



Kansas Native Plant Society

Autumn Newsletter



Volume 35 Number 4
October 2013

Memories of the 2013 Wildflower Weekend By Nancy Goulden

The KNPS Annual Wildflower Weekend (AWW) was held the weekend of September 13-15 in the Salina area. Approximately 80 enthusiastic members enjoyed the pleasant weather, the abundance of flowering plants and reuniting with old friends and making new ones. In addition, the weekend was full of the new and unique experiences we have stored in our memories.

The Friday afternoon visit to Susan Reimer's "Buffalo Hill" prairie is definitely on the memory list. (Look at Phyllis Scherich's description of the experience on page 4.) Other attendees were excited about the Friday tram-ride on Maxwell Wildlife Refuge to see the bison "up close and personal."



AWW trekkers feast on hot dogs and fixin's. Photo by Chelsea Erickson

Concluding our first day of the AWW with the hot-dog-roast and camp fire was a new meal approach for KNPS AWW's that gave us another "warm" memory. Keynote speaker Allen Casey was at the grill, and Susan Reimer had whittled a bucket of willow skewers for "s'mores" marshmallow roasting.

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The Kansas Native Plant Society Newsletter is printed four times a year: Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). Readers tell us how much they enjoy the newsletter in color and in the paper format. Contributions help us continue to produce a publication of this length in this form. You may send your gift to KNPS at Kansas Native Plant Society, R.L. McGregor Herbarium, 2045 Constant Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66047-3729.



The mission of the Kansas Native Plant Society is to encourage awareness and appreciation of the native plants of Kansas in their habitats and in our landscapes by promoting education, stewardship, and scientific knowledge.



President's Message

by Mickey Delfelter

As I was developing my presentation for the recent annual meeting in Salina, it became clear that KNPS is a thriving organization that has continued to evolve over the years. (You can read more about the presentation--“From KWS to KNPS, a 35 Year Retrospective”--in Diane Barker's article starting on page 9 in the newsletter.)

Within any organization, there exists a possibility that the group could stagnate and eventually dissolve. I recently read in the Topeka newspaper about a local lodge that has 800 members. That may sound impressive, but that's down from 5,000 in the 1960s. They are being forced to sell their longtime dance hall to find a smaller venue more fitting of their membership. They have also had to cut back on their community-outreach projects for lack of funding.

Although KNPS has maintained a loyal membership over the years, membership numbers indicate we went through a similar period culminating 12 years ago. Membership was hovering around a third of what it was at our founding as the Kansas Wildflower Society in 1978.

Luckily, the board recognized the trend and instigated strategies to obtain new members and make it easier to renew memberships. The downward trend was reversed, and we have attained (and retained) an astounding average of 70 new members per year for the past decade. In fact, we have set a new total membership record each of the past two years.

And why are people coming and staying? I can't speak for anyone other than myself, but it's just a darn fun organization. We have interesting people and exciting outings. We have great meetings (as evidenced by the great turnout in Salina) and a wonderful website. We tackle interesting and relevant topics such as making Little Bluestem the Kansas State Grass. And we also have an active and exciting board of directors to lead us.

As part of our ongoing progress, so too comes a new KNPS President. At the recent annual meeting, Mike Haddock was elected as my replacement. I'm sure you all know Mike and probably have his Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas book on your bookshelf. Serving as the President been a wonderful experience and it has been a great honor to have done so the past two years. Thank you for the opportunity, and I look forward to the future of the organization.



Landscaping: Tall Thistle

By Jeff Hansen

Some people may think that landscaping with thistles is on par to landscaping with noxious weeds. Thistles get such a bad rap because of the many introduced species that are invasive. Some are classified as state noxious weeds. But the native thistles are not invasive species, and they truly are gorgeous and beneficial.

Most of our native and introduced thistles are biennials. The first year they form a rosette of leaves and have no stem. The second year they produce a flowering stem, set seed, and die. All are plants of the prairie preferring full sun.

