



The purpose of the ONPS is to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma native plants.

Inside:

"Beespeak"

Blue fungus food

Conservation Corner

Black Mesa details

Wildflower Workshop

Illinois River report

Mail-in for Sept. trip

Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

Black Mesa trip from several perspectives

End May, 81 ONPS and Audubon Society members gathered at Black Mesa State Park for a three-day exploration/camping weekend. Tour leader Dr. Jim McPherson explained that Black Mesa is part of the Mesa de Maya, a large lava flow from a fissure over 10 million years ago. The flow resulted in the basaltic cap on the mesa which is the eastern-most tip of the original flow. Those 10 million years of erosion have left Black Mesa standing 700 feet above the surrounding plain.

The highest point monument, at 4,973 feet, was placed in the 1920s when the mesa consisted of only 80 acres owned by the state. In the 1950s, Lake Carl Etling and the Black Mesa State Park (12 mi. from the mesa itself) were established. As a result of recent action by The Nature Conservancy, 1500 acres (70% of the mesa top in Oklahoma) have been accumulated, with the state Tourism and Recreation Dept. cooperation in management. The remainder of the area is owned by ranchers and the Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife Conservation.

Dr. McPherson led 41 on the seven-hour trek to the top, returning down Windmill Canyon. Dr. Paul Buck led 33 on the short and steeper assault with some settling under a juniper tree for a fabulous view and lunch two-thirds of the way up. Loose rock and cacti kept all eyes down when climbing. Jeff Burkhart proved invaluable when the unusual insect and fauna of the area needed to be picked up and explained.

True "Heroine of the Weekend" was Connie Taylor who planned the weekend from start to finish. She arranged for catering through Creations by Mary Ann from Boise City, and we were well fed indeed, with delicious sack lunches and sturdy home cooking for dinner. Connie coped with various crises with admirable cool and had 75 very happy campers. She and John then headed for Alaska to recuperate.

Paul Buck gave a Friday evening presentation with outstanding slides of the western wildflowers of Oklahoma and his usual font of interesting information; Jim McPherson on Saturday evening described the trip, the mesa, its history and future. Everyone present hopes it could remain in its present unspoiled state. A display of reference books were always available to check your day's discoveries, and the 1993 ONPS photo contest winning pics were also displayed. For more reports on the trip, see pgs. 4 & 5. *

by Joanne Orr

Let's go field tripping in Methodist Canyon! -- by Jim Norman

In my opinion, this wild and wonderful place ranks right up there with Turner Falls, Great Salt Plains, Black Mesa, and the other "must see" places in Oklahoma. I first visited this fantastic canyon over 40 years ago with an ecology class from OU, and have been fascinated by it ever since.

Aside from its spectacular beauty -- I'm talking 70 ft. vertical walls of the reddest Permian "Red Bed" sandstone you'll ever see -- the canyon supports a variety of trees, shrubs and flowers that shouldn't be growing this far west. (It is near Hinton, west of Oklahoma City. Directions and mail-in registration are given below.)

Sheltered from the hot, drying winds which prevail up above the canyon, an unusual eastern deciduous forest, in which sugar maple is dominant and disjunct at its extreme western limit, thrives here, 175 miles west of the typical range of this forest type in eastern Oklahoma. Plants are not the only attraction. Because of the interesting variety of birds found here, the Oklahoma Ornithological Society has twice held its annual spring meeting in Methodist Canyon.

At one such meeting, two of America's most talented avian songsters -- the wood thrush of the east and the canyon wren of the west -- nested in the canyon only 100 ft. apart. I

(Cont. on pg. 7)



Recycled paper

Volume 8, No. 2
Summer, 1993

Language of the Bees -- by Danny Wann

When one bee finds "food" she can tell the rest of the worker bees where it is! Communication between bees is voiced by dances which come in two forms. The form with the most communicative richness is the waggle dance. Bees most commonly execute these dances when a forager has returned from a rich source carrying either nectar or pollen grains. The waggle dance is roughly a figure-of-eight pattern made against the vertical surface on the comb.

