

# BotSoc News



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2021

## Zooming into Asteraceae

An introduction to the 2nd largest angiosperm family, the asters

**Learning the Aster Family Workshop**  
November 7, 2020  
Leader: Bobby Hattaway.  
Report by: Rona Cook and Bobby Hattaway

There were approximately 25 of us who were delighted to participate in the

Learning the Aster Family (Asteraceae) Workshop led last November by Bobby Hattaway. We joined other spirits online in the world of Zoom, the web and online conferencing application. Zoom was easy to use, and magically, other members that we had not been able to visit with in quite a while began to appear on our computer screen.

The Aster Family (Asteraceae) is the second largest angiosperm family, with more than 1,528 genera and 22,750 species of herbaceous plants, shrubs, and trees distributed throughout the world, according to [Flora of North America](#), an exhaustive 30-volume print work and online database.

Bobby gave us this “nutshell” description of the Aster Family:

*“Herb (shrubs); inflorescence a head; flowers with reduced calyx called a pappus; anthers connate in a cylinder around the style; carpels 2; ovary inferior; fruit a cypsela (“achene”).”*



A stalk supporting a solitary inflorescence (a head in this case) is a peduncle. Note the whorl of green bracts (an involucre).

Floral structures and fruit are the easiest ways to identify plants in the Aster Family since vegetative structures vary widely. It is difficult to identify most asters by leaves and stems, but remember that asters do not have pedicels, only peduncles. That is because there are no individual flower stalks, and these stalk-less (sessile) flowers are all in heads supported on the peduncle.



Georgia aster (*Symphyotrichum georgianum*). Photo by Rona Cook.

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## President's Perspective



### BotSoc News

is published seven times a year in the months of Jan, March, May, July, September, and Nov, with a special seventh issue annually for the Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage. *Note, however, that with the cancellation of the 2021 Spring Pilgrimage (see "President's Perspective," this page), there will be no Spring Pilgrimage issue this year.*

### Submission deadline

Is April 1 for the May issue.

### Subscriptions

Are included with membership.

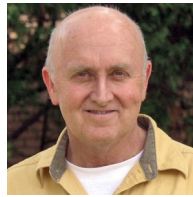
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I am not sure where to begin, but maybe I should start by being thankful that we cancelled the 2021 Spring Pilgrimage. This is especially so when one considers the COVID-19 situation in our country. Some of us had thought that after the vaccine was distributed, the situation would improve sooner rather than later. However, it has become increasingly clear that early distribution predictions were overly optimistic.

This means it is likely we won't see much improvement in the infection, hospitalization and death rates until summer at best. And even with the vaccine, people need to realize that masking and social distancing are still important to keep people safe, and this applies to our trips. Proof of the effectiveness of those two measures is well documented in the success rates of some other countries. Wearing a mask is not about individual freedom, it is about caring for fellow human beings.

One of the most perplexing unknowns associated with the virus is its unpredictability. Some younger folks die even without pre-existing conditions, and some survivors have unusual, long term effects. These could be manifested as neurological problems, including what's being called "brain fog," and/or long-term damage to the lungs or heart.

On a much pleasanter topic, we currently have about 22 field trips lined up for 2021. These are posted on our website. The usual COVID-19 safety rules still apply until further notice. With so many folks unable to attend our trips, it is even more important than before to encourage field trip leaders to get volunteers to write and illustrate trip reports so that we can publish them in our newsletter and share the experiences with others. If we get more reports than we have room for in the newsletter, we'll look at moving some reports to our website. So please do send in those reports. Meanwhile, I note that leaders are willing to help those that volunteer, and that is to be expected.

There are two other good things to report on.

First, the botany mini-classes that I offered to conduct via Zoom online and web conferencing have started, and I have to say so far so good. Second, I have received some positive feedback on our new Georgia County Plant Documentation Initiative that was announced in the last (January 2021) newsletter. On the latter, remember you don't have to be

*Continued on Page 3*

**President's Perspective—Continued from Page 2**

an expert plant identifier. We just need folks that want to learn by helping us solve this Georgia problem. As we noted then, we want to focus on 18 counties whose plant life is especially under-represented in collections in Georgia herbaria at UGA in Athens and Valdosta State University.