The native thistle species that I most often encounter is tall thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*). The season to encounter its bloom is late summer and fall. Tall thistle generally gets 4 to 8 feet tall. The plants produce many colorful purple flowers that are showy in and of themselves. Found in the eastern half of the state, it can be distinguished from introduced thistles by the underside of the

leaves being white and the upper surface being green. Tall thistle tends to prefer relatively moist soil. In the eastern part of the state, it can be found almost anywhere, but as one travels west it becomes restricted to stream banks and wetlands. It can tolerate some shade, unlike our other thistles.



Tall thistle with Sphinx moth

Photo by Mickey Delfelter

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Landscaping: Tall Thistle

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Unfortunately I do not have tall thistle growing in my yard. I've scattered the seed but none have ever appeared. Because it is biennial, it tends to like somewhat disturbed soil, and that may be why it hasn't established in my yard.

Although the flowers are quite showy, the real reason I love tall thistle is that it attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and sphinx moths to the blooms. This year alone I witnessed a dozen white-lined sphinx moths feeding on tall thistle at a nature area in Topeka. Watching hummingbirds feed on them is also a treat. A variety of bees and butterflies nectar at its blooms. Since tall thistle is a member of the Aster family, its "flowers" are actually hundreds of individual flowers combined into one inflorescence making it a perfect pollinator plant. The painted lady butterfly larva feeds on its leaves. Watch for goldfinches and other birds that relish the seeds.

Another native thistle we have in Kansas is the wavy leaf thistle (*Cirsium undulatum*). It has leaves that are woolly gray on both the upper and lower surfaces. It is generally found in drier

uplands than tall thistle is. It, too, is biennial. Its flowers range from pale pink to purple, and it has a statewide range.

In the western two-thirds of the state, the yellow spine thistle (*Cirsium ochrocentrum*) can be found. It is another biennial with purple flowers. I personally have not "met" this thistle but wonder if we didn't see it during the AWW at Kanopolis SP. It is similar to wavy leaf thistle, except it has leafy wings at the base of the leaves. Look for it in the western 2/3's of the state on sandy or gravelly soils.

To know the native thistles one must distinguish them from our more common introduced thistles. The most commonly encountered introduced thistles are the musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) and the bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*). Both are biennial with purple flowers. Musk thistle's nodding flowers are the largest flowers of our thistles, often being a few inches in diameter. Its leaves are hairless and have a waxy appearance. Bull thistle's leaves are covered with coarse spreading hairs that distinguish it from other thistles. Both are noxious weeds in Kansas.

Even if you don't grow native thistles in your garden, you can appreciate them in our fields and prairies.



Memories of the 2013 Wildflower Weekend

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On Saturday morning during the awards presentation, there was a special moment we are not likely to forget when Craig and Jane Freeman were named as the recipients of the Sheldon H. Cohen Award for Outstanding Service to KNPS.



Freemans accept the Cohen Award
Photo by Phyllis Scherich

Often Jane and Craig are in the background, taking care of all the details that keep KNPS going. They are the epitome of "outstanding service" in so many ways. The real surprise is that we waited so long to give

them the recognition they more than deserve. Another appropriate award was the Stephen Timme Excellence in Botany Award given to

Michael Haddock. As you probably know, the first resource for many plant lovers trying to identify our Kansas native plants is the Michael Haddock Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas, and the second is Mike's website.



Mike Haddock accepts the Timme Award
Photo by Phyllis Scherich

The number of Mary Bancroft Memorial Scholarships this year was unique, three instead of the usual two. The committee found the applications so excellent that they just couldn't leave one out, and asked our friends from Grassland Heritage to help us finance the extra scholarship. The winners were: Kathy Roccaforte, KU doctoral student, Shelly Wiggam-Ricketts,

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Memories of the 2013 Wildflower Weekend

Continued from Page 3

K-State doctoral student, and Anna Zahner, K-State undergraduate student.

I can almost guarantee anyone who went to the Saturday afternoon outing at the Smoky Hill Air National Guard Range will never forget it—not because of the plants, but because we were in an active bombing range. (Chelsea also gives details on page 5.) How often on a wildflower outing do you look up and see the silhouette of a stealth bomber dropping a bomb? As our caravan was leaving, we had about a half-hour delay waiting for the bombing runs to conclude. What do plant people do when they are in a long line of cars parked on the gravel road waiting for the all clear?

