

Solidago

Newsletter of the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society

Founded in 1997.
Logo art of Tall Goldenrod,
Solidago altissima,
by Nat Cleavitt, 2006.

Volume 23, No. 3



October 2022

WILD GARDENING

Garden photos by the author.
Wildflower details by the Editor.

Native Groundcovers

by Rosemarie Parker



NATIVE GARDENERS and ecologically minded folks look down on traditional groundcovers, as so many of them end up invading the natural landscape. But you must admit that they serve a purpose. Both **Japanese Pachysandra** (*Pachysandra terminalis*) and **Vinca** (*Vinca minor*) grow in all sorts of soil, can take drought, like sun or shade (even deep shade for *Vinca*), and are evergreen! They minimize “weeds.” What’s not to like? (Aside from the invasive tendency.) They are very heavily used *because* they fill so many needs simultaneously. To reduce their use, conscientious gardeners need to demonstrate lots of alternatives.

I have wanted to write about groundcovers for some time, but a recent trip to **GARDEN IN THE WOODS** (Native Plant Trust, Framingham, Massachusetts) prompted me to put fingers to keys. Garden in the Woods has a display area on groundcovers, and some of them surprised me. Total coverage with **Woodland Strawberry!** (Not *Waldsteinia**, but true *Fragaria!*



A bed of **Woodland Strawberry** (*Fragaria vesca*) at Kienzle Overlook, Cornell University, 20 May 2014. **Banner below:** A solid Strawberry groundcover at Garden in the Woods.

Krissy Boys thinks it’s possible with acid soil.) Most groundcovers are not intended to be walked on, so I am not considering that in my list below. But the distinction between a tight cover that precludes most other species *vs.* a green base that allows chosen companions is important.

SEDGES: Sedges of all types can serve as groundcovers. They can take sun or shade, wet or dry, and some are sort of winter green. The

tricky part is that one species doesn’t work for all, so you must see what is available in quantity (seed or plants) and research optimal conditions. For small, shade-loving sedges, see *Solidago* 23(1) at <https://flnps.org/newsletters>. Thin-leaved sedges can look too much like unkempt grass for some viewers, so they are better used where the separation from existing lawn is clear.



*now in the genus *Geum*.

GRASSES: Clearly, grasses can serve as groundcovers. Krissy Boys has included short grasses (and some sedges) in her low-mow native lawn articles (see *Solidago* 23(2) at <https://flnps.org/newsletters>). Most love the look of a mature *Sporobolus heterolepis* (Prairie Dropseed) patch, but *Sporobolus* is an exceedingly slow grower, and needs more moisture to establish than I have ever been able to provide. Be sure you can grow one before investing in many. *Dichanthelium clandestinum* (Deertongue Grass), *Panicum virgatum* (Switchgrass), and *Schizachryum scoparium* (Little Bluestem) all make great swaths, albeit tallish, and *Sorghastrum nutans* (Indian Grass) is a wonderful punctuation mark. In my experience, many *Elymus* (Wild Ryes) and *Bromus* species (Brome Grass) tend to fall over and not look great as the season progresses. They stay more erect in poor soils — true for many grass species.

VIOLETS: *Viola sororia* (Common Blue Violet) can easily cover ground spring to fall, and should not be overlooked. Most other *Viola* species will not get so dense, but *V. striata* (Creamy Violet) has made some large patches for me in part shade and limy soil. I do not recommend *V. sororia* as a base if you have other short plants you wish to poke through, but it is fine for mid-height like Solomon's Seal and woody plants.

GINGER: I have seen *Asarum europaeum* (European Ginger) sold as native, but it is very glossy and easy to identify. *Asarum canadense*, our northeastern native Wild Ginger, has a soft pearly color that works well in partial shade. Unfortunately, it is not one of the evergreen gingers.

