THE INDIAN BLANKET
NEWSLETTER OF THE OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

WHAT WE’VE GOT PLANNED
NOW, READ UP, ‘CAUSE THERE’S LOTS OF
GOOD STUFF GOING ON, AND YOU WON’T
WANT TO MISS ANY OF IT!

SEPT. 13   SATURDAY, 9 A.M. NE CHAPTER FIELD TRIP
          TO MONAWK PARK.  SEE PAGE 9

SEPT. 15-21 OKLAHOMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, FALL FIELD
          MEETING AT CANYON CAMP.  CONTACT DR.
          BRYON CLARK AT SEOSU, DURANT / OR
          PHONE (405)324-0121, EXT. 210

SEPT. 29   CENTRAL CHAPTER’S EVENING MEETING AT
          7:30 P.M.  SEE PAGE 10

OCT. 7     ORNAMENTAL & NATIVE GRASS SEMINAR AT
          OSU-OKC HORT. CENTER.  FOR DETAILS, CALL
          CARROLL EMBERTON AT (405)522-5276 OR E-
          MAIL CHIC@IONET.NET.

OCT. 26-26: ANNUAL MEETING AT ROMAN NOSE ST. PK.
          SEE GOLD INSERT AND PAGE 8

OCT. 26-26 MID-SOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE AT
          MEMPHIS, TN.  SEE PG. 8

OCT. 27    CENTRAL CHAPTER MEETS AT 7:30, IN OSU
          HORT. CENTER: PLANT/SEED XCHS.  PG. 10

NOV. 20    CENTRAL CHAPTER MEETS AT 7:30 IN OSU
          HORT. CENTER.  P. 30

FEB. 9, 1998: INDOOR OUTING AT SOUTHEASTERN OKLA-
          HOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, DURANT.  P. 7

*THIS NEWSLETTER PRODUCED DURING THE DOG DAYS OF
  SUMMER.  NOT INTENDED AS A PERMANENT CHANGEL

*SUCCESS IS NOT THE KEY TO HAPPINESS.  HAPPINESS IS THE KEY TO
  SUCCESS.  IF YOU LOVE WHAT YOU ARE DOING, YOU WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.
  HERMAN CAIN, QUOTED IN THE SUMMER, 1997 CHINQUAPIN

(Ed. note: special fund donors not available at presstime.  We’ll list them
all next time.)
PRESIDENT'S PONDERS
BY FRANK CARL

AN AGENDA FOR THE OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING IS ENCLOSURE (BACK OF THE REGISTRATION FORM). THIS IS AN IMPORTANT EVENT AND WE ENCOURAGE ALL ONPS MEMBERS TO ATTEND.

WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE DR. EURY L. RICE AND MR. STEVE BIEBERICH AS SPEAKERS. DR. RICE IS WELL KNOWN FOR HIS RESEARCH ON ALLELOPATHY. HE RETIRED, TO WRITE, IN 1991 AFTER 34 YEARS AS A PROFESSOR AT OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF SEVERAL BOOKS. HIS LATEST, "EFFECTS OF ALLELOPATHY ON PLANT DISEASES AND WOOD DEGRADATION - ADDITIONAL EFFECTS OF ALLELOPATHY," WAS PUBLISHED IN 1986. DR. RICE IS THE SATURDAY EVENING LUNCHEON SPEAKER. HIS PRESENTATION ON "VEGETATION OF OKLAHOMA" WILL BEGIN AT 12:00 P.M. AFTER THE BUSINESS MEETING AND DINNER.

MR. BIEBERICH, TO NO-ONE'S SURPRISE, WILL TALK ABOUT TREES. HE AND HIS WIFE SHELLY OPERATE THE SUNSHINE NURSERY IN CLINTON. HIS RESEARCH ON ADAPTIVE PLANTS HAS TAKEN HIM TO MANY REMOTE LOCATIONS, INCLUDING CHINA. IN 1985, HE WILL HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO TIBET BY THE TIME OF THE ANNUAL MEETING. HIS PRESENTATION WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.

AS A BONUS, PAT FOLEY WILL PRESENT A SLIDE PROGRAM ON 10 YEARS OF ONPS NOMINEES. PAT IS EDITOR OF THE CALANDRDAY AND WILL SHOW SLIDES WHICH WILL BRING BACK MEMORIES OF ONPS FIELD TRIPS, OTHER EVENTS, AND MEMBERS. THIS WILL BE AN INFORMAL GROUP ACTIVITY AND IF YOU HAVE ANY SLIDES YOU WISH TO SHARE, SEND THEM TO PAT OR BRING THEM ALONG (WRITE YOUR NAME ON THEM). HER PROGRAM WILL FOLLOW STEVE'S PRESENTATION ON FRIDAY EVENINGS.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE DUE TO RUTH BOYD, RECIPIENT OF THE ANNUAL BEEF ENDOGRASS AWARD, IN RECOGNITION OF HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO WILDFLOWER CONSERVATION, AND TO PATRICIA FOLEY, RECIPIENT OF THE CONSERVATOR AWARD FROM THE NATURAL CONSERVANCY. SHE WAS RECOGNIZED FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZING THE POTOCRIDE RIDGE PLANT SURVEY. SHE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE FIELD WORK.

AFTER THE GOOD NEWS COMES THE BAD. NORA JONES HAS MOVED TO TEXAS WITH HER HUSBAND, JACK. WHO WAS TRANSFERRED. NORA, A PAST PRESIDENT OF ONPS, IS A LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZATION. SHE IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFICIENT, ORGANIZED, AND ENTHUSIASTIC PEOPLE I HAVE EVER WORKED WITH, AND DR. JEFF BURKHART ACCEPTED A POSITION IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA, AND HIS FAMILY MOVED DURING EARLY AUGUST. JEFF MADE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION IN OKLAHOMA FOR MANY YEARS. HE WAS VERY ACTIVE IN OUR ORGANIZATION AND WILL BE HARD TO REPLACE. BOTH WERE GOOD FRIENDS AND WILL BE MISSED.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE, I HAVE FOUR ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF UNUSUAL EVENTS "DURING PROGRAMS I ASK THE YOUNGSTERS IF THEY CAN NAME A SIDE OF A BIRD, ANIMAL, AND SO ON. THANKS TO THE CUB SCOUTS FOR "RABBIT CHICKEN" (LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN), AND "CANTALOUPES" (PRONGHORN ANTELOPE). THANKS TO A GENTLEMAN IN WOODS CO. WHO SHOWED ME A BLOOM OF HONEY MESQUITE WHICH MELTED INTO A ROCK LIKE A BRONTOSAURUS. THANKS TO MEMBER GERMAINE ROUS AND HER FAMILY FOR A NICE DINNER. THE UNUSUAL EVENT WAS HER PARROT WESLEY. WESLEY IS A "KODAK" MOMENT AND LOVES TO POSE FOR PHOTOS.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE COMPLETED SATURDAY EVENING PRIOR TO DR. RICE'S PRESENTATION. WE HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL LIST OF CANDIDATES AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM ALL OF THEM.

I HAVE ENJOYED MY TWO TERMS AS PRESIDENT. MAURETAN AND I HAVE MET SOME GREAT PEOPLE AND MADE A LOT OF NEW FRIENDS. THE HELP OF SEVERAL MEMBERS HAS MADE THIS AN EASY JOB. THE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS I HAVE WORKED WITH.WOULD BE AN ASSET TO ANY ORGANIZATION.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE, COMPOSED OF SUSAN CHAMBERS, BETTY KENN AND PAUL BRICK, HAS BROUGHT IN AN OUTSTANDING SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR THE OFFICERS AND BOARD NEXT YEAR. THEY ARE:

PRESIDENT: RUTH BOYD
VICE-PRESIDENT: DR. TUL MULL
SECRETARY: CLARE MILLER
TREASURER: JUDY JORDAN
HISTORIAN: CAROL HAWORTH
BOARD MEMBERS AT-LARGE:
DR. LARRY MAGRAVAND DR. PAUL REIMER.

PLEASE GIVE EACH OF THESE NOMINEES YOUR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, AND THEN COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTE!

ALSO TO BE CONSIDERED DURING THE BUSINESS MEETING IS AN INVITATION FROM THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS TO JOIN THE ORGANIZATION AND THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NEW MEXICO FOR A 3-WAY JOINT MEETING IN AMARILLO ON THE THIRD WEEKEND IN OCTOBER 1985. WE HAVE MANY JOINT MEMBERS IN THESE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SOME OF WHO WE MEET OFTEN ON FIELD TRIPS. A SWAP MEET FOR THE PLANNED MEETING IS ENCLOSURE ON PAGE 8.
GARDENING ON THE WILD SIDE

BY WAYNE CHAMBERS (FUTURE PULITZER PRIZE WINNER AND ALL-AROUND NICE GUY)

THE WINTER OF '90 WAS RAPIDLY APPROACHING FOR THE BRAVE LITTLE BAND OF PILGRIMS. THINGS LOOKED BLEAK. IN FACT, THE MUCH ANTICIPATED THANKSGIVING DINNER WAS SONG TO CONSIST OF HI-HO CRACKERS AND POTTED MEAT. ALL HOPE WAS SONG, THE NOBLE EXPERIMENT HAD FAILED. ENGLAND BECKONED.

JUST AS THE WOULD-BE COLONISTS HAD FINISHED TYING THE LAST MATTRESS TO THE TOP OF THE SHIP, HOPES CAME WALKING DOWN THE PATH. IT WAS THE INDIANS, WITH GROCERIES. ACTUALLY, THE TRIBE WAS TRYING TO UNLOAD SOME ZUCCHINI THEY FELT SULTY ABOUT THROWING AWAY, AND SOME TOMATOES THAT WERENT SONG TO OPEN BEFORE COLD WEATHER. THE PILGRIMS DIDNT KNOW THAT, BUT WOULDNT HAVE MUCH CARED. IT WAS FOOD. IT WAS FREE. HUFF SAD.

AFTER EXCHANGING GREETINGS AND PLEASANTSÍES THE PILGRIMS BROKE INTO A DEAD RUN FOR PLATES AND SILVERWARE. DISCRETION AND ORDER FINALLY BROKE THROUGH, HOWEVER, WHEN A REICH TRAY, CLIPS AND DIPS WERE SERVED BY A QUICK-THINKING LADY PILGRIM. THE TOMATOES AND ZUCCHINI WERE HASTILY PREPARED AND THE HALF-STARYED PILGRIMS ATE THEIR FILL. AFTER THE MEAL, SPIRITS WERE HIGH AND THE DECISION WAS MADE TO HAVE A THANK-SAYING FEAST PEOPLE WOULD BE TALKING ABOUT FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, OR WHEN THE LEFTOVERS WERE DONE, WHICHEVER CAME FIRST.

THE NEXT MORNING BEFORE SUNRISE INDIANS AND COLONISTS UNITED IN A COMMON GOAL: HOLIDAY IMMORTALITY. MEN OF TWO RACES EASILY WENT INTO THE WOODLANDS FOR GAME. AFTER A COUPLE OF CLOSE CALLS MEN OF TWO RACES WENT HOME AND PUT ON FLUORESCENT ORANGE HATS AND VESTS AND AGAIN EASILY RETURNED TO THE WOODLANDS FOR GAME. OF COURSE, THE INDIANS WERE EXCELLENT HUNTERS, THE PILGRIMS, HOWEVER, WANTED TO BE BIG-SHOTS AND SHOW OFF THEIR SUNS. THEIR FIREARM OF CHOICE WAS A BANDERBUSS. (YES, IT REALLY IS A WEAPON AND NOT A MODE OF TRANSPORTATION FOR MISTAKE-PRONE PEOPLE)

THE BANDERBUSS IS BASICALLY AN EARLY SHOTGUN, WITH A REALY, REALY FULL CHoke. VARIOUS TYPES OF SHOT WERE USED IN THE WEAPON, BUT SHOOTING FOR DINNER REQUIRED DIFFERENT SHOT. SOMETHING OTHER THAN LEAD SHOT WAS DESIRED, WHAT WITH THE NEAREST DENİST IN ROANOKE, AND HE DIDNT WORK ON HOLIDAYS. SEVERAL ALTERNATIVE-TYPES OF SHOT WERE TRIED. GRAPE NUTS CEREAL PROVED TO BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE, GIVING A GOOD KILL AND ALSO AN EXCELLENT SOURCE OF FIBER. IN AN EFFICIENCY MOVE, SOME OF THE PILGRIMS BEGAN LOADING THEIR SUNS WITH BREADINGS AND SPICES. THEY FigURED WITH ONE SHOT YOU COULD KILL, CLEAN AND STUFF A TURKEY, LEAVING ONLY TO COOK IT. THE REAL TRICK HERE WAS IN KNOWING HOW MUCH GUNPOWDER TO USE. JUST ENOUGH AND THE IDEA WORKED LIKE A CHARM. NOT ENOUGH MADE FOR A NAKED BIRD WITH A BAD ATTITUDE, AND TOO MUCH RESULTED IN TURKEY WASH. GAEM TAKEN IN THAT FIRST HUNT WAS SEVENTEEN TURKEYS, THREE DEER, A DOZEN SQUIRRELS, SIX RABBITS, A TEAM OF OXEN, AND THE WIDOW JONES OVERFED CAT WHICH SOMEONE MISTOOK FOR A BADEER. (BUT THE PILGRIMS DIDNT WANT NO STINKING BADEERS!) ALTHOUGH MANY TYPES OF GAME WERE TAKEN THAT DAY, IT IS TURKEY THAT WE ASSOCIATE WITH THANKSGIVING. THIS IS THE RESULT OF AN INTENSIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN BEGUN BY SOME OF THE MORE ENTERPRISING PILGRIMS. THEY HAD INVESTED HEAVILY IN HONEY-SUCKLE WASH FUTURES AND WERE INTENT ON GETTING THE TURKEYS OFF THE GROUND AS THE OFFICIAL TRADITIONAL THANK-SAYING MAIN COURSE. CHILDREN EVERYWHERE ARE THANKFUL THAT THEY DIDNT INVEST IN LIVER OR TRIBE FUTURES.

WHILE THE GAME WAS BEING DRESSED, SOME OF THE GUYS DECIDED TO BUILD A SMALL CAMPIRE AND SAMPLE SOME OF THE BOUNTY. AFTER THE FOREST FIRE HAD BEEN EXTINGUISHED, THE HUNTERS DECIDED TO TAKE EVERYTHING BACK TO THE SETTLEMENT. THAT WAY IF THE SETTLEMENT BURNED TO THE GROUND THEY COULD CASH IN BIG-TIME FROM THE INSURANCE COMPANIES. THE MENFOLKS ARRIVED BACK AT THE VILLAGE QUITE PLEASED WITH THEMSELVES. THE WOMENFOLK WERE NOT. IT SEEMS THE CHILDREN/FOLK HAD BEEN UNDERFOOT ALL MORNING. AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT NEXT YEAR'S HUNT WOULD BE A DAD 8 LAD AFFAIR, EITHER THAT, OR THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE TO BUILD SOME KIDDE-SIZED STOCKS.

WITH THE HELP OF THE NOW VERY OBVIOUS MEN, FIRES WERE BUILT, CORN WAS SHUCKED, MEAT WAS ROASTED, AND VEGETABLES WERE SLICED, DICED AND JULIENNE. YES, IT WAS AN AMAZING SIGHT. DINNER WAS PUT ON THE TABLE AT 2PM, TO THE PRIDE AND DELIGHT OF ALL INVOLVED. THERE TRULY WAS MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR. NOT JUST THE ABUNDANCE OF FOOD, BUT FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF NEW FRIENDS, AS WELL AS THE FREEDOM OF A NEW LAND. IT WOULD BE A VERY (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)
CONSERVATION CORNER

BY SHELA STRAWN, ONPS CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN

CONSERVING SPECIES IN CONSERVING HABITAT

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14, THE CENTRAL CHAPTER OF THE OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MET AT THE OKLAHOMA CITY ZOO FOR A TOUR OF THE NEW "BUTTERFLY GARDEN." FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS THE ZOO HAS BEEN UTILIZING NATIVE SPECIES IN THEIR LANDSCAPING PROGRAMS. THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN THE ADDITION OF A ROCK GARDEN WITH NATIVE CACTUS AND SUCCELENTS, A TALLGRASS PRAIRIE HILLSIDE, AND A WILDFLOWER GARDEN WITH A "PUDDING POOL" DESIGNED ESPECIALLY TO ATTRACT BUTTERFLIES. INDEED, WE SAW MANY BUTTERFLIES, INCLUDING OUR OWN STATE BUTTERFLY, THE EASTERN BLACK SWALLOWTAIL. THE HORTICULTURISTS HAVE AN ONGOING PROGRAM TO LABEL THESE NATIVE SPECIES AS WELL AS THE TREES AND SPECIAL PLANTINGS IN THE ANIMAL EXHIBIT AREAS. THE ZOO IS PLANNING TO ENLARGE THE EDUCATION BUILDINGS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR MORE CLASSES INCLUDING HORTICULTURE CLASSES AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

PEARL PEARSON, OCK ZOO HORTICULTURIST, GAVE US A TOUR AND PROVIDED EVERYONE PRESENT WITH A HANDOUT ON HOW TO USE NATIVE SPECIES TO ATTRACT BUTTERFLIES TO OUR HOME GARDENS. WE WERE ALL DELIGHTED AT THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF SPECIES IN THE 2005 GARDEN AND HOW HUMUS SOME OF THE NATIVE BLOOMS HAD GROWN WITH A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT AND A LITTLE FERTILIZER. WE ASKED ABOUT THE FERTILIZER. PEARL SAID THAT THE ZOO NO LONGER HAS A PLACE TO COMPOST THEIR OWN, SO THEY USE A COMMERCIAL SOIL CONDITIONER MADE BY HEAVENLY EARTH CALLED "HUMATE." THEY ARE EVEN ABLE TO REHABILITATE OLD ANIMAL ENCLOSURE AREAS WITH IT. SHE ALSO SAID THAT THEY HAVE HAD LITTLE TROUBLE WITH PESTS IN THEIR TWO PRODUCTION HOUSES AND THAT THEY USE NATURAL PREDATORS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING FUNGUS SNAILS, PARASITIC WASPS, LADY BUGS AND SEVERAL OTHERS. SHE ASKED FOR HELP IN VERIFYING SOME SPECIES WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN MIS-IDENTIFIED BY NURSERIES AND SEED PROVIDERS. WE SHARED WHAT WE KNEW ABOUT THEM WITH PEARL AND EACH OTHER. WE FOUND SOME PLANTS FROM "NATIVE WILDFLOWER SEED" PACKETS SOLD BY NURSERIES WHICH ARE NOT NECESSARILY NATIVE TO OKLAHOMA.

JENIE HESA, THE HORTICULTURE TECHNICIAN IN CHARGE OF STARTING THE SEEDINGS AND PREPARING THE SEED BEDS, ASSISTED PEARL WITH THE TOUR AND GAVE US BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HOW IT WAS DONE. SHE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE 2005'S FIRST TRY WITH NATIVE LANDSCAPES. MOST OF THE PLANTINGS MADE IN THE HEAT OF LAST AUGUST LASTED THROUGH THE WINTER. THE WILDFLOWER PLOT TURNED OUT TO REQUIRE VERY LITTLE MAINTENANCE WITH ONLY TWO CLEAN-UPS, ALMOST EVERYTHING THEY PLANTED, PERENNIALS AND ANNUALS, CAME BACK THIS YEAR.

IT'S TOO LATE TO "PREVENT" THE NATURAL PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES WE ANNIHILATED WHEN WE ESTABLISHED OUR COMMUNITIES, BUILT OUR HOUSES, PLANTED TURFGRASS AND PAVED OUR PARKING lots. THAT ORIGINAL NATURAL GENETIC DIVERSITY IS GONE FROM OUR CITIES AND SUBURBS. WE SHOULD PROMOTE THE PRESERVATION AND REESTABLISHMENT OF NATURAL DIVERSITY WHEREVER POSSIBLE. EVEN IF WE HAVE CONTROL OVER ONLY A FEW SQUARE METERS OF LAND, THAT LAND CAN BE USED TO GIVE OUR NATIVE SPECIES A PLACE TO BE. A BUTTERFLY GARDEN NOT ONLY PROVIDES SPACE FOR NATIVE FLORAL SPECIES TO MAINTAIN GENETIC DIVERSITY BY BEING NATURALLY POLINATED, IT ALSO PROVIDES FOOD AND LIVING SPACE FOR INSECTS TO LIVE AS WELL AS THEIR PREDATORS, THE SPIDERS, LIZARDS, AND SNARES. YES, WE WILL HAVE TO COME TO TERMS WITH LIVING AROUND ALL THESE NATIVE SPECIES. THAT'S EASIER SAID THAN DONE, HOWEVER. ONCE AGAIN, THERE IS A HUMAN FACTOR INVOLVED - OUR FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN. WHILE WE ARE IGNORANT ABOUT THE LIFE HISTORY OF MANY "PEST" SPECIES, MANY OF THEM ARE SMART ENOUGH TO LIVE AROUND US. THEY KNOW WHOSE GARBAGE CAN IS TO TIP. WHO PLANTS THE JUICIEST GARDEN, AND WHERE TO GO TO HIDE. SURELY WE CAN LEARN ENOUGH ABOUT WILD ANIMALS TO ABANDON OUR DESIRE TO LIVE WITHOUT THEM. IF WE DON'T PRESERVE HABITAT FOR ALL THE SPECIES, THE ONLY ONES WHICH SURVIVE WILL BE THE ONES WHICH ARE SMART/GENETICALLY LUCKY ENOUGH TO SURVIVE WITH HUMANS--THE PESTS!

TAXONOMIC

Whatever happened to Smilacina.
A name that I long knew well?
Has it been sent to that far-off place
Where all the lost names dwell?

There to drift in limbo and await that future age
When some botanist's paper will bring it back on stage.

And if that day does happen, later botanists will say,
"What the hell is Smilacina? I never heard that name.
I grew up with old Malanthemum: why should it have to change?"

But change occurs.
Old books are littered with names that have passed away.
Some may be gone, but others rest to be seen at a later day.

While some remain in italics or even parentheses.
It depends upon the authors and what the authors please.
by Stan Hudson, clipped from the ONPS' Petal Pusher
BOTANY MATTERS

WHY SOME PLANTS HAVE PRETTY FLOWERS, AND SOME DON'T

BY DR. PAUL BUCK

Every one of us, as members of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, share a common interest and curiosity in our native flora. We frequently ask one another "What plant is that? Where can it be found? Which are edible? Have medicinal value? Are poisonous? Plus a multitude more. If you haven’t participated in these question and answer sessions it is probably because you have not joined us on a field trip. Let me take a few moments and discuss the question raised in the title above. Perhaps my comments will answer some of your questions but then raise many more. If that is the case, this effort will be successful and you might even join us on a future outing for "more of the story.

First, a review of basic concepts related to flowers and their role in plant life cycles. Of course, life cycles necessarily involve reproduction.

There are two approaches to the reproductive process and each has its advantages and disadvantages. In the first, asexual reproduction, a portion of the adult body, plant or animal, separates and gives rise to a new organism. The advantages are that the process is inexpensive, requires little energy, and permits a population to quickly flood a favorable environment. A major disadvantage is that there is little variation in the population; all individuals are similar and subject to being eliminated by a predator or pathogen.

The second approach, sexual reproduction, involves the fusion of genetic material generally provided by two individuals. This process produces offspring composed of the combined traits of the parents. Sexual reproduction is expensive. It involves attracting or pursuing a mate, and requires complex, specialized structures to complete the process of placing the gametes (sperm and eggs) in close proximity so fertilization can occur. The disadvantage is evident, the cost great. The advantage is a population of diverse individuals, so different it can survive the ever-changing environment. Some members will be resistant to, or tolerant of, the stresses imposed and will perpetuate the species.

The problem facing plants is how to transport the male gamete (sperm within pollen grains) to the female gamete (eggs within the ovules in ovaries). Somehow that pollen grain must make its way from an anther (part of the stamen) to the stigma (upper portion of the pistil), a process called pollination. From the stigma a developing pollen tube carries the sperm to the immediate vicinity of the eggs. There are two primary approaches to the pollination process, enticing an organism to carry the pollen from one flower to another (entomophily), and releasing pollen into the atmosphere for wind distribution (anemophily).

Entomophily involves attracting an organism for pollen transport and this is often expensive. It frequently involves visual cues such as large, colorful petals, sometimes with intricate patterns which direct visitor behavior. Once the eye of a foraging insect, or other potential pollinator, has been caught, the organism must be lured to the plant and that is often a result of an aroma produced along with nectar. The nectar, and generally some pollen, is the reward for transporting pollen from one flower to another. Too little reward and the "transporter" may choose to visit another species of plants, while too great an abundance may result in the animal's returning to its home, terminating any additional visits. Obviously there is a delicate balance to the quantity and quality of the nectar, so it will meet the demands of the visitor. Studies have shown that plants monitor that balance until pollination has been accomplished — then the nectar supplies dry up, petals lose their color and wilt, and metabolic energy is diverted toward the production of seeds (containing embryos) and fruit. What is the advantage of removing anthers from large lily flowers used in floral displays?

The second approach, anemophily, is also costly but in this case there is no need for the large petals (in fact, many of the plants in this category lack petals), bright pigmentation is unnecessary, as well as nectar production. Instead, the plants divert their abundant metabolic energy to the production of great quantities of pollen which is then released to the wind. Many of our Oklahoma native plants are anemophilous — why do you suppose that is true?

An example of a common and familiar (intimately familiar for some) native species demonstrating anemophily is Ambrosia psilostachya, giant ragweed. Flower maturation and pollen release begins about mid-August, as any hayfever sufferer well knows. Take a moment to examine the flowers of a specimen. The species is common and abundant across most of the state. The spike-like masses of male flowers appear yellow due to the anthers, swollen with pollen. The female flowers are small and inconspicuous, occurring at the bases of the male flowers. It has been reported that one giant ragweed plant will produce over 2,000,000 pollen grains. Have heart, however, this will be over with the first frost, or about the 14th of October.

As I said before, we can cover only a few of the problems met by plants in sexual reproduction. The question we asked was why do some plants have "pretty flowers" and some don't? And we have shed some light on it. There are still numerous difficulties to be overcome in reproduction by the flowering plants and we have an idea how many have been solved. (continued on next page)
The Gaillardia

(Plant, etc. continued from page 5)

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF PLANTS LIKE MILLOWS OR COTTONWOODS BEING ENTIRELY MALE (STAMI-NATE) OR FEMALE (PSEUVATE)?

HOW IS SELFING (INCEST) AVOIDED?

HOW DO SUBMERSED AQUATIC FLOWERING PLANTS ACCOMPLISH POLINIZATION?

HOW DOES POLINATION TAKE PLACE IN PLANTS WITH UNUSUAL, OFTEN EZABRRE FLORAL STRUCTURE, SUCH AS HIBISCUS, JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT, "DUTCHMAN'S PIPE, ETC."

THESE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE QUESTIONS WE CAN DISCUSS IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF THE GAILARDIA.

(Ed. note: Dr. Buck has issued an invitation to our members. You can send your questions directly to him or to this newsletter for reply.)

(TAANKSIVAG... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

LONOE TIME BEFORE THIS MOMENT WAS FORGOTTEN IT WOULD BE CENTURIES BEFORE THANKSGIVING WOULD BECOME MORE TRADITION THAN THANKFULNESS.

AFTER A BEEP (BY PILGRIM STANDARDS) PRAYER, THE MEAL WAS BEGUN. YES! EVERYONE WAS THANKFUL, BUT THEY WERE ALSO HUNGRY. OLDER SHTI WAS USUALLY KEPT OUT ON THE FAMILY MEALS. MOST OF THE CONVERSATIONS WERE targ EDARDS TO THE TASK AT HAND. PHRASES SUCH AS "IT'S HEE, WOULD YOU PASS THE SALT" OR "SSORY-BE, THE TURKEY IS DRAY" WERE ABOUT ALL THAT WAS HEARD.

AFTER THE MEAL, HOWEVER, THINGS LOOS- ENED UP. LITERALLY. ABOUT TWO NOTCHES ON A LEATHER DRESS BELT. CONVERSATION ITSELF WAS STRAINED THOUGH, SINCE NEITHER GROUP WAS LITERATE IN THE OTHER'S LANGUAGE. MOSTLY SMILES AND SUGGESTIONS. BEFORE LONG THE MEN BEGAN TO DINE AWAY AND CONVERGE OUTSIDE. THE WOMEN WERE LEFT WITH THE CLEANUP, BUT THEY DIDN'T MIND. (REMEMBER THIS WAS THE 1605'S.)

ONCE OUTSIDE, THE GUYS BEGAN TO CLUSTER IN SMALL GROUPS, HUNKER DOWN, DRAW WITH STICKS IN THE DIRT, LEAN AGAINST OX CARTS AND TELL HANDY STORIES. IN HONOR OF THE NEW FRIENDS MADE, ONE OF THE INDIANS OFFERED THE PILGRIMS SOMETHING THEY HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE: TOBACCO. THE COLONISTS WERENT AWARE YOU WERE JUST SUPPOSED TO CHEW IT. FORTUNATELY THE NATIVES REALIZED WHAT WAS GOING ON AND MADE IT CLEAR THIS WAS NOT A SNACK TO BE EATEN. SOON EVERYONE WAS CHEWING AND SPITTING LIKE OLD PROS. THINGS WERE REALLY GREAT WHEN A PIPE WAS BROUGHT OUT AND EVERYONE WAS SMOKING THIS WONDERFUL SMOKE.

BACK INSIDE THE CABIN THE WOMEN HAD SOCKED ALL THE LEFTOVERS INTO THEIR TUPPER-WARE AND CLEANED UP THE MESS. THE CHILDRENFOLK WERE UNCHAINED FROM THE KIDS' TABLE AND SENT OUTSIDE TO TORTURE THEIR FATHERS. THEY QUICKLY DETOURED OUT OF FEAR OF BEING EAT UPON, AND DECIDED INSTEAD TO GIVE THEIR NEW

LITTLE NATIVE FRIENDS RIDES ON THE DUNKING STOOL. THE INDIAN WOMEN HAD A NEW TABLE GAME THEY WANTED TO SHOW OFF. BINGO.

QUITE AN AFTERNOON WAS HAD BY ALL. ALL THINGS HAVE TO COME TO AN END, AND SOON LEFT- OVERS WERE PORTIONED OUT, PLANS WERE MADE FOR NEXT YEAR AND GOODBYES WERE SPORED. AS THE FRIENDLY NATIVES WALKED AWAY INTO THE SETTING SUN THE SETTLER LADIES WAVED GOODBYE AND SHOUTED THEIR NEWLY LEARNED WORD "BINGO". THE MENFOLKS MERELY WAVED. NOT BECAUSE THEY WERE UNFRIENDLY, BUT BECAUSE THEY HAD SMOKED TOO MUCH AND THEIR THROATS WERE REALLY BORE.

---HAPPY THANKSGIVING ONE AND ALL---

TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE UPDATE

THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION HAS BEEN REASONABLY ASSURED THAT TO CAUSE OF OVERWHELMING NATIONAL SUPPORT FROM CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES MANUFACTURING AND/OR SELLING NON-CONSUMPTIVE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT, THE TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE PROPOSAL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE NATIONAL LEGISLATURE, PROBABLY IN OCTOBER 1991. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOUR OWN SENATOR OR REPRESENTATIVE BE ASSURED THAT YOU WANT HIM/HER TO SUPPORT THE BILL. UNFORTUNATELY, A NUMBER OF THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE POOR RECORDS IN SUPPORTING ECOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES. THESE INDIVIDUALS MAY BE CONTACTED AS FOLLOWS:

THE HONORABLE [FULL NAME] UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, DC 20510

AND

THE HONORABLE [FULL NAME] UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, DC 20515

IF YOU BELONG TO A GROUP THAT WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE DETAILS ABOUT TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE YOU MAY CALL JEREMY GARRETT AT ODWC AT 221-6441 AND ASK FOR A SPEAKER TO ADDRESS YOUR GROUP.
ON TO BROKEN MOUNTAIN, TO SEE THE STATE-RECORD SEPTEMBER 16th (ULMUS SEROTINA), AND EAST ON US 70 ABOUT 4 MILES TO THE STATE-RECORD WILLOW OAK (QUERCUS PHELLOIDES) - A REALLY, REALL BIG TREE. SOUTH, THEN, ALONG THE MOUNTAIN FORK RIVER TO FORKED LAKE AND THE CYPRESS SWAMPS. LIKE A DREAM FROM ANOTHER PLANET, THERE. ALTOGETHER, A WONDERFUL DAY.

FIELD TRIPS YET TO COME

INDOOR OUTING -- FEBRUARY 7, 1997

BY CONNIE TAYLOR

IN THE TRADITIONAL MANNER OF OURS, WE WILL TAKE OVER THE CAMPUS OF SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY FOR A SATURDAY IN MIDDLE FOR AN INDOOR FIELD TRIP. IS THERE ANYONE LEFT WHO HAS NOT BEEN TO ONE OF THESE EVENTS? COME AND FIND OUT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSED! CONVIVE AT THE SCIENCE BUILDING, 1:00 AM, TO 3:00 PM WILL BE SPEAKERS. I HAVE ASKED SEVERAL PEOPLE FROM TEXAS TO COME UP AND TALK ABOUT THE BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS AND THE NORTH TEXAS FLORA PROJECT. DR. RAIMONDA THOMPSON WILL TALK ABOUT BOTANY ON THE INTERNET. YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY HAS INTERNET ACCESS, AND ALL YOU NEED IS A SPECIAL LIBRARY CARD. WORKSHOPS ARE TENTATIVELY ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE DAISY OR SUNFLOWER FAMILY (DAPA) AND FERNS. LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN. RESERVATION FORM AND FULL DETAILS WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE GALLARDIA. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL DR. CONNIE TAYLOR (918) 221-2224.

THE HUNT FOR CHUBOS RED OAK

BY JOE McANTRIE (CIBERED BY THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS NEWSLETTER)

I WAS AREA CONSERVATIONIST FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE AT ABILENE, TEXAS IN 1935 WHEN RENNY SIMPSON CALLED JOE R. NORTON, STATE RANGE CONSERVATIONIST, AND MYSELF. HE WANTED TO SEE IF WE WOULD HELP HIM IN LOCATING SOME CHUBOS RED OAKS, QUERCUS AGRAE, THAT WERE SUPPOSED TO EXIST IN THE VICINITY OF THE PECOS RIVER WHERE IT ENTERS THE RIO GRANDE. WHILE RESEARCHING SOME OLD RECORDS HE HAD COME ACROSS INFORMATION THAT SHOwed THE CHUBOS RED OAK HAD BEEN FOUND BY THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION ABOUT 100 IN LIMP A CANYON NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE PECOS RIVER. LIMP CANYON DID NOT SHOW ON ANY MAPS BUT HE KNEW THAT IOE NORTON I MADE SEVERAL TRIPS TO LAKE AMISTAD EACH YEAR TO FISH AND EXPLORE ITS PLANT LIFE ON FORMERLY INACCESSIBLE CLIFFS ALONG THE CANONES OF THE RIO GRANDE, AND WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE LAKES FEATURES. WHILE STATIONED AT WIDALE, TEXAS, I HAD WRITTEN AN ARTICLE FOR THE OCTOBER 1931 SOIL CONSERVATION MAGAZINE TITLED "QUEST FOR A RARE TREE". THE ARTICLES CONCERNED THE TEXAS PISTACHE, PISTACIA TEXANA, WHICH CLIMB TO THE ROCKY SLOPES (CONTINUED ON PAGE 1)
The Gaillardia

The annual meeting agenda

By Frank Carl

October 21, Friday
5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. ARRIVE AT GROUP CAMP 2 (IN ROMAN NICE STATE PARK - SEE SIGNED INSERT FOR MAP) REGISTER AND SIGN-UP FOR WORKSHOPS & FIELD TRIPS. DINNER ON YOUR OWN
7:00 TO 8:00 P.M. HR. STEVE WESERICH WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM ON NATIVE TREES AND TREES ADAPTIVE TO OKLAHOMA.
8:00 TO 9:00 P.M. PAT FOLLEY WILL LEAD A NOSTALGIA TRIP THROUGH THE HISTORY OF THE ONPS, USING SIDES TAKEN BY SEVERAL MEMBERS. THOSE WITH SIDES TO END MAY BEING THEM DURING REGISTRATION PERIOD.

October 25, Saturday
6:45 TO 7:15 A.M. EARLY MORNING BIRDING
7:30 TO 8:30 A.M. BREAKFAST* PICK UP SACK LUNCHES* FOR FIELD TRIPS.
9:00 TO 11:30 A.M. FIELD TRIPS AND WORKSHOPS
12:00 TO 1:00 LUNCH TIME
1:00 TO 3:30 P.M. FIELD TRIPS AND WORKSHOPS
5:30 TO 6:30 P.M. DINNER*
6:45 TO 7:45 P.M. BUSINESS MEETINGS - ELECTION OF OFFICERS & BOARD. VOTE ON 1975 ANNUAL MEETING.
8:00 TO 9:00 P.M. ADDRESS BY DR. ELCOY L. RICE ON THE VEGETATION OF OKLAHOMA. DR. RICE IS A RETIRED PROFESSOR OF BOTANY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA AND THE AUTHOR OF SEVERAL BOOKS ON BOTANY AND BOTANISTS IN THE AREA.

October 26, Sunday
7:30 - 8:30 A.M. BREAKFAST* THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL HAVE A WORKING BREAKFAST-MEETING.
11:00 - 12:15 A.M. BREAK CAMP - CLEAN UP BUNK-HOUSE & DINING HALL
9:30 TO 11:30 A.M. TOUR HIKING TRAILS WITHIN THE PARK

*MEALS MUST BE PREPAID. USE THE SIGNED INSERT FORM.

Note: RED ROCK CANYON, LOCATED ON THE SOUTH EDGE OF UNTON, OKLAHOMA HAS A STATE RECORD TREE, A BOX ELDER. THE PARK IS LOCATED ON THE ROAD BACK TO OPG (SOUTH OF HWY ON SH 351) IT IS ALSO HOME TO A REMAINING POPULATION OF ACER SACCHARUM, (CADDY MAPLES), WHICH PUT ON A SPECTACULAR FALL COLOR.

(The Hunt for Chisos... continued from p. 2)

Along the Pecos River and upper part of Lake Amistad Canyon Walls. He felt we might be able to locate the area where the chisos red oak was growing. It sounded interesting so we agreed to make a botany exploration trip with Renney which resulted in finding three national champion big trees in one day.

Renney provided us with descriptions of the general area he wanted to go see and I took him to a canyon norris and I suspected might be the one he wanted to locate. It was a very rocky canyon and had large boulders sticking out of the water. I could see my

Boat only a short distance into the Canyon before we had to beach it and start our search on foot. After a short distance of climbing over rocks and pushing through underbrush of all kinds, we came upon a Vassey oak, Quercus cungenta var. Vasseyana. It was the largest that any of us had ever seen so we took trunk, height and crown measurements and made some 35mm sides, since we suspected it might be a champion.

After leaving the area, viewing the beautiful plants growing along the cliffs, we came to an area where several Texas Pecan were located. One of these was by far the largest I had ever seen so we measured it and documented the needed information before continuing on up the Canyon. As we went into the more open area of the Canyon we started finding the Chisos Red Oaks. While resting from our climbing over rocks, trees and brush we noticed an exceptionally beautiful Chisos Red Oak Tree in an area where the Canyon widened out. Once again we got out the equipment and started measuring.

On February 6, 1975 we were notified by the American Forestry Association that all three trees were National Champion Trees as well as being state champions. We were very proud of our day's work and probably would never have located these three National Champions if it hadn't been for Renney's interest in finding an area east of the Pecos River with Chisos Red Oaks that had been mentioned in documents over 120 years old.
The Gaillardia

NORTHEAST NEWS

BY BETTY KEMM, FIRST PRESIDENT OF ONPS AND RECENTLY-RETAINED CHAIRMAN OF THE NE CHAPTER.

NORTH EAST CHAPTER SUPPORTED THE WHITE-OAK PRAIRIE FIELD TRIP, WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE A STATE-WIDE EVENT DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND, AND ENJOYED A LATE SPRING VISIT TO THE NEWLY-RENAMED OKLAHOMA GRASS-PINK (AN ORCHID) IN MAY. BOTH EVENTS WERE LED BY JIM NORMAN OF MUSKOSEE.

PLANNED EVENTS THIS FALL INCLUDE:
LORETTA BOWERS, OWNER OF CLEAR CREEK FARM, WILL SPEAK AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETINGS ABOUT RAISING BUTTERFLIES. (WE REGRET THAT THIS NEWSLETTER WILL NOT BE OUT WHEN THAT MEETING CONVENES; HOPE YOU FOUND OUT IN TIME).

THE FALL FIELD TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT MONAHK PARK'S NORTH WOODS, BUT WILL CONVENE IN THE PARKING LOT AT OAKLEY NATURE CENTER AT 9 AM.

THE NEXT PLANNED MEETING DATE IS DECEMBER 5 AT THE TULSA GARDEN CENTER. WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR CALL BETTY KEMM AT (918) 431-8131. FOLKS WHO ATTEND MEETING MEETINGS ARE PlACED ON A POSTCARD MAILING LIST AND THIS NEVER HAVE A WORRY ABOUT MISSEND ONE.

MIDSOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE

(WE'RE RUNNING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE CONFERENCE, EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW IT IS THE SAME WEEKEND AS OUR ANNUAL MEETING.)

THE MIDSOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN MEMPHIS, TENN. ON OCTOBER 26-27, 1989. A FESTIVAL MEET PLAYGROUNDS, GARDEN TOURS, INTEREST SESSIONS, AND PLANT SALES IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR MEETINGS. INTERNATIONAL KNOWN AUTHOR AND LECTURER JUDY GIATTSTEIN WILL BE THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER ON FRIDAY. OTHER GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE INSTRUCTOR CARY SMITH AND DAVE HEMDECKS OF NORTH CREEK NURSERIES, WHO IS A SPECIALIST AND NATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE EXOTICS. PROFESSIONALS FROM SEVERAL AREAS OF THE MIDSOUTH WILL BE LEADING THE FOCUS SESSIONS IN THEIR FIELDS OF EXPERTISE.

THE CONCURRENT INTEREST SESSIONS ALLOW FOR A VARIETY OF NATIVE PLANT-RELATED FOCUS GROUPS. PERS, MOSSES, MAIGNIOS, AND FAVORITE NATIVE TREES WILL BE DISCUSSES IN SEPARATE SESSIONS. ALSO OFFERED ARE SESSIONS ON PLANTING A RESIDENTIAL PRAIRIE, CREATING REALISTIC WATER AND STONE FEATURES IN THE NATIVE GARDEN, CREATING A BOX-CARPET SWAMP ENVIRONMENT, UTILIZING PUBLIC LAND TO PROMOTE NATIVE PLANT APPRECIATION, AND EVEN ON GARDENING WITH CHILDREN, WHICH WILL DISCUSS INTRODUCING NATIVE PLANTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LANDSCAPE. PROPAGATION WILL BE COVERED IN TWO WORKSHOPS, ONE FOR THE HOME GARDENER AND ANOTHER ON LARGE-SCALE PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION. SELECTING, NAMING, AND INTRODUCING SOUTHEASTERN NATIVE PLANTS WILL BE COVERED, AND ANOTHER WORKSHOP WILL GET INTO DOWN AND DIRTY GARDENING TECHNIQUES.

A PICNIC, BARBECUE, SPECIAL T-SHIRT, AND THE TOURS ARE ALL INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION MOVEMENT OF $35. IF REGISTRATION IS SENT IN PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, THE PRICE IS $25. FOR BROCHURE AND REGISTRATION FORM, WRITE TO MSNPC, INC., 5592 QUEEN RD, MEMPHIS, TN 38119, OR CALL (901) 360-9716.

GLOBAL RELIEF

BY DAVID K. NORTHINGTON, EX. DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL WILDFLOWER RESEARCH CENTER (CLIPPED FROM WILDFLOWER, THEIR NEWSLETTER)

IN A COMPLICATED WORLD WITH COMPLEX ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS OR QUICK FIXES. WE SHOULD BE READY TO ADDRESS ANY SINGLE ASPECT OF A COMPLEX SYSTEM WITHOUT CONSIDERING HOW THAT ACTION MIGHT AFFECT THE REST OF THE SYSTEM.

A VERY REAL EXAMPLE OF THIS PROBLEM IS THE LARGE NUMBER OF USUAL WELL-INTENTIONED BUT NOT FULLY DEDICATED PLANTING IN NATIVES. "RE" PLANTING TREES THAT HAVE BEEN CLEARED FOR URBAN GROWTH IMPLIES THAT THE NATIVE TREES THAT WERE CLEARED WILL BE REPLACED WITH THOSE SAME NATIVE SPECIES.

MANY OF THE PROBLEMS INSTEAD RECOMMEND PLANTING "EXOTIC" TREES THAT ARE INTRODUCED FROM OTHER CONTINENTS. EVEN IF THEY ARE "SELECTED" FOR THEIR HARDINESS ZONES OR FOR "DROUGHT-TOLERANT" OR "NATURALIZED," IT DOES NOT MEAN THEY WILL FIT INTO LOCAL ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS. THIS IS TRUE EVEN FOR TREES NATIVE TO NORTH AMERICA OR TO YOUR CITY OR STATE, IF THEY ARE NOT NATIVE TO THE AREA WHERE THEY ARE BEING PLANTED.

EXOTIC ORNAMENTAL TREES OFTEN CONSUME MANY RESOURCES, INCLUDING WATER, SOIL AMENDMENTS, FERTILIZERS, AND PEST CONTROL ADDITIONALLY, THEY USUALLY DO NOT REPRODUCE, SO "REPLACEMENT" BEGINS ANGEL WHEN THE TREE DIES, WHICH IS OFTEN IN THE FIRST FEW YEARS. IF YOU BOLDLY PLANT SUCH A TREE, YOU MAY DO SO AT A HUGELY ECOLOGICAL RESOURCE LOSS.

ADMITTEDLY, SOME EXOTICS DO NOT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL WATERING, FERTILIZING, SPRAYING, ETC., THEY ARE "JUST AS GOOD AS A NATIVE," BUT ECOLOGICALLY, WHAT DO THEY PROVIDE? THEY DO NOT PROVIDE MIDLIFE HABITAT, SOIL MICROBE INTERACTION, OR OTHER ECOSYSTEM INVOLVEMENT, AND THEY DO OCCUPY SPACE THAT A TRUE NATIVE — THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE LOCAL ECO-SYSTEM — COULD HAVE LIVED IN. WHILE SUCH NATURALIZED EXOTICS MAY NOT BE A RESOURCE DRAIN, THEY MAKE FEW, IF ANY, CONTRIBUTIONS BEYOND AESTHETICS, SUCH AS FLOWERING OR SHADE. THEY DO NOT ECOLOGICALLY REPLACE WHAT WAS ONCE THERE.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT FOR "PLANTING A MILLION TREES" IS (CONT. ON PAGE 10)
The Gaillardia

CENTRAL CHAPTER CHATTER

BY SHEILA STRAWN, CHAPTER CHAIRMAN

WHAT WE DID THIS SUMMER: PULLED WEEDS, WATERED, HUNTED FOR TICKS, SPREAD CORNSTALK CREAM IN HARD-TO-REACH PLACES.... OH, WHAT WE DID AS A GROUP WAS HAVE A WALKING TOUR OF SUSAN AND WAYNE CHAMBERS' HOME GROUNDS. IF ANYONE MISSED IT, I DON'T SEE HOW WE HAD OVER FIFTY PEOPLE SHOW UP (AND IT WAS HOT AND SULTRY, TOO). I MUST SAY, THEY WERE AGREEABLE ABOUT THE CONDITIONS. MUST HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE BEAUTIFUL NATURALISTIC PLANTINGS THAT THE CHAMBERS HAVE BEEN IMPROVING OVER THE YEARS. THERE IS WATER EVERYWHERE, IN PUDDLES AND POOLS AND A WATERFALL RIMMED WITH ROCKS, AND THE WILDFLOWERS THAT GOES WITH ALL THAT, FROGS AND WATER LILES AND GROUND COVERS.

THE LONG-PLANNED AND MUCH-POSTPONED WORK SESSION ON USING THE NEW KEYS TO OKLAHOMA PLANTS WILL BE HELD ON THE DAY THIS NEWSLETTER IS MAILED. WE'LL LET YOU KNOW HOW IT TURNS OUT.

OUR REGULAR LAST-MONDAY-OF-THE-MONTH EVENING MEETINGS WILL RESUME ON 25 SEPTEMBER AT THE USUAL LOCATION: OSU TECHS HORTICULTURE CENTER AT 4TH AND PORTLAND, OIC, AT 7:30 P.M. JIM OTTMAN WILL BEGINS A PROGRAM ON BATS, WHAT DO BATS HAVE TO DO WITH NATIVE PLANTS? COME AND FIND OUT.

REMEMBER, OUR MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND THERE IS NEVER ANY CHARGE FOR ADMISSION. BEING A FRIEND!

THEN, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 23 (YES, THE DAY AFTER THE ANNUAL MEETING ENDS), PAT FOLLEY WILL SHOW THE NEW "EXPORTABLE" PROGRAM ON NATIVE PLANTINGS FOR WILDLIFE. COME CHECK IT OUT AND THEN FIND A CLUB OR CLASSROOM TO SCHEDULE IT TO.

THIS WILL BE A GOOD TIME TO EXCHANGE SEEDS AND SURPLUS PLANTS, TOO. BRING WHAT YOU HAVE AND TAKE WHAT YOU CAN USE. SMALL POTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, AS ARE ENVELOPES OR PLASTIC BAGS, IF YOU CAN SPARE ANY.

NEXT, ON 21 NOVEMBER, DR. LARRY HASRATH, WHO PROPOSES BOTANY AT WSAC IN CHICKASHA, WILL BEGINS A PROGRAM ON THE GENUS PENSTEMON.

TEST YOUR TENDENCIES!

ARE YOU THE KIND OF PERSON WHO:
(1) STOPS TO SMELL THE ROSES, (AND DAISIES, AND SUNFLOWERS, AND PASSIONFLOWERS, AND... ON & ON

(2) READ "BLUE HIGHWAYS" BY WILLIAM IN THE MOON A FEW YEARS AGO, AND HAVEN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE!

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO MOST OF THE ABOVE, YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN A JUST-FOR-FUN "CLUB" THAT RUTH FOYD AND PAT FOLLEY INVENTED ON A LONG ROAD TRIP ONCE. THAT WE CALL THE "GAILLERDIA SOCIETY." STILL WITH ME? THERE ARE NO DUES AND NO MEETINGS, BUT WE DO OCCASIONAL MAKE UP MEMBERSHIP CARDS THAT ENTITLE YOU TO DRINK 3 MILES UNDER THE POSTED LIMIT, TAKE PICTURES OF YOUR KIDS SITTING IN FIELDS OF WILDFLOWERS, AND AVOID THE JET-TRAILS OF THOSE TRACTOR-TRAILER ROAD HOSES ON THE INTERSTATE.

JUST SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE TO PAT FOLLEY AT 11500 ETONIA ROAD, NOBLE, OK 73068, AND TELL ME HOW YOU WANT YOUR NAME SPelled. MORE THAN ONE TO AN ADDRESS IS NO PROBLEM. WE DON'T KEEP MEMBERSHIP LIMITS BECAUSE THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN, SO YOU WOULDN'T BE BOtherED BY THREATS FROM THE SPEED MAFIA OR OFFERS OF GASOLINE UPGRADES. YOU WOULD BE SURPRISED TO SEE SOME OF THE WALLETS THAT SPORT OUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

(Continued from page 9 "GLOBAL RELIEF")

...THE BELIEF THAT THEY WILL ABSORB CARBON DIOXIDE, THUS REDUCING THE GLOBAL WARMING CAUSED BY THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT. ALTHOUGH THIS SOUNDS GOOD IN THEORY, IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW SERIously THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT IS, AND ECOLOGETS DO NOT AGREE ON WHETHER A MILLION TREES (OR EVEN A BILLION) WILL ABSORB AS MUCH CARBON DIOXIDE AS WAS PRODUCED BY THE PROPAGATION, DELIVERY AND PLANTING PROCESS. LET ALONE PROVIDE ANY MEASURABLE MITIGATION OF GLOBAL WARMING.

THE ECOLOGICAL RESULTS OF REMOVING NATIVE PLANTS, HOWEVER, IS WELL DOCUMENTED. NATIVE PLANTS PROVIDE THE BASE OF THE FOOD CHAIN FOR ALL WILDLIFE, THEY ARE SOURCES OF OXYGEN PRODUCTION, AND THEY ARE THE ONLY ORGANISMS CAPABLE OF CONVERTING LIGHT ENERGY TO A FORM OF ENERGY THAT ALL LIFE ON EARTH CAN USE. REMOVING NATIVE WILDFLOWERS, GRASSES, SHRUBS AND TREES HAS RESULTED IN MANY ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS THAT PLANTING AN EXOTIC TREE DOES NOT ADDRESS, AND MAY WELL MAKE WORSE.

SO IF YOU WISH TO TAKE ACTION ON ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS, PLANT A TREE NATIVE TO YOUR AREA. YOU WILL ADDRESS PROBLEMS WITH A TOTAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION APPROACH, NOT A NO-GAIN OR WORSE, A NET RESOURCE LOSS. DOING SOMETHING IN THE NAME OF ECOLOGICAL GOOD IS ONLY VALID IF THAT GOOD IS NOT OFFSET BY NEGATIVE ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES.
ONPS WELCOMES THESE NEW MEMBERS:
LOIS E DELACY, TULSA
MRS. JOAN MCCOMAS, COWETA
STEVE & MARGARET THOMPSON, STILLWATER
THEBRA Boona, ENID
ANTIA WAMPLET, LINDSAY
JEUNE SUE MEAD, OKLAHOMA
MELDIE WAKEELE, MIDWEST CITY
C. K. WESTBROOK, MOORE
JOAN WOODY-LINDLEY, MIDWEST CITY
VIRGINIA HODGE, NOBLE
JOANNA SIMPSON, TULSA
JO SOKER & KAREN LEHR, OKLAHOMA CITY
FRANCES MACK, EDMUND
LIUDIA GREENE, IDAPELL
TOM & DOORS AVANT, NOBLE
SUE HUGUET, CHESOTA

KNOW ANY OF THESE GOOD FOLKS? GIVE THEM A CALL OF WELCOME AND OFFER TO TAKE THEM TO A MEETING OR FIELD TRIP. WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE THEM.

URBAN LANDSCAPING PUBLISHED BY RUTH ROYD, PUBLICITY CHAIR.

KATHY DRAFER OF DRAFER COMMUNICATIONS OF OKC, HAS WRITTEN A BOOK CALLED "URBAN LANDSCAPING FOR OK WILDLIFE", WHICH WILL BE ESPECIALLY INTERESTING TO ONPS MEMBERS. THE BOOK WAS FUNDED BY AN URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT.

WITH COLORFUL COVERS PROVIDED BY PSO, AND PUBLISHED BY THE OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION, THE BOOK EMPHASIZES THE USE OF TREES BUT DOES BRIEFLY DISCUSS SOME OTHER PLANTINGS.

THE BOOK IS 52 PAGES, SPIRAL BOUND, AND ITS MILLICANOW INCLUDES JOHN & CONNIE TAYLOR'S "AN ANNOTATED LIST OF THE FERNS, FERNS ALIES" AND GYMNOSPERMS AND FLOWERING PLANTS OF OKLAHOMA". PAUL BUCK'S DISTRIBUTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF WOODY PLANTS OF OKLAHOMA IN WINTER CONDITION, DARLENE MICHAEL'S "NATIVE PLANTS SELECTION GUIDE FOR OKLAHOMA WOODY PLANTS", DOYLE MCCONNELL'S "ROADSIDE WILDFLOWERS OF OKLAHOMA" AND THIS NEWSLETTER, "THE GALLIARDIA". IN ADDITION, THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR MEMBERS MARC HENRY, MARC HENRY AND RUTH BOYD WERE ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THANKS.

THE BOOK IS FREE OF CHARGE IF PICKED UP AT THE OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION OFFICE IN OKLAHOMA CITY AND MAY BE ORDERED FOR $3 TO COVER POSTAGE AND HANDLING FROM DUH, 3905 N. SANTA FE, OKC 73118. A FEW COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IF YOU WISH TO SEE ONE BEFORE ORDERING. THE BOOKS BY TAYLOR, RUCK, MICHAEL AND MCCONNELL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please renew my membership in the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, or add the name below to the membership list in the category checked.

NAME_____________________________HOME PHONE ( )_____________________

AFFILIATION (School, Business or Avocation)_________________________________________

ADDRESS______________________________BUSINESS PHONE ( )____________________

CITY_________________STATE______ZIP_________ □ please don't list my phone

$15.00 Family $10.00 Individual $5.00 Student □ Gift from__________________________

LIFE MEMBERSHIP $300.00 Family or $200.00 Individual.□ Renewal □ New Member

DONATION TO: ANNE LONG FUND HARRIET BARCLAY FUND

□ I am enclosing an additional $2.50 (to cover cost of printing and mailing) for a complete ONPS directory.

Please make check payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to:
Oklahoma Native Plant Society / 2435 South Peoria / Tulsa, OK 74114
The Gaillardia

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Hey, look at your label! If the expiration date isn't '97 or later, send in yer dues. We don't want to lose you! If you move, tell us: bulk mail (cheap) doesn't forward stuff.

FOW PHOTO CONTEST

Our companion organization, the Friends of the Wichitas, (FOW), has announced its own photo contest, open to the public. Photos will be used for displays and educational purposes.

Rules include: must be taken on the Wichita Wildlife Refuge, entry must be postmarked before 1 December 1997, prints only, 4 x 6" to 5 x 7", maximum of 6 entries by any one contestant, labels attached with the contestant's name, address, phone number, category of entry and name and location of the subject. An entry fee of $2 will cover all the photos for each entrant.

The three categories are: 1) Native Plants; 2) Animals; and 3) Landscapes and Landmarks. Prizes are First, $50; second, $25; third, $15.

Awards will be made at the January 1998 FOW meeting.

Mail entries to FOW Photography Contest, Attn: Paul Reimer, 1105 NW Becontree Drive, Lawton, OK 73505-4001. Phone (405) 536-5488.

Entries should be accompanied by a paper bearing the entrant's name, address, phone number, the total number of entries submitted, and the categories entered.

The best pictures will be mounted on a poster to be displayed in the WMWR Visitors Center.

OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
C/O TULSA GARDEN CENTER
2435 S. PEORIA
TULSA, OK 74114

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