Waggle dances almost always are performed in clear weather, and the direction of the straight run is related

to the position of the sun. If the forager has located food directly toward the sun, she will make her waggle run straight upward over the vertical surface of the comb. If food was located 60 degrees to the right of the sun, her waggle run is 60 degrees to the right of the vertical. We see then that the waggle run points at the same angle relative to the vertical as the food is located relative to the sun.

Distance information is also coded into bee dances. If the food is close to the hive, the forager employs a simpler dance called the round dance. The forager turns a complete clock-

wise circle, then turns, and completes a counterclockwise circle, a performance that is repeated many times.

These dances can still become slightly more complicated. If the food source is farther away, the round dances become waggle dances, which provide both distance and direction information. When food is plentiful, the bees may not dance at all. But when food is scarce, the dancing becomes intense.

We know the importance of communication in life. We can see in the example of the bees that communication may be a situation of life or death.

*The Pedigree of Honey
Does not concern the Bee --
A Clover, any time to him,
Is Aristocracy.*

Emily Dickinson

Write for free catalog



We've received an interesting catalog, "Wildflower Seed and Gifts" from Earthly Goods, Ltd. If you would like a free copy, write to their president: Anne Streckfus, 903 E. 15th St., New Albany, Indiana 47150. Tell her you saw this item in the ONPS newsletter. from Ruth Boyd

Botanist's Corner

Summer's surprising succulent fungus -- by Nora Jones

Before I left the library profession, a patron asked me, "Why is there no blue food?" I told him there are blueberries, blue corn tortillas and blue popsicles. He claimed those aren't really blue -- they're purple, gray, and artificially colored. He's quibbling, I thought, as I reached for the Audubon field guide to mushrooms. What about *Lactarius indigo* -- a bright blue edible fungus? The patron was unhappy with this answer, so I steered him to the books on color, and let him explore for himself.

Lactarius indigo -- the Indigo Milk Cap -- is an edible blue fungus that is easy to find in the summer woods in NE Oklahoma. I first encountered it in Arkansas, and went on to find it at Turkey Mountain in Tulsa and at Tenkiller Lake near Cookson. Perhaps no other gilled mushroom species is as distinctive as the Indigo Milky. Pale concentric zones alternate with darker indigo on the large cap that can be six inches across. The whole mushroom fades and takes on a silvery sheen in age, and the center of older specimens is often depressed. The caps nestle in leaves or in pine needles, and because fresh caps are sticky, leaf litter often adheres to them. The stalk is short, thick and deep blue.

Like other milkcaps (*Lactarius spp.*), Indigo Milky has brittle flesh that exudes a milky latex. The Indigo Milky

has bright blue latex that slowly turns dark green. When injured, the thick flesh quickly turns blue. We often find this mushroom when Chanterelles (*Cantharellus sp.*), Amanitas and other Milkcaps are fruiting. Generally, this is during the

Okie health spa days in early summer, and again during the milder October days following heavy rains.

The only mushroom vaguely similar is the cleverly named *Lactarius paradoxus*. This mushroom tends to be smaller, silvery, and exudes a scant reddish latex. If you make an error and pick *L. paradoxus*, don't worry; it's also edible. We have found it growing in the same general vicinity at the same time as the Indigo Milky.

Back to blue food. We have cooked and eaten the Indigo Milky. It lends a strange blue note to stir-fry dishes. Prepared as duxelles and frozen for later use, it remains

true blue. Its flavor is piquant and somewhat lemony. My husband Jack delights in finding the Indigo Milky, but prefers to eat *Lactarius volemus*, the Buff Fish Milky, which often fruits at the same time.

In mushrooms, "edible" means that most folks can eat them without ill effects. It doesn't mean the flavor is outstanding. Maybe there are no deep psychological reasons there are few blue foods.

Maybe few blue things really taste all that good. ✱



Illustration: *Lactarius indigo* by Geoffrey Kibby, from *Mushrooms and other Fungi*

Conservation Corner

The emerging discipline of Conservation Biology -- by Mike Palmer

Ecology, or the study of the interrelationships between organisms and their environment, has been formally recognized as a distinct discipline since the beginning of the century. Since this time, ecologists have noticed that many ecosystems are being degraded and species are going extinct. Many ecologists have seen their study sites destroyed, or their study organisms disappear. For example, I submitted a research report on an interesting tropical forest several years ago, but the forest was levelled by the time the paper was published.

