



Claytonia



NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SPRING 1995

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.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: GREG ROBERTSON

I am truly honored to be the president of ANPS. When asked over a year ago to serve, I asked myself, why do they want a Forester to serve on the Executive Board?

Some years ago I got interested in the society when some friends of ours asked us to go with them on a field trip to the Albert Pike area. My wife Vickie and I both love the outdoors so we went and had a wonderful time. Since my background is forestry and I work outside most of the time I figured it would be a great way to learn more about what I was walking over everyday. Well, to say the least, that happened. But, more importantly, it gave me the privilege of getting to know people who I thought looked at things differently from me. I thought I could listen to the people of the ANPS and learn things that would help me better manage the lands where I work. Well, to say the least, that has happened too!

To make a long story short, education and cooperation are the keys to making many things happen among groups that find themselves on different sides of the coin at times.

Cooperative efforts between special interest groups and major companies are building working relationships that could never before have happened.

It is my opinion that as we continue to educate people about the native flora of Arkansas, some amazing things will happen between our society, industry, and the private land owner.

Once again let me say that I am proud to be your President of the ANPS and I will continue to blend my knowledge of forest management and the goals of the ANPS together to manage the flora of our Natural State.

ANPS SPRING FIELD TRIPS

April 8 - Calion, Union County, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: Carl Amason (501-748-2362)

Directions: Go to Calion and turn south off Hwy 167 at Staples Store. Travel 0.5 miles to county road 44, turn right, and go 1.25 miles to Carl's home, on the right. Bring a sack lunch.

April 29 - South Fourche Oxbow Wetland, Ouachita National Forest, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: John Logan, botanist, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (501-324-9150)

Where: Hollis, Arkansas. Bring BOOTS of some kind--it is a wetland area. Hiking shoes may be worn for balance of field trip. Bring your WILDFLOWER BOOK to help in identifying plants. Bring your lunch and drink. Directions: Hollis is north of Hot Springs in Perry County. Meet at the Hollis Store on Highway 7, south of Lake Nimrod.

May 13 - Petit Jean Mountain, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: Carl Slaughter (501-727-5700)

Where: Meet at Carl Slaughter's home atop Petit Jean Mountain. The following orchids may possibly be found: Yellow Lady Slipper, Ragged Orchid, Lily Twayblade, Southern Twayblade, and the Green Adder's Mouth. Boots are advised as the trip will require walking in water. Bring lunch. Directions: Turn west at oppelo on Hwy 154. Turn south on the top of the mountain at A&A Barbecue. Follow gravel road to Carl's house on left.

 May 20 - Sugar Loaf Mountain, Stone County, 9:30 a.m.

Leaders: Karen Tinkle (501-269-3228) and Earl Hendrix

Where: Sylamore Ranger Station. For the many who did not have the opportunity to take the field trip which was hastily decided on after lunch on Saturday at last year's Spring Meeting, another field trip will be made to Sugar Loaf Mtn. Co-leaders will be Karen Tinkle, Wildlife Biologist, Sylamore District of the Ozark National Forest, and Earl Hendrix, Forestry Technician, who works on surveying new sensitive plant sites. This field trip will be made during the "National Wildflower Celebration" in Mountain View. Bring food and drink for lunch on the top of Sugar Loaf, which has a nearly 360 degree view of the surrounding areas. Bring a sack lunch. Directions: Sylamore Ranger Station is on Highway 9, a few blocks north of junction of Highways 9 and 14 in Mountain View.

May 27 - Traskwood, Saline County, 10:30 a.m.

Leader: John Pelton (501-794-1883)

Expect to see Calopogan species, Grass Pink Orchid. Other surprises in store, so be sure to bring your wildflower book, sack lunch, and drink. Directions: Meet at McDade's store, located on Hwy 229 by RR tracks.

June 10 - Alexander, AR, 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Carl Hunter (501-455-1538)

Where: 18 Pointer Drive

Many of Carl's 150+ species of wildflowers will be in bloom in his yard.

