

CLAYTONIA

Newsletter of the Arkansas Native Plant Society

Vol. 28 No. 1

Spring/Summer 2008

In this issue:

Carl Hunter Memorial Project
Page 3

Orchid Gods
Page 4

Arkansas Meadow Rue
Page 5

Fall 2007 Meeting Minutes
Page 6

Chapter News
Page 7

Ouachita National Forest
Off-Road Vehicle Plan
Page 7

Field Trip Reports
Page 8

Spring Meeting Info
Page 11

Field Trips & Events
Page 14

Announcements
Page 15

Prairie Habitat Recovery

By Danny Barron

A prairie is defined as a grassland habitat with a wide variety of plant life, which in turn provides cover and food for a wide variety of animal life. Prairies come in a variety of types, ranging from wet, mesic (seasonally wet), and dry. The rainfall amount affects the type of vegetation cover—from tallgrass to mixed and shortgrass prairies. Mesic tallgrass prairies are typically the most diverse and productive. Tallgrass prairie is very consistent biologically across the continent—you will find purple coneflowers



Tall gayfeather (*Liatris pycnostachya*) in a restored prairie. Photo by Danny Barron.

growing natively from New York to Oklahoma and Nebraska. In the start of this article, let us concentrate on grasses, for they truly are the backbone of the prairie. Most prairie plants (but not all) are “warm season” and are dormant from late fall through mid-spring. This is probably an adaptation to the seasonal burning of the prairie when the grasses are dry (late summer to early spring).

Akin to prairie is savannah, which is mixed grassland with copses of trees and/or shrubbery intermixed. Prairies are typically maintained as grassland by the force of fire. The fires that formed the North American prairies were partially set by late season lightning and partially by Native Americans intentionally setting fire to maintain the habitat. If prairies are denied this cleansing fire, they typically progress through savannah and scrub to forest, if soil depth and moisture permit.

More than ¼ of the North American continent was prairie at the time the first white settlers gazed upon the land. That amount has dwindled to less than 1% of the original total. The land has been utilized for agriculture, typically production of cereal monocultures, and the remaining uncultivated segments have mostly evolved into scrub and forest as man has controlled the fires that historically progressed through the prairie every few years. The isolated remnants of prairie are proving insufficient to maintain biodiversity and habitat for animals that are adapted to them.

I write this article as I'm into my eighth year of prairie recovery myself. My site gives me mesic tallgrass and a drier mixed grass/savannah area in which to attempt to reintroduce different species. Conventional wisdom advocates clearing the land of competitive species (such as invasive turf grasses like bermuda-grass, fescue, and bluegrass). Methods suggested depend upon the species being removed. For "cool season" grasses like fescue and bluegrass, control may be attainable by burning the area repetitively (over a couple of years) right as the grasses are in flower and have the lowest energy reserves of any point in their yearly cycle. Fire can also be used to control most woody trees and shrubs. For Bermuda, soil fumigation is a possible recommended control.

If you seed your prairie, it is recommended that you do minimal disturbance of the soil. Not only does tilling encourage erosion, but you expose a new weed crop to the light, and you will get a weed crop. Care for young plants by roguing any aggressive weeds that might shade them...but be sure of what you're roguing. Perennial prairie plants (both grasses and forbs) tend to grow slowly and it may be a few years before you see what the mature plant looks like. It will have been spending its energy producing a very extensive root system. Some grasses and forbs can penetrate more than 10 feet into the soil as they get established.

If you do as I did and plug forb transplants into your prairie, you might want to put a bit of biodegradable mulch (lawn clipping are good, newspaper is possible) in the immediate vicinity of your transplant to prevent weed germination and conserve moisture. Ideally, plug the plants in during a period when you have mostly dependable rainfall. This will lower the amount of care you must give them till they get "settled in" and can care for themselves. You must decide when is best for your climate and the needs of a particular plant. I try to plant in early spring (March if possible) to accommodate the most rainfall for my area (April-June). In most cases, if I plant a small potted plant in March, it's ready to take care of itself by the time the ground is drying in July, though I may keep a weekly eye on it in the event that I might have to intervene if no rains occur for more than a month at a time. After the first year, the plants are on their own to thrive or fail as natural forces dictate. In the end, what I want is a self sustaining habitat that provides a full growing season of interest for me, and habitat and food sources for the wildlife of my area.

Periodic burning as biomass accumulates will renew a prairie and will probably be the only maintenance an established prairie needs. Often every 3-4 years is adequate, though as I'm doing weed control by burning, I've tried to burn every other year. If your site is large enough to accommodate it, burn portions of the grassland in alternate years. Some insects will overwinter (like butterflies in cocoons) and will not survive being burned. In my own recovery, due to it being a tallgrass prairie and to Bermuda being shade intolerant, I opted for no control... and simply allow the taller grasses to shade the Bermuda out. I'm not certain but I believe it is working. The Bermuda is definitely on the recession and the tall grasses are on the increase. Forbs (non-woody wildflowers) are also on the increase. I have researched appropriate plants for my area and generally tried to collect seeds of them in my local area (10 mile

radius or so). Many prairie plants still occur along roadsides and railroad rights-of-way. Where necessary, I have collected or purchased plants that originated within 200 miles from me. When propagation is difficult but the plant occurs locally (like lead plant, *Amorpha canescens*, and compass plant, *Silphium laciniatum*), I've resorted to buying 1-2 plants from commercial sources, planted them in habitat, and waited for nature to take her course. Tall gayfeather (*Liatris pycnostachya*), Indian blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*), spotted wood mint (*Monarda fistulosa*), texas obedient plant (*Physostegia angustifolia*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) and pale purple coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*) have happily reseeded themselves into spots and drifts and in a few cases, masses.

Some prairie plants spread vegetatively and have taken over fairly large districts by cloning. These include spotted wood mint, prairie phlox (*Phlox pilosa*), sunflowers (*H. grosseserratus*, *H. salicifolius**, *H. occidentalis*, and *H. maximilianii*), prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*), and Michigan lily (*Lilium michiganense*).

Some of the best surprises though have been what was either in the seedbank on my site or has been deposited by wildlife or the winds. I have a number of tube-flowered penstemon (*Penstemon tubaeformis*) which I have never encouraged in any way. A large (after three years) patch of an unidentified sunflower occurred spontaneously. Big bluestem grass (*Andropogon gerardii*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), prairie cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*), spiderworts (*Tradescantia* sp.), goldenrods (*Solidago* spp.), asters (*Aster* spp.), prairie rose gentian (*Sabatia campestris*), sensitive plant (*Mimosa quadrivalvis* var. *nuttallii*), black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium* sp.), prairie larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum* ssp. *virescens*), prairie anemone (*Anemone caroliniana*), native thistles (*Cirsium* sp.), ladies' tresses orchids (*Spiranthes* sp.), and violet wood sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*) all grace the prairie and have never been planted there by the hand of man. Different asters, St John's wort (*Hypericum*



American basket flower (*Centaurea americana*), a self-seeding annual of tallgrass prairies in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, is a great plant for bees and other native insects. Photo by Danny Barron.

sp.), pussy toes (*Antennaria* sp.), and various goldenrods grace the savannah/short-grass area as well as a smattering of a few of the species that inhabit the pure prairie.

