



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 43
Winter 2011

LOOK INSIDE FOR

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH	2
IMPORTANT NOTICES	2
BOTANIST'S CORNER	3
CONSERVATION CORNER	4
2011 SERVICE AWARD	5
EDGE OF THE EARTH	5
CHAPTER ACTIVITIES	6
FIELD TRIP RULES	8
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	8
MEMBERSHIP FORM.....	9
VOLUME 11 OF ONPR	10

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15 February 2012

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.

Feb 4: Indoor Outing hosted by the Central Chapter at Oklahoma City University. Page 8

Apr 27-28: Wildflower Workshop Hosted by NE Chapter at Stroud. Contact Kim Shannon.

NE Chapter's Fabulous Wildflower Fridays, the 3rd Friday of each month, Page 7

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

ONPS THANKS THESE DONORS

General Fund

Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden
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First Place Award for Scarecrow

Color Oklahoma

Snodgrass Interests, L.L.C.
Mrs. Gerald G. Stamper
Stuart Garrett

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

Kim Shannon

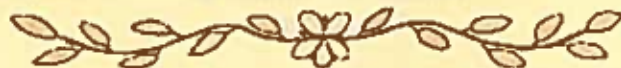
I am pleased to be serving as the President of ONPS again. Over the last two plus years I have spent much more time and energy doing the work that I have chosen as a profession. As many of you know I am fortunate to use my botanical education in my work on a regular basis performing wetland delineations, habitat assessments, and various types of permitting. One thing that is constant in my work (and probably yours) is change; regulations change, company policies change, clients' needs change from project to project, and reliably, plants change with the seasons. This theme of change is what I want to bring to ONPS over the next few years.

As we begin our 26th year, I hope to engage our membership in a conversation regarding updates that, I believe, need to take place in order to keep our organization vital and relevant. Our vitality is of concern to me and is a major drive behind the changes I hope to see in the upcoming year or two. In support of these changes, the ONPS Board has two new members that bring valuable skills and input: Dr. Adam Ryburn and Dr. Jay Walker. Dr. Adam Ryburn is serving as Vice President and is a professor in the Biology Department at Oklahoma City University. Adam earned his B.S. from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 1998, and his Ph.D. in Plant Science from Oklahoma State University in 2003 under the direction of, my favorite and yours, Dr. Ron Tyrl. As a plant taxonomist, the focus of Adam's research is the classification and identification of plants. In addition to his teaching duties he is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, American Society of Plant Taxonomists, Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society, Botanical Society of America, Southwest Association of Naturalists, and the Oklahoma Academy of Science. Originally from Anadarko, he and his wife live in Mustang with their two children.

Dr. Jay Walker is a new member-at-large on the Board. He is an adjunct professor of Botany at Oklahoma State University and teaches at the Tulsa campus. His research aims to understand, interpret, and catalogue the biodiversity of life on earth. More specifically, his research concentrates on phylogenetic reconstruction of angiosperms, particularly members of the mint family, and

interpretation of those phylogenies. His ethnobotanical research in Belize and the United States reflects a life-long interest in human's uses of plants. He also assists with the development and interpretation of the Crosstimbers natural areas at the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden in Tulsa and is a contributor to the Flora of North America, the USDA PLANTS website, and the Flora of Oklahoma project. He and his family live in Sapulpa, OK.

I am confident that Adam and Jay will bring new ideas and resources to our organization. I would like to encourage all our members to become more active and provide the Board with input regarding changes, additions, and activities they would like ONPS to consider. But I would also like to stress that any changes we undertake will require YOUR participation and support. I too will do my best to be a more active member and advocate for ONPS. I will use this column to provide the membership with updates and ideas and I look forward to hearing from you in the months to come.



IMPORTANT GENERAL NOTICES

ONPS WEBSITE

When USAO moved their member accounts to a new server, they changed the address to that server and eventually archived many of the accounts. Our website was archived but I had it retrieved. You can see it at the address on the front page. Note there is no "www".

We will have a new website in the near future with its own domain name and a new webmaster.

ONPS PHOTO CONTEST UPDATE

February 29, 2012 is the upcoming deadline for our annual photo contest. Our specialty category for this year is Wetland Wildflowers and I hope to see interesting entries for this category. Our two regular categories of Close-ups and Habitat are also available for your submittals. You can send your entries to Kim Shannon at her home address: 5216 E 41st St. N., Tulsa, OK 74115. If you have questions or need an entry form, please contact Kim via email at okpenstemon@cox.net.



