



In Memoriam Maureen Donohue

We are sad to announce that Maureen Donohue, past President of the Georgia Botanical Society, died on February 12 at Northeast Georgia Medical Center after a short illness. Maureen's contributions to BotSoc were many. Over the years she served in numerous roles, including field trip leader, Field Trip Chair, Vice President, and President. As Vice President Maureen was responsible for highly successful Wildflower Pilgrimages in Augusta (2013) and Waycross (2014). She was a friend to many as well as a mentor to new botanists. Her knowledge, warmth, and sense of humor will be greatly missed.

Look for a detailed retrospective of Maureen's life in a future issue of *BotSoc News*.



Maureen Donohue at Woody Gap. Photo courtesy of Maureen's family.

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President's Perspective



BotSoc News

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I was searching through some old newsletters recently looking for information on past Wildflower Pilgrimages. What I found made me realize just how much the Georgia Botanical Society has changed in the past 35 years. Last year we had about 50 field trips on our master list, not including the Pilgrimage, which added another 23. In 1989, 30 years ago (yeah, hard to believe...), we had about 18 field trips. These days, we have 18 field trips between March and May!

The 2019 Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, which is coming up fast, features 25 field trips spread over 3 days. The 1989 Pilgrimage (which was in Douglas and featured Broxton Rocks) had a grand total of 7 field trips over 2 days. SEVEN field trips on a Pilgrimage.

The amazing thing to me is that we had about the same membership back then. There's a note in the March, 1989 newsletter pointing out that almost half the membership (181 people) had not yet renewed their membership. That means we had close to 400 members in 1989. Today we have a bit over 400 members.

I haven't done the research yet to find out when the number of field trips increased so dramatically (my theory is that it happened gradually in what the military refers to as "mission creep"), but there are some definite things you can point to as milestones in the evolution of the Botanical Society. One huge change was the publishing of our own botanical magazine, *Tipularia*. The first *Tipularia* came out in 1986 and has steadily improved over the years into the beautiful magazine that it is now. In January of 1993 Scott Ranger dragged our newsletter, kicking and screaming, into the modern world, leaving behind its roots in mimeographed pages. Scott gave the newsletter the basic format it uses today, adding regular features, heavier stock paper, photographs and art, and a mission beyond a jumble of notes and reminders.

In recent years we have moved to an electronic newsletter, giving us a more cost-effective newsletter, high quality digital photographs, and a lot of flexibility.

A few things haven't changed at all. As best I can tell, our most prolific and popular field trip leader in 1989 was a fellow named Tom Patrick. In 2019, well, Tom Patrick still draws a crowd. Tom was also the Second Vice President in 1989 and was in charge of field trips and the Pilgrimage. We had three vice presidents that year. That's something else I want to dig into one of these days.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Clayton in mid-April. We've got an outstanding Pilgrimage planned in a beautiful place to do a little spring botanizing.

Hal Massie

Wildflower Pilgrimage Update

The 50th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage will be held April 12-14 in Clayton GA. Thanks to our BotSoc Vice President, Robert "Bobby" Hattaway, we have a wonderful program planned, including 25 field trips, a Friday evening social, and a Saturday evening dinner and presentation, all at a very modest cost. The field trips include both half-day and full-day offerings ranging from short, easy walks to more strenuous hikes. For complete information, please refer to the Pilgrimage brochure on the BotSoc website at:

https://www.gabotsoc.org/?page_id=23

Note that Maureen Donohue was originally scheduled to lead Field Trip #1, Mulky Gap. Dan Rawlins has graciously agreed to step in as leader, so the trip is still a "go." Dan's contact information is drawlins04@gmail.com, 770-979-3763. The trip description remains the same.



Photo by Rich & Anita Reaves

Sharp lobed hepatica (*Anemone acutiloba*, formerly *Hepatica acutiloba*).

Photo: Rich and Anita Reaves

Pilgrimage trips often fill up, so if you have not yet registered, please do so now. You can check the Pilgrimage page on the BotSoc website to see which trips are full. Also, keep in mind that the blocked hotel room rate of \$59.99 + tax at our two Pilgrimage hotels will no longer be available after March 13, 2019.

