



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

Volume 26, Number 3
Autumn 2011

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FOR NEXT ISSUE IS**

15 November 2011

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.

Sept 12: NE Chapter Meeting. Jim Harris will talk about his work on invasive species. Page 5

Sept 17-18: NE Chapter will have a booth at the Master Gardeners' "Fall Garden Festival". Page 5

Sept 23-25: Mycology Chapter will meet at the OK Academia of Science Meeting at Robber's Cave State Park. Page 7

Sept 26: Central Chapter Meeting at OSU-OKC where Nick Plata will talk about the Wichita Wildlife Refuge. Page 7

Oct 1: Central Chapter Field Trip to the Wichita Wildlife Refuge. Page 8

Oct 8: NE Chapter Field Trip to Tallgrass Prairie. Page 6

Oct 14-15: Mycology Chapter will have a fungi and lichen walk at the Bio Blitz gathering at Sulfur. Page 8

Oct 31: Central Chapter Meeting at OSU-OKC featuring Fenton Rood speaking about his planting natives at the OKC DEQ. Page 7

Nov 5: Central Chapter Field Trip to DEQ to view Fenton's plantings. Page 7

Nov 8: Cross-Timbers Potluck Meeting with Karen Hickman presenting "Accidents & Mistakes: Invasive Plants". Page 7

NE Chapter's Fabulous Wildflower Fridays, the 3rd Friday of each month, Page 6

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

**ONPS HAS NO DONORS TO THANK
FOR THIS QUARTER**

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

Lynn Michael

This has been one tough year hasn't it? We have come through dramatic snows this winter only to endure blazing heat this summer with accompanying droughts, tornadoes and floods. We've just experienced a few days of rain as I write and everything is beginning to green up and revive a bit which makes me immensely grateful. The drought and intense heat of this summer have taken a terrible toll on gardens. Many garden varieties have succumbed and even some natives are showing severe stress. Our own state tree, the Redud has shown leaf loss and will need to be especially well nourished and watered to make it through another winter. Other natives have shown their true colors by coming through gloriously despite the harsh conditions. I've heard that ironweed, passionvine, amsonia and hosts of others have triumphed through the stifling temperatures.

I've enjoyed the privilege to be president of ONPS. We've accomplished some very educational tasks during this time and are always striving to do more. This past year we have tried to upgrade the technological presence of ONPS. It seems like an incongruity to be trying to preserve our native heritage by embarking on a wave of technology. However, that is the future and so to remain a viable entity we must plunge into the worlds of facebook, Wikipedia and the like. ONPS has links through these forums that hopefully will help people connect with our main website and, in turn, learn where they can connect with us in the wild through field trips, meetings and events. It is great to see the pictures that people are uploading to our facebook page for Oklahoma Native Plant Society. The Journal has also gone digital and is being distributed through college and university databases as educational documentation for future students' research. The ONPS business cards are available as an electronic file and can be downloaded from the website, or you can email me and I can send it to you. If we all would carry these cards and hand them out to people when we start talking about native plants we could spread our message every day.

The Annual meeting flyer should be accompanying this issue. It has the potential to be extremely interesting and I hope to see many of

you there. Your input is needed to guide new officers that will be elected. We will be stepping back in time to remember Oklahoma in the days of Will Rogers as we gather at the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore and travel to Oologah to the Dog Iron Ranch for our evening meal and meeting. The NE Chapter of ONPS took an amazing field trip in that direction this past spring. We found a field with dozens and dozens of different species. I'm hoping that this same field will be ablaze with autumnal selections if we get more rain between now and then. A silent auction will ensure a fun time and we will all have the chance to go home with new knowledge, a special treat or an enjoyable memory of seeing a welcome family of friends. In the meantime, look for the spiranthes and other gems and I will see you in October.



IMPORTANT GENERAL NOTICES

Annual Meeting

Officers will be elected at the meeting and the Nominating Committee nominates:

President	Open
Vice-President	Adam Ryburn
Secretary	Sandy Graue
Treasurer	Mary Korthase (for life)
Historian	Jeannie Coley
At-Large Board member	Elaine Lynch
At-Large Board member	Jay Walker

By-Law changes are on Page 9



BOTANIST'S CORNER

Oklahoma's Native Plants Have Had a Busy Summer!