Among the wildlife that I have seen are midland brown snakes, garter snakes, rough green snakes, prairie kingsnakes, northern water snakes (I have a pond that sits on one edge of my property, but the water snakes even seem to live as far as the house), blue-tailed skinks, wood turtles, box terrapins, glass lizards, spadefoot toads, leopard frogs, gray tree frogs, cricket frogs, terrestrial crayfish, and many insect species. Voles, field mice, and rabbits find it makes a good home also. Many bird species feed and rear young in the savannah trees (blue jay, downy woodpecker, red bellied woodpecker, chickadees, titmice, purple finch, doves, various native sparrows, nuthatches and cardinals have been observed rearing young. I usually get a surprise about every year also as I find something new.

The most interesting thing for me though, is to watch the habitat evolve. Some plants, like poppy mallows (*Callirhoe*) and prairie clovers (*Dalea*), have thrived, but I've yet to see any offspring elsewhere in the garden. Some (like the *Liatris*) have made themselves totally at home and now have hundreds, possibly approaching thousands of offspring. Please take some time to cultivate some of our native plants, both for their adaptability to whatever the climate will throw at them, their value to the wildlife, and frankly the exotic beauty that many of them exhibit. Be a wildflower evangelist, convince your neighbor to try some of the natives you're growing.

Please visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dbarronoss/collections/72157594587184878/> (if this is too difficult an URL to type, you will be able to find my photos at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dbarronoss>, though you may have to dig a bit for the Prairie Wildflowers collection) for color photos taken over the past eight years. I have organized them into months, based on what is blooming at a particular month in the prairie. My photographic skills have improved much in the last year, so I apologize for the older photos, but still it gives you an idea of what each plant looks like and what blooming period I have had for that species over the years. Eventually, I'll probably replace them all with photographically worthy (versus documentary worthy) photos.



Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), a versatile and easy plant of prairies and woodlands. Photo by Danny Barron.

** This species is native in Oklahoma where my prairie is located, but is not known from Arkansas. It should be looked for in NW Ark!*

ANPS Proceeds with Carl Hunter Memorial Project

The ANPS Board is excited about the generosity of our membership in their donations to the "Carl Hunter Memorial Fund." The response was such that the Board voted to proceed with the procurement and distribution to the Arkansas public libraries of Carl's book "Wildflowers of Arkansas." The general fund will be used to cover the small shortfall. Jean Ann Moles will be helping with the distribution of the copies. Susie Teague is designing a label we will put in the flyleaf of the donated books, identifying ANPS as the donors in memory of Carl. The Board wants to thank the donors, individually, who are:

Brent Baker
 Maury & Barbara Baker
 Christine Beauchamp
 Norma Blanton
 Frank Bowers
 Patricia Brown
 Mike & Peggy Burns
 Bob Byers
 Shannon Chamberlin
 Linda Chambers
 Don & Deborah Culwell
 Sandy Davies
 Cynthia Dusenberry
 Linda Ellis
 Karen & Marvin Fawley
 Pine Ridge Gardens
 Ann Gordon
 Mrs. Thomas Gulley
 Barry Haas
 Donna Hanke
 Susan Hardin
 Katrina Hayes
 Betty Heck
 Catherine Hodges Hamilton Hepinstall
 Burnetta Hinterthuer
 Susan Hooks
 Harriett Jansma
 Arthur & Martha Johnson
 Sterling Lacy
 Cheryl Lavers
 Dan Marsh
 Pope County Master Gardeners
 Jerry L. McGary
 Carolyn Minson
 Jewel Moore
 Mary Bess Mulhollan
 Rodney & Norma Patterson
 Cathy Porter
 Karen Seale
 Bill Shepherd
 Clint & Francis Sowards
 Lori Spencer
 Eric & Milanne Sundell
 Susie Teague
 Mick & Hildie Terry
 Laura Timby
 Staria Vanderpool
 Suzanne Waggoner
 Louise Williams
 Lois Wilson
 Martha Wyre
 Meredith York

Are Orchid Gods Infallible?

By Carl Slaughter, MD



When my orchid interest was first sprouting, I was looking for a lot of answers to a lot of questions. There were not as many books then as there are now. There was one author, Carlyle A. Luer, who had written two books, *The Native Orchids of Florida* and *The Native Orchids of the United States and Canada*. His books became my bible. When things became confusing I would turn to his books or turn to the phone and call him. He soon was my

orchid god. The answer to any of my many questions. Over the years I have added Chuck Sheviak to my “gods list”. I feel that his words are also written in stone.

In the years of my orchid interest the small green wood orchid (*Platanthera clavellata*), the snowy orchid (*P. nivea*), and the yellow fringeless orchid (*P. integra*) have been placed in the genus *Platanthera*. The first of these is presently found in Arkansas. The second, *P. nivea*, has been found in Arkansas in the past (known only from two specimens collected in Arkansas County in the 1880s from wet prairies long since destroyed – ed.). In the past three years five orchid books have been published placing them in a different genus, *Gymnadeniopsis*. One of my orchid gods agrees that these orchids should not be included in *Platanthera*. *Gymnadeniopsis* is a word derived from Greek that means “similar to the genus *Gymnadenia*” (orchids that have a naked gland). This means that the viscidia are free or uncovered. Rydberg first described the genus *Gymnadeniopsis* in 1901.

Since first described in 1818, *P. integra* and *P. nivea* have had seven different names. *P. clavellata*, described in 1803, has had fourteen! During this period of time these three orchids have been placed in several different genera, though for the past 20 plus years they have been members of the genus *Platanthera*. All three, at one time or another, have been placed in *Gymnadeniopsis* and *Gymnadenia*, though neither appear as accepted genera in the recent *Flora of North America*.

These three orchids do differ from the other *Platantheras*. *P. nivea* has non-resupinate flowers that have two pair of



The small green wood orchid, *Platanthera* (or *Gymnadeniopsis* if you prefer) *clavellata* [both photos] is not uncommon in forested seeps in Arkansas, where it often grows from mats of *Sphagnum* moss. Photos by John Pelton.

appendages on the column. *P. clavellata* has a series of forward-directed lateral projections on the column. *P. integra* also has two pair of lateral processes. These processes, plus their tuber-like roots, which are not found in other *Platantheras*, are what investigators feel make these three species belong in a genus other than *Platanthera*. It is interesting the difference a few bumps make!

Are orchid gods infallible? I was going to end by saying I hope not, but I realize that these gods are just a creation of my own fallible human mind. A human characteristic is once you have learned something it is difficult to find that what you have learned is no longer true and there is something else you have to learn. I am repeatedly reminded that there is one thing in this world that is constant and that is change. These changes will go on forever, and I will just have to accept them. I hope you will have less of a problem with this than I do.

To paraphrase a sentence from Robert Frost’s *Mending Wall*: Something there is that doesn’t love a change (wall),...and I’m a something.

PLANT OF THE ISSUE: ARKANSAS MEADOW RUE



Arkansas meadow rue. Saline County, Arkansas. Photo by Craig Frasier.

Arkansas meadow rue (*Thalictrum arkansanum*) is one of the most delicate members of the buttercup family (Ranunculaceae) in our flora. It is also considered globally rare, known only from parts of Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma, and having a global conservation status rank of G2 (imperiled). A true spring ephemeral, it begins growth in the early spring, before the deciduous trees have broken bud, and is long gone by the time many other spring wildflowers begin blooming. If you blink, you'll miss it. It is short in stature, seldom more than 6 or 8 inches tall, and the flowers are not particularly showy. Like other members of the genus it has unisexual flowers and plants are dioecious (individual plants have either all male or all female flowers). The roots are thick and fleshy—surprisingly robust for such a dainty little plant.

