

# 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Ohio Native Plant Society  
and the  
Northeastern Ohio Chapter



1982 - 2022

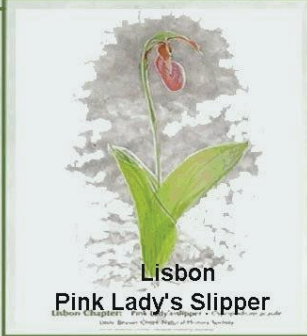
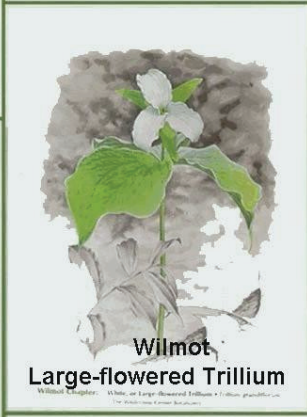


# Ohio Native Plant Society

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2022



Help Preserve  
Our Native Plants



**Ohio Native Plant Society**  
**Fund-raising Poster**  
**1988**







## The Ohio Native Plant Society and Its Northeastern Chapter

The Native Plant Society was conceived at the First Annual Wildflower Symposium at the Holden Arboretum in June, 1982. On September 30, 1982, nine people convened at Holden to form the Society. At this meeting, as in subsequent activities of the Society for many years, Ann Malmquist was the prime mover and guide.

By the end of the first year, we had 142 members; were under the umbrella of The Holden Arboretum; the slogan *To Conserve and Protect* was adopted; the fringed gentian was selected as our first logo and the constitution and by-laws were developed. The following year, the first newsletter, "On the Fringe" was published; just a two-sided paper with an article on Hepaticas by Tom Yates. The monthly newsletter went from about 8 pages on an 8 ½ by 7 size-page to a high quality quarterly 20-page journal with relevant information on both native and invasive plant research.

We established a tradition of Annual Dinners featuring important speakers in our field, as well as giving out an annual grant. We put on monthly programs that include field trips, traveling throughout Ohio and beyond; workshops and speakers. We have gone as far as the Bruce Peninsula in Canada and the Atlantic shore of Rhode Island.

We co-sponsored the Second Annual Wildflower Symposium and a Prairie weekend which raised \$1,500 for the expansion of the Holden Wildflower Garden.

The first goal we had was to establish a network of chapters under the rubric of the Ohio Native Plant Society. We were chartered in 1984 as a 501(c)(3) and made ourselves the local Northeastern Ohio chapter.

Ann Malmquist traveled around the state and got more native plant groups to join us including the Wilderness Center, the Cincinnati Wildlife Preservation Society, each selecting their own flower as its logo.

One accomplishment that stands out is the establishment in 1987 of *Trillium grandiflorum* as the Ohio state wildflower. Ann Malmquist, Dick Moseley, and Guy Denny saw this three-year project through the tortuous political process.

We contributed to the establishment and maintenance of three gardens. We raised \$5,000 to help the Holden Arboretum preserve and restore the royal catchfly, *Silene regia*. It can be seen today in Holden's prairie. We contributed labor and expertise for the beginning of the Cleveland Botanical Garden's Woodland Garden, built on the site of the former bear pit. We provided design, plant material, and labor for a wildflower garden between the Chagrin Falls Library and the Chagrin River.

In 1987 an endowment fund was set up to recognize Ann Malmquist's role in creating the Ohio Native Plant Society, and the Northeastern Ohio chapter. A grant is given annually for research, conservation, or education on a project that clearly supports the mission of the Society.



Ann Malmquist passed away in 2017, laid to rest at Foxfield Preserve, a natural burial site at the Wilderness Center.

The Native Plant Society website underwent changes in 2014. At the request of the society's board, the website was redesigned by Lisa K. Schlag, our society's current website admin. On 8 January 2014, the newly renamed website, [nativeplantsocietyneo.org](http://nativeplantsocietyneo.org), was officially registered. The website provides information on programs and events as well as other information of interest to the native plant supporters' community using photo galleries, graphics, video, audio, and content links, printing, and downloading. New content features added to the website: A virtual herbarium provides photographs and information on native plants; Thirty years of our society's *On the Fringe* journal issues provide access to the earlier writings and creative content of society members, illustrators, and contributors; Field Notes highlighting summaries of walks, programs, and events; A society program and event calendar; Information on Annual Grant awardees and Gentian Award honorees including the introductions for each honoree;

Access to online registration for programs requiring registration; and □ To promote cooperation with other organizations concerned with the conservation of natural resources, the website posts various upcoming education and community programs and events of these organizations.