Directions: From the west, exit at County Line Exit, go to first road east of Jacuzzi plant, then one mile south on Viny Ridge Road to Quail Run. There will be signs. Others: cross over I-30 at SW Hospital Overpass. Go west on south service road to first road east of Jacuzzi plant. (Overpass is west of I-430).

June 17 - Calion and on to Calhoun County, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: Carl Amason (501-748-2362)

Directions: Go to Calion and turn south off Hwy 167 at Staples Store. Travel 0.5 miles to county road 44, turn right, and go 1.25 miles to Carl's home, on the right. Bring sack lunch.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

April 13-15 -- Spring Native Plant and Wildflower Sale

Lichterman Nature Center, 5992 Quince Rd., Memphis, TN. Preview party 5:00-6:30 p.m. on April 13th. Admission is \$5.00 for members, registered by April 9th, \$7.50 for non-members registered, and \$10.00 at the door. No admission on April 14th & 15th. Hours on 14th: 9:30-6:30; hours on 15th: 9:30-4:30.

April 27-30 -- Heritage Herb Spring Extravaganza

Hands-on Workshop and Lavish Feast - with Adeima Grenier Simmons and Steven Foster at the Ozark Folk Center. Call 501-269-3851 for details.

May 6 -- Wildflower Walk in the Sandhills

White Oak Lake State Park will host this special event. It will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the park's Visitor Information Center. Dr. Gary Tucker, FTN Associates Limited, will lead the morning hike at the Bluff City dump sandhill area. Tina Wilcox of the Ozark Folk Center, will have a presentation on edible and medicable plants in the area. Other speakers will also be participating in this event.

NEWS NOTES

The Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission has signed limited edition prints of the **Baker Prairie Wildflower Collection** by award winning artist, Kate Nessler, of Kingston, Arkansas. Proceeds of the sale help protect the prairie and help support the educational activities of the commission.

ANPS members have been asked to assist in a new project at the new Camden High School. Our president has received a grant from International Paper to develop a half-acre wildflower garden on the campus. If you have any suggestions or native plants that you would like to donate, please contact Thera Lou Adams.

SPRING MEETING

Where: Veterans Memorial Park, Mena, Arkansas
Approximately 4 mi. north of Mena on Hwy. 71, on left. Blue metal building, look for signs.

When: April 21-23, 1995

Schedule:

Friday, April 21

4:00-6:30 Registration -- Membership Renewal
Field trips sign-up
Social hour
6:30 Group Set Dinner -- Veterans Memorial Park -- \$8.00 per person
7:30-9:30 Program: Field trip announcements; Stan Speight, Supt. of the Cossatot River State Park; Brad Holleman, Interpretive - Queen Wilhelmina State Park; Bill Shepherd, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission; John Pelton, Slide Presentation.

Saturday, April 22

Breakfast on your own.
8:30 a.m. Field Trips start at Veterans Memorial Park (all day trips--bring food and drink).
12:00 Lunch on your own.
1:30 p.m. Half-day trips repeated.
6:30 Group Set Dinner -- Veterans Memorial Park -- \$8.00 per person
7:30 General Business Meeting -- T-Shirt announcement; "Flora of Arkansas" project; Sunday field trip announcement
8:00-9:30 Program -- Chris Frisbee, Ouachita National Forest; Dr. Carl Slaughter, Slide Presentation

Sunday, April 23

Breakfast on your own.
9:30 a.m. Field trip -- leave from WalMart parking lot near the big sign.
12:00 p.m. Lunch on your own (on your way home).

