Join Us in DeLand, FL for the 2009 Conference

Kathryn H. Braund

We’re heading south! The Museum of Florida Art in DeLand, Florida, will be the headquarters for our 2009 Biennial meeting. DeLand is located on the St Johns River and avid readers of Travels will recall that Bartram’s adventures on the lower St. Johns included a stopover at the Beresford plantation (just west of modern DeLand), his famous alligator fight, and trips to trading stores and Blue Spring. Thus, the river itself—as an avenue of travel and an inspiration for art and literature—will be the focus of our meeting.

Dr. Daniel Schafer, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of North Florida and the author of numerous works on British East Florida, will be our keynote speaker. He will share his research on eighteenth-century Florida plantations, including those visited by William Bartram. You may want to visit Dr. Schafer’s outstanding web site prior to the meeting. (www.unf.edu/florida-historyonline). In addition to textual and visual documents relating to Florida history, the site features information on plantations on the St. Johns in the eighteenth century as well as a section devoted to the 1765-66 trip of John and William on the St. Johns. Other speakers will address trade and travel on the St. Johns and a panel of specialists will discuss William Bartram’s art.

At the time of our conference, the Museum of Florida Art will be featuring an exhibition of art inspired by the St. Johns River: “Liquid Muse.” BTC member Mallory O’Connor, curator of the exhibition, will provide a gallery tour for us. We’ll also tour a permanent exhibit “Legendary Florida,” a series of paintings by Jackson Walker that features incidents and personalities from 400 years of Florida history, including a portrait of William Bartram, featured in a previous edition of The Traveller.

On Saturday afternoon, we’ll enjoy a chartered cruise along the river to view sites visited by Bartram and see plenty of Florida wildlife. We’ll conclude the conference by reassembling at Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville) to tour perhaps the most famous Bartram locale of all: Alachua. Our color feature hints at the beauty that awaits us there. More importantly, we’ll learn about the “Friends of Paynes Prairie.” BTC members might wish to pattern a friends group for their local Bartram site on this strong advocacy group.

During our meeting, we’ll have ample opportunity to discuss the future of our organization. We have made wonderful progress, supporting Bartram sites, events, and scholarship. Our web site continues to be a major resource for information on Bartram and his eighteenth-century world, while our newsletter has provided high-quality content and advertised many Bartram projects. Our annual Fothergill Award supports research from a variety of disciplines. And our membership continues to grow. But there is much that we need to do and we need active volunteers to carry out our mission and enlarge our presence. I encourage everyone to come to the meeting with new ideas. Anyone wishing to serve in any capacity as a board member or officer should contact me as well. I especially appeal to our Florida members: We need your support to make the DeLand meeting a success. Please attend and bring a friend.

Kathryn H. Braund, President
Editing William Bartram

A New Resource for Knowing William Bartram

Thomas Hallock, Assistant Professor of Literature, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

At long last! The Fall 2009 catalogue for the University of Georgia Press includes William Bartram, the Search for Nature’s Design. Four-color printing. Over one hundred illustrations! Priced at a very reasonable $45 for hardback. In the bottom corner of the catalogue, photographs of co-editors Thomas Hallock and Nancy E. Hoffmann appear. Release date February 2010 but maybe, just maybe, available for the holidays.

What was supposed to be a quick project for Nancy and me lumbered into seven years. Or was it eight? I can’t even remember. But what seemed simple at first has proven to be more vexed than we ever could have imagined.

Here’s the skinny. The book is divided into two parts. Part One includes nearly every known letter by William Bartram, plus major correspondence to and about him. For the diligent researchers who want to track down the letters we do not include, we provide a Calendar of Correspondence. Part Two includes a representative selection of manuscripts with critical introductions. These include a portion of Bartram’s “Commonplace Book” (introduced by Associate Editor Joel T. Fry); the draft of Travels (Nancy Hofmann); Bartram’s philosophical essays (Laurel Ode-Schneider); his anti-slavery tract (Kerry Walters); ethnographic writings (Kathryn H. Braund); drawings for Benjamin Smith Barton’s Elements of Botany (Michael Gaudio); his correspondence with Henry Muhlenberg (Bill Cahill); the “Garden Book” (Elizabeth Fairhead); and the Pharmacopeia (with introduction by the late Renate Wilson).