Until fairly recently, Arkansas meadow rue was known only from the Gulf Coastal Plain in Arkansas, mostly in the southwestern part of the state. But, somewhat surprisingly, it has now been documented from several sites in the Ouachita Mountains as well. Several years ago, while doing research on the flora of Saline County, I came across a report of a Saline County specimen of Arkansas meadow rue housed at UARK, the herbarium of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Surely, I thought, this was a misidentified specimen of something else. It was unknown to the state Natural Heritage Program and was far north of the known range of the species in the state. But no, a trip to UARK proved that it was indeed what it claimed to be, the first report of the species from the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas! The specimen was collected by the late Carl Hunter, from a rich wooded terrace of the Alum Fork Saline River, not far from the junction of I-30 and state highway 70. I immediately made plans to visit the area the following March and see if I could relocate the plants.

Months later, after 20 minutes of wandering around the woods along the Alum Fork with no luck, I found three small plants near the base of a steep hillside. Then, after a bit of bushwhacking, I came up a little rise onto a rich, flat river terrace to see the ground literally covered with them. Associated plants included bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), purple trillium (*Trillium recurvatum*), white trout lily (*Erythronium albidum*), yellow trout lily (*E. rostratum*), sessile bellwort (*Uvularia sessilifolia*), hairy buttercup (*Ranunculus hispidus*), rue anemone (*Thalictrum thalictroides*), and other common species of rich wooded stream terraces in the Ouachitas.

Since then, single sites have turned up on both the South Fork and North Fork of the Saline River, in Garland and Saline Counties, respectively. Then, over lunch one day in late 2006, Donna Gardner, horticulturalist with the Arkansas Highway Department, casually mentioned that she should show me the population of Arkansas meadow rue she found along Fourche Creek behind the Highway Department greenhouse—in Little Rock! I almost fell out of my seat! Sure enough, in March of 2007 she showed me hundreds of plants along the stream terrace, within sight of I-430. Also along on the trip was Brent Kelley of Audubon Arkansas, who was about to start documenting the flora of “Fourche Bottoms”, a couple of thousand acres of City-owned forest and wetlands along Fourche Creek on the south side of town. As I hoped (and suspected), I got a call from Brent a few days later saying that he and others had found many more plants on city land upstream. It is always encouraging that even in a place as heavily populated and well-explored as Little Rock, there are still remarkable discoveries to be made in the 21st century.

—Theo Witsell



Detail showing the staminate (male) flowers of the Arkansas meadow rue. Saline County, Arkansas. Photo by Craig Frasier.

If you think you have found a site for Arkansas meadow rue, or any other species of conservation concern, please contact the editor or the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission.

FALL 2007 ANPS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Econo Lodge Conference Center
Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas
October 13, 2007**

President Brent Baker called meeting to order at 8:19 PM.

Brent Baker thanked Linda Chambers for organizing the meeting. He also thanked Eric Sundell for the presentation he gave.

Brent Baker asked everyone if they had read the minutes printed in the current *Claytonia* and asked they be approved. Karen Seale made motion to approve the minutes, Maury Baker seconded and everyone approved.

Jerry McGary explained the Treasurer's Report. He also reported \$4,520.00 ANPS had raised toward the Carl Hunter Memorial which includes the matching funds of \$1,000.00 Maury and Barbara Baker donated. \$6,000.00 is needed to complete this Memorial and the remainder will come from the General Operating Fund. Jerry thanked everyone for their donations and explained that the Carl Hunter Memorial consist of placing "Wild Flowers of Arkansas" by Carl Hunter in every Public Library in the State. Martha Wyre made motion to accept, Mary Ann King seconded and all approved.

Membership Chair Maury Baker reported 358 memberships and 432 members, of which 97 are life members. Maury also stated the new brochures have helped with new memberships. He also suggested giving memberships as gifts.

Brent Baker reported that it was time for election of new officers. He explained that Kerri McCabe would not be able to accept nomination for Vice-President and that Jean Ann Moles had accepted the nomination.

Secretary/Historian: Susie Teague

Membership Chair: Maury Baker

Scholarship/Awards Chair: Burnetta Hinterthuer

Vice President: Jean Ann Moles

John Simpson made motion to accept the nominations, Mary Ann King seconded and all were in favor.

Brent Baker explained our progress with the 501(c)(3). Jerry McGary is filling out forms and filing all information necessary for the application.

Brent announced ANPS Spring 2008 Meeting is a joint meeting with the Missouri Native Plant Society and is tentatively set for the first week in April. Details will post at a later date.

Brent Baker requested volunteers for cleaning the Carl Hunter Wildflower section at Wildwood for the Performing Arts in

Little Rock. Volunteers are needed for cleaning and labeling plants. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Linda Chambers.

The deadline for articles for the *Claytonia* is January 15, 2008. Contact Theo Witsell if you have any new articles or events. The *Claytonia* will be mailed later in January.

Brent Baker presented the new T-shirt design and new logo.

Linda Chambers made motion to adjourn, Burnetta Hinterthuer seconded and everyone agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Teague

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have joined the ANPS since the last issue of *Claytonia*, from August 2007 to January 2008:

New Members

Leif Anderson (Hector, AR)
Barbara Boland (Fayetteville, AR)
Martha Bowden (Mauumelle, AR)
Dennis & Patricia Braddy (Little Rock, AR)
Jeff Butler (Hot Springs, AR)
David & Sheila England (Jonesboro, AR)
Rosemary Hany (Hot Springs Village, AR)
Don & Vicki Higgins (Morrilton, AR)
Mary Hughes (Chester, AR)
David Johnson (Delaware, OH)
David & Terri Luneau (Little Rock, AR)
P. J. Mattus (Little Rock, AR)
Carey Minter (Springdale, AR)
Ann & Rick Owen (Little Rock, AR)
Kitty Roberts (Springfield, MO)
Kilian Roever (Phoenix, AZ)
Robin Scott (Conway, AR)
Rosemary Scott (Conway, AR)
Jack Singleton (North Little Rock, AR)
Mary Smith (Bryant, AR)
Avil Snow (Heber Springs, AR)
Barry L. Snow (Little Rock, AR)
Jeremy Whisenhunt (Springdale, AR)
G. W. & Lydia Willis (Doyline, LA)
Kathy Vaughn (Jasper, AR)
George Yatskievych (St. Louis, MO)

New Life Members

Brent Baker (Dardanelle, AR)
Molly Jones (Conway, AR)
Suzanne Waggoner (Mt. Vernon, AR)

We welcome these new members to the ANPS and hope to see them at the Spring Meeting!

OZARK CHAPTER NEWS

The Ozark Chapter of the Arkansas Native Plant Society held its annual fall meeting on November 2-4th in Jasper, Arkansas. We hiked the Pruitt to Ozarks Campground Trail on Saturday morning, then shared a potluck dinner followed by the plant auction. During the business meeting, we elected Brent Baker as President and Laura Villejas as Vice-President with Mary Reuter agreeing to stay on as society Treasurer. Burnetta Hinterthuer accepted the Secretary/Newsletter position. It is exciting to have new leadership in OCANPS and we are looking forward to the New Year. At the auction, we raised over \$200. We also voted to continue donating money to the Arkansas Envirothon, Arkansas Flora Project and the Edith Halberg Ecology Camp (Aubudon Society). In addition, we decided to make a deposit on Harmony Mountain Lodge, south of Jasper, for the next year's annual meeting. This lodge will easily sleep 24 people comfortably. Attending the meeting were Mary Ann King, Gene Ford, Vernon Human, Virginia Harrington, Brent Baker, Laura Villejas, Steve Holst, Burnetta Hinterthuer, Margot Lavoie, Tom Lavoie, Ginny Masullo, Jim Dudley, Amy Wilson, Matt Gerhart, Cat Donnelly and Ronnie Stephens.