Accommodations:

Best Western Lime Tree Inn -- Hwy. 71 No. -- 501-394-6350
Nana's Country Inn -- Hwy. 71 No. -- 501-394-6433
Harvey House Inn -- Hwy. 71 No. -- 501-394-3710
Motel Capri -- Hwy. 71 So. -- 501-394-2400
Ozark Inn -- Hwy. 71 So. -- 501-394-1100
Queen Wilhelmina State Park -- 501-394-2863 (booked full, check for cancellations)

Campgrounds:

Rich Mtn. RV Park -- 501-394-5300 (at the foot of the mountain)
Caron RV Park -- 501-394-4547
Queen Wilhelmina State Park Campground -- 501-394-2863 (fog can be quite heavy)

NOTE: For people arriving on Saturday, April 22, all field trips will start from the Veterans Memorial Park at 8:30 am; afternoon field trips at 1:30 pm from the same location.

UPDATE ON CELESTIAL LILY SITE SURVEY:

This coming April and May will be the second year of a three-year study regarding two species of *Nemastylis* in Arkansas. During 1994, five new sites of *N. gemniflora* were found. Two new sites of *N. nuttalli* population were located. Special thanks to Don and Oralee Price and to Ed Hall for their active participation. ANPS member, Newton Hanson, took me to the first recorded site, as far as I know, for a small population of *N. gemniflora* in Lawrence County.

Beth Erwin invited me to witness a remarkable habitat of *N. gemniflora* just miles south of Ashley County, Arkansas, in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. Thanks, Beth.

Any site information from the ANPS membership will be welcomed and appreciated. After the 3-year study a full report of the survey will be given to each participant who helps in finding more sites of these Celestial lilies. --Bob Clearwater

MEMORIALS

Our deepest sympathy to Louise Dunn of Heber Springs on the recent death of her husband Tommy, and to the family of Dr. Floyd Shafer, who was killed in an accident while biking on Cantrell Rd. in Little Rock. The following have made memorial donations to the ANPS for Tommy: Mr. & Mrs. Youngchild, Heber Springs; Bill & Betty May, Heber Springs; Michael J. Kenny, Albuquerque, NM; Hall & Faye Bryant, Batesville; Jane Wideman, Heber Springs.

FALL FIELD TRIP (November 5, 1994) REPORT -- Carl Amason

The Saturday field trip was scheduled and many people had written of their intentions to participate. The weather on the previous Friday turned to appear evil and the weather forecasts were ominous; anything could happen weather-wise. During the night heavy local rains fell and the winds blew. Morning broke with fair skies and a sunny day. The heavy rains had fallen upon dry soil so there was little mud underfoot, but the storm was violent and a tornado struck west of El Dorado and slammed into Smackover. The people from Camden had to drive through fallen trees on their way. But the immediate area about Calion had no damage, electricity remained on the wires, and there had not been any devastating frosts.

I was very pleasantly surprised when the guests began to arrive, and the house and yard became active with happiness and anticipation. Dr. Dan Daniel, his wife Kathy, and their children, Will and Caroline in the group--they are well-behaved children, a joy to have around. Winnie Dawson, who has dual citizenship in the United States and Canada and had just returned back to Malvern to spend the colder part of the year, arrived with her friend Wanda Ottinger. Greg Robertson came early and left early--a busy man at all seasons. Lois Wilson had come a day early and spent the night at Thera Lou Adams' and they came to spend the day. They became so impressed with the flowering *Camellia sasanqua* bushes in bloom that they left with plans to go to nurseries to seek out some of these lovely exotics for their gardens. Anne Beale came from the Chidester area (near Camden) after electricity was restored to her home. Her interest and enthusiasm always enlivens a group when she is present. Much to my surprise, a delegation from University of Arkansas-Monticello arrived, due to the urging of Dr. Eric Sundell, Librarian Copeland, and Professor Marvin Jeter, Nick Brown and Chris Bennett of the School of Forest Resources, and Jamie Nichols. All were special knowledgeable people. Rounding out the Camden delegation were Lynett McDonald and Janet McDonald. All the while we were