In short, a feast. For too long, we have often understood William Bartram in parts. A botanist understandably focuses on Bartram’s plants. An historian of Native Americans is drawn to the ethnographic writings. A reader in Georgia pores over the Altamaha River passage, Floridians linger over the rapturous descriptions of the Alachua Savannah. And so on.

By examining the whole body of work, however, the broad range of Bartram’s interests becomes visible. We can see him as a naturalist and an artist and a social commentator and a horticulturalist and a writer and a reader and an observer of human cultures. Just as importantly a collection of his various writings allow us to put together the disparate parts. By reading letters that survive in Philadelphia alongside images now in England, we gain a better sense of why Bartram drew the way he did. When we read his various letters to Thomas Jefferson, we better understand the links between science, gardening, friendship, and political favors.

Whereas William Bartram has commonly been regarded as a “one book” author, or the shy eccentric who published Travels then retired to his garden, we might now see him as a figure who was fully engaged within his culture over the course of a very long life.

Finally the book itself is meant to be a pleasure. As Bartram’s great joy was to hoe his garden or pass along a rare flower, so too does this volume seek to capture the exuberance of a life in nature. Generous support from the Watson-Brown Foundation and outstanding production by the University of Georgia Press are sure make William Bartram, the Search for Nature’s Design something you want to hold in your very own hands! Thanks to all who have contributed to this project over these years.

Fothergill Research Winner

Simon Finger, who holds the Ph.D. degree in history from Princeton, is the winner of the 2009-2010 Fothergill Award. Dr. Finger will use the award to complete revisions of his book project: “Epidemic Constitutions: Public Health and Political Culture in the Port of Philadelphia, 1735–1800.” The book will be published by Cornell University Press. Finger notes that his work “will substantially revise current understanding of how early Americans confronted disease, and what that confrontation meant for their societies at large.” Dr. Finger’s book will explore the connection between John Fothergill and the Philadelphia scientific community, including John Bartram. Dr. John Fothergill, an avid gardener and plant collector, supported William Bartram’s southern tour. As Dr. Finger notes, Fothergill “was an essential patron and friend to American science and medicine, and a central figure knitting together the transatlantic worlds of botany and medicine.” The BTC is delighted that our award, named the winner of the 2009-2010 Fothergill Award. Dr. Finger will use the award to increase our understanding and appreciation of this most enlightened scientist. We wish Dr. Finger every success with his project and look forward to hearing from him about his project in an upcoming newsletter.
Brother Gardeners
A Review


Andrea Wulf has created an exceptionally deep and an exceptionally accurate history of the rise of the distinctly English Garden in the eighteenth century. What might be surprising to an American audience is that one of the major figures in this transformation was the American, John Bartram. Wulf’s book is composed as an intertwining group biography of Bartram, Peter Collinson, Philip Miller, Carl Linnaeus, Daniel Solander, and Joseph Banks.

Eighteenth-century British passion for new plants created a horticultural and botanic revolution, and laid the foundations for the modern landscape garden. And the gardens of John Bartram and Peter Collinson served as experimental plots for this new form of gardening. Bartram and Collinson began as amateurs whose obsession grew into an international business.

Collinson’s friend and Bartram’s first patron, the young Robert James, Lord Petre began raising thousands of seedlings of North American plants in his nursery at Thorndon Park. This initiated the yearly subscriptions for 5 guinea boxes of seeds that drove Bartram’s traveling and collecting. Petre is a key figure in the development of the new landscape garden, painting with “living pencils”—laying out plants by color, shade and texture in his garden.