We hopped out, visited with each other and, before long, started checking out the plants adjacent to the road—when you focus on plants, time passes quickly.

Our first outing on Sunday at Coronado Heights gave us an unforgettable view from the rocky top. Almost all the area was up and down. Since plant hunters couldn't disappear into tall grass or wooded areas, we all just swarmed like ants in a relative small area finding plenty of plants to enjoy. This stop, like the others, gave many of us new species to add to our life lists of native plants. These first-time experiences often stay in our memories.

Of course, each of us has our own memories of the 2013 AWW. I asked several attendees to tell me what stood out for them. Perhaps the one I liked best was “smiling and laughing all weekend.”



KNPS Special Outings at AWW

Memories of Friday Afternoon and Evening

— Text and Photo by Phyllis Scherich

Friday afternoon commenced with the Board Meeting at the Maxwell Visitor's Center.



Botanizers descending the Maxwell Observation Tower

Immediately after the meeting, many additional KNPS members joined the group. Some took tram rides to view the wildflowers and grasses in the pastures and to get a close-up view of the bison. Others took the opportunity to do some “botanizing” around the Visitor's Center. Many

climbed to the top of the Observation Tower to access a panoramic view of the magnificent prairie with its lush green grasses and full ponds after the recent rains.

Participants made their way to Susan Reimer's nearby Buffalo Hill prairie. As we walked through the mowed paths and gazed across the prairie, we could easily imagine what the early pioneers saw on their way West. Grasses, some as tall as the walkers, waved gently in the breeze, beckoning us onward. Several species of goldenrods, sunflowers, broom weed, and partridge peas lent their bright yellow colors. Gay feather, prairie petunias and pitcher sage added a touch of purple and blue. White heath asters, field snake cotton and snow-on-the-mountain stood out against the green.

A highlight was watching a walking stick change color from green, to yellow, to brown as it moved along a stalk of grass. A glass lizard, many garden spiders feasting on captured cicadas, and a variety of colorful butterflies also captured our interest.

All too soon we were drawn to the eating area by the aroma of the wood fire, ready for roasting wieners and marshmallows. Later, the group sang “campfire” songs as Krista played her stringed instruments.

Wildflower Weekend Wanderings: Memories of an Amazing Weekend (includes Saturday and Sunday writeups)

— Text and Photos by Chelsea Erickson

I've been a member of KNPS since 2007 and most recently served a 3-year-term on the board of directors. Like many members, I live for AWW each year. The 2013 experience was absolutely amazing, and I am excited to share it with newsletter readers in hopes that you will join us next year to have your own amazing experience!

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AWW hikers in the foreground on Buffalo Hill. Silhouettes of participants amongst the tall grasses dot the horizon.

Saturday – Which is Cooler, B2 Stealth Bombers or Perennial Wheat? After the annual meeting Saturday morning, the AWW group of over 40 cars astounded our host at the Smokey Hill Air National Guard Range. I suspect it's slightly easier to corral soldiers than excited KNPS members based on the “oh boy” look in the range manager's

eyes. After driving through fields of mock-villages and burned-out tanks, we arrived at the amazing prairie where grass grew about a foot over my 6-foot-tall-husband's head. While botanizing for over an hour, KNPS members enjoyed watching B2 bomber practice in the range that we had just crossed.



The AWW group receives instructions at Smoky Hill Bombing Range.

The group loaded up again and caravanned to the Land Institute's Wauhob Prairie. Our host



Craig and Jane Freeman, Phyllis Scherich botanize at the Land Institute. Photo by Matthew Richter

from the Institute gave a wonderful 15 minute talk on efforts to produce grain crops that are perennial and would have less impact on the environment in terms of water need and chemical use. At this stop, I added swallowtail butterfly to my list of photographic conquests.



