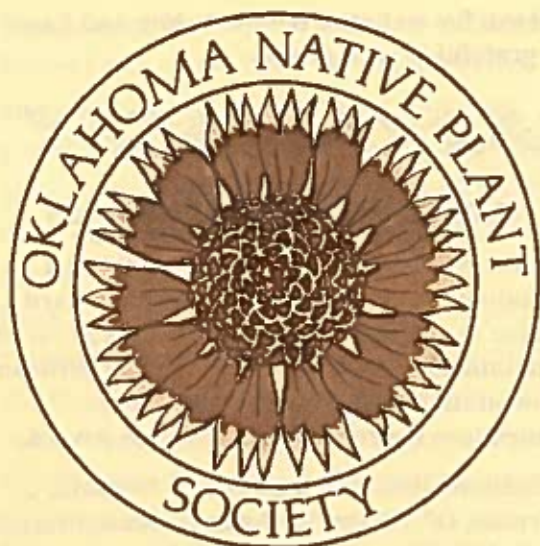




The purpose of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society is to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma's native plants.

Volume 25, Number2
Summer 2010

LOOK INSIDE FOR

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH	2
IMPORTANT NOTICES	2
BOTANIST'S CORNER	2
BUCK'S MEMORIAL LECTURE	4
CONSERVATION CORNER	5
COLOR OKLAHOMA	6
WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP	7
CBG PHOTO CONTEST	7
2010 PHOTO WINNERS	7
CHAPTER ACTIVITIES	8
FIELD TRIP RULES	10
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	10
MEMBERSHIP FORM.....	11

ONPS website: <http://www.usao.edu/~onps/>

Email: chadwick.cox@cox.net

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FOR NEXT ISSUE IS**

15 August 2010

Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

CALENDAR

Note: the events dated below are followed by either a page number for further descriptions or the contact person.

May 29: NE Chapter field trip to Lynn Michael's family land. Page 9

June 12: NE Chapter field trip Oxley Nature Center and revisits every fourth Saturday thereafter. Page 9

August 18: Dr. Doug Tallamy will discuss the topic of his award winning book "Bringing Nature Home; How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants" at the Oklahoma City Zoo at 7 PM. Free reserve seating at (405) 255-1707.

August 19: Dr. Tallamy repeats at the Tulsa Garden Center at 7 PM. Tickets are \$5.00 at (918) 746-5125.

NE Chapter continues the Fabulous Wildflower Fridays every third Friday of the month. Page 9

Note: all members are invited to all meetings, including board meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests.

ONPS THANKS THESE DONORS

General Fund

Tom Creider
Mary W. Rader

Color Oklahoma

Rick & Donna Stuber
In Memory of Nicole Arlene Jaqua
Judy L. Ferguson
In Memory of Janice Seratt Sams

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

Lynn Michael

I was listening to the radio once, and an author was talking about his book *Last Child in the Woods*. It was a fascinating conversation and started me thinking. I have been a Girl Scout leader at various times and once took a group of 5th grade girls on a camp-out where we were using platform tents. They were totally bereft without their Nintendos and agonized over what on earth we would do for a whole weekend without television. Soooo, I began to wonder about my youngest child. Those that have worked with children or are parents know that as the first one comes along you try everything. You want to introduce them to the circus, zoo, ballet, you grow a tadpole, raise a puppy and so on and so on. My mother and sister have actually borrowed my kids to see the latest Disney flick. Anyway, I cornered him to ask if he had ever caught a crawdad using a string and a piece of bologna they way his two older brothers had when they were young. His reply was a plaintive, "Of course, mom, don't worry, I'm not a deprived child". Well, I was relieved to know that he had somehow muddled through even though a third child doesn't get every event they've ever gone through recorded in their "My Child's First Seven Years" book. And the fourth child doesn't even get a book.