The young Linnaeus appeared in London in 1736, a shabby student. His new method of organizing plants based on sex seemed “harmless” or “lewd” depending on the observer. Both Collinson and Miller were instrumental in disseminating the new system, though both had strong doubts about its usefulness. Some disdained Linnaeus as “the man who has thrown all botany into confusion,” but Bartram and James Logan in Philadelphia were among the first in the world experimenting with the Linnaean system in the summers of 1736 and 1737.

The Brother Gardeners includes some of the best lines from the Bartram-Collinson letters. In early letters Collinson could be condescending and Bartram apologized that his writing was “oddly huddled together.” Collinson replied “thy style is much Beyond what one might expect from a Man of thy Education.” Collinson insisted Bartram “go very Clean, neat & handsomely Dressed to Virginia,” not to “Disgrace thyself or Mee.” Over the course of their letters Bartram and Collinson bickered like an old couple; “In a few lines they managed to blame, appease, tease, thank and insult each other.”

The relationship changed over time and Bartram achieved some leverage over Collinson. The great value and demand for new plants meant Bartram could accuse Collinson for failing to compensate him properly, while Collinson replied Bartram was not patient enough, “it is very hard getting Money of great people.” In the end Bartram emerged independent, and assured in his international position, much as the North American colonies approached independence in the 1770s. “With his growing success, Bartram was confident enough to demand to be treated as an equal.” And Bartram’s plants “grew in every landscape garden and shrubbery in England.”

The second half of book follows the growth of botany and horticulture in the second half of the century. Linnaeus’s favorite student, Carl Solander settles into the London botanic community after 1760. Solander would identify and describe many of John and William Bartram’s plants. Solander sailed with Joseph Banks for the South Seas on Capt. Cook’s Endeavour in the summer of 1768, botanizing at Tahiti and Australia. As a result of this voyage, on his return in 1771 Banks became the arbiter of natural science in London. He was nominal director of the royal garden at Kew and president of the Royal Society from 1778. Banks sat at the center of a web of research with a hand in many projects including Capt. William Bligh’s voyages to Tahiti for breadfruit trees in 1787 and 1791.

Although it is hard to find any fault with this delightful book, it does have little to say about William Bartram and there is no mention of Dr. John Fothergill who assumed the role of patron and advisor to the Bartram family following the death of Collinson in the summer 1768. Fothergill’s garden at Upton benefited from the close relationship with the Bartrams and particularly from William Bartram’s travels.

Andrea Wulf is currently researching a new book on gardens and the “Founding Fathers” of the US, which will likely continue with some of the story of William Bartram and the Bartram family botanic garden.

Joel T. Fry

Joel Fry, a member of the Bartram Trail Conference, is Curator of Bartram’s Garden in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Ed Cashin Symposium
Augusta, Georgia
October 16–17

A symposium to honor the memory of Dr. Ed Cashin will be held October 16 and 17th in Augusta, Georgia. The event is sponsored by the Augusta State University Center for the Study of Georgia History, which was founded by Dr. Cashin in 1996. For information on the Cashin Memorial Symposium on Georgia History, contact the Center’s director, Lee Ann Caldwell at lcaldwel@aug.edu or 706 667 4101.
Meet the Members

In preparation for our biennial meeting in DeLand, our biographical section for this edition focuses on two Florida members. Carolyn Whitmer of Pensacola recalls Van Blanchard, whose work in the early 1970s was instrumental in the formation of the Bartram Trail Conference. Charlotte Porter, herself a Florida BTC leader, interviewed Malory O’Connor, whose work has helped thousands of people view and understand great art.

Van Blanchard, Bartram Conference Pioneer

Carolyn Whitmer

Van Blanchard of Pensacola, Florida brought the work and memory of the Bartrams to life for Floridians and others across the south.

