



Claytonia



NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FALL 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

It's been a quick year and I have enjoyed all the new and interesting people I've met through our field trips, meetings and the daily business of the ANPS. I especially enjoyed working with Ted Barnes (BARNES LIMITED) on the new T-shirts. He did a quality job and has many ideas for other shirts in the future.

This year was a wonderful learning experience for me and one that I wish everyone had a chance to experience. It will make you really appreciate all the hard work that people do (behind the scenes) to make this society what it is.

Thanks for your support and confidence in allowing me to represent you and the ANPS.

A NOTE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT: JOHN PELTON

At the Spring 1995 ANPS meeting the Executive Board discussed the possibility of forming local area chapters for our Native Plant Society. It was suggested that a note be placed in the Claytonia to solicit your opinions and ideas. Some states with strong NPS'S have area chapters, Missouri being a good example.

Area chapters could join with other nature interest groups such as the Audubon Society to have a year-long program, with special activities at peak times of the year.

We have people who could assist in forming the chapters and who would be willing to assist with programs. Several photographers are available for slide presentations and workshops on photographing wildflowers. We also have others with nature interests.

I think our main objective should be to include local people who have similar interests with ours, and also to include young people and children. We need to make local connections with the Forest Service, timber companies, Natural Heritage Commission, Nature Conservancy, schools, garden clubs, etc.

If we are able to form chapters, we would need a reporter to keep the editor of the Claytonia informed of chapter events. I think we could be blessed!

FALL MEETING

Where: Econo Lodge
4319 Central Ave.
Hot Springs, AR 71913

Econo Lodge is located approximately 2.5 miles south of JCT Highways 70 & 270 & 7; or approximately 2 miles south of the Oaklawn racetrack on the east side of Highway 7.

When: Sept. 22-24, 1995

Schedule:

Friday, Sept. 22nd

4:00-6:00

Registration - Membership Renewal - Econo Lodge conference room

Field trip sign-up for Saturday & Sunday mornings

Social hour - Econo Lodge conference room

6:00-7:30

Dinner on your own - Buffy's Buffet is recommended

Buffy's is approximately 1 mile north of the Econo Lodge.

7:30 - ?

Annual auction of assortment of plants, seeds, preserves, starts of shrubs and trees, etc. Carl Amason, our inimitable auctioneer, will preside during the auction in the Econo Lodge conference room. Bring all your plant offerings to the conference room for auction set-up prior to the dinner hour.

Saturday, Sept. 23rd

8:30-12:00

Breakfast on your own.

Field trips leave from the Econo Lodge parking lot.

1) Meyer's Creek, Brady Mt. Glade, Rifle Range Seep

2) Charleston Recreation area to Walnut Fork Creek.

Silvery Glade fern (*Deparia acrostichoides*) will be

seen.

There may be another one or two field trips available - notice will be given at the registration table and field trip sign-up table.

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Lunch on your own. Buffy's buffet will be open.

1:30-5:00 p.m.

Above field trips will be repeated.

6:00-7:30 p.m.

Dinner on your own. Buffy's again?

7:30 p.m.

Annual Fall business meeting

8:00 p.m.

Programs:

Fascination for ferns - Don Crank

A Potpourri of Wildflowers et cetera - slide showtime;

B. Clearwater

Baby Lizards Drill Team - slide presentation; Joe Dean

Local Wildflower Landscape project; Greg Robertson

Additional notes:

When making reservations and registering please mention ANPS. The ANPS Board kindly ask all members planning to attend to make immediate reservations at the Econo Lodge. If twenty-five rooms are rented there will be no cost for the use of the conference room by the ANPS.

Accommodations:

Econo Lodge -- 4319 Central Ave. -- 501-525-1660 or 1-800-745-6160

Rates: \$41.40 + tax for upstairs

\$43.20 + tax for downstairs

Super 8 -- 4726 Central Ave. -- 501-525-0188

Holiday Inn -- Hwy 7 South -- 501-525-1391

Camping -- Gulpha Gorge and Lake Ouachita

Restaurants and fast food places are located north and south of the Econo Lodge.

A.N.P.S. FALL FIELD TRIPS

Sept 16 - Devil's Den State Park, 10:00 a.m.

Leaders: Jay Justice & Bob Clearwater (501-794-2669 - 501-884-6752)

Where: Meet at the visitor center.

A combined mushroom & wildflower trail hike. Jay is an expert on mushrooms, so don't miss this new venture. Bring you own lunch & drink.