FERNS: If your soil is not too dry, there are creeping ferns, e.g. *Thelypteris noveboracensis* (New York Fern) or *Dennstaedtia punctilobula* (Hay-scented Fern) that will cover a lot of space. *Matteuccia struthiopteris* (Ostrich Fern) can survive fairly dry conditions at half height, but spaces out too much to be a groundcover. In moist soils, watch out! *Onoclea sensibilis* (Sensitive Fern) can be a less dense cover, and has interesting winter fertile fronds. *Cystopteris bulbifera* (Bulblet Fern) will quickly colonize, even though it is crown-forming. Taller plants can poke through Bulblet Fern. Evergreen clumping ferns can be a solution. See a portrait of some native *Dryopteris*, plus mention of other evergreen ferns, in the Plant Portrait <https://flnps.org/native-plants/some-green-snow-evergreen-dryopteris-spp>.

POLEMONIUM REPTANS: Jacob's Ladder needs good, reasonably moist soil to stay erect, but is lovely in shade.



PACKERA AUREA: Golden Ragwort can take some sun if the soil is moist enough. It is wonderful when in bloom, and evergreen, but the flower stalks cry out for removal post-bloom. I find the plants are easily pulled out by mistake in my dryish soil. Probably they would root better in other conditions.

Packera: Golden Ragwort's spring bloom. The low leaves remain all year. Flower details (3 June 2011, Finger Lakes), & basal leaves (11 June 1997, Catskills).



ANEMONE VIRGINIANA/A. CYLINDRICA: Both Thimbleweeds can make thickets in dappled shade with dry to normal soil. Although the flower stalks are tall, the mostly basal leaves keep the effect low.

PHLOX DIVARICATA: Woodland Phlox has become a groundcover for me in a half-sun bed with regular watering. Everything grows through it, yet it flowers profusely in spring and acts as living mulch.

MAIANTHEMUM SPP: *M. racemosum* (Solomon's Plume), *M. stellatum* (Starry Solomon's Plume), and *M. canadense* (Canada Mayflower) can all serve as loose covers. The first can take limy soil and shade-part shade. The second can take sun if moist enough; it also likes lime. The last needs acidic soil and at least part shade. Tough species can be interplanted to pop above the first two, while *M. canadense* flows around a variety of woodland species.



Maianthemum stellatum: Starry Solomon's Plume can get very dense in moist limy soil.

ZIZIA AUREA: Golden Alexanders can survive dry shade, but only approaches groundcover status in part to full sun (more moisture needed in full sun.) Spent flower stalks are unsightly, but self-sowing is useful.



Zizia: Golden Alexanders competes with *Vinca* — stalemate (above). Flower details (right), 26 May 1997, alvar pavement, Jefferson County, N.Y.

***PHLOX SUBULATA:** Moss Phlox is native on limy cliffs and dry ridges in the Finger Lakes. I have only seen pretty intense pinks in the wild, but there are more subdued forms in cultivation. This species is often seen in older yards, forming a mosaic, especially along the roadside. Do not let overuse or questionable taste prevent you from using this native as a low growing, dry sun-loving groundcover. *Penstemons* can poke up through but do not reseed to excess. In my garden, columbines rarely reseed into the *Phlox*.

POLYGONATUM BIFLORUM VAR. COMMUTATUM: Giant Solomon's Seal eventually becomes a tall ground cover in beds with supplemental water, denser than usually seen in nature.

***LYSIMACHIA CILIATA:** Fringed Loosestrife is a loose groundcover in moist sun. Tall asters, goldenrods, milkweeds, and lilies can coexist.

*See images on p. 5.



Shorter spring-blooming species are fine, too, but the Loosestrife is fairly dense from mid-summer on.

HYDROPHYLLUM SPP.: *Hydrophyllum canadense* (Canadian, or Broad-leaved Waterleaf) and *H. virginianum* (Virginia Waterleaf) can both serve as low groundcovers in moist shade. In spring, the leaves have “water spots” that fade in summer.

PHYSOSTEGIA VIRGINIANA: Obedient Plant will take over in moist sun. It is aggressive, but not a groundcover, in mesic conditions.

Non-Native, But Regional

PHLOX STOLONIFERA: Creeping Phlox makes a wonderfully dense ground cover in partial shade.

