

By Sheila Strawn

I'd like to get straight to the point. Like the rest of humanity, ONPS has the next 1,000 years ahead of it. There is a lot we can do in one thousand years. 1999 will be the year we start planning to do it. We are no longer worried about whether we will continue to exist as an association. After 11 years, we are well established and the increasing numbers of visitors at chapter meetings is a sign that we are ready to take a more active role in promoting native species.

When today's busy citizens take time to come to our meetings and field trips, that means they are concerned about the same goals we are. We need to find out what their talents and resources are and include them when we plan programs. We should have jobs ready for potential members who want to help. We will be developing programs and building leadership in our membership to meet our goals.

The purpose of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society is to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma's native plants.

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**ONPS IS ON THE 'WEB'**

Check it out, and then bookmark this site:  
<http://www.telepath.com/chadcox/onps.html>  
We encourage all members to take advantage of this new member service. ONPS member Chad Cox of Norman has designed and is maintaining this website as a contribution to the Society. Why not drop him a line at his email address: [chadcox@telepath.com](mailto:chadcox@telepath.com) and let him know you appreciate it.

This issue of *Gaillardia*, or parts of it, will be available at the web site. Also, links to other Native Plant websites and sources of some great pictures.

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She was here on earth to grasp the meaning of its wild enchantment and to call each thing by its right name, or, if this were not within her power, to give birth out of love for life to successors who would do it in her place.

From Dr Zhivago, by Boris Pasternak
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Dear Sir or Ms:

I am hoping you may be able to help me track down some native plants I am interested in. I initiated a plant breeding program here at Chicago Botanic Garden three years ago, with the goal of developing selections and hybrids of native plants that are well adapted to use in the Midwest.

One of the genera I am breeding is *Baptisia*, the wild or false indigos. A number of the species are delightful garden subjects, and certainly need greater use/promotion. However, there are botanical reports of naturally occurring hybrids in North Texas between the three species *Baptisia australis* var. *minor* (wild blue indigo), *Baptisia sphaerocarpa* (wild yellow indigo) and *Baptisia leucantha* (wild white indigo). These naturally occurring hybrids sound beautiful from their descriptions, but as yet have not been brought into cultivation.

The hybrids have not been reported from Oklahoma, yet all three of the species mentioned above also occur in the Southeastern portion of your state, so there is good likelihood that the natural hybrids also occur there.

Do you have any members that are interested in *Baptisia*, and would know if these hybrids occur in Oklahoma? Or perhaps even know locations of the three species? I would be greatly interested in obtaining some seed of any of the above species or hybrids to introduce into my breeding program. Though I will continue to pursue contacts in Texas as well, I would prefer to find sources further north as hardiness is obviously an issue here in Northern Illinois.

My apologies for the long request, but I hope you can be of assistance.

Yours sincerely, /s/Jim Ault

James R. Ault, Ph.D. / Director of Research / Chicago Botanic Garden / 1000 Lake Cook Road / Glencoe, IL 60022 / ph: (847) 835-8244 / fx: (847) 835-5484, or email to: [jault@mcs.net](mailto:jault@mcs.net).

! Dr. Ault sent this postscript:

"Somehow I neglected to mention another *Baptisia* species that also occurs in your state: *Baptisia leucophaea*, the creamy wild indigo. I am interested in obtaining seed of any of the 4 species, and especially of any of the natural hybrids. The three most likely to be observed are:

*B. x variicolor* (*australis* var. *minor* x *sphaerocarpa*)

*B. x bicolor* (*australis* var. *minor* x *leucophaea*)

*B. x bushii* (*leucophaea* x *sphaerocarpa*)

"The first hybrid, as you mentioned, is probably the most common one, and the one I am most interested in as well. If any of your members can donate seed, I need the county where the seed was collected and a brief description of the site and soil type.

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This great article was clipped from the Autumn 1998 issue of the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society's newsletter.

WILLOW SOUP
A Spring Tonic for your Garden

By Bobbi Diehl

The painkilling properties of willows have been utilized by humans for centuries wherever the genus *Salix* occurs. North American Indians and pioneers, for example, chewed on willow bark to relieve pain. But did you know that willow's properties are beneficial to other plants as well as to people? The topic came up at a hosta society meeting around the beginning of the year and several members shared their gardening experiences.