This rapid deterioration of the environment has caused many ecologists to move away from pure, ivory-tower academic research, and to study the causes of extinction and degradation in the hopes that the destruction can be minimized. This movement has resulted in the development of a new discipline, Conservation Biology. Now, many universities offer courses, and even graduate degrees, in Conservation Biology.

Much of the early research in Conservation Biology involved the design of nature preserves. This was epitomized by the *SLOSS* debate, which addressed the question of whether it was better to have a fixed area of nature preserves in a *Single Large or Several Small* preserves, hence, SL or SS, *SLOSS*.

As you might guess, the answer is quite complex; and it depends on the particular organisms involved. The modern consideration of *SLOSS* has matured: it includes issues such as whether preserves are linked by corridors, whether there are buffer zones around preserves, and whether natural processes are operating within the preserves.

Current research in Conservation Biology has expanded considerably. Studies include the effects of introduced species (such as Japanese brome, kudzu, honeysuckle, or multiflora rose) on natural ecosystems. Research tries to predict which species are at risk of extinction, and evaluates which kinds of forest management (e.g., clearcutting, selective tree harvesting, etc.) are most likely to result in high biodiversity. It studies how to rescue species from the brink of extinction.

Unfortunately, conservation biologists are forced to adopt triage methodology directly analogous to the treatment of injured soldiers in war. Some species or ecosystems may be in good enough shape that they can recover on their

own with limited attention. Some species can only be rescued with immediate and intensive help. However, some species and ecosystems are beyond help. These are what ecologist Daniel Janzen calls "the living dead:" their current habitats are so diminished and disrupted that there is no hope of recovery.

On a more positive note, there is now a subdiscipline of conservation biology known as restoration ecology. This attempts to find methods to convert highly-damaged lands into functioning ecosystems which support native plants and animals (though, of course, undisturbed ecosystems can never be fully duplicated). Restoration ecology is considered the "acid test" of ecology -- if we truly understand how ecosystems function, then we should, in theory, be able to reconstruct them. However, ecology is still too young a science to achieve this lofty goal.

One of the boldest attempts at ecological restoration is occurring right here in Oklahoma. At The Nature Conservancy's Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Osage County, bison grazing and the natural fire regime will gradually be re-introduced. In theory, this should enhance the biodiversity of native plants and animals.

Conservation biology is no longer the exclusive domain of ecologists. Computer programmers, microbiologists, theoreticians, statisticians, horticulturalists, geneticists, physiologists, biochemists, economists, soil scientists, fire experts, foresters, range scientists, geographers, and educators all play important roles in the field. Conservation biology also benefits from the active involvement of dedicated amateurs.

Careers in conservation biology include positions in academia, private nature conservation organizations, forest management agencies, consulting, and government agencies, plus many international jobs in the field.

For further information on conservation biology see these journals: *Biodiversity and Conservation*, *Biological Conservation*, *Conservation Biology*, *Natural Areas Journal* and *Restoration and Management Notes*.

Also, read the following books: The Fragmented Forest, by L.D. Harris, University of Chicago Press; Restoration Ecology, edited by Jordan, Gilpin and Aber, Cambridge University Press; Biodiversity, edited by Wilson, National Academy Press, Washington, D.C.*

Thank you, all Photo Contest entrants!

