

---

# BotSoc News



Volume 93  
Number 1  
January  
2018

---

## Time to Renew Your Membership

It's time to renew your BotSoc membership, which you can do online ([www.gabotsoc.org](http://www.gabotsoc.org)) or by mail using the form that accompanies this newsletter.

Since 1926 the Georgia Botanical Society has been dedicated to studying and preserving Georgia's native plants. Here are just some of the programs your membership supports:

- BotSoc field trips take our members all over the state and help turn novices into budding botanists. We have 50 field trips scheduled for 2018 (see page 8 and the website), which will cover a wide variety of locations and ecosystems.
- The annual 3-day Wildflower Pilgrimage allows us to study a specific geographic area in depth. Pilgrimage field trips explore many of the best natural areas, including some that are not open to the general public. The 2017 Pilgrimage to Chattanooga drew over 150 attendees, and we hope to see all of you again this year in Thomaston.
- BotSoc is dedicated to preserving rare and endangered plant species and significant botanical habitats. Our members conduct botanical surveys, work to control invasive species, and educate the public on plant identification and ecological relationships. We serve as botanical guardians for protected species, monitor plant populations, and in some cases even discover rare plants and help preserve their habitats.
- The Marie Mellinger Field Botany Research Grant Program supports field research on Georgia's native flora by offering scholarships to college students and faculty and other qualified individuals.
- The *Tipularia* Botanical Journal provides insightful articles and breath-taking photographs of Georgia plants and deserves a place in any botanical library. (See page 10 for more news on that subject.)
- *BotSoc News*, our bimonthly newsletter, keeps members up to date on field trips and other Society activities.

Please continue to support all of these great programs and activities by renewing your membership NOW!

### *IN THIS ISSUE:*

*Holiday Party  
- P3*

*TX-NM Trip -  
P5*

*2018 Field  
Trips - P8*

*Pilgrimage -  
P10*

*Tipularia -  
P10*

*Upcoming  
Field Trips -  
P11*

---

## President's Perspective



### BotSoc News

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

### Submission deadline

Is February 1 for the March issue.

### Subscriptions

Are included with membership.

### Website:

[www.gabotsoc.org](http://www.gabotsoc.org)

### Editorial Office

Jackie Miller  
Ellen Honeycutt

© 2018 **Georgia Botanical Society** is a private nonprofit organization under IRS 501 (c)3. Founded in 1926.

It's a new year and time to renew memberships and look forward to the year ahead. We have a great variety of field trips to look forward to.

Apart from enjoying being outdoors and learning more about plants, I'd like to see us increase recruitment among young people entering careers in botany and natural resources. I have just come back from four days of firefighter training for college students who will be joining burn teams or volunteering to assist teams, and new state agency employees—mostly DNR. The cadre of presenters came from DNR, The Nature Conservancy and the Orianne Society. I was impressed with how valuable it is to provide such opportunities for extended interactions between novice and experienced people in a profession. The students were not just gaining essential knowledge and experience, but were also networking with influential professionals and learning to negotiate career development in conservation of natural resources.

For the past three years, we have offered scholarships for students to attend the Pilgrimage, but have not had many applicants. Students who have taken advantage of the scholarships have benefited a great deal and most have continued to be involved in botany. If you know or work with students who may be interested in joining us at the pilgrimage, please encourage them to apply for the scholarships. Please help us spread the information. The students do not have to be botany majors. Many students in environmental sciences, natural resources, wildlife, and forestry want to learn more about plants as the foundation for ecosystems and habitats.

It's a good time to be thinking ahead about access to national parks, state parks, and GA Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). Throughout the year, we have a number of field trips to WMAs, including several planned for the 2018 Pilgrimage to Thomaston. If you are planning to go on any trips to WMAs, you may want to get the appropriate license now. In case you weren't aware, the rules have changed for visiting lands owned by state Wildlife Resources Division (WRD). The Georgia Outdoor Recreational Pass (GORP) is no longer available. Everyone 16 and older must have an individual basic hunting or fishing privilege. If you object to purchasing a hunting or fishing license, you can get an individual WRD Lands Pass, However, the cost is higher to make up for loss of federal funds that come with hunting or fishing licenses and are used for game management. Lifetime senior passes are free only for people born on or before July 1, 1952.