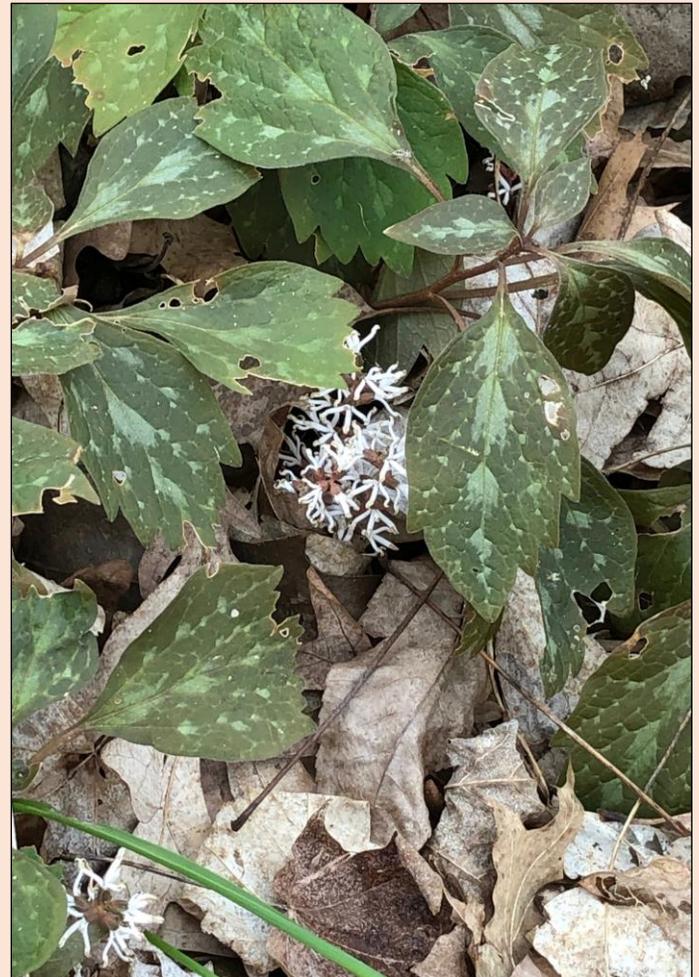
PACHYSANDRA PROCUMBENS: A personal favorite, Allegheny Spurge has a soft glow to the leaves, with striking mottling on the old leaves in spring. If it were only a vigorous evergreen in zones 5 & 6, it would take over from the Japanese species. But here the remaining leaves lay on the ground in winter, mostly invisible and brownish until spring. Growing from full shade to half sun, the leaves will wilt in extreme drought but pop back up with water.



Phlox: Creeping Phlox at the Garden in the Woods groundcover collection.

Pachysandra in fall: Allegheny Spurge is solid blue-green summer to fall.

Pachysandra in spring: Spotted leaves and flowers of Allegheny Spurge.





Chrysogonum: Green and Gold in spring, with *Sedum ternatum* (foreground).

CHRYSOGANUM VIRGINIANUM: Green and Gold is best in partial shade. It can take dry or moist soil and sports the occasional yellow blossom after the spring flush.

And, not to be overlooked, in the very dry summer we have just had, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* (Virginia Creeper) gave a solid green floor to my wooded area. Yes, most years I fight it back, but this year I let it be.



Lysimachia ciliata: Fringed Loosestrife (pp. 3-4), 16 July 2011 (right), Finger Lakes Region, N.Y.

Phlox subulata: Moss Phlox (p. 3), 6 May 2011 (below), Finger Lakes Region.



Plant Trivia by Norm Trigoboff

[See answers on page 7]

1. Name the odd man out: Adzuki Bean, Black-Eyed Pea (or Cowpea), Black Gram, Mung Bean, Pinto Bean.

2.a. Where are members of the cactus family native other than the Americas? **A.** The Sahara Desert; **B.** The Gobi Desert; **C.** Africa and Sri Lanka; **D.** The French Riviera; **E.** Greenland.

2.b. Which is the largest desert in the world? **A.** The Sahara; **B.** The Gobi; **C.** The Atacama; **D.** The Antarctic Desert; **E.** The French Riviera.

3.a. In which climate region(s) do bryophyte species (mosses and related plants) outnumber flowering plant species: Tropical, Dry, Temperate, Continental, or Polar?