The Friday evening social will be held at The Diner in the Rabun County Civic Center. You can drop in to pick up your registration materials, grab a bite to eat, and socialize with friends. If you are able to bring hors d'oeuvres or soft drinks for the social (no alcoholic beverages), please contact Bobby Hattaway at botanikman@g-net.net or 912-481-3011, as there is no designated social chair for this Pilgrimage. We will be offering light hors d'oeuvres, not main courses. Also, please keep in mind that the social is one hour shorter than in previous years and will run from 6 PM to 8 PM.

The Saturday evening program will also be held at the Civic Center. Following a delicious buffet dinner, attendees will enjoy two interesting presentations. Mike Brod of the U.S. Forest Service will give a presentation on the Foothills Landscape Community Collaboration. (See the November 2018 issue of *BotSoc News* for more information about the Foothills Landscape Project, which affects everyone who uses the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forests.) And Carrie Radcliffe from the Atlanta Botanical Garden will update us on the ABG's programs to safeguard threatened mountain bog plants.

Our 2019 Wildflower Pilgrimage shirts feature a beautiful drawing of Table Mountain pine (*Pinus pungens*), courtesy of the talented Jenneke Somerville. Many thanks to Jenneke for producing yet another beautiful and unique design. All profits from shirt sales benefit the Marie Mellinger Field Botany Research Grant Fund. Submit your shirt order using the Pilgrimage registration form, even if you are not attending the Pilgrimage. Shirts will be available at the Friday evening social or can be shipped to your home for a small charge.

Big Trees Forest Preserve

On a beautiful fake spring day, 20 folks turned out for the first field trip of 2019 at Big Trees Forest Preserve in Sandy Springs. The group of mostly members (with a few new and curious youngsters) followed a well-worn path to learn about how to use clues like twigs, leaf buds, old leaves as well as some evergreen leaves, bark, and old fruit to identify trees and shrubs in the winter. Trip leader Ellen Honeycutt also pointed out a few invasive plants, mostly evident by their evergreen leaves, that have invaded the forest. Also noticeable by their evergreen leaves were a few native herbaceous plants such as gingers (*Hexastylis* sp.), Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), and cranefly orchid (*Tipularia discolor*).



Left and lower right: Big Trees Preserve. Photos by Scott Ranger.

Lower left: Seeds from white ash (*Fraxinus americana*). Photo by Ellen Honeycutt.



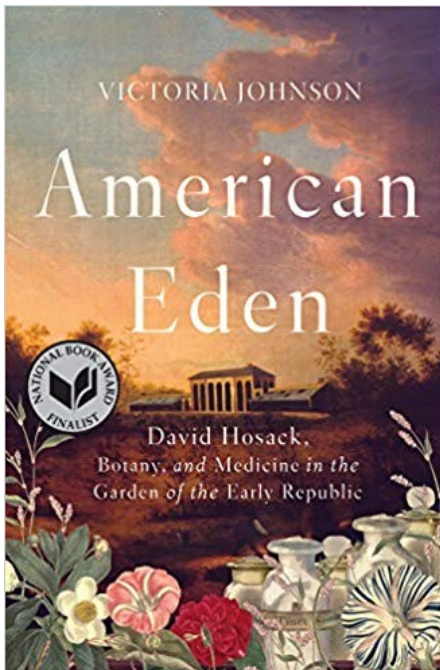
Welcome New Members

The following new members joined the Botanical Society during December and January. Welcome aboard! We look forward to seeing you on field trips and the Wildflower Pilgrimage.

Michele Buchanan	Gainesville GA	Irene Hall	Duluth GA
Stephanie Byrne	Decatur GA	Susan Schroeder	Acworth GA
Scott Deitchman	Duluth GA	Kristen West	Waycross GA
Suzy Hope Downing	Lawrenceville GA	Paul Yelton	Canton GA
Kandy Duke	Athens GA		

Book Review

By Jackie Miller



***American Eden: David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic.* By Victoria Johnson. 2018, Liveright Publishing Corporation. 461 pages.**

American Eden tells the fascinating story of early American physician-botanist David Hosack (1769-1835) and his quest to establish the first botanical garden in the United States.