If you'd like to support conservation of nongame and endangered wildlife, you are encouraged to purchase DNR license plates. Funds from license plate purchases and renewals are the largest source of contributions to the Bobwhite Quail Initiative and Georgia's Wildlife Conservation Fund.

*Heather Brasell*

## BotSoc Holiday Party

By Ellen Honeycutt

The annual BotSoc holiday party was held at the Melvin L. Newman Wetlands Center in Clayton County on December 2. We had a good turnout with friends old and new, and a few people brought seeds to exchange.

After a scrumptious potluck lunch, we headed out to enjoy a guided stroll along the boardwalk trail. The sky was bright blue and the weather exceptionally fine for a late fall outing. We learned about the history of the property and how Clayton County uses the wetland to educate people about the ecological importance of wetlands. We saw many birds, a few turtles, and evidence of the resident beavers.

Although most of the perennials were dormant for the season, the woody plants provided much interest. Our finds included bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), wax myrtle (*Morella cerifera*), swamp dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), southern catalpa (*Catalpa*), winged elm (*Ulmus alata*), and several species of oak, including cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*). Our guide from the center explained how they manage invasive plants in the wetland, including the very noticeable parrot feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) that was so green this time of year.

We finished up the day having enjoyed good company and a renewed appreciation for wetlands.

Photos continued on next page.  
All photos by Ellen Honeycutt.



Left: Steve and Rona Cook talk with Hal Massie.



Right: Enjoying the annual potluck lunch.

# BotSoc Holiday Party (cont'd)



Above left: Linda Chafin and Richard Ware. Above right: Members chat in the large exhibit area of the Wetlands Center.

Below left: Bob Pemberton and Charles Seabrook. Below right: The boardwalk on the wetlands.



## Texas-New Mexico BotSoc Trip

By Richard Reaves

There was a brief announcement about this planned trip following the annual meeting last summer. This is a bit more filled out attempt at what we may do while on the trip. Unlike the other places I have taken folks on these long excursions, I have only been here once, so am not as familiar with the possibilities. Anita & I were out for a week in 2016 for our anniversary and we got to see quite a bit and this is based on that small sample size for this time of year.

The Sacramento Mountains and the Carlsbad Cavern area no longer have native bighorn sheep. You likely will notice some rather ugly things out there – the Barbary sheep was brought over for hunting purposes after the bighorns were extirpated, and this exotic species has become naturalized throughout the region.

*Continued on next page*



Above: Area map of Guadalupe Mountains NP and

Below: Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Photo: National Park Service.



## Texas-New Mexico BotSoc Trip (cont'd)

Now to the trip. An initial caveat is that we will be flexible with the weather. If there is a day that is projected to be nasty from a precipitation point of view, we can shift the Carlsbad Caverns cave visit to that day.

Logistics – The trip is planned for October 7-13. You will be on your own for travel and lodging.

El Paso is the closest major airport, but other options include Albuquerque and Lubbock, but they are farther away. One side note for Hal Massie, if no one else. If you fly in o El Paso and take the longer northern loop to Carlsbad (up to Alamogordo and east across the Sacramento Mountains), there was a substantial amount of *Penstemon ambiguus* blooming along primarily the east side of HWY 54 (the road between El Paso and Alamogordo) when we were there.

We will stage activities from Carlsbad, NM, close enough to both parks to allow us to explore and where there are numerous hotels and dining establishments – things that are otherwise hard to come by in this neck of the woods. Anita & I will be operating out of the Hampton Inn & Suites, 120 Esperanza Circle, Carlsbad, NM 88220 (866-715-0006).

