

Kentucky Native Plant Society

Newsletter



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In This Issue

	<u>Page</u>
<i>Message from the President</i>	1
<i>Notes on Kentucky Viburnums</i>	2
<i>Ask the Botanist</i>	4
<i>Pat's Weed Patch: Tropical Soda Apple</i>	5
<i>The Habitats and Major Ecosystems of Mosses</i>	7
<i>What's in a Name?</i>	8
<i>1995 Field Trips and Activities</i>	9
<i>Announcements</i>	10

**Deadline for the August Newsletter is July 15.
Please be prompt!**

The Kentucky Native Plant Society, Inc. was founded in 1986 as a botanical organization for all persons interested in the native flora and vegetation of Kentucky. The goals of KNPS are to serve as a medium of information exchange, to promote native plant conservation, public education in botany, and botanical research in Kentucky. Annual dues of \$5.00 (Family \$7.00) may be sent to KNPS Membership, c/o Dept. of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475.

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Message from the President

Landon McKinney

While I will try to be brief, there are a number of important items to bring to your attention. Our annual spring meeting is close at hand and as usual, Wilson Francis has put together a terrific program. Our program speakers will be quite informative, our hikes will be as much fun as ever, and some great t-shirts will be available. The winning entry in our "Name the Newsletter Contest" will be announced during our general business meeting. All in all it will be a great meeting and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Please do not forget about our fall meeting. The Tennessee Native Plant Society provided a great joint meeting last year and we intend to do the same. The evening programs and fieldtrip schedule will be announced in our next newsletter and I promise you that this fall meeting at Natural Bridge State Resort Park will be as interesting and informative as our spring meeting. Make your reservations soon and don't forget to specify your participation in the fall meeting to insure that a room will be available.

As you will notice elsewhere in this newsletter, "Pat's Weed Patch" is up and running again after a long hiatus. Pat moved back to Kentucky and is now looking forward to picking up where she left off. We welcome her back and I am sure that you will find her first article to be both timely and informative.

Our spring board meeting was held on the 25th of March. Many matters were discussed and much

was accomplished. I would now like to share with you some of what transpired. First, 1996 will be the year of the 10th anniversary of our Society. Such a major milestone deserves special treatment. Look forward to the next several newsletters as we begin to unveil the special plans and projects that we intend to unfold for the completion of the first decade of our Society.

Financially, we are quite sound and it is time that we put some of our resources to good use in promoting the education and understanding of our native flora. One of the most important decisions to come out of our recent board meeting was to establish a scholarship fund for interested undergraduates and graduate students to perform basic research on our native flora and/or floristic communities. This program will be open to any college student wanting to do basic botanical research in Kentucky. The methodology for instituting this program will be provided in our next newsletter so look forward to following our progress in promoting a better understanding of Kentucky's native flora through financial incentives.

Our Native Plant Certification Program continues down a successful path. While the first class of participants are about to complete the program at Eastern Kentucky University, the second class of participants are just beginning. We continue to negotiate with other regional universities to begin this successful program so if participation at ECU is not possible, please look forward to the program being developed and taught at a closer location.

Elsewhere in this issue, I will discuss another important program that will allow each of you to participate in developing a better understanding of our native flora.

While I have tried to be brief, the Kentucky Native Plant Society is increasing its activities and I want everyone to be as informed as possible. We have a great organization and we are trying hard to make it even better. Please support our efforts as we take

one of the most active native plant societies in the country and make it the very best.

Notes on Kentucky Viburnums

T. J. Weckman

This is a brief introduction to one of our native Kentucky *Viburnum* species. Hopefully it will sharpen your eye for these plants when in the field and convince you that native viburnums deserve attention in garden and landscape plantings.

Viburnum is a large genus of about 125 species of shrubs and small trees distributed in temperate regions worldwide. They are readily available in the nursery trade and often used in commercial and residential landscape plantings. However, you will have to look harder to find the native species as most viburnums available in catalogs and nurseries are hybrids of European or Asiatic origin.

General features of the genus in Kentucky are: woody shrubs or small trees with opposite, entire, deciduous leaves, which may be finely to coarsely toothed or lobed, depending on the species. Flowers are white and are borne in terminal clusters from late April to late June, again depending on the species. The individual flowers are small but the overall effect is quite impressive due to the massing of the flower clusters produced. *Viburnum* growth forms range from single-stemmed small trees, to clumping or low massed shrubs.