Sept 30 - Harold Alexander Wildlife Refuge, 9:30 a.m.

Leader: Dr. Veryl Board (501- 698-1703)

Where: Meet at the Ramada Inn - approximately 1 ½ mile north of Batesville on the left side of HWY 67. We can car-pool from there.

Among the wildflowers, we will see the sensitive and rare Ridell's goldenrod and Grass-of-parnassus plants. Bring boots if you want to wade edges of Rock Creek. Also, bring you own lunch and drink.

Oct 7 - Baker Prairie, 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Bob Clearwater (501-884-6752)

Where: Stay on Hwy 65 until you come to JCT. after passing Wal-Mart store on the east side. Go across on Industrial Park Rd. and proceed for 1 mile & turn left on Goblin Rd. and go to lower parking lot. Meet at the parking lot south of the high school on top of the hill.

For wildflower enthusiasts the Downy Gentian (*Gentiana puberulenta*) may be considered the loviest of all Arkansas gentians. When you see it at the prairie you may know why. Good time for many other fall wildflowers. Bring your own lunch and drink.

Oct 21 - Saline River Bottom & Warren Prairie

Leader: Eric Sundell - (501-367-2652)

Where: Meet at 10:00 A.M. at the Best Western Motel parking lot, Jct. Hwy 425 & Hwy 4, Monticello, Arkansas. Bring a sack lunch and drink and Arkansas flower book.

Nov 11 - Carl Amason's Place, Calion, AR 9:30 a.m.
Leader: Carl Amason (501-748-2362)
Where: Go to Calion and turn south off Hwy 167 at Staples store. Go .5 miles to a county road 44, turn right and go 1.25 miles to Carl's place on the right. Park along the road in front of board fence. Bring your own lunch and drink.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

The Spring general business meeting was held at the Veteran's Memorial Park in Mena, AR., April 23, 1995. President Greg Robertson opened the General meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Eric Sundell, ANPS scholarship chairman indicated four awards were given: Heather A. Hubbard, University of AR. Fayetteville, Delzie Demaree \$500.00 award; Jennifer A. Schweitzer, University of Central, AR. - Delzie Demaree \$500.00 award; Shay Murphy, University of AR., Fayetteville - Aileen McWilliams \$500.00 award; and Sophia Kinsey, University of AR., Fayetteville - Aileen McWilliams \$400.00 award. Total \$1,900.00.

Dr. R. Spears asked how long we have been giving awards, how it is applied and if the recipients report back so our members can determine if our society donations are really beneficial to them. Eric Sundell said they are used in various ways on their research projects. Phil Hyatt told about the Delzie Demaree grant he received several years ago and that it was very helpful to him in his research project.

Carl Hunter spoke about gravel dredging from our streams and the good response he received on Friday to the volunteer phone calling concerning dredging. He spoke about the seriousness of digging plants, such as the ginseng plant and school field trips where children are picking plants that may be sensitive to that location and area. He said schools and teachers should be provided with a list of plants that can be picked when on field trips.

President Robertson spoke briefly about the T-shirts and two were shown to the members; one in light tan or almond and one in white. The light tan was the favorite. The light tan sells for \$10.00, white for \$7.50 and a blend for \$9.00. John Pelton stated it was decided at the fall general meeting in Conway to go with all cotton. Jason Anders indicated he would like to see, in the future, non-flowers (like ferns). Dr. Spears wanted to know the minimum order.

Don Crank made a motion to accept the light tan/almond T-shirt, Eric Sundell seconded. Motion carried. President Robertson said they would order short and long sleeve T-shirts and sweat shirts. He encouraged members to buy and give them as gifts. Thera Lou Adams is selling the old ones for \$8.00. We have an option in one year for a new T-shirt design; and the maker has the option to sell our design in one year without the name.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and the program was turned over to Bob Clearwater.

Bob Clearwater introduced Chris Frisbee, botanist for the Ouachita National Forest, who spoke about Celebrating Wildflowers. Carl Slaughter gave a terrific slide presentation on the Orchids of Arkansas.

Bob Clearwater indicated the fall meeting is to be held in Hot Springs, Arkansas on Sept. 22, 23 & 24 with Don Crank as host.