Gloria Caddell

I was recently looking on a website that offers Biology gifts, and ran across a mug that said "It might look like I'm doing nothing, but at the cellular level I'm really quite busy". As I traveled around Oklahoma this summer, and looked across the slopes of the Wichita Mountains, the hills along the Indian Nation Turnpike, and the

canyons of the Cimarron Gypsum Hills, I saw swaths of trees with scorched or dead leaves, and depauperate herbaceous plants with few, if any, flowers. I wished my eyes would allow me to peek inside those plants, to see what their millions of cells were doing in the midst of the extreme or even exceptional drought they are encountering. What abilities do they have to detect the conditions they are facing, and how are they responding?

We know quite a bit about the mechanism by which plants respond to “thirst”. Under normal circumstances, plants don’t expend much effort to gain water. It is pulled from above, up through empty water-conducting cells of plants, as it transpires, i.e. as water evaporates through the tiny pores or stomata (singular: stoma) that dot the surfaces of leaves. Leaves may have many thousands of stomata per cm^2 . Each stoma is surrounded by a pair of sausage-shaped “guard cells” that function somewhat like a pair of “lips” to open and close the pore. When guard cells gain water, they pull away from one another and the pore opens, and when they lose water, the pore is closed. Transpiration of water cools a plant the same way that sweating cools us. Some water pulled through the plant is taken up by cells and used in photosynthesis, some is used as a solvent, and some is used to maintain turgor pressure. An organelle called the vacuole plumps up, exerting an outward (turgor) pressure against the cell wall, keeping it more rigid.

When water stress is perceived, cells become busier. When leaves wilt, the amount of a hormone called abscisic acid (ABA) increases. Abscisic acid then binds to receptors on guard cell membranes. This sets into motion a complex series of biochemical steps called a “signal transduction pathway.” The ABA signal is perceived, then transduced, e.g. transferred by chemical “messengers” to proteins involved in a response. The response is an opening of potassium channels in the cell membrane, causing them to open. Potassium ions flow out of the guard cells, followed by water, and the stomata close. This reduces the amount of water loss from the leaves. If the roots are stressed before leaves, ABA can be transported from roots to leaves, providing a “head’s up” to the leaves. Abscisic acid can also stimulate root growth. However, it is a common misconception that plant roots grow

toward water. They are not “attracted” by water, but grow in all directions. They simply grow more when water is available. Turgor pressure is needed for cell growth, so when leaf cells lose turgor pressure, their growth is slowed. This reduces leaf surface area and reduces transpiration. If drought continues, plants may produce a thicker waxy coating called the cuticle on existing leaves, cease production of new leaves, or lose leaves.

We also know some details about how plant cells perceive and respond to changes in temperature. Plants are more similar to ectothermic animals than they are to endothermic animals such as us. Plants gain most of their heat from the surrounding environment, and are fairly close to it in temperature. However, in a 2010 article (*Cell* 140:136-147), researchers S. V. Kumar and P.A. Wigge showed that plants can sense differences in ambient temperature as small as 1°C . (about 1.8°F). They showed that increased temperatures caused a protein (a histone) to “unwrap” some tightly-packed DNA, similar to unwinding a ball of string. This exposed genes, allowing some to be activated and others to be repressed. However, the actions of these genes still need to be determined.

Plants have often been classified as drought escapers, resistors, or evaders. Some Oklahoma plants we haven’t seen this year may be escaping the drought, i.e. waiting for rain to reappear. Others, particularly those adapted to western Oklahoma, have many adaptations to resist drought. The most pronounced are leaf adaptations that help to reduce transpiration: a thick cuticle, a low surface area to internal volume ratio, stomata in chambers or “crypts” on the lower leaf surface, hairs that shade the leaf. Some grass leaves have cells in their upper epidermis (the layer of cells that forms a “skin” on the surface) that can collapse, allowing leaves to roll up and expose less surface area. Some plants are drought deciduous, dropping their leaves when it becomes dry. The leaves of some plants have the ability to expand and contract, like an accordion. Cacti have leaves reduced to spines. Their stomata, located on their stems, open at night. The stomata are the point of entry of carbon dioxide into the leaf, so cacti take it up at night and store it until the next day, when it is used to make sugars. It is the drought evaders—

those that require water and live only where it is readily available - that will most likely have the most trouble if Oklahoma's drought continues.