This hotel is on the south side of town by the Super Walmart and on the road to Carlsbad Caverns NP and Guadalupe Mountains NP. There are several other hotels on the south side of town with a wide range of prices. I recommend you book something south of Wood Avenue, just for convenience, as all planned activities are south of town.

The Chihuahuan Desert has a bimodal rain distribution resulting in a regular fall bloom period, and we should see a very nice floral display if conditions are near normal. The following schedule is based on expected good weather throughout the week. Anita & I plan to watch the bats at least twice and it will be an option almost any nice evening. This schedule should not be considered final by any means and I welcome input and suggestions for other spots.

**October 7:** Guadalupe Mountains NP Visitor Center and a couple of short trails near the Visitor Center, including Smith Spring Loop Trail (2.3-mile round trip with 400 foot elevation gain on the way to the spring) and Pinery Trail (0.9-mile round trip from visitor center to old stage coach station ruins - has several of the common plants labeled, so provides an opportunity to get grounded in the common vegetation). Depending on time, we may watch the bats fly at Carlsbad on the way back to town.

**October 8:** Guadalupe Mountain NP McKittrick Canyon (all day trek). The gates to this area open at 8 AM, and we would want to be there at 8 to allow a full day of exploring and not get locked in overnight. I would expect somewhere between a 5-mile round trip (to Prat Cabin) and 7-mile round trip (to the Notch), with up to a 1,000 foot elevation gain on the hike in.

*Continued on next page*



Bats Emerging from  
Carlsbad Caverns,  
Carlsbad Caverns  
National Park

Photo: Nick Hristov  
National Park Service

## Texas-New Mexico BotSoc Trip (cont'd)

The 1-mile loop nature trail at McKittrick Canyon also is worthwhile and has interesting plant diversity. However, it will be the most strenuous nature trail you have ever walked, particularly if it is hot.

**October 9:** Carlsbad Caverns tour & watch the bats fly in the evening. You can choose to walk down the cave or take the elevator. The really good stuff is at the bottom, so I recommend the elevator so you are not so tired when you get to the good stuff. There is a fee for the tour, but definitely worth it.

**October 10:** Carlsbad Caverns Walnut Canyon Drive (roadside botanizing and Rattlesnake Canyon hike). Lots of cool plants on the drive and Rattlesnake Canyon is quite nice. The hike will be an in and out, as the trail goes for many miles. This is the only planned hike where we will start at the top and have a climb back out. All the others hike up on the way in and down on the way back.

**October 11:** Sitting Bull Falls (Lincoln NF) and roadside botanizing. Sitting Bull Falls is an interesting site. Moses Michelson tells me it is worth the short hike to the top for the plant community there and I have poked around the bottom some. Lots of cool plants along the roadsides as well.

**October 12:** Multiple possibilities here. The first one may not be suitable, but seems worth investigating with the group. It is about 150 miles to White Sands National Monument and the route passes through the Sacramento District of the Lincoln National Forest. Clearly would be an all day excursion and would require an early start and lots of driving. White Sands is worth taking in but is not particularly lengthy in duration – a boardwalk into the sand and the loop drive with a couple of stops thrown in. We would get to take in an excellent Mexican place in Alamogordo for lunch (it is on the route back) and there is some cool stuff in the Sacramento Mountains we can check out along the roadside on the way back. However, it is about a 300-mile round trip.

Other possibilities include a choice for different tastes. Folks who want a serious hike could opt to venture up to Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas – an 8.2-mile round trip, with 2,900 foot climb on the way up and the same descent on the return. Or, you could opt for part of this hike (maybe up to the forest and back (about 4.5-mile round trip & 1,000 foot gain) or the in and out hike to Devil's Hall, which is a trek up Pine Spring Canyon (3.8-mile round trip with 550 foot gain.).

**October 13:** Guadalupe Mountains NP – Some short trails near the main road or possibly one of the two short hikes mentioned above as possibilities for day 12. This will allow folks who head back to El Paso Saturday night to be part way there when the walk is done.