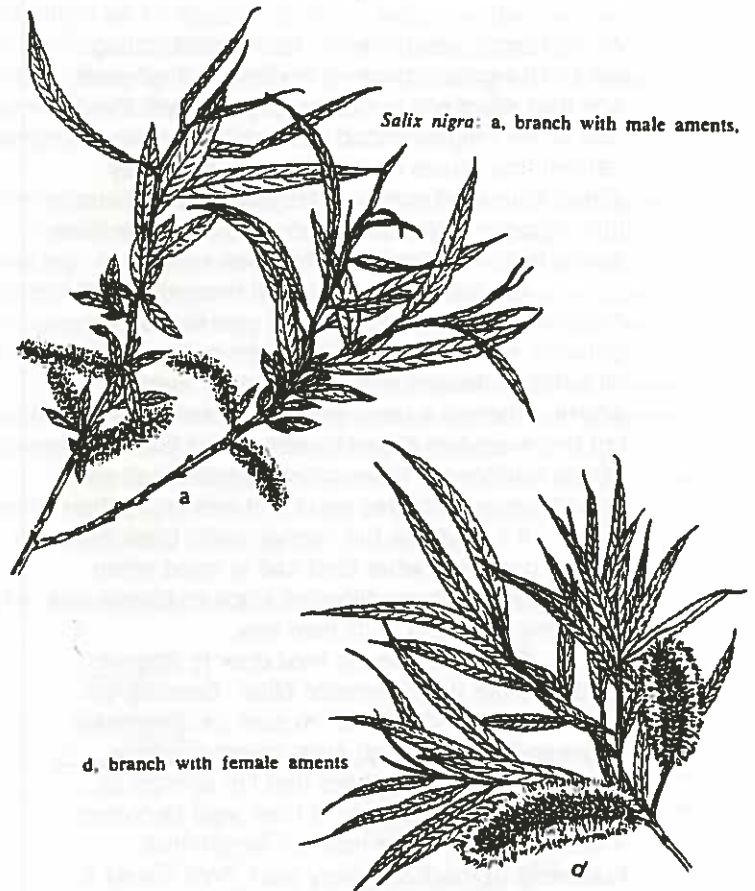
Claire Peplowski of East Nassau, NY reported that her mother and German-born grandfather were enthusiastic and thrifty gardeners who used cuttings from an ordinary weeping willow to make what they called willow soup. They used only the new growth, chopping and mashing it up, filling a pail with the willow bits, and adding water to cover. After a few days, they used the resulting "soup" as a propagation aid. Cuttings of roses, shrubs, and fruit trees struck more quickly if watered in with this willow soup. So did the geranium cuttings they rooted for their window boxes. If a particular plant was doing poorly and seemed weak, a willow cutting was temporarily placed next to it in the soil and it would often revive.

Claire's grandfather had learned much of what he knew about gardening before he left Germany, and these tricks with willow were commonly practiced in that country.

Hank and Jane Unger-Millhorn of Hootowl Hollow Nursery in New Marshfield, Ohio regularly make batches of willow soup, which they call willow tea. Hank has an endless supply of what the locals call "thet dumed ole brainche willer," and he tosses cuttings into buckets, adds water, and brews in the same manner as "sun tea." For his purposes he does not insist on new growth, but uses any willow branch less than 1/4 inch in diameter. The water takes on an amber color over time as the shoots soak and begin to root. Hank keeps three to five buckets of this tea going all season and uses it as a foliar spray on azaleas and rhododendrons to improve the color and sunfastness of the blooms ("better than Miracid").

He also spritzes hosta and daylily seedlings with it every two weeks. He uses it as a soak for

new bare-root plants, especially if they look a little tired after their trip in that big brown truck (even known to revive plants from Michigan Bulb Co.!) And he too notes that cuttings watered with this tea root faster.



Salix nigra: a, branch with male aments.

d, branch with female aments

It seems to be fairly common knowledge that an aspirin (acetyl-salicylic acid, the artificial equivalent of willow) dissolved in a vase with cut flowers prolongs their life in the house. Adding a little "willow soup" or a couple of willow twigs to the water in the vase would do the same thing – in fact, Hank thinks the willow works a bit better. Hosta blooms can be spectacular in arrangements, but they do not last particularly well when cut. I intend to try some willow twigs or soup with an assortment of cut flowers this year.

Experts seem to differ on how many species of willow there are – somewhere between 80 and 150, perhaps. Cuttings from any available willow can be used as a plant tonic, including pussy willow (*Salix discolor*), shining willow (*S. lucida*) – both American natives – or any of the European or Asian willows. There is a striking and decorative form of the common weeping willow (*S. babylonica*) aptly called the Ram's Horn Willow, which needs regular pruning to keep it small and shapely. I can't think of a better use for the prunings than to make willow soup!

Bobby Diehl is a member of both INPAWS and the Southern Indiana Daffodil, Hosta, Daylily and Iris Society

Reprinted from The Norman Transcript, a column on ethical living called "A Time to Dance", by Linda Henley

At my house, we don't aim for an outstanding yard. Our goal is more of an "instanding" yard, one that will stand in reasonably well with the rest of the neighborhood but won't tempt any garden tour buses to drip oil in our driveway. When your yard man is a 10-year-old, you aim first at general neatness and slowly add the finer points like how to tell a weed from a violet.

Brad and Margaret next door are more ambitious. Their yard reminds you of the grounds around Anne Hathaway's cottage, with all kinds of flowers growing riotously everywhere. There's a lawn, which they keep mowed, but there are lots of nooks and secret places where wildflowers peer up unexpectedly at you or a shady spot invites you to sit and enjoy the peace. It's anything but formal, and I think this kind of garden is what God had in mind when He created so many different kinds of plants, each one beautiful in its own way.

Of course, living next door to this garden is not unadulterated bliss. Besides the humiliating comparisons I'm sure people make between their yard and ours, there's usually something blooming there that I'm allergic to. Also, what's a wildflower in their yard becomes a weed when it blows into my yard, which hundreds of them do every year. We spend a lot of time pulling weeds.

It's worth these minor hassles, though, especially in the spring when Margaret's roses climb over the fence and mingle with my honey-suckle vines. I imagine our animals and guitar music infringe on them approximately as much as their weeds and pollens do on us. You live and let live.