BOTANIST'S CORNER

Editor: Lacking an author for this issues' Botanist's Corner, I have reprinted a 2000 article by Paul Buck, not to repeat the informational content but to just remind us all of how droll Paul could be.

BOTANY BAY

Paul Buck, October 2000

A CONVERSATION WITH A SMALL BEETLE:

Today we find our lives filled with technological innovations such as personal computers, the internet and email, supersonic aircraft, space probes, interspecies gene transfers and on and on. Yet you think we lead an unusual life! Let me tell you what happened recently to an insect acquaintance. She related her tale of woe as I sat out back watching the tall phlox Pat Folley gave me grow taller.

First, a number of gardeners in the neighborhood grow *Arum italicum*, an arum lily, for its large attractive, light veined leaves and clusters of beautiful bright red berries which appear late in the growing season. Introduced to North America, the species is native to southern Europe and in some areas of Italy is considered a common weed.

In Oklahoma, flowering takes place in May and in *Arum* the reproductive structure is actually not the typical flower but an inflorescence surrounded by a large leaf. On our Native Plant Society field trips we have seen numerous Jack-in-the-Pulpit plants and the floral system is quite similar. The erect flowering stalk (spadix) is enclosed in an enveloping bract (spathe). The flowers are unisexual with the pistillate (female) at the base of the spadix and staminate (male) above. Over those two sets of fertile flowers is a whorl of sterile flowers which, when inflated, form a barrier between the floral chamber within the spathe and the open area above.

My friend, a small, dark beetle, said her recent experience started one warm afternoon while foraging when she sensed what she felt was the aroma of food (you and I would probably say it smelled like a combination of carrion and urine). She followed her 'nose' to a large plant (we later identified it as *Arum italicum*) and landed on the

open throat of the spathe. A large number of beetles, gnats, and blowflies had already gathered. She sensed the aroma was welling up from the tubular spathe and, again, following her 'nose' walked to the opening. She reported slipping at the edge on tiny oil droplets and falling through some bristles into the depths of the chamber. There she found the stigmas of the pistillate flowers covered with a sweet, slimy fluid. She noted the inflated bristles that so readily permitted her fall were keeping large insects out. They were forced to fly off, seeking food elsewhere.

Once at the bottom of the pit her first thought was of escape. However, she discovered the walls of the lower chamber were just as slippery as the upper spathe surface and climbing out was impossible until she realized she could climb over the lower female flowers. As she did she noticed others with pollen on their backs losing those grains to the sticky surfaces of the female flowers as they labored upward. Unfortunately when the group reached the base of the bristles they encountered downward pointing hairs which prevented further progress.

She lamented, 'What to do?' but only briefly. The chamber was warm, out of the rain, there was abundant food being produced by the flowers and about half the crowd was male. There was but one thing to do - PARTY!

With the setting of the sun my friend and the others settled down. I do not know if it was the darkness, full bellies and party fatigue or simply bedtime for little beetles. However, during the night the staminate flowers matured and rained pollen from above.

With dawn and the rising sun everyone awoke to find themselves coated with pollen adhering to the sticky exudate from the stigmas. Once again, how to escape? Lo and behold, the downward pointing hairs had wilted along with the bristles and it was possible to climb up and over their wrinkled surfaces to the throat of the spathe and freedom. Interestingly, the upper portion of the spathe (appendix) had lost the carrion aroma and my friend, with her pollen-laden companions, previous prisoners of the night, flew away. However, the escaping insects picked up the aroma of another arum inflorescence and agreed to drop by for a visit only to be trapped in a new prison chamber. This time one where the pollen

on their backs would be transferred to the flowers and pollination would take place. When I last saw my friend she was joining a group headed toward yet another arum plant.

There is an additional feature of arum I would like to mention before closing. The terminal portion of the spadix, the appendix, is the source of the aroma, unpleasant to you and me but attractive to my beetle friend. While the chemical producing the aroma is being released the appendix tissue generates heat to the point it may be as much as 36 degrees warmer than the surrounding air. Research suggests the temperature elevation serves to volatilize the smelly compound increasing the speed with which it is spread into the atmosphere. For most of us that is an interesting aspect of the overall process and we quickly see the reason behind it. For you chemists it raises another question. What metabolic pathways are utilized by the plant to produce such significant energy release? How do the plants do it?