Content on our website will continue to evolve. The Native Plant Society board is grateful to the over 171,000 visitors who have spent time on our website since 2014. The Native Plant Society website will continue to be an online presence visitors can rely upon for information on native plants, native plant communities, conservation, and our society.

Since 2010, we have added weekly mid-week after-work Spring wildflower walks at various local locations, ably led by various naturalists and Native Plant Society members.

We have kept our constitution up-to-date with periodic revisions, and we have developed a set of guidelines for ethical use and treatment of native plants and communities.



## **Roster of Presidents**

1983-1987 Ann Malmquist  
1987-2000 Tom Sampliner  
2000-2004 Jean Roche  
2005-2012 Judy Barnhart  
2013-2017 Kathy Hanratty  
2018 to present Judy Barnhart

## **Some Early Active Supporters**

Andreas, Barbara	Jones, Randall
Augustine, John	Koellicker, Betty
Bartel, Maureen	Leonetti, Phyllis
Bartolotta, Bob	Malmquist, Ann
Best, Dan	Martin, Elizabeth S.
Beswick, Jay	Mattingly, Kevin
Bissell, Jim	McAdoo, Dave
Danielson, Beverly	Mitchell, Gordon
Dean, Donald	Morse, Larry
Denny, Guy	Norweb M/M Henry
Evans, Dick	Paine, C.W.Eliot
Ferris, Duane	Pallister, Greta & Hugh
Finck, Nate	Parsons, Brian
Fiscus, Ruth	Peskin, Perry
Giblock, Larry & Laurel	Ricks, Emliss
Haehn, Phyllis	Schwartz, Ruth & Lawrence
Hanratty, Hilda	Scott, Kent
Harm, Ray	Selby, Florence & Jack
Herrick, J. Arthur	White, Mary Conrad
Hobbs, Clinton	Yates, Tom
Hull, Tod	

## Other Chapters of the Ohio Native Plant Society

Written by each chapter.

\*Currently active ONPS chapters are starred.



### \*The Wilderness Center: TWC Botanizers/Wilmot

The Wilmot chapter of the Ohio Native Plant Society is known as The Wilderness Center Botanizers and was organized in January of 1985 as one of the special interest groups of The Wilderness Center in Wilmot. Consequently, we are fortunate in having their interpretive building available to us for our meetings, and their beautiful trails for our wildflower study. In this area our group has found an enthusiastic membership waiting to share their knowledge and fellowship with others who possess an interest in Ohio's native plants.

In the past years, we have organized many field trips in our area which includes Wayne, Stark, Holmes, and Tuscarawas counties. In these counties there are the deep lush ravines of Doughty Gorge, the unusual environment of Hemlock Hollow, and an expanding prairie which is right on the Wilderness Center's immediate property. We feel very lucky to have such interesting areas so near, and it is a real pleasure to share them with other members of the Native Plant Society. We had an opportunity to do this in 1987, when we hosted the statewide summer meeting. We hope to have more opportunities to share our special areas and to see some of the many interesting wildflower areas in the other chapters' home grounds.



### \*Cincinnati Wildflower Preservation Society

*"We in America are the inheritors of a beauty of forest and a wealth of wildflowers unequalled elsewhere in this world. Shall we preserve this beauty for future generations to enjoy or shall we, through our thoughtlessness, destroy within a short period what man can never replace?"*

Thus begins the original message of the Society, founded in 1917 by Dr. E. Lucy Braun, which has directed its efforts toward arresting the destruction of wildflowers. The Society seeks to attain its goals by educating people to appreciate wildflowers and plants in their natural surroundings, by the establishment of sanctuaries, and by cooperation with all conservation projects which have as their aim the preservation of natural areas.