In Kentucky there are between nine and fifteen taxa of *Viburnum*, depending on the manual or text you consult. One of the most common viburnums you are likely to encounter in Kentucky is the "flowering maple" or "maple-leaf viburnum" (Figure 1).

Maple-leaf viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium* L.) is a small shrub commonly about 3.5 to 4 feet tall and spreading to 4 feet wide. Its leaves are shaped, as the name implies, like a maple's. Maple-leaf viburnum occurs in shaded woodlands, on moist

acidic soils. *Viburnum acerifolium* is most easily confused with seedling maples which also occur in similar habitats in the woodland understory. When flowers or fruits are present the two plants are easily distinguished. Some general characters which may help you separate vegetative specimens of the two include: stipules often present on viburnum and absent on maple; amber colored gland dots visible with a 10x lens on the underside of viburnum leaves and absent on the underside of maple leaves; hairs present on viburnum petioles and absent on maple; buds on viburnum in pairs at twig tips with two pairs of scales while maples have several buds clustered at twig tips and imbricate buds.

Maple-leaf viburnum flowers in the understory as

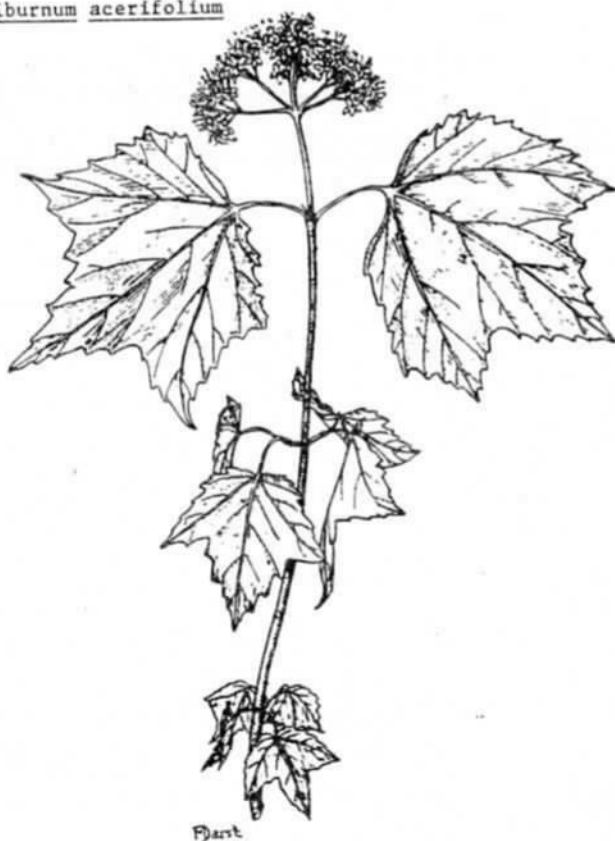
the spring ephemeral herbs begin to fade in mid to late May. The fruits are attractive through the summer and into fall when they ripen to a deep blue/black and provide food for birds and small mammals. In the human-constructed landscape, maple-leaf viburnum can work effectively under an existing canopy of trees, or on the shaded side of a house, as it will flower and fruit in partial sun. Fall colors are impressive hues of pinks and lavenders with persistent blue-black fruits.

Viburnum acerifolium is common in the eastern US and in Kentucky can readily be seen in almost woodland on the Cumberland Plateau. Look along trails in the Red River Gorge or at Jenny Wiley State Park. It is absent from most of central Kentucky with the exception of one collection in Franklin County, but is known in south-central Kentucky and as far west as Warren County. Maple-leaf viburnum has not been collected in the Western Coalfields and its distribution in the hills and escarpment regions of Western Kentucky is spotty, but this could be the result of underreporting (Map 1).

As residential lots become smaller and we seek to find natives to replace or underplant existing landscaping, I encourage you to think of native viburnums. They are a group of shrubs and small trees which offer a range of leaf, flower and fruit interest throughout the seasons. Observe these plants in their natural habitats and if you have or can create a comparable setting them, try planting them!

(The author is a graduate student at Eastern Kentucky University working on a distributional study of the genus *Viburnum* in Kentucky.)

Fig. 1 *Viburnum acerifolium*



from: Trees, Shrubs, and Woody
Vines of Northern Florida and
Adjacent Georgia and Alabama
Robert K. Godfrey c 1988

submit a question on that particular plant that you just can't seem to identify. When possible we would like you to collect one individual of the plant in question and send it to us. This will enable our botanists to make an accurate determination of its identity. However, this may not always be possible so please read the following guidelines carefully.

