



CLAYTONIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Summer 1998

Vol. 19, No. 2



From the President's Desk

Joe Stuckey is over-seeing the building of a house for one of his children and has asked to be relieved as an officer; therefore, Steven Marak moves to President-elect, the Board appointed Dr. John Simpson to fill the position of Vice President. The slate of officers to be voted on in September will be: President-Steven Marak, President-elect-John Simpson, Vice President-Dr. Robert Wright (one of the founders of ANPS), Treasurer-Jason Anders, Editor-Ron Doran, and Arkansas Conservation Coalition representative-Carl Hunter. Wayne Owen has been appointed by the Board to fill the office of Communications/Publicity. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

Joe and Gary, the ANPS thanks you for serving as officers.

If you wish to nominate a person or an organization for the Carl Amason Conservation Award, please correspond with Annette Holder (or me). She and her committee will need a little time to select the person/organization for presentation to the Board at the September meeting. Since Carl Hunter is a Board member, it would be a bit difficult to keep it unknown to

him that he has been nominated for the Carl Amason Conservation Award.

If you have a conservation project that you want the committee to present to the Board for the Carl Amason Conservation Award, please let Bruce Ewing (or me) know. His committee will make their recommendations to the Board at the fall meeting.

Wayne Owen, Tom Foti, John Logan, Cindy Osborne and I met to further the plans for the Rare Plant Conference. I am excited about the contribution that we will make to the ranking/re-ranking of some of the flora.

WE NEED YOU AT THE MEETING ON AUGUST 11, 1998 to help up-date the data base which, hopefully, will lead to the publishing of a new, up-to-date list. Please send slides to Wayne Owen. The list of slides needed is shown in the Spring 1998 Claytonia.

Did you send your list of "favorite" areas to John Logan? If not, please take a moment and compile a list of "special areas" that are in your county. Send them to John at ANHC so he and Mina can have the data for use with the Outdoor Classroom project.

Don Crank, President



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FALL MEETING

WHEN: SEPT. 25, 26, 27

WHERE: Clarksville

DETAILS IN NEXT CLAYTONIA



1st Arkansas Rare Plant Conference
by Don Crank, President ANPS

It's time to make your plans to attend the **1st Arkansas Rare Plant Conference on Tuesday and Wednesday, 11-12 August 1998 in Hot Springs**. This conference is the product of the hard work of a committee of devoted people and is made possible by the dedication of the Society's Board of Directors, our membership, and the Natural Heritage Commission. We have never before attempted a thorough assessment of the rare plants in our state. The potential to contribute to a broader understanding of Arkansas' flora and make a difference in the way rare species are managed is significant. With this conference we are making an important statement. If we don't speak up for Arkansas' rare plants, who will?

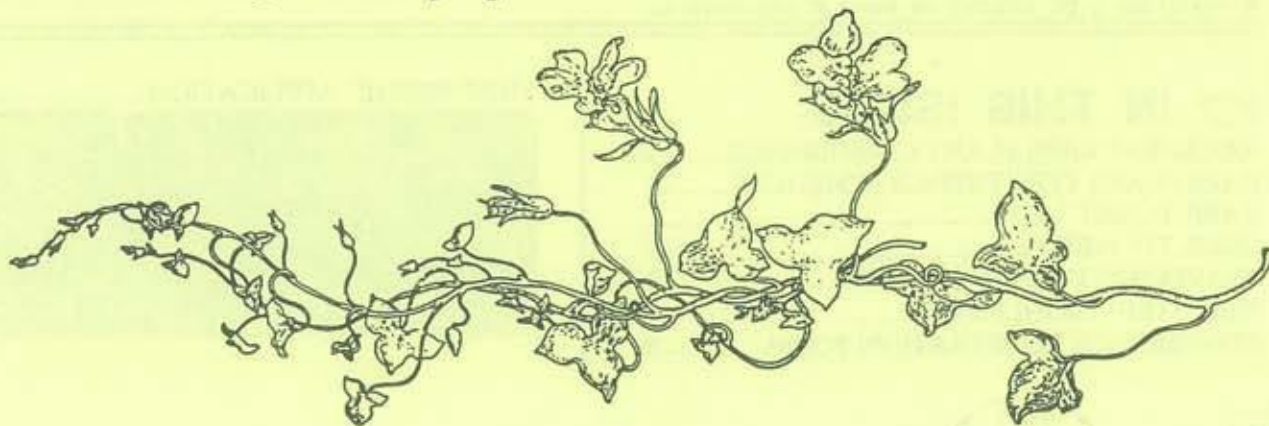
Our first rare plant conference is modelled after similar conferences put on by other native plant societies. We'll review the status of 140 of Arkansas' rare plants. We will show pictures of most of these plants (see the article in the Spring *Claytonia*) and their current distribution. We hope to get lots of information on new locations, site conditions, and a generally more accurate view of our rare flora.