Hosack was trained in medicine and became a prominent New York City physician while still a young man. Recognizing the importance of medicinal plants, he traveled to London to study with botanist William Curtis, author of the *Flora Londinensis* and the *Botanical Magazine*. Once back in New York, Hosack continued his botanical studies independently while treating patients and teaching medical students, and he was soon among the pre-eminent botanists in the United States.

In 1801, when Hosack was 32 years old, he began buying property for a botanical garden in a then-rural area of Manhattan. He eventually acquired a 20-acre parcel that he christened the Elgin Botanic Garden. At its peak around 1805, the garden included a large greenhouse and two hothouses, as well as acres of plantings, all enclosed by a high stone wall. The garden was home to many North American plants as well as exotic plants sent to Hosack by botanists and explorers all over the globe. English and European botanists who visited the garden were amazed to discover such an extensive collection in the United States.

Elgin soon proved too ambitious and costly a project for Hosack to maintain. In 1820, after a long struggle, he was able to persuade the State of New York to purchase the garden. Hosack expected the State to turn the garden into a showcase. Sadly, the State was unwilling to spend the money needed to maintain the property, and by the 1820s the garden had in effect ceased to exist. Eventually the land was transferred to Columbia College (now Columbia University) and townhouses were built over the former garden beds. Today Rockefeller Center stands on this site.

Although Elgin no longer exists, it provided an inspiration to other American botanists, both amateur and professional, and paved the way for other botanical gardens. Readers will enjoy this very engaging book for its vivid accounts of 19th century American life and the early days of American botany.

Note: Author Victoria Johnson will be speaking about her book on April 10 at the Atlanta History Center.

Contest Results



Since 2008 Richard Ware has been challenging BotSoc members with his “Name That Plant” contest (see below). Six participants tied for first place for 2018, with each having a perfect score of 36 points: Bobby Hattaway, Celeste Ray, Jim Drake, John French, Sam Pratt, and Tom Patrick. Wayne Webb and Carmel vanHoek tied for second place with 35 points each, and Alex Levy took third place with 34 points.

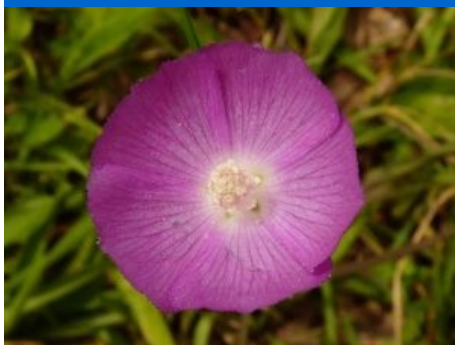
Only about 14 people participated each month during 2018, and we are hoping for more players in 2019. Sharpen your pencils!

Name That Plant

Each month the **NAME THAT PLANT** contest appears on the Georgia Botanical Society’s website, courtesy of Richard Ware. A prize is awarded to the first person to get all of the plants correct, as well as the person with the most correct answers for the year. You may use reference books or the Internet to help you identify the plants, and you must submit the scientific names before midnight on the last day of the month.

Below are the plants from the January 2019 contest, and the answers are on page 11 of this newsletter. For the current contest, please see http://www.gabotsoc.org/?page_id=289. Good luck!

Plant #1



Habitat: Occasionally mowed roadside and adjacent powerline right-of-way, with other species of calcareous prairie habitats.

Range: W. AR and e. OK, south to c. TX.

Plant #2



Habitat: Savannas, sandhill seeps, floating peat mats, in the Piedmont and mountains in bogs. Apr-Jul; Jul-Sep.

Range: NL west to MT, south to s. FL and e. TX.

Plant #3



Habitat: Rock outcrops, especially granitic exfoliation domes, but also quartzite, greenstone, and sandstone, up to at least 1700 m. in elevation. Apr-Aug; May-Jul.

Range: NL west to AK, south to NJ, PA, in and near the mountains to ne. GA, n. OH, n. IN, MN, MT, and BC.