Exquisite gallardia among the AWW captured treasures
Photo by Matthew Richter

Sunday – Castle in the sky and caves in the hills. KNPS members gathered at the amazing Coronado Heights location just northwest of Lindsborg. The group enjoyed hiking up, down and all around the impressive hill and exploring the tree-dominated north slope and the prairie-like south slope. One of my highlights was catching a hawk moth enjoying clammyweed. It didn't seem to mind the half dozen KNPS members jostling for a good photo. Box lunches were served and the group of nearly 60 people enjoyed the scenery and conversation, as well as exploring the castle-like structure that perches on top of the hill.



Lunch at Coronado Heights Photo by Mark Neubrand

The last site of the whole weekend was probably the best in my opinion. I enjoyed hiking the Buffalo Track Canyon trail and seeing floating yellow primrose in the wet areas as well as skinks (lizards) catching bugs along the trail. There were quite a few viceroy butterflies that seemed to enjoy hanging out in and around the willow trees. The best part was

(nearly) getting our feet wet as we crossed a small stream and scaled the hillside to check out a small cave. We made the short drive over to Mushroom Rock State Park where we marveled at the amazing product of erosion and time. What a great way to end a special weekend with the Kansas Native Plant Society!



Cave above Buffalo Track Canyon Trail
Photo by Valerie Wright



Nancy Calhoun at Mushroom Rock Photo by K. Hummel

2013 Kansas Area Native Plant & Wildflower Events

Information provided by **Kansas Native Plant Society**, see more events on our website:
www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org.

Please share this information and contact us about additional events to note. Thank you!
[email@KSNPS.org]

Sturdy shoes, long pants, a hat, insect repellent, sunscreen, and water are recommended for outdoor events.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend some fabulous happenings!

 **October 13:** Prairie Seed Collecting at Grant Bradbury Prairie in Topeka, 1-3pm. Volunteers are needed to help collect prairie wildflower and grass seed at Grant-Bradbury Prairie Park (SW University Blvd & SW Westview Rd) for a wildlife restoration area at Warren Nature Area. We will be working with the city to restore an old brome/fescue field to a diverse planting of native wildflowers and grasses. Volunteers should wear sturdy footwear and long pants. Bring a plastic pail or paper sack for collecting seeds. Pruning sheers are helpful too. No experience is necessary. All ages can help. We will celebrate afterwards with a stop at the Blind Tiger Brewery at 37th & Kansas. Sponsor: **Kansas Native Plant Society**. Contact Jeff Hansen if you plan to attend: [hanjd@cox.net] (785) 806 6917.

October 19: Woodland walk at Wyandotte County Lake Park, 9 am-11am. Meet up in the main parking lot by the Park office; take the left for when you come in the 91st entrance at the South end of the Park. Fall foliage and nuts from oak and hickory species along the Missouri River bluff by the dam. Some trails may be steep and muddy if it has rained recently; so good boots and jeans are recommended. Elizabeth Petroske (epetroske@hotmail.com).

October 19: Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs. Volunteer prairie maintenance and preservation projects, third Saturday each month except Dec. [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman [fjnorman@sunflower.com] (785) 887-6775 (home) or (785) 691-9748 (cell).

October 19: Remove Bush Honeysuckle at Oak Park in Wichita, KS, 8:30am-1pm. Bush honeysuckle is a woody invasive non-native plant that shades out herbaceous plants and out-competes tree species for resources. In general, bush honeysuckle reduces wildlife habitat, species diversity, and causes a decline in the regeneration of Kansas' Oak-Hickory forests. This will improve the long-term survival of this tiny fragment of habitat that has been the source of many great bird sightings over many decades. Bring gloves and a spade shovel for digging out the plants. Small honeysuckle shrubs are easily pulled because of their shallow roots. The City of Wichita Park & Recreation is sponsoring and overseeing this half-day event. Meet at North River Drive & West 11th Street. Contact: Lee Ann Sack [lsack@wichita.gov] (316) 768-0204.