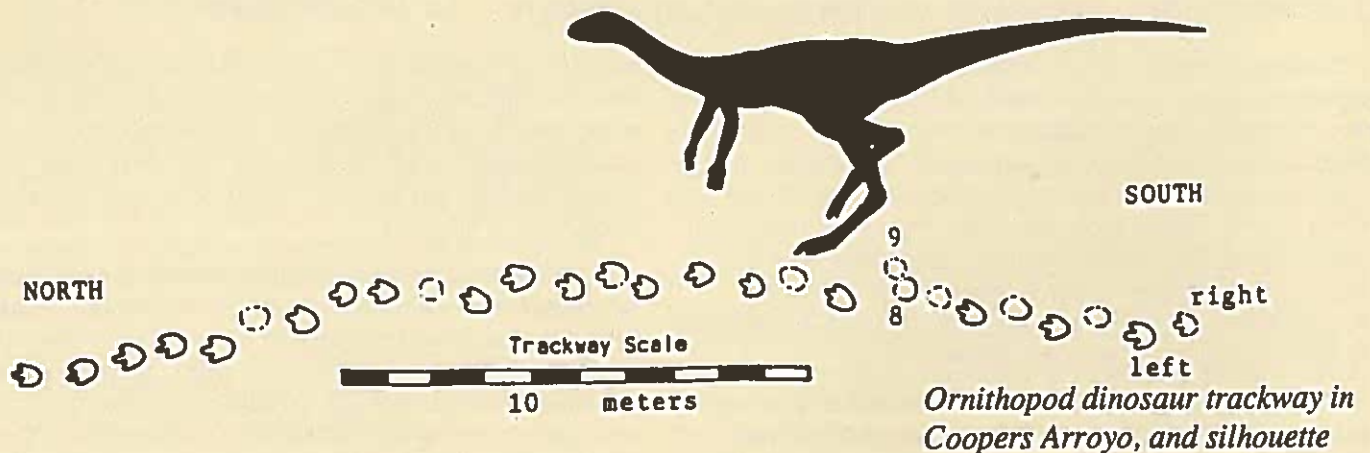
Winners will be reported in Fall issue, *Gaillardia*.

ONPS Photography Committee



©1966 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

The Sunday trek to the top -- by Judy Jordan



Ornithopod dinosaur trackway in Cooper's Arroyo, and silhouette

A group of 41 accompanied Jim McPherson to the Nature Conservancy area on the top of Black Mesa on Sunday, May 30. We started from the parking area, elevation of about 4,400 ft., at 10 a.m. and headed up Cooper's Arroyo on the north side of the mesa. The weather was ideal with clear sky and mild temperature, and gentle breeze. We stopped many times in the valley to look at grasses, forbs, and trees growing in special habitats. A permanent water hold in the arroyo provided a suitable environment for a large cottonwood tree, and in another protected area Jim showed us a fine pinyon pine associated with one-seed juniper, hackberry, soapberry, and skunkbush.

After traveling up the arroyo two miles or so, we intersected an old jeep road which we followed to the top of the mesa. Along the way, Jim pointed out the shrubby "Wafer" ash trees (*Ptelea trifoliata*), growing in a steep ravine. We also paused to examine a blue-green mountain boomer sunning itself on a rock by the trail. We reached the top around 12:30, and ate our sack lunches while sitting on the rim and admiring the spectacular view of valley and sandstone cliffs beyond. Then we walked another 3/4 mile to the stone monument marking the highest point in Oklahoma, elevation 4,972.67 feet. At this point, several of the group took off on a side jaunt to New Mexico a few hundred yards to the west!

Everyone then walked the short distance to the south rim for a magnificent view of the Cimarron River valley with its tiny town of Kenton and fine ranches. We could see the Rabbit Ears peaks, Sierra Grande, and Capulin mountains in New Mexico, as well as higher parts of the Mesa de Maya, a continuation of the Black Mesa in Colorado. By this time high clouds were drifting in from the west and north, so that the landscape was enhanced by their slowly moving shadows.

We then "bushwhacked" our way east to the head of Windmill Canyon, Jim instructing the younger members of the party in basic points of compass reading. The top of Black Mesa is mostly level, like the Staked Plains, and is dotted with cholla and yucca. Buffalo grass predominates, but other grasses and forbs were also abundant. Someone found a lark sparrow nest on the ground, and most of us admired the four white eggs therein.

The descent of Windmill Canyon was the most difficult part of the hike since there was no maintained trail and we had to come down a steep slope and look for firm footing among large, irregular rocks partly hidden with thick grasses. Yet, the upper part of the canyon was impressive, with many large junipers on the slopes and in the valley, along with thickets of "Wafer" ash, hackberry and choke cherry, and occasional small meadows with little bluestem and other taller grasses. Jim pointed out two large Rocky Mountain Junipers (*Juniperus scopulorum*) growing in the canyon. Several times we heard the beautiful cascading call of the Canyon Wren. Toward its bottom the canyon opened up and became less steep, and walking was easy the rest of the way.

