



Kansas Native Plant Society

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3



KNPS –Fall Meeting

By Phyllis Scherich

The KNPS Fall Annual Meeting will be held in Coldwater at Measurement Inc, a renovated Grade School. This is your opportunity to see the Red Hills, dressed in her autumn finery, from private property not usually accessible to the public. You will learn how the Comanche Pool played a part in the history of this area and how the Comanche Pool Prairie Resource Foundation is working *to regenerate and protect the natural resources* of the area.

An outing is planned for Friday afternoon to Belvidere and Sun City area led by Ken Brunsen from the Kansas Wildlife & Parks, and Stan Roth from the Kansas Biological Survey. The late season Native Plants of these areas will be featured. (On October 3, 2004, Phyllis Scherich counted 42 wildflowers still blooming!) Other highlights will include special food (Buster's smoked BBQ ribs), entertainment (Saturday evening at the Wilmore Opry), membership meeting, display of KNPS members' Native Plant photographs, and a Silent Auction. Check p. 7 for further details so you can make your plans now.

Report on Website

by Jeff Hansen

The Kansas Native Plant Society website is nearing completion. The bulk of the site is completed, but will need to be continually updated. The

plan is to do quarterly updates or bi-monthly updates.

The website was developed by Judd Patterson, and he is our webmaster. He is both an accomplished nature photographer and website developer. See his website at www.naturalplanet.org. Our site was developed using Front Page Software, PHP Scripting Language, and MySQL for database access. With this set of software we are able to create pages that query databases for information to display such as outings for the events calendar.

The site is hosted by 8-95.com, an affordable and dependable hosting agent. The following domains were registered by the society: kansasnativeplantsociety.org and kansaswildflowersociety.org so that people can find us using our old name and our new name. A listserv is also included as part of the site to allow our membership the ability to communicate with each other.

Between Judd and myself, we have contacted all web sites that linked to our old website and given them the new URL. I've also contacted all web sites that listed our name, address, and contact information; and given them updated information. The email ccfree@ku.edu should no longer be listed anywhere as a contact email, once the updates are completed.

Our main email is email@kansasnativeplantsociety.org. The society is also using kansaswild-

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Check your Calendars now.

September 30-October 1: The Kansas Native Plant Society's 27th Annual Meeting will be held this weekend. Be sure to mark your calendar! Please contact Kansas Native Plant Society for more information [<kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com>](mailto:kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com) (785) 864-3453.

The Kansas Native Plant Society Newsletter is printed four times a year: Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). The deadline for submitted material is the 15th of December, March, June and September.



Kansas
Native
Plant
Society

The Kansas Native Plant Society encourages the conservation and enjoyment of and education about the native plants of Kansas.

Wildflower Wanderings

by Valerie Wright, President, KNPS

A week ago I was wandering among the Konza Prairie wildflowers with ten enthusiastic teachers from around the state. Teachers, as you all know, are our connection to the future. They are lifelong learners who through their own curiosity form the basis for our children's knowledge. They are also interesting people who give a lot of themselves to their community. These teachers were attending a workshop at Konza Prairie about prairies, short, mixed and tall-grass prairies. Their students will be collecting data in the prairie type of their local area and adding that data to the web site databases we have developed. During the workshop we spent nearly two days discussing plant communities, plant diversity, plant productivity, plant inventories and the similarities and differences in prairies across Kansas. Several of the teachers said that their curricula did not contain enough information about plants and plant ecology. They wanted a "hook" to get students interested in plants. They wanted to learn more themselves.

One of the speakers at the teachers' workshop was Craig Freeman, the one person who understands more about Kansas plants than anyone. Craig is the person "in charge" of the R. L. McGregor Herbarium at the University of Kansas. He mentioned that his defining moment, when he decided to choose botany as

his career, was during a walk through the prairie. Personally, my interest in plants came from my training as an entomologist, when at some early point I realized that there would be no insects to catch in my net without their host plants and the other organisms that interact with plants in the web of life. I began to learn about plants, and they have been a joy ever since.

When the United States was mostly a farm economy, children grew up close to the land. They may have lived on a farm or ranch or had a relative they would visit for the summer who lived in a rural area. The writer, Hamlin Garland, speaks of his youth on the Iowa frontier: "In herding the cattle we came to know all the open country round about and found it very beautiful. On the uplands a short, light-green, hair-like grass grew, intermixed with various resinous weeds, while on the lowland feeding grounds luxuriant patches of blue-joint, wild oats, and other tall forage plants waved in the wind. Along the streams and in the 'sloos' cattails and tiger-lilies nodded above thick mats of wide-bladed marsh grass. – Almost without realizing it, I came to know the character of every weed, every flower, every living thing big enough to be seen from the back of a horse."