3.b. Which has the fewest moss species: Greenland, the state of New York, or the state of Hawaii?

4. Agar (a mix of polysaccharides) is harvested from agarophytes (algae) that are: **A.** green; **B.** brown; **C.** red; **D.** colorless; **E.** invisible.

5.a. You own a piece of furniture made from bamboo and rattan. One part is light brown and bent into the shape of a heart. Is that part more likely to be bamboo or rattan?

5.b. Did Jack climb bamboo or rattan to reach the giant?

6. What vine got its Latin species name because it strangles other plants the way wolves strangle sheep?

7. Nine-tenths of the world's commercial wine grapes are *Vitis vinifera*, the European grape. Still, it generally takes two species of grape plants to make each bottle of wine. Why?

8. What do Anasazi Beans, Appaloosa Beans, Black Turtle Beans, Black Beans, Calypso Beans, Crimson Cranberry Beans, Dragon Tongue Beans, Flageolet Beans, Kidney Beans, Red Beans, Mexican Yellow Beans, Pink Beans, Rattlesnake Beans, China Yellow Beans, White Beans, Haricot Beans, Yellow Beans, Maine Yellow Eye Beans, and Tongue of Fire Beans all have in common?

9. One of these is false. Which one?

A. Carrots, first grown for food in Russia, were originally striped orange and green. **B.** Three species of carnivorous pitcher plants (*Nepenthes*) from Southeast Asia are big enough to catch rats. **C.** *Stenocereus eruca*, a cactus called the Creeping Devil, may travel through the desert over half a meter a year. **D.** Licorice (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*) is in the bean family.

10. Sawney Bean was: **A.** an early bean-like lycopod that grew in Greenland and gave rise to the bean family. **B.** a bean bag game invented by George Washington. **C.** a character who passed lots of wind in Finnegan's Wake. **D.** a legendary Scottish cannibal, said to have killed and eaten over 1000 people.

THE FINGER LAKES NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY STEERING COMMITTEE

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Audrey Bowe: Treasurer & Zoom Coordinator

Krissy Boys: Native Plant Gardener

Whitney Carleton: Outings & Education, Walks

Patricia A. Curran: Paper Mailings, At Large

Robert Dirig: Newsletter Editor*

Diane Florini: Meeting Recorder, At Large

Adrianna Hirtler: Publicity

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Mary Squyres: Supper Club

Anna M. Stalter: Secretary, Membership; Outings & Education Chair

Robert Wesley: President, Outings & Education



ADDITIONAL NEWSLETTER STAFF

Rosemarie Parker: Webmaster & Assistant Newsletter Editor

David Werier: Newsletter Editor Emeritus



Please Contribute to *Solidago*

WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FEATURE WILD PLANTS OF THE FINGER LAKES REGION OF NEW YORK AND NEARBY. We include cryptogams (bryophytes, lichens, fungi, and algae) as “flora,” and recognize that green plants provide habitats and substrates for these and many animals, especially insects. We are interested in zoological associations as long as plants are an integral part of the story.

We can use a wide spectrum of material in a variety of writing styles. Our regular columns include **LOCAL FLORA** (plant lists or details of species from specific sites), **OUTINGS** (reports of FLNPS-sponsored excursions), and **PLANT PROFILES** (on specific local plants). We also occasionally publish **APPRECIATIONS** (memorials to local botanists and naturalists), **REVIEWS** (of books, talks, meetings, workshops, and nurseries), **LETTERS** (commentaries and letters to the editor), **ESSAYS** (on botanical themes), **VERSE** (haiku, limericks, sonnets, and poems of less formal structure), **ART** (botanical illustrations, plant designs, pencil sketches, decorations), and **PHOTOGRAPHS** (stand-alone images, photo essays, and full-page composite plates, or originals that can be scanned and returned). We also can always use **FILLERS** (very short notes, small images, cartoons) for the last few inches of a column.

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Volume 23, No.3

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Published quarterly at Ithaca, New York, USA.

FLNPS (founded in 1997) is dedicated to the promotion of our native flora. We sponsor talks, walks, and other activities related to conservation of native plants and their habitats. *Solidago* is published as a colorful online version, and a B&W paper version that is mailed. The online format is posted 3 months after publication. Please see www.flnps.org for details of membership, past *Solidago* issues, and updates about our programs.