In the 1920s and the 1930s the Society could count among its accomplishments the publication for 12 years of *Wild Flower*, an illustrated magazine; public lectures on subjects of interest to nature lovers, with emphasis on the importance of conservation to the community; establishment of wildflower preserves in and around Cincinnati; and an education program in the schools including illustrated talks in the classroom and guided tours over nature trails in the Cincinnati parks. The Society continues to be interested in conservation projects of various types, but particularly in preserving natural areas in southern and southwestern Ohio. Past preservation projects in which the Society has been involved, both in personnel and in donations of money, have been the various Adams Co. preserves, such as Lynx Prairie and Buzzard's Roost Rock; in northern Kentucky, Boone Cliffs; and preservation through a matching fund grant, the program to preserve the Oxbow Area on the Ohio/Indiana border just north of the Ohio River.



## Central Ohio/Columbus

The Central Ohio Chapter of the Ohio Native Plant Society was begun in 1985 with a meeting in the Department of Biology at Otterbein College with Dr. Jeanne Willis and Dr. George Phinney. This was the same cold and stormy weekend that Cincinnati joined the new state group, so the temperature outside may have been 24 below zero, but the warm winds of April were on everyone's minds. The Columbus group accepted the state organization's constitution and bylaws. Our membership is mostly from Franklin and Licking Counties, but we do recruit from other contiguous counties as well.

The programs initially began in an educational vein with lectures on the various bio-geographical areas in Ohio. Later programs included learning about the wildflowers of the nature preserves, how to monitor rare plants in Ohio, and the origin and ecology of Ohio's rare and endangered plants. We have traveled to Killdeer Plains, Claridon Prairie, Battelle-Darby Creek, and Fowlers Woods to explore these unusual environments.

Projects have included assisting the Columbus Metropolitan Parks in establishing management of the prairies at Darby Creek Metro Park, and removal of woody species in a Milford Center Prairie along the right of way owned by Dayton Power and Light and managed by DNAP. We

also established a display for the entire Ohio Native Plant Society at the American Institute of Biological Sciences meeting at O.S.U. in August of 1987.

We adopted *Silene regia*, Royal Catchfly, a federally endangered species, as our logo. "The Catchfly" is the title of our newsletter which advises our members of coming events and is a means of publishing scholarly papers.

In February of 1987 our chapter hosted the meeting of the state chapter presidents to pull together the State Constitution and Bylaws

### **Miami Valley/Dayton**

The Miami Valley Chapter was started in June 1986 with the encouragement of Marie Aull, renowned Aullwood donor, and the help of Paul Knoop, Education Director of Aullwood. The big project of the Chapter has been to save a prairie remnant in Greene County which was being destroyed for a new road. When it came to our attention, the site of the wet prairie had been reduced to 2½ acres by the construction of the new road. Plant species found at the site include queen of the prairie, prairie dock, prairie coneflower, bergamot, whorled rosinweed, Indian grass, and green dragon. Contractors were unaware of the significance of the site and were covering it with fill and seeding it with Kentucky fescue, the ubiquitous alien grass planted along most major highways in Ohio.

After talks with the personnel of ODOT and the Ohio EPA, and explaining to them its significance, they agreed to stop the filling and preserve the site. The area has been watched closely and supervised by members of the chapter.

On September 10, 1988 the area was dedicated and a sign erected naming it the Little Beaver Creek Prairie. As it is directly across the road from the Zimmerman Prairie, a stomping party was held that day, bringing seeds over to be stomped into the newly dedicated area.



### **Little Beaver Creek/Lisbon**

The Little Beaver Creek Natural History Society, was founded in January of 1988, having arisen from an informal and varied group of Columbiana County residents who met annually to participate in the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

By June of 1988 the Little Beaver Creek Natural History Society had 17 paid members and had begun to catalog flora and fauna seen on the group's various field trips in the Beaver Creek Basin. We had decided early on that with the rich environment of the watershed on the Little Beaver Creek, we would do well to be myopic, so to say, and to limit our forays mainly to our own backyard since so much remained to be discovered and cataloged.