Your participation is essential to the success of this conference. Even if you don't know anything about rare plants, by attending this gathering you'll learn about the rare species near your home and perhaps you'll be able to contribute at the Second Arkansas Rare Plant Conference.

The conference will be held at the **Econo Lodge** in Hot Springs. Their address is **4319 Central in Hot Springs**. This is on the south end of Central, near the **Outlet Mall and Lowe's**. The good people at Econo Lodge are offering conference attendees **special room rates (\$49.50/single, \$53.10/double)**. To make your reservations, call **800.745.6160**. When you make your reservations, **please mention that you will be attending the Arkansas Native Plant Society Conference**. You are not required to stay at the Econo Lodge, but this is a very fair rate for Hot Springs (and if we fill 15 rooms, the conference room will be provided at no cost to the society).

Our Rare Plant Conference isn't just about work. We hope that you'll attend the catered dinner on the evening of the 11th. Following dinner, **Richard W. Davies, the Executive Director of Parks and Tourism for the State of Arkansas** will address the society. He is an excellent and very entertaining speaker. Good food, wildflower talk, lots of laughs; it's hard to imagine a more enjoyable evening.

We expect our first Rare Plant Conference to be a wonderful and rewarding experience. We hope to have a big turn-out and further hope that everyone in attendance goes home feeling better informed and more motivated. See you in Hot Springs!



1st Arkansas Rare Plant Conference

Arkansas Native Plant Society
Hot Springs, Arkansas

When: August 11-12, 1998

Where: Econo Lodge, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Purpose: To examine the current status of the rare plants of Arkansas

Registration: Registration may be done by mail (via the attached form), or at the door. The preregistration fee is \$10 per person. Late registration and registration at the door is \$15.

Deadline for Preregistration is 11 July 1998.

Conference Agenda

Tuesday, August 11th

8:00-9:00 Registration at the door and general socializing
9:00-9:30 Introductory remarks by ANPS President Don Crank
9:30-10:30 Assessing Arkansas' Rare Plants
10:30-10:45 Short Break
10:45-12:00 Assessing Arkansas' Rare Plants

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:30 Assessing Arkansas' Rare Plants
2:30-3:00 Long Break
3:00-4:30 Assessing Arkansas' Rare Plants
4:30-5:00 Wrap-up of the 1st Arkansas Rare Plant Conference.

7:00- Rare Plant Conference Dinner with
Richard W. Davies, Executive Director of Parks and Tourism for Arkansas

Wednesday, August 12th

8:30-12:00 Rare Lichens and Bryophytes in Arkansas
Towards a standardized community classification for Arkansas

also... Field Trips. Places and times to be announced.