What an interesting story and introduction to pollination ecology right in the back yard. You see there is a benefit to taking a few minutes to chat with a small beetle.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Chad Cox

Not long after I became the chairman of our conservation committee, the California Native plant Society was recruiting native plant societies and other conservation organizations to join in asking for government help in protecting native wildlife. I thought it a worthy project and ONPS agreed to join as a member of this advocacy group. The major driving force for developing this advocacy group was CNPS' partnering with the Center for Biological Diversity in litigation filed in 1998 to protect imperiled native wildflowers. While the advocacy group dissolved after several years, CBD has continued protecting native wildlife in the U.S.A.

In fact, CBD is one of the best organizations for conservation of species. In their current issue of *Endangered Earth*, they report on some of their programs. They have programs directed at protecting single species but for this report, the more general programs are discussed. An example of a more general program is their efforts to get 757 species on the endangered species list. Through litigation they obtained

recently a settlement with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Department that will move 493 of these species another step closer to endangered species status. Their success in this litigation depended on the Endangered Species Act.

Another of their general programs is to reduce the number and amounts of toxic chemicals in wild places and wild creatures. The litigation or threat of litigation depends on different laws and strategies for the different toxic compounds. They were successful at protecting some wetlands from pesticides and obtaining a ban on lead shot in some of the range of the California condors. They have really expanded recently their work both in areas (up to all U. S. A.) and numbers of compounds.

All of these programs of CBD depend on existing laws and agencies. Now there is a movement to narrow these laws and agency regulations, if not actually abolish them. The Endanger Species Act is being attack as is the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. So is the Environmental Protection Agency. So it is up to us to help protect these laws and agencies in order to protect our native plants.

Their newest program of CBD is directed at the population explosion, especially since the report that humans jump from 6 billion to 7 billion in a mere 12 years. They started with inserting coverage into the public square with a video billboard in Times Square that reports on the problems caused and points to their special website, 7BillionAndCounting.org for those seeking more information. Another clever tactic was getting 1200 volunteers to pass out 100,000 condom packages with either a polar bear or a snail darter on the front. The volunteers said that the packages were real conversation starters. Also, the real work has begun that is educating young people at risk, mainly women, about family planning.

I like to think that ONPS is connected, even if only distantly, with work that CBD is doing. The advocacy group we joined was part of the first litigation that CDB filed in 1998 for protecting imperiled native plants. Also, CNPS was the first to develop an invasive plant council and is one of the most active native plant societies in conservation. Not a bad pair for us to have been associated with.

2011 SERVICE AWARD

Gloria Caddell received the 2011 Oklahoma Native Plant Society Service Award during the Society's Annual Meeting held on October 1 at the Dog Iron Ranch near Oologah, Oklahoma. Cited for her many roles in ONPS, Gloria served the organization as Vice President from 2006 to 2009. She presided at the 2008 Annual Meeting in the absence of the state president.



Sheila Strawn delivering the Service Award to Gloria Caddell

Currently serving as Chairman of the Anne Long Awards Committee, Gloria also served as chairman of the Wildflower Brochures for State Parks project in 2008 and was a member of the state bylaws review committee in 2008. She has authored a number of "Botanist's Corner" columns in the *Gaillardia*, including one in the Fall, 2011, issue.

Gloria was also cited for her effective leadership in Wildflower Workshop and Annual Meeting field trips, including preparation of species lists for participants.

To commemorate this honor, Gloria received the traditional gaillardia-embossed plaque which was presented by Service Awards Chairman Sue

Amstutz on behalf of the Service Awards Committee and the Society.

LOOKING FOR THE EDGE OF THE EARTH

Pat Folley

When you live in southern Cleveland County, you hear about *Edge of the Earth*, but not often, and always with a whiff of unreality: a never-never place whose existence is suspect. But I'd found it on an old USGS map, and realized that I had actually stood upon a corner of it, once, years ago. It was, as usual, unmarked then – and now. Those road-signs seem irresistible to collectors who are willing to break a law to obtain them.