1. If there are a number of individuals of a particular plant (several dozen or more), carefully collect one individual in flower, obtaining as much of the root as possible. Take a photograph if there is only one or a very limited number of individuals. If you can't take a photo, then write a description of the plant including such things as height, habitat, flower color, leaf shape and their position (opposite, alternate, basal, etc.). Don't worry about your descriptive terminology as we can decipher any terms that you might use.

2. Press the plant as soon as possible by laying it between several sheets of folded newsprint (approximately 12" by 14"), folding or bending the plant if necessary so there are no parts hanging out. Try to flatten out at least some of the leaves and, if the flowers are relatively large and involve petals, try to press them with the petals flattened out and not all folded up. Place the newspaper in a safe, flat place and lay several heavy objects on top (encyclopedias, coffee table books, etc.) for 3 to 5 days. After this, place the newspaper with the plant inside between two sturdy pieces of cardboard (pieces of cardboard boxes work well here) and mail it to the above address. Be sure to include appropriate label information on a sheet of paper including date collected, location and habitat (e.g. open woods along US 127 approx. 2 miles south of Lawrenceburg), and the county. Unless you stipulate otherwise, the specimen, upon proper identification, will be mounted and deposited in the herbarium of Eastern Kentucky University.

3. In general, do not collect anything that you might think is an orchid.

4. If your plant is growing in a large clump, such as is the case with many grass and grass-like plants, merely separate out a small piece.

5. If your plant is a tree or shrub, clip off a short branch (approximately 6" to 12"). Include leaves and flowers if present.

Well, that's about it. In discussing this subject during our board meeting, some concern was expressed about our members possibly collecting a rare plant. Its unlikely that this would happen because rare plants are seldom seen by anyone except for those of us that are out looking for them and more times than not, we don't see them either. A general rule of thumb might be that if you have the least little doubt, don't collect and follow the alternate procedures.

I hope that many of you will take advantage of this new column and I look forward to seeing your submissions over the coming months. Our team of botanists are standing by so send those questions and/or plants in.

Pat's Weed Patch: Tropical Soda Apple

Patricia D. Haragan

In 1998 a newly introduced weed from South America was collected in Florida. The plant was identified as *Solanum viarum* Dunal, otherwise known as "tropical soda apple" or "the plant from hell". The former common name refers to Sodom, the biblical city known for its wickedness. The latter name is associated with its presence near Devils Garden, Florida.

Since its appearance in Florida, tropical soda apple has infested over 750,000 acres of pastureland and cropland as well as an estimated 40,000 acres in wooded areas, including state parks. It is having a devastating impact on the cattle industry by infecting prime pastureland. The plant forms im-

penetrable stands that successfully compete with, and kill, preferred forage grasses. It also takes over shady hammocks where cattle retreat from the hot sun. Thus, cattle are succumbing to heat stress.

This species is spreading northward at an alarming rate. It is displacing native plants as well as invading agricultural lands. Besides Florida, it is now reported from Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. There are unconfirmed reports from North Carolina and Ohio. Presently, Kentucky and

Tennessee are under close scrutiny as 250,000 head of cattle recently were imported from Florida. People, cattle, horses, and wildlife such as raccoons, deer, and feral pigs can transport the seed. Other culprits are sod, hay, and composted manure.

Tropical soda apple is a member of the nightshade family (Solanaceae). It is a shrub-like perennial with extensive rootstocks. The stems, 3-6 feet tall, are covered with small, hooked prickles. The leaves are alternate, simple, lobed, and have yellowish prickles up to

3/4 inches long on the stalks, midvein, and secondary veins. The clusters of small, white flowers are followed later by rounded, yellow, leathery fruits. As many as 413 seeds per fruit have been observed. Because this species is a prolific seed producer with high rates of germination, it is a voracious weed that is rapidly spreading into other states (possibly Kentucky) with devastating effects.

Editor's note: Please keep this noxious weed in mind and if you find this plant in this area, please contact your local agricultural extension agent or notify any of the botanists at the Nature Preserves Commission (502-573-2886).



The Habitats and Major Ecosystems of Mosses

Judith Rozeman

In the February issue of the KNPS newsletter (10:1), mosses were discussed in the context of winter botany. Brief mention was made of their ecological significance, their uses to humans, and a description of five common genera in Kentucky was given. In this article I would like to discuss briefly the range of ecosystems that mosses are known to inhabit as well as their role in these systems.