The trips we plan to these 18 under-represented counties are different in that they are more like treasure hunts than the usual show-and-tell trips and potentially could even be more fun. The initial emphasis will be on documenting the existence of target plants in these counties through lists and photographs. And as we accumulate that information, we can then train folks in how to actually collect the herbarium voucher specimens that will become permanent records in an herbarium.

Let me add this here: Herbaria are underrated. As part of my graduate work, I was fortunate to be able to handle some plants from Charles Darwin's collection that I borrowed from the herbarium at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew. Speaking of herbaria, the New York Botanical Garden's herbarium director, Barbara M. Thiers, has just (2020) published *Herbarium: The Quest to Preserve and Classify the World's Plants*. It not only makes a strong case for the need for herbaria, but it is loaded with so many terrific photographs that it makes a great coffee table book to have in your living room.

And here is one more piece of good news: Back in our November 2019 newsletter, then-President Hal Massie spoke of Tom Patrick's passing and noted that Lisa Kruse, senior botanist for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, had called him and pledged to continue Tom's legacy of partnership with our society. And in that same newsletter, Lisa affirmed that pledge. Now I am ecstatic to report that Lisa has recently made good on that promise and has become a member of the board of directors for the Georgia Botanical Society. As Hal said then, we are in good hands.

Finally, there is one piece of sad news that I must share: On Jan. 17, we lost a good friend and botany buddy, Barrett Taylor King. Barrett and his wife Elizabeth (Betty) joined the BotSoc in 2004, and they have served splendidly as our Spring Pilgrimage registrar team since 2015. They also attended many of our outings, including the pre-Pilgrimage Okefenokee camping canoe trip in 2014, which I am so glad to have been on.

Barrett did and accomplished much. He had a 30-year career with the U.S. Army Infantry, active duty and reserves, retiring with the rank of colonel. He was a journalist. After he and Betty moved to St. Mary's, he worked with the City of Jacksonville (Fla.) Library System, retiring as deputy director. If you knew Barrett, however, you know he never really retired. He was as close to a modern day Renaissance man as they come, and we in BotSoc are fortunate that he shared some of his time with us. We will miss him.

*Bobby Hattaway*

***Have you renewed your membership for 2021?***

It's easy! Renew online at the [BotSoc website](#). Or, if you prefer, print a PDF form to mail to our membership chair, Jo Anne Romfh. And thanks in advance for supporting all that we do together!

**Aster Workshop—Continued from Page 1**

A few human foods in the Asteraceae family include

artichokes, sunflowers, lettuce, chicory (also called endive), and dandelions. Dandelions are in the chicory tribe of the Asteraceae Family. Dandelions, like the rest of the chicory tribe, have only ray flowers.

There are six types of flower heads in the Aster Family. The three main types of flower heads are discoid, with only disk flowers; radiate, with central disk flowers and peripheral ray flowers; and ligulate, with all ray flowers.

By the way, Zoom is a great way to stay connected and continue to learn about plants, plus it saves gas money and commute time. Zoom software is free, and it is quick and easy to set up. Please consider joining the next Zoom session.



Members of the Aster Family provide late fall nectar and seeds for wildlife and stems provide a place for beneficial insects to overwinter. Here, a gulf fritillary butterfly gathers nectar from a mist flower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*) late in fall. Photo by Rona Cook.

Host Plant (Common Name)	Host Plant (Latin Name)	Butterfly
New England Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	Pearl Crescent
Thistle	<i>Cirsium altissimum</i>	Painted Lady
Pussy Toes	<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	American Lady

Not only do asters provide nectar, seeds and a place for insects to shelter in winter, they also serve as hosts for the larvae of butterflies like those listed above.

**Missed the aster workshop? Hop online to see the video and handouts**



A bumblebee visits the many disc flowers of a sunflower (genus *Helianthus*) with its iconic radiate flower head. Photo by Rona Cook.

Wishing now that you had been able to attend the virtual aster workshop? Don't worry. You can view the recorded video of the workshop and read copies of the many workshop handouts. It's all available online on the BotSoc website.