The big question is: "How can we connect the youth of today to the natural world?" As a member of the Kansas Native Plant Society, you already have an interest in plants. Whether it is through gardening, photography, or

outdoor activities, the plants and their flowers have caught your attention. Children in your family and your neighborhood can be influenced by sharing the knowledge and enthusiasm you have for our native plants. KNPS gives you an opportunity to do just that by offering wildflower events throughout the year. Take a child with you to a wildflower walk and learn with them the names of the plants and some of the awesome facts surrounding plant communities. (See the KNPS Events list in this issue or on-line at www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/events.) Perhaps the experience will be a defining moment for that child. ❀

(Continued from page 1) Website Report

flowers@yahoo.com as a contact email, which will be phased out in the future. Jane and Craig Freeman will monitor these addresses.

The site is composed of following areas.

I. Home

- A. Who We Are
- B. Membership Benefits
- C. Outreach
- D. Officers/Board Members
- E. Current Committees
- F. Become a Member (membership application)
- G. Membership regions of the state
- H. Contact Us (email form)
- I. KNPS Brochure
- J. Join Our Listserv

II. Events Calendar

- A. Add Event
- B. Lead Event
- C. Typical Outing

III. Resources/Services

- A. Merchandise
- B. Patch Program
- C. Recommended Books (for sale)
- D. "Growing Native Plants" (for sale)

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KNPS: Contributing and Life Members

Contributing Members

Sheldon & Virginia Cohen
Nancy & Fred Coombs
Krista Dahlinger
Myra Devlin
Edna Hamera
Chris & Kristen Hase

Nancy Lusk
Robin Miller
Linda & Tim Phipps
Gloria Redinger

Life Members

Phillip Eastep
Fink Foundation
Sally Haines
W. Glen & Marjorie F. Neely
Ray Woods
Barbara Davis

Field Trip Reports

Spring River Wildlife Area , Pittsburg, Kansas by Marion McGlohon

April 1st , Steve Timme led some board members on a tour over a thick carpet of leaves, down paths, over springs and up hillocks in a lightly wooded area. Some plants identified were: Rue Anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*) and False Rue Anemone (*Isopyrum biternatum*), as well as, Prairie Dogtooth Violet or Trout lily (*Erythronium mesochorem*) and *E. albidum*. Steve was also able to show us the tiny umbrellas of a liverwort, in addition to some mosses and lichens of various shapes. Other finds were Dutchmans' Breeches, Wake Robin (*Trillium sessile*), Toothwort (*Caradamine concatenate*), May Apples in bud, Spring Beauties, a Service Berry (*Amelanchier arbora*) in full bloom, and also Prairie Buttercups (*R. fasciculata*), Pussy-toes (*Antennaria Parlinii*), tiny Bluets (*Heyotis caerulea*). Downy Blue Violet, (*V. sororia*), and Yellow Violet (*V. pubescens*) were just opening up. Pic 13, 14 p. 10

Barber County Wildflower Tour By Phyllis Scherich

Wild at Heart was the theme of the May 7, 2005, Barber County Wildflower Tour in Medicine Lodge. Group leaders for the event organized by the Barber County conservation District were Harold Kline, Dr. Melvin Conrad, Dr. Stephen Timme, Carrie Newdigger, Ann Randle and Glen Snell. The slightly cool, overcast conditions on a windy day didn't dampen the enthusiasm of about 150 attendees, including a group of 10 "redhatters," dressed their red and purple to show their pride and pleasure of being "grown" women.

The tour included three stops, plus a barbeque lunch stop in the heart of the Red Hills. Thirty-five plants were staked and identified in the first stop, 14 in the second, and 31 in the final stop. Other plants in bloom were also identified. A new plant to me, Mountain Corkwing (*Cymopterus montanus*) in the Parsley family, was most interesting. I was fascinated to observe the "green" stage of the Western Rock Jasmine. Prairie Groundsel, Lambert Crazyweed, Blue Funnel Lily, Citron Paintbrush, Purple Poppymallow, Yucca, and others created a colorful display. Pic 3 -5 p. 9

Comanche Pool Area Bird and Nature Tour Evelyn Reed

The hot, windy weather did not diminish the enthusiasm of the thirty-three persons who took part in the Comanche Pool Area Bird and Nature Tour on Saturday, May 21, 2005. At the Nature Trail area, two groups were formed. Both groups saw and heard many birds and saw wildflowers and plants. Twenty-two species of native plants were flagged. The groups then walked two trails around Lake Coldwater. Here twenty-four species were flagged. Only two species were duplicated in the flagging. Some of the flagged plants that are more frequently seen in the western part of the state, but rarely occur in the east, were: Berlandier's flax, Englemann's daisy, Purple loco weed, Scarlet globe mallow, Plains hymenoxys, and Lemon paintbrush.