Now we live on five acres and my children have experienced, possibly, more nature than they care for. But there is a disturbing trend among today's youngsters which shows that is not always the case. We owe it to the next generation to enlighten them to the glorious attributes that occur naturally on this planet. Technology can be a mind-boggling thing, but so can the intricacies of the food chain and the way habitats are entwined.

My grandson is three and we have difficulty understanding much of his speech. He loves to go outside and play, but imagine my surprise when one of the first things I could understand him say was "Let's go for a walk", not let's go outside and play. We go for a walk and check out all the plants that may be blooming, we look for bugs and worms and holes where animals might live, we throw rocks in the creek and listen for birds. ONPS is co-sponsoring talks by author Douglas W. Tallamy in Tulsa and Oklahoma City this August. Read his book, *Bringing Nature Home*, attend the lecture, and discover how you can also expand someone's horizons.

Lastly, I want to thank each of you that have donated money to ONPS in my son's memory. I

could ask for no better tribute to him and I am very grateful to each of you.



IMPORTANT GENERAL NOTICES

Service Award: There is still time to submit a nomination for the 2010 ONPS Service Award. Deadline for receipt of entries is August 31, 2010. The nomination must include in writing sufficient documentation to support the nominee's qualifications for receiving the Service Award.

Nominations should be sent to Sue Amstutz, Chairman, ONPS Service Awards Committee, at 4190 E. 46th Place, Tulsa OK 74135, or by email d-s-amstutz@cox.net. The award will be presented at the Annual Meeting of ONPS to be held in October.

Former recipients of the award have been Ruth Boyd, Dr. Paul Buck, Betty Kemm, Joanne Orr, Patricia Folley, Chad Cox, Tina Julich, Dr. Sheila Strawn, and Mary Korthase.

Anne Long Award: This award is for individuals or groups that exemplify the goals of ONPS. Members can look under "ONPS Awards" on the website to see the list of previous recipients. Include the complete names and addresses of both the individual(s) making the nomination and the nominee(s); a contact person if the nominee is an organization; and supportive material for evaluation by the Awards Committee. Send documentation to Gloria Caddell, Dept. Biology, UCO, 100 N University Dr., Edmond, OK 73034 by August 31.



BOTANIST'S CORNER

HOW TO GROW A BOTANIST

Constance Murray

I didn't enroll in college with the intention of becoming a botanist. Neither did most of the botanists I know. We enrolled with other goals and were drawn away from those by the fascinating study of plants. Most of us had some prior affinity for natural history, were fascinated by the natural world, but most college freshmen do not even know that botany is a major.

My personal journey towards botany began before I was aware that I was on a journey. I grew up outside Austin on the rolling limestone prairies. Every morning we awakened in a grove of live oaks and later napped on a quilt under those oaks. When I couldn't sleep, I would string acorns together into necklaces. Later I walked back and forth to school, across a prairie and through a grove of junipers. I still remember the first wild flower I picked for my mother on the way home, a prickly poppy, *Argemone*. My 7-year-old eyes did not record enough detail to now name the species.

Three years later we were whisked from this placid and pastoral setting into the city of Tulsa. I was miserable. And my parents knew it. One evening my father took me to a lecture on high altitude meadows, *paramos*, of Ecuador. The lecturer was Harriet Barclay, just returned from a sabbatical there on an NSF Grant. I was fascinated with her adventures and even more fascinated by her. Could women do such things? Alone? My father was a librarian at TU and Harriet often invited the families of TU to her property outside the city for picnics and fireworks. Her house was a treasure-trove of artifacts from her travels to Africa and South America. She even had a waterfall in her house! I was enchanted.

I continued to be depressed living in town, and took up refuge in books. By the time I started to college, I intended to major in history and English. When I realized I couldn't keep up with the reading demands of either (a reading disorder), I was at a loss. As a part of my general curriculum requirement, I happened to be in Harriet Barclay's biology class and I thought 'Why not take another of her courses - Plant Morphology'? And I was hooked from then - till now.