Leaders in Pensacola, planning for Bicentennial celebrations, wanted to feature special people who had played a part in the history of the area. They asked Van, an active Garden Club member, to present someone from the horticulture/botanical history of the area. She chose William Bartram who had visited this area of Pensacola and Northwest Florida. She studied up on Bartram, read Travels again, and collected everything she could find. She did the presentation of William Bartram’s connection to Pensacola and went on to do programs on Bartram’s travels through Florida across the state.

After a program on Bartram’s travels to the Garden Club of Palatka, club members wrote her and said they would like to erect a Bartram marker in the area, since Bartram had written much about being in their area. She said there was not such a marker and, when she inquired to Florida Federation of Garden Clubs about getting one, received a 2-word reply: “Get one!” She researched and visited many Marker/monument Companies and settled on Sewah Studios who also produced the Blue Star Marker for the National Garden Clubs. She designed the Bartram Trails marker very much like the Blue Star Marker and had it approved by the National Garden Clubs.

She joined several prominent southerners to form the Bartram Conference, headquartered in Montgomery, Alabama. They planned a gathering every other year, rotating the site among the states.

In the 80s, Van planned the first “Bartram Footprints Tour” through Florida, sponsored by the Florida Federation. These bus tours followed the trails that William Bartram had traveled and were “rolling colleges of knowledge.” Participants learned about Bartram and his discoveries from many learned members besides Van Blanchard. There followed three other tours every couple of years, usually in conjunction with the Bartram Conference. The second Tour after the Conference in Pensacola covered William Bartram’s travels through the Southern states. The next tour started in Savannah, Georgia, from where the travelers flew to Philadelphia for the 200th Anniversary of the publication of Travels and a tour of the Bartram Home. They returned to Savannah for a meeting of the Bartram Conference. The last Tour was ‘Along the Gulf Coast and Up the Mississippi’.

Van Blanchard, who was President of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. in the 60s, also served on the National Garden Clubs Board of Directors. When she died, she left behind a legacy of knowledge, trail markers, and the organization that became the Bartram Trail Conference.

Mallory O’Connor: Art in Bartram’s Florida

An Interview with Charlotte Porter

(Note: Mallory O’Connor, Professor emerita, Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida, was the curator for the exhibit and the principal investigator of the “Liquid Muse” exhibit, lecture series, and water symposium. The Florida Humanities Council funded the 2008 – 2009 events. Charlotte Porter, a longtime leader in the Bartram Trail Conference, is Curator of History of Science at the University of Florida’s Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville.)

CP: Mallory, could you explain the term Liquid Muse?
MO: A “muse” is the source of artistic inspiration. Because artists have frequently been drawn to water as a subject for art, Liquid Muse seemed an appropriate title for a traveling exhibition of paintings inspired by the St. Johns River region.

CP: What inspired you to organize the Liquid Muse exhibit?
MO: I believe in the power of art—to describe, educate and inspire. I’ve spent my life making art, writing about art and making art available to other people. Liquid Muse, one of many exhibits I’ve organized, is especially timely. Water is central to Florida’s allure. Water has shaped culture since humans first arrived here thousands of years ago. The St. Johns River and its watershed have been central to Florida history. Water will be more critical in the future as resources become scarcer—and more precious. For the exhibit, we selected art works that would make viewers think about the beauty of the region, its historic significance, and the reasons to protect this invaluable resource. The exhibit at six venues throughout Florida, over a two year period, has been able to reach a large audience.

CP: Could you briefly describe details of the exhibit, the number of art works and lecture series?
MO: The 35 Florida artists selected to contribute work to Liquid Muse have all been inspired by water, but their paintings express in various ways the truth that the river is many different things—beautiful, historic, mysterious, romantic and ---imperiled. Some of the artists are classic realists who try to capture nuances of light and reflection. Others are more interested in expressing their feelings as they gaze at unspoiled nature. Some are attracted to specific creatures or plants; others try to reconstruct
the ancient past or illustrate historic events. Beneath the stylistic diversity is an awareness to preserve and protect the health and viability of the St. Johns watershed.