Then, a few days ago, I knew that it was time to take a few friends on a field trip. Not that there would be many wildflowers to admire after that terrible summer, but that we are accustomed to a field trip now and then, and winter suddenly seems like a real possibility. There were four of us: my brother Dennis Murphy, Betty Culpepper, Lynn Allen from Edmond, and me. But first, a lunch.

Ideally, a field trip lunch would be made halfway through a day-long excursion into a remote and wild area, with convenient large rocks to sit upon and a warm sun to our backs. This day dawned clear and cold and windy. We had the traditional Native Plant Society lunch of peanut-butter and apple sandwiches, graham crackers and water at my house instead. All this was in honor of Dr. Paul Buck, whose favorite meal that was. (Dr. Buck was one of the organizing members of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, a professor of botany in Tulsa, and a tireless field-tripper).

Armed with a full gas-tank and the maps, we set out, south and east from my home. around the Lexington Wildlife Management Area, skirting the town of Lexington, we turned either east or south at intersections. There were wildflowers, but not many. A few stunted Maximilian sunflowers, some lovely lavender-blue asters in the bar-ditches, fenced pastures full of cow-patch daisies, and drifts of little golden-asters here and there.

Eventually, we found the little community of Box. A thriving small town just after the "run" that opened this edge of Cleveland County to white settlers around 1900, it was depopulated by the dust-bowl and depression of the early 30's. These

days, there remain a few well-maintained small homes and a fenced cemetery. We toured the cemetery, looking for familiar names, and were struck by the large number of markers for infants and young children. Some of them must have succumbed to the epidemics of measles and whooping cough that decimated those pioneer settlements in the days before vaccinations.

Wandering east again from Box, we found ourselves on an unpaved road and in Pottawattomie county. Back at the cemetery, we turned south for another mile. Nothing ahead but well-fenced ranches and the Canadian River, but the paved road led west now, and had a sign pole but no sign. Could it be? Once the pioneer town of Buckhead was here, but we could find no traces of it. Again, more recent owners had built homes and fences. It isn't very wild, any more.

Finally, as you can see from the picture, we did find a road sign, and continued west to Corbett Road, turning north there past woods and farms and *Flat Armadillo Road*, enjoying the peaceful rural scenery all the way to SH 39. Back in familiar territory, we took time to drive the loop road within the Lexington Wildlife Management Area before finally coming home.



Yes, it reads "EDGE OF THE EARTH"

As field trips go, it wasn't much. Not like the two-day trips to Black Mesa or Beaver's Bend or the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve. But for four aging tree-huggers hungry for a day in the wild after a summer under the air-conditioner, it was heaven.



CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Northeast Chapter
Alicia Nelson

What a great year! Our chapter has added some new members, participated in many community events and had some wonderful field trips. The community is catching on that ONPS is a fun organization to join.

Our next meeting will be held at the Tulsa Garden Center on December the 5th. Come and join us for an informal get together at 6:30 and bring your favorite dessert or appetizer, coffee and tea will be provided. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Mark Buchheim. He is a botanist and professor from the University of Tulsa and Dept. of Biological Sciences.

In September, our chapter hosted a booth at the Tulsa Master Gardeners "Fall Garden Festival". We entered a "*Wild OK Native Scarecrow*" and won first prize, (thanks to Lynn and her creativity) which included cash and a pizza party. The project started with *Juniperus virginiana* of which became the body, with *Campsis radicans*, *Solidago sp.*, *Typha sp.* used for the many facial features. The scarecrow was on display during the festival and at the MG booth during the Tulsa State Fair. We were invited to host a booth the same weekend at the Nature Conservancy 25th Anniversary event held at the Five Oaks Lodge. What a great way to educate the public about ONPS and the importance of our native plants.

The last field trip was held at the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve on October 8th and led by an outstanding guide, Mr. Dwight Thomas. He talked about the history of the area and how the Nature Conservancy is helping to preserve the prairie by fire and bison management. We stopped at various points to botanize and were thrilled to see a small herd of bison crossing the road while we were looking at a population of *Liatris punctata* (Dotted Blazing Star). There

were twenty one plant enthusiasts that endured the *sharp, dusty* winds that day.

