

# Gillespie Creek Journal

Now more familiar with our 80 A. property, I know where to begin my midsummer search for the **Bottle Gentian's** broad leaves, tall and thick stems. Thankfully its unique structure caught my attention during the Daisy and Hawk weed bloom this spring. What a transformation **The Bottle Gentian** has made. Below you will see amazing photos of the plant September 5- 13, 2022. This stunning flower survives due to its symbiotic relationship a single pollinator, a **Bumble Bee !**

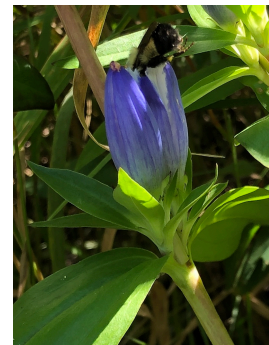
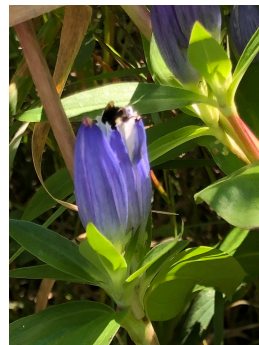
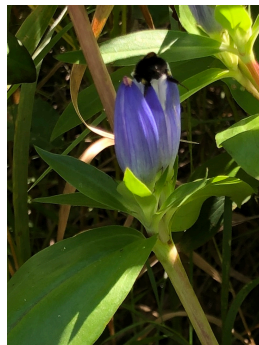
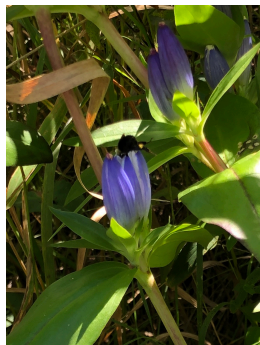


**Bottle Gentian time has arrived !** September 1, brings the wild flower bloom that most intrigues and fascinates me. My loyal followers will recognize this photo as it appeared in the first year editions of Gillespie Creek



The series of photos below taken between 9/5/22 and 9/13/22 show a Bumble Bee opening the tightly closed Bottle Gentian flower, disappear inside to gather pollen in its "basket" and successfully crawl back out ten seconds later. Notice the faded color of a few "bottle" flowers in the lower photo below. Only these single bottle flowers have been pollinated . Soon they will dry holding fertile seeds to be scattered.

Bottle Gentian in June 2022



How exciting it was to be at the right place at the right time to capture the life sustaining pollination ritual with my cell phone camera.

For more photos and archived Newsletters Google [www.gillespiecreek.com](http://www.gillespiecreek.com).

Stunning symbiotic relationships of plants, fish and mammals of the sea are essential for the sustenance of all life on Earth.. Read about it in **The Brilliant Abyss**, by Helen Scales.