At the entrance to the canyon we passed an abandoned windmill at the foot of beautifully eroded sandstone cliffs. A half-mile or so further on we completed our loop and reached the cars, about 4:30 p.m.

Soon we were sipping ice-cold soda pop at the old-time general store in Kenton and congratulating ourselves on having successfully completed a memorable hike.

Thanks, Jim, for a wonderful field trip! ❁

Among 30 or more from Judy Jordan's Black Mesa consolidated bird list:

Canyon Towhee
Blue Grosbeak
Say's Phoebe
Double-Crested Cormorant
Western Grebe
Western Kingbird
Cassin's Sparrow
Great Horned Owl with two babies
Red-Shafted Flicker
Cassin's Kingbird
Scaled Quail
Rock Wren

Spotted in Black Mesa State Park about one mile from youth camp

Shaparaalcea coccinea Scarlet globe mallow (abundant)

Tragopogon sp. Goat's beard

Melampodium Blackfoot (abundant)

Petalostemon Purple prairie clover

Orobanche ludoviciana Louisiana broomrape

Dalea formosa (very unusual shrub)

Feather dalea

Engelmannia pinnatifida E's daisy

Nolina Texana Beargrass

Monarda pectinata Plains beebalm

And many more

Among findings on Black Mesa

Predominate juniper: *Juniperus monosperma*

shrub in bloom: *Ptelea trifoliata* wafer ash w/seeds

shrub, *Glossopetalon plantierum* grease bush (saw only one)

Memories of the Mesa -- by Joanne Orr

Door prize winner: Lynn Allen, Edmond, took home a green flowered pin cushion (*Echinocereus viridiflorus*), found by Jim McPherson at Black Mesa a year ago. It had been dug up and discarded, so Jim took it home, potted it, and presented it as a prize.

Coyote Head: Donna Horton found in Sutton's canyon and took for display at Oxley Nature Center in Tulsa. A thunderstorm drove hikers to their cars, and as she took head out of bag to show teeth, etc., it quickly became a question of putting Donna and coyote out in the rain before all were overcome by, uh, fumes.

Seen on 6:30 a.m. birding trip: antelope, great horned owl and babies, pair Canadian geese, pair grebes.

Electricity out Sat. a.m. in west end of county. Thoughts of no supper, no ice, no slide projector ... considered panic, but all repaired by supper time.

An overflow in the john, but president Ruth Boyd wields a mean mop.

Voted most colorful camper, Jeff Burkhart (Phillips University) carried a carved oak upright piano and two Labrador retrievers in the back of his pickup, and wore one hiking boot and one Reebok, result of a dark closet when he packed.

Dramatic skies, as afternoon thunder showers rolled through, just enough to make everyone appreciate the fabulous blue skies, and sparkling air and lack of city noises...no chiggers or mosquitoes either.

George Sutton (OU's famed ornithologist) had a favorite place in Oklahoma -- Tesequite Canyon. He requested his shes be scattered over what is now known as Sutton's

Canyon, one of the sites visited on the trip. **Dinosaur Tracks** -- 14 were seen. Mostly filled with silt, but elephant-sized with pointed toes, and fascinating.

Kenton's General Store -- with life-saving cold drinks and hamburgers, plus museum of local artifacts and fossils.

Ann Randle's "quality" boot soles detached on the 8-hour Mesa hike, but her husband saved the day: duct tape.

Speaking of boots, the local cactus won the battle every time, piercing backsides, tennis shoes, running shoes and leather hiking shoes with equal ease.

Local T-shirts with ONPS and Black Mesa emblems -- made to order and popular.

John & Janet Slater of Tulsa brought five grandchildren for the weekend -- delightful kids, and good time by all!

How to read a book in darkened cabin included Ruth Boyd's method via Loosey Goosey booklight.

First up onto the Mesa: Keri Taylor, 13, and Matt Stillings, 11, with Keri's blisters in process. Agelessness helps.