--Betty Speairs, Secretary

WILDFLOWER NOTES BY CARL AMASON

There is a common wildflower that is found over much of the southeast and in consulting Dr. Ed Smith's *An Atlas and Annotated List of the Vascular Plants of Arkansas*, it is mapped as occurring in almost every country of the state, from north to south, from west to east. That comes as no real surprise because Saururus cernuus, known as Lizard's Tail, is an invasive plant in sunny or partly shaded boggy, marshy, wet areas and is considered difficult to eradicate when other plants, such as Louisiana irises, are to be grown, but it does make a pleasing display of white flowers when a colony blooms more or less in unison in late spring and early summer. Lizard's Tail is a unique plant and is the only member of its family, Saururaceae, found in eastern United States but there are other genera found in Asia that are related. The growing of Lizards's Tail as a cultivated plant isn't for everyone as it tends to do only too well where it wants to grow and not grow at all where it doesn't want to grow, but a discussion of its name is of great interest to even people who are not wildflower enthusiasts. First, the name is of Greek origin, which makes the spelling and pronouncement difficult for english speaking people and Saururus cernuus means nothing more than the lizard (*sauros* [Greek]) tail (*ouros* [Greek] and *cernuus* (nodding [Latin])), a name borrowed from two

ancient scholarly languages. There are other instances of name borrowing that are more familiar to us in our common daily usage. Thereby hangs a tale of a tail, perhaps.

Here we go, borrowing from the Greeks, and I doubt if there is a household, especially where pre-teenage boys are living that is not familiar with the word "dinosaur". Dinosaur is nothing more than Greek-an allied scientific language to Latin-for terrible (*deinos*) lizard (*sauros*). Furthermore these young people can talk from breakfast time till bedtime about such dinosaurs as Tyrannosaurus (Greek for tyrant lizard) and several other dinosaurs with scientific names ending in -osaurus. The connection between lizard and this plant is vague--some allusion of a botanists fancy. *Cernuus* is a Latin word for nodding, and there are many instances of the word *cernuus* for nodding in the botanical literature. There are several instances of the usage of double u's still being retained in the English language from the Latin. Vacuum and residuum are two such examples. Such word borrowing makes the English language a difficult one, but very expressive.

Saururus cernuus has an arrangement of tiny flowers on an extended spike that is two or three inches long, that in early stages nod but in the mature stage becomes straight. The plant comes from vigorous rhizomes that ply through the wet soil, sending up leafy stems from 10 to 20 inches tall with nodes that produce a leaf and maybe one or two flowering spikes. The leaves are heart shaped with an extended tip and range from 2 to 3 inches long; 1 ½ to less than one inch wide, form nodes from 2 to less than an inch apart, becoming closer on the growing tips, producing stems with a prominent zig-zag fashion. The stems are frequently forked into two parts. When crushed, all parts of the plant has a strong distinctive odor; some call it obnoxious, others find it fragrant. There seems to be no wild life use of the plant in any part or any time as a major food source but some minor holes and disfigurations is evident on the leaves. When in bloom,

the entire stem can be cut and is quite attractive used in a mixed bouquet for good appearance and long vase life.

Later on the flowering spike becomes straight and the flowers develop into a three-parted seed arrangement, somewhat reminiscent of the Euphorbiaceae (spurge family). There seems to be no folk medicinal usages for any part of the plant. Like so many plants, when frosts comes this perennial plant dies back to the roots and thus the discolored stalks becomes unsightly cluttered in the eyes of the average person.

Another exotic member of this family from the Orient has become popular in the nursery business as the Chameleon plant (Houttiaynia cordata) due to bright rose and yellow splashes on the green leaves. It is also known by a corruption of its scientific name as "hot tuna". This plant is not to be confused with Hottonia, feather foil, an uncommon native aquatic plant that has been the quest of wildflower photographers among our group in recent years.

The whole purpose in this essay is to appreciate our common wild flowers and to know something about their scientific names. Just be aware that you may not be able to speak Latin like Caesar or Greek like Socrates, but neither of them could speak English.

MAY 27TH -- TRASKWOOD FIELD TRIP REPORT -- John Pelton

We met at McDade's Store in Traskwood at 10:30. Those attending were Don Crank, Carl Hunter, Carl Slaughter, George and Lily Sinclair and their daughter, Mary; Dave and Ernie Wallis, Justin and Annette Holder, Martha Wyre, Bob Cliff, Grace Hancock, Greg Robertson, Marjorie Webb, Kathy, Dan and Kate Daniel, Linda Holbert, Jason Anders, Kathleen Peek, Lou Burrow, Penny robbins, John Simpson, Sterling Hankins, Ruth Brown, Suzanne Barnes, Paula Wallace, Frances and John Pelton.