Mosses are known to occur in nearly major ecosystems, including both temperate and tropical forests; aquatic systems including streams, lakes, and marshes; sand dunes, deserts, grasslands, northern and alpine tundra, and human-made habitats.

In woodland habitats, mosses play a significant role both in water and mineral retention, helping hold both in the ecosystem. In these systems, mosses inhabit various microhabitats, including wet and dry rocks, soil, streams, seeps, bogs, the bark of living and dying trees, and nursery logs. The particular species inhabiting each depend on the type of substrate and its characteristics (e.g., texture, moisture, and chemistry).

In completely aquatic habitats, the diversity of species is usually rather low. In Kentucky, mosses such as *Sphagnum* (peat moss) may form extensive colonies in bogs and seeps; *Fontinalis* (fountain moss) may be found submerged in clear, clean running streams; and various liverworts may produce colonies on shallow water surfaces. However, a great diversity of species is not seen in these areas. Elsewhere, particular species of mosses have been found to exist in cold lakes to depths of several hundred feet in far northern ecosystems, and more than 50 species have been found to grow in salt marshes where the diversity is much

greater.

Mosses and other bryophytes are also found in sand dune habitats where they help to colonize and stabilize these systems. Furthermore, they exist in hot deserts (on north-facing slopes) and in recently burned areas where they serve as the first recolonizers helping to reestablish conditions necessary for vascular plants. Bryophytes do exist in grasslands but are generally not prevalent unless excessive grazing or mowing occurs.

Bryophyte coverage reaches its greatest extent and floristic diversity in alpine and polar climates. Wetland habitats and areas of extended snow persistence often harbor the richest growth. In these habitats, the crowding together of the tiny plants enhances their survival by improving water retention. They play a major role in the maintenance of water relations and food web support in these systems by providing water, food, and cover for both insects and higher animals.

Finally, bryophytes often inhabit human-made habitats, such as dirt banks along roadways, cement walls, and rooftops. Again, certain species are more likely than others to colonize these various habitats—species such as *Grimmia* (small, blackish-green moss) on rock walls, *Racomitrium* (bright green and cushiony) on roofs, *Bryum* in the cracks of sidewalks, and *Polytrichum* (a tall genus with a hairy white cap on its capsule) along bare soil road banks.

In the next article, I will discuss the succession (the change in the number and diversity of species over time at a site) of bryophytes in woodland sites, particularly on living and dying trees and on rotting logs. Pictures of a few common mosses in these microhabitats will be provided.

What's in a Name?

Landon McKinney

Well all things must come to an end so this will be the last in this series of articles on the origins of plant names. First, we must clear up several unanswered questions from last time. After receiving the last newsletter and reading my own article, I realized how stupid it was to ask about Saint John. I've really got to stop writing this stuff at midnight after consuming 6 corn dogs and a pint of mustard. Anyway, I believe I asked what a wort was. Well once again my mind must have been affected by my snacking obsession because the reference that I have been using did not explain this particular term. Thank goodness for a dictionary. Wort merely refers to any plant that may have food or medicinal value. Saint John's wort was named because the plants bloom in June and Saint John's day is June 24. This group of plants also was believed to have the power to ward off witches and other evil spirits.

Speaking of witches, let's deal with witch hazel. Witch is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *wicen* meaning "to bend" which refers to the pliant quality of the stems. Hazel refers to a group of trees living in the temperate regions of the world (hazelnut, *Corylus* spp.). The stems of these trees are pliable and a forked stem was believed to have supernatural powers. The interesting point here is that witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) is more of a shrub and is in a completely different plant family. It just so happens that its stems are quite similar in their pliability and they too were thought to possess supernatural powers.

Before discussing anything new, I would like to clear up one small error I made in the last article. In my discussion of the genus name *Aquilegia* (from the Latin *Aquila* meaning eagle), I flatly denied seeing the resemblance between the flower structure and an eagle. Well, one Saturday morning while watching some of my favorite "Looney Tunes" car-

toons, this resemblance became quite obvious. There before me was this bald eagle, screaming down out of the sky, head and neck outstretched, wings plastered back as it aimed for its unsuspecting victim. The almost perfect configuration of a columbine flower was quite clear. I stand corrected.