A shaded ground cover of **Woodland Strawberry** (*Fragaria vesca*) in Tompkins County, N.Y., 21 August 1996. Photo by Robert Dirig.

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*Please send *Solidago* contributions & correspondence to Robert Dirig, Editor, at editorofsolidago@gmail.com

Deadline for the December 2022 issue is November 15th!

NAME THAT PLANT CONTEST

The photo from last issue's [*Solidago* 23(2), p. 3] NAME THAT PLANT CONTEST was of **Wiegand's Wild Rye (*Elymus wiegandii*)**. It is one of the showiest Wild Ryes (*Elymus*) that grow in central New York, with its wide blue-green leaves, pendent flowering spike, and strongly curved needle-like awns, which protrude from the spike. This species was recognized as distinct by KARL MCKAY WIEGAND (1873-1942), a local renowned botanist, but the name he used had already been applied to another species. Merritt Fernald, a colleague of Wiegand, realized the mistake and named the species after Wiegand. Thanks to all who entered the contest and congratulations to contest winners: **Bob Dirig, Susanne Lorbeer, Rosemarie Parker, and Robert Wesley.**

**THIS ISSUE'S MYSTERY PLANT IS SHOWN
AT THE RIGHT.**

Additional hints and suggestions are often provided to contest participants who try. Common and/or scientific names are acceptable, and more than one guess is allowed. Please submit your answer to **David Werier** at

Nakita@lightlink.com

The photographs were taken in New York by David Werier on 24 June 2007 in Orange County (background fruiting plants) and 2 June 2007 in Tompkins County (upper and lower left insets).



Plant Trivia Answers by Norm Trigoboff

1. These are species of *Vigna*, except for the pinto, which is *Phaseolus vulgaris*.

2.a. *Rhipsalis baccifera*, the only cactus native outside the Americas, hails from Africa and Sri Lanka.

2.b. The Antarctic Desert is by far the largest. The Arctic Desert comes in second.

3.a. Polar regions. Antarctica has about 125 bryophytes to 2 flowering plants. The vascular plants win in all other regions.

3.b. Hawaii. Rough estimates: Hawaii has about 250 moss species, Greenland about 500, New York about 500.

4. C. Red.

5.a. Rattan may be bent with ease. Bamboo is less flexible. Other differences: bamboo is in the grass family, grows like a tree, and has a hollow center; rattan is in the palm family, grows like a vine, and has a solid center.

5.b. Jack climbed a bean stalk (a poor choice for furniture). Amazing as it may seem, beans are still in the bean family.

6. Hops, *Humulus lupulus*. *Lupulus* means small wolf. One ancient name for hops was willow wolf because it grew over willows.

7. American grape vines, though much poorer for wine, resist phylloxera, a minute insect that is one of North America's gifts to the rest of the world. Phylloxera likes to chow down on grape plants, especially the roots. Today, in Ithaca and throughout the world, with few exceptions, vineyards use a graft of European vines on phylloxera-resistant American roots.

8. They are the same species: *Phaseolus vulgaris*.

9. A. False. Carrots, first grown for food in Persia, were originally purple. Orange carrots were a mutation. B. True, though they trap mostly insects. C. True. *Eruca* means caterpillar. The plant roots at the growing tip and dies and rots at the other end. A specimen may be seen in the Cornell greenhouse just east of Minn's Garden on Tower Rd. D. True. Anise and fennel of the carrot family yield a similar flavoring. Trivia: Though some people claim that they would rather eat an old boot than licorice, the boot that Charlie Chaplin cooked and ate in *The Gold Rush* was made of licorice. More trivia: boots are finger food.

10. D. The story of Sawney Bean's odd diet has been told to generations of misbehaving Scottish children. Whether the story is true is another story.

Thank You!