Before the workshop began, workshop leader Bobby Hattaway emailed class materials to participants. Having materials ahead of time allowed participants to get a running start on

## Aster Workshop—Continued from Page 4



The above illustration is a new addition to the [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#) that has recently become public domain. Note the name *Compositae* on the plate below. This is the older name of *Asteraceae* and had been retained for commercial purposes.

published last October. Weakley begins the aster keying process with what amounts to a key to the keys. Keys A through G will take you to different starting keys within the overall Aster Family key. Find all that at [Weakley Flora](#), <https://ncbg.unc.edu/research/unc-herbarium/flora-request/>.

keying the *Asteraceae*. Use [this link](#) now to reach a Zip file containing all workshop materials on the BotSoc website (<https://www.gabotsoc.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Handouts-2020-11-07-Asteraceae-Workshop.zip>). But please note: This is a large file—14 documents totaling more than 36 megabytes. Once downloaded, you'll see a list of the 15 articles included. Click on the title to open the ones you want to see.

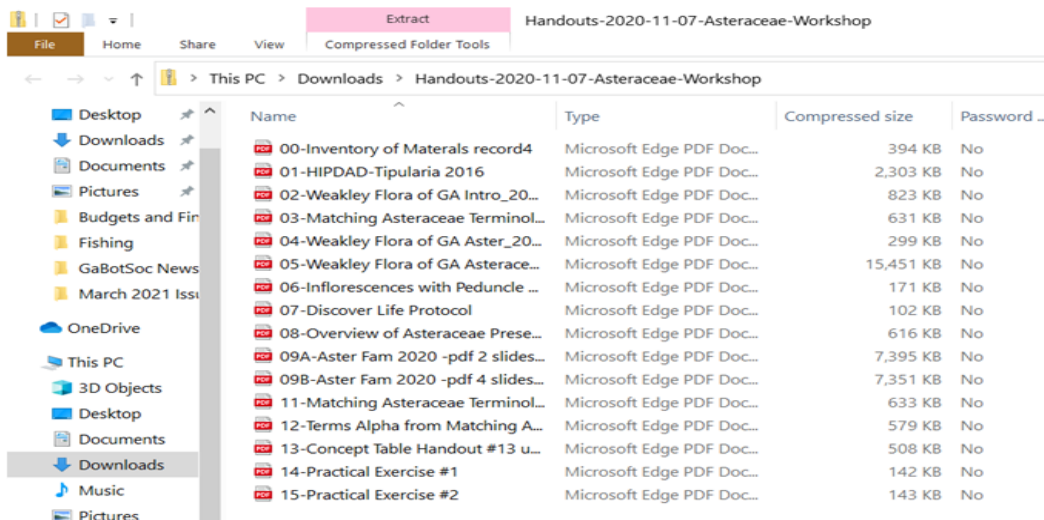
Additionally, the following [YouTube link](#) will take you to a video recording of the workshop, *Learning the Aster Family* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DaKeRDQM40>). The run time for the video is longer than usual at approximately 2 hours and 31 minutes. But then the Aster family *is* the largest and most complex of the dicots!

As part of the class, the following databases were also noted as references for lists of plants, their ranges and their distribution.

- The 2020 edition of Alan S. Weakley's *Flora of the Southeastern United States* was

## Aster Workshop—Continued from Page 5

- BONAP (The Biota of North America Program: North American Vascular Flora), <http://www.bonap.org/>
- SERNEC (SouthEast Regional Network of Expertise and Collections, a consortium of 233 herbaria in 14 states), <https://sernecportal.org/>



The sample computer screen shot above shows the extensive list of materials available using the hyperlink to the aster workshop handouts on Page 4. Included are excerpts from *Flora of the Southeastern United States*, glossaries and practical exercises in keying species of the Asteraceae genus.

portal/.

- USDA Plants (U.S. Department of Agriculture Plants Database), <https://plants.sc.gov.usda.gov/java/>.
- Flora of North America, <http://beta.floranorthamerica.org/Asteraceae>.

Additional references discussed during the workshop included *Distribution of the Vascular Flora of Georgia* by Samuel B. Jones and Nancy C. Coile and *Atlas of the Vascular Flora of Georgia*, edited by Marie B. Mellinger. Both these publications are now dated but still very useful.