If we had a true plant-hater in the neighborhood, or if someone got mad at my neighbors for some other reason and wanted to cause trouble, that carefully tended yard would be an easy target because of city code Sec. 10-209: "Weeds, noxious growth, and siltation, a nuisance." The ordinance defines weeds this way: "Weed includes but is not limited to poison ivy, poison oak, or poison sumac and all vegetation at any state of maturity which: (1) Exceeds twelve (12) inches in height, except healthy trees, shrubs, or produce for human consumption grown in a tended and cultivated garden..."

I'm no lawyer, but to my untutored eye it looks like your marijuana plants are OK under the code, but those irises and daylilies have got to go. I can understand why it's written that way. The city fathers don't want people's lawns

reverting to tallgrass prairie the way my back yard is going to do if this rain we've been having doesn't let up.

But a short walk showed me dozens of areas covered with vegetation nobody plans to eat, which we in our ignorance have been considering the beauty spots of our neighborhood: the flower garden to the north of Sarah Reese's house, the McCurdys' wildflower bed, Kay Holladay's ivy and monkey grass, the front yard of that blue and gray house on Brooks Street, the *Cutting Garden*, and of course, the house next door. Not realizing that anything over 12 inches high that you can't eat is a noxious weed, I showed these places off to my mother-in-law when she came to visit, and she, being equally ignorant, thought my neighbors must be nice people since they take such good care of their yards.

Prevailing community standards have a lot to do with code enforcement, and I imagine if the city crew showed up on my block to mow down someone's wildflower beds we would form a picket line and march around their house singing "We Shall Overcome." I hope we're safe from that particular ordinance.

My friend Lavina isn't so lucky in the neighbors she has. At church last Sunday evening she was circulating a petition to keep what is, basically, an English country garden from being mowed down by the city - and at her expense. I hope she succeeds. She's put a lot of work into that place, and if it were in my neighborhood it would be another beauty spot to show off to visitors.

As long as there are neighbors, there are going to be differences of lifestyle and opinion. Most of us can work these out by discussing things calmly and realizing that the people next door or down the street have a right to be different from us. When Margaret's tree limbs made my roof leak, she had her trees trimmed. When our rock band got too loud for their baby, we lined mattresses up against the windows and turned on the air conditioner. Most conflicts can be worked out, if not to everyone's absolute satisfaction, at least to the point where we can live with it.

The alternative would be an intensely boring neighborhood with identical houses, identically clipped lawns, and no flowers. I'm for keeping the flowers.

>>By now, it must have occurred to some of you that there was a dearth of submitted material for this issue. In fact, not one article came in for the Native Gardening, Conservation, or Botanical pages. So, the editor got to use some of the archived clippings in their place. It's less your newsletter, and more of mine. Not what the ONPS asked me to do, and not what I'm trying to achieve.

ONPS members are known to be the best-educated, most environmentally-involved, (and busiest) folks in Oklahoma. Don't wait to be asked. Don't even insist on being original, but do get permission to reprint if you send in something already published elsewhere. It may take a while, but eventually I'll get it into an issue. You'd be surprised how far our 700 issues a quarter go. Not only to our members, but to most of the other native plant societies in the U.S. And we get quoted in their newsletters, too. I wish you all could read the others, as some of us on the Board do. Pat

Excerpt from *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri*, by Don Kurz. Published by Missouri Department of Conservation

Buckbrush, *Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*
Moench

Honeysuckle family (Caprifoliaceae)

Also called coral berry, Indian current

Field Identification: Slender, erect or ascending, thicket-forming shrub spread by roots. Usually 2 to 4 feet tall.

Flowers: July-August, in clusters of 10 to 20 flowers at the tip or along the axils of stems; flowers greenish-white, sometimes purplish, about 1/8 inch long, bell-shaped, somewhat hairy within, petals 5, blunt; stamens 5.

Fruit: September-October, often prolific, persistent through most of the winter, in dense clusters; fruit pink to coral-red, globe-shaped, about 1/4 inch thick; seeds 2, hard, egg-shaped, flattened on one side, white, smooth.

Leaves: Simple, opposite, blades 1 1/2 to 2 inches long, 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches wide, egg-shaped to oval, tip rounded to blunt, base rounded or wedge-shaped, margin entire, sometimes with a few large, rounded teeth; upper surface dull green, smooth or slightly hairy; lower surface paler, smooth to hairy; petioles very short, less than 1/8 inch long, hairy.

Twigs: Flexible, slender, brown, young twigs with curved white hairs, becoming smooth.

Trunk: Bark brown, peeling into small, short flakes that are easily rubbed off or shredded into long, thin strips; wood soft, nearly white, with a small pith.

Habitat: Occurs in grazed and second-growth dry or rocky woodland, old fields, pastures, thickets, rocky bluffs and along railroads. In every county throughout Missouri.

Range: Florida to Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Mexico, north to Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska and Colorado; escaped from cultivation north to Connecticut and New York.

Wildlife Uses: Buckbrush thickets provide good cover for birds and small mammals.

Sometimes smaller bird species build their nests in the dense thickets. The fruits are persistent into winter, but apparently are not eaten to any extent by birds, except in harsh winter weather when preferred foods are unavailable. One Southwestern reference, however, credits the fruit to be eaten by 12 species of birds, including the cardinal, bobwhite quail, wild turkey, greater prairie chicken and ruffed grouse, in addition to being grazed by white-tailed deer. Small mammals also will eat the fruits during severe winter conditions.

Remarks: The presence of large populations of buckbrush in woodlands and open land is indicative of past or current grazing. Cattle seem to avoid this plant. Most stems are upright to arching, but some creep almost vinelike along the ground, where they send out runners for several feet and root to form new thickets.

The plant, although common in Missouri, has been cultivated elsewhere for its attractive red fruit and autumn leaves. It was first introduced into horticulture in 1727.

Symphoricarpos is from the Greek and means "fruit borne together", with reference to the clustered berrylike fruit; *orbiculatus* refers to the rounded leaf.

The drawings below are from the same source.



Symphoricarpos orbiculatus a. Growth form with flowers. b. Twig with fruit. c. Flowers

LETTER FROM NORA JONES

Hi, Pat. I'd love to be going with you all to Amarillo. I'm sure you will have a good time, whether the plants are fried or not. You really should round up some plant people and come down to visit us while we are here.

I am just now getting hooked up with the local plant people and within the next few months should have access to the herbarium at the University of the West Indies. With advance planning, round-trip tickets from Tulsa to Port of Spain can be had for about \$500. We have plenty of room here for guests.

Take care and keep in touch. Give my regards to ONPS. Best wishes, Nora
>>Nora's e-mail address: njones@tstt.net.tt

IN REMEMBRANCE

Elsie S. Johnson, ONPS member and leading light of the Friends of the Wichitas, died 1 December 1998. A stalwart field-tripper and guide, she had just been nominated for the National Volunteer of the Year award by the Refuge staff. We will try to have a proper summary of Elsie's accomplishments for the next Gaillardia. She will be sorely missed.

ONPS POINTS WITH PRIDE

To Cheryl Wootton, a Tulsa geological technician with Tulsa-based WeinKauf Petroleum, who has won a national award for her classroom presentations on the oil industry. Wootton recently received the award for best communication and leadership training speech from the association of Desk and Derrick Clubs. Wootton is a "Petro Pro" volunteer for the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board, an advocacy group for the Oklahoma oil and natural gas industry. During the 1997-1998 school year, the Petro Pro program, which teaches students about petroleum and the impact on their daily ideas, reached more than 8000 students across the state. (clipped from the Tulsa World for October 14)

We were happy to see Mary Whitmore, formerly of Norman, Oklahoma but now living retired in Las Vegas, New Mexico, at the joint annual meetings. In a letter sent in April, but lost in the haystack after my broken shoulder, Mary recommended two books for your consideration:
1) *El Llano Estacado*, by John Miller Morris. A history of the High Plains from 1536-1860. A great read, about \$30.
2) *Dams and Rivers: Primer on the Downstream Effects of Dams*, by Michael Collier, Robert H. Webb and John C. Schmidt. Free from the U.S.

Geological Survey, circular #1126. Has beautiful photography and is very informative regarding plants and animals down-river from impoundments. Features Salt River, Snake, Rio Grande, Chattahoochee, Platt, Green, and Colorado river. Nicely done, with references. Requests to: USGS, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225 or fax at (303)202-4893. Wish I could include the lovely note paper Mary wrote on. She's a great lady!

HELP WANTED

We got the following request by e-mail, without a mail address. Hope you who can help have access to e-mail, but you can always send it to Pat Folley at the Noble address and I'll send it on.
"I am an employee of the State of Oklahoma and am working with aquatic vegetation in Wister Lake. My goal is to establish a diverse native plant community within the reservoir to improve water quality. To date, I have experienced some success with this project, but am constantly seeking groups and individuals who have experience and expertise in the area of aquatic plant culture. One item that I am searching for is seeds for shoreline aquatic plants. Of particular interest is plants of the genus *Echinodorus* (mud plantain family). These plants seem to be particularly hardy and fecund.
This was signed by Paul Koenig, with this address: pdkoenig@owrb.state.ok.us Any help you can give him will further the purposes of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. The drawing below represents Echinodorus rostratus (Nutt.) Engelman, called E. berteroi in Waterfall.



Reported by Pat Folley

Connie Taylor and Jim Norman led this field trip, at the very end of the drought. Remember that? We met at the Queen Wilhelmina Inn in Arkansas on the 12th of September, a foggy day. In fact, it was so foggy on the Tallmena Trail on the way over from Tallhaina that day, that we couldn't see the stripes on the road most of the time. Never mind that: it was damp and cool, and after the hot, dry summer it felt wonderful. We native plant people need to see others of our kind once in a while, and they were there. In fact, The sign-in sheet lists Richard Bradley, Tulsa; Chad & Pat Cox, Norman; John & Connie Taylor, Durant; Pat Folley, Judy Jordan, and Ruth Boyd, Norman; Jim Norman, Muskogee; Paul & Dorothy Norris, Tulsa; Betty Reimer, Lawton; Pat Maness and Pat and Berlin Heck, Broken Bow; E.J., Ramona, Mary & Elizabeth Guerrant, who were visitors and became members. They were from Antlers, and had such nice children! One of the little girls found a large larva of the Promethea Moth, and let me take a picture. There is a copy for her if she will contact me with an address.

As we started down a walking trail, it started to rain. We (mostly) hadn't brought rain gear, or even sweaters, so we tucked in and walked anyway. Saw wonderful things: Cucum-ber magnolias and *Polygonella americana*, a kind of bush smartweed, and of course, a great number of trees looking sickly after the dry and hot months. Ate our brown-bag lunches on the wide front porch of the Inn (they're tolerant folks, and the picnic tables were very wet). Then in a long convoy, back into Oklahoma to do some more trails. As the day wore on, it got rainier and rainier. We didn't know until we got home that we were getting the advance edge of a hurricane that not only broke the drought, it caused local flooding in many parts of Okla-homa.

On Castle Rock trail, we saw more Cucumber Magnolia, *Solidago caesia*, a golden-rod, *Eupatorium rugosum*, the plant Leslie wrote about in the last issue of Gallardia, that causes milk-sickness! Sassafras, *Chionanthus virginicus*, or fringe tree; silverbell oaks, hickories, pine and ash. Pians had included a visit to a beech forest at the south foot of the mountain, but the wet weather and

poor condition of the road prevented that. I got a neat little *Carex* plant that John Taylor pulled up for me. It's out of bloom at the moment, but he says it will become a *Carex alburina* when it blooms next May. It is living happily in a flowerpot with a cupful of driveway gravel added to regular potting soil. We found a pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) tree on Castle Rock Trail, with a big green pawpaw on it for a sign. Also, *Dioscorea quatemata* (wild yam) in fruit, witch-hazel (*Hammamelis virginiana*) and a small stand of *Veratrum woodii*, or false hellebore, which isn't even in John Taylor's book, though he knew where to find it.

I took a picture or two, that didn't turn out well, and Dorothy Norris took some at the Inn, but they are too foggy to include in here. So, if you missed the trip, you'll just have to take my word for it that, rain, fog, and all, it was as wonderful as our field trips always are. We ended the day at the Kerr Arboretum entrance, where the inside of the rain shelter was absolutely plated with walking-stick insects.

*In case anyone thinks this listing is easy, let me add that without John and Connie's blue book, I couldn't do it at all!

FIELD TRIP RULES

>Peregistration is required for all field trips.

>Field trip announcements will contain the name, address, and telephone number of the leader. If you have doubts about the terrain, difficulty, etc., ask.

>Field trips take place rain or shine. Hiking boots, long pants and a hat are essential.

>Bring water and lunch or a snack. Sunscreen and insect repellent are always in demand. Field guides, a camera and binoculars are nice.

>Participation is at your own risk.

>All ONPS field trips are open to the public at no charge, unless charges per-member are specified in the announcement. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome.

>Children old enough to keep up are welcome. Pets are not. Children should be warned against picking flowers or collecting animal or plant souvenirs: many of our field trip sites are havens for the rare and endangered.

Reflection

"How sorry are those who refuse to use the gifts they receive. They miss the greatest thrill in life — the joy of giving pleasure to their maker and giver. No joy is greater than making something; no pride is bigger than finishing something; no thrill is more satisfying than seeing others use what one's mind and hand have made."

clipped from The Daily Oklahoman, long ago

reported by Pat Folley

Officers and members of three area Native Plant Societies gathered at the Radisson Hotel in Amarillo October 15 to 18 for a joint meeting. It was a comfortable, welcoming sort of hotel, with all one could want in the way of facilities (except that the coffee was always lukewarm). My impressions of the meeting are kind of warped by having come down with food poisoning on the very first night, so it comes out as a sort of Alice in Wonderland scenario:

The first square (Thursday) was mostly field trip: an all-day hike down the trails at Caprock Canyons State Park. By the time the dusty, tired and disheveled trippers arrived at the hotel, registration had turned into a tea party with the Mad Hatter. NPSOT President Peter Loos capped the day by appearing in an eye-popping outfit of shorts and bare feet. The wine and cheese party, however, put the scene back onto a convivial track, and soon the various displays and vendor booths had been set up and were doing business.

Friday, a blessedly rainy day, was an indoor event, featuring workshops in the morning and a Symposium full of outstanding presentations in the afternoon. My favorite was our own Dr. Bruce Hoagland, with an entertaining and interesting presentation on the wetlands of *western Oklahoma*. This is not a misprint: Bruce actually knows where there are some. Workshops on flower arranging produced some pretty and appealing take-home projects, and the one on edible native plants produced some yummy results, mostly made of native plums. The photography teacher was, believe it or not, a real photographer who makes some of his own equipment and was not just an equipment collector! I learned a lot.

Friday evening we heard an enchanting presentation by Zoe Kirkpatrick, giving an impression of a Native American shaman who looks on at the way Americans live on his ancestral land. That evening featured an ice-cream "social" served salad-bar-style in the lobby. There was, of course, lots of socializing and shopping going on in the nooks and crannies.

Saturday continued the Symposium, with ten more presentations and a silent auction of an awesome variety of plants and collectibles. Finally, the state societies were allowed one hour for their business meetings. As all who have ever attended one of the ONPS business meetings know, we can't even be called to order in one hour! But Ruth tried: ruthlessly.

We did the usual things: approved the minutes of the last annual meeting (October 1997), the Treasurer's report, and the recommendations of the nominating committee. By acclamation, we elected Sheila Strawn President, Tina Julich Vice-president, Clare Miller Secretary, and Judy Jordan Treasurer. New board-members-at-large are Iris McPherson and Berlin Heck. Clare and Judy are serving extensions on their last year's positions, but the rest are new to the job. Help them all you can: good leaders are not possible without good followers.

