



The 1172nd meeting of the New England Botanical Society will be held **Friday, 3 November 2023, at 7:00 PM ET** in Haller Lecture Hall (room 102), Geological Museum, 24 Oxford St., Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, **and via Zoom**



**“From Vasculums to iPhones: The History of Field Research
Tools and the Stories Herbarium Specimens Tell Us”**

**By Dr. Lena Struwe, Professor and Director of the Chrysler Herbarium
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ**

PLEASE READ:

- 1) **THIS PRESENTATION & MEETING WILL BE IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL:** This meeting will be **in person** at Harvard University, but it will also be a **hybrid presentation using Zoom**. The link to join our Zoom Monthly Meetings will be reoccurring and is below. Also below is information on the free parking arrangements we have made for our members who plan to attend in person.
- 2) **DR. STRUWE’S ABSTRACT:** Botany is a remarkable science when it comes to the longevity and resilience of our field tools and data. The tools of the past are often the tools of the present and future. The same type of herbarium presses have been in use for centuries, and herbarium labels are following the same format and content as when the first botanists started to do excursions in the Northeast. But many things have changed too. Vasculums as containers for collecting plants have been replaced by ziplock bags. Field books are now often handheld digital devices with wireless connections that obtain fast and detailed GPS coordinates and let us upload our notes, and a quick e-mail with high-resolution photos to an expert has replaced a handwritten or typed up letter with pressed plant fragments. Recorded sightings are now shared through a quick upload to iNaturalist instead of as species lists published months later in print. Plant identification tools have gone from rare books to interactive websites and forums with easy-access experts (and less rare books), but in the end, we still have to check for the hairs, leaf margin types, and number of styles. We still need field work, dig through mud and quicksand, hike or fly to remote places, and carry pressed plants back. Also, the mosquitoes, ticks, and many of the field sustenance snacks are the same. This presentation will present an evolutionary timeline and stories of botanical field tools and gear in the context of the history of materials, production techniques, and innovation.
- 3) **RHODORA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF POSITION APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED:** The **New England Botanical Society (NEBS)** is seeking applications for a professional **Editor-in-Chief** for our organization's quarterly, peer-reviewed journal *Rhodora*, which publishes scholarly papers on the flora of New England and related regions. This is a part-time, remote, paid position (\$12K/year) that oversees all aspects of journal publication and promotion, works with the journal's Managing Editor, Editorial Board of Associate Editors, and Rhodora Committee, and is a voting member of NEBS Council. **Duties, qualifications, and how to apply are described [here](#) (PDF). Applications are still being accepted and reviewed as they come in. Preferred start date is in fall 2023. Please share this information with anyone that may be interested in this position.** If you have any questions, please contact Sara Helm-Wallace, NEBS Executive Director, at director@nebotany.org.

- 4) **NEXT NEBS MEETING:** On Friday, December 1, 2023, Bobbi Angell, Botanical Illustrator, will speak on "**Darwin and the Art of Botany.**" Copies of her book "*Darwin and the Art of Botany: Observations on the Curious World of Plants*" will be available for sale and for signing. Bobbi Angell's presentation will be at Harvard University in Haller Lecture Hall and via Zoom.
- 5) **NEBS PROGRAM CALENDAR FOR 2023-2024:** Please see the downloadable/printable [2023-2024 Program Calendar](#) with information about other upcoming presentations. Or bookmark the [Upcoming Meetings](#) webpage for up-to-date details. Please start planning your contributions to our annual member's "show & tell," potluck dinner, and raffle of botanical items (your contributions welcome).
- January 12, 2024 – "**24th Convocation of Consumption, Celebration of Classification, and Collecting of Curiosities**"
- 6) **PARKING LOCATION:** Our designated FREE parking lot is **the 52 Oxford St. Garage, near the intersection of Everett St. and Oxford St.** Parking in any other lot will likely lead to towing. Please find the Oxford Garage (52OX) in the Northeast corner of the [Printable Map](#) (PDF). At the booth at the entrance to the underground garage, please tell the attendant that you are with the New England Botanical Society. The [Interactive Harvard Campus Map](#) is useful for navigating around campus.
- 7) **FRIDAY PARKING ARRANGEMENTS:** Free parking for attendees will be from 5 PM to 9 PM on the Friday of the meeting.
- 8) **VIDEOS of PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see [Past Meetings](#) for videos of past lectures, including Dr. Toby Kellogg's October presentation.

ZOOM INVITATION FOR NEBS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Topic: NEBS Monthly Meeting
Date and Time: First Friday of the month at 7:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/98845538584>

Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,98845538584# US (New York)
+13017158592,,98845538584# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584
Find your local number:
<https://zoom.us/j/98845538584>

The next Council meeting will be 29 November 2023 from 6:00-7:00 PM ET via Zoom.

New England Botanical Society
Harvard University Herbaria, 22 Divinity Ave.,
Cambridge, MA 02138-2020

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NEBS WEB SITE: <http://www.rhodora.org/>
[New England Botanical Society Brochure](#)

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Upcoming Meetings
[Webpage Link](#)

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[Strategic Goals for 2020-2025](#)