On our way to the orchid site we saw several Texas azaleas in bloom. As we arrived, we parked on the road to the north. When we gathered for the introduction to the orchid site, many could hardly wait to see the orchids alongside us, just a step off the road.

I mentioned that George and Lily found this site several years ago, and that just a few days earlier we had found 200 Rose Pogonias mixed in with the Grass Pink orchids. Strange as it may seem, these two orchids were limited to the sandy alluvial fan that washed down from the gravel and sand hill to the west of us. Don Crank mentioned the fern population also growing with the orchids. He pointed out the club moss growing in the ditch near us.

We had a very interesting time; some of us seeing these orchids for the first time. We found one plant well over two feet tall, which had a leaf approximately 7/8" wide. We also saw the leaves of the yellow fringed orchid which will bloom in July.

George and Lily invited us to eat and rest at their place. We enjoyed their hospitality, the food and fellowship.

We needed to count the Grass Pinks, so Justin and Annette Holder, Carl Slaughter, George and Lily Sinclair, Frances and I went back to the site. We counted 244 plants, all blooming.

A special thanks to Dave Wallis who took some group photos. I'll see that Dr. Moore gets them for our history records. Thanks to all who came! We were blessed!

A Little History - by Dr. Jewell

From time to time, a little history of our Arkansas Native Plant Society will appear in *The Claytonia* so that we can learn how we came to be like we are now. This first bit are answers to the two question I sent to all who have been presidents of ANPS. I asked for a brief biographical sketch and for the highlights of their tenure as president.

Don Culwell, first president of ANPS--1980-1982.

Don Culwell moved to Arkansas during the summer of 1970 after completing a Ph.D. degree in plant taxonomy at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He had grown up in De Soto, Missouri, where he developed a strong bond with the out-of-doors through Boy Scout work while having fun camping and earning badges that led him to the rank of Eagle Scout.

Following graduation from De Soto High School, college days at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau were spent in coursework leading to a B.S. majoring in botany. It was during this time while assisting in and prepping the general zoology lab that he decided college teaching and work with students was to become his profession-he found it exciting to help students see the wonders of nature in plants, animals and the environment! Extra curricular activities with the Lutheran student group, Gamma Delta, the Golden Eagles Marching Band, and the acapella choir rounded out activities with a full schedule. Beginning in the fall of 1964 he started studing for a M.A. degree at Indiana University working as a graduate teaching assistant; that degree was completed two years later.

The move to Chapel Hill came as a result of his strong interest in the floristic work being done by Al Radford and the botanists at UNC who were in the final stages of 10 years of work producing the *Manual of the Carolinas*. During the third year of study there, he and Deborah Jeanne McBroom were married on June 4, 1969, she being an acquaintance from childhood who also enjoyed picnics and hikes.

It was Don's long-time friend, Mike Rapp, a fellow student from Cape Girardeau and also Indiana University student (now a chemist at UCA), that guided Don to Arkansas in 1970 where the department at UCA was in search of a botanist.

Highlights at UCA involving students began immediately with short field trips into the woods with classes and longer jaunts with them to explore the biology along the Gulf Coast. Thirteen years later he was able to realize a longtime goal in developing what became a four credit hour biology field study course designed to take students on a three week camping excursion to the west coast studying the organisms and their ecology. Students were hiking, and experiencing plants and animals in their natural habitat. In the spring of 1985 he was honored with the coveted Teaching Excellence Award presented by the academic vice president of UCA.

During the fall of 1979 a statewide meeting of biologists in Conway on the UCA campus spawned the beginning of the Arkansas Native Plant Society, an organization in which Don has taken much pride. Such an organization had often been spoken of by botanists from around the state; now the botanists gathered at UCA insisted that a steering committee be organized. Gwen Barber, Gary Tucker, Richard Davis and Don met a number of times to chart a course for this organization which officially adopted a constitution at a fall meeting in Mena and elected Don their first president. Establishing *The Claytonia* as its voice and stating its purpose "to promote the preservation, conservation, and study of the wild plants ...", the organization began meeting each fall

and spring for botanical expeditions, discussions, and presentations. Small organized field trips into interesting plant communities all over the state have occurred throughout the years.

Seeing this organization grow from one of so few members that the organization was insecure in renting a room for a meeting, to one of more than 300 statewide members that sponsor several student scholarships each year has been a great joy! Don says "Let's continue to promote this exciting and fulfilling love of plants with outstanding enthusiasm! Thanks to all of you who make the Arkansas Native Plant Society a reality!!"

