

November 17, 2010

2010: NJ Flora Project's End of Year Progress Report

A summary on the FNJ Project progress during calendar year 2010:

The October 2nd meeting was canceled. In lieu of the final meeting, this end of year summary will provide the information normally discussed at our final meeting.

The year 2010 has been a year of mixed progress. We made progress on business issues yet we were slower than anticipated on the flora tasks.

Flora of New Jersey Project, Inc. Business:

Non-Profit Status: Achieved 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit

- FNJ Project, Inc. filed for non-profit status in February 2010. FNJP received the federal non-profit status under the Federal IRS code 501 (c) (3). The official declaration was made June 2, 2010, retroactive to April 21 2008! Our group is now capable of fund raising for the betterment of the NJ Flora and this will now begin in earnest.
- We now have non-profit status at the NJ Department of Taxation and federal Internal Revenue Service levels.
- FNJP is not responsible for taxes from this point into the future. Our filing requirements are minimal and reduced to on-line filing for the federal reporting. We are responsible to file yearly with the IRS and Joe Arsenault will handle this yearly procedure. FNJ is also exempt from normal state business taxes. NJ does not require non-profit filing and we have been deemed exempt from corporate business taxes as well.

Banking:

- Exceptional circumstances force a change in banks mid 2010. A change in bank ownership and the institution of different banking rules eventually attached monthly fees that were too large to sustain. They were eating away at the money for the privilege of having an account
- As of May 2010 our checking account has been with a local Vineland bank, Newfield National Bank.
- Our checking account has an official balance of \$226.20 with \$20 yet to be deposited, for cash-on-hand amount of \$246.20.

Committee Reports:

Membership:

- Our membership and participation has held steady at 12 dues paying members and 12 occasional flora participants.
- In past years we have received an occasional membership payment from the interested public but our ability to sustain this membership is weak.

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Outreach:

- The FNJ Project did not made any formal presentations during 2010.
- Individually, our members continue to be involved in a number of flora related meetings. Although not directly pursuing FNJ Inc. issues, the members provide the same expertise and commitment to the general issues associated with the flora of New Jersey.

IT/WEB Committee:

- Bill Olson is in the process of getting the web page up to date.
- Bill has been working with volunteers to revise our web presence.
- The Project has numerous nomenclature submissions that require their own web presence in addition to the yearly dues and calendar updates.

Nomenclature Committee:

- There have been fewer submissions for nomenclatural review than in past years.
- Two major submission were made:
 - The family Ericaceae submitted by Walt Bien has been approved.
 - The genus *Dichantheium* was submitted by Joe Arsenault. It is currently undergoing a minor revision edit for final submission.

Atlas Committee:

- The Atlas has been static since the completed *Panicum* submission in the summer of 2009.
- No new final products have been received for review or posting.

Manual Committee:

- Chairperson Wayne Ferren has finished the revisions to the family Amaranthaceae. This treatment includes our Amaranthaceae with the Chenopodiaceae.
- The manual now has the complete works (keys and treatment) for the families Viscaceae and Amaranthaceae. Visaceae has been revised in the Flora area into the Santalaceae's along with *Commandra umbellata*.
- The introduction chapter is still awaiting submissions for the general lay-of-the-land paragraphs. To date, only one contributor has completed the task.

Other Business:

Stevens Heckscher has been busily processed a significant number of his unique color slides into a digital photo collection. The collection will highlight species common on New Jersey's Coastal Plain, specifically those found in Cumberland County. He will make the photos available to FNJP when complete.

Calendar Year 2011 Meeting Dates:

- General Meetings for all FNJ members in the Chrysler Herbarium

November 17, 2010

February 1, 2011 @ 10 AM

October 8, 2011 @ 10 AM

- Telephone Conference Call Meetings for Flora of New Jersey Committee chairpersons and interested participants

April 16, 2011 @ 10AM, telephone number to be announced

July 17, 2011 @ 7PM. Telephone number to be announced

- Herbarium Work Dates: The herbarium will be open at 10AM for members with a need to access the Chrysler Herbarium:

December 11

January 15

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