I would like to work out the specifics via an email dialogue among the group during the first quarter of 2018. Let me know if you are interested in being included in the planning.

Rich Reaves  
[Rich.reaves@att.net](mailto:Rich.reaves@att.net)  
770-827-5186



## 2018 Field Trip Schedule

There are over 50 field trips scheduled for 2018, with locations ranging from the northern part of the state down to the Georgia-Florida border. For details of January trips, please see page 11. Additional information is available on the website.



DATE	TITLE	LEADER(S)	COUNTY
Jan 6	Kennesaw Mountain	Scott Ranger	Cobb
Jan 20	Big Trees Preserve, Roswell	Ellen Honeycutt	Fulton
Feb 3	Pine Mountain Trail, Cartersville	Scott Ranger	Bartow
Feb 11	Oconee National Forest (Morels)	Elliott Horner	Various
Feb 17	Tallahassee FL & Wolf Creek GA	Dan & Becky Miller	Grady
Feb 25	Stone Mountain	Jane Trentin	DeKalb
Mar 3	Chattahoochee River Gorge	Scott Ranger	Cobb
Mar 3	Joiner Property	Martha Joiner	Jenkins
Mar 10	Broad River	Priscila Padron/Patty Lowe	Clarke
Mar 18	Kettle Creek	Linda Chafin	Wilkes
Mar 24	Montezuma Bluffs	Chris Inhulsen	Macon
Mar 25	CRNRA: Akers Mill to Paces Mill	Jerry Hightower	Cobb
Mar 31	Heggie's Rock	Malcom Hodges	Columbia
Apr 1	Arabia Mountain	Jerry Hightower	DeKalb
Apr 7	Cloudland Canyon	Richard Reaves	Dade
Apr 8	CRNRA, East Palisades	Jerry Hightower	Cobb
Apr 14	Elachee Nature Science Center	Leslie Edwards, Tom Govus	Hall
Apr 14	Dixie Bog	Tom Patrick	Brooks
Apr 15	Turner County Sites (Bogs)	Karan Rawlins, Tom Patrick	Brooks
Apr 21	Cashes Valley	Tom Patrick	Gilmer, Fannin
Apr 22	FDR State Park	Hal Massie	Harris
Apr 28	Ramp Cove	Jess Riddle	Towns
Apr 28	Ogeechee Canal	Bobby Hattaway	Chatham
Apr 29	Wormsloe State Historic Site	Bobby Hattaway	Chatham



## 2018 Field Trip Schedule (cont'd)

DATE	TITLE	LEADER(S)	COUNTY
Apr 29	Cohuttas Exploratory Hike	Tom Govus	Gilmer
May 4-6	BotSoc Wildflower Pilgrimage	Mitchell Kent/Hal Massie	Upson
May 6	Flint River Canoe Trip	Jerry Hightower	Upson
May 12	Gordonia Altamaha State Park	Martha Joiner	Tatnall
May 19	Dawson Forest	Jim Drake	Dawson
May 26-28	Memorial Day Weekend Trips	Hal Massie/Richard Reaves	TBA
Jun 2	Palisades Canoe Trip	Jerry Hightower	Cobb
Jun 9	Tate City Area	Eddi Minche	Towns
Jun 17	Chestatee Canoe Trip	Jerry Hightower	Lumpkin, White
Jul 14	Oaky Woods	Tom Patrick	Houston
Jul 15	Montgomery Creek	Elliott Horner	Lumpkin, White
Aug 4	Sassafras Mountain	Jess Riddle	Lumpkin, Union
Sep 8	Sweetwater Creek	Leslie Edwards	Douglas
Sep 9	Lake Winfield Scott (Fungal Foray)	Bill Sheehan	Union
Sep 15	Cowrock Mountain	Jess Riddle	Lumpkin, White
Sep 22	Roadside Botany near Toccoa	Linda Chafin	Stephens
Sep 29	Middle Georgia/Fall Line Sandhills	Hal Massie	TBA
Oct 6	CRNRA: Akers Mill to Paces Mill	Maureen Donohue	Cobb
Oct 6	Broxton Rocks	Frankie Snow	Coffee
Oct 13	George L. Smith State Park	Martha Joiner	Emanuel
Oct 14	Charles Harrold Preserve Work Day	Martha Joiner	Candler
Nov 10	Canoochee Bog Work Day	Lisa Kruse	South GA
Nov 11	FDR State Park	Hal Massie	Harris
Nov 18	Arabia Mountain	Jane Trentin	DeKalb
Nov 23	Providence Canyon	Chris Inhulsen	Stewart
Nov 25	Camp Thunder (near Thomaston)	Hal Massie	Upson
Dec 1	BotSoc Holiday Party	TBA	TBA