strolling over the place, looking at the tall loblolly pines, admiring some of the exotic camellias and strolling past many of the *Vaccinium elliotii* and a very elegant *Vaccinium arboreum*. The latter has a definite Oriental appearance and when in full bloom is one of the nicest of all the native small trees. I find it seldom appears in the nursery trade as it is very difficult to transplant and takes years for a specimen tree to grow to maturity from seed. Then to a more moist area where the American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) grows, and at this time of the year the parasitic *Epifagus virginiana* was in its full glory of bloom in clumps along the radiating roots of the beech trees. It is a purplish yellow-brown appearing in clusters of erect dense stems, from three to six inches tall. It is common here in Union County--just find a beech tree and in all likelihood, beech drops will be there. The flowers are very insignificant. Close by, downhill, was a fruiting *Sabal minor*, the only native palm to Arkansas. On the uphill side were about ten plants of the Mariana fern that I learned as *Thelypteris torresiana* but is now called *Microthelypteris torresiana*, all amid a lot of *Ilex opaca* or American holly, which produced precious few berries this year.

Although almost noon, time would permit a fast trip to a sandy spit that protrudes into Calion Lake, and there were several clumps of the green water orchid, *Platanthera repens*, one lingering plant still in fine flowering condition. The way to the orchids was across the edge of the lake. They are lowering the water level of the lake and surprisingly there was very little mud, but I shudder as I think of Winnie Dawson in her pristine white sneakers as she walked along the way. On the edge of the lake, female fruiting bushes of *Baccharis halimifolia* were showy. Careful observation produced male bushes of the same species nearby, and this careful observation turned up a flowering vine of *Gelsemium sempervirens* with a single flower blooming out of season, but it isn't really uncommon to find a flower or two during warm spells in the winter. Then back to the house for lunch and more friendly visitations. The day developed into warm sunny weather and the porch was filled with lunch eaters and samplers. So many brought home cookies and pickles; Thera Lou's Swedish tea logs were eagerly devoured. We had worked up a field trip appetite. It was during the noon-time festivities that Ed Hall turned up for the field trip. He was spending the day taking wildflower photographs. His photographs are always good and hopefully some day (or rather night) we will be raptured viewers of his pictures. We have so much talent in our group. I think that someone among us can do almost anything and do it well.

The afternoon was passing quickly--as it seems that time flies by when you are having a good time. So away we went to one of my favorite botanizing spots--wet ditches on the Champagnolle Road out of El Dorado. There some *Gentiana saponaria* were in bloom! In places, *Lycopodium appressum* has completely matted the damp soil with their hardy green stems but the upright spore-bearing spikes had done their due and they were showing signs of old age and dying back to the evergreen stems. Sharp eyes detected the presence of young sundews over the moist ground, making it look like the earth had broken out with a case of measles. We looked and admired Virginia chainferns and thought of other times when the same ditches produced other things. Today some *Platanthera repens* were found in less than prime bloom. It was time to return to our gathering point as the days were getting much shorter and it was time to return home. We said our "adieu" and hoped to meet again on another delightful field trip.

For me there were only two disturbing obstacles to having complete happiness--first, that I do not know all the answers to the questions that I am asked. This is probably

something that I can do something about. The other is news from Tomiline Higginbottom that Albert is not doing well--due to advancing Alzheimer's. Such are the bittersweet affairs of life.

THE RED MAPLE (*Acer rubrum*) -- by Carl Amason

Acer rubrum, better known as red or swamp maple is well known and is probably found in almost every eastern state of the United States. Here in Union County and over most of the Coastal Plains, it is found most often along bottom lands, especially along streams and creeks. That is the reason why one of its common names is swamp maple, but I have seen them prospering on quite high and dry hillsides also. The other common name of red maple is very evident in some of the trees in full ripening samaras (seed fruit) as some can be a bright brilliant red. However, I find that a majority of the trees produce samaras in shades other than brilliant red. In fact, I have seen some fruit color range from lime green to light salmon, brownish tones of salmon and pink, and into brighter pinks and reds, but not the brilliant reds that I associate with *Acer rubrum drummondii*. The red maple is one of the very first trees in my area to come into full bloom--a misty red from the tiny red flowers (another reason why it is called red maple). These blooms occur here in early February and develop into the samaras of late February and March. It seems that almost every tree has its own individual color, and some are indeed showy. They are at their best on the sunny edges of roadsides as the roads go through forested creek bottoms. The tree itself can grow up to fifty feet or more; more often they are not that tall, but are taller than the well-known and loved dogwood (*Cornus florida*) or the redbud, often in the same bottomland.