Day in the Woods

Anyone who is unable to travel to north Georgia for the Wildflower Pilgrimage can enjoy an alternative outing in the southern part of the state. The Gaskins Forest Education Center in Alapaha GA will hold its fifth annual Day in the Woods on Saturday, April 13, beginning at 1 PM. According to Heather Brasell, owner/manager of the Center and past BotSoc President, the day's events will feature activities and demonstrations for people of all ages, focusing on wildlife, forestry, and crafts using natural resources. The event is noncommercial with no entry fee and no vending. All activities, including food tastings of grilled and smoked wild hog, deer, and sausage, are offered free of charge. Last year more than 40 activities were offered by local artists and artisans, outdoor enthusiasts, biologists and Georgia forestry officials. Weather permitting, there will be a controlled burn demonstration. After a bring-your-own-cookout, visitors can enjoy a nature walk in the dusky woods and listen to birds and frogs. Then, if the skies are clear, guests can star gaze with astronomers.

Gaskins Forest Education Center is located at 3359 Moore Sawmill Road, Alapaha, GA 31622. See the Center's Facebook page for more information and photos. If you have skills, knowledge and love of the outdoors to share with others, please contact Heather Brasell, heather.brasell@gmail.com, 229-339-3966.



Photos from the 2018 Day in the Woods event, courtesy Heather Brasell.

March Field Trips

March 16
Saturday
10:00 AM

Oconee Bells at Lake Jocassee State Park, SC, and Spring Wildflowers at Oconee Station State Historic Site, SC

Oconee bells, *Shortia galacifolia*, are one of the rarest and prettiest southeastern wildflowers. Almost eradicated in the wild, it is still found in this park and a few other places in the Carolinas. We may also spot another rare plant, sweet pinesap (a.k.a. pygmy pipes), *Monotropsis odorata*, along the same trail, as well as trailing arbutus, *Epigaea repens*. After lunch at the park, we will drive to nearby Oconee Station State Historic Site, where we should see a profusion of other early spring wildflowers and the 60-foot Station Cove Water Falls.

Directions: From Atlanta, I-85 north to SC state line, take 1st exit on the SC side and head north on SC Hwy 11 for about 35 miles. After crossing SC 130, proceed 2 miles and turn left and drive 2 more miles to the park office next to the main boat ramp on Lake Jocassee.

GPS coordinates: 34.951493, -82.948181 Devil's Fork State Park

Facilities: At both Devil's Fork SP and Oconee Station.

Difficulty: Two easy walks of 1 and 2 miles. The Oconee Bells can be seen in a walk of a couple hundred yards near the parking lot by those desiring a shorter walk.

Bring: Lunch to eat in park.

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Oconee bells, Devil's Fork State Park, South Carolina.

March Field Trips

<p>March 17 Sunday 2:00 PM</p> <p>(Note late start time)</p>	<p>Montezuma Bluffs Natural Area</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>Directions: Montezuma Bluffs Natural Area is located approximately 1 mile north of the city limits of Montezuma off of State Highway 49. 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. GPS Coordinates: 32.337012, -84.028645</p> <p>Facilities: None.</p> <p>Difficulty: The first half of the walk will be easy and non-strenuous. During the second half, we will venture along some steep banks and the walk will be more challenging. If you require a staff to walk, you may wish to skip the second half.</p> <p>Bring: 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 cinhulsen@yahoo.com 478-396-4941</p>
<p>March 23 Saturday 10:00 AM</p>	<p>Reconnaissance of "Rewind Rock" at Little Toccoa Creek Farm</p> <p>Walk/climb to the rock outcrop at Little Toccoa Creek Farm in Stephens County. We will explore this granite outcrop to see which of the outcrop endemics occur at this site. We will also encounter the early spring flora of an upper Piedmont mixed hardwood forest.</p> <p>For information about Little Toccoa Creek Farm, see Instagram: @littletoccoacreekfarm</p> <p>Important: Please email Susan if you plan to attend.</p>	<p>Directions: Navigate to Toccoa, GA. In Toccoa, from Currahee St. (US123), turn north on Broad St., cross the tracks, in 2 blocks turn right on Tugalo St. and then left on Prather Bridge Rd. (SR 184). Go 3.4 miles to left on Camp Mikell Rd. Little Toccoa Creek Farm is 1.8 miles on the left. Park at the mailbox (1517 Camp Mikell Rd) and walk down the hill by the pole barn. GPS Coordinates: 34.628806, -83.322126</p> <p>Facilities: None.</p> <p>Difficulty: The trail to the outcrop is a moderately steep climb. (If you like Ben Cash style hikes, you will like this one.) Trekking poles will be useful if you have them.</p> <p>Bring: Wear or bring footwear appropriate for crossing the creek and plenty of water to drink.</p>	<p>Susan Caster susan.caster@gmail.com 404-512-5621</p>



Flint River below Montezuma Bluffs.