During lunch break, Phyllis Scherich gave an account of the Comanche Pool, an organization of cattlemen officially organized in 1881. The Pool included almost all of Comanche County, some of Barber County and an area in Oklahoma adjoining these counties.

After lunch, there was a short tour of Clara Luthan's fantastic flower gardens before car-pooling to the Turner Z-Bar Ranch. Various birds and wildflowers were observed on the trip over dirt roads through the red hills of southeast Comanche County. Just east of the bridge across Indian Creek, there were numerous plants of *Cobaea penstemon* in full blossom. Pic 6 p. 10

Wilson County Tour

Kansas Native Plant board members, Gary Weisenberger, George Lippert, Michael Heffron, Steve Timme, Lorrie Parrish, Cindy Ford; along with Dale Kirkham and Rod Vorhees led the tenth annual Wilson County Wildflower Tour in southeast Kansas, June 4. An upland meadow and a lowland meadow were selected for the tour, and although late spring rains threatened the day, the sun made its appearance long enough to allow about 120 enthusiasts to thoroughly enjoy the experience. Prairie Hyacinth, *Camassia angusta*; Tube Beard Tongue, *Penstemon tubaeflorus*; and Ohio Spiderwort, *Tradescantia ohioensis* were plentiful, along with Manyflower Scurfpea, *Psoraleidum tenuiflorum*, Green Antelopehorn, *Asclepias viridis*, Sullivant Milkweed, *Asclepias speciosa*, and Pale Poppy Mallow, *Callirhoe alcaeodes*. An identification workshop taught by Steve Timme the evening preceding the tour and a workshop on natural dyeing with Cindy Ford, following the tour afternoon were both well attended. The 2006 Wilson County Wildflower Tour will be held Saturday, June 3. Pic. 7, p. 10

(Continued on page 4)

Field Trip Reports — continued

Grant County *By Marion McGlohon*

A total of 69 native plants, most of them in bloom, were examined, explained, and enjoyed by a group of about two dozen enthusiasts on a sunny Saturday, June 4th. The historic Wagonbed Springs area was the site explored, and was like a wild garden the whole mile-long length of the road. One quarter-section pasture was almost totally covered with Indian blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*). Most in evidence was golden yellow Fineleaf thesesperma (*T. filifolia*) really past its prime, making way for the on-coming reddish Indian blanket flower, Engelmannia, (*E. pinnatifida*), and Soapweed (*Yucca glauca*). Next, were mounds of Blackfoot daisy (*Melampodium leucanthum*), and Baby white aster (*Leucene ericoides*). Strong color was added to the palette by colonies of Purple poppy mallow (*Callirhoe involcrata*) and Scarlet globe mallow (*Sphaeralcea coccinea*). The group learned about the nightshades by contrasting Plains Chinese lantern (*Quincula lobata*) with Silverleaf nightshade (*Solanum elaeagnifolium*), and Common ground cherry (*Physalis longifolia*). Edibility versus toxicity was noted with attractive Tall breadroot scurfpea (*Psoralea suspidata*) and Low milkvetch (*Astragalus lotiflorus*). Medicinal plants included White milkwort (*polygala alba*) and Prairie spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*). Lessons in the “birds and bees” were also learned by the male/female flowers of Texas croton (*Croton texensis*), and Buffalo gourd (*Curcubita foetidissima*). A “mystery plant” turned out to be Rabbit Tobacco (*Evax proflera*).

Konza Prairie Tour

After a stormy afternoon on June 12, the sky lightened a bit and the rain stopped over Konza Prairie just before the Annual Wildflower Walk was to begin. By 7 p.m. there were 77 people hiking the Butterfly Hill Trail with seven docents. No one seemed to mind the wet prairie or gloomy skies. At sunset the heavy clouds broke in the west and from the horizon shone a bright sun. From the top of the hill we could enjoy the sunset in the west and a beautiful rainbow in the east. About 50 species of plants were noted in bloom.

The variety of species blooming within families provided an opportunity for viewers to compare and contrast the features of plants within families. There were four species of Milkweeds (Sullivan's, Common, Butterfly, and Spider); three of the Ground Cherries (Clammy, Virginia, and Prairie); both Venus'looking Glasses (Simpod and Claspings), and three Evening Primroses (Missouri, Serrate-leaf, and Showy). The Showy Primrose was a special treat to watch as the petals slowly emerged from the sepals as the hikers watched. Pic. 8 - 11, p. 10