 **November 9:** Fall Workday: Clear Bush Honeysuckle along Shunga Creek in Topeka, KS, 10am-noon. Help clear an area of the Felker Park woods of honeysuckle and other invasives to allow native species to flourish. Wear sturdy shoes, leather gloves, long sleeves, pants, and bring a shovel, lopper, pruning saw or shears, and a few trash bags would also be useful. We can pull seedlings; this is easy and prevents re-infestation. The big task will be cutting, hauling branches and spraying the cut stumps. The City of Topeka will supply herbicide to treat the cut stumps and ensure the honeysuckle doesn't regrow. We will also pick up trash. After working, we will take a nature walk around the area and identify invasive plants as well as natives. We'll finish by going to lunch at Boss Hawg BBQ. Felker Park is a park in Topeka that is off Gage Blvd adjacent to Shunga Creek. The area we will be working is adjacent to the bridge at Gage & Shunga Creek. Parking is at the Tennis Courts near 26th & Gage Blvd. Sponsor: **Kansas Native Plant Society**. Please contact Jeff Hanson if you plan to attend: [hanjd@cox.net] (785) 806-6917.

November 16: Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs. See October 19 info.

 **November 19:** "Native Plants and Where to Find Them" program in Wichita, KS, 7pm. Krista Dahlinger, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member, is a keen observer of wildflowers and native plants. She will take us to pastures, parks and the unusual places to find Kansas native plants. She will (continued on Page 8)

🌸 Kansas Area Native Plant Wildflower Events— Continued 🌸

November 19, continued: also show us what to do with them when you find them. Where there are plants, there are also bugs and birds, leading to the need to continue to learn about all creatures in all kinds of habitat. Join Wichita Audubon Society at Great Plains Nature Center for this event. Contact for more info: Cheryl Miller [avian67226@gmail.com] or Krista Dahlinger on evenings or weekends (316) 258-6341.

🌸 **December 1:** Spread prairie seed at Warren Nature Area, Topeka, KS, 11am-12pm. Spread the seed we collected at Grant Bradbury Prairie in the Warren Nature Area at Felker Park. The Warren Nature Area grasslands are being restored to prairie. Wear leather gloves as the seed will stick to cloth gloves. After the seed is scattered, we will tour the progress of the restoration. Meet at the east end of the Felker parking lot near the Bocci Ball courts. Felker Park is located at 25th and Gage Blvd. Sponsor: Kansas Native Plant Society. Contact Jeff if you plan to attend: [hanjd@cox.net] (785) 806 6917.

January 18: Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs. See Oct 19 for info.

January 19: Kaw Valley Eagles Day in Lawrence, KS. Celebrate the return of the eagles and learn about the environment, 10am-4pm. Programs on area Bald eagles and other wildlife. Exhibitors will offer educational resources related to nature, sponsored by the Jayhawk Audubon Society. Location: Free State High School, 1 block north of 6th & Wakarusa. [bunnie.a.watkins@usace.army.mil] (785) 213-5053.

January 23: Citizen Science Presentation in Topeka, KS, 7-8pm. Learn more about Warren Nature Area in Topeka and what you could do as a citizen scientist. Jeff Hansen will share his wealth of experience in this program at Topeka / Shawnee County Public Library. Sponsor: Topeka Audubon Society. Contact Jeff for more info: [hanjd@cox.net] (785) 806-6917.

🌸 **January 25:** Kansas Native Plant Society Winter Board Meeting and Outing will be at Hale Library, room 503, on the KSU Campus in Manhattan. The meeting is scheduled from 12:00 - 3:00. After the meeting, explore native plants in the area. Bring your lunch. Backup date: February 1. [email@KSNPS.org] (785) 864-3453.

Join the KNPS email list to receive the latest event announcements:
www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/email_list.php



2013 AWW Silent Auction By Krista Dahlinger

What a wonderful array of donations again this year for the Silent Auction at the AWW! We had generous donations of live grasses and forbs, wild-crafted and hand-made jelly, home-made banana and zucchini bread, a hand-made walking stick, kitchen items, and lots of interesting nature

books. We also had something quite different this year, a backpack sprayer and a fire torch for intentional burns.

The Silent Auction items are always fun to take a look through during break times in the morning meeting. The Silent Auction brought in about \$900 this year! A big “Thank You” goes out to all who donated and all who made a purchase and contributed to the fun.

I thought I would share the banana bread at breakfast on Sunday but it just didn't last that long.