Names based on resemblances are often quite obvious, such as thimbleweed (*Anemone virginiana*) where the seed head clearly resembles a thimble. How about turtlehead (*Chelone* spp.), whose flowers resemble a turtle's head with its mouth opened, Mousetail (*Myosurus minimus*), which has a short, tapering flower/seed stalk, or Lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), which has a much longer, tapering flower/seed stalk?

While I've mostly tried to stick to native species, I'm going to make another exception here by discussing teasel (*Dipsacus sylvestris*), one of our more common roadside weeds. The genus name is derived from the Greek word meaning thirst. It seems that this non-native species was considered a thirst quencher for wayfarers who could find water in the hollows of the leaf bases. The common name referred to the practice of using the dried seed heads with their firm, hooked bracts for "teasing" the nap on woolen cloth. I could have made a small fortune with this plant in the early sixties.

As I bring this series to a close, I hope each of you will take some time to think a little more about all the plant names that we so frequently use as we continue to enjoy our native flora. For those of you that thirst for further knowledge on this interesting topic, there are probably at least a couple of books floating around on the subject. Two of my favorites (which are probably out of print) are "How Plants Got Their Names" by L. H. Bailey, 1933, Macmillan Company, New York, and "Flowers and Plants" by Robert Shostek, 1974, Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Company, New York. The latter may still be available or may be found in your local library.

1995 Field Trips and Activities

Please remember to call the field trip leader or Clara Wieland (606-266-5548) to make reservations for the trip, and to ask any questions you may have about weather, directions, etc. Dress appropriately, especially footwise—we may cross creeks and climb hills. If an event includes lunchtime, you may wish to bring a snack and water. Be ready for a fun learning experience. Please call Clara Wieland if you have a special place to show us or any suggestion for a field trip or workshop.

Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m. (Eastern Time). A Search for the Kentucky Lady's Slipper along Sturgeon Creek (Lee and Owsley counties).

Danny Barrett, former KNPS board member, will lead us in his territory to look for these beautiful orchids. *Cypripedium kentuckiense* is a very showy lady's slipper and appears to be declining under pressure from overcollection. It is found in Kentucky and a few other states but we got to name it. We will see other flora in bloom on the way, maybe even a Cumberland azalea. Danny, although retired from the Corps of Engineers, is quite busy. Last year he won a state environmental award for his work with introducing young people to the appreciation of our natural heritage. Meet at Dairy Queen in Beattyville. From Natural Bridge State Resort Park, take KY 11 south. Dairy Queen will be on the left just before you get to Beattyville. Please call Danny (606-593-5097) or Clara Wieland (606-266-5548) to register or if you have questions. There may be a creek to cross. This is Memorial Day weekend and it will be a memorable day if you see these beautiful flowers in bloom!

Saturday, June 17, 1 p.m. (Eastern Time). Tour of the Greenhouses, Growth Chamber, and Laboratory of Drs. Jerry and Carol Baskin (University of Kentucky).

Carol and Jerry will show us their studies on the germination and life history of plants. The heredity and biological basis of understanding species is their focus of research. Come, it will be fascinating. Two of their graduate students also will host us. Meet near the greenhouses behind the Thomas Hunt Morgan Biological Sciences building on Rose Street in Lexington. You can park for free in the Medical Plaza parking lot, which can be accessed from Washington or Virginia (extended) avenues. The greenhouses are visible from there. Call Clara Wieland (606-266-5548) or the Baskins (606-257-8770—days) to register.

Saturday, July 8, 10:30 a.m. (Eastern Time). A Home Visit to the Donna and Larry Gooch Farm (Lincoln County).

Donna and Larry did not realize when they moved to their farm that there were very special plants on the land. In addition to many native grasses, they have found yellow fringed, purple fringeless, and ragged fringed orchids. We hope some of the orchids and other flowers will be in bloom. Who knows—we may discover the extremely rare sundew? Meet at the Gooch Farm. From Crab Orchard (southeast of Stanford), take KY 39 south for 7 miles. Turn right on McMullin Road. Their drive is the second on the left (365 McMullin Road). The farm is bordered by a white fence. From Somerset, take KY 39 north for 21 miles. McMullin Road will be on the left. Be alert—on the opposite side of KY 39 the road is named John Cash Road—don't turn there! Donna was a bird enthusiast before a wildflower enthusiast. She says this is a great place to bird. Limited to 10 people. PLEASE register by calling Clara Wieland at (606) 266-5548.

Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and 23. A Landon McKinney Adventure in the Purchase Area of Western Kentucky.

Here we go again. The Jackson Purchase region is interesting botanically but far removed from many of our members. Last year's weekend was a success and while topping it will be difficult, I will at least try to plan a trip of equal interest. Although our fieldtrip destinations are subject to some modification, plans are to head to the upper counties of the Purchase region and take in some interesting spots including Metropolis Lake, Western Kentucky and Ballard Wildlife Management Areas, and several roadside stops along the way. An alternate plan will lead us back to Reelfoot Lake for a more in-depth excursion. Either way, the weekend will be informative and fun.

The general plans will be the same as last year. We will meet at Hardee's in Murray at 1:00 p.m. (Central Time) on Saturday, July 22. Look for the Murray State University football stadium on KY 641 and you can't miss Hardee's. Get there a little earlier if you want to have lunch as a group. Please secure overnight accommodations at one of several motels in the area. My suggestions would be Kenlake State Resort Park (502-474-2211, about 15 minutes away) or Murray Plaza Court on KY 641 (502-753-2682, the least expensive). Saturday night and Sunday morning meals can be as a group if desired. Fieldtrips will be conducted on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. To register, please call or write Landon McKinney prior to July 1st. The address is KSNPC, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601 and the phone number is (502) 573-2886. I am often out of the office so please leave a message.

Saturday, August 5, 10:30 a.m. (Eastern Time). A Trip

to the Top of Blanton Forest (Harlan County).

Tom Bloom from the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission will take us to the top of Pine Mountain through this outstanding old-growth forest. Besides seeing excellent examples of hemlock and oak-dominated forests, we will see an outstanding mountain acid seep ("bog"). We will meet at the Harlan Dairy Queen near the junction of US 421 and US 119. This will be a very strenuous hike up a steep mountain during the hottest time of the year—you need to be in very good physical condition. Wear hiking boots. Bring a trail lunch and plenty of water! To register, contact Tom Bloom (502-573-2886 or 502-875-2225) before the trip. There will be a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 participants.

Saturday, September 2, 10:00 a.m. (Central Time). Rare Plants of South Central Kentucky (Hart and Barren counties).

Charlie Lapham, KNPS Board Member, and Randy Seymour, Nature Conservancy board member, will show us three rare plant species. Eggert's Sunflower, *Helianthus eggertii*, is a federal candidate and endangered in Kentucky. Randy's farm is one of the Kentucky sites. Narrow-leaved Blue Curls, *Trichostema setaceum*, is a Coastal Plain species that is endangered in Kentucky. A site about two miles from Brigadoon State Nature Preserve was recently discovered. Both of these species should be in bloom. False Hellebore, *Veratrum woodii*, is threatened in Kentucky and was mentioned in our newsletter a couple of years ago as one plant that hadn't been seen much lately. There is a sizable population on the edge of Mammoth Cave National Park. Unfortunately, it blooms in July. We will meet in the Shoney's parking lot in Glasgow. It is on the US 31E bypass about 1/3 mile north of the Cumberland Parkway interchange. Call Clara Wieland (606-266-5548) to register for the trip and if you have any questions.

Friday--Sunday, September 8-10. Joint Meeting of the Kentucky and Tennessee Native Plant Societies at Natural Bridge State Resort Park.

Help us show off the Red River Gorge area to our visitors. They were very good hosts at our joint meeting last fall. Let's return the favor. Contact Natural Bridge State Park for room reservations—you need to mention that you are with the Native Plant Society. Details will be announced in the next newsletter.

Saturday, September 23, 10:30 a.m. (Eastern Time). The Bluegrass Swamp--Lee's Branch (Woodford County).

Deborah White, Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission botanist, will lead us to this unusual geological and botani-

cal area of the Bluegrass surrounded by farms and horse paddocks. Libby and Brereton Jones are graciously allowing access to the best remaining wetland in the Bluegrass. We hope to see the rare scented ladies' tress orchid, turtlehead, swamp white oak, and other wetland species. Limited to 10 people. Please call Clara Wieland to register and for directions (606-266-5548).

Friday and Saturday, September 29-30. Mushroom Foray at Natural Bridge State Park. Phone (800) 325-1710 for details.

Sunday, October 15, 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). Eastview Barrens--A Native Grassland in the Fall (Hardin County).