Forest Foray at Douglas State Fishing Lake *by Shirley Braunlich*

Caleb Morse, Collection Manager for the McGregor Herbarium, lead an amazing tour at Douglas State Fishing Lake. The east side of the lake is a diverse forested habitat; nine people attended the outing on April 30, 2005. Caleb was a very informative guide. As we entered the forest he explained that this area of eastern Douglas County is underlined by soft Ireland Sandstone. During the tour we were introduced to 101 different species of sedges, ferns, mosses, lichens, trees and other plants! He showed us the difference between two horsetail species. Field Horsetail and Common Scouring-rush look very different yet they grow side-by-side in the same wet habitat. The range of plants was incredible from infamous Poison Ivy to uncommon Showy Orchis orchids, and Common May Apple to rare American gromwell. It was curious to imagine May apple seeds might be disbursed by turtles when some plants were knee-high! Everyone took a turn sniffing the Showy Orchis as the blooms smell like rosewater. We also marveled at 5 ferns and 13 sedges. Northern Maidenhair Fern and Bur-reed Sedge were rare treats to note. We discovered a very interesting area of savannah in the middle of the forest; here we found beautiful Birdfoot Violet and Yellow Star Grass (Hairy Yellow Star-lily). Caleb also pointed out several rare mosses including Juniper Moss and White Moss. We had a difficult time identifying one plant because the bloom was broken off. It appeared to be an orchid species but turned out to be a lily, most likely Starry Spikenard. Pic 12, p. 10

Kansas Native Plant Society: New Members - June 18, 2005

Bennett W. Anderson - Emporia
Darin Banks - Prairie Village
Shauna Burris - Wichita
Anita & Randy Coleman -
Goodland
Donna Gallon - Fredonia

Loren Harris - Salina
Richard Hitchcock - Wichita
Tonya R. Ketchum - Tonganoxie
June Kliesen - Wilmore
NPK Nursery & Nat Barton - Wichita
Gloria M. Redinger - Newton

Evelyn Reed - Coldwater
Julie Rehm - Kansas City, MO
Bill Sechler - Hiawatha
Charlene Tuxhorn - Smith Center
Welcome!

2004-2005 Kansas Area Wildflower & Native Plant Events

Information provided by Kansas Wildflower Society, R.L.McGregor Herbarium, 2045 Constant Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047-3729.

Online: [www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org] Email: <kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com> Phone: (785) 864-3453.

Please share this information with other interested folks and contact us with information on other events to note. Thank you! **For outdoor events we recommend bringing sturdy footwear, long pants, insect repellent, sunscreen, a hat and water!**

July 30: Visit Middle Creek Prairie in Miami County, east-central Kansas, 10am. Among the amazing variety of native plants, we should see Spring ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes vernalis*) in bloom. View photos of this prairie: [www.middlecreekprairie.com]. Craig C. Freeman will lead this tallgrass prairie tour. Grassland Heritage Foundation is sponsoring the event. The property is southwest of Louisburg, KS. **Remember, this is private property and is only open to us on this date and time! Please contact Grassland Heritage Foundation to register and for directions <email@grasslandheritage.org> (913) 262-3506.**

August 6: Wildflower Walk at Prairie State Park, near Lamar Missouri at 10am. Experience the tallgrass prairie with a walk among the prairie grasses and colorful wildflowers. Identification, uses, gardening tips and more will be shared. For more information, e-mail <prairie.state.park.@dnr.mo.gov> or call (417) 843-6711.

August 6: Join the Iowa Native Plant Society in Guthrie County in west-central Iowa. This field trip will provide an opportunity to explore some of the more unique plant communities in the Raccoon River, such as wet seeps, oak sand savanna, and mesic oak forest. A neighbor to the Garst land, Jim Nedtwig, has offered to lead participants on a tour of his successful oak savanna restoration. Tom Rosburg, a professor in the Department of Biology at Drake University in Des Moines, will be our field trip leader. Directions from the west drive east of Coon Rapids on Highway 141 for 2.2 miles to Fig Ave (a gravel road). After about 3 miles the road will begin to descend into the Raccoon River valley. Just before the bridge over the Raccoon River, turn left into a campground along the river. We will meet and eat lunch at the campground. Contact <mark.leoschke@dnr.state.ia.us> or Larissa Mottl (641) 236-0372

August 13: Prairie as We Know It at Prairie State Park, near Lamar, MO. Take a closer look at the plants and animals that live on the prairie. For more information, e-mail <prairie.state.park.@dnr.mo.gov> or call (417) 843-6711.

August__: Spur-of-the-moment Late Summer Prairie Wildflower Walk. This outing will be at the Wichita State University Biology Field Station on the Ninnescah River. It will be led by Don Distler who lives at the field station near Viola, Kansas, about 45 minutes southwest from Wichita. Don says bloom time is short and very dependent on the amount of rain and heat we have this summer. As soon as he can predict, Don will set a time to meet at the field station to see and learn about the prairie wildflowers. If you would like to be on the call list to be notified (at the last minute) the date and time of the walk, please email Karen Veronica <karen.berry@wichita.edu> or leave a message by phone for April Dumler (316) 978-7306

August 20: Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs, 3rd Saturday every month except December [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman <frank.norman@appliedeco.com> (785) 887-6775.