## Ideas for Do-It-Yourself Extracurricular Field Trips

Make plans to catch your favorite BotSoc field trips on pages 10-11, then check out these ideas for other, “extracurricular” outings you can do on your own



Atamasco lily  
(*Zephyranthes atamasco*).  
Photo by  
[Kcstanfield](#),  
Com-  
mons.wikipedia  
.org

The BotSoc field trip calendar already has more than a dozen wonderful field trips in the works for the months of March, April and May. But if you’re looking for more, consider freelancing using ideas from your co-members.

BotSoc News recently asked members for ideas for suggestions for springtime wildflower viewing and other nature walks. Some of their responses follow. The focus here is on easily manageable trips that one might do by oneself or with a friend or family member.

**'Extracurricular' trips—Continued from Page 6**

From **Heather Bowman Cutway**, Ph.D. professor of biology at Mercer University:

"I love taking the loop portion of the Opelofa Trail at Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park to see a small bank of trout and Atamasco lilies. If you are lucky, you might see some rare fringed campion that has been planted as part of a reintroduction pilot study."

[Link here](https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/planyourvisit/outdooractivities.htm) (https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/planyourvisit/outdooractivities.htm) to reach the park's website, then scroll down several pages to see a list of trails, including the Opelofa.

From **Jo Hubbard**, just these two words: "Sosebee Cove."

But those two words suffice if you've ever been to beautiful Sosebee Cove. [Link here](https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/southern/SosebeeCove/index.shtml) (https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/southern/SosebeeCove/index.shtml) to learn more about—or be reminded of—all that you might see at this extraordinary, north-facing mesic cove just off Georgia Hwy 180 north of Suches. There is easily accessible parking adjacent to the highway, and the total distance that you'll walk is less than half a mile. Wear good walking shoes for the short descent and ascent at the beginning and end and expect to cover this rich, beautiful area slowly.

From **Clayton Webster**, a regular BotSoc trip leader—he'll lead a BotSoc trip to Mulky Gap in April; watch for details—who also hikes with the Over the Hill Hiking Group, here are directions to Mulky Gap and its famous display of pink lady slippers:

"In Blairsville there is a park and ride that my people usually meet at. It is right below the McDonalds located at 19 Murphy's Hwy, Blairsville. That makes a good place to have a last pit stop before heading into the woods. Just drive straight out of the park and ride and you will be on the Blue Ridge Highway. Follow that for three miles. You will see a Dollar General on the right. Its address is 36 Kiutuestia Creek Road, Blairsville. When you see the Dollar General, you will turn left on Mulky Gap Road. You will follow this road through beautiful countryside for about five miles. Once you enter the national forest, the road will turn to gravel for a little over a mile. You will come to a seven-way intersection of trails and U.S. Forest Service roads. This is Mulky Gap ...



Pink lady slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*). Photo by Richard & Teresa Ware.

"Here there is room for a limited number of vehicles to park. The Duncan Ridge Trail will come in from your left, cross the road and head uphill on your right. It passes right through one of the greatest displays of pink lady slippers you will ever see ... Every year is a little different, but you will probably do well to go anytime between the last five days in April and the first five days in May to see a display of hundreds of them in bloom."

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## Ideas for Extracurricular Field Trips—Continued from Page 7



Dutchman's breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*) is one among many spring flowers that can be seen along Shirley Miller Wildflower Trail. Photo by Richard & Teresa Ware.

And also from **Clayton Webster**, a reminder about the treasures found along the Shirley Miller Wildflower Trail at the [Pocket at Pigeon Mountain](#) (or search Google for "pocket loop trailhead pigeon mtn"). Please do note, however, that the Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area is a fee area. See the details on Page 10 for more information.

(Note: Mike Christison and Richard and Teresa Ware will lead this spring's BotSoc field trip there on Saturday, March 27. See [Upcoming Field Trips on Page 10 for details.](#))

For online readers of this newsletter, Clayton also sent a link to [Suzy Downing's album of more than 90 photographs from a visit in 2018.](#)

And from **Rona Cook**, three suggestions for outings in the Metro Atlanta area with a special emphasis on accessibility for those who have mobility challenges. "It has been a goal of mine to research accessible outdoor activities for members who have mobility challenges," she says.