If you have questions, please contact:

Wayne Owen, Rare Plant Conference Committee
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P.O. Box 1270, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902
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501.321.5323

1998 ARKANSAS RARE PLANT CONFERENCE
Program of Arkansas' Rare Plant Taxa
Listed Taxa

Geocarpon minimum
 (Threatened)
Lesquerella filiformis
 (Endangered)
Lindera melissifolia
 (Endangered)
Ptilimnium nodosum
 (Endangered)
Trifolium stoloniferum
 (Endangered)

G1 Taxa

Carex oxylepis var.
pubescens (G5?T1?)
Hydrophyllum brownei
Mespilus canescens
Minuartia godfreyi
Plagiochila
acanthophylla var.
ciliigera (G?T1)
Polymnia cossatotensis
Quercus shumardii var.
acerifolia

G2 Taxa

Calamovilfa arcuata
Carex bicknellii var.
opaca (G5T2T3)
Carex fissa var. *fissa*
 (G3G4QT2?)
Eriocaulon kornickianum
Galium arkansanum var.
pubiflorum (G5T2Q)
Helianthus occidentalis
 ssp. *plantagineus*
 (G5T2T3Q)
Neviusia alabamensis
Oenothera pilosella ssp.
sessilis (G5T2Q)
Prenanthes barbata
 (G2G3)
Sagittaria ambigua (G2?)
Silene ovata
Streptanthus
squamiformis
Thalictrum arkansanum
 (G2Q)

G3 Taxa

Agalinis auriculata

Amorpha ouachitensis
 (G3Q)
Amorpha paniculata
Amsonia hubrichtii
Aster furcatus
Astragalus
soxmaniorum
Berlandiera subacaulis
Calamagrostis porteri
 ssp. *insperata* (G4T3)
Callirhoe bushii (G3Q)
Cardamine angustata
 var. *ouachitana* (G5T3Q)
Carex decomposita
Carex latebracteata
Carex socialis (G3?)
Carex verrucosa (G3G4)
Castanea pumila var.
ozarkensis (G5T3)
Chelone obliqua var.
speciosa (G4T3Q)
Crataegus carrollensis
 (G3G5Q)
Crataegus thermopegaea
 (G3G5Q)
Cyperus grayioides
Cypripedium
kentuckiense
Dalea gattingeri (G3G4)
Delphinium newtonianum
Delphinium treleasei
Dodecatheon frenchii
Draba aprica
Echinodorus parvulus
Eryngium hookeri
 (G3G5)
Fothergilla major
Hedyotis ouachitana
Heuchera parviflora
 var. *puberula* (G4T3T4)
Heuchera villosa var.
arkansana (G5T3Q)
Hypericum adpressum
 (G2G3)
Leitneria floridana
Lilaeopsis carolinensis
Parnassia grandifolia
 (G3G4)
Phlox bifida ssp.
stellaria (G5?T3)

Psoralea digitata var.
parvifolia
Ptilimnium costatum
 (G3?)
Quercus arkansana
Ruellia humilis var.
depauperata (G5T3T4)
Saxifraga palmeri (G3Q)
Schisandra glabra
Schoenolirion wrightii
Scleria reticularis
 (G3G4)
Scutellaria bushii
Silene regia
Solidago ouachitensis
Streptanthus
obtusifolius
Thalia dealbata (G3G5)
Tradescantia ernestiana
 (G3G5)
Tradescantia longipes
 (G3G4)
Tradescantia ozarkana
Trillium pusillum var.
ozarkanum (G3T3)
Valerianella ozarkana
Valerianella palmeri
Verbesina walteri (G3?)

Other Taxa

Anemone quinquefolia
 (G5)
Astragalus
crassicaarpus var.
crassicaarpus (G5T5)
Brickellia grandiflora
 (G5)
Cacalia muehlenbergii
 (G4)
Cardamine dissecta
 (= *Cardamine angustata*
 var. *multifida*) (G4?)
Carex amphibola var.
globosa (G5T?)
Carex basiantha (G?)
Carex bromoides (G5)
Carex hitchcockiana
 (G5)
Carex laevivaginata
 (G5)
Carex laxiculmis (G5)