September 3: Wildflower Walk at Prairie State Park, near Lamar Missouri at 10am. Experience the tallgrass prairie with a walk among the prairie grasses and colorful wildflowers. Identification, uses, gardening tips and more will be shared. For more information, e-mail <prairie.state.park.@dnr.mo.gov> or call (417) 843-6711.

September 4: Explore Jerry Smith Farm Park in Kansas City, MO at 9am. See fall wildflowers, including the eared false foxglove with the KC Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society. Meet in the Walmart parking lot just east of Bannister Mall on Hillcrest Road. We'll be near the street in the southwest corner. For additional information call Sue Hollis (816) 561-9419.

September 9 & 10: Oklahoma Native Plant Society 2005 BioBlitz, Oxley Nature Center / Mohawk Park in Tulsa, OK. Contact Connie Murray <cmurray@tulsa.cc.ok.us> or (918) 664-2896

September 10-11: FloraKansas Great Plains Plant Bazaar, annually the 2nd weekend in September. This is the largest native plant sale in Kansas featuring hard-to-find native perennials, shrubs and trees plus fun 'gardenabilia'. Saturday offerings: classes, demonstrations, and tours from professionals. Hours: Saturday 8am-4pm, Sunday noon-4pm, and Monday 8am-8pm. Contact the Arboretum about becoming a member and special members only sale dates. Admission charge is by donation. Location: Dyck Arboretum of the Plains, 177 West Hickory Street, Hesston, KS. Hesston is 30 miles N of Wichita. [www.dyckarboretum.org] <arboretum@Hesston.edu> (620) 327-8127

 **September 10:** Hike the Godwin Hill Trail at Konza Prairie, 9am. Fall wildflowers and grasses will be the focus. The walk will be co-lead by Valerie Wright, Kansas Native Plant Society President, and Konza Docents. Meet at the 12th Ave gate just off McDowell Creek Road. 12th Ave is four miles from the Kansas River Bridge. [<http://www.ksu.edu/konza/keep>] (785) 587-0381

September 10: KC Wildlands Summer Community Restoration Workday, 9am to noon. Focus on removing invasive woody plants, sites to be announced. Long pants, sturdy shoes and a hat are strongly recommended. Insect repellent, gloves and drinking water are supplied. Contact Linda Lehrbaum for questions or to register. <linda@bridgingthegap.org> (816) 561-1061 x116

 **September 11:** Native Plant & Wildflower Foray at The Prairie Center in Olathe, KS at 3pm. This 300 acre nature preserve includes 45 acres of virgin tallgrass prairie and plenty of walking trails. The property is managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks; Grassland Heritage Foundation owns a small adjacent prairie parcel. This outing is co-sponsored by Kansas Native Plant Society and Grassland Heritage Foundation. KNPS Board Member Shirley Braunlich will lead this prairie tour. The Prairie Center is located west of downtown Olathe. Take Santa Fe, (Hwy 150, 135th St., Prairie Center Rd.--all names for the same road) west of K-7 about 3 miles to the intersection with Cedar Niles Rd. Turn south and the parking lot is past the stone house. Meet at the red barn parking lot on Cedar Niles Road. [www.grasslandheritage.org] (913) 262-3506

September 17: Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs, 3rd Saturday every month except December [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman <frank.norman@appliedeco.com> (785) 887-6775.

 **September 17:** Dr. Woody Holland's Wildflower Tour of Neosho County, KS. Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member Carl Paulie will lead the tour. We will be looking for Blue Sage, Cardinal-flower, various species of aster, goldenrod, sunflower, and many others. Meet Carl in front of the courthouse on Main St. in Erie, KS at 1pm. The tour will begin at 1:30pm sharp. Questions: (620) 449-2028

September 23-25: The Land Institute's 27th Annual Prairie Festival in Salina, KS. The festival features speakers, artists, music, drama, dancing, guided prairie walks, bird watching, children's activities, and food. [www.landinstitute.org] (785) 823-5376.

September 24: National Public Lands Day. This is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands we enjoy. Get your hands dirty and keep your public lands beautiful! [<http://www.npld.com/involved/kansas.cfm>] Kansas locations include Fall River State Park (620) 637-2213, Mushroom Rock State Park (785) 546-2565, Pomona Lake (785) 453-2201, and Perry State Park (785) 246-3449.