Please join us at the next meeting for election of new officers. I would like to thank all the members who volunteered their time in accepting positions of responsibility and for helping with all of the events. Our chapter had a wonderful year because of member participation.

Join us on the third Friday of each month for "*Fabulous Wildflower Friday*" at 5:30 pm at Panera Bread on 41st Street for a fun social time. Call me if you have questions, Alicia N. at 918/599-0085.

Cross-Timbers Chapter
Elaine Lynch

Our first ever dessert potluck on November 8th was a great success. There were so many delicious desserts to enjoy followed by an entertaining and informative talk. We met at the home of chapter president Ron Tyrl and wife Lynda to hear Karen Hickman speak on "Accidents and Mistakes: Invasive Plants in Oklahoma." Dr. Hickman is Professor of Natural Resource Ecology & Management at OSU and past-president of the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council. She presented a brief history of the invasive plant problem in Oklahoma and current challenges in their control.

There have been more than 50,000 foreign plant and animal species introduced into the United States since 1800. Some of these species can be considered beneficial such as those that are used for food. However, some have proven to be detrimental to the environment. Karen pointed out that Noxious Weed is an actual legal term for "any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interests of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the United States, the public health, or the environment." Noxious weed classification requires the landowner to take steps to eradicate the plant. Invasive is really only a descriptive term which requires no action on the part of a landowner. Invasive can be a subjective term in that a plant considered invasive in one place is actually promoted in another place.

Oklahoma's battle with invasives began with the Thistle Law (1994-1999) and continued with

Oklahoma's Noxious Weed Law in 2000. Since 2000, there has been the Eastern Redcedar Task Force (2002), Oklahoma's Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan, Oklahoma State Wildlife Action Plan, and the creation of the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council, all in 2008, and the Weed Free Hay Certification Act in 2010. A Senate hearing on invasive species was held in 2011. Despite this there has been little progress on protecting Oklahoma's environment from noxious and invasive species. Oklahoma has three plants on its Noxious Weed list: Canada Thistle, Musk Thistle, and Scotch Thistle. This is in contrast to our neighboring states which have: 11 - Missouri, 12 - Kansas, 27 - Texas, 32 - New Mexico, 38 - Arkansas, and 71 - Colorado. In the case of Colorado, many of the species on the list have not been found in Colorado, but that state has taken a proactive approach in case any of those species should be found there in the future.

There are several problems in the control of noxious and invasive species in Oklahoma. The biggest problem is inconsistency. That is, getting all the agencies, organizations and governments involved to agree that a species is a problem. For instance, some plants considered by environmentalists as invasive are still promoted by some agencies for fodder or erosion control. Another problem is too few inspectors for finding populations of problem plants. Then when noxious plant populations are found, it is difficult to enforce the requirement that the landowners deal with them because the fines are small and there are not enough personnel to follow up on compliance. Collecting small fines often costs more than the fines bring in but legislators are reluctant to increase the fines for fear of overburdening farmers. However, the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council continues to work toward more protection for Oklahoma's environment from these problematic species.

We held yearly elections for chapter officers at the potluck. Ron Tyrl will continue as president. Mark Fishbein was elected vice-president. Elaine Lynch was re-elected secretary/treasurer. We discussed possible future activities. We will once again co-host the Annual Botany Lecture with the OSU Botany Department, OSU Library, and OSUBS. Dr. Janette Steets asked for opinions of possible speakers and will take our comments back to the organizing committee. We are working on plans for spring field trips.

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.

Central Chapter
Joe Roberts

On September 26th the Central Chapter heard an informative talk by our own Dr. Sheila Strawn, a charter member of the Central Chapter and past president of the ONPS. Her topic was "Ten years of the Oklahoma Native Plant Record.....but who's counting?" Sheila spoke of the importance of promoting science education in Oklahoma by supporting the Oklahoma Native Plant Record, our society's own journal. This journal plays an important role not only for Oklahoma researchers but, increasingly, authors outside Oklahoma who are studying and publishing articles dealing with Oklahoma native plants.