## Pilgrimage Brochure

Watch your mailbox for the 2018 BotSoc Wildflower Pilgrimage brochure! As a reminder, the Pilgrimage will be held in Thomaston, Georgia, from May 4 to May 6. Thomaston is located in Upson County on highway US 19 approximately 80 miles south of Atlanta.

The Pilgrimage hotels are:

Quality Inn  
1010 Highway 19 North  
Thomaston GA 30286  
706-648-2232

Days Inn  
1211 Old Highway 19 South  
Thomaston GA 30286  
706-648-9260

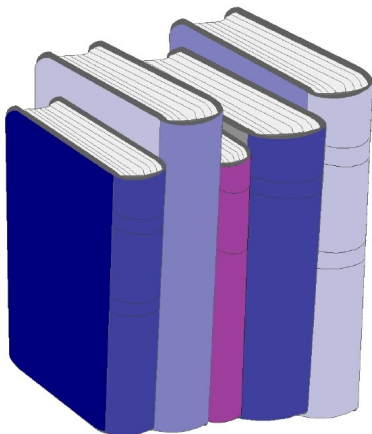


The number of rooms is limited, so please book now and tell the reservations agent that you are a Georgia Botanical Society member attending the 2018 Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage.

## Tipularia to Join the Biodiversity Heritage Library

Back issues of the Georgia Botanical Society's *Tipularia* journal will soon become available online through the Biodiversity Heritage Library. BHL is a consortium of natural history and botanical libraries working to digitize their literature and make it available for open access. Members include such prestigious institutions as the American Museum of Natural History Library, the Cornell University Library, and the Harvard University Botany Libraries.

BHL has digitized millions of pages of taxonomic literature, including over 120,000 titles and over 200,000 volumes. They will digitize back issues of *Tipularia* (older than 2 years) at no cost to us and add them to this impressive digital collection.



Many thanks to Tom Patrick for researching the BHL. Tom reports their collection includes many items that will be of interest to BotSoc members, such as issues of *Bartonia* going back for over a century, and newsletters from other state botanical societies.

You can explore the many treasures available on BHL by going to their website:

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>

## Upcoming Field Trips

<p>Jan 6 10:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Kennesaw Mountain—Winter Woods, Trees, and Rocks</b></p> <p>This winter woods walk will be a bit more of a hike. We'll summit Big Kennesaw Mountain on the Mountain Trail, amble across the saddle to Little Kennesaw Mountain, then descend to the CCC camp trail returning to the Visitor Center. We'll be stopping wherever we find something interesting to examine.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Meet at 10:00 AM in the Visitor Center parking lot. Should this be a sunny, nice day, the Visitor Center lot may be full. There is overflow parking in a lot on Old 41 Highway just north of Stilesboro Road.</p> <p>From I-75 northbound, use Exit 267B, Canton Connector, to US 41 north. Turn left at the Bells Ferry Road light. Turn right on Old 41 Highway to the light at Stilesboro Road. Turn left, then turn left into the Visitor Center parking lot.</p> <p>From I-75 southbound, use Exit 269 turning right onto Barrett Parkway. Continue to Old Highway 41 light and turn left. Continue to the signal at Stilesboro Road. Turn right, then turn left into the Visitor Center parking lot.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Restrooms at the Visitor Center, none on the trails.</p> <p><b>Difficulty:</b> This is a total of 5.9 miles that includes a climb of 678 feet in 1 mile. The pace will be faster than a typical BotSoc adventure with this distance to cover but still more of a swift amble than a hike.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch to eat on the trail.</p>	<p>Scott Ranger scott@scotranger.com 404-210-3088</p>
<p>Jan 20 10:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Big Trees Forest Preserve, Sandy Springs</b></p> <p>A casual stroll among deciduous hardwood trees and shrubs will give us plenty of opportunities to practice our woody plant identification using bark, old leaves, and bare twigs.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Meet in the parking lot at 7645 Roswell Rd., Sandy Springs, GA 30350.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Difficulty:</b> Easy walking, wear sturdy shoes.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Water, snacks, camera, notebook.</p>	<p>Ellen Honeycutt ehoneycutt@bellsouth.net 678-576-5667</p>
<p>Feb 3 10:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Pine Mountain Trail, Bartow County—Winter Woods, Trees, and Rocks</b></p> <p>This winter woods walk will be a bit more of a hike. The trail makes a figure 8 climbing and descending Pine Mountain. We'll be stopping wherever we find something interesting to examine. There are many cool rocks, montane longleaf pine and ravines where the coastal plain, piedmont and Blue Ridge meet.</p>	<p><b>Directions:</b> Meet at 10:00 AM at the Pine Mountain West Trailhead.</p> <p>From I-75 take Exit 288, Main Street and turn east. Where the road appears to suddenly end, turn right to the Pine Mountain West Trailhead on the left.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Difficulty:</b> This is a total of 4.5 miles that includes a climb of 423 feet in three-quarters of a mile on the west and a return climb of 413 feet in 1 mile on the east.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Lunch to eat on the trail.</p>	<p>Scott Ranger scott@scotranger.com 404-210-3088</p>

## Society Contacts



115 Farm Dale  
Roswell, GA 30075  
[www.gabotsoc.org](http://www.gabotsoc.org)

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

### OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS

**President** - Heather Brasell [heather.brasell@gmail.com](mailto:heather.brasell@gmail.com)  
**Vice-President** - Mitchell Kent [mkent423@gmail.com](mailto:mkent423@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer** - Steve and Rona Cook [gabotsoc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:gabotsoc.treasurer@gmail.com)  
**Secretary** - Ellen Corrie [ellennet@aol.com](mailto:ellennet@aol.com)  
**Past President** - Maureen Donohue [marinadono67@gmail.com](mailto:marinadono67@gmail.com)  
 Tipularia Editors - Richard Ware [gabotany@comcast.net](mailto:gabotany@comcast.net)  
 Teresa Ware [teresaaware@comcast.net](mailto:teresaaware@comcast.net)  
 Webmaster - Merrill Morris [merrill.morris@gmail.com](mailto:merrill.morris@gmail.com)  
 Newsletter Editor - Jackie Miller [millchamga@gmail.com](mailto:millchamga@gmail.com)  
 Field Trip Chair - Mike Christison [mikepaddler@netscape.net](mailto:mikepaddler@netscape.net)  
 Membership - Jo Anne Romfh [joannromfh@aol.com](mailto:joannromfh@aol.com)  
 BotSoc Boutique - Jenneke Somerville [jenneke1@hotmail.com](mailto:jenneke1@hotmail.com)  
 Marie Mellinger Grant Fund - Linda Chafin [chafin@uga.edu](mailto:chafin@uga.edu)  
 Ed McDowell [ed.mcdowell@cox.net](mailto:ed.mcdowell@cox.net)  
 Hal Massie [massiefarm@aol.com](mailto:massiefarm@aol.com)  
 Jerry Hightower [jerry\\_hightower@nps.gov](mailto:jerry_hightower@nps.gov)  
 Rich Reaves [rich.reaves@att.net](mailto:rich.reaves@att.net)