Columbiana County is the eastern-most county in the state bordering the Ohio River and offers a variety of terrain and environment due to its position in the glacial history of the state. Glaciers penetrated midway into Columbiana County at their southernmost expansion resulting in an unusually diverse mixture of terrain. In the most southerly portion of the watershed, the topography is entirely due to erosive forces, and the landscape is hilly and rugged. This western portion of the Allegheny Plateau shares much of the flora and fauna indigenous to the Appalachian Region. Columbiana County, and particularly the Little Beaver Creek watershed, affords a fascinating look into Ohio's past. Most of the creek area is undisturbed and numerous rare plant species are found in the watershed. DNAP conducted a Wild and Scenic River Study, and in October of 1975, 34 miles of the Little Beaver Creek system were designated as a National Wild and Scenic River.

What we hope to accomplish as an organization is to make residents aware of the great beauty of our county and the need to preserve and protect this bounty.



### **Southeastern Ohio/Athens/Hocking Valley**

Athens or Southeastern Ohio Native Plant Society was founded in 1986 by a graduate student in the Dept. of Botany at Ohio University. At that time the group attracted only a few people but together with the Hocking Valley Audubon Society (HVAS) two or three field trips were a success, and this organization joined with HVAS. Recently, Jean Andrews agreed to serve as the leader of the local Native Plant Society as she had considerable experience as curatorial assistant of the Berkeley Botanical Gardens in California.

Many of our active members as well as many other persons in the Athens area are field botanists, and the HVAS could be characterized more aptly as a plant-oriented rather than bird-oriented Audubon chapter. Phil Cantino is an Associate Professor of Botany and Curator of the Herbarium and a member of the Board of Directors, Ohio Nature

Conservancy. Marilyn Ortt and Ora (Andy) Anderson are members, as well as being associated with the Ohio Nature Conservancy. Several students in the Botany Dept. frequently attend meetings or go on field trips.

The Hocking Valley area is a beautiful area for botanizing since much of the land belongs to ODNR, including the Waterloo Wildlife Research Station, several forests, Strouds Run, Burr Oak, Lake Hope and Hocking Hills Parks, and the Natural Areas and Preserves of Conkle's Hollow, Desonier and Lake Katherine. The Wayne National Forest has a lot of acreage including Wildcat Hollow Natural Area in Perry County.



### **\*Mohican/Mansfield**

The Mansfield Chapter, now called the Mohican Native Plant Society, was established September 12, 1989. Glenna Shaeffer, one of the founding members of The Wilderness Center group, was working at Kingswood Gardens and in the Spring of 1988 proposed starting a new chapter there. During that summer she attracted a core of about 35 people and wrote to Ann Malmquist that they were ready to have a presentation made to them. At the end of the meeting, they voted to become a chapter of the Ohio Native Plant Society. They are an enthusiastic and knowledgeable group and still providing interpretive walks today. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2525016520906518/>

### **Shawnee Nature Club/Portsmouth**

The Shawnee Nature Club, located in Portsmouth on the Ohio River, is a long-standing group of ardent natural history buffs. They joined the Ohio Native Plant Society on March 8, 1990. They are in a particularly interesting area right on the fringe of the Shawnee State Forest.



Lakeside Daisy, *Tetranneuris herbacea* © 2009 Ami Horowitz



## **\*Midwest Native Plant Society**

The Midwest Native Plant Society is a not-for-profit 501C3 organization run by volunteers. "Our mission is to advocate the vital role of native plants in the landscape to preserve ecological integrity and connect people with nature." This mission is two-fold: to promote awareness of the importance of native plants and the wildlife that depend on them through education, and to actively support local conservation efforts in Ohio from donated funds and proceeds from events. As founding member Jim McCormac tells us, "Native plants are the gateway into the natural world." Also, "Of all the paths you take, make sure a few of them are dirt".