Submitted by Burnetta Hinterthuer

Ouachita National Forest Preparing Off-Highway Vehicle Management Plan, Seeking Public Comment

The Ouachita National Forest is proposing to designate a system of roads and trails for public use of motorized vehicles, including Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) and, at the same time, limit motorized vehicles for the most part to those designated roads and trails (cross-country travel would be highly restricted). This proposal, known as the Travel Management Project, would be implemented throughout the Ouachita National Forest. A detailed proposed action will be released for public comment in January 2008* and the public will be invited to provide input regarding any additional environmental issues associated with implementation of this project or alternative ways to meet Forest plan objectives and desired conditions and comply with the Travel Management Rule.

In addition to road and trail use designations being proposed, the proposal includes limited use of motor vehicles for big

game retrieval and dispersed camping. OHV use (3-wheelers, 4-wheelers, and UTVs such as "gators," "mules," "rangers," etc.) would be allowed off designated routes (forest floor travel) for retrieval of legally killed black bear and white-tailed deer under the following circumstances:

- During October and November (during state-specified black bear and white-tailed deer seasons) and
- Vehicle operator/hunter must have in possession a valid hunting license and tagged, downed deer or bear (animal must be on vehicle when observed by law enforcement officer/wildlife officer or hunter must take officer to animal) and
- Within ½ mile of one or both sides of certain routes designated open for any vehicle use. Places where bear/deer retrieval would not be available on one or both sides of certain routes include:
 - Wilderness, most of MA 20 (wild and scenic river corridors), most walk-in turkey areas, parts of MA 19 in Oklahoma (botanical areas, scenic areas), Research Natural Areas, other botanical areas or special habitats, within 100 feet of streams and riparian areas, and steep slopes
- Stream crossing allowed only by travel on road(s) or trail(s) designated open

Motorized vehicle use would be allowed to access dispersed camping sites under the following circumstances:

- Dispersed camping sites at designated locations (as signed and/or indicated on a Motor Vehicle Use Map—MVUM—in force at the time)
- Within 300 feet of certain designated routes (as indicated on an MVUM in force at the time)

In addition, vehicles would be able to park legally up to one vehicle length from the edge of all roads designated for motorized use and where National Forest System lands abut county, state, or other road jurisdictions.

Maps will be posted on the Ouachita National Forest website at www.fs.fed.us/r8/ouachita and the formal comment period will last 30 days. Commenting during this formal notice and comment period will afford you standing to appeal the subsequent project decision(s), should you desire. The final project decision for the initial MVUMs is expected on or about June 6, 2008.

* A letter on the Forest Service website gave this timeline but as of Feb 4, 2008, when the Claytonia went to press, the proposal had not been released on the website. If you are interested in commenting on the proposal, check the website regularly because the comment period will only last 30 days.

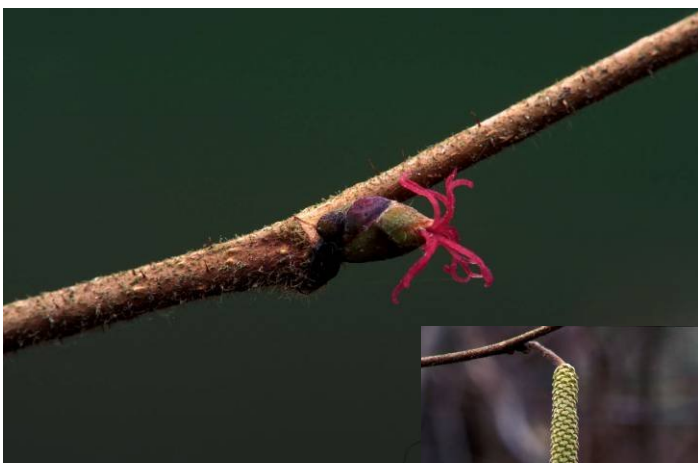
FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Fall 2007 Field Trips, Hot Springs & vicinity: Charlton Recreation Area, Trapp Mountain Preserve, and Meyers Creek

By Eric Sundell

We had sunny skies and cool temperatures! And after the ANPS fall meeting was over, a dreary, rainy Monday made the Saturday and Sunday field trips seem even sweeter.

Susan Hooks and Burnetta Hinterthuer led the Saturday morning trip out of Charlton Recreation Area west of Hot Springs, and Barbara Baker kept her pencil going all the way out and back, recording a long list of plants—58 to be exact—that included a nose burn (*Tragia cordata*), a senna with an impressive cluster of dark pods at the top (probably *Senna marilandica*), and a large mat of partridge berry full of two-eyed fruits. The group picked up two orphans from Theo Witsell and Susie Teague's trip to Dripping Springs: Bill Shepherd and Fred Greenwood mistook Maury Baker for Theo, got into the wrong caravan at the motel, and followed Maury's vehicle all the way to Charlton. Maury wasn't at all surprised because except for a few years and some facial hair, he and Theo look remarkably similar, especially compared to two members of any other life form.



Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*), a common species of our mountains, showing the wind pollinated flowers typical of the birch family. Female flowers [above] are emerge from buds along the branches while male flowers are borne in long hanging catkins [at right]. Photos by John Pelton.



The trail followed a wooded terrace above Walnut Creek where asters and goldenrods—especially lovely bluestem goldenrods—were plentiful and colorful. Hazelnuts with lots of festive spring pollen catkins often lined the path, but we found no bushes with nuts—presumably the effect of the Easter freeze. The trail was

well above the creek, however seepage from the slope above kept the ground soggy, and the woods were a rich, interesting mix of upland trees and streamside shrubs. Buttonbush and tag alder, competing for light in the understory, were arborescent—one buttonbush was estimated to be about 20 ft high and an alder beside it 15 feet. Some of the ferns were also robust: a fertile grape fern stood at least a foot tall, and Fred Greenwood came down the slope and reported a seep with royal ferns shoulder high.

One of the highlights of the walk was an abundance of Indian pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*), one of the real eccentrics among flowering plants of the temperate zone. Indian pipes are ghostly plants with clusters of waxy white six inch stems, white flowers, and even white leaves. They emerge in the fall—when most plants are shutting down—from a knotty underground root ball. They have no chlorophyll and make a living by parasitizing hard-working soil fungi, extracting their food and even their water and minerals from fungi captured and entangled in their roots. At least some of those fungi are involved with the roots of forest trees in another association—a mutualistic one—called a mycorrhiza (“fungus root”): the fungi supply the trees with minerals while the trees pass carbohydrates to the fungi. Practitioners of the Indian pipe lifestyle are known to botanists as mycotrophs (“fungus feeders”). (No, you cannot qualify for mycotroph status by just eating a mushroom pizza.) In effect, Indian pipes make a living siphoning resources from surrounding trees through the filaments of the trees’ mycorrhizal fungi! So, if they can find food underground, why the cameo appearance into the light every fall? It’s that old black magic: the birds and the bees! Indian pipes are true flowering plants (closely related to rhododendrons, in fact), and they reproduce by using insects as cross-pollinators. Bumblebees are attracted to the flowers; seeds are set and dispersed; necessity met, plants soon blacken and die back to the roots like the herbaceous perennials they are. It is probably not our idea of an inspired life—ten or eleven months in the dark every year!—but the bizarre adaptation apparently works just fine. A second, less common species of *Monotropa*, pinesap (*M. hypopithys*), emerges a bit earlier with more of a coral pink coloring to the stems and even the flowers. Both species occur in forests across North America and in the Old World as well. The unrelated coral root orchids (*Corallorhiza*) are also devoid of chlorophyll and share the same mycotrophic nutrition as *Monotropa*. Like flight—in bats and birds, for example—mycotrophy has evolved more than once.