CP: A group of my UF students really enjoyed the conference on water.
MO: To supplement the exhibition, we organized a day-long forum on water resources held at Santa Fe College in Gainesville in October 2008. We also organized a lecture series that paired artists from the exhibition with scholars whose expertise complemented the artist’s work. The lectures focused on exhibit themes such as Florida archaeology, naturalists, and current environmental issues.

CP: Please describe your new book.
MO: Co-authored with my friend Gary Monroe, Florida’s American Heritage River: Images from the St. John’s Region, presents the lure and the lore of the St. Johns River watershed, an area of over 8,000 square miles, west of Vero Beach to east of Jacksonville. To create a visual history, we selected 200 images. The pictures themselves guided our inquiry in antique shops and art galleries, in 19th-century periodicals and 20th-century fish camps. With the help of archaeologists, historians, museum curators and private collectors, we found thousands of images from Native American artifacts and tourist-trade curiosities to traditional fine arts paintings and creations of self-taught visionaries. The resulting visual history, a broad survey, captures and celebrates the beauty, power, and impact of a unique and vulnerable landscape.

If you’re interested in Florida’s amazing ecology, its natural and cultural history, its artistic heritage, or just its astonishing beauty, this is the book for you.

CP: What new insights did you gain from preparing the exhibit and the book?
MO: I grew up in California near the American River, and I know how important the river was to me throughout my childhood. The river was my

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New Bartram Books on the Way from Alabama and Mercer Presses

In addition to the release of William Bartram’s correspondence, a project that took roots at the 2003 BTC meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, two other Bartram books on are the horizon. In early 2010, the University of Alabama Press will release Fields of Vision: Essays on the Travels of William Bartram, 1739 – 1823, edited by Kathryn H. Braund and Charlotte M. Porter. This work combines papers presented at BTC conferences from 2001-2007. Included will be the late Edward J. Cashin’s expanded keynote address to the 2001 conference on William Bartram and the American Revolution. Other contributors include archaeologists, ethnobotanists, historians, and literary specialists whose papers have previously enlightened Bartram groups from Florida to North Carolina and cover topics as varied as Bartram’s diet on the trail to the his botanical discoveries and people and places he encountered along the way. As one reader noted, the volume “well represents the breadth of Bartram’s interests and offers readers many new insights on the pre-Revolutionary South that he traversed.” The 304 page book will retail for $48.95 (cloth) and $29.95 (paper).

Dorinda Dallmeyer, the Director of the Environmental Ethics Certificate Program at the University of Georgia, is editing a new edition of Travels to be released by Mercer University Press. The new edition will be accompanied by personal essays from a variety of contributors. According to Dallmeyer, the goal of this edition is to introduce a whole new generation of environmentally-minded southerners to Bartram’s timeless work, not only standing on its own but also as interpreted through passionate, personal essays attesting to Bartram’s living legacy. The accompanying essays will approach Bartram’s Travels from a variety of perspectives: the ecoregional and the site-specific; Bartram’s encounters with charismatic flora and fauna; the scientific and the romantic; how his spirituality influenced his understanding of nature; his interactions with Native peoples. The anthology also will feature color plates of oil paintings by Philip Juras, depicting landscapes Bartram visited. The book should be out the by September 2010.

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Georgia Bartram Trail: New Website

John Ray announces that the website for the Georgia Bartram Trail is now located at http://www.gabartramtrail.org/.

This site provides photographs along the trail and information on hiking the trail.
Paynes Prairie

Paynes Prairie is a 22,000 acre subtropical savanna in north-central Florida. William Bartram visited in the spring of 1774 and wrote more about this single spot than he did about any place along his route.

The vast freshwater marshland and wet-prairie appears now much as Bartram saw it, thanks to conservation and reclamation efforts. These images are by David Munroe, a senior at the University of Florida. David is an avid history major with a growing interest in photography, especially images of historic landscapes. Well-known to Gator fans, David plays the trumpet in the UF marching band. David gained his introduction to Paynes Prairie, William Bartram’s Alachua Savanna, on a team assignment with other students enrolled in a course given by Charlotte M. Porter. His outstanding photos offer an enticing preview of the sites that await us in October. Captions were taken from Bartram’s Travels.