Periodic debates about what we really saw: beaver versus muskrat...(ended in a draw, as probably both were there) ... White tailed deer versus pronghorn... Haldor Howard saw six pronghorn on the mesa top. Floral debates were resolved back in camp by use of the key...and, **Conversation overheard** at the campground store:

Customer #1: Who are all the folks at the group camp?

Customer #2: Oh, they're flower pickers and birdwatchers.

Customer #1: Why would they want to do that?

Customer #2: Oh, it's like a hobby. ✨



16th Annual Wildflower Workshop Report

The Wildflower Workshop proved again that it is one of the most enjoyable activities around. "A wonderful weekend in Enid" and "class act" were only two of the many compliments flowing from the 165 attendees at the 16th annual event in May.

Sponsors were: OK Garden Clubs, Inc., Oklahoma Dept. of Transportation, ONPS, Enid Council of Garden Clubs and the Enid Bloomers.

Presentations ranged from the popular "Home Landscaping with Wildflowers" by Susan Chambers and "Gathering, Drying and Using Native Plants" by Jacqui Savage, to Dr. Joe Thomasson's discussion of paleobotany. Attendees learned that an elm leaf back in the days of the Mastodon 7 to 8 million years ago, is identical to the elm leaf on their front lawn.

"Fund Raising Ideas for Wildflowers" evoked many questions, as did all the presentations. Copies of Paul Buck's Ethics of Wildflower Collecting were distributed and are available from ONPS.

Dr. Jeffery Burkhart, Phillips University, previewed the wildflowers to look for on the Saturday field trip, and Dr. Jeff Black, East Central University, described habitats that include wildflowers. Dr. James Estes wove a mystical image of the Great Plains for the

evening program -- slides, old photographs, and quotations from early explorers and authors.

Recipient of the Bess Snodgrass Award was Aileen Roads Carter, Tulsa. The award is given annually by John and Charles Snodgrass, Ardmore, in honor of their mother, whose planting of coreopsis in the Arbuckles have now spread throughout the mountains. Aileen Roads Carter was among leaders of a delegation requesting a delayed mowing program from the then Dept. of Highways (1974), so existing native wildflowers could go to seed. Among her other contributions, she served on the committee to establish a wildflower workshop which would rotate to different communities in the state.

The Enid Bloomers, led by Sherrel Jones, provided outstanding food, with all profits going for wildflower plantings in Enid. The 17 display tables featured live plants, T-shirts, dried wreaths, seeds, books and "how to" information; Dr. Doyle McCoy was there, too, autographing his books.

The field trips

Saturday morning was overcast, which kept temperatures pleasant for the trip to the Glass Mountains. Newly-washed crystals and other geological formations sparkled from showers earlier that morning, and flowers were fresh

(Cont. on back pg.)

Little River spring-thing provides "a great time" anyhow

Fourteen from the Central Chapter visited Sunshine Nursery in Clinton in March. Steve and Sherry Bieberick, owners, led the tour of nursery and adjoining arboretum, where the specialty is unique, unusual and plains native plants. Plants they try to propagate for sale have been collected from the western half of Oklahoma, including the Panhandle and Wichitas and Arbuckles. All are listed as cold hardy, drought tolerant and disease and/or insect resistant.

The April speaker was Pat Folley and the subject Oklahoma grasses, with 22 attending. (Watch for next *Gaillardia* for introductory article on the subject.)

The chapter had its third annual picnic at the Folley Farm on June 28th.

* * * * *

About 10 Northeast Chapter members explored wetland areas in and near Tulsa on April 24. Dr. Ed Nelson first led the group to Fred Creek near ORU, and then the north woods of Mohawk Park, where beaver activity had been extensive.

Over 40 attended the May 10 potluck supper followed by Sue and Dale Amstutz's slide program of their wildflower gardens through the seasons.

Next program at the Garden Center will be Sept. 13. *

Barclay Award winner announced

Jimmie Pigg, director of the Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science, wrote the following to ONPS:

"The Dr. Harriet Barclay Award by the ONPS for best research in the area of botany was won by Marisa Medina, 10th grader from Westmoore High School, for her paper, "The Effects of Juglone on Seed Germination."