My younger sister, Helen Beth is also a botanist. Now, she and I are nothing alike. I

am quiet and bookish; my sister is a bee in a jar. I was always tidy in the room we shared, while her side of the room looked like a bomb had exploded. But she and I had those same early childhood experiences, in Texas and in Oklahoma. And she, who had never done anything similar to me in her life, followed a similar academic path and studied botany, also with Paul Buck and Harriet Barclay, just before Harriet retired.

Paul Buck and Harriet Barclay were both interesting lecturers and lab teachers. But both believed that the real connections to the natural world were made outside the classroom - in out-door labs, field excursions. They took students to Mexico and the Galapagos. They encouraged students to attend a summer field school whether on Lake Texhoma at OU Biological Station or at Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in the West Elk Mountains in Colorado. (Many of you will recall that both Paul and Harriet were on the Charter Board of ONPS.)

So forty years later, I teach botany and biology to college freshmen, and perhaps more importantly, my sister teaches botany and biology to pre-kindergarteners. I have the chance to guide college majors and open career paths. But she has the chance (and the energy!) to ignite sparks of delight and curiosity in young minds about the natural world. Both of us, differently, reflect our own youthful exposure to wild places, a chance to explore our natural surroundings and wonder at the beauty and complexity of nature.

And the point is this: 'Nothing you do for a child is ever wasted', to quote Garrison Keillor. Make sure that you share with the children in your lives the wild and natural. You may be launching a lifelong passion or a career, forming the professional and amateur botanists of tomorrow.

Paul Buck and Harriet Barclay in the woods in 1960 when Paul was Harriet's student at The University of Tulsa.



PAUL BUCK MEMORIAL LECTURE

Kim Shannon

Dr. David W. Inouye, professor of biology at the University of Maryland and the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, delivered the inaugural lecture for the First Annual Paul Buck Memorial Lecture in Plant Ecology. Approximately 60 people attended the April 15th lecture that was held in Helmerich Hall on the TU campus. In attendance were Dr. Buck's family; his wife Luann, their son Paul Jr., and daughter Dana; many of Dr. Buck's colleagues, students, family, and many ONPS members.

Dr. Estelle Levetin of the University of Tulsa introduced the lecture series with a remembrance of Dr. Buck and showed a memorable series of slides featuring Dr. Buck in action. The audience enjoyed photos of Dr. Buck with his family, in the Rocky Mountains, with his mentor Harriet Barclay, with colleagues, on ONPS field trips, and with his students.

The title of the evening's lecture was "What is the future of Rocky Mountain wildflowers and their pollinators?" His lecture was comprised of two main parts; a review of pollinators and environmental

changes. He began his talk by giving an overview of the nectar corridor that extends from southern Mexico north to the intermountain west of the U.S. and Canada and the pollinators that use this corridor. These include songbirds, butterflies, insects, bats, and hummingbirds. He spoke in detail about the importance of the monarch butterfly's role in pollination, its annual migration route, the decline of the monarch and the unfortunate reduction of milkweeds across the U.S., and the loss of the monarch's winter habitat in Mexico due to logging. He spoke about the research of Chip Taylor (professor of entomology, University of Kansas-Lawrence) who speculates that the monarch butterfly population may have been reduced by as much as 50% this year alone due to unseasonal ice and rainstorms in Mexican forests this past winter. He also described the tagging of monarch butterflies done by Chip Taylor's Monarch Watch project. Dr. Inouye described the physical process of pollination and how it differs with each type of pollinator. He even showed a photo of a very unlikely pollinator; a mosquito!!

His talk continued with a discussion of our changing environment; changes in temperature, precipitation, the increased variation of temperature and precipitation ranges, and changes in phenology (the timing of seasonal events). He discussed his long term research regarding the fluctuations in the timing of last frosts in relation to the average first day of flowering for a variety of plant species. His 30 years of data show that many plant species are flowering earlier than they were 30 years ago, snowmelt is occurring earlier, and that the last frost of the season is occurring later into the spring season. This collision of earlier flowering plants, the loss of the protective snowpack and late damaging frost has led to a reduction in the number of flowers produced by some Rocky Mountain wildflower species and a reduction in the number of butterflies.