Carex laxiflora (G5)
Carex pensylvanica (G5)
Carex prasina (G4)
Carex stricta (G5)
Carex virescens (G5)
Caulophyllum
thalictroides (G5)
Cirsium muticum (G5)
Cypripedium reginae
 (G4)
Dennstaedtia
punctilobula (G5)
Disporum lanuginosum
 (G5)
Dryopteris celsa (G4)
Dryopteris X australis
 (Hyb)
Dryopteris carthusiana
 (=D. *spinulosa*) (G5)
Echinacea paradoxa (G4)
Erysimum capitatum
 (G5)
Euphorbia longicuris
 (G4G5)

Gaylussacia baccata
 (G5)
Gratiola brevifolia (G4)
Hexalectris spicata
 (G4?)
Hieracium scabrum (G5)
Iris verna (G5)
Juglans cinerea (G4)
Lilium superbum (G5)
Liparis loeselii (G5)
Luzula acuminata var.
carolinae (G5T?)
Marshallia caespitosa
 var. *signata* (G4T4)
Mitella diphylla (G5)
Osmunda claytoniana
 (G5)
Panax quinquefolius (G4)
Paronychia virginica
 var. *scoparia* (G4T4Q)
Rhynchospora capillacea
 (G5)
Ribes curvatum (G4)
Ribes cynosbati (G5)

Spiranthes lucida (G5)
Stachys eplingii (G5)
Stenanthium gramineum
 (G4G5)
Thelypteris
noveboracensis (G5)
Trautvetteria
caroliniensis (G5)
Trichomanes
boschianum (G4)
Trichomanes petersii
 (G4G5)
Trillium flexipes (G5)
Uvularia perfoliata (G5)
Vernonia fasciculata
 (G5)
Viola canadensis (G5)
Waldsteinia
fragarioides (G5)
Woodsia scopulina var.
appalachiana (G4T4)
Xyris difformis var.
difformis (G5T5)

ODES TO WEEDS

by Bill Shepherd

HYPOCHAERIS

Shy cat's-ear hides her face on chilly days
 Nor dares an inflorescence to unfold
 Till Sol, arising, spreads his warming rays
 And strews our summer fields with purest gold.

SPEEDWELL

A glimpse of fair Veronica in bloom
 the chill of March belies;
 on Lilliputian scale her smile portends
 the hues of summer's skies.

CARDUUS

Though stately and in royal purple clad,
 Musk thistle bears an humble name indeed;
 Her hands upraised announce the feast that's
 spread
 And bid goldfinches share her dainty seed.



Traveling with John Bartram

by Eric Sundell

November 7, 1997

You may remember Emily Dickinson's travel itinerary from that wonderful poem that starts out, "There is no frigate like a book, to take us lands away; there are no coursers like a page of prancing poetry." Well, during the hot, dry summer, I was able to accompany 18th century naturalist John Bartram on several field trips using transportation provided by Edmund and Dorothy Smith Berkeley's biography, *The Life and Travels of John Bartram: from Lake Ontario to the River St. John*. I jotted down tidbits that I hoped to hold on to in spite of a memory too full of taxonomic names to hold much of anything else.

Bartram (1699-1777) attended Quaker school in the early 1700's near Philadelphia. The movement toward year-round education in America may have gotten its impetus from Bartram's schedule: pupils attended 12 months of the year, 8 hours a day, Monday through Friday, and 4 hours Saturday till the age of 12. The authors claim the education was equivalent to that of a high school graduate today, but having taught such graduates for 18 years now, I think the Berkeleys may be overestimating the amount of learning that goes on in our modern public schools.

Bartram was a lifelong correspondent of Englishman Peter Collinson, another Quaker, to whom he sent countless seeds, plants, and herbarium specimens. When his butterflies were damaged in shipment, he began sending cocoons. When the sailors ate his turtles, he sent turtle eggs; the first batch hatched the day they arrived. Mark Catesby found many plant models for his *Natural History of the Carolinas* in Collinson's garden, the majority of the North American plants having come from John Bartram. Bartram and Collinson never met. Bartram corresponded and provided specimens of American plants to several European botanists. He sent mosses to Dillenius. Via Collinson, he sent specimens of *Dionaea* to Linnaeus: the common name for Venus flytrap in his day was "tipitiwitchet sensitive"! He corresponded with Philip Miller, Gronovius, and many more.