The afternoon trip to Trapp Mountain, a Nature Conservancy preserve, was led by John Simpson at the head and Eric Sundell at the tail of a long, winding group. Theo Witsell found Texas ironweed, *Vernonia texana*, a common Coastal Plain species uncommon in the Ouachita Mountains—an elegant ironweed with the same spectacular purple flower heads as the tall roadside species. John Simpson pointed out an unknown fern that Don Crank later identified as an escaped Asian species, autumn fern,

FIELD TRIP REPORTS



Indian pipe (*Monotropa uniflora*), a remarkable plant with no chlorophyll, makes its living by parasitizing hard-working soil fungi. Photo by John Pelton.

Dryopteris erythrosora. (On a return trip, Jim Peck confirmed the ID and has since confirmed that the discovery is a first for the species growing outside of cultivation in North America.) John took us along a wooded slope under oaks, hickories, and bright red black gums to the foot of a beautiful rock bluff. Black oaks were especially grand, and having a bumper crop of acorns—which surprised some folks who expected to find little mast production after the Easter freeze. Black oak and other species of red oaks—those with bristle-tipped leaf lobes—require two years to develop mature fruit after flower pollination; white oaks need only a single growing season. Where frost was severe, white oak, post oak, chinkapin oak, and others will bear poorly this fall, while the red oaks—northern and southern red oak, black oak, blackjack oak, Shumard oak—will have their shortfall next year. On the slope below the bluff were numerous witch hazels loaded with flower buds, on schedule to bloom in November and provide the last color of the season. It was up the slope from here that A. J. Higginbottom found a few Ozark chinkapins and brought a branch down for the group to admire.

On Sunday morning, Don Crank led a few diehards to Meyers Creek: Brent Baker, Barbara and Maury Baker, Peggy and Mike Burns, Sandra and Bob Gamble, Donna and Bruno Hanke, and Milanne and Eric Sundell. Don brought along an extra pair of rubber boots to keep us dry fording the creek: we lined up on the bank, then Don would help a maiden or a man in distress to cross, then bring back the boots, help the next person, and so forth. (I nominate Don for the Most Valuable Field Trip Leader award!) The creek was lined with a rich diversity of hardwood trees, large specimens of chinkapin oak, white oak, bitternut hickory, white elm, white ash, and basswood. Along with hollies and hornbeams (muscle wood) in the understory, umbrella magnolias with their one to two foot leaves were

common everywhere. (Standing under a fully unfurled umbrella magnolia surrounded by waist-high ferns must be like starring in a Gauguin Tahitian canvas.) Several large red mulberries were scattered in the woods—all of them relatively free from the dieback that seems to plague them in southern Arkansas. Slippery elms grew on higher ground and, unlike the white or American elms along the creek, had sandpaper-rough (rather than smooth) canopy leaves and slick-tasting (rather than merely bitter) inner bark. I've been told that during flu season you can buy medicinal slippery elm lozenges at Cracker Barrel!

Along the creek and above on the seepage slope, the ground was thick with ferns: Christmas fern and southern lady fern everywhere, cinnamon and royal ferns, sensitive and netted chain ferns, the uncommon New York and Dixie ferns, and several others. The beautiful fertile fronds and pinnae of the two *Osmunda* species—cinnamon and royal fern—appear in spring and were long gone. But we were treated to the intriguing fertile fronds of both sensitive and netted chain ferns—these appear in fall after the sterile, photosynthetic fronds have worked all summer making sugar and sending it for storage to the rhizomes. Don Crank told us about Dixie fern, *Dryopteris Xaustralis*, one of the *Dryopteris* natural hybrids. It's a cross between two species of log fern, *D. ludoviciana* and *D. celsa*. Chromosome studies exposed Dixie's convoluted parentage, a titillating story of promiscuity that includes one parent, *D. celsa*, which is itself of hybrid origin. (The spore doesn't fall far from the frond?) Meyers Creek is a rich and fascinating site.

What a perfect weekend for field trips! Thanks to Linda Chambers and Brent Baker and to the many trip leaders for an excellent fall meeting.



Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) occupies very wet sites along streams, in swamps, along backwater sloughs, and—in the mountains—in very wet wooded seeps. It is often confused with netted chain fern (*Woodwardia areolata*), also a common species in seeps. Photo by John Pelton.

BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

At the October Board meeting the Chairman of The Scholarships and Awards Committee asked if a change could be made to the governing documents regarding the allocation of donations to the various Scholarship, Grant, and Award funds. The introductory document to the Bylaws (pages 28 and 29 of the Directory) is where the allocations are prescribed. The Board agrees that the current allocations result in an imbalance of the funds relative to their need in terms of awards. To simplify the process and allow more flexibility to the Scholarships and Awards Committee, the membership will be asked to approve the following changes. The deleted words are underlined, the added words are in **bold type**.

ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Arkansas Native Plant Society was formally organized September 20, 1980, in Mena with the adoption of bylaws specifying conferral of membership upon receipt of membership dues. There are seven membership categories: Student (\$10), Regular (\$15), Supporting (\$20), Family (\$25), Contributing (\$30), Lifetime Membership (age 55 and over \$150), Lifetime Membership (Under age 55 \$300). Ten dollars of the Student Membership and fifteen dollars of each of the other memberships are used for operating expenses of the Society. The Supporting Membership \$5 excess, will be applied to the Dwight Moore Award fund. ~~The~~ excess of the Contributing **Membership**, and Life Membership dues will be applied to the Delzie Demaree Research Grant Society Memorial Funds.

ANPS has two general meetings each year, in spring and fall, at different localities around Arkansas. Field trips to areas of unusual botanical interest are also scheduled throughout the year. The newsletter, *Claytonia*, is issued quarterly, and a directory of members is published every year in the summer.

SOCIETY MEMORIAL FUNDS

ANPS has established and supports several awards, and scholarships, **and grants** for students of the Arkansas flora. **Funding for the Awards, Scholarships, and Grants is provided through the Supporting, Contributing, and Life Memberships, gifts, the annual auction, and other activities designated as such. The Scholarships and Awards Committee administers the fund.**

DWIGHT MOORE AWARD

This award honors Dwight Munson Moore, long-time Arkansas botanist; Professor of Botany for more than 40 years at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, UA Monticello, and Arkansas Tech; Chairman of the Department of Botany, UAF, 1926-1950; and author of the Arkansas Forestry Commission publication, *Trees of Arkansas*. In his long and fruitful career, Dr. Moore taught and inspired several generations of college botany students throughout our state. The Dwight Moore award

is given on the occasion of outstanding achievement in either research or publication on Arkansas botany. It is supported by gifts and Supporting Membership dues.