Dr. Inouye also thanked the audience/taxpayers because funding for his research is currently supported by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus funds). Dr. Inouye told the group how his research is applicable across the U.S. as more crop plants begin flowering earlier each year and flowers and fruits are increasingly lost to late season, damaging frosts. He summarized his talk by reminding the audience that there is much we don't know about climate change. But his research shows that our regional climate changes are linked to late damaging frosts, which impact pollinator populations, which will most likely effect the types of plants we will be able to harvest in the future.

The First Annual Paul Buck Memorial Lecture in Plant Ecology was interesting, thought-provoking, amusing, and educational. But most of all, it was enjoyed by all who attended.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Chad Cox

Back in 2003, ONPS signed on to the Native Plant Conservation Campaign, a program of the Center of Biological Diversity (Center), one of the most effective organization for protecting wildlife and the environmental. Since then, I have received email notices from the Center relating scientific information and reports on their work and the following is an example.

Due to a legal victory by the Center for Biological Diversity, this week a federal court signed an injunction requiring the Environmental Protection Agency to evaluate the effects of 75 poisonous pesticides on 11 endangered species in the San Francisco Bay and Delta area — and to restrict uses of those chemicals in and near

wildlife habitats until evaluations are done (within the next five years).

Reported pesticide use in the Bay Area is a staggering 10 million pounds every year — with actual pesticide use estimated to be several times that amount. Said Jeff Miller, conservation advocate with the Center, "These pesticide-use restrictions will protect some of the Bay Area's most vulnerable wildlife from inappropriate use of toxic pesticides."

Pesticides are poison to more than just pests. In fact, they could be detrimental to at least 30 of the 51 Bay Area animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act. Pesticides of concern have been documented in Bay and Delta aquatic habitat for the delta smelt and tidewater goby; tidal marshland habitat for the California clapper rail and salt marsh harvest mouse; freshwater and wetlands habitat for the California tiger

salamander, San Francisco garter snake, and California freshwater shrimp; and terrestrial habitat for the San Joaquin kit fox, Alameda whipsnake, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, and Bay checkerspot butterfly.

Also in 2006, the Center posted a comprehensive, 53-page report detailing the risk toxic pesticides pose to endangered species in the San Francisco Bay Area and the failure of the EPA to regulate pesticides harmful to Bay Area imperiled species. The report, **Poisoning Our Imperiled Wildlife: San Francisco Bay Area Endangered Species at Risk from Pesticides**, also analyzes the EPA's ongoing refusal to reform pesticide registration and use in accordance with scientific findings.

Learn more about the Center's Pesticides Reduction Campaign, which holds the EPA accountable for pesticides it registers for public use and works to cancel or restrict use of harmful pesticides within endangered species' habitats. See www.biologicaldiversity.org

For example, Atrazine, the most commonly used herbicide in the United States, is also the most common contaminant of ground, surface, and drinking water. It's so dangerous to humans and wildlife that it was recently banned by the European Union. Numerous studies have provided overwhelming evidence linking atrazine to significant human and wildlife health concerns, including endocrine disruption.

Atrazine is also linked to declines of endangered amphibians in California, and of many other endangered species throughout the country. Recent studies by Dr. Tyrone Hayes at the University of California have strengthened the case for banning atrazine, demonstrating that the pesticide is an endocrine disruptor that directly affects the sexual development of amphibians, chemically castrating and feminizing male frogs even at concentrations 30 times lower than levels allowed by the EPA. In this study, about 90% of the male frogs became sterile and 10% became functional females but only produced male offspring because of their male genetics.