One plant I noticed that seemed to be thriving this summer was *Vernonia baldwinii* (Baldwin's ironweed). Research reported in 2004 on a Brazilian species of *Vernonia* by A.F. Asega and M.A.M. de Carvalho (*Plant Physiology and Biochemistry* 42:313-319) showed that its underground storage organs were rich in fructans. Fructans are carbohydrates found in members of the sunflower and grass families, and seem to play a role in protecting plants against both freezing and drought. According to a 2009 article by D.P. Livingston, D.K. Hinch, and A. G. Heyer (*Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences* 66:2007-23), cells can insert fructans into the lipids of their membranes, where they function to help prevent leakage of water. Perhaps fructans are playing a role in the success of ironweed compared to other plants this summer.

How does this drought compare to ones in the past? The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Paleoclimatology Program has created a webpage entitled "North American Drought: A Paleo Perspective" (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/paleo/drought/>). It compares the major 20th century droughts, those of the 1930s and the 1950s, to those of previous centuries. Of these, the 1930s drought was the most severe, and data from tree-ring reconstructions show that it was more severe and prolonged than any drought in the last 300 years. However, a drought in the last half of the 16th century was more severe than any droughts we have had in the 20th century, and in some areas may have lasted several decades!

Another website of interest is the National Integrated Drought Information System's U.S. Drought Portal (www.drought.gov). It shows that the exceptional drought conditions in Oklahoma are likely to persist or intensify, at least through October.

So next time you look out across a drought-stressed Oklahoma forest or prairie, try to imagine what is going on in the billions of cells out there - genes being turned on and off, abscisic acid being produced, chemical messengers moving around inside cells, guard cells opening and

closing, cuticles becoming thicker, and fructans being inserted into cell membranes...plants are amazing!



Vernonia baldwinii (Baldwin's ironweed)
Photo by Gloria Caddell

CONSERVATION CORNER

Chad Cox

Jeremy Dixon, wildlife Biologist at Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge is looking for volunteers to help inventory invasive plants in the refuge. This can be for a day or longer and he can provide camping for longer stays. You will be provided with a GPS, record book and designated search area. Plant ID and mapping techniques will be provided (M-F 8-4:30). He also promises to eradicate the invasive plants that you locate. How I wish I could say the same to our Citizen Scientists. I don't know anybody that doesn't love hiking in the refuge and here is a chance to go hiking there and helping out as well.

Line up your hike with him at
Jeremy_dixon@fws.gov or 580-429-2163.

GETTING READY FOR THE 2012 ONPS PHOTO CONTEST

Kim Shannon

The 2011 submissions for the photo contest were a great set of work from a combination of both photo contest veterans and some newbies. And since the addition of the special category the entries are much more creative. But with the new categories and heightened creativity, a review of our basic rules is in order. We have our 2 basic categories; close up and habitat for first time contestants and returning contestants. And remember that your photo should be of a plant native to Oklahoma, taken in Oklahoma in a natural setting.

A close up entry should be of a subject that measures less than 12 inches across within the camera's or photo's field of view. So get up close to that flower, fruit or mushroom to get that perfect photo. A habitat photo may show one plant or a group of plants, with emphasis on the plant's natural habitat or plant community. But it should not be a close up photo of a plant. An entry into the 2012 specialty category, which is wetland wildflowers, could be of a single flower or multiple. Just remember that your photo will need to be of a flowering plant from a wetland.

Get your feet damp and find that perfect wetland wildflower. And if you're not sure about your subject matter, please feel free to contact me at okpenstemon@cox.net.



CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Northeast Chapter
Alicia Nelson

The next meeting for our chapter will be held on September 12th at 7:00 pm. We are trying something NEW! Join us early for coffee, tea and dessert at 6:30 for an informal "Gaillardia Gathering". Get to know your members and our guest speaker James Harris from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. He is an Environmental Biologist with an accomplished academic background and currently coordinates the environmental and natural resource management programs for the thirty-eight lakes in the Tulsa District. He also is actively involved in the

Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council. Come and learn how to become a "Citizen Scientist". The Conservation Committee of ONPS has implemented a new program that is currently recruiting ONPS members to help inventory invasive plants around our state.

As the Northeastern Chapter chairman, I would like to personally thank all ONPS members who volunteered their time and expertise on June 11th for the ONPS Teaching Day at the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Gardens new facility. Many of you drove quite a distance to participate. The visitors and volunteers enjoyed guided walks through the prairie and Crosstimbers forest, dissecting live plant specimens with Dr. Connie Murray, learning about different genera of lichens with Dr. Sheila Strawn and how to identify fungi with Dr. Steve Marek. We took this newly acquired knowledge and applied it to the last trail walk of the day and discovered several fungi and lichens, as well as the many species of wildflowers. A native wildflower planting site



An OCBG view

was designated by the new director, Dr. Todd Lasseigne at OCBG. ONPS was ready with its seed ball making tent for any young enthusiast who loves to get dirty. Although we only had one young man participate, he was able to establish the area quite nicely!

On Sept. 17th and 18th, our chapter will host a booth at the Tulsa Master Gardeners "Fall Garden Festival". We want to share information about our group, as well as how important native plants are to the environment and how we can incorporate them into our own landscape. The public enjoyed this information at the Audobon

Wildlife Habitat Tour in May. We need more volunteers! Think about how you can help!

MAKE A NOTE ON YOUR CALENDER! The next field trip is scheduled for Oct. 8th at the Tallgrass Prairie in Pawhuska. We have spoken with the staff and were encouraged to plan our trip later because of the hot weather. We are fortunate to have Mr. Dwight Thomas a retired botanist as our guide. We plan to botanize through the park at checkpoints by vehicle in the morning, enjoy lunch and botanize the trails near the facility. For those who do not wish to hike, Anita Springer will give a brief history and you may enjoy the lodge and gift shop. This will be an all day event, so please bring a sack lunch. If you are interested, have questions or need transportation call me as soon as possible. All state ONPS members are invited, join us, but please RSVP. Call Alicia Nelson at 918/599-0085.

Don't forget about Fabulous Wildflower Fridays the 3rd Friday of each month at Panera Bread on 41st and Hudson in Tulsa starting at 5:30 pm.

Cross-Timbers Chapter
Ron Tyr!

What a difference nine months make! As you well know, the appearance of our state's tallgrass prairies changes dramatically from season to season. On June 11th, approximately 20 ONPS members and guests returned to Sonja Hannon's restored prairie and certified wildlife habitat to stroll the paths, identify the many wildflowers blooming, and compare and contrast its fall and spring appearance. We encountered many species including *Sabatia campestris* (prairie rose gentian), *Oxalis violacea* (wood sorrel), *Ratibida columnifera* (Mexican hat), *Ruellia* sp. (prairie petunia), *Monarda fistulosa* (wild bergamot), *Callirhoe involucrata* (wine cup), *Callirhoe alcaeoides* (pale poppy mallow), *Oenothera serrulata* (halfshrub sundrop), *Packera platensis* (prairie groundsel), *Castilleja indivisa* (Indian paintbrush), *Oenothera speciosa* (showy evening primrose), *Oenothera* spp. (gauras), *Achillea millefolium* (yarrow), *Gaillardia aestivalis* (prairie gaillardia), *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* (blue-eyed grass), *Buchloe dactyloides* (buffalograss), *Eleocharis* sp. (spikerush), *Coleorachis cylindrical*



Oenothera serrulata



Achillea millefolium

(rattail grass), *Panicum virgatum* (switchgrass), and *Dianthus armeria* (deptford pink).