FOR THIS ISSUE, we thank **writers** Robert Dirig, Peter Fraissinet, Kenneth Hull, Scott LaGreca, Rosemarie Parker, Anna Stalter, Norm Trigoboff, & David Werier; and **photographers** Kenneth Hull (p. 10), Rosemarie Parker (pp. 1-5), Anna Stalter (p. 9), David Werier (p. 7), & Robert Dirig (pp. 1-3, 5-6). **Layout & design** by the Editor; **proofreading** by Rosemarie Parker; and **printing** by Gnomon Copy. Anna emailed copies, Pat Curran mailed paper copies, & Rosemarie posted to the web; & Audrey Bowe, Rosemarie, and Anna organized calendar items.

Please check our website (flnps.org) regularly for announcements and details of our events. Thanks to our Steering Committee (p. 6) and all of our members for supporting FLNPS through another challenging year. We are very happy to have resumed in-person programs in September!

Best Wishes to everyone in our reading audience for joyous outdoor revels with the glorious autumn flora!

— Robert Dirig

Volunteer Opportunities at Cornell's Herbarium

by Peter Fraissinet, Assistant Curator (BH)

Cornell University has maintained at least one herbarium since about 1869, and today the Liberty Hyde Bailey Hortorium Herbarium (BH) is approaching a million specimens in its collection. This didn't happen by itself!

Since the earliest days, collections like this have relied on faculty, staff, students, and volunteers to maintain and prepare plant specimens, and to add value to the collection through photographing and databasing them. Work done at BH will last for centuries to come, and it gives some satisfaction to feel one is a part of that.

We've had several dedicated volunteers work remotely during the pandemic, and we are starting to welcome them back on-site, now that things are somewhat better. But we could use a few more folks with an interest in plants and museum curation, and with a couple of hours to spare on a weekly basis. The camaraderie of working with other volunteers and the curatorial staff might also be an appealing prospect!

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, why not give us a shout at herbarium@cornell.edu, or even come up for a visit during business hours, M-F. We're on the fourth floor of the Mann Library building (handy to many TCAT bus routes). Peter or Anna will be happy to give you a tour and talk about the sort of activities that best fit your skills and interests.

By way of introduction, you might also check out this recent YouTube post by Summer Rayne Oakes (of the PlantOneOnMe channel), being an in-depth and entertaining virtual tour of our herbarium with Associate Curator Anna Stalter:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKTYQhAS8Jg&t=9s>



LETTER

Hi Bob,

I read *Solidago* [23(2), June 2022] on the plane today — it's very good! I love the piece by Krissy Boys about the Native Lawn. I'd never dreamed of such a concept.

I loved your article about life on the wood above the water! Really thorough with so many organisms covered. Beautiful photos too.

Scott LaGreca, June 2022, Durham, N.C.



FLNPS CALENDAR, 2022 - 2023

As autumn proceeds, we welcome members and guests to our new season of presentations and other programs!

October 15th (Saturday): *Krissy Boys* will lead a **Seed Collecting Walk**, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** Help collect summer- and fall-blooming species for the FLNPS Seed Exchange and the Cornell Botanic Gardens' Natural Areas propagation program. Learn to identify dead and dying plants in the process, and how to properly collect and store various types of seeds. [If it rains, or if seeds are very slow to ripen, this walk may be moved to the **Rain Date, October 22nd (Saturday) at 1:00 p.m.**] *Please check our website (flnps.org) for details and required Covid-related protocols.*

***Oct. 18th (Tuesday):** *Arieh Tal* will talk about **Interesting Plants in Unexpected Places** at 7:00 p.m.

***Nov. 15th (Tuesday):** *Jacob Suissa* will talk about **Ferns** at 7:00 p.m.

***Dec. 20th (Tuesday):** The annual **FLNPS Solstice Celebration** is tentatively scheduled, with confirmation and details to come.

Looking ahead to 2023, the following events have been scheduled:

***Jan. 17th:** Our annual "**Members' Night**" will feature a medley of presenters on various botanical topics (also tentative, with details to follow).

***Please save these dates for spring 2023: Feb. 21st, Mar. 21st, April 18th, & May 16th** (all Tuesdays, at 7:00 p.m.). See our website for details of all of these events, and others that may be scheduled.

