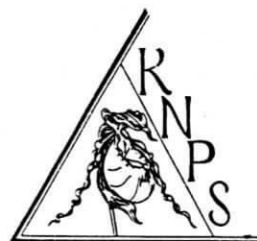


The Lady-Slipper



The Official Newsletter of the Kentucky Native Plant Society
Volume 13, Number 2

Spring/Summer 1998

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KNPS President's Message

David Eakin

I hope each of you is fully enjoying your spring and early summer activities. Wildflower Weekend was a wonderful success thanks to the labor of many people. Our unusual weather has brought many pleasant surprises for the amateur and professional alike. El Nino driven changes in the microclimates of forest and field have created opportunities for the appearance of many species that are less common. Sorry! I just couldn't resist jumping on the bandwagon. It seems that every bad event from hurricanes to headaches has been blamed on El Nino, so I thought I would offer something positive. Whatever the cause, take advantage of every opportunity offered through the KNPS to explore the ever changing variety of our natural ecosystems.

The successes of the Native Plant Society, however, are certainly not accidental or caused by El Nino. In an organization run entirely by volunteers, success is achieved only when someone gives freely of their time and/or money. And there are some very special people who deserve to be recognized for their valuable personal sacrifice. First and foremost on this list is Clara Wieland for her many years of service to the KNPS in the role of Field Trip Coordinator. How do you adequately thank a person who has given as much as Clara to the Society? You really can't - but you start by saying, "Thanks Clara! Thanks for a job well done!" Our field trips and walks have been at the heart and soul of the Native Plant Society since its inception. And year after year, Clara has been the contact person who almost single-handedly planned the wide variety of opportunities we have been able to offer to our members each season. But more importantly than the planning, she has been the person who made sure that there were leaders available to lead these outings and, then, willingly served as the central clearinghouse for contact between members and leaders. Her work has

been so consistently valuable to the KNPS that your Executive Board despairs at finding someone to take her place. In reality, we realize that no one will ever be able to take her place, but we pray we can find someone of like mind to carry on the tradition of excellence she leaves behind.

Secondly, I would like to express thanks on the part of all our Board and members to Tim Weckman who single-handedly serves as KNPS Newsletter Editor. Along with our field trips and Wildflower Weekend, the Lady-Slipper represents the most visible part of service to our members. The task of collecting substantive articles and then editing, printing and distributing them in the form of an attractive newsletter is enormous. And when contributing authors are slow in sending promised articles, who do you think gets blamed for any delays? The editor, of course! It is another of those thankless volunteer tasks that gets noticed only when something goes wrong. Tim has admirably served as editor and has consistently worked to improve the quality of the Lady Slipper in every way – from the quality of articles to the visual formatting of the pages. He is now stepping down to pursue personal educational and research goals. And with him goes an energy and dedication that will be difficult to replace. “Thank you, Tim!” And on behalf of all of the Board and our members, may I wish you success in all your future endeavors!

Due to term limitations, several changes have occurred among your KNPS officers and directors. Steve Sensenig has stepped down as treasurer and accepted the position of Secretary on the newly elected Board. His wife Becky was elected as Treasurer. Both Steve and Becky have made enormous contributions to the success of the KNPS, especially our Wildflower Weekend, in the past. Pam Long fulfilled her term as Secretary and, at least for a while, will rest from public office. I owe her a personal debt of gratitude for her dedicated service to the Board! Thanks to Greta Fields and Hughes Walker for their willingness to serve their terms as Directors. Our new directors are Varley Wiedeman and Sherri Evans.

For some time now I have wanted to thank all of those who have chosen to become life members, either as individuals or as families. As I said earlier, organizations like the Kentucky Native Plant Society stand or fall on the basis of volunteer contributions of time and/or money. Two years ago the Board instituted a policy to recognize these individuals at our Spring Wildflower Weekend, and

to present them with a certificate of appreciation for their contribution. It should be noted that many of these people have sent donations above and beyond the cost of a life membership. Unfortunately, several were not able to be with us to receive their certificate personally. These will be mailed to you. On behalf of the entire Board, I would like to publicly recognize all of our contributing life members at this time.