Bartram was of course a great and resourceful farmer and gardener as well as one of America's first and best field naturalists. His Pennsylvania garden was described by an observer as "...a row of rare plants almost covered over with weeds." Nevertheless he could list 169 native American trees and shrubs under cultivation, and on an 800 mile journey to Fort Pitt, he discovered not one new woody species that was not already growing in his garden at home! Travels were planned with due regard to the current state of Indian relations--a single, unarmed man could be a temptation (especially his horse) even in peacetime. Accommodations could be rougher than the roads. On a trip to the Catskills with "the little botanist" (14 year old son Billy), they traveled 90 miles in two days and spent a night at a cabin "hardly big enough for a hen roost," sharing it with five or six people and innumerable lice. Bartram was ill with a fever during most of the trip. In Virginia, the roads often proved rougher than the accommodations, for Bartram now carried letters of introduction from Collinson to local plantation owners. Concerning his lodgings on a Virginia trip of 1738, "...after hours of riding in the rain, he fulfilled Collinson's worst fears for his appearance."

John Bartram's writings were not, in general, designed for publication and dissemination to a general readership. His journal notes were typically transformed into technical reports and often sent abroad to Collinson. In addition to botanical subjects, he published abundantly on insects and animal behavior. His journal of his visit to the five nations of the Iroquois in 1743

was copied and sent to Collinson but was lost at sea, as were the next two copies. The fourth one got through!

Bartram described socializing in an Indian town house, smoking pipes, one of which was six feetlong. At Fort Oswego, an Indian trading post on Lake Ontario, he found that the English traders cheated the Indians more than the French. He came home with a favorable impression of the Iroquois, especially of Indian women as wives.

Two of Bartram's most notable botanical discoveries were ginseng and Franklinia. (Benjamin Franklin was one of Bartram's closest friends; they co-founded the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia in 1744.) Ginseng was discovered in May, 1738, along the Susquehannah. Its therapeutic properties were later described by one Colonel William Byrd: ginseng benefitted a man in all manner of ways without "those naughty effects that might make men troublesome and impertinent to their poor wives." John and William Bartram discovered Franklinia on their trip via Georgia to St. Augustine, Florida, in 1765. The elder Bartram made no mention of the encounter in his journal, but as William explained 10 or 12 years later, they had no notion of the tree's identity because in late autumn there were neither flowers nor fruits. William collected seeds in 1777. The tree was last seen at the Altamaha River site--the only site in the wild where it was ever found--by John Lyons in 1803.

In 1760, Bartram finally made his first trip to the Carolinas and was astounded by the flora: "Oh Carolina! Carolina! a ravishing place for a curious botanist." His host, Dr. Alexander Garden (for whom Gardenia), described his ardor when he found something new: "He seems almost ravished to his senses and lost in astonishment." The Carolina trip left a permanent mark: in a letter of 1761, he wrote, "...ye Botanick fire set me in such a flame as is not to be quenched until death or I explore most of ye South Western vegetative treasures in North America or perish in ye attempt." Bartram made several more trips into the South, including one to Florida as the newly appointed King's Botanist. Though he was seasick all the way to Charleston, "...he recovered his bounce quickly."

Of the mysterious powers of the accomplished field botanist, Bartram had this observation: "The particular appearance of different species can no more be described by writing than ye particular features of a man's face, voice, or behavior."

Bartram was a lifelong Quaker, but a free thinker even among Friends. He was charged with disbelief in the divinity of Christ, and, in 1758, when he refused to mend his ways but maintained that Christ was a mortal man, he was officially declared to be no longer a member of the Christian Society of Friends. He continued to attend meeting all his life! His assessment of Solomon is one for the ages: "If Solomon had loved women less and books more, he would have been a wiser and happier man than he was." John Bartram's advice to his children still holds: moderation above all; prudence to regard distant good equal with present pleasure. "Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before God."