Dr. Connie Taylor, to no-one's surprise but her own, won the Anne Long Award, presented by Paul Buck. Connie then gave the Harriet Barclay Award report. Those awards are made at the Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science's spring Science Fairs. This year's winners were Cora M. Hutson of McLoud High School and Kara Morgan of Wewoka High School. Winners receive a small cash award, a plaque, and a year's membership in ONPS.

Connie Taylor also reported on the field trip activities for the year. We had four state-wide field trips, to the Old Growth Crosstimbers, Hackberry Flats, Southeast Orchids, and Rich Mountain. We plan to hold at least four next year as well, and Connie welcomes suggestions from the membership about locations and dates. A trip to Black Mesa, which will need about four days, is being planned for the year 2000, on Memorial Day weekend.

Other reports covered chapter activities and ongoing committee work, all of which has been printed in the *Gaillardia* already. Ruth Boyd noted that the Wildflower Workshop will be held in Stillwater next year. The date has not been set, but it will be in May.

Ruth brought a membership report, indicating that our paid memberships are 434 from 81 different towns and cities plus 11 other states. Tulsa claims the most, with 78, followed by Norman, 56, Oklahoma City with 31 and Stillwater with 25. We exchange newsletters with 20 other native plant societies or native-plant related organizations. Some of their newsletters are wonderful reading.

Betty Kemm, who was not able to attend, sent her word that the next Annual Meeting would be held in Oklahoma, probably at Arrowhead Lodge, Lake Eufaula. We'll have a lot more about that at a later date.

On Sunday morning, we checked out of the hotel and headed for several different destinations for more field trips. Judy Jordan, Ruth Boyd and Paul Buck, among others, elected to visit Palo Duro Canyon. That turned out a good choice, because it was full of birds, if not many flowers after the hot dry summer, and we enjoyed it enough to be reluctant to leave when it was at last time to go home.

Yes, it was an educational and inspiring experience. Not something we'd want to do every year, though, as too many of our members were not able to make that long trip. Want more meetings on home ground? Be sure to make your presence known at the next one! It is good to see what the other groups are doing, and how they do it. New Mexico runs a regular book store, with many beautiful choices. Texas puts on an Academy of Science style program, with printed literature and many technical papers presented. What's our specialty?

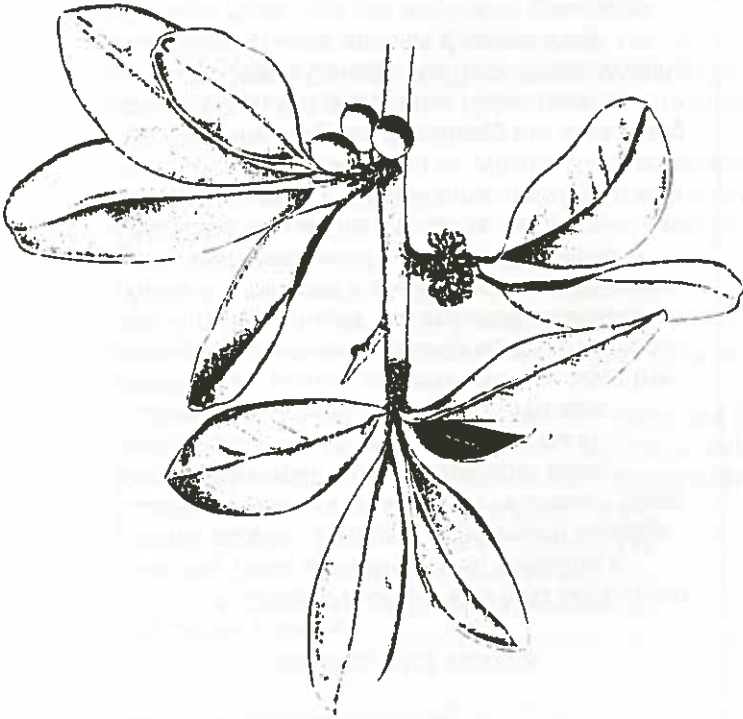
Dr. Larry Magrath, Professor of Botany and many other disciplines at University of Science and Arts, Chickasha, is in charge of the 1999 Indoor Outing. Plans are coming along, but not yet final in some respects, so if there is not a separate flyer in this newsletter for indoor outing registration, you can expect one in a separate mailing. It's almost as hard to get anything out of a professor during finals week as it is from a student.

What we do know is this: The outing will take place at the University in Chickasha on Saturday, February 6. A tradition of long standing in ONPS, the indoor outing is a kind of field trip, held inside an institution, usually a college but once at the Myriad Gardens in Oklahoma City. We convene over coffee and conversation, go on to tours of the botanical-related facilities, have workshops offering hands-on experience in plant identification or specimen preparation, listen to experts in the field talk about their special interests and how the work is done, have a good lunch together, and then get home before supper time. Where else could you get a field trip on the first weekend in February, and not worry about the weather? Only once in ten years has this event been snowed out, and we expect good travel weather again this year.

