 miles to intersection of Ga. 136. Turn right on Ga. 136, cross RR tracks, turn left at next intersection, old US 411. Drive approx. 1/2 - 3/4 mi. turn right at signs for Carter's Lake Rereg Dam Rec. Area. If you reach one-lane bridge you've gone too far.</p> <p>Meet at the end of last parking lot near pavilion and restrooms, at Carters Lake Rereg Dam Recreation Area.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> At meeting and lunch site.</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Approx. 1 to 1 ½ mile in morning and ¾ to 1 mile in the afternoon. Trails are relatively flat, easy.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch to eat at picnic tables and extra water.</p>	<p>Richard and Teresa Ware</p> <p>gobotany@comcast.net</p> <p>706-232-3435 - (cell) 706-766-5143 - (cell) 706-766-4228</p>
Apr 12 10:00 AM	<p><b>Shooting Stars &amp; Other Flowers / Kearns Property.</b></p> <p>We will explore at least two different sites on Jennifer and David Kearns property in northeastern Floyd county. There are natural populations of several beautiful and rare plants including shooting stars (<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>), dwarf larkspur (<i>Delphinium tricorne</i>), Jacob's Ladder (<i>Polemonium reptans</i>), buckeyes (<i>Aesculus sp.</i>) and other wildflowers, plus one really huge Shumard oak (<i>Quercus shumardii</i>). Afterward, time permitting, there may be an additional opportunity to botanize.</p> <p>Waling will be approximately 1 to 1 ½ mi. total for the day. Trails are relatively flat, easy.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Take I-75 north from the Atlanta / Marietta area. Take exit #306 (Ga. 140) in Adairsville. Turn left (west) on Ga. 140 and continue for 7 miles. Turn left onto Rush Chapel Road (look for Rush Chapel United Methodist Church sign on the right). If you get to Ga. 53 you have gone too far, turn around and Rush Chapel will be 1 mi. on the right. Once on Rush Chapel the driveway is 1.5 mi. on the right, #670.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Yes, at meeting and lunch site</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch to eat outside (weather permitting), water, hand lens, camera, bug spray.</p>	<p>Richard and Teresa Ware</p> <p>gobotany@comcast.net</p> <p>706-232-3435 - (cell) 706-766-5143 - (cell) 706-766-4228</p>



## Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Apr 13 10:00 AM	<p><b>Arabia Mountain National Natural Heritage Site</b></p> <p>This will be a leisurely paced hike up and around the mountain to view the solution pool gardens, the amazing mosaic of lichens, and small, but interesting patches of trees and shrubs. Sculpted over geologic time by wind, rain, cold and heat, these extraordinary gardens are beautiful to behold. After lunch we will take the forest loop to the lake and then on to the salamander pools. This DeKalb County park is both a geological and botanical treasure.</p>	<p><b>Facilities:</b> In Visitor Center</p> <p><b>Difficulty:</b> Moderate with some fairly steep, but short, accents and decents.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> A lunch and water to carry along and we will picnic in the forest. You may wish to bring binoculars, hand lens, and camera.</p> <p><b>Limit:</b> 26</p> <p>Please contact Jerry Hightower at 404-953-9331 or <a href="mailto:jerryhightower@hotmail.com">jerryhightower@hotmail.com</a> if you are planning to join this trip.</p>	<p>Jerry Hightower</p> <p><a href="mailto:jerryhightower@hotmail.com">jerryhightower@hotmail.com</a></p> <p>404-953-9331</p>
Apr 13 10:00 AM	<p><b>Popcorn Overlook and Tallulah Gorge: Ultramafic Geology and Stream Capture in the Southern Blue Ridge</b></p> <p>Here we will explore the ultramafic rocks (such as serpentinite, soapstone, and asbestos) and vegetation associated with the Hayesville-Allatoona fault, a long narrow suture zone marking the place where the Eastern Blue Ridge/Inner Piedmont volcanic island chain crashed into proto-North America around 500 million years ago. Characteristic or unusual plants we hope to see include Canada Burnet (<i>Sanguisorba canadensis</i>), a species of Special Concern in Georgia, nine-bark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>), a shrub in the rose family, wintergreen (<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>), waxy-leaf meadowrue (<i>Thalictrum revolutum</i>), and Pitch pine (<i>Pinus rigida</i>).</p> <p><b>See more description on website.</b></p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Take U.S. Hwy 441 into Clayton. Wal-Mart is at 1455 U.S. Highway 441, on the east side of the highway, about 1 mile south of downtown. Meet at Wal-Mart parking lot on the south side of Clayton. (Folks coming from the west may wish to meet us at Popcorn Overlook around 10:30, but beware – there is limited parking there.)</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> None on site.</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Easy to slightly rugged, over short distances.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Sturdy shoes for hiking, trekking poles, rain gear (you never know!), lunch, extra water.</p>	<p>Linda Chafin and Dan Williams</p> <p><a href="mailto:lchafin@uga.edu">lchafin@uga.edu</a> 706-548-1697</p> <p><a href="mailto:williams@warnell.uga.edu">williams@warnell.uga.edu</a></p>
Apr 19 10:00 AM	<p><b>Chickamauga Cedar Glades</b></p> <p>Spring is a great time to visit Chickamauga National Battlefield Park, home to Cedar Glades, one of Georgia's rarest habitats. The thin layer of soil covering a limestone bedrock restricts trees to red cedars growing at the edge and in cracks. We will look for some of the signature wildflowers found in cedar glades, such as Nashville breadroot, <i>Pedicularis subcaerulea</i>, the tiny least glade cress, <i>Leavenworthia exigua</i> var. <i>exigua</i>, and heartleaf plantain, <i>Plantago cordata</i>.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> From Interstate 75 in northwest Georgia: At Exit 350, take Battlefield Parkway (Georgia Hy 2) west for 7 miles to Fort Oglethorpe. Turn left at the intersection with Lafayette Road (US Hy 27 south). Go one mile on Lafayette Road to the park entrance and visitor center on the right.</p> <p><b>GPS address:</b> 3370 LaFayette Road, Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> In park office.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch to eat at a picnic area in the park. Pick up a copy of the excellent park trail map in the office, if desired.</p>	<p>Mike Christison</p> <p><a href="mailto:mikepaddler@aol.com">mikepaddler@aol.com</a></p> <p>770-596-3564</p>