Paynes Prairie

The great land tortoise, called gopher… the general colour of the animal is a light ash or clay, and at a distance, unless it is in motion, any one would disregard or overlook it as a stone or an old stump.

Squadrons of the beautiful fleet
Siminole horse…

...unlimited, varied, and truly astonishing of landscape and perspective…

...a very large alligator at present is lord of
Herds of sprightly deer...

This little lake and surrounding meadows would have been alone sufficient to surprise and delight the traveller...

native wild scenes

Herds of sprightly deer...
DeLand, Florida Site of the 2009 Conference

Modern visitors to DeLand, Florida receive a far more pleasant greeting than did William Bartram. The little university city in the middle of Florida welcomes them warmly with the Museum of Florida Art, little shops, and fine restaurants. It’s an easy town to stroll through, with friendly people and natural surroundings.

In August or September of 1774, however, the area was an outpost in the far reaches of the new British territory. Lord Beresford had established a plantation nearby, on the banks of the lake that later took his name. It was to this indigo farm that Bartram traveled in his farthest sortie up the St. Johns River.

As he approached in his little boat, he noticed a storm gathering. “…how purple and fiery appeared the tumultuous clouds! swiftly ascending or darting from the horizon upwards; they seemed to oppose and dash against each other, the skies appeared streaked with blood or purple flame overhead, the flaming lightning streaming and darting about in every direction around, seems to fill the world with fire; whilst the heavy thunder keeps the earth in a constant tremor.”

From the river near Hontoon Island, he had the plantation in sight. It was across “Long Lake’ (Lake Beresford), however, and the hurricane was “too violent to permit me to cross the lake.” He took shelter by tying his boat to a scrub hickory along the western lake shore and spent the night watching water fill his boat and float his chest. He feared the boat would sink.

Bartram weathered the night there, surrounded by reeds and falling branches. “When the wind and rain abated, I was overjoyed to see the face of nature again appear,” he wrote in what may be his most classic understatement and revelation of his positive spirit. He bailed his boat and tacked across to the plantation where, during a three-day visit, he dried his books and specimens.

During this stay, he and his host rode about four miles to Blue Spring, which he describes as “a vast fountain of warm or rather hot mineral water” in a delightful setting. (Blue Spring and the ecotour that departs from its wharf are on the agenda for the conference.)

A century passed before Henry DeLand, a baking soda magnate from New York, envisioned a center for agriculture (especially citrus) and tourism here. He laid out a town plan and the project began. A deep freeze killed off the citrus within a few years, however, and Mr. DeLand retreated north.

Meanwhile, a college had been born (now Stetson University) and the town slowly grew. Many of the old buildings grace the downtown and have undergone restoration since the beginning of the millennium.

Chief among the revitalized buildings is the old courthouse. Within the rotunda the Museum of Florida Art displays Jackson Walker’s evocative paintings, a series known as “Legendary Florida.” (Look for Walker’s signature serpents in each painting.)

Area sites are also worth visiting. Juniper Springs (45 minutes north) is a paddler’s delight. A stream winds about seven miles through pristine banks. Canoes are for rent at the U.S. Forest Service’s campground. Salt Springs (Bartram’s Six Mile Springs) is a bit farther north and is an inspiring visit for a Bartram traveler if the restoration project is completed.

Closer to DeLand (eight miles north) is the Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge. Its abundant population of birds makes it a place of wonder, particularly in October when migratory birds pass through. An ecotour departs DeLeon Springs and wanders through the sanctuary and canoes are for rent for a leisurely paddle through the sheltered waters.