Greg Robertson, current president--1994-1995.

Greg Robertson was born Feb. 1956 in Fort Benning, Georgia. He lived in Georgetown, S.C. for 12 years and Natchez, Mississippi for 10 years before moving to Camden, Arkansas, where he has lived for the last 16 years. He has a B.S. degree in forestry from Mississippi State University in 1979.

Greg has been employed by International Paper for 16 years. His present position is senior forester, Bluff City Unit of Ouachita Land and Timber. He is responsible for managing 70,000 acres in Ouachita and Nevada counties. Some duties include logging supervision, land and timber acquisition, timber and resources management, supervision of tree planting and herbicide applications, aerial photography, and global positioning mapping.

Greg's hobbies include; trap shooting, photography, duck and goose hunting, archaeology, collecting antiques and antique duck decoys. He also enjoys landscaping and carpentry work.

Greg's professional organizations are Registered Forester - Arkansas #313, Ducks Unlimited, Arkansas Forestry Association, and Eagle Scout.

Greg & Vickie, a registered nurse, have a son, Micah, who is 13 years old.

One of the highlights of the year was getting the new T-shirts that the membership wanted. I was proud that we decided to help fund the publication of the Ozark Wildflower brochure and to help provide for maintenance of the Baker Prairie at Harrison.

I will conclude this history lesson with a bit of future history from Bob Clearwater who will become our president at the Hot Springs meeting in September.

Bob Clearwater: 1995

Given the usual way I prepare a "bio" this one will be very short and simple.

Born and raised in a small town, Cloverdale, IN. Interested in Nature since 7 years old. Mainly birds for the obvious reason...they fly! With boyhood friend, a part-Cherokee Indian, we started our own zoo of animals one summer. After we both were bitten by woodchucks, the zoo was abandoned. After serving in the Marine Corps and the Amphibious Training Command during the forties, I received a B.A. degree from DePauw University in 3 years. Then married and while raising 3 children I got back on the nature track by introducing all of them to Great World of Nature. Served 2 years as president of a Wisconsin Audubon Society. When I first bought a camera in 1963, I found it easier to photograph wildflowers than birds, like wood warblers. In Missouri, I took active interest in prairies and native plants. Served on the board of the MO Prairie Foundation as fund raiser among other duties. Wrote few articles for the Audubon magazine back in the sixties. At Fairfield Bay, served a couple of years on board of the Little Red River Audubon Society - programs, editor of Newsletter.

While president of the ANPS, I plan to seek ways to enhance the purposes of the society by doing more active things in the education of the public's awareness of the value of native wildflowers. I will ask for greater concentration on the preservation and conservation of the native wildflowers through an active participation with the AR. Natural Heritage Commission's Natural History department and the Arkansas Nature Conservancy. Also, I plan to request more information and data on Arkansas flora and habitat areas through at least 2 additional issues of the Claytonia - midsummer and mid-winter issues. And lastly, I will be offering some ideas and concepts to the board members as suggestions how we all will be able to achieve the above.

EVENTS OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS

The annual fall plant sale at Lichterman Nature Center, 5992 Quince in Memphis, Tennessee will be October 13th and 14th. A preview party will be October 12th at 5:00 p.m. till 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00 at the door. Hours are Friday October 13th from 9:30 a.m. till 6:30 p.m. and Saturday October 14th from 9:30 a.m. till 4:30 p.m.

-- Lois Wilson

ANPS AWARDS HISTORY

The Dwight M. Moore Award for an outstanding contribution to Arkansas botany has been presented to:

- 1984 - Carl Hunter, Wildflowers of Arkansas
- 1985 - Carl Taylor, Arkansas Ferns and Fern Allies
- 1985 - Bill Shepherd, Kenneth Smith, William Pell, Jeff Rettig, Richard Davis, and Henry Robison, Arkansas's Natural Heritage
- 1986 - Edith Huey Bartholomew, Ozark Wildflowers
- 1989 - Edwin B. Smith, An Atlas and Annotated List of the Vascular Plants of Arkansas, edition 2.
- 1990 - Carl Hunter, Trees, Shrubs, and Vines of Arkansas
- 1993 - Carl R. Slaughter, Wild Orchids of Arkansas
- 1994 - Edwin B. Smith, Keys to the Flora of Arkansas

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee & nominees are as follows.

Nominating Committee

Chairman: Carl Slaughter
Carl Amason
John Pelton

Offices to be filled:

Historian --
Vice President --

Nominees

Martha Wyre
Don Crank

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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