Two other commonly used herbicides are glyphosate (Roundup, etc.) and imazapyr, both of which are potent and specific inhibitors of amino acid synthesis in plants, branched chain and

aromatic amino acids, respectively. Animals do not synthesize these amino acids but get them dietarily from eating plants or other animals. Atrazine interferes with chlorophyll function. The specificity of these compounds suggests that they should be harmless to animals but clearly atrazine is not. No such clear cut harm to animals by glyphosate or imazapyr has been documented as yet. Why is atrazine still used?

The following statement is from the current Syngenta's website at www.atrazine.com. The latest, cutting-edge research shows that atrazine has no adverse effect on frogs. In reviewing the research in 2007, EPA went so far as to say, "the data are sufficiently robust to outweigh previous efforts to study the potential effects of atrazine on amphibian gonadal development" and "there is no compelling reason to pursue additional testing."

Obviously, someone needs to hold the EPA accountable.



COLOR OKLAHOMA

Tina Julich

OTA Agrees to Wildflower Plantings

The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority has agreed to work with Color Oklahoma to plant wildflowers along the turnpikes. We will concentrate the plantings close to cities on the turnpikes to make the areas a welcoming gateway to the selected city. Exact locations have not yet been determined but will be decided later this summer. The OTA has also agreed to allow the wildflowers to go to seed before mowing so that our wildflower dollars will go farther by not having to reseed as frequently.

Volunteer Still Needed for CO Committee

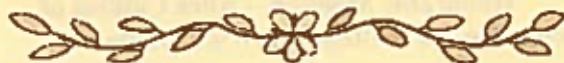
The Color Oklahoma team is still in need of a volunteer to join the CO committee. We usually meet during the week in various locations around the state, so you will have to be available during the week. What does the Color Oklahoma Committee do? We oversee the matching grant program; deciding what organizations will receive a matching grant, coordinate the ordering of wildflower seeds planted around the state, man information tables at festivals to give out information on Color Oklahoma and our

wildflower planting programs. If you would like to help with this great and rewarding job, contact Lynn Michael.

Car tags

I am always pleased to see the number of Color Oklahoma car tags whenever ONPS meets, and when I'm driving and see another WF tag pass me (because I'm the one in the slow lane!) I wave and try to see if I know who is behind the wheel. It gives me a warm feeling to know that someone else supports our efforts to beautify Oklahoma one seed at a time. Join me as a wildflower loving Oklahoman by ordering a new Color Oklahoma special vehicle license plate. The tags are issued by the state Tax Commission and cost just \$35 plus a \$2 mailing fee, with \$20 of each tag going to our wildflowers. You don't have to wait until your regular tag is due to buy a special tag, just stop by your favorite tag agent and they'll be glad to help you.

You can download a tag order form from the Color Oklahoma website; www.ColorOklahoma.org, or you can email a request for a form to wildflowers@coloroklahoma.org and we'll send you one by mail. Your local tag agent can also provide a form. Just fill in the blanks and mail your check for \$37 and the form to the state Tax Commission.



WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP

Sharron McCain

33rd Annual Wildflower Workshop – 2010
Heritage of the Plants, People and Animals of the
Wichita Mountains, Lawton, Oklahoma

If you missed the Wildflower Workshop, you missed a wonderful time. The Garden Clubs in and around Lawton did a spectacular job. Food was great. Speakers on Friday discussed everything from Grasses, Fruits, Invasive Species, Wichita Wildlife Refuge and Ethnobotanical gardening. Dr Tyrl gave an informative presentation as the workshop day closed with a peak at the flowers to be seen on the field trip on Saturday..

Marilyn Stewart was presented the Snodgrass Award for her dedication to the planting of

wildflowers. If you haven't met Marilyn, look for her booth "Wild Things" at various events. She is very knowledgeable in native plants as well as butterflies and is a wealth of information. The Snodgrass Award was the presentation of a large photo of her favorite wildflower along with a planting of wildflowers at a location of her choice.