Also at DeLeon Springs is The Old Spanish Sugar Mill & Griddle House. The building was once a mill, established a decade or so after Bartram’s visit. Here, beside the glistening pool of the springs (a Ponce DeLeon’s“Fountain of Youth”), waiters serve guests pitchers of pancake batter for baking over a tabletop griddle.

Our upcoming conference is well-situated for Bartramizing and enjoyment.
Bartram Trail Conference
2009 Biennial Meeting
DeLand, Florida
October 23-25, 2009

Friday Evening, October 23, 5:00 p.m.
Museum of Florida Art, DeLand, Florida
Registration and welcome reception.

We will assemble at 5:00 to talk and renew friendships and meet new folks. We’ll be treated to a walking tour of the “Liquid Muse” art exhibit and then enjoy a delightful seated dinner. After dinner, Dr. Daniel Schafer, a leading authority on early Florida history and the author of “Florida History Online,” will discuss eighteenth-century Florida plantations.

Saturday, October 24, 8:30
Museum of Florida Art, DeLand, Florida

Registration:  8:30 – 9:00
9:00 - 9:15  Welcome and Intros
9:15 - 9:45  Chuck Spornick: Bartram’s Trip along the St Johns
9:45 - 10:15 Kathryn Braund: The Deerskin Trade in British East Florida
10:15 - 10:45 Charlotte Porter: The Archaeology of Spaldings Lower Store
10:45 - 11:00 BREAK
11:00 - 11:30 William Bartram’s Art: Slide Presentation and Panel Discussion by Bartram Scholars
11:30 - 11:45 Q & A
11:45 - 12:45 Catered lunch at the Museum
1:00 - 2:00 Walking tour of “Legendary Florida” exhibition
2:00 Drive to Blue Spring State Park for a visit to the “vast fountain of warm or rather hot mineral water” before boarding the boat
3:30 - 5:30 Chartered Boat cruise on the St Johns River to view wildlife and habitat along part of the St. Johns explored by WB. Libations included.

Saturday Night:
On your own.
We’ll provide a list of suggestions for dinner in the registration packet.

Sunday, October 25, 8:00 - 1:30

We head for the Alachua Savannah (aka modern Paynes Prairie) near Gainesville. We’ll organize a caravan and depart DeLand at 8:00 and make the Prairie by 10:00. George Edwards, the President of the Friends of Paynes Prairie will lead us on a short hike out the La Chua Trail from the North Rim, which provides a real flavor of what Bartram saw in the Spring of 1774. This is a three mile round trip, on an easy, flat trail. Along the way we will get a good view of the Alachua Sink, where the waters of the Prairie go back down into the Earth. We’re likely to see some of the wild horses that roam the prairie, perhaps a few bison, and certainly a community of large alligators. There will certainly be many water birds. And if you don’t care to hike, there is plenty to see near the visitors’ center. A boxed lunch will be provided and we’ll hear from the Friends of Paynes Prairie about their work.
Registration Form
Bartram Trail Conference- Biennial Meeting

DeLand, Florida
October 23-25, 2009

Please complete the registration form and return to Anne Hurst Weeks, Treasurer, 138 N Chaparral Dr., Hull, GA 30646, along with a check payable to the Bartram Trail Conference. This is also a good time to pay your dues for 2010. We’ll also have a Bartram-themed conference T-shirt. Make sure to include the size you need. Please register promptly so that we have time to adequately access our meal and boat needs. The chartered boat only seats 49, so be sure to register early to reserve a seat.