First is the [Atlanta Beltline Arboretum](https://www.treesatlanta.org/programs/atlanta-beltline-arboretum/) (<https://www.treesatlanta.org/programs/atlanta-beltline-arboretum/>). Click on the link, then scroll down to the "Start Exploring" button on the website for a description of the plant collections with keys to their locations along the Beltline. There are many choices for parking, Rona says. "As the Atlanta Beltline connects several parks throughout the city, parking can be found in and around these parks, such as at Piedmont Park, 400 Park Drive NE for the Eastside Trail; Rose Circle Park, 982 Rose Circle SW, for the West End Trail; and Tanyard Creek Park, 460 Collier Road NW, for the Northside Trail."

The total length of the Atlanta Beltline is 33 miles, but the map can guide you to the bite-size piece that interests you most. And since it is everywhere a wide, paved, multiuse trail, the Beltline is eminently accessible.

Second among her recommendations is the Georgia Wildlife Federation's [Alcovy Conservation Center](https://gwf.org/acc/) (<https://gwf.org/acc/>) east of Atlanta. Find directions on the website's landing page. Scroll down the righthand side and look for the link to "Directions" just below the Trail Map button. For [a guide to the trails at the center](#), click the Trail Map button itself. The two-mile nature trail takes you past river cane thickets, pawpaw groves and Alcovy River swamps, and it includes interpretive signs.

Rona's third suggestion is the [Chattahoochee Nature Center CNC boardwalk](https://www.chattnaturecenter.org/visit/experience/trails/). Click on the link (<https://www.chattnaturecenter.org/visit/experience/trails/>) and scroll down to the sixth of the listed trails. The boardwalk is an easy

Two views of the leaves of a pawpaw tree showing both the upper and lower surfaces. Photo by Richard & Teresa Ware.



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## Society News

### Remembering Barrett King, BotSoc Spring Pilgrimage Registrar, Renaissance Man



Barrett King, photographed on a trip to the Okefenokee Swamp with BotSoc friends in Spring 2014. Photo by Susan Caster.

This remembrance of Barrett King is excerpted from the King family's tribute to him.

Barrett Taylor King, born in Decatur, Ga., on July 1, 1947, died surrounded by the love of his

family on Jan. 17, 2021. Barrett, a graduate of the University of Georgia, served in the U.S. Army Infantry for over 30 years active duty and reserves retiring as a Colonel. After active duty, he worked as a journalist for the Atlanta Constitution. He moved from Conyers to St. Marys, Ga., and eventually retired as deputy director of the City of Jacksonville (Fla.) Library System.

But retire, he did not! He tapped his love for community theatre and acted in dozens of plays as Big

Daddy, Mr. Sawyer, Boo and more. He loved folk music and playing his guitar and ukulele. He treasured being outdoors, kayaking, birdwatching, and volunteering to support conservation efforts. A voracious reader of history and science, he dug deep for the truth and championed social justice. He often combined his love of military history and native plants during BotSoc Spring Pilgrimages, serving with his wife Elizabeth (Betty) as registrar since 2015. The family asks that you consider honoring him with a donation to the Georgia Botanical Society or Marie Mellinger Fund and that you remember him—as his family does—for his puns and dad jokes, loud cheerful hellos, lots of petting of dogs, and big bear hugs with pats on the back.

## Ideas for Extracurricular Field Trips—Continued from Page 8



A view of the Chattahoochee River from Roswell Riverwalk. Photo from Roswell Convention & Visitors Bureau.

half mile and is wheelchair accessible. Expect to pay a fee here: The center is a private non-profit. Admission is \$10.00 for adults, \$7.00 for seniors. Admission, however, will also cover a wheelchair-accessible path that will take you through several "living wetlands" gardens with 200 native plant species.

And while you're in the neighborhood of the CNC, also check out the Roswell Riverwalk, a public, elevated boardwalk that is admission-free. You'll

easily spot the elevated, wheel-chair accessible Riverwalk running parallel to the Chattahoochee River

*Continued on Page 11*

## Upcoming Field Trips

### BOTSOC FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES

Participants limited to 10 per trip. Advance registration required. Email trip leader to register. Be familiar with and prepared to follow all [Georgia Botanical Society pandemic rules](#), including social distancing and wearing a mask when close to other people.