 **September 30-October 1:** Kansas Native Plant Society's 27th Annual Meeting will be in Coldwater in south central, KS. Tours will include the Red Hills (Gyp Hills) of Comanche and Barber County. Be sure to mark your calendar! Please contact Kansas Native Plant Society for more information. <kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com> (785) 864-3453

 **October 8:** Explore South Owl Lake Prairie, Yates Center, KS. Meander through the tallgrass prairie. Gary Weisenberger, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member, will lead this native plant walk from 9-11am. Directions: go west 1 mile on US 54 from intersection of US 54 and US 75, turn south onto gravel road (Longhorn) go 3/4 mile to parking area. Contact: Gary <gjweisen@yahoo.com> (620) 637-2343

Annual Fall Meeting - September 30 to October 1 & 2

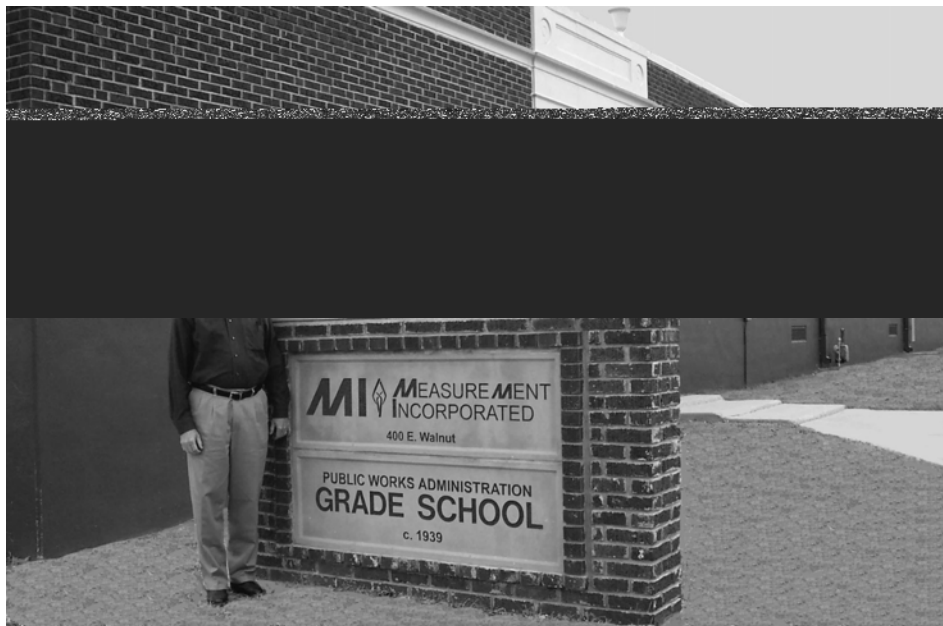
KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
FALL ANNUAL MEETING
EXPERIENCE THE GYPSUM HILLS SCENIC BYWAY
To COLDWATER, KANSAS

- Program:**
- Friday, Sept. 30 3:00 p.m.** Carpool and leave from Heritage Park for Foray to Belvidere and Sun City area –led by Ken Brunsen, Pratt, Kansas Wildlife & Parks, and Stan Roth, Lawrence, Kan. Biol.. Survey.
- 6:00 p.m.** Supper at Busters in Sun City (known for their ribs)
Those who cannot make it to the afternoon foray could join us at Buster’s on their way to Coldwater.
- Saturday, Oct. 1** Measurement Inc (MI) 400 E. Walnut, Coldwater
- 8:00 a.m.** Registration & Displays
- 9:00 – 12:00** KNPS Annual Meeting (details in next mailing)
- 12:15** Catered luncheon by Timberwolf Cafe at MI
- 1:15** Car Pool for Foray to Nescatunga and a private ranch
Supper on your own
- 6:00** Wilmore Opry (optional) – reservations must be made early
- 7:00** Movie at historic Chief Theater (optional)
- Sunday, Oct. 2** Meet at Heritage Park, Main Street, Coldwater
- 9:30 a. m.** Foray to Lake Coldwater and on through the “heart” of the Red Hills ending in Medicine Lodge on your way home – led by Dee Scherich with stops for wildflowers



Coldwater is easy to reach—by US 160 Hwy. from the east or west and US 183 Hwy. from the north or south. There will be a sign on US 183 in Coldwater directing you to Measurement Inc. For those who come Friday afternoon, we will congregate at Heritage Park on East Main Street in Coldwater.

Motel room are limited in Coldwater. There is one motel, the Comanche. If it fills up and more rooms are needed, we have a list of persons who are willing to rent a room in their home for a small fee. Those with campers will enjoy using Lake Coldwater facilities with hook-ups—it is located ½ mile out of town. Other motels are available in area towns, but all are at least 25 miles away.



Please send payment to re-serve your meals. My check is enclosed for a total of \$ _____
Mail this form with your check to:
Kansas Native Plant Society,
R. L. McGregor Herbarium,
Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence,
KS 66047-3729.