In vegetative condition, but growing vigorously in anticipation of providing a display of fall wildflowers, were *Helianthus mollis* (ashy sunflower), *Helianthus maximilliani* (Maximilian sunflower), *Solidago rigida* (stiff-leaf goldenrod), *Liatris punctata* (dotted grayfeather), and, of course the ubiquitous grasses *Andropogon gerardii* (big bluestem), *Schizachyrium scoparium* (little

bluestem), and *Sorghastrum nutans* (Indiangrass). [Yes, grasses are wildflowers too!]

A chapter field trip would not be complete without a snack of fruits, cheeses, and sweets accompanied by coffee and tea. As always, chapter secretary Elaine Lynch didn't disappoint us. Our profuse thanks to her for her extra efforts. Thanks also are due Sonja for inviting us to again visit her prairie. Details of her restoration efforts appeared in the spring 2011 issue of the *Gaillardia* in the Botanist's Corner.

The chapter has a single activity scheduled for this fall. On Tuesday evening, November 8th, we invite you to join us for a potluck desert and lecture beginning at 7:00 PM at 1008 S. Blue Ridge on the west side of Stillwater. Bring your favorite desert to share with fellow ONPS members. Our speaker is Dr. Karen Hickman, Professor of Natural Resource Ecology & Management at OSU and past-president of the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council. Her presentation is titled *Accidents & Mistakes: Invasive Plants*; she will introduce us to the most infamous species, describe the activities of the Council, and outline some of her research activities on these troublesome taxa. Please join us for an informal and informative evening.

Contact Ron Tyrl (744-9558) or Elaine Lynch (mneslynch@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Central Chapter Joe Roberts

On June 4th, Dr. Bruce Smith led a small but enthusiastic group of Central Chapter members through an Oak-Hickory woodland just south of the McLoud High School. Notable in the group was Sakura Roberts (10yrs), future ONPS President for the 2032-33 term. The heat was already on early in the day, but once we stepped under the canopy there was a near instantaneous drop of almost 10 degrees. We then spent the next hour or two in the cool of the forest, finding old friends and a few new ones, too. Dr. Smith showed his skills as a teacher, guiding everyone at their own pace to self-discover the varied plant species and characteristics associated with each. This really was a neat area for nature study, and the high school is lucky to have such a place so close at hand. After the walk we visited a much

different habitat around a local park, then headed out to Wes Watkins Lake for a picnic lunch and conversation.

The heat has held us back from other trips, but as it gets cooler we will be planning more. At the present, our next meeting will be September 26 at OSU-OKC. Our speaker will be Nick Plata. Nick has been the Environmental Education Specialist with the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge near Lawton for 14 years. He has strong emotional and family ties to the refuge because his great, great grandfather lived at the base of Mount Scott, and was the elected Comanche Chief in 1875 when the bands came together to surrender. The week after his speaking engagement at OSU-OKC, he will lead a field trip to the Refuge on Saturday, October 1. We will all board a bus at 9am at the Refuge Visitor's Center. Participation is limited to 26 people, so be sure to get your reservations in early.

Fenton Rood from DEQ (downtown OKC) started planting natives around the DEQ property a couple of years ago. Fenton would like to share photos, discuss problems, and solicit suggestions as our October 31 meeting at OSU-OKC. On the following Saturday, 5 Nov 2011, Fenton would like to lead our members around the DEQ site, and solicit more input from our members. More information about these events will be emailed later. More notice about this and other meetings will be sent out through the list serve in the coming weeks.

Mycology Chapter Nancy Hamill

At the July 23, 2011, Meeting of the Mycology Chapter of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society held at OSU campus, Stillwater the following officers were elected:

Chairman-Steve Marek
Vice-Chair-Lisa Rountree
Sec.-Nancy Hamill

Elections were followed by a discussion of the 2011-2012 Year Calendar for meetings/forays:

Sept. 23-25--OK. Academy of Science meeting at Robber's Cave. We will have a meeting at this time also.