The red maple makes a nice shade tree for a small yard, but its roots are usually on top of the ground as the old expression goes, and the roots sap all the water and nutrients from even some of the grasses used for lawns. Some of the selected forms are highly desirable, however. They are easily transplanted but seldom used as a front yard specimen. In fact, they are usually relegated to the backyard. While the flowers are not showy, the seed fruits can be and are eaten by squirrels, many of the common songbirds which are attracted to seed feeders--cardinals, white-throated sparrows, tufted titmice--and a number of wildlife animals.

It is true that the red maples do not have the bright fall colors that sugar maples develop. Sugar maples make a larger shade tree and are long-lived. The fall colors of the red maples can vary from lemon yellow to brilliant red. In recent years, nurserymen have selected a number of clones or cultivars, giving them fancy names and most are evaluated for the bright colors of the fall season. In the wild populations that I see yearly in their annual fall color, most are in the bright yellow range. On sunny, damp fall days, the filtered sunshine has a yellow glow, and I suppose the translucent filtered sunshine is the nearest approach to a stained glass window in a cathedral that we can experience in nature.

There are a number of other maples worthy of landscape uses. Most all, native or exotic, are very desirable, but among the native maples, the silver-leafed maple is one of the few that does not give a bright fall color to their leaves. The trifoliated maple (box elder) gives poor color, but it has other interesting features that endear itself to some people. So if you have a damp, poorly drained area, red maples are a good planting candidate, especially *Acer rubrum* var. *drummondii*.

I will relate here an added footnote of interest that is funny, yet not funny, pathetic and not pathetic. Often I am approached by an acquaintance in the late spring when leaves have grown out and my friends are a bit disturbed. Their remarks are something like this: "I want to show you what I purchased from a Sunday paper supplement as a red maple, and this is what I got! The leaves are as green as grass!" Then they produce a twig or leaf from their plant. I take one look and say, "You ordered a red maple and got a red-maple. You were expecting a red-leafed Japanese maple, which is quite another item, usually much more expensive than a red maple seedling." I'm sure that no one who knows native plants--or even exotic plants--has fallen victim to buying a red maple when expecting a red-leafed Japanese maple. Learning can be less than pleasant for some of us about so many things, but learning on the Arkansas Native Plant Society's field trips can be fun as well as educational.

MINUTES OF THE FALL BUSINESS MEETING, SEPT. 24, 1994, CONWAY, AR -- Gail Carlson, Secretary

President Slaughter called the general business meeting to order at approximately 7:40 p.m. Gail Carlson, secretary, read the minutes of the spring business meeting which was held in Mountain View, Arkansas. President Slaughter made motion to accept, Carl Amason seconded. Motion carried. Jewel Moore, historian, read the treasurer's report in the absence of Sue Clark. Carl Amason made motion to accept. Ed Schoenike seconded. Motion carried.

Carl Amason presented the Carl Amason Conservation Award to Lane and Bruce Ewing of Mena, Arkansas.

Greg Robertson presented a plaque to Dr. Don Culwell, and gave thanks to all who helped in an outstanding fall meeting. Plaque was sent to Tina Marie Wilcox for the 1994 Spring meeting in Mountain View, Arkansas. A special thanks to all was expressed by Greg.

Eric Sundell presented a special plaque to Carl Slaughter. The Dwight Moore Award -- contributions through publications was given to Dr. Ed Smith of Fayetteville, plus a \$100 check. Carl Hunter volunteered to take the award and check to Dr. Smith. Also the Dwight Moore award was presented to Dr. Carl Slaughter for his book "Wild Orchids of Arkansas," plus a \$100.00 check.