AILEEN McWILLIAM SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship honors Aileen L. McWilliam, Arkansas' Outstanding Biology Teacher in 1965, member of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, noted author, promoter of the founding of our Society, and one of our state=s most knowledgeable and ardent naturalists. Funds from this memorial provide scholarships to promising students of Arkansas botany. Monies are provided by gifts, the annual auction, and other Society activities designated as such. Aileen McWilliam Scholarships are awarded annually **when there is an applicant approved by the Scholarship Committee. Awards may be divided between candidates if more than one applicant applies.**

DELZIE DEMAREE RESEARCH GRANT

This fund honors Delzie Demaree, Arkansas botanist and plant taxonomist and one of the twentieth century's most prolific and effective plant collectors, renowned to the world botanical community for his extensive collections of North American vascular plants. The Delzie Demaree fund provides research grants to deserving students of Arkansas botany. It is supported by Contributing and Life Memberships. Delzie Demaree Research Grants are awarded annually **when there is an eligible candidate approved by the Scholarship Committee.**

CARL AMASON CONSERVATION AWARD

The Carl Amason Award honors a man whose character and achievements reflected the best aspirations of the Arkansas Native Plant Society membership. With unfailing energy and high spirits, Carl led field trips, shared plants, and wrote articles and accounts for *Claytonia*. He was a charter member, a past president, and auctioneer. His efforts on behalf of ANPS earned him universal acknowledgment as a most beloved and successful ambassador for the conservation and preservation of nature. The Carl Amason Conservation Award is given periodically to individuals whose personal efforts help all of us to conserve and enjoy nature's gifts. The Award will include an appropriate monetary consideration not to exceed \$1000.

—Submitted by Maury Baker, January 2008.



Broad beech fern (Phegopteris hexagonoptera) is a common and easy-to-grow native fern of rich woodlands in our mountain counties. Photo by Susie Teague.

ARKANSAS & MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SPRING 2008 JOINT MEETING

APRIL 4-6, 2008

HARRISON, ARKANSAS

This year's spring meeting will be the first weekend of April, with Harrison as the base for our meeting and field trips. Plan now to join the Arkansas Native Plant Society in Harrison this weekend. We're excited about the joint spring meeting with members of the Missouri Native Plant Society, and encourage everyone to share the native plants and spring wildflowers of the Arkansas Ozarks with our guests from Missouri. Early April in the Ozarks holds the promise of woodland wildflowers, shrubs and showy flowering trees in the forests, and the glade and prairie plants on the rock outcrops and thinner soils. The early spring flora should be peaking, with mid-spring plants beginning to emerge and flower. (And the chiggers should still be hibernating!) It's a great time of the year to be hiking through the Ozarks with a group of knowledgeable native plant enthusiasts. Also, our friends from Missouri will return the favor in late May of 2009 by hosting the ANPS to a joint meeting in Missouri where they'll show us around the prairies of the Osage Plains!

LOCATION

We will meet in the Conference Center of the Comfort Inn at 1210 Hwy 62-65 N, in Harrison, Arkansas (phone: 870.741.7676), web site (www.harrisoncomfortinn.com). The Comfort Inn is located just off Hwy 62/65/412 in Harrison.

REGISTRATION

Registration costs \$5.00 and occurs on-site Friday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, in the Comfort Inn Conference Center. At the registration table we'll have sign-up sheets for various field trips throughout the weekend in addition to handouts, local restaurant recommendations, and other attractions in the Harrison area.

A NOTE ABOUT THE FIELD TRIPS

Several field trips are listed below but others are likely to occur as well. Up to date information will be provided at the Friday evening program. If you would like to lead a field trip on Saturday or Sunday, please contact the editor or Staria Vanderpool and let us know. The more trips the better...

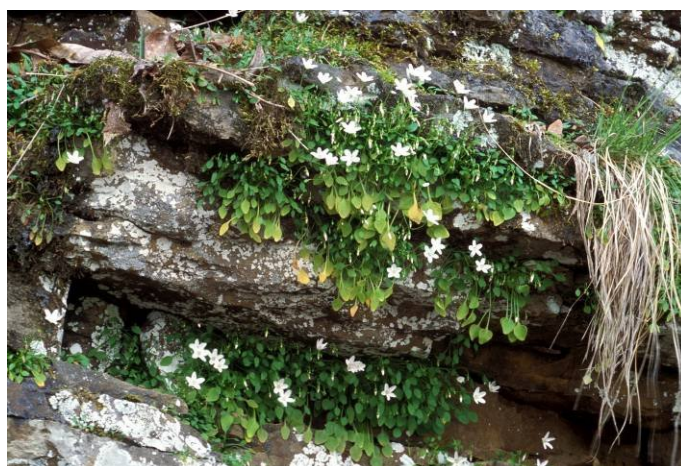
AGENDA

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING FIELD TRIP: Greer's Ferry Lake Area/Mossy Bluff Trail

With our Missouri friends in mind, a special pre-meeting field trip is being planned this year to see a number of species in the southern Ozarks that are either not known from Missouri, are uncommon there, or were only known there historically. Species include the newly-described Ozark spring beauty (*Claytonia ozarkensis*), Palmer's saxifrage (*Saxifraga palmeri*), Arkansas alumroot (*Heuchera villosa* var. *arkansana*), Riddell's spikemoss (*Selaginella arenicola* ssp. *riddellii*), and others. We will meet at the Greer's Ferry Dam Visitor's Center at **10:00 am**. Those staying in Harrison Thursday evening have the option of meeting at the Comfort Inn at **7:30 am** to carpool/caravan to the Visitor's Center (115 miles each way). For more info on this trip call Theo Witsell at 501.831.7473.

7:00 pm: Evening program at the Comfort Inn in Harrison on some aspect of the flora of the Ozarks. Details to be announced.



Ozark spring beauty (Claytonia ozarkensis), growing from cracks in sandstone bluffs along the Little Red River near Greer's Ferry Dam. Photo by Bob Clearwater.

8:30 pm: Arkansas Native Plant Society Executive Board Meeting

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

8:00 am: Field trips depart from the Comfort Inn

Some trips will be held concurrently in the morning and will be offered again in the afternoon, so people should be able to make two of these half day trips. Other trips will likely be all day, or take most of the day. As of press time, people have committed to lead the following trips:



One of the great benefits of membership in the ANPS is access to the expertise of other members, such as retired UAM professor and frequent field trip leader Eric Sundell, shown here with a striking orange mushroom on a recent field trip in the Ouachita Mountains. Photo by Clint Sowards.

1) Buffalo National River (Pruitt and Lost Valley)

Explore the spectacular spring flora of Lost Valley, the legendary hollow along the Buffalo River that was a state park in another lifetime, before the establishment of the Buffalo National River. In addition to high quality mesic hardwood forest and rare plant species like Ozark wake robin and Arkansas alumroot, there are spectacular landforms including a natural bridge, a waterfall issuing from a cave, spectacular bluffs, and Cob Cave, a large prehistoric Native American bluff shelter. We'll also stop at Pruitt to see Alabama snow wreath (*Neviusia alabamensis*), one of the rarest shrubs in North America which will hopefully be in flower. If time permits, there are also some sandstone and limestone glades at Pruitt too that are worth exploring. Half day. Leaders are Burnetta Hinterthuer and Brent Baker.

2) Baker Prairie Natural Area

Baker Prairie Natural Area is the highest quality example of chert prairie left in Arkansas and is a rare remnant of the once 5,000 acre prairie centered around the town of Harrison. Baker Prairie is renowned for its incredible wildflower displays, including a number of rare species. In April we will likely see prairie trout lily, prairie violet, prairie pussy toes, Ozark wake

robin, and others. Joe Woolbright of Ozark Ecological Restorations Inc., who has done much of the management work on the prairie in recent years, will be on hand to give a tour. Birders should bring their binoculars! Half day.