Oct. 14-15—Bio Blitz at Sulphur. Fungi & Lichen walks and an opportunity to meet in conjunction with another event.

Nov. 12—Lichens at Wichita Mt. Wildlife Refuge. Sheila Strawn will lead a lichen walk. Oklahoma Master Gardeners may be invited to join us.

Dec.—no meeting.

Five attendees watched the video "Know your mushrooms," presented by Steve Marek. Sheila Strawn provided homemade ice cream. The

meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm and members gathered at Eskimo Joe's afterward.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Chris Coberly, Norman
Trish and BJ Hastings, Tulsa
Susan Pordos, Chandler

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.

FOR JOINING OR RENEWING USE THIS FORM

Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to Oklahoma Native Plant Society, 2435 South Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74114.
Membership is for Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 of current year and dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

Name: _____

Affiliation: (School, Business, or Avocation) _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Office _____ Please do not list my phone _____

E mail: _____

Renewal ___ or New Member ___

Dues are tax deductible.

Annual Membership Choice: \$15 Individual ___ or \$20 Family ___, or \$5 Student ___

Life Membership Choice: \$250 Individual ___ or \$350 Family ___

Add \$5.00 ___ to cover cost of copying and mailing a complete ONPS directory if desired.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ONPS BYLAWS

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

(NEW:) Section 2. Complimentary memberships may be granted to non-members who support the aims of the Society at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Rationale: The current bylaws make no allowance for providing complimentary memberships such as are in current use. (see Membership Directory)

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

Section 1. (Sentence 5 now reads): No individual, with the exception of the Treasurer, shall serve in a voting capacity for more than six consecutive years on the Executive Board.

CHANGE: "No individual" to "No elected officer"

Rationale: The current wording prevents committee chairs and other appointed officers entitled to vote from serving more-than six years.

Section 1. (Sentence 5 WOULD read): No elected officer, with the exception of the Treasurer, shall serve in a voting capacity for more than six consecutive years on the Executive Board.

Section 3. (Now reads:) The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall perform the recognized duties of the office and shall become President if that office becomes vacant.

CHANGE: After "absence of the President" would add "shall fulfill any special duties delegated by the President or Executive Board."

Rationale: There is currently no provision in the bylaws for special duties which the vice president might fulfill, such as the current responsibility of that officer to send "welcome packets" to new Society members.

Section 3. (WOULD read): The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President, shall fulfill any special duties delegated by the President or Executive Board, shall perform the recognized duties of the office, and shall become President if that office becomes vacant.

Section 4. (Now reads): The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the Society, maintain a roster of active members, and perform other recognized duties.

CHANGE: Delete "maintain a roster of active members"

Rationale: The roster of active members is now maintained by the membership chairman.

Section 4. (WOULD read): The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the Society, and shall perform other recognized duties.

Section 7. (Now reads): The Directors-at-Large shall serve as voting members of the Executive Board and shall participate actively in the Society.

CHANGE: After "Executive Board" would add "shall attend to such duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board. "

Rationale: Current bylaws are not specific about the role of Directors-at-Large. The addition would give the President and/or Executive Board power to assign particular projects or duties to Directors-at-Large.

Section 7. (WOULD read): The Directors-at-Large shall serve as voting members of the Executive Board, shall attend to such duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Board, and shall actively participate in the Society.

ARTICLE VI. THE GOVERNING BODY

Section 5. (Sentence 1 now says:) The presence of a majority of the Executive Board at a Board meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

CHANGE: Would add "simple" before "majority"

Rationale: Allows for a precise definition of type of majority required to conduct business, in this case, one more than half of the members of the Executive Board. (Roberts' Rules of Order definition.)

Section 5. (Sentence 1 WOULD read:) The presence of a simple majority of the Executive Board at a Board meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 7. (Paragraph 1, Sentence 2, Now reads:) In the event of the extended absence of an officer of the Board, a qualified replacement shall be appointed to the Executive Committee by the Board.