**FLNPS evening Talks, the Solstice Celebration, and Members' Night begin on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Cornell Botanic Gardens' Nevin Welcome Center, 124 Comstock Knoll Drive, at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Please check our website (flnps.org) for a map, confirmations, updates, and other details.*

IN THE FIELD

Oakley Corners State Forest

June 16, 2022

Text and photos by Anna Stalter

At the urging of KEN HULL, three other FLNPS members met with him at Oakley Corners State Forest in Tioga County, N.Y., on a blustery, wet June morning.

This multi-use forest has several trails throughout; our path proceeded around the smaller of the two ponds that dominate the southern section of the forest. The east side of the trail, closest to the pond, is a shrubby and largely sphagnum wetland, whereas the west side was forested, much of it remnant conifer plantations from the 1930s.

On the forested side of the trail, open areas contained many big mounds of the Allegheny Mound Ant (*Formica exsectoides*). These ants often keep their mounds free of vegetation, but two leafy liverworts, *Plectocolea* and *Calypogeia*, grew on these.

Though we didn't stay long or cover much ground we did see some notable species (*list below*). We hope to return to explore more of the extensive forest and wetlands of Oakley Corners in 2023!



Lysimachia quadrifolia

Dryopteris cristata
Pteridium aquilinum

Medeola virginiana (frt.)
Uvularia sessilifolia (frt.)
Mitchella repens (fl. & frt.)
Lysimachia quadrifolia (fl.)
Gaultheria procumbens

Ilex verticillata (fl.)
Lyonia ligustrina (frt.)
Vaccinium corymbosum (frt.)

Carex brunnescens
Carex lurida
Carex rosea

Carex lupulina
Carex gynandra
Carex vulpinoides
Carex swanii
Carex scoparia
Eleocharis acicularis

Ilex verticillata



Pteridium aquilinum & Allegheny Mound Ant nest



POET'S
CORNER

Poem & photos
by Kenneth Hull



The Grace of Lace

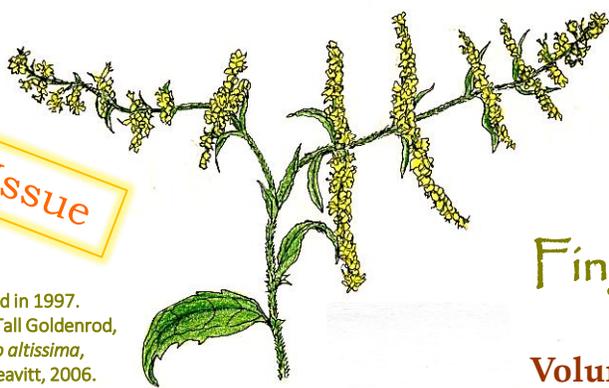
Queen Anne's lace is prolific in August
Along roads and in disturbed fields:
Mowed, gravelly, dry, in full sun.
This alien invader from Europe
Thrives in this harsh environment.
Her intricate composite of flowers
Antique white of old lace, round doily-shaped
On long stems rocking in the breeze cannot
Be missed nor mistaken for anything else.

Her greatest beauty precedes her demise.
Just above a whorl of upward curving bracts
The umbel also curls, forming an
Elaborate light green wicker nest
Holding seeds for next year.
With delicate texture and composition,
Majestic as a royal scepter.
Behold the grace of lace!



Next Issue

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Volume 23, No. 4



December 2022

★ Please Contribute to the December *Solidago* ★

Dear Readers,

A new year of FLNPS activities is beginning, after 2½ years of Covid restrictions! We hope you will re-engage and enjoy our in-person outings and evening programs.

We need material for our newsletter *Solidago*! We would welcome contributions, large or small. Please send a poem, photo, letter, essay, or article if you can. Some specific suggestions are listed below.

Many thanks to all who regularly contribute, and to others who might provide content for the December issue!

Very best, Bob

WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FEATURE WILD PLANTS OF THE FINGER LAKES REGION OF NEW YORK AND NEARBY. We include cryptogams (bryophytes, lichens, fungi, and algae) as “flora,” and recognize that green plants provide habitats and substrates for these and many animals, especially insects.

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contributions & correspondence
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editorofsolidago@gmail.com

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is Nov. 15th!**