## Upcoming Field Trips

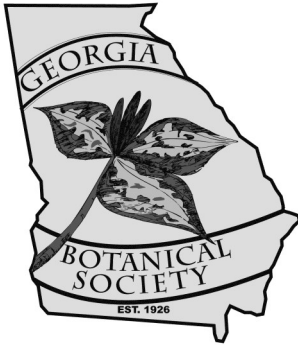
Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Apr 26 10:00 AM	<p><b>Ft. Mountain State Park &amp; Carters Lake Hidden Pond Trail</b></p> <p>We hope to see Lily-of-the-Valley (<i>Convallaria montana</i>), speckled wood lily (<i>Clintonia umbellulata</i>), spotted mandarin (<i>Disporum maculatum</i>), Vasey's trillium (<i>Trillium vaseyi</i>), pink ladyslipper (<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>), dutchman's pipe vine (<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i>), doll's eyes (<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>), and many others. We will then eat lunch at picnic tables in the park. We will then travel to Carters Lake Rereg Dam Area, which will be on the way home for those traveling south, and walk a short 3/4 mi. trail. We hope to see an amazing array of plants including: yellow trillium (<i>Trillium luteum</i>), S. nodding trillium (<i>T. rugelii</i>), Virginia bluebell (<i>Mertensia virginica</i>), columbo (<i>Frasera caroliniensis</i>) (not in bloom), shooting star (<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>), wild columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>) and others.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> From I-75 at Cartersville, Ga., take US 411 north to Chatsworth, turn right (east) on GA 52 and follow it to the entrance of the park (on the left). Drive past the office and take the first left, we'll meet in the large picnic area parking lot on the left.</p> <p><b>Hike:</b> Approx. 3 ½ – 4 mi. total.</p> <p><b>Difficulty:</b> Ft. Mountain: Moderate to strenuous; Carters Lake: Easy</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> At meeting &amp; lunch site.</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> We will eat in Picnic Area at Ft. Mountain State Park. Do not carry lunch on walk.</p>	<p>Richard and Teresa Ware</p> <p>gobotany@comcast.net</p> <p>706-232-3435 - (cell) 706-766-5143 - (cell) 706-766-4228</p>
Apr 26 10:00 AM	<p><b>Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge</b></p> <p>We will explore Stone Creek, both north and south from the launching, time permitting. Plan to spend about 3 hours on the water with a couple of beaches. Bond Swamp is a classic coastal plain blackwater bottomland swamp.</p> <p><i>You must bring your canoe and life preservers for all aboard.</i> There are no rental agencies in the area – the closest is Ocmulgee Expeditions 478-757-8226. If you want to rent a canoe or kayak, you should call their number and make arrangements for pickup and delivery. The canoeing will be easy in a very slow moving, wide creek with plenty of time for observing the flora and fauna.</p> <p><b>Pre-registration with trip leader is required; see email above on right.</b></p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> The Bond Swamp NWR is 6 miles south of Macon. From Macon, take Interstate 16 SE toward Savannah to Exit #6, US Hwy 23 and US 129 South toward Cochran. Go 4.2 miles to the Bond Swamp NWR at the Stone Creek entrance on the west side of the highway. Meet just inside the entrance at the kiosk and parking area.</p> <p><b>Bathroom Facilities:</b> None at the Refuge. Last pit stop is the service stations at the exit #6 off-ramp. We will beach a couple of times for exploration.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Snacks, water, insect repellent, binoculars, hand lens, notebook, and camera. The last of April is summertime in south Georgia so dress accordingly. Bring water shoes and other comfortable shoes (and maybe a change of clothes). The trip will go unless the FWS closes the Refuge due to river flooding or there is a period of thunderstorms and lightening at launch time.</p>	<p>Ed McDowell</p> <p>ed.mcdowell@cox.net</p> <p>478-929-1267 478-396-8901 (cell)</p>

## Upcoming Field Trips

Date	Description	Directions	Leader
Apr 27 10:00 AM	<b>Chattahoochee River NRA East Palisades</b>  We will take Cabin Creek Trail through a beautiful forest in its along Cabin Creek and hike up the ridge past Civil War gun emplacements. We will travel above rock cliffs, through mature oak-hickory forest, mesic ravine forest, and floodplain forest. Our hike will take us over and past extraordinary rock outcrops and formations influenced by the Brevard Fault, which runs through the Unit. We will see late spring wildflowers, ferns, and perhaps a salamander or two.  <b>Pre-registration is required and limited to 30 people.</b>	<b>Location:</b> Meet in the Indian Trail parking area and trail head; 1425 Indian Trail NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30327 at the bulletin board. Go south on Northside Drive and Indian Trail is the fourth street on the right. Indian Trail goes directly into the park.  <b>Facilities:</b> None  <b>Difficulty:</b> Moderately strenuous. There are several steep accents and descents.  <b>Bring:</b> Remember to dress for the weather and wear very comfortable hiking shoes. Dress in layers. Carry water. You may wish to bring binoculars, hand lens, notebook, and camera. Note: A \$3 daily entrance fee or \$25 annual pass is required.	Jerry Hightower  jerryhightower@hotmail.com  404-953-9331
May 3 10:00 AM	<b>Hardwood Ravines and Fringed Campion</b>  We will explore small ravines in the Culloden and Musella area, northern Crawford County. Trilliums and fringed campion ( <i>Silene polypetala</i> ), along with other spring ephemerals will be featured. At least 4 small ravines will be explored, accessed from main highways. A special bonus visit to a Crawford County pitcherplant bog and stand of conjurer's nut ( <i>Nestronia</i> ) will be optional.	<b>Directions:</b> Directions: Get to Forsyth and take GA Hwy. 83 southwest toward Culloden, or from Roberta take US Hwy. 341 north to jct. of 341 and 83. Meet at the gas station parking area in traffic circle.  <b>Facilities:</b> At the meeting and lunch spots.  <b>Difficulty:</b> Moderate  <b>Bring:</b> Snacks, water. Optional lunch stop in downtown Knoxville or bring lunch. Wear hiking shoes with ankle support.	Tom Patrick  tom.patrick@dnr.state.ga.us  706-476-4541 (cell)
May 4 10:00 AM	<b>Lake Winfield Scott Loop Trail</b>  This is a moderately strenuous hike with 1 mile on the Jarrard Gap Trail (mostly uphill), 2 miles on the Appalachian Trail (mostly level), and 2.5 miles on the Slaughter Creek Trail (mostly downhill). We will hike through several natural communities, including both rich and acid cove forests and montane oak forest. Interesting wildflowers that should be in bloom include yellow lady's-slipper, pink lady's-slipper, speckled wood lily, doll's-eyes, blue cohosh, toothwort, umbrella leaf, yellow mandarin, perforate bellwort, six species of violet, and four species of trillium. We will see many of the day's wildflower species in flower during the first mile (on the Jarrard Gap Trail) – feel free to come for the first mile and return when you are ready.	<b>Directions:</b> See the website for detailed directions. Meet at the parking lot above Lake Winfield Scott bath house and walk back downhill to meet at the trailhead by 10:00 AM.  <b>Facilities:</b> At the convenience store and the bathhouse near the meeting site.  <b>Walking:</b> Total distance 5.5 miles.  <b>Bring:</b> Five dollars (per vehicle) for entrance fee to Lake Winfield Scott, sturdy shoes for hiking, trekking poles, rain gear (you never know!), lunch to eat on the trail and extra water.	Linda Chafin  lchafin@uga.edu  706-548-1697

See more May field trips on the website and bigger descriptions of some trips.

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