Change: Would delete "an officer of the Board" and replace it with "a member of the Executive Committee"

Rationale: Article VI, Section 7, deals with the Executive Committee; therefore the extended absence of one of its members would require the replacement of that member with the entire Board only acting to appoint that replacement.

Section 7: (Paragraph 1, Sentence 2 WOULD read:) In the event of the extended absence of a member of the Executive Committee, a qualified replacement shall be appointed to the Executive Committee by the Board.

(NEW): Section 8. Disbursements of Society funds in amounts in excess of \$100.00 shall be approved only at duly constituted, official, in-person meetings of the Executive Board. Disbursement of Society funds in amounts of less than \$100.00 may be approved by Executive Board action via email, telephone, or other non in-person methods.

Rationale: Would require spending of Society funds in excess of \$100.00 to be approved in face-to-face deliberations of the Executive Board, during which time, Board members would be able to debate all sides, issues, and outcomes of major expenditures.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. (Now reads:) Elections shall be held each year at the Annual meeting of the Society. Notice of the annual election and a report of the nominating committee shall be made in writing to the membership at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled meeting.

CHANGE: Delete the entire second sentence.

Rationale: The second sentence of Section 1 is redundant, since Section 2 basically says the same thing.

Section 1. (WOULD read:) Elections shall be held each year at the Annual meeting of the Society.

Section 2.

(Sentence 3 now reads:) The names of the nominating committee, a list of the offices to be filled, and the names of the nominees are to be printed in the Society's newsletter prior to the annual meeting or reported to the membership by mail along with a notification of the meeting.

CHANGE: Delete the words "or reported to the membership by mail along" and add the Society website as a source of election information

Rationale: The current method of informing the membership of an upcoming election no longer uses a notification by mail; notification is via the Society newsletter and the Society website.

Section 2. (Sentence 3 WOULD read:) The names of the nominating committee, a list of the offices to be filled, and the names of the nominees are to be printed in the Society's newsletter and available on the Society website prior to the annual meeting with a notification of the meeting.

VIII. CHAPTERS

Section 3. (Sentence 2 now reads:) Minutes will be submitted to the Society Secretary, and a synopsis of activities will appear in the Society newsletter.

CHANGE: would delete the first part of sentence 2, "Minutes will be submitted to the Society Secretary"

Rationale: Current practice does not include this requirement for the chapter secretaries.

Section 3: (Sentence 2 WOULD read:) A synopsis of activities will appear in the Society newsletter.

IX. COMMITTEES

Section 2. (Sentence 2 now reads:) Each such committee shall be provided specific charges of responsibility and reasonable deadlines for final reports to be made to the Executive Board and/or the membership.

CHANGE: would delete the final portion of sentence 2, "and reasonable deadlines for final reports to be made to the Executive Board and/or the membership."

Rationale: A new Section 3 will add reporting to Standing and Ad hoc committees' responsibilities if approved.

Section 2. (Sentence 2 WOULD read:) Each such committee shall be provided specific charges of responsibility.

NEW: Section 3. All committees shall report their activities at duly constituted sessions of the Executive Board and at the regularly scheduled meetings of the Society

Rationale: Section 3 .would specify committee reporting as is already in current practice at Executive Board meetings and at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE X. MEETINGS

Section 1. (Now reads:) The Society shall hold an annual meeting between September 1 and December 31, at the time and place to be set by the Executive Board.

CHANGE: Substitute ((December 1" for "December 31."

Rationale: Would cause the date for the annual meeting to agree with the dates listed in Amendment 1 of the History of the ONPS Bylaws which sets the date between September 1 and December 1.

Section 1. (WOULD read:) The Society shall hold an annual meeting between September 1 and December 1, at the time and place to be set by the Executive Board.

XI. DUES

NEW: Section 2. Annual Society dues shall be delinquent after December 31 of each calendar year.

Rationale: Current bylaws do not state precisely when annual dues are delinquent.

NOTE: If approved, current Section 2 will be renumbered Section 3.

HISTORY

Amendment 8. October 1, 2011 General updating of entire bylaws

Oklahoma Native Plant Society
c/o Tulsa Garden Center
2435 South Peoria
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

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