KNPS TECH CORNER— by Mickey Delfelter

A new year is quickly approaching, and we hope that you will renew your KNPS membership.

It's fast and easy.

Just visit our website (<http://www.ksnps.org>) and click on Membership in the left navigation. Then, click the “Online Membership Form” link. Fill out the form and follow the remaining steps. We use Paypal to process the transaction, although you do not need a Paypal account to pay by using your credit or debit card.



Soil Erosion: Then and Now. AWW Guest Speaker

Review by Chelsea Erickson

If I were to say I enjoyed a forty-five minute talk about soil erosion, would you think I had a little too much sun? Not if you were present at the AWW meeting! Guest speaker Allen Casey from the USDA Plant Resource Center in Elsberry, Missouri, gave a fantastic presentation about the past, present, and future of soil erosion in the Midwest. I enjoy history of all subjects, but especially when it is a topic that has shaped the lives of Midwesterners and beyond.

One of the worst environmental disasters in America was the dust bowl of the 1930s. Even an elementary school student could tell you it was a result of drought and soil erosion. But why? Why did it get so bad over such a wide area? Allen explained each wrong turn taken by the government and landowners to a rapt AWW audience. We learned about how the cotton gin paved the way for row cropping, purging of non-crop vegetation (native plants - gasp!) and how that led to wind and water erosion. We learned how the Homestead Act fundamentally placed America on a collision course with disaster by requiring farming activity in an area known as the "Great American Desert." I sure counted myself lucky that I had no idea what it would be like living in a place and time where blowing soil

could bury half a house. So how did things get better? The AWW audience learned how champions of soil conservation and resulting call to action led to the stabilization of soil in the Midwest. A major priority was to find vegetation that would stop soil movement and erosion and that led to the creation of plant production nurseries. The system slowly evolved over time to include the Natural Resource Conservation Service and many Plant Materials Centers. These days governmental assistance has gone to offering only technical support as many other groups are taking up the cause of providing landowners with the resources to combat erosion, which still occurs today, although not as widespread.

Allen spent a good 10 to 15 minutes guiding the audience through questions and comments about soil erosion and related topics. Everyone present gained a greater understanding of what past mistakes could lead to with regards to soil erosion and how vigilance is needed to prevent future generations from repeating those mistakes. Thanks Allen!

For more information on the Dust Bowl it is recommended to check out the book "The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan.



KNPS History: Review of President's Presentation

By Diane Barker

I'm so glad I was there to catch outgoing President Mickey Delfelder's presentation: "From KWS to KNPS, A 35 Year Retrospective." I still marvel at how he managed to condense 35 years of people, development, newsletters, outings, and programs into the deft power point that opened the Saturday morning meeting. Many people remarked that this was the most effective use of power point that they had experienced. The material was gripping and the pace breakneck.

Mickey took us back to 1977 when a traveling exhibit at Washburn University's Mulvane Art Center, titled "Wildflower Works," helped set in motion the formation of a group interested in wildflowers. Dr. Ronald McGregor is credited with suggesting forming the Kansas Wildflower Society in 1978. Things moved quickly, and 1979 saw the first full year of KWS with 46 board members from across the state and 688 members.

From the beginning, our organization has been clear about its goals. "The purpose of the Kansas Wildflower Society is to develop an awareness in our citizens of the beauty and value of Kansas Wildflowers." The early KWS mission statement



KNPS Membership chart shows growth trend

was "Beautification, Education, Conservation, Cultivation."

Our newsletters have been vital to our mission and remarkable for their beauty and utility as teaching tools. The early newsletters had a journal format of 20-36 pages and the cover artwork was hand-drawn wildflowers printed in three colors, the look stylized and elegant. In 2004, we moved to the larger format we have today, and several years later went to color to better enjoy the

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AWW Photo Contest Winners

By Valerie Wright

Our traditional photo contest was held this year. Photographers brought printed copies of their best photos to the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 14. There were nearly 40 prints in the various categories. No one entered the "Wildflower of the Year" category (Little Bluestem). I hope some of you will take the challenge and start to photograph grasses!