At the last spring meeting it was recommended to change T-shirt logo and design. President Slaughter selected Bob Clearwater, Lois Wilson, and John Pelton to come up with recommendation to be presented at the 1995 spring business meeting. Mary Ann Hunter and Greg Robertson showed us some T-shirts with new design and logos. John Pelton also brought up the type of material we would want, cotton or a blend. It was then asked for a show of hands, with cotton most desired by all. Also, question was asked about the mark-up of T-shirts. Liz Getz doesn't feel we need to mark them up any more than they have been.

Bill Shepherd of the National Heritage Foundation spoke about the wildflowers of Baker Prairie and the wildflower prints by Kate Nessler which were on display in the Boone County Library. The next showing will be in Jonesboro. The National Heritage Foundation was selling sets of four prints.

Lois Wilson -- nominating committee for officers for 1995-96. They selected Sue Clark, treasurer and John Pelton, vice president. Bill Shepherd made motion to accept, Bob Clearwater seconded. Motion carried.

President Slaughter then turned the program over to our new president, Greg Robertson, and introduced his wife, Vicki.

Greg Robertson then presented Joe Dean and his slides, entitled "Gentle Wings" and Don Culwell and his video on his field trip out west; with some of his students.

Greg Robertson spoke about a project in Camden, Arkansas, with the Camden Fairview High School--an outdoor environmental lab to grow and house native plants.

Bob Clearwater spoke about the badges and asked that they be turned in after the meeting; and, to give special thanks to Ron Doran, Editor, in making the badges.

Lois Wilson stated we collected approximately \$700.00 from the auction sale.

Bob Clearwater stated the spring meeting will be held in Mena, Arkansas, April 21, 22 & 23, with Lana and Bruce Ewing hosting and handling the arrangements.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Our New Life Members:

Dr. Janice Craig, Marshall
Winfred P. Dawson, Malvern
Cat and Joe Dean, Drasco
Patsy Farrar, Tuckerman
Fred Greenwood, Little Rock
Daniel L. Marsh, Arkadelphia
Marsha Rowe, Stamps

Important Note: Those of you who came to the last Fall Meeting in Conway will remember the weather conditions at the registration table and hospitality area which was outdoors near the prairie site. Due to the wind and rain some of my papers got wet and names obliterated. Plus in my haste to get in the Jeep out of the downpour, I dropped the sheet of the renewals in the water. Anyway, after the meeting I called nearly 30 persons trying to verify and reconfirm if the persons had indeed renewed. I am listing below the names that I have been able to verify:

Tom & Louise Dunn; Jane Wideman; Joe and Cat Dean; Catherine & Jack Hepinstall; Penny Robbins; Bruce & Lana Ewing; Ed Hall; Steve Manning; Don Crank; Kathleen Peek; Robert & Ellen Bearden; Elsie Logan; and Judith Logan.

If you know that you renewed and do not see your name listed, please phone or send a postal card to me or to Sue Clark. There are just a few dollars received for renewals that have not been accounted for by name. Your kind cooperation is earnestly solicited so a full accounting can be made. Thanks, always. Bob Clearwater, 121 Fern Place, Fairfield Bay, AR 72088; 501-884-6752. (Sue's address and phone number are listed in your ANPS Directory.)

Have you looked at the number in the upper right corner of your address label?

- If the number is 95 or LF, there is no problem.
- If your number is 94 or earlier -- your dues are due. If dues are not paid before the next issue of *Claytonia* comes out, your name will likely be purged from the mailing list. You can pay at the next meeting or send your dues (\$10 Regular, \$15 Supporting, \$25 Contributing, or \$100 Life) to:
Arkansas Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 250250
Little Rock, AR 72225

Remember, your membership helps keep Arkansas the "Natural State."

- If you have had a change of name, address or telephone number since your dues, please send the change to:
Eric Sundell, Membership Chairman, ANPS
114 Briarcliff
Monticello, AR 71655
- Only articles for the *Claytonia* should be sent to:
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