Andy Andriakos
Janet M. Aylward
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Barrett
Mary Bill Bauer
Patricia L. Bell
Nancy E. Bishop
Alan O. Bryant
William S. Bryant
John C. Carmichael
Richard Cassell
Charles Chandler
Joe G. Conley, M.D.
M. D. Crull [deceased]
Joe C. Feeman
William J. and Louise Foley
Stuart G. Garrett, M.D.
Daug and Janet Gebler
Donna Gooch
Don, Moon and Dawn Graham
Ezra Haggard
Richard and Vickie Hutchison
Marie Jenkins
Terri Koontz
Kristin Lenning
Charles and Gloria Martin
Sue Martin
Judith McCandless
Sonia K. McElroy and Ed Akers
Carol Moore
Walter and Delores Nelson
Drs. B.L. and W.S. Raffail
Peter C. Reilly and Maureen A. Flannery
Tamara L. Sanderson, M.D.
Dana Sandlin
Don and Pat Schabel
Randy Seymore
Sally Smathers
John P. Tierney
Christopher Thompson
Mary Janice Towles
George D. Trent
Clara Es-Stel Wieland
David Wrede

If we have missed anyone would you please contact me directly at 606/622-2258. There is a delay between the time we receive money and when the names are finally placed on this list. We certainly do not wish to overlook anyone. With my sincerest thanks to all!

Dave Eakin



Preliminary Report on Athey Barrens Flora Project

Kerry L. Hale

The Kentucky Native Plant Society recently provided me with a \$250 grant to support my floristic research project at the Raymond Athey Barrens State Nature Preserve. The preliminary results were presented at the 1997 fall meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science, with the abstract published in the Transactions of the Kentucky Academy of Science.

The Athey Barrens Preserve is located in Logan County, Kentucky. The Barrens is managed by the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, and the Commission permitted my access and plant collections for this study. Collections were made on a biweekly basis throughout the summer and fall seasons. Samples of plants that were not imperiled at the site were collected. Imperiled plants (e.g. those consisting of less than 100 individuals or

those classified as threatened or endangered on either state or federal list), were photographed.

All collected specimens were processed and deposited in the Western Kentucky University Herbarium. At the herbarium the specimens were identified to species, mounted, labeled and accessioned as a permanent record of the flora.

Of the 442 specimens collected so far, 330 have been identified to species level. This information was compiled with other known data from the site, including sight lists from the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission, Max Medley and John Andersland, to form an updated list of all known vascular plant species at the preserve. All data were entered into the Index Kentuckiensis database to bring together biogeographic and life history information and to expand our floristic knowledge of the Barrens.

Much additional work must be done in order for this flora to be completed. This includes identifying the many unidentified grasses and sedges collected previously by James Estill that are housed at the WKU herbarium. It will also be necessary to collect during the early spring, throughout the months of March and April, to provide an accurate representation of the complete vascular flora throughout the entire growing season. Examination of the Murray State University Herbarium for Raymond Athey collections from the Barrens may prove useful as well.

I hope to complete the identifications and the analysis of specimens at Murray State in the near future and prepare the work for publication in the Journal of the

Kentucky Academy of Science. I would like to thank the members of the Kentucky Native Plant Society for the financial support which allowed me to pursue this project.

Kerry L. Hale is a student at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky. She pursued this project under the direction of Dr. Zack Murrell, WKU Biology Department. Dr. Murrell may be reached at (502) 745-6008.