The speaker for the dinner meeting Friday evening was Julia Jordan. She is the author of "Plains Apache Ethnobotany" which discusses her field work with elders of the Plains Apache regarding traditional collection preparation and use of plants for food, medicine, ritual and material culture. At the dinner meeting, photo contest winners were announced. Encouragement was given for photos on the field trip the next day. Photo contest for 2011 is Flora and Fauna.

I don't remember better weather for the field trip, it was a little on the cool side but much better than the hot weather we have experienced in the past. Our leaders were most interesting with their jokes, etc. Ron Tyrl, Bruce Smith and Adam Ryburn lead us on many excursions in the search for native plants. Even the last trek to find blooming cactus was a success and very much worth the long walk.



BOTANICAL GARDEN PHOTO CONTEST

Pearl Garrison

Grab your camera, go to the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden near Tulsa and enter two new photo contests. Photos may be entered at the Garden's Facebook page and in a judged competition. Pictures must be taken by amateurs at the Garden, which has free open houses 10-1 Saturdays. There is no admission charge and there are no entry fees for the contests.

Details and directions are at ocbg.org.

2010 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Kim Shannon

This year there were a total of nine entrants who submitted 46 photos characterizing our beautiful native flora. The specialty category of fruits had a total of 15 submissions. Awards include \$50 for first place winners; \$25 for second place winners; and \$15 for third place winners. Honorable mentions (no prize money) and a special prize of \$75 may be awarded for the best photo from a "botanical" point of view at the judges' discretion. The judges for this year were Russell Studebaker, author and horticulturist, Tulsa, OK; Ellen Shannon, artist and instructor, Tulsa, OK; and Blair Baker of Bristow, OK, a biologist for Kleinfelder, Inc. This year the judges awarded honorable mentions for each category plus an award for the best "botanical" photo. All entries were automatically considered for these special awards. Awards were presented at the Lawton, OK Wildflower Workshop on May 7-8, 2010. Certificates and checks will be mailed to all the winning entrants. Many thanks to all our entrants for their beautiful photos and congratulations to this year's winners!

The special category for 2011 is Flora and Fauna. So keep your eyes out for photo opportunities that feature our native flora with an animal or insect, but not including people.

The winners for the 2010 ONPS Photo Contest are:

Category: Close Up

- 1st place – Richard Waters of Broken Arrow for his Shaggy Mane Mushroom photo
- 2nd place – Becki Sheets of Blackwell for her Stickleaf mentzelia photo
- 3rd place – Sallie Webb of Idabel for her Pink stonecrop photo
- Honorable Mention – Pat Folley of Noble for her Goat's rue photo.

Category: Close Up, first time submission

- 1st place – Alice Calkins of Catoosa for her Switchgrass photo
- 2nd place – Alice Calkins of Catoosa for her Spider milkweed photo
- 3rd place – Lisa Miller of California, MO for her Blue-eyed grass photo

Honorable Mention – Lisa Miller of California, MO for her Butterfly milkweed photo.

Category: Habitat

- 1st place – Tom McCreary of Oklahoma City for his Lone Cedar habitat photo
- 2nd place – Becki Sheets of Blackwell for her Canada Germander habitat photo
- 3rd place – Sallie Webb of Idabel for her Purple coneflowers habitat photo
- Honorable Mention – Becki Sheets of Blackwell for Lotus pond habitat photo.

Category: Habitat, first time submission

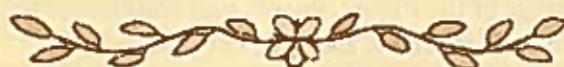
- 1st place – Lisa Miller of California, MO for her Goat's rue habitat photo
- 2nd place – Alice Calkins of Catoosa for her Prairie iris habitat photo
- 3rd place – Alice Calkins of Catoosa for her Indian paintbrush habitat photo
- Honorable Mention – Lisa Miller of California, MO for her Pale coneflower habitat photo.