"The Academy would like to thank the ONPS for being a part of the award program for the annual OJAS State Contest. Your award helped the OJAS to have one of its best State Contests since 1936 when it was formed. This year a total of 332 students state-wide were involved, and 109 research papers selected from 12 regional contests.

"It is so rewarding to know that there are organizations who give of their resources to encourage our young people to get involved in basic research."

Welcome, Karen Haworth, as ONPS publicity committee co-chair.

Members state-wide can help get meeting and field trip notices known by making a personal delivery to editors. If you can help, please contact Karen via ONPS address.

It was a dark and stormy day. Not all that warm either, when 18 intrepid explorers set forth from the warm confines of Goldie's Restaurant in Tahlequah for the cold and flooded banks of the otherwise beautiful Illinois River. The date was March 20, 1993.

Actually, we'd spent an hour soaking up hot coffee and watching leader Jim Norman's beautiful slides of the wildflowers we would have seen if only the season and weather had cooperated. But the spring of 1992 brought one of the earliest bloom seasons in history, so we missed some of the early woodland plants like bloodroot last year. This year, which is looking like the latest season in many years, we missed them all!

Well, there were a few patches of dead nettle, *Lamium purpureum*, and one fence row that would have had some trout lilies, *Erythronium albidum*, if the sun had been shining. And on a certain rocky slope we encountered rattlesnake ferns, *Botrichium virginianum*, just erupting through last season's dead leaves in the edge of the woods.

Bravely, and also because not following was to become hopelessly lost, we followed Mr. Norman over wooden bridges and gravel roads and passed "No Trespassing" signs until we stopped at a lovely large pond on the J5 Ranch and birdwatched for a while. The pasture was full of budded-but-not-bloomed *Ranunculus* plants, and the pond of ducks and grebes.

A thrilling visit to Goat's Bluff capped our tour, and then we found some nearly-dry rocks for lunch at a river crossing. Nothing but some bluets in bloom at Goat's Bluff, but the slick clay paths made every step exciting! Whatever the weather or season, it is interesting and educational to follow Jim Norman anywhere, and we had a great time. Also, we have an excuse to try it again next year. Plant people are resourceful, patient, and stubborn folks. *

by Pat Folley

Native plant dates for your calendar

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Aug. 26 | Board meeting
Ruth Boyd, 405/872-9652 |
| Sept. 11
10 a.m. | Methodist Canyon trip
(Phone numbers on pg. 7) |
| Sept. 13
7:30 p.m. | NE Chapter, Tulsa Garden Ctr.
Betty Kemm, 918/742-4351 |
| Sept. 17&18 | Okla. Acad. of Sci. meeting & trip
Ed Nelson, 918/495-6944 or
Paul Buck, 918/743-3397 |
| Oct. 16 & 17
Edmond | ONPS Annual Meeting
Ruth Boyd, 405/872-9652 |

For Central Chapter meeting times & dates:
Steve Thompson (405) 755-0676

ONPS board notes -- by Patricia Folley, secretary

The ONPS board of directors met at the Holiday Inn, McAlester, on April 7. Some items of interest to the general membership included:

- 1) Marilyn Bell has asked to be released from the *Gaillardia* publication after the summer issue. She will be hard to replace, and President Ruth Boyd encourages volunteers to contact her.
- 2) Joanne Orr has asked that her office be advised of any/all community wildflower plantings. Even though the Dept. of Transportation is primarily concerned with roadside plantings, they need to coordinate efforts with communities, and can serve as a central information source. Joanne's business address is: Beautification Office, Dept. of Transportation, 200 NE 21st St. Oklahoma City 73105.
- 3) The City of Enid is heavily promoting the Wildflower Workshop as part of the Cherokee Strip

centennial celebration. Joanne Orr displayed some beautifully-decorated souvenir items.

- 4) Many of our officers and board members must be replaced this October, as under the terms of the by-laws a limit of 6 years applies to board members and 2 years for president. Job descriptions are being finalized so that prospective officers can see what they are volunteering for. If you are interested in one of these positions-- don't be shy! There's a certain amount of work involved, but each position includes its own rewards as friendships and access to the state's wonderful plant life seem to come with the jobs.
- 6) Both of the local chapters are enjoying regular meetings with prepared programs and at least as many field trips to area attractions.