Measurement Inc (MI) 400 E. Walnut, Coldwater , place of main session

Annual Fall Meeting — continued

Photos for the Fall Meeting

Bring your plant photos to the fall Kansas Native Plant Society meeting in Coldwater. The photos should be 3" x 5" to 5" x 7" and attached to a piece of poster board. Below each photo, print your name, name of the plant, location (county) and habitat (prairie, rock outcrop, woods, roadside, aquatic, etc.). Also indicate the category of your photo (close-up of flower, whole plant, or scenery).

KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY CELEBRATION AND SILENT AUCTION

... Celebrate KNPS' annual meeting by bringing items for the first Silent Auction Fundraiser to be held Saturday, October 1. Proceeds will benefit the programs of KNPS. Bring an item or two and help KNPS continue to provide quality native plant education and information to the people of Kansas. Suggestions include:

Artwork. Native Plant Drawings

Handmade Baskets
Fiber Art
Photography of Native Plants
Books: Plant Field Guides
Birding
Nature Activities for Children
Environmental Issues
Maps, Posters. Framed or Unframed
Wearing Apparel: T-Shirts, Sweatshirts
Hats
Jackets

Edibles: Wine
Teas
Breads

Home Décor Materials:
Native Grasses
Curly Willow
Peacock Feathers
Lily Pad Pods

Bidding will be opened during the morning break of the annual meeting and will continue through lunch. For more information, or to donate items for the auction, contact Anita Smith at anita.smith@ks.nacdn.net or 620-378-2866. Thank you for your support!

(Continued from page 2) Web Site Report

E. Past Newsletters
F. Meeting Minutes
G. Plant and Seed Resources
H. Seed Collecting
I. Plant Galleries (other organizations)
IV. Places
A. Natural Areas
B. Public Gardens (with native plants)
C. Eco-regions of State (image gallery)
V. News
A. Wildflower of the Year
B. Annual Events
C. Awards
VI. Volunteer Opportunities
VII. Awards Applications
A. Important Contribution to Botany in Kansas Award
B. Rachel Snyder Memorial Award
C. Mary A. Bancroft Scholarship



Please fill in the blanks and circle the choices below to indicate your preferences. Deadline September 1, 2005.

I will attend the KWS Annual Fall Meeting at Coldwater, KS, Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 2, 2005

Name _____ Number in my party _____
Address _____ Town _____ E-mail address _____

Friday, Sept. 30 I/we plan to meet in Coldwater and go on the afternoon foray.

I/we will attend the supper at Buster's in Sun City @ \$10/person, with meat, salad, potato, dessert, drink. **Circle** choice of meat: smoked BBQ ribs, roast beef, smoked chicken.

Saturday, Oct. 1 I/we will attend the catered luncheon at MI @ \$8.00. There will be a choice of chef-type and taco salads with assorted toppings, crackers, dessert & coffee or tea.

I/we are interested in tickets to the Wilmore Opry.

Sunday, Oct. 2 I/we plan to join the morning foray to Lake Coldwater and through "the Heart of the Red Hills"

Camping fees at Lake Coldwater – includes entry fee, fishing, picnicking, hiking, etc. - \$7.50/night per unit

Motel in Coldwater – Comanche Motel 620-582-2104. Rooms \$39 - \$51. Make reservations early as deer muzzle loader season will be open. If motel is full, call 620-738-4471 (Phyllis Scherich) for a room in a private home.

Other area attractions include: Lake Coldwater, Stan Herd murals, Comanche Co. museum, 10-hole golf course, Veteran's Memorial at Coldwater and Medicine Lodge, Stockade Museum at M.L., Big Well at Greensburg, and city-wide garage sale in Coldwater begins at 7:00 a.m. Oct. 1

Wildflower Tour Album



① (*Streptanthus hyacinthoides*) Hook or Twistflower. Amy Zavala



②

Twistflower up close. Note the size as compared to the index finger holding the blossom.
Amy Zavala The plant is located on Garry & June Kliesen's ranch just a bit north of the Scherich ranch (Merrill).



③ Barbour County Tour Phyllis Scherich



④ Mountain Corkwing (*Cymopterus montanus*)
Phyllis Scherich



⑤ "Red Hat Ladies" Phyllis Scherich



⑥ Comanche Pool Area Bird and Nature Tour Joan Wright



Gary Weisenburger instructs on Wilson County Tour



Serate-leaf Evening Primrose - Konza



Craig Freeman explains grasses.



Purple Coneflower - Konza



Sullivant's Milkweed - Konza



Wake Robin (*Trillium sessile*) P. Scherich
Spring River



Showy Orchis, Douglas State Fishing Lake
S. Braunlich



Trout lily (*Erythronium mesochorem*)
P Scherich Spring River

These color pages were made possible by the generous donation of a KNPS member.