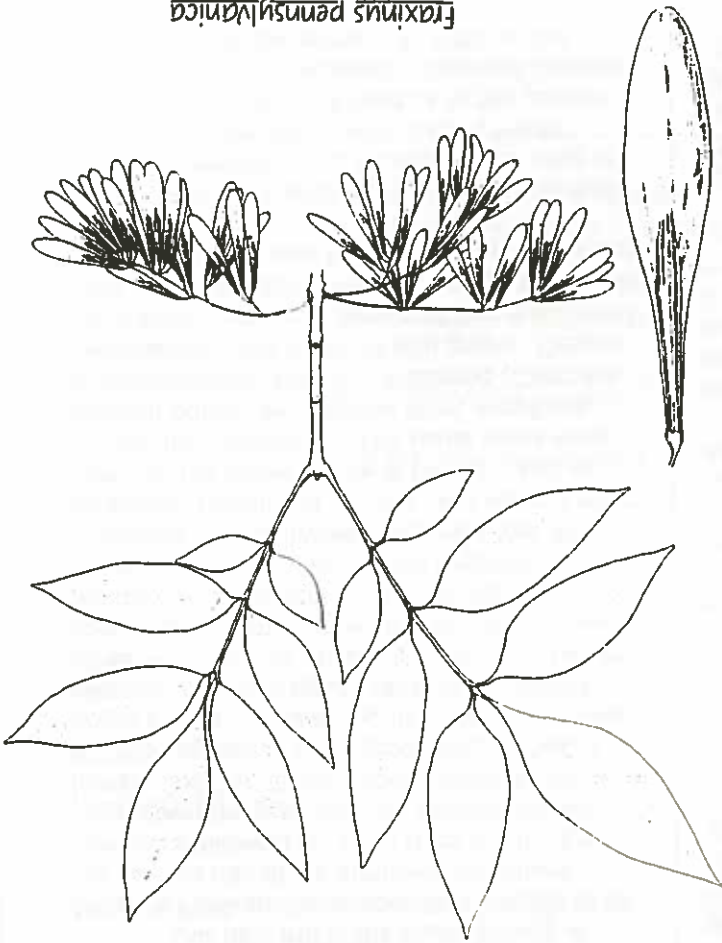
Dr. Ronald Tyrl will be doing a workshop on knowing the grasses, and Pat Foley will do a slide show on sedges. Someone, probably Connie Taylor, will do one on asters. These usually difficult-to-know groups will, we promise, become much more user-friendly. Barring

bizarre conditions, we'll get in a tour of the USAO campus, where Dr. Magrath has planted an amazing variety of trees and shrubs for his students and the public to enjoy. So...mark the date: February 6, and plan to join us for a day of fun and fellowship.

Some time ago, the NE Chapter acquired some really lovely drawings of native plants which they used to illustrate packets of hand-gathered seeds. If Larry's Indoor Outing packet doesn't get here by Tuesday, you will find two of them reproduced on this page. Either way, you'll find it worth a look. The artist would be credited, if I had a clue to his/her identity. Anyone out there remember?



Bumelia laevigata



Fraxinus pennsylvanica

NE MEETING NOTES

by Laurel Upshaw

A Chapter meeting was held September 14 at the Tulsa Garden Center, following a potluck supper. Copies of the revised Chapter Guidelines were presented and reviewed. Betty Kemm will remain our Chairperson; Irene McKee is our new Vice-chair; and Laurel Upshaw is Secretary-Treasurer. We also decided that potluck suppers seem to bring the best attendance and will keep up the procedure. Sue Amstutz brought the mounted wildflower photos for this year's contest and described the enthusiasm with which they were received in Oklahoma City at the Omniplex, where they had been displayed for the first time. Bill Sartin with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation gave the program describing the work being carried out in two areas near Hulah Lake in northern Osage County: the Rock Creek Wildlife Management Area and the Western Wall Primitive Area. His talk and slides generated enthusiasm for a future ONPS field trip, particularly in the Western Wall area. Since these areas are used for various ongoing studies by agencies as well as Sutton Avian Research Center, plans must be made through contacting ODWC.

Our field trip to the North Woods in Mohawk Park on September 20 managed to hit the last hot day of the summer; seventeen members followed Dr. Paul Buck up the dusty road, down the dike and into the bottomland forest. Old Bird Creek oxbow remnants showed all three genera of duckweed, the red fruit of green dragon, dodder, fog fruit, and many other species. Cardinal flower created showy red splashes in the low areas. Both pink and white species of smartweed, white and yellow crown-beards, moth mullien, tick trefoil, asters, fleabanes, frost flower (*Verbescina virginica*), black snakeroot, camphorweed, elephant foot, tall bellflower, rough wild petunia, and various other common fall flowers were in bloom. (And of course, the ragweeds!) The usual vines were present: poison ivy, catclaw brier, woodbine, trumpet creeper, Carolina snailseed (*Cocculus carolinianus*), and forms of wild grape. Despite the hot dry summer, it appeared this area would have good fall color on leaves and plenty of wild fruit, acorns and nuts for the native animals and birds.

We have scheduled a field trip on Saturday, November 14, at Mooser Creek west of Tulsa. Laureen Gilroy, with Tulsa's Public Works Department, will lead us in this portion of the city's planned Greenbelt. Our next Chapter meeting will be December 14, 1998, at the

Tulsa Garden Center at 7:30 PM, following the potluck dinner at 6:30. Kim Shannon of the OK Nature Conservancy will present the program.

