



BRWS Summer Activities

June-August 2018

Saturday, June 9 Field Trip "Blooms and Butterflies" at Fenwick Mines in Craig County with Bill Hunley. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Orange Market in Salem at the corner of Thompson Memorial Blvd and Rte 311. Bring a lunch, bug juice, rain gear and walking shoes. This area offers level walking on a boardwalk through a wetland, a waterfall and a variety of flowers and butterflies. Examples of possible sightings are fire pink, Bowman's root, Chrysogonum, meadow beauty, Northern three-squared sedge and lance-leafed violet. Butterflies may include silver-spotted skipper, great spangled fritillary, red-spotted purple, tiger, zebra, and spicebush swallow tails. With some luck we may see Diana and Appalachian brown.

Bill Hunley is an excellent naturalist. He is a splendid birder and botanist. You are guaranteed to learn something new and have a fun day. Contact Butch Kelly (540) 384-7429

Saturday, June 23 Field Trip "Peters Mountain Mallow at The Nature Conservancy Preserve". This field trip will allow us to see the Peter's Mountain Mallow in bloom. This rare and endemic species. The leader is Sam Truslow a Nature Conservancy Land Steward. This field trip is limited to 12 participants. It is located in Giles County near Narrows, VA. We will carpool from the Orange Market in Salem at the corner of Thompson Blvd and Rte 311. We will **meet at 8:00 a.m.** to beat a possible hot day. We will be climbing about 1000 ft over a steep 3/4 mile hike. Footing is not really solid in some places. The hike is off trail so sturdy hiking boots are a must. A walking stick would be a help as well.

Timeline for the day:

8:00 a.m. depart Orange Market

9:15 a.m. arrive at Narrows, VA

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. hike to mallow site

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. tour and talk at mallow site

12:00 -12:30 p.m. lunch on site (bring your own)

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. hike back to Narrows

1:45 p.m. depart from Narrows

3:00 arrive back in Salem

What to bring:

walking stick, sturdy boots, bug juice, lunch, rain gear and lots of water

Since this is a limited field trip... contact Butch Kelly at (540) 384-7429 or butch2410@msn.com if you intend to participate by June 1. The first 12 folks will be notified by June 2.

Saturday, August 11 Annual Picnic at the Roanoke Church of Christ at 2606 Brandon Ave (Lee Highway) Time 4:00-6:00 p.m. Note this is not our regular meeting place. This will be held in conjunction with the Roanoke Valley Bird Club. Bring a side dish or a favorite dessert. Our chapter will provide barbecue. The bird club will provide fried chicken. Come and share your outdoor adventures with fellow nature lovers. This will be a good chance to meet new folks. Contact Ellen Holtman 389-1541 or Betty Kelly 384-7429.

Overnight Field Trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway Music Center at milepost 213

Friday-Saturday, August 24-25. We will visit the wetlands and meadows of Blue Ridge Parkway Music Center at milepost 213. We have rooms set aside at the Comfort Inn in Hillsville, VA. These rooms have 2 double beds. The price is \$119 per night + tax. Breakfast is included. The number for the hotel is (276) 730-9999 and specify that you are with the Blue Ridge Wildflower Society. The block of 9 rooms is set aside until August 10. Please contact the hotel to reserve your room. Contact Butch or Betty Kelly at butch2410@msn.com or (540) 384-7429 before you make your hotel reservation. Once the trip is full there will be a wait list formed.

Once the trip is full, more information will be e-mailed to each participant. This will include directions, itinerary, plant list, etc.

This area is filled with summer composites such as 5 species of goldenrod, a rare turtle head, ironweed, joe pye weed, cardinal flower, wood sage, bunchflower, monkey flower, bull rush just to name a few. The area we will explore includes some woods, meadow, riparian area and open damp meadow.

Walking will be on mowed trails as well as some off trail on uneven ground with limited climbing. Overall it is rated as easy. More details about what is needed will come once the trip is full. If you are a birder this area is known to have many sparrows as well as other birds. Butterflies are numerous as well.