Category: Fruits

- 1st place – Becki Sheets of Blackwell for her Blackberry fruits photo
- 2nd place – Tom McCreary of Oklahoma City for his Prickly pear fruits photo
- 3rd place – Tom Howard of Tulsa for his Flowering spurge fruits photo
- Honorable Mention – Alice Calkins of Catoosa for her Switchgrass fruits photo.

Best Botanical

Tom McCreary of Oklahoma City for his Lone cedar habitat photo



CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Northeast Chapter

Karen Haworth and Alicia Nelson

First, a big Thank You to Sue Amstutz for handling all the many duties of Northeast Chapter Chair for the past five years, and for guiding us in a new direction for our chapter leadership. At our spring meeting, after much discussion, we voted to try the team approach for our governing body. Members now share responsibilities in a committee format, with a presiding chair. Alicia

Nelson, who is a relative newcomer to ONPS, has agreed to serve as our Chapter Chair. Rusty Grimpe and Amy Morris are setting up and leading field trips, Karen Haworth and Ethel Brown are sending out chapter publicity, Sue Amstutz as garden center liaison and Jim Elder is assisting our chapter chair. Various members are making arrangements for our programs. This seems to be working very well!

Buddy Miller arranged for Dr. Estelle Levetin from the Biological Science Dept., Tulsa University to speak at our May meeting. Dr. Levetin spoke about her research on pollen production of Eastern Red Cedar and Mountain Cedar, and the transport of pollen by winds. She provided an overview of major pollen producers in Tulsa and how this pollen is carried hundreds of miles to the north and northeast. Her sampling and modeling methods have shown how the pollen levels have increased over time in parallel with the encroachment of Eastern Red Cedar across Oklahoma. With funding from NASA, her current research is on improving the forecasting model for Mountain Cedar pollen.

Jim Elder has arranged for Judy Jordan to speak at our September 13th meeting at the Garden Center. We'll begin with our potluck supper at 6:00 followed by Judy's presentation on "Plains Apache Ethnobotany" at 7:00 pm.

Northeast chapter members are getting in shape in search of the beloved wildflowers! Members enjoyed a trip to Lynn's family property at Lake Eufaula in April. Bright colonies of black mustard in the open canopy and mayapple hiding in the understory were in full bloom. *Corallorhiza* sp. was the find of the day. (28 in all identified) We had a great turnout at Redbud Valley (16 in all) lead by our great field trip hosts, Rusty and Amy. *Nemastylis geminiflora* (Celestial lily), *Geranium* sp., and columbine were in full bloom. This is a diverse ecosystem varying from powdery fern, to Missouri pincushion cacti. We explored Two Rivers Trail at Keystone Lake to find blue toadflax and yellow puccoon, along with black oak, winged elm, sand plum, and highbush blueberry.

Upcoming field trips include: Oxley Nature Center May 22 (meet @ visitor center at 10:30 am); Rusty Grimpe's property in Skiatook, May

29th @ 9:00 am (bring a sack lunch); Lynn's family property north of Claremore June 12th; and Oxley Nature Center June 26th at 10:30 am. Oxley Nature Center encompasses a number of acres and different ecosystems. We will visit a new ecosystem on the fourth Saturday of each month. Come and join us for the upcoming trips, contact Alicia Nelson for details at 918/599-0085 or aknlsna@sbcglobal.net.

Our Chapter hosted a booth at the Jenks Herb Festival in April. The weather was cooperative and there was a great turnout. Many people in our communities (young families and retirees) genuinely have an interest in the environment and our native world. Now is the time to generate enthusiasm for new membership. We hope to see some new faces this year.