Kentucky Native Plant Society Certification Program Course Offering:

Kentucky Trees and Shrubs

Instructor: Varley Wiedeman, Ph.D.
Bernheim Science & Education Advisor

4 Saturdays: September 12, 19, 26 &
October 3.

This course is intended for those who have already taken Plant Taxonomy for Amateur Naturalists or have equivalent class work or experience. During this class you will learn to identify the native trees and shrubs of Kentucky, their associates and communities. Much time will be spent in Bernheim's forested areas. The class will compile a reference herbarium collection for Bernheim.

Time: 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Place : Arboretum Center

Fee: \$50. Members; \$60 non-members

Limit: 20 people

Registration Contact: (502) 955-8512

Second Annual Native Plant Sale

Saturday August 29, 1998
Game Farm Greenhouses
#1 Game Farm Road
Frankfort, Kentucky

The second annual one day sales event of native plants is being offered to the general public at the Game Farm Greenhouses in Frankfort from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m, Saturday, August 29th. Our greenhouses are once again overflowing with dozens of species of plants native to the forest, prairie, and wetland habitats of Kentucky. This sale helps us reduce our inventory in order to make room for the many new species we will be growing for next year.

This is a unique opportunity to acquire many of your favorite Kentucky wildflowers, shrubs, and grasses, including nature's best wildlife food and cover plants. These plants are offered just in time for the fall planting season. Plant prices vary depending on species and container size.

The day will include:

-Free admission to the Salato Wildlife Education Center's gardens and facilities with any plant purchase!

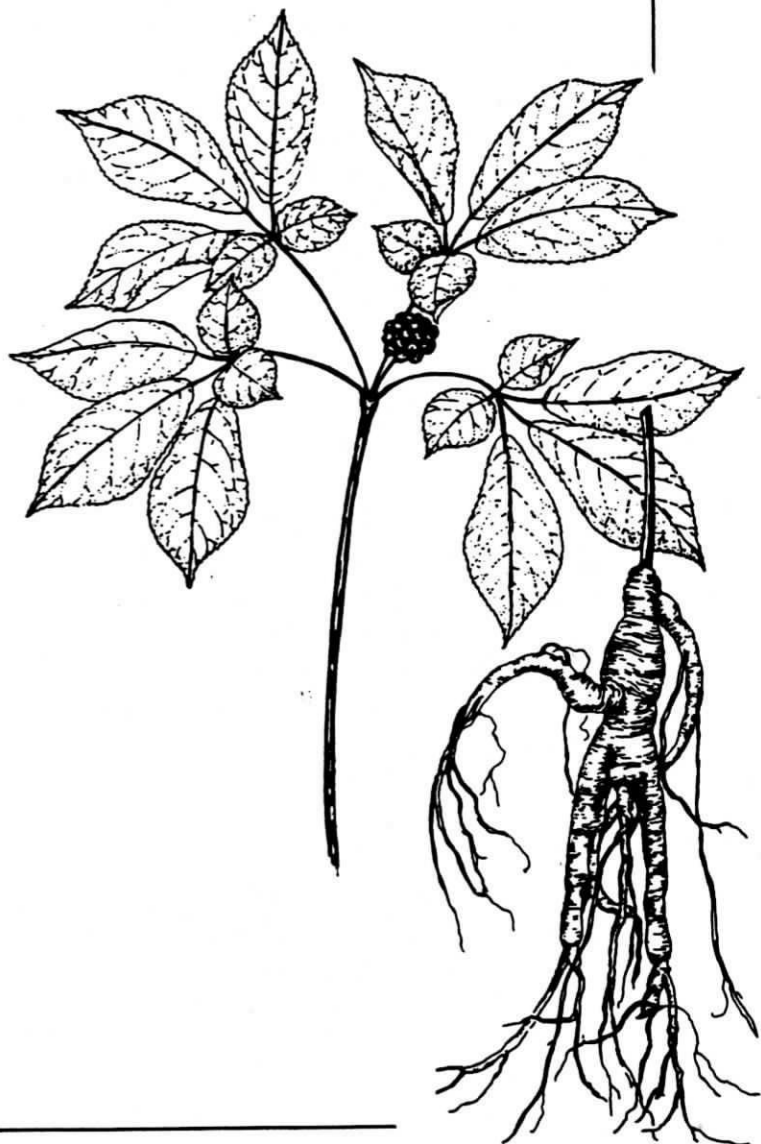
-Guided tours of the Salato native plant exhibits and demonstration gardens, offered at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