A list of names and addresses in the Stillwater area has been supplied to some of our members there. How about a Southwest chapter? *

from pg. 1

Methodist Canyon (mail-in)

doubt if this odd juxtaposition would have happened anywhere else on earth!

This all-day session will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 11.

To reach Methodist Canyon, take I-40 west from Oklahoma City to Exit 104 (just east of the Hinton exit). Go south for about 7 miles to a Methodist Camp sign on the right; turn Right down into the canyon. An arrow at the bottom points "Right" toward the beautiful new Lodge, where we will gather to register. I hope to see you there!

Please register in advance:

- Send your name, address & phone number,
- plus \$5 check payable to ONPS (to cover \$3.50 for lunch and \$1.50 for required insurance) and send to:

Jim Norman
502 N. 14th St.
Muskogee, OK 74401
(918) 682-1896

MUST BE RECEIVED By Aug. 31.

Contacts for above trip:


Nora Jones, 918/585-1117 or
Rahmona Thompson, 405/364-7994

On forming an ONPS chapter

You only need eight members to apply...plan your own programs and local field trips. Involve more people in your area.
Contact Patricia Folley, 15100 Etowah Road, Noble, OK 73068.

New!

Pre-registration for all field trips. Please observe, so leader can plan your day and you will be pleased. Trip to Meth. Canyon ...lunch & insurance required...but please register, fee or free.

Become an Oklahoma Native Plant Society member.

Please enroll me as a Member of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. My dues payment is enclosed for the category checked. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society, and mail to:
Oklahoma Native Plant Society • 2435 South Peoria • Tulsa, OK 74114

- _____ \$15.00 Family
- _____ \$10.00 Individual
- _____ \$ 5.00 Student
- _____ \$_____ contribution (All contributions are tax deductible.)
- _____ \$100.00 Lifetime

- Gift or Unbirthday
From: _____
- Renewal
- New Membership

NAME : _____ HOME PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ BUSINESS PHONE: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Wildflower workshop

(from pg. 5)

and vivid. Antelope were sighted, and many small animal tracks. (Portable chemical toilets were on hand for the first time since the site had limited facilities and no bushes.)

Tour leaders on different subjects were: Botanists Jeff Burkhart, Paul Buck, Paul Nighswonger; geologist Lyman Williams; photographer, Jack Taylor. Back at Government Springs in Enid, the sun emerged for our sack lunch at this lovely site used by early pioneers, and adjacent to the Museum of the Cherokee Strip.

The afternoon field trip, arranged by Ed Shovanech of Johnston Seed Co., involved a visit to the company fields where Oxeye daisy and Indian blanket bloomed in profusion. Agronomist John Lamie demonstrated seed cleaning, and at the dried materials division, Herman Dietrich showed innovative uses of native plants that go to floral distributors throughout the U.S. and Canada. Johnston's president, Leroy Mack, served up lifesaving cold sodas, and the trip finally ended at 4 p.m., an hour later than scheduled, with everyone still reluctant to leave, and eager with questions.

A fun, unique, informative time ... as always.

Next year, the 17th annual wildflower workshop will be in Tulsa on May 20-21. *

by Joanne Orr

Last Call...for nominations

Last call, almost.

For outstanding contributions to the Society's stated purpose: "to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma native plants" in honor of an ONPS founder, the Anne W. Long Award nomination deadline is near.

Please give thought to individuals, groups, businesses; the awardee might be your own garden club, school project or friend who's made a difference.

Send your nominations SOON to:

Paul Buck, Biology Dept., Univ. of Tulsa, Tulsa 74104.

Gaillardia

Published quarterly by Oklahoma Native Plant Society
2435 S. Peoria • Tulsa, OK 74114

President:	Ruth Boyd
Vice President:	Paul Buck
Secretary:	Pat Folley
Treasurer:	Rebecca Ovrebo
Historian:	Marjorie Franklin

Editing by Marilyn Bell, WriteAngle, Tulsa

Oklahoma Native Plant Society
c/o Tulsa Garden Center
2435 South Peoria
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Permit No. 789



Time-dated
mail.
Please open
promptly!

Anne W. Long Award 1993