Alexander Garden described John Bartram's greatest asset as a botanist to be his lack of credulity. He was indeed, as well as a traveler of undaunted courage and a field observer with the keenest eye, an original thinker unencumbered by preconceptions. He made original observations on the necessity of pollen to seed set and on its genetic contribution to progeny in catchflies (*Lychnis*). He recognized mastodon bones discovered along the Ohio River as representing an animal much larger than and therefore different from the elephant. From

marine fossils in the Pennsylvania mountains, he concluded that the area had been beneath the ocean. And he recognized an organic origin for limestone and marble.

And he lived passionately, with steady conviction. Is there a member of the Arkansas Native Plant Society who would not be moved by his confession to being captivated by the infinite variation and fascination of plants. Listen to this: "Oh botany! Delightfulest of all sciences! There is no end to thy gratifications!"

The rest of the Dickinson poem, by the way, is better than the first: "This traverse may the poorest take without oppress of toll; how frugal is the chariot that bears a human soul."



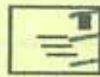
FIELD TRIP HIGHLIGHTS by Lisa Gouwens

The spring meeting in Monticello provided opportunities to visit Warren Prairie, over 500 protected acres shared by Drew and Bradley Counties. Two guided excursions led by Eric Sundell enabled plant enthusiasts to get acquainted with the preserve, which was purchased by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission aided by the Nature Conservancy. The prairie's ecological setting, characterized by saline soil (technically known as "lafe") provides a place for some rare plants to indulge their eccentric habits.

We were greeted first on the morning walk by numerous yellowish-white Texas sunny-bells (*Schoenolirion wrightii*). One of the species for which the prairie was preserved, sunny-bells have a very limited distribution in Arkansas. Another rare plant, *Geocarpum minimum*, was found later in the morning. Only "skeletons" were recovered because *Geocarpum* is an annual and its growth cycle for this spring was complete. This diminutive species provides a big reason for the protection of the prairie since it is among the scarcest plants on Earth. Also among the rare plants spotted was the sundew (*Drosera brevifolia*). Many of these carnivorous plants were in bloom, sporting small pink flowers standing just a few inches high. Some of the other plants encountered were green-flowered milkweed (*Asclepias*

viridis) beginning to bloom, yellow puffs (*Neptunia lutea*), skullcap mint (*Scutellaria parvula*), sundrops (*Oenothera linifolia*), star grass (*Hypoxis hirsuta*), waterleaf (*Phacelia glabra*), reindeer moss, and haircap moss complete with sporophytes. Alert forestry students found a chinquapin (*Castanea pumila*), which was not on the list of Warren Prairie plants. Upon Eric Sundell's request, Dan Marsh, a bryologist from Henderson State, found the moss *Sphagnum* with capsules. Wanderers seeking shade found a dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*) glade; dwarf palmettos are the only representatives of the palm family in Arkansas, and their range is restricted to this area of the state. Except the sundrops, most of the species sighted in the morning were visible in the afternoon. In addition, those who braved the hot sun saw yellow flax (*Linum* sp.) and quillwort (*Isoetes melanopoda*).

While the plants specifically mentioned represent only a fraction of the diverse Warren Prairie flora, observers saw enough to appreciate the value of the preserve. There are smaller prairies in Drew and Cleveland counties that are home to some rare species found on Warren Prairie. Unfortunately, plants in Cleveland county may be vulnerable to habitat loss from human activities. Knowing the importance and worth of Warren Prairie is an incentive to continue its safekeeping, and perhaps to initiate needed preservation of other rare plant habitats in Arkansas.



Please check your mailing label!
If your mailing label has a 97 or earlier it is time to renew!

Life members will have an LF

**July 1st is the deadline for inclusion in the
98-99 ANPS Directory**

Please fill in the information form on the bottom of page 9 and send with your renewals, applications for membership, changes of name, address, e-mail address or telephone numbers to the address give on the form: [Not to the editor.]

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The purpose of the Arkansas Native Plant Society

is to promote the preservation, conservation, and study of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas, the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitat, and the publication of related information.

Claytonia

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