-Free workshops on how to collect, clean and store wildflower seeds, offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

-Opportunities to talk with native plant and wildlife experts about how to create colorful wildflower meadows and gardens and other kinds of low maintenance habitats that benefit a diversity of wildlife!

This sale and event day is co-sponsored by the Kentucky Native Plant Program of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Kentucky Native Plant Society.

For more information please call the Salato Wildlife Education Center at (502) 564-7863 (Frankfort) or 800-858-1549 (from out of town).



TOPPING TREES:

Preventing or Promoting Tree Trouble?

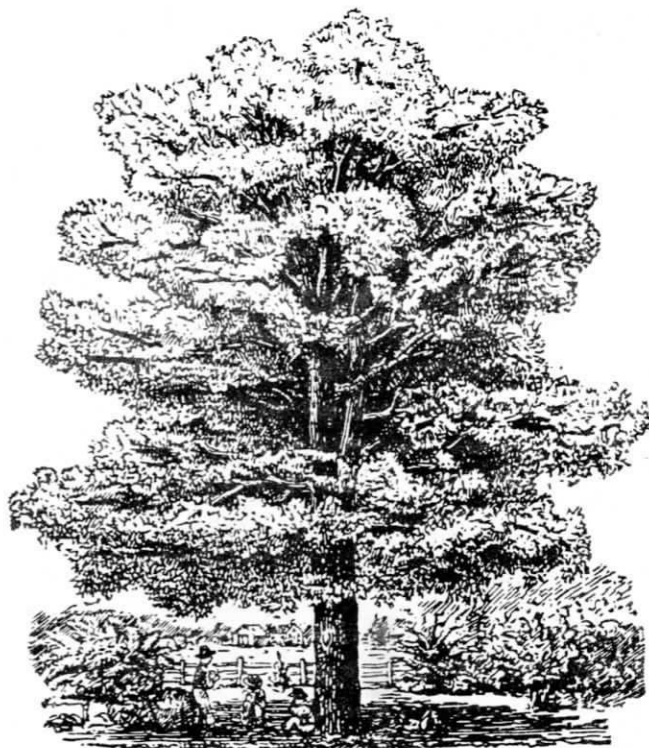
Ross C. Clark

Topping trees consists of shortening all major branches severely, leaving a trunk with stubbed-out branches. Most, if not all, foliage-bearing branches are removed. Topping is usually done out of fear that wind, ice or simply gravity will bring the tree or major branches down on a house. Sometimes topping is done to try and shape a tree to some idealized image in the property owner's mind.

Most reputable arborists (tree care professionals) will refuse to top trees, unless the limbs are already rotten and pose an immediate threat to people or property. If a tree or major branches are already damaged or rotten, it is usually preferable to remove only the damaged branch or, in extreme cases, to remove the tree entirely.

When a tree is topped, its health and longevity are severely compromised.

Removing the foliage branches completely removes the food-making apparatus of the tree. This often results in significant dieback of the root system, and wood-rotting fungi commonly enter the dying roots. Fungi which have attacked through major dead roots typically grow from the old root system into the trunk rather quickly, weakening the trunk as well. The weakened trunk is much more susceptible to storm damage than the undamaged trunk was. In other words, *topping often makes it much more likely that a tree eventually will succumb to storms.*



Removing the photosynthetic apparatus prevents normal wound healing of the large cut branches, because the tree no longer has sufficient resources for healing large wounds quickly. Wood-rotting fungi easily enter the cut branch stubs, begin to rot the wood, and spread into the trunk. This may greatly shorten the life of the tree, as indicated above.