The Awards Committee gave five first place ribbons and four each second and third place ribbons. There was also an "honorable mention" given to a photo of Big Bluestem.

As in other years there were many deserving and beautiful photos. The judges always have difficulty selecting the best. Winners will be posted on the KNPS web site. Next year we will enter the digital age. Watch for announcements about new rules and submission requirements.



Garden First Place: "Garden Friends"
by Wendy Koerner



Scenery 1: "White Beardtongue in Red Hills"
by Phyllis Scherich



Scenery 2: "Waves of Color" by Janet Krack



Scenery 3: "Hay Meadow at Sunset", K. Dahlinger



AWW Photo Contest Winners

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Flora 1: "Engaging Color of Swamp Milkweed"
by Janet Krack



Flora 2: "Trout Lilies"
by Carolyn Oroke



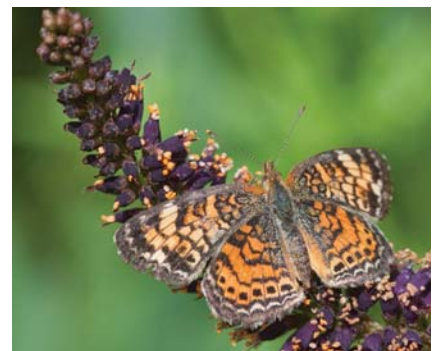
Flora 3: "Little Hairy Hawkweed" by K. Dahlinger



Fauna 1: "Butterfly Milkweed with Great Spangled Fritillaries" by Carolyn Oroke



Fauna 2: "Damselfly on Fog Fruit" by Mark Neubrand



Fauna 3: "Butterfly on Leadplant" by Mark Neubrand



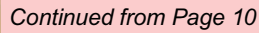
People 1: "Child Studying Scorpionweed"
by Phyllis Scherich



People 2: "Group at Ark City Audubon Sanctuary"
by Mark Neubrand



People 3: "Group at Rock Springs Ranch"
by Mark Neubrand



Mickey took us through an impressive and dizzying list of our projects including the Wildflower Coloring Book, Growing Native

He closed his talk with these words, “And lastly. . . a reminder that for 35 years the KNPS is sometimes more than Kansas Native Plants.” What followed was a slide show of beauties like a Monarch butterfly on whorled milkweed, a deer in a meadow, an immature ladybug.

Volume 35 Number 4



Featured Plant: Climbing Prairie Rose, (*Rosa setigera*)

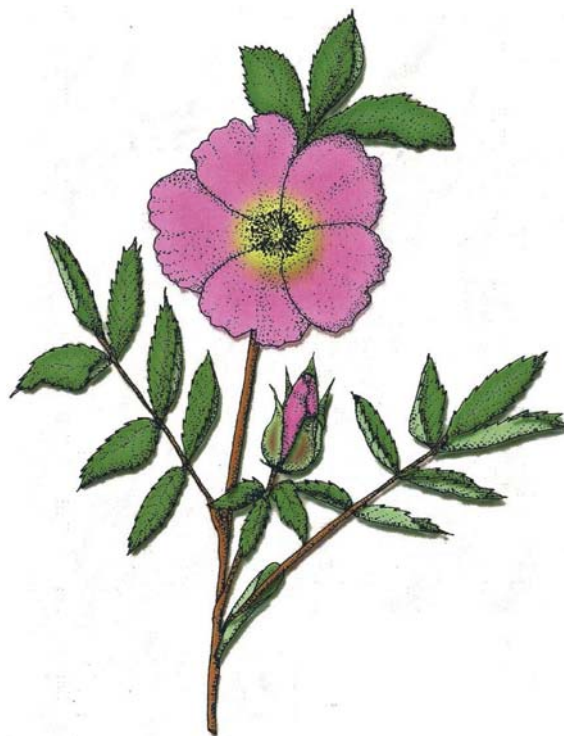
Text by Lorraine J. Kaufman, Illustration by Lorna Habegger Harder

One sunny May morning in the early days of my wildflower explorations, I was walking along an unimproved county road near our farm.