Kansas Native Plant for Summer-2005

Dr. Stephen L. Timme and

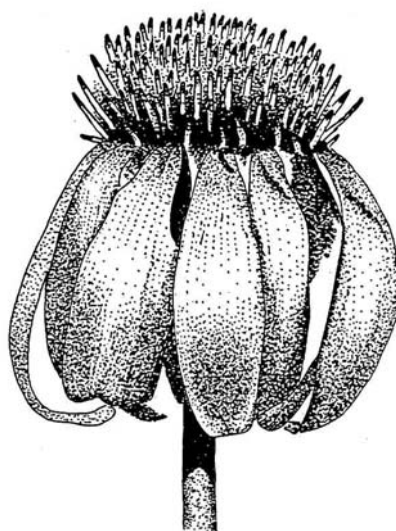
Dr. Cindy Ford

Purple Echinacea – *Echinacea purpurea* (L.) Moench
Sunflower Family (Asteraceae)

Other Common Names: Black Sampson, Combflower, Hedgehog, Purple Cone Flower, Red Sunflower.

Purple Echinacea is a perennial that grows to 18 dm (about 6 feet) tall from a woody rhizome or a caudex (tough, enlarged base of the stem). It is generally hairy but may also lack hairs. The larger leaves are stalked and ovate to broadly lanceolate, to about 2 dm (about 8 inches) long with toothed margins. The leaves become gradually reduced in size toward the apex of the shoot. The ray florets are drooping, to about 8 cm (slightly more than 3 inches) long, and are reddish-purple, sometime pinkish, in color. Disk may get to 3.5 cm (little more than an inch) across and has stiff, sharp spines (bracts) mixed among the disk florets. It is found in rocky prairies, edge of woods, open woods, sometimes prairie ditches and blooms from June through August. There are three other species of *Echinacea* in Kansas: *E. pallida* (Pale Purple Coneflower), *E. atrorubens*, *E. angustifolia* (Black Sampson).

This plant has been genetically altered to produce a number of differ-



ent ornamental varieties. Purple Echinacea is the most commonly cultivated species and is available in most ornamental plant catalog. Some ornamental varieties are known as “Fancy Frills” (a semi-double form), “Razzmatazz” (disk florets have doubled), “Sunset” (orange colored rays), “Kim’s Mophead” (white rays), “Kim’s Knee High” (dwarf), “Ruby Giant” (flowers are 7” across), and “Sunrise” (yellow rays). Others probably exist.

This species, along with the other species of *Echinacea*, has been used medicinally for a number of ailments. It has been most popular for increasing the body’s resistance to infection. Studies by the Germans show a signifi-

cant immune-system stimulation activity, increasing the white blood cell’s ability to attack foreign particles, such as the viruses that cause colds and flu. It has also been used as a skin topical to reduce the destruction of skin cells that are exposed to sunlight. *Echinacea* has also been recommended to treat blood poisoning, typhoid fever, gangrene, syphilitic conditions, boils, tumors, herpes, and infected sores. Studies have also shown that it can be used as an anti-inflammatory for urology, gynecology, and dermatology.

WARNING: Always consult a physician before taking plant extracts internally. Most folk-medicines have not been scientifically studied by proper research methodologies.

Sources:

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U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Other News

Join Our Listserv

You can join the Kansas Native Plant Society Listserv for free as long as you have a valid email address. Once a member, you will receive all of the emails that are sent to the listserv by other members. You will also have the ability to send your own messages. Go

to <http://www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/listserv.htm> for step by step instructions on how to sign up and send messages.

Wildflower of the Year

The Kansas Associated Garden Clubs and the Kansas Native Plant Society

have selected plants to be featured each year from 2005 through 2012. The plants for 2005, Rose Verbena (*Verbena canadensis*) and 2006, Pitcher’s Sage (*Salvia pitcheri*) had been previously chosen.

KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org

Membership Information



**Kansas
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Society**

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Annual dues are for a 12-month period from January 1-December 31. Dues paid after December 1 are applied to the next year.

Name:	
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Zipcode:	
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Check membership category desired:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|----------|
| ☐ | Student | \$5.00 |
| ☐ | Individual | \$15.00 |
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| ☐ | Contributing | \$100.00 |
| ☐ | Lifetime | \$500.00 |

Check membership category desired:

Please complete this form or a photocopy of it. Send the completed form and a check payable to the Kansas Native Plant Society to:

Kansas Native Plant Society
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A membership in the Kansas Native Plant Society makes a great gift for friends and family members. Recipients of gift memberships will receive notification of your gift membership within two weeks of receipt of your check by the KWS Administrative Office.