ALTERNATIVES TO TOPPING

✓ If you value your trees and your property, strongly consider using only certified and bonded arborists to do tree work. If after a professional assessment, an arborist determines that major branches need to be removed, it will be done professionally, with little risk to people or property.

✓Because of variable genetics and growing conditions, all trees do not assume the same shape. Let nature shape your trees; she has been doing it successfully for millions of years. She knows better than you what shape a tree should be.

✓Plant tree varieties proven to resist storm damage that are suitable for the site where you plant them. The cheapest or fastest-growing species is often not the best tree to plant close to a home. When you plant trees, remember that at maturity they may become large and do not plant them where they will pose a threat to your property in just a few years.

Homeowner's insurance usually covers damage from falling trees and limbs. The money saved from energy conservation and the great value added to property from mature shade trees usually exceeds the value of the insurance premiums.

Ross C. Clark is the author of *Woody Plants of Alabama*, and a professor of Biology at Eastern Kentucky University. He may be reached at (606) 622-3056.



Editor's Note

Tim Weckman

Three years ago I agreed to edit the KNPS newsletter for one year. In this stewardship role I have tried to respond to the comments and suggestions of the members and hopefully have produced a newsletter that is informative and useful. The time has flown by and now I'm ready to push back from the keyboard and computer screen.

I want to thank all the members who have contributed articles and topic ideas for the newsletter. I also want to thank the members of Kentucky's community of professional botanists who have given of their time and expertise to contribute informative articles to the newsletter. The task of putting the newsletter together was very much simplified by the generosity of all these contributors.

I encourage members to continue to send their ideas for articles and writings that they feel that would be of interest to readers of the newsletter. The newsletter and the Kentucky Native Plant Society is stronger to the degree that it hears from and may respond to the needs of the membership.

Please call if you see any *Viburnum* plants, otherwise I will be botanizing.

KENTUCKY NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
ANNOUNCEMENTNATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN GRANTS
FOR KENTUCKY PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

KNPS is pleased announce the fourth year of offering funding source of school demonstration gardens. The grants are offered to further awareness by young Kentuckians of native plants and their importance in the environment. In April or May of 1999, up to two grants of \$250 each will be awarded to help fund the cost of establishing native plant gardens on school grounds to promoting an understanding and appreciation of Kentucky's flora and natural communities. Grants may be awarded to Kentucky primary or secondary schools or other educational organizations, but preference is for primary/middle schools. The awarded funds are not a stand-alone grant; they are intended to supplement funds already secured from other sources. Grants may be used to purchase native plants (seeds or plants of wildflowers and shrubs). Up to \$75 may be used to purchase native plant reference materials such as books and slide sets. The grant may not be used to pay for earthwork, pond building, building supplies, equipment rental, field trip expenses, or classroom equipment. Proposals may be submitted by groups or individuals from Kentucky educational organizations.

Proposals will be reviewed by the KNPS Grant Committee. Proposals must include:

1. A brief resume presenting project direction experience, educational experience, etc., which indicates the knowledge/experience to carry the project to completion;
2. A proposal (not to exceed three pages, excluding supporting drawings/diagrams) which describes the project and how it will be maintained, explains how it promotes education toward botanical/ecological understanding of Kentucky's environment, lists other project contributors (e.g., financial, in-kind and labor), and describes the role the grant would play in the project;
3. An itemized budget; and
4. A letter of support from the school principal.

Applicants are encouraged to become members of the KNPS, but membership is not required to be awarded a grant. Submit three copies of all items listed above, including letters of support, to:

David D. Taylor
USDA Forest Service
1700 Bypass Road
Winchester, Kentucky 40391

Proposals may be submitted at any time. **To be considered for the April-May 1999 disbursement, all material must be received by March 21, 1999.** Proposals received after this date will be held and considered for the next disbursement.