March Field Trips

March 30
Saturday
10:00 AM

Pocket of Pigeon Mountain

Every year we look forward to spring and a trip to Georgia's premier spot for early spring wildflowers. Pigeon Mountain, part of the Cumberland Plateau, contains many species rare to our state: Virginia bluebells, celandine poppy, bent trillium, Ohio buckeye, and a huge variety of other wildflowers. After lunch, we will take a short drive to a nearby location where we have found twinleaf blooming in the past.

IMPORTANT: A valid pass is needed for access to GA WMA properties, including all of Pigeon Mountain. The GORP pass has been discontinued. A valid hunting or fishing license, a Public Lands Pass, or a Lifetime Sportsman's License will work. The Lifetime License is free to those born on or prior to 6/30/1952. A one-day combo hunting/fishing license is the least expensive (\$5) option. Any of these must be purchased BEFORE the trip as there is NO on-site purchase. For more information, see: <https://georgiawildlife.com/LicenseChanges> <https://georgiawildlife.com/sites/default/files/wrd/pdf/License%20Prices.pdf>

Directions: From I-75 exit 320, go west on GA 136, crossing US 27 onto GA 193 into downtown LaFayette. From South Main Street, follow GA 193 for 8 miles to Davis Crossroads, at intersection with GA 341. Turn left on Hog Jowl Road (sometimes unmarked but paved), go south 2.6 miles passing Mt. Herman Baptist Church. At top of next hill, turn left on Pocket Road and drive 1.2 miles to end. Main parking is on left, with handicapped parking on the right. Meet in the parking lot. GPS Coordinates: 34.628806, -83.322139

Facilities: None at site. Fast food restaurants on North Main Street in LaFayette.

Difficulty: Short and easy around parking lot. Optional moderate (but rocky) walk to falls and easy bushwhacking to twinleaf site. Note: Portions of the boardwalk section were damaged in recent storms but may be repaired by the time of the walk.

Bring: Bring lunch to eat in parking lot.

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2016 field trip to The Pocket. Photo by Mike Christison.

Future Field Trips

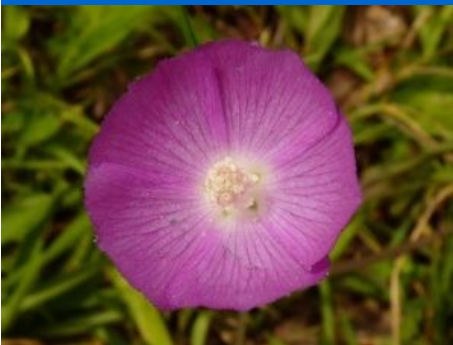
The following field trips are tentatively planned for the month of April. Please watch the BotSoc website for complete trip information.

Saturday April 6	Cloudland Canyon
Saturday April 6	Providence Canyon
Saturday April 6	Arabia Mountain
Sunday April 7	Rising Fawn
Friday-Sunday, April 12-14	No field trips; Georgia Botanical Society Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, Clayton GA
Saturday April 20	Wildcat Creek
Saturday April 20	Chickamauga Cedar Glades
Saturday April 27	Blood Mountain

Name That Plant Answers

Here are the names of the plants pictured on page 6 of this issue. These plants were featured in the January 2019 online edition of "Name That Plant." Please see the BotSoc website for the current month's contest.

Callirhoe pedata
(Palmleaf poppy-mallow)



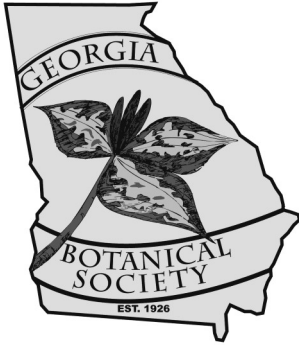
Calopogon tuberosus
(Grass pink orchid)



Capnoides sempervirens
(Rock harlequin)



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