Ed. Note: In a wonderful coincidence, we got two reports from the NE chapter this time! Sue Amstutz reported on basically the same activities, but mentioned some additional details: In addition to the list above, the September 20 field trip yielded visits with crimson-eyed rose mallow, Bidens, bellflowers and heliotrope. The Mooser Creek Watershed is being subjected to an environmentally-friendly system of flood-control, to include trails and public parks.

Thanks, Sue!

CENTRAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Central Chapter News, by Tina Julich

Landscape architect Karen Lehr was the speaker for the September meeting of the Central Chapter. Using native and drought tolerant plants is a common theme in her landscape designs, and she shared her ideas, tips, and a list of her favorite plants.

For the October meeting Pat Folley presented a program on 'The Glass Flowers', a collection at Harvard University in Boston, followed by a plant and seed exchange. A slate of officers for 1999 was suggested to the members, with Sharon McCain as Chairperson and Judy Jordan as Secretary/Treasurer. No volunteers for the position of Vice-Chair stepped forward.

Brian Acres from OU is scheduled to speak at the November 30th meeting. He will talk on the use of native fungi and how it has affected our culture. We will meet at OSU-OKC in the Engineering Technology building, room 108 at 7:30pm. Officers will be elected for 1999.

The next meeting will be February 22, 1999, at a location to be announced. (but still at the OSU Tech complex - we just have to wait until the classes have been assigned.) Judy Jordan will bring a program on the Amazon rain forest, based on her own travels in that area.

6TH XERISCAPE CONFERENCE

Announcing a conference sponsored by the Xeriscape Council of New Mexico and the New Mexico Water Conservation Alliance, to be held March 5-6, 1999, at Albuquerque, NM.

The New Mexico Native Plant Society is helping to sponsor this event, which will cover planning, design, construction and management of drought-resistant landscapes. A list of the speakers is included in the brochure. Registration deadline date is 12 February, and the cost of \$75 includes lunch and refreshments both days, conference materials, and access to 20 exhibits.

Pat Folley has one copy of the application, which can be faxed or mailed to anyone interested. Call at (405) 872-8361 to ask for your form, or contact Scott Vamer, Xeriscape Council of New Mexico / P. O. Box 14311 / Albuquerque, New Mexico 87191-4311. E-mail to 1scott@thuntex.net. Phone (505)294-7791

Gallardia Winter 1998

ONPS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

An official list of new members was not available by press time and this list has been put together from various sources. If it is incomplete, it will be corrected in the next issue.

- Michael Williams, Amarillo TX
- Ann Miller Gonzalez, San Antonio TX
- Katie Northrup, Houston TX
- Brad Hyde, Oklahoma City
- Richard & Janet Pearson, Marlowe
- Stanley Rice, Durant
- Carol & Dennis Strayer, Lawton
- Sue Taylor, Oklahoma City
- Sharon Beasley, Newcastle
- Phillip Phillips & Kaitlin Owens-Phillips, Moore
- E. J. & Ramona Guerrant, Antlers

Wow! What a lot of new faces to learn. If you know any of these good folks, invite them to attend a meeting or field trip with you. Make them welcome and hope they'll be happy they joined us.

A word about addresses

ONPS has a business address:

Oklahoma Native Plant Society

c/o Tulsa Garden Center

2435 South Peoria

Tulsa, OK 74114

Membership, changes of address, and general correspondence of all kinds except newsletter material should be sent to the Tulsa address.

For *Gallardia* material only, use the editor's address:

Patricia Folley, Editor

15100 Etowah Rd.

Noble, OK 73068

The *Gallardia* can accept material by disk (ASCII, rtf or

Word format), fax to (405)872-8361, or e-mail to

onps@aol.com

Members who wish to receive information by e-mail from

ONPS may send their on-line address to gnps@aol.com

and just say you want to be included in any notices.

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

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AFFILIATION (School, Business or Avocation) _____

ADDRESS _____ (BUSINESS PHONE) _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

\$15.00 Family _____ \$10.00 Individual _____ \$5.00 Student _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP _____ \$300.00 Family _____ or \$200.00 Individual _____ Renewal New Member

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

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The Gaillardia

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Vice President	Tina Julich
Secretary	Clare Miller
Treasurer	Judy Jordan
Historian	Karen Haworth

Boardmembers-at-Large

1999: Lynn Allen and Sue Amstutz
2000: Paul Reimer and Larry Magrath
2001: Berlin Heck and Iris McPherson
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Copy to: 15100 Etowah Road, Noble OK
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REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

Each year at the Annual Meeting (usually, in October), an award is made in the name of Anne Long, one of the organizers of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, who died before it became a reality. Anne loved the native plants of Oklahoma and the people who cared enough to preserve them.

We are all urged to give thought to our communities and just who ought to be recognized as a person or organization who has been a shining example of the execution of our Purpose during the past year or years. *The winner need not be an ONPS member.* Members of the current Board (those listed in the box at the left), though, are not eligible for the award. To refresh your memory, the Purpose is stated on Page 1, under the logo.

RULES: Send the name of the person or group you wish to nominate, with your own name and address to:
Dr. Paul Buck, 1623 S. Delaware Pl., Tulsa, OK
74104-5915.

On a separate sheet, explain why you think the nominee deserves the award. All nominations are kept confidential, and the names of the nominator(s) are not revealed.

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