KENTUCKY NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
RESEARCH GRANTS FOR STUDENTS

KNPS is pleased to announce the fourth year of offering a funding source to support botanical knowledge and understanding in Kentucky. Up to two awards of \$250 each will be distributed for **field-based botanical projects which contribute to the knowledge of Kentucky's flora or natural communities.** Grants will be awarded to students attending a Kentucky college or university. Both graduate and undergraduate students are eligible; with one grant reserved for each level. Grants may be used to purchase consumable supplies and materials such as rebar, herbarium paper, label stock, and topographic maps. Grants may also be used to cover mileage expenses. Grants may not be used to pay time (labor) for any party. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of May 1999.

Proposals will be reviewed by the KNPS Grant Committee.
Proposals must include:

1. A current curriculum vita;
2. A proposal (not to exceed two single-spaced typed pages) describing the proposed research and the role the grant would play in the research;
3. An itemized budget; and
4. Two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from the applicant's major professor or project director.

Applicants are encouraged to become members of the KNPS, but membership is not required to be awarded a grant. Grant recipients are expected to provide KNPS with a short summary of the funded research within one year of receiving the grant. Grant recipients are also expected to present their work at the annual Kentucky Academy of Sciences meeting within one year of completion of their research.

Submit three copies of all items listed above including letters of recommendation to:

David D. Taylor
USDA Forest Service
1700 Bypass Road
Winchester, KY 40391

Proposals may be submitted at any time. **To be considered for the April-May 1999 award date, all materials must be received by 14 March 1999.** Any proposals received after that date will be held and considered in the next available disbursement.

KNPS Field Trips & Events for 1998

Clara Wieland -- KNPS Field Trip Coordinator

Join us in visiting some of the great natural areas of Kentucky. Please register by calling Clara Wieland, 606-266-5548, or as indicated. We have organized field trips throughout Kentucky, and this year we will visit a special area in North Carolina. We are, as always, grateful for the superb leaders who give of their time and expertise to lead us. Good health and good times stalking our native plants in their home, the varied, beautiful topography of Kentucky.

Saturday, July 11, 10 a.m. EDT. Plants of Farm and Field: Horner Bird & Wildlife Sanctuary Oldham County. Leader: Patricia Haragan, Author of Weeds of Kentucky and Associate Curator, Davies Herbarium, University of Louisville.

In 1960, a 200 acre farm was given to U of L by Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Ross. The sanctuary is currently managed by the University of Louisville Biology Department. The area is quite diverse with fallow fields, floodplain woods, limestone outcrops, and rocky wooded slopes. We will look at the flora with an emphasis on weedy species.

Meeting point: From Louisville, take I-71 toward Cincinnati, past the Gene Snyder Freeway, turn left onto KY 329, look for a gas/grocery store on your right. Bring water and a lunch. Register with Pat Haragan at (502) 894-0674 or Clara Wieland at (606) 266-5548. Limit 12.

Thursday - Saturday, July 23-25. Cullowhee Conference: Landscaping with Native Plants. Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina. This is the 15th annual conference focussing on using native plants in the landscape. Everyone interested in native plants should experience a Cullowhee Conference! Program information may be obtained by calling (704) 227-7397 or (800) WCU-4YOU.

Saturday, August 8. 10 a.m. CDT. Wetlands, Dry Ridges and Cemeteries in the Land Between the Lakes. Leader: Dr. Wayne Chester, Austin Peay State University.

Summer is a great time for wetland exploration. Dry ridges and cemeteries are an extra added attraction. Come see what the timber cutters are after! This will be an all day event. Bring water and lunch. For more information on directions call (502) 924-2000 or Clara Wieland (606) 266-5548. Limit 15.

Saturday, September 12. 11 a.m. CDT. The "Real" Kentucky Glade, Flat Rock Glade near Bowling Green. Leaders: Drs. Carol and Jerry Baskin, University of Kentucky.