3) Ozark Natural Science Center/Bear Hollow Natural Area/Madison County Wildlife Management Area

The Ozark Natural Science Center (ONSC) is a residential environmental education center nestled on 80 acres within Bear Hollow Natural Area and the Madison County Wildlife Management Area (MCWMA). It provides programs for young people from NW Arkansas schools and other programs for kids and adults around Arkansas. ONSC staff will be available to give a short tour of their facilities (including restroom facilities after the car trip!) before we explore Bear Hollow Natural Area. A system of trails will take us through a wide variety of habitats including dolomite glades, sandstone glades, bluffs, woodlands, and a variety of forest types. A number of interesting ferns will be seen including powdery cloak fern, hairy lip fern, woolly lip fern, Alabama lip fern, purple cliff brake, Bradley's spleenwort, etc. If time permits, we can tour woodland restoration areas in the MCWMA and some large sandstone flatrocks (glades) at the south end of the area. All day (bring a lunch).

1:30 pm: Afternoon field trips depart from the Comfort Inn

7:00 pm: Joint presentation by Paul McKenzie of MONPS and Theo Witsell from ANPS examining habitats and species in the border regions of both Arkansas and Missouri. Emphasis will be on species known from one state but not the other and on habitats in each state likely to be of interest to those in the other. The hope is that NPS members from each state might then be able to turn up new state records or relocate species only known historically in their state.

8:30 pm: Arkansas Native Plant Society General Meeting & Missouri Native Plant Society Board Meeting

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

8:00 am: Field trips depart from the Comfort Inn

Lower Buffalo Wilderness/Turkey Mountain Savanna

On Sunday, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission botanist Theo Witsell will lead a hike into the edge of the 40,000 acre Lower Buffalo/Leatherwood Wilderness Area near the mouth of the Buffalo River to visit the Turkey Mountain Savanna. See more than 1000 acres of old-growth post oak savanna and glades that are being restored with prescribed fire. This area has a number of rare species in the summer and fall but has not been botanized much in the spring. A moderately strenuous trail leads into the site but we will also go off-trail to see some of the more impressive areas.

CONTACTS

If you have places in the region that you want to share, questions about the meeting, or need assistance, contact Staria Vanderpool at Arkansas State University (870.972.3151) or by

cell phone (870.926.5793 – although I can't promise good reception in the Ozarks), or by email (svand@astate.edu). Or contact Theo Witsell at 501.831.7473. We look forward to seeing you all in the Ozark Mountains in April!



The Turk's cap lily (*Lilium superbum*) is without doubt one of our showiest native wildflowers. Ozark National Forest. Photo by John Pelton.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Comfort Inn, located at 1210 Hwy 62-65 N, Harrison (phone: 870.741.7676), web site (www.harrisoncomfortinn.com) is the meeting center. The Comfort Inn is located just off Hwy 62/65/412 in Harrison. We have 25 rooms blocked for the meeting, for the conference rate of \$71.99 + tax. You must mention ANPS to get this rate, and must reserve by March 25, 2008, by credit card.

A few of the many other lodging facilities are available in the Harrison area, including:

Camping:

Buffalo National River (several campsites in the general area, but Pruitt is probably the closest)

Dogwood Springs RV and Campground, Jasper, AR 72641; phone: 870 446 2163; Web site www.jasperandnewtoncountyresorts.com.

Harrison Village Campground & RV Park, 2364 Hwy 65 S; phone: 870 743 3388; Web site www.harrisonvillagervpark.com.

Hog Heaven RV Park & Café, Jasper, AR 72604; phone: 870 428 5540; Web site www.hogheavenrvpark.com.

Parkers RV Park; 3659 Hwy 65 N; phone 888 590 2267; Web site www.parkersvinc.com.

Shady Oaks, 906 Hwy 206E; phone 870 743 2343; Web site www.camptheoaks.com.

Motels:

Days Inn of Harrison; 1425 Hwy 62/65 North, Harrison; phone 870 391 3297 or 888 391 3297; Web site www.the.daysinn.colm/harrison04766.

Family Budget Inn: 401 S. Main, Harrison; phone 870 743 1000; Web site www.familybudgetinn.com

Holiday Inn Express: 117 Hwy 43 F, Harrison; phone 870 741 3636; Web site www.harrisonexpress.com

Ozark Mountain Inn; 1222 N Main, Harrison; phone 870 743 1949; Web site www.arkweb.com/ozmtinn

Super 8 Motel: 1330 hwy 62/65 N, Harrison; phone 870 741 1741; Web site www.super8.com

Bed and Breakfast Inns:

The Queen Anne House: 610 West Central Avenue – Harrison; phone 870 365 0888 or 1 800 419 9907; Web site www.queenannehouse.net

Harrison House Bed & Breakfast: 205 Jerry Street; phone 870 741 6946.

3 Oaks Bed & Breakfast: 10205 Devore Dr., Harrison; 870 743 4093; Web site www.3oaksbb.com

Cedarhouse Bed & Breakfast: 373 Hwy 14 West, Lead Hill, AR 72644; phone 870 436 3903, toll free 1 800 764 9816

The Arkansas House Bed and Breakfast: Jasper Downtown Square; phone 1 888 ARHOUSE (274-6873) or 870 446 5900; Web site www.thearkhouse.com



Barbara Baker holds a stem of three-way sedge (*Dulichium arundinaceum*) as other ANPS members look on during a 2007 field trip to some rare upland channel scar ponds near the Alum Fork of the Saline River. Photo by Clint Sowards.

Upcoming Field Trips and Events

Friday, April 4th—Sunday, April 6th—JOINT ARKANSAS/MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETING in Harrison, Arkansas—Loads of field trips! NOTE: SPRING MEETING FIELD TRIP DETAILS ARE PROVIDED ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE WITH SPRING MEETING GENERAL INFORMATION... See you there!

Saturday, April 5th—2nd Annual Calhoun Community Garden Show—Harvey C. Couch School in Calhoun, Arkansas (5 miles east of Magnolia). Theme is “Where History & Gardening Come Together & Touch For a Day”. 9am-5pm. Crafts, Plants, Wildflower Seeds, Antique Roses, Garden Furniture, One-Of-A-Kind-Sale, Southern Arkansas University Bugdacious Exhibit, Columbia County Master Gardener's Plant Sale, plus Bluegrass, Gospel, & Country Music, and more. For more info call 870.234.9491 or www.magnoliachamber.com.

Friday, April 11th & Saturday, April 12th—Arkansas Academy of Sciences Meeting at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia.

Saturday, April 26th—Field trip to Roaring River area in Missouri—We will meet at the Emory Center at Roaring River State Park at 10:00 AM and go to Butler Hollow from there. We will see lots of unusual spring woodland species like *Valerianaella ozarkana* and be sure to bring binoculars as the birding in this area is outstanding. There is a restaurant at the center where we can have lunch and afterward, we will visit the forest service glade just south of the park for a completely different habitat. Roaring River is located 5 miles south of Cassville, MO and can be reached by taking Highway 221 north from Berryville to Mo highway 86 and turning west on F and on to the park. From the west, take Mo highway 37 north from Gateway to 112 and on to the park. Those coming from Fayetteville/Rogers area will take Hwy. 62 to Gateway. Contact Linda Ellis at 417.272.3890 for information or e-mail at lindasellis@hughes.net.