Start Time/ Trip Leader	Description	Logistics
March 20, 10 AM  Lisa Kruse  Lisa.kruse @dnr.ga.gov (M) 706-318-3287	<p>Get out on the Real Rock! Thanks to Phil Delestrez, Natural Resource Manager for Georgia State Parks, we will have special access to the Conservation Area of Panola Mountain. Phil will accompany us to the summit of this granite outcrop. We will observe the unique outcrop flora along the way. Ephemeral spring flora grows in shallow pools on the granite; these striking plants such as the succulent <i>Diamorpha</i> or elf orpine have fascinating life histories adapted to harsh conditions on the rock. Adjacent forest has rich soil low in acidity enabling species not commonly seen around Atlanta such as red buckeye and wafer ash. Phil, a skilled lepidopterist, will share a window into the world of butterflies.</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Moderate to strenuously steep natural trail on granite outcrop. We will take it slow and easy.</p>	<p><b>Meet:</b> 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot for the Panola Mountain State Park Nature Center, 2620 Highway 155 SW Stockbridge, GA 30281</p> <p><b>Directions:</b> From I-20, exit 171 at Panola Rd. Head South on Panola Road. Continue about 4 miles until Panola Rd. dead ends on GA-Hwy 155 S. Turn left onto GA-155 S. Continue about 2.5 miles. You will see the entrance to Panola Mountain State Park on your left.</p> <p><b>Fees:</b> The cost is \$5.00 per vehicle, payable at the entrance or at green payment stations scattered in the parking area. A GA Parks Pass (\$50) will cover entrance fees for a full year and can be purchased at the Nature Center.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> \$5.00 parking pass or Georgia Parks Pass, water, picnic lunch, sun protection. Wear sturdy close-toed shoes or boots. Hand lens or 10X magnifier recommended for looking closely at plants, binoculars suggested.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Restrooms are located at the Nature Center but are not easily accessible during the walk</p>
March 27 10 AM  Bobby Hattaway  botanikman @g-net.net (M) 912-481-3011.	<p>The Savannah-Ogeechee Canal opened in 1831, but despite many years of human disturbance, the site has a diverse array of plant species (ca. 200) most of which are native. There will be some spring wildflowers, but most of what we will see will be trees, shrubs and vines (i.e. the woody flora). The seldom seen <i>Gelsemium rankinii</i>, Swamp Jessamine, is there and may be in bloom. It is related to the common Yellow Jessamine. We'll walk down the old Tow Path for about a half mile to a gazebo on the bank of the Ogeechee River. Then we'll return via an old road that served the workers on the canal. About two-thirds of the way back, we'll leave this Alluvial River Swamp community, hiking on the Laurel Ridge Trail through what might be called Pine Flatwoods to what has been dubbed Sandhill. Today the used-to-be sandhill it is more like Oak Scrub habitat. Total hike distance will be less than 2 miles and none of it is strenuous. There are some boardwalks in the swamp.</p>	<p><b>Meet:</b> 10:00 am at the Savannah-Ogeechee Barge Canal Museum &amp; Nature Center entrance. Address: 681 Fort Argyle Road, Savannah, GA 31419.</p> <p><b>Directions:</b> From Interstate 95, Take Exit 94 west onto Ga. 204 (Fort Argyle Road). Travel west approximately two miles. The entrance to the site is on the left.</p> <p><b>Fees:</b> There is a \$3.00 per person admission fee.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Restrooms on site.</p> <p><b>Walking:</b> Moderate to easy walking, but occasional boardwalks or bridges can be slippery if wet. Less than 2 miles overall, none of it strenuous.</p> <p><b>Bring:</b> Water, snacks, camera, walking stick, picnic lunch bug spray (probably won't need, but just in case). Wear sturdy, water-resistant shoes or boots. It would be wise to bring a 10X loupe or magnifier.</p>
March 27 10 AM  Mike Christison  mikepaddler @aol.com (H) 770-973-6482 (M) 770-596-3564  Co-leaders: Richard & Teresa Ware (H) 706-232-3435 (M) 706-766-5143	<p>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 can take a short drive to a nearby location where we have found twinleaf and goldenseal blooming in the past.</p>	<p><b>Meet:</b> 10:00 at the parking lot at The Pocket of Pigeon Mountain in Walker County</p> <p><b>Directions:</b> 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 mi. to Davis Crossroads, at intersection with GA 341. Turn left on Hog Jowl Rd (sometimes unmarked but paved), go south 2.6 mi passing Mt Herman Baptist Church. At top of next hill, turn left on Pocket Rd and drive 1.2 mi to end. Main parking is on left, with handicapped parking on the right. GPS coordinates: 34.628806, -83.322139</p> <p><b>Fees:</b> A valid pass is needed for access to GAWMA properties, including Crockford—Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area. A one-day combo hunting/fishing license is the least expensive option for residents at \$5, but there is a <i>free</i> 65+ Resident Senior Lifetime Sportsman's License. The pass <b>must</b> be purchased <b>before</b> the trip as there is <b>no</b> on-site purchase. For more info and to purchase some (but not all) DNR passes online, visit gadnr.org.</p>