Everything was new to me-- exciting shapes, forms, and colors — a whole new world to explore. Suddenly I became aware of what appeared to be a soft, pink cloud caught in the upper branches of some small trees on the other side of a ravine that paralleled the road. I clambered through the undergrowth that choked the ravine, and as I emerged on the opposite bank, I found myself enveloped by a sweet fragrance that wafted from the rosy pink blossoms of what proved to be the climbing prairie rose, *Rosa setigera*. What a revelation! I was mesmerized by the scene and inhaled deeply the memory of that discovery.

Like the common prairie rose (*Rosa arkansana*), the climbing prairie rose produces 2-1/2 inch diameter flowers with five pink heart-shaped petals and five green sepals. The climbing rose however grows as a vine with stems up to 18 feet long, winding into and through trees in woodlands or sprawling as a dense bush in the prairie. The climbing rose's thorns also are larger and more discrete compared to the dense prickles of *R. arkansana*, though both provide excellent nesting habitat for songbirds. When both male and female plants are present, loose clusters of red, globular fruits called "hips" develop in fall on the female plants.

Both prairie roses are available from the nursery trade and make gorgeous additions to a native plant garden. But in my opinion, they are best experienced as serendipitous discoveries as you explore your nearby lanes and fields.



Climbing Prairie Rose

Membership News

NEW MEMBERS

FROM 06/16/13 TO 09/22/13

Brad Bagby - Derby
 Amelia Bristow - Neodesha
 Nathan Bryant - Valley Center
 Julie Christensen - Concordia
 Sarah Clemons - Andover
 Elise Cockrell - Wichita
 Wayne A. Copp - Auburn
 Caitlin Dix - Prairie Village
 Daniela Duron - Wichita
 Joan Elder - Lawrence
 Aimee Esparza - Towanda
 Dominic Farinas - Wichita
 Joelle Feight - Clyde
 Hannah Ferguson - Wichita
 Kate Forinash - Lawrence
 Brett Fox - Eureka

Richard Gilger - Andale
 Joyce Grover - Lawrence
 Taylor Hallmark - ElDorado
 Susan Hammer - Derby
 Richard Howard - Fall River
 Phoebe Janzen - Florence
 Tatum Jones - Menifee, CA
 Brock Kendall - Wichita
 Lazy T Ranch Adventure in the Flint
 Hills - Manhattan
 Dennis Lee - Leawood
 Sharon Long - McPherson
 Barnaly Mahapatro - Wichita
 Azucena Martinez - Wichita
 Angela May - Valley Center
 Thomas Merchant - Andover
 Lucas Moll - Healy

Erica Nightengale - Lawrence
 C. Max Pittman - Leavenworth
 Prairie Vistas Photography - Wichita
 Lucinda Reynolds - Mountain
 Home, AR
 Cathie Richardson - Haysville
 Matthew S. Rosenhamer - Wichita
 Doug & Mary Ellen Rudick - Salina
 Robert Sanchez - Kansas City, MO
 Kim Smith - Wichita
 Ashley Stone - Wichita
 Roger Young - Seneca

MEMBERS RETURNING AFTER A HIATUS

Jolene Grabill - Topeka
 Joe & Kathy Kennedy - Soldier
 Mary Shaffer - Salina

Kansas Native Plant Society
R. L. McGregor Herbarium
University of Kansas
2045 Constant Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

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Contact us by phone at 785-864-3453



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL GUIDELINES

Annual dues are for a 12-month period from January 1 through December 31. Dues paid after December 1 are applied to the next year. Note to new members: the first year of annual membership is effective from the date of joining through December 31 of the following calendar year.

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

Kansas Native Plant Society
R. L. McGregor Herbarium
2045 Constant Avenue
Lawrence KS 66047-3729

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. The Kansas Native Plant Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Gifts to KNPS are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Membership application/renewal form

Member Information:

Name:	
Address	
City/State:	
Zipcode:	
Phone:	
Email:	
County (if KS):	

Membership Category:

☐	Student	\$10.00
☐	Individual	\$20.00
☐	Family	\$30.00
☐	Organization	\$35.00
☐	Contributing	\$100.00
☐	Lifetime	\$500.00