Saturday, May 3rd—Field Trip to Grand Prairie Natural Areas (Joint Field Trip with the Tennessee Native Plant Society and the Memphis Wildflower Society)—Join our friends and neighbors to the east as they cross the Mississippi to explore our beautiful remnant prairies in eastern Arkansas. The trip will be led by Bart Jones of the TNPS, with assistance from Theo Witsell from ANPS. We'll meet at Downs Prairie Natural Area on Hwy 70, just west of Devall's Bluff at 11:00 am. Park along the side of the dirt road at the north end of the prairie (north of Highway 70). See one of the last best remnants of this once 400,000 acre prairie! If time allows, we will also explore Konecny Prairie Natural Area and/or other sites. For directions to Downs Prairie, visit the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission website at www.naturalheritage.org (and click on Natural Areas) or call Theo at 501.831.7473.

Saturday, May 17th—Field Trip to Petit John Hollow (Ouachita National Forest), Montgomery County—Join

Ouachita National Forest Botanist Susan Hooks to tour one of the largest wooded seep complexes in Arkansas. Meet at Burl's Smokehouse at Crystal Springs on Hwy 270 at 9:30 am. Bring a lunch (or grab one at Burl's) and boots or shoes that you can get wet. There will be lots of good spring wildflowers and rare plants restricted to our better seeps. For more info call Susan at 501.321.5323 or 501.282.5365.

Saturday, May 17th—10 a.m. Field Trip to Leatherwood Creek—For the past two years, we have made plans to hike the trail at Leatherwood Creek. Rain has prevented us from doing so. This year, we are planning to visit Leatherwood Creek in mid-May and are hoping for great weather. Meet at the Leatherwood Creek parking lot, about a mile north of Hwy. 62, ca. 2 miles west of Eureka Springs. The hike is moderately strenuous. For more information, contact Brent Baker at btb2001@yahoo.com or Burnetta Hinterthuer at 479.582.0317 or email at burhint@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, May 31st—Field Trip to the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve (Pawhuska, OK)—Join veteran Arkansas guides Joe Woolbright and Joe Neal to explore the largest protected tallgrass prairie remnant in the world! We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Arvest Bank parking lot in Siloam Springs, Arkansas (across Hwy 412 from Walmart as you come into Siloam from the east). We will stay in Bartlesville, OK overnight. Those who don't want to carpool can caravan or get directions from Joe Woolbright (479.427.4277). Call for lodging details and to reserve a spot.

Saturday, June 21st—Field Trip to the South Fourche Botanical Area (Ouachita National Forest), Perry County—Spend the first day of summer exploring the Ouachita National Forest's newest specially designated botanical area. This area, along the South Fourche LaFave River in the rugged Fourche Mountains, has one of the highest concentrations of rare plants and habitats in the eastern Ouachitas. Explore a number of rare habitats including a large upland channel scar swamp, wooded seeps, glades, bluffs, river scour prairie, and a large natural salt lick. Led by Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission botanist Theo Witsell. Terrain is moderately strenuous and will involve approximately 2 miles of (slow) walking and some bushwhacking, as there are no trails. Limit 25 people. Call Theo at 501.831.7473 for more information and to reserve a spot.

Saturday, Oct. 4th & Sunday, Oct. 5th—Arkansas Audubon Adult Ecology Workshops at Ferncliff Conference Center in west Little Rock. Workshops run from 10 a.m. Saturday to 4 p.m. Sunday. Accommodations available at Ferncliff for out-of-townners. And the workshops are: 1) Mushrooms and other fungi: how to identify, collect, cook, and avoid. Jay Justice, longtime President of the Arkansas Mycological Society, instructor. 2) Edible and otherwise useful wild plants: acorn bread is only the appetizer! Tamara Walkingstick, of U. of Arkansas Ag Extension, instructor. 3) Trees of Arkansas: learn to identify

(and appreciate) more than of our native trees. Eric Sundell instructor. Interested? Check it out at www.arbirds.org. And save the date.

Announcements

CARL HUNTER'S PAPERS AT UCA ARCHIVES—We recently learned that Carl Hunter's papers have been deposited in the UCA Archives. Visit http://archives.uca.edu/special_collection/m89-16.htm for more information.

ARKANSAS AUDUBON ECOLOGY CAMP FOR KIDS—Folks with an 11 or 12 year old in their lives should visit www.arbirds.org for information about the Arkansas Audubon Halberg Ecology Camp at Camp Clearfork west of Hot Springs. This year's camps will be held June 15-20 and June 22-27. This is a great experience for boys and girls with an interest in natural history: studies are mostly out-of-doors and include botany (!), birds, mammals, herps, bugs, geology, ecology, and environmental science. The staff, the food, and the Ouachita Mountain setting are superb.

THE ARKANSAS NATURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS with an artistic eye (and an interest in learning the plants of Arkansas) to assist with mounting dried plant specimens. The ANHC has thousands of preserved specimens in need of mounting (gluing) on to archival paper for inclusion into their herbarium. This is a great

opportunity to learn the flora and work with rare species. They are most interested in volunteers who can donate 6-10 hours a week of their time and who live in central Arkansas. Volunteers can work from home following a 3 hour training session at the ANHC office in Little Rock. Contact Theo Witsell at theo@arkansasheritage.org or call 501.324.9615 for more information.

FIELD TRIPS NEEDED—As always, we need people to lead field trips to interesting areas. We know you have sites you want to take people to. Please contact the editor if you are willing to lead a trip in your area.



Arkansas Native Plant Society members get their feet wet fording the Alum Fork of the Saline River on their way to explore some rare upland channel scar ponds in Saline County. Summer 2007. Photo by Clint Sowards.

Arkansas Native Plant Society Membership Application

Please check the appropriate box below.

Membership Categories:

- ☐ \$10..... Student
- ☐ \$15..... Regular
- ☐ \$20..... Supporting
- ☐ \$25..... Family Membership
- ☐ \$30..... Contributing
- ☐ \$150... Lifetime Membership (55 and over)
- ☐ \$300... Lifetime Membership (under 55)

- ☐ New Member
- ☐ Renewal

☐ Address Change

Please make checks payable to "Arkansas Native Plant Society".

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS:

Street or Box _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ - _____ - _____

Email address _____

Please cut and send this form along with any dues to:

Maury Baker, Membership ANPS
29 Pandilla Way
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909-7121

Please check your mailing label! The calendar year is the membership year. If your mailing label has an 07 or earlier it is time to renew! (Life members will have an LF.)

Please fill in the information form on the opposite side of this page and send it with your renewals, applications for membership, changes of name, address, email, or telephone numbers to the address given on the form: **[Not to the editor]**. Thank you.

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS/SUGGESTIONS TO:
219 Beechwood St. / Little Rock, AR 72205
anpsclaytonia@yahoo.com

2008 ANPS OFFICERS

President

Linda Chambers
Lindachamb3ers@yahoo.com
501.952.0112

Secretary

Susie Teague
cedarcreekns@sbcglobal.net
501.262.9695

President Elect

Starla Vanderpool
svand@astate.edu
870.972.3082

Awards & Scholarships

Burnetta Hinterthuer
bhintert@nwacc.edu
479.582.0317

Vice President

Jean Ann Moles
jam26@sbcglobal.net

Membership Chair

Maury Baker
mbbaker@suddenlink.net
501.922.6077

Treasurer

Jerry McGary
Jlmac1216@aol.com
479.646.4180

Editor

Theo Witsell
anpsclaytonia@yahoo.com
501.614.8465

The purpose of the Arkansas Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and study of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas, the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitat, and the publication of related information.



CLAYTONIA

Theo Witsell, Editor
219 Beechwood St.
Little Rock, AR 72205

anpsclaytonia@yahoo.com

Newsletter of the Arkansas Native Plant Society—Spring/Summer 2008
AVAILABLE ONLINE IN FULL COLOR AT www.anps.org