Several years ago Jerry Baskin said the KNPS needs to visit Flat Rock Glade so I've asked the Baskins to lead us. Details and rendezvous point information to follow. We will need to pool cars. Call Clara Wieland to register (606) 266-5548. Limit 15.

September 18, 19, 20. Mushroom Foray at Natural Bridge State Resort Park. Call the Park for more information. 1-800-325-1710.

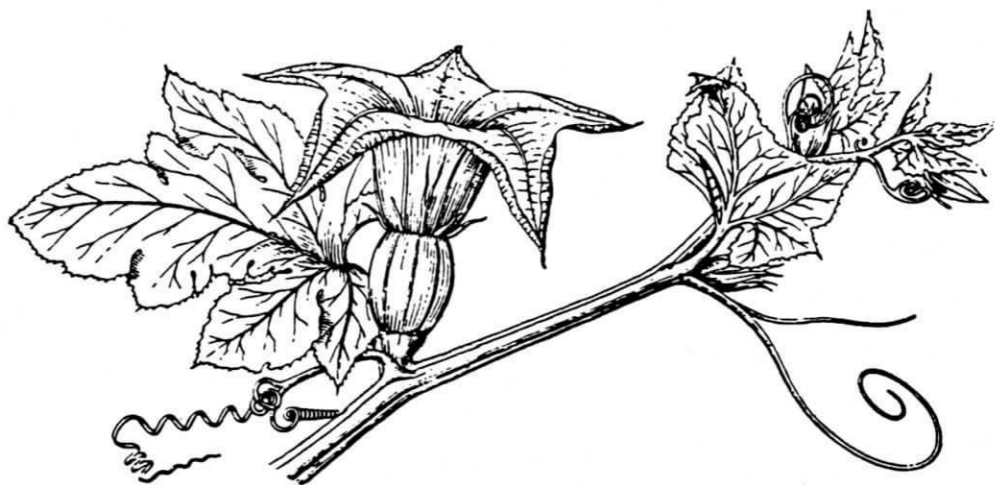
October 17- 18, 1998. Bernheim Forest Fall Color Weekend and Kentucky Native Plant Society Fall Meeting. Details in later Newsletters.

Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m. EDT. High Adventure at Hi Lewis Barrens, Pine Mountain. Leader: Joyce Bender, Director of Stewardship for the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission. (Note: This is the last day of Daylight Savings Time).

This is possibly the best remaining example of pine barrens in Kentucky. Details and rendezvous point information to follow. Register with Joyce Bender at Kentucky Nature Preserves (502) 573-2886, or Clara Wieland (606) 266-5548. Limit 15.

Saturday, November 14. 1 p.m. EST. A Fall Gathering at Salato Center in Frankfort.

Deborah White, botanist with the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission will present a slide show, "Endangered, Rare Plants of Kentucky and Their Homes". Sherri Evans and Mary Carol Cooper, with the Native Plant program at the center will discuss activities at the center, and plans for a Native Plant Conference in 1999. This is a great way to spend a November afternoon and visit with fellow Kentucky Native Plant Society Members. Last years Fall Gathering was a success, come make this one memorable too! Details and location information directions to follow.



Kentucky Native Plant Society 1998 Membership Form

Memberships are for calendar year (Jan-Dec). Dues are modest, please keep your membership current. Membership expiration is listed at the top of your mailing label.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

KY County _____

Please mark membership category, enclose **check** (please do not send cash) payable to "KNPS", and remit to: KNPS Membership, c/o Biology Department, Eastern Kentucky University, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, KY 40475-3120

Membership Renewal _____ New Membership _____

Individual Membership (\$7.00) _____ Family Membership (\$10.00) _____

Lifetime Individual (\$100.00) _____ Lifetime Family (\$140.00) _____

**The Kentucky
Native Plant Society**
c/o Department of Biological Sciences
Eastern Kentucky University
521 Lancaster Ave
Richmond, KY 40475-3102

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