Complete Registration Fee* _________ @ $100.00 = $_______
Extra Friday Night Dinner Ticket _________ @ $ 30.00 = $_______
Sat. Symposium full day _________ @ $ 60.00 = $_______
Sat. Symposium (half day)+ _________ @ $ 25.00 = $_______
Sun. excursion to Paynes Prairie _________ @ $ 15.00 = $_______
Student Registration)†: _________ @ $ 50.00 = $_______
Conference T-Shirt: _________ @ $ 20.00 = $_______
Fothergill Fund Donation** _________ $_______

2010 Dues
Individual _________ @ $ 25.00 = $_______
Family _________ @ $ 30.00 = $_______
Student _________ @ $ 10.00 = $_______

Supporting levels:
Contributor _________ @ $ 50.00 = $_______
Sustainer _________ @ $100.00 = $_______
Sponsor _________ @ $250.00 = $_______
Patron _________ @ $500.00 = $_______

TOTAL _________ $_______

Name/NAMES of Registrants:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
E-mail: _________________________________________ Phone: _________________________

*The Registration Fee is per person and includes Friday night reception and dinner, Saturday lunch and refreshments, admission to Blue Spring State Park, boat excursion and refreshments, and Sunday lunch. Additional dinner tickets are available for spouses/guest who do not plan to register for the entire program. You may also register for only the Saturday meeting (either half or full day) or the Sunday portion of the meeting (lunch at Paynes Prairie).

+ Sat. Symposium (half day) includes lunch

†Student Registration covers Saturday and Sunday events, including lunches. (No Friday dinner).

Please note if you require a vegetarian dining option for your meals.

**The Fothergill Fund supports research award to Bartram scholars working in any field on topics relating to William Bartram and his world.

Hotel Information
We have secured a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn, 400 E. Intl. Speedway Blvd., DeLand. Phone: 386-736-3100. Make your reservations early to secure the group rate of $71.99. Be sure to mention you are with the Bartram Trail Conference.

A final program and information will be mailed upon receipt of registration.
Bartram Trail Conference
2009 Biennial Meeting
Call for Silent Auction Items

We are going to have a silent auction at the meeting in October! This is lots of fun and all proceeds will go to support the Bartram Trail Conference. If you are not familiar with silent auctions, we are asking people to donate appropriate items that will attract bids at the conference in DeLand. We will put the items out on a table with a bid sheet attached to them. During Friday evening and Saturday, folks can look at them and write down their bids. At the end of the evening on Saturday, we will close the bidding and announce the winners. Then the high bidders can settle up with the Treasurer and pick up their goodies.

Here’s what we want you to do!
We want you to donate outdoors, natural history or Bartram-related items that our members might like to bid on. You can donate items from your own collection, buy them specifically for donation to the BTC silent auction, arrange to have them donated through your business or from businesses with whom you have asking-rights or even come up with some scheme of your own! These can range from relatively minor to fairly expensive, though substantial items tend to make more money for the Conference.

Here are some good ideas; items that we have and some we have seen:
- a framed color poster of the town of Yuchi as it appeared when Bartram visited
- a 1928 Birds of Florida book with color illustrations
- a Franklinia tile trivet
- a gift basket of souvenirs from Florida
- a hand-drawn copy of one of Bartram’s drawings
- various T-shirts
- a free trip to the Alabama Museum of Natural History’s famous fossil locality, Shark-Tooth Creek
- a pair of alligator salt shakers
- a hand-blown Williamsburg reproduction bottle
- an antique clay jug from Alabama
- a copy of any Bartram book or book on a Bartram locale
- various prints & paintings
- photographs
- objets d’art

If you think you can help, or just want to talk about things,
Contact: John Hall
Always best phone: 205–242–1445
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How to Join the Bartram Trail Conference

The Bartram Trail Conference welcomes new members. If you plan to attend the 2009 Conference in DeLand, you may apply for membership by checking the appropriate boxes and including your dues with your payment.

If you cannot attend, simply return the form and dues without including conference fees.

Or, you may find a membership form at the Bartram Trail Conference Website (http://www.bartramtrail.org/Library/mbrship.pdf) and send it with your dues to the address on the form.

Your dues support educational and outreach activities and partially offset the cost of conferences, our newsletter and the BTC web site, which is the first stop for research about William Bartram on the world wide web.

BTC Website

For more news of recent discoveries and publications, Bartram-related events, and more, check http://www.bartramtrail.org/.

Brad Sanders continues to update the Bartram Trail Conference’s website.