Julian Campbell will lead all interested souls to Eastview Barrens, one of the most significant native grasslands left in the state. Asters in particular should be out in force still, including the rare Western Silky Aster (*Aster sericeus*). Also, the rare prairie gentian should be flowering still. Meet at the gas/food store on US 62 just north of the Western Kentucky Parkway at the Eastview exit about 15 miles west of Elizabethtown. Contact Julian at 606-271-4392 to register.

Kentucky's Nature License Plate

A license plate showing the Kentucky warbler on a tulip poplar (the state tree) is now available for citizens who wish to support the acquisition (from willing sellers) of nature preserves, state parks, wildlife management areas, state forests, wild rivers, and environmental education areas. The cost is \$35 (above the regular registration fee) and is good for two years. The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund receives \$25 from the sale of each license plate. For more information, contact your county clerk or the Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board at 107 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 (502-564-2184).

Environmental Status Report

The Environmental Quality Commission has recently released The State of Kentucky's Environment: 1994 Status Report, an update of the first report released in 1992. The Commission compiled the most recent information to identify state, regional, and local trends in water and air quality, waste management, toxic releases, agriculture, forestry, wildlife, resource extraction, and energy. Limited copies are available for \$10 and will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact the Environmental Quality Commis-

sion at 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, KY 40601 (502-564-2150, ext. 160).

The Cullowhee Conference: Landscaping with Native Plants

The 12th annual Cullowhee Conference will be held in Cullowhee, North Carolina from July 20 through July 22, 1995. An optional day of field trips will precede the conference. Many topics will be discussed at the conference, including "The Magic of Stone", "Native Grasses with Landscape Potential", "Woody Plant Propagation Workshop", and many others. To receive more information, contact Sue Dietz, Office of Summer School and Continuing Education, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723 (800-WCU4YOU).

The Dicotyledoneae of Ohio

The Ohio State University Press has released part 2 of The Dicotyledoneae of Ohio (Linaceae through Campanulaceae) by Tom S. Cooperrider. This 656 page, casebound book describes and illustrates more than 700 species of plants in 77 families. County distribution maps and detailed line draw-

ings are provided for nearly every species. The illustrations and carefully written keys allow for easy identification of many of Ohio's wildflowers. Comments on habitat and species frequency enhance the usefulness of the publication.

Total cost per book (including Ohio sales tax and shipping and handling) is \$72.73. To order a book or request more information, contact Ohio Flora Book, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Columbus, OH 43224. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.

Turning on the Public to Turning Off Exotics

The Hilltop Arboretum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana will host a working conference on exotic plant species June 1 through 4, 1995. At this conference organized by the Eastern Native Plant Alliance, several speakers will make presentations on exotics and workgroups will prepare portions of a detailed position paper on the threats posed by exotic plant species. Several field trips to Louisiana natural areas also are scheduled. For more information, contact Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, Box 82608, Baton Rouge, LA 70884.

Kentucky Native Plant Society Membership Form

All memberships run for the calendar year (January through December). Dues received after November 1 are put toward the following year. Members are paid up through the year indicated on their newsletter label.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ KY County _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

_____ Check here if you want your name, address, and phone number omitted from any membership lists the Native Plant Society publishes in the newsletter.

Please check one:

_____ Annual Individual Membership (\$5)
_____ Annual Family Membership (\$7)

_____ Lifetime Individual Membership (\$100)
_____ Lifetime Family Membership (\$140)

Please check one: _____ Renewal _____ New Membership

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS! Please check one:

_____ Send all back issues of the current calendar year.
_____ Start my membership at the beginning of the next calendar year.

Total Amount Enclosed: _____ Make checks payable to Kentucky Native Plant Society. KNPS is a non-profit organization and gifts are tax-deductible. Return this form to: KNPS Membership, c/o Dept. of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475.

KNPS Newsletter Volume 10, No. 2

Important Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendars. See Inside for Details.

Kentucky Lady's Slipper Search along Sturgeon Creek on May 27.

Tour the Baskins' Greenhouses, Growth Chamber, and Laboratory on June 17.

Home Visit to the Gooch Farm on July 8.

Adventure in the Jackson Purchase Area of Western Kentucky on July 22-23.

A Trip to the Top of Blanton Forest on August 5.

Rare Plants of South-Central Kentucky on September 2.

Joint Meeting of the Kentucky and Tennessee Native Plant Societies at Natural Bridge State Resort Park on September 8-10.

The Kentucky Native Plant Society

c/o Department of Biological Sciences
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475

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