Fabulous Wildflower Friday's at Panera Bread on 41st Street in Tulsa is a great time to socialize with members. We meet the third Friday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Cross-Timbers Chapter
Ron Tyrl and Elaine Lynch

Although Saturday, February 20th was a cold, rainy day, about a dozen members of the chapter ventured forth on our winter field trip, which had been delayed because of the snow- and ice-storm on January 30th. We toured six areas established by the Stillwater Department of Parks and Recreation as "Designated Natural Areas." These are parts of certain city parks where native vegetation will be encouraged and mowing will be done only semi-annually or annually. We hope to develop ideas as to how the chapter can help with their establishment and improvement.

We were honored to co-host a visit by ONPS member Judy Jordan on March 26th. She gave a lecture on her ethnobotanical work that was the basis for her book *Plains Apache Ethnobotany* which was published by the OU Press in 2008. Her presentation was the Annual Spring Lecture in Botany sponsored by the OSU Edmon Low Library. Co-hosts include the library, the OSU Department of Botany, the OSU Botanical Society (a student organization), and the OSU Native American Student Association. Judy enthralled an audience of more than 100 persons as she described in a beautiful power-point presentation the history of the Plains Apache, her field work,

and, of course, the plants and their use by the tribe. Following her lecture and a reception, we had our spring potluck dinner. We invited any ONPS members that made the trip to Stillwater for Judy's lecture to join us. The OSU Botanical Society was co-host. After dinner, Judy presented a slide show titled "Wildflower Bouquet: My Experiments with Photographing Wildflowers." Everyone enjoyed her photographs of wildflowers from the old-growth forests near Tulsa, the tallgrass prairie, the Wichita Mountains, Turner Falls, the Arbuckle Mountains, and her own yard in Norman, to name a few locations. She also had wildflower pictures that she took in Ireland in 2008 led by ONPS member Ron Tyrl. Judy said the most challenging part of photographing flowers is getting the correct focus.

The weather definitely has not been kind to us this year. As noted above, a snow storm forced us to postpone our winter field trip from January 30th to February 20th. Then our May 1st field trip to Les and Pat Imboden's, to see the celestial lilies (*Nemastylis geminiflora*) in bloom, was rained out. Ron is working on an alternate field trip location for a later date. We also will be getting together in midsummer to begin planning how we might help Stillwater enhance its designated natural areas.

Central Chapter
Jeannie Coley

At the March meeting we had a video, The Tall Grass Prairie, America's Lost Landscape. There is so little left and so expensive to restore.

At the April meeting, Ron Tyrl presented a very interesting report on, "The History of Forensic Botany." He told about his botanical expertise employed in murder trials. He also described the very detailed botanical forensics that led to the conviction of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, the kidnapper and killer of the son of Charles Linbergh.

For May, we attended the Wildflower Workshop in Lawton. Not only was there an informative selection of presentations, but our own Marilyn Stewart was given this year's Snodgrass Award.

In August, Doug Tallamy is scheduled to speak on the importance of growing native plants in the

backyard to provide a source of food and shelter to our animal friends. He will present in Oklahoma City and in Tulsa.

There will be no program in June and if a field trip for July is later planned, members will be notified by email.

FIELD TRIP RULES

- Participation is at your own risk.
- Preregistration is required for all field trips.
- Field trip announcements will contain the name, address, and telephone number of the leader. If you have doubts about the terrain, difficulty, etc., ask.
- Collecting any plant parts or other materials at the site must be approved by the field trip leader.
- Field trips take place rain or shine. Hiking boots, long pants and a hat are essential.
- Bring water and lunch or a snack. Sunscreen and insect repellent are always in demand. Field guides, a camera and binoculars are nice.
- All ONPS field trips are open to the public at no charge, unless charges per-member are specified in the announcement. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome.
- Children old enough to keep up are welcome. Pets are not.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Ramona Buxton, Enid
Jo A Buxton, Enid
Tom Creider, Midwest City
Kathy Moore, Woodward
Linda Temple, Oklahoma City
Jay Walker, Sapulpa

FOR JOINING OR RENEWING USE THIS FORM

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The Gaillardia

Published quarterly by the
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2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa OK 74114

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