On October 31st a group of about 20 trick-or-treaters dressed as plant geeks all gathered at OSU-OKC to listen to Steve Owens of Bustani Plant Farm give a presentation on the nursery he and wife Ruth Owens own and operate in Stillwater, OK. The former host and producer of

the PBS program *Oklahoma Gardening* was entertaining and informative. He spoke about the propagation of native plants and their care. It was striking how low-maintenance so many of our natives are in the garden. Steve spoke of growing natives which thrived in soil with little or no amendments and getting infrequent watering. Probably many people, looking at the wreckage of their gardens from this difficult year, were inspired to plant more natives next year. We were very fortunate to have several new people in the audience from other organizations, and we hope to see them again at other ONPS meetings.

The Central Chapter will host the annual "Indoor Outing" on Saturday, February 4th, 2012. The outing will be held on the campus of Oklahoma City University. The details have yet to be determined, but please mark your calendars now and pass the word. More will follow and we will try to put the word out on the ONPS listserv as things are finalized.

The November meeting will be an informal affair at OSU-OKC on November 28th. We will be discussing the details for the Indoor Outing. If you would be able to help, or would just like to participate in the planning, please try to come to this meeting. We will meet at 7pm at the *Agriculture Resource Center* at 400 N. Portland Ave at 7pm.

There will be no meeting in December.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Stuart R. Garrett, Bartlesville
Sharla and Matt, Kaylee, & Corey Lovern,
Stillwater
Elizabeth McMahon, Stillwater
Rebecca Renfro, Bartlesville
Ron and Sandra Repogle, Coweta
Linda Sponsler, Tulsa
Ellen Stanley, Tulsa
Margaret Struble, Agra
Betsy Tonn, Oklahoma City
Jim and Anita Wood, Morris

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Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to Oklahoma native Plant Society, P. O. Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159

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VOLUME 11 OF THE OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT RECORD WILL BE PUBLISHED DECEMBER 1, 2011.

Sheila Strawn, Managing Editor, Oklahoma Native Plant Record

Looking back over the last 10 years of publishing the Oklahoma Native Plant Record gives us an honest sense of accomplishment. It has been a challenge to get our journal established, but with the turning of the decade, WE have also turned the corner. Our work is beginning to pay off. As of this year all volumes are available online through Oklahoma State University's Edmon Low Library as an e-journal publication. It can be accessed globally at <http://ojs.library.okstate.edu/osu/>

The 2011 cover photo is one of this year's photo contest winners by Carolyn Lilly, "Fritillary & Thistle".

The historic paper in Volume 11 is one of the chapters of Linda Clark-Gatti's 1997 OSU Ph.D. Thesis. Next year, for Volume 12, we are anticipating a 15 year update on this flora from Boehler Seeps.

Marian Smith & Paul McKenzie are two researchers from Southern Illinois University. Their paper on hybridization of local species of sedges is one of the signs that we are finally turning the corner. It is also the first to be submitted entirely online. Turning to online publishing seems to be one of the most effective ways to connect with out-of-state scientists.

Molly Parkhurst, Andrew Doust, Margarita Mauro-Herrera, Jeffrey Byrnes, and Janette Steets from OSU have introduced a brand new topic for the Record; a population genetics study of Scribner's panicum, one of our native grasses. This up-to-date molecular research paper is likely to be cited in other journals and is yet another sign that we are turning the corner.

Jerard Linneman, one of Michael Palmer's former students, addressed some of the Redcedar controversies in his Ph.D Thesis from OSU, but was hired by the US government before he could get it published. Matthew Allen was recruited to update and co-author it for our journal. We appreciate Mike Palmer's initiative to get this submitted. It is very timely, considering all the redcedar controversies and their role in recent wildfires. This paper discusses the effects of removing redcedar from old field grasslands.

Richard Thomas' paper is another "hot" topic. It's an interdisciplinary study based on climate change and biogeographic interaction. This can be used by local botany professors to relate environmental science and climate change to local consequences. It is entitled, "The Changing forests of central Oklahoma: A look at the composition of the Cross Timbers prior to Euro-American settlement, the 1950s, and today.

Remember and tell everyone you know that it's available online. But if you want a printed copy, order it soon. Only 50 copies will be printed this year. Volume 11, the 2011 issue of the Oklahoma Native Plant Record, is being offered to members, non-members, libraries, colleges, and universities in print at the subscription rate of \$10.00 plus \$2.00 shipping. It is also available in electronic format on CD at \$10.00 for all eleven volumes. Please use the form below for orders.

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The Gaillardia

Published quarterly by the
Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 14272, Tulsa, OK 74159

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