## Upcoming Field Trips—Continued from Page 10

Information for the field trips listed below was that available in early February when this issue of the newsletter was composed. Please check the BotSoc website's [2021 Field Trip Schedule page](#) regularly for updates and additions.

Date/Time/Trip Leader(s)	Description
March TBD, Linda Chafin	Little Mulberry Creek Park, Gwinnett County, early spring wildflowers including bloodroot, rue anemone, dog's tongue ( <i>Cynoglossum virginianum</i> ), and the rare <i>Veratrum woodii</i>
Saturday, April 10, 2 PM, Lisa Kruse and Kathryn Kolb	West Atlanta, Fulton County, spring ephemerals, old growth woods in an urban park setting
Saturday, April 10, Rich Reaves	Cloudland Canyon State Park, Dade County, red trillium, larkspur, violets, and more
Sunday, April 11, 10 AM -- 1 PM, Rich Reaves	Rising Fawn Gardens, Lookout Mountain, Dade County, trillium, shooting stars
Saturday, April 17, Rich Reaves	Roadside Botanizing, Cohutta Mountains Forest Service Roads, Fannin County and surrounding areas
Saturday, April 24, Hal Massie	Sprewell Bluff Wildlife Management Area, Meriwether and Talbot counties, turkeybeard, square-heads, showy scutellaria, and other Pine Mountain specialties
Saturday, April 24, Mike Christison and Richard Ware	Chickamauga National Battlefield Park, Catoosa County,
Friday, April 30, 10 AM, Clayton Webster	Mulky Gap, Union County, pink lady slippers
April TBD, Linda Chafin	Lake Winfield Scott, Jarrard Gap Trail, Union County, abundant Southern Appalachian wildflowers; trilliums
Saturday, May 22, Hal Massie	Flint River canoe trip, Talbot and Upson counties, shoals spider lilies ( <i>Hymenocallis coronaria</i> )
Saturday – Monday, May 29-31, Hal Massie and Rich Reaves	Roadsides in the Cohuttas, including along Forest Service Road 42, with specific trip details still in the works, milkweeds, trillium, ladyslippers, geraniums, trilliums and more

## Ideas for Extracurricular Field Trips—Continued from Page 9



A couple strolls at Skidaway Island State Park. A number of Georgia State Parks feature wheelchair-accessible and easily walkable paths. Photo from Georgia State Parks.

across Willeo Road from the CNC. There is free parking for the Riverwalk in a small, paved parking lot at the downriver end of the Riverwalk.

Finally, for even more ideas on accessible nature trails, check out [AccessibleNature.info](https://www.accessiblenature.info/) (<https://www.accessiblenature.info/>), then select “Places,” “United States,” “G-L,” and finally “Georgia.” You’ll find there suggestions for easily walked and wheelchair-accessible nature trails at state parks like Skidaway Island and Crooked River along the coast and Black Rock Mountain and Amicalola Falls in the north Georgia mountains.

## Society Contacts



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