Midwest Native Plant Society

<https://www.midwestnativeplants.org>

## **Speakers Featured At the Annual Meeting of the Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio**

- 1983 David Younkman, Director of the Ohio field office of The Nature Conservancy. “The Nature Conservancy – We are Building an Ark”
- 1984 Frederick W. Case, Jr. “Rare Wildflowers and Orchids of the Eastern United States”
- 1985 Dr. Edward Voss, University of Michigan. “Exploring Unknown Shores: Early Botanical Explorations Around the Great Lakes”
- 1986 Dr. Peter Raven, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden.
- 1987 Dr. Warren Wagner, University of Michigan. “Ferns of the Western Great Lakes Region”
- 1988 Dr. Kerry Walter, botanist at the Center for Plant Conservation in Massachusetts. “Rare and Endangered Plants of the United States”
- 1989 Dr. Larry Morse. “Computers, cooperators, and Rare Plant Conservation”
- 1990 Dr. Warren Stoutamire. “Propagating Native Ohio Orchids”
- 1991 Dr. George H. Beatty, Pennsylvania State University. Slide show, “Linnaeus’ Travels in Lapland, 1732” and “Orchids of Gotland”
- 1992 Dr. John W. Thieret. “Poisonous Plants, Trees, and Shrubs”
- 1993 Jim Bissell, Cleveland Museum of Natural History. “Rare Plants of Ohio, Including Their Habitats”
- 1994 Tom Cooperrider, Kent State University. Ohio Flora Project, “Dicots2”
- 1995 Dr. Anton A. Reznicek. “Plant Hunting in the Southern Great Lakes Area”
- 1996 Dr. Jane Forsyth, Bowling Green State University. “Geology’s Contribution to Plant Diversity in Ohio”
- 1997 Dr. Edward Voss, University of Michigan. “Some Great Plants of Some Great Lakes”
- 1998 Dr. Warren H. Wagner, University of Michigan. “Ferns of Ohio”
- 1999 Frederick W. Case, Jr. “North American Trillium”



- 2000 Ted Scott, Virginia Native Plant Society. Monarch butterfly slide show, “Four Season Close-up”
- 2001 Dr. Michael Homoya, University of Indiana. “Looking for Orchids in All the Right Places”
- 2002 William Cullina, New England Wildflower Society, manager of The Garden in the Woods. CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2003 Ann Haymond Zwinger. “Land Beyond the Trees: The American Alpine Tundra” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2004 Dr. Kathryn Kennedy, President, Center for Plant Conservation. “Twenty Years of Recovering America’s Vanishing Flora” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2005 Dr. Mariano Ospina “Andean Jewels: The Colombian Oncidiinae Orchids” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2006 Kaiulani Lee portraying Rachel Carson. “Rachel Carson, A Sense of Wonder” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2007 Dr. Doug Tallamy, University of Delaware. “A New Role For the American Garden” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2008 Dr. Joan Nassauer. “Ecological Design Across the Changing Metropolis” CMNH Explorer Series. CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2009 Jim McCormac. “Wild Ohio: The Best of Our Natural Heritage” CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2010 Dr. Ryan W. McEwan, University of Dayton. Developing methods to restore degraded landscapes. CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2011 David Karowe, Western Michigan University. Climate change and its ecological consequences. CMNH Explorer Series.
- 2012 Guy Denny, Ohio DNAP. *A History of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.*



Bloodroot, *Sanguinaria Canadensis* © 2003 Ami Horowitz

- 2013 Judy Semroc, Nature Photographer and Naturalist from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. *Relationships between Native Plants and Pollinators.*
- 2014 Rick Gardner, Chief Botanist of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. *Back in time when Ohio was a wild place with abundant wildlife, towering trees, miles of buffalo trails, salt licks, prairies, dark and dismal swamp forests, and reminders of past great cultures.*
- 2015: Garrett Ormiston, the Stewardship Specialist in the Natural Areas Division at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. *We did not include a topic for discussion in the Journal.*
- 2016 Jim McCormac, Ohio Division of Wildlife. *Lichens: Crusty Treasure Troves of Biodiversity.*
- 2017 Dr. Randy Mitchell, Professor of Biology at the University of Akron. *Bumblebees of Ohio and the Great Lakes: The Role of Native Plants.*
- 2018 Dr Jeffrey Corney, Executive Director of The Wilderness Center. *Native Plants of Ohio.*
- 2019 Sara Fitzsimmons, Director of Restoration with the American Chestnut Foundation. *Restoring the American Chestnut.*
- 2020 Carrie Elvey, senior naturalist and community engagement coordinator the The Wilderness Center.
- 2021 Judy Semroc, nature photographer and naturalist. *A Common Bond: The Fascinating World of Insect and Plant Interactions.*



Large White Trillium, *Trillium grandiflorum*



© 2008 Ami Horowitz

Ohio's State Wildflower

Royal Catchfly, *Silene regia*



© 2009 Ami Horowitz

Preserved at Holden Arboretum, with the help of  
the Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio