



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

Volume 15, Number 3
Autuum 2000

LOOK INSIDE FOR

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH2
ONPS BOARD MEETING RESULTS.....2
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR ANNE LONG AND SERVICE AWARDS3
BOTANY BAY3
WHAT NEXT5
GLOBAL WARMING & PRAIRIES5
HELP WANTED5
WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP WEEK6
BLACK MESA TRIP8
CONSERVATION REPORT8
ONPS SCRAPBOOK WORK PARTY9
ONPS ANNUAL MEETING9
CHAPTER ACTIVITIES10
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS11
MEMBERSHIP FORM.....11

Inserts: Registration form for Annual Meeting and Photo Contest

Printed on recycled paper

COPY AND ART DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS 15 NOVEMBER 2000

Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

CALENDAR

Note: the events dated below are identified by either a page number where the event is fuller described or the name of the contact person for that event.

- Last Weekend of the Month, ONPS Scrapbook Work Party, Page 10
- September 8-10 Oklahoma Academy of Science Fall Field Meeting at Osage Hills State Park. Larry Magrath 405-222-0904
- September 16 Cross-Timbers Chapter field trip, Page 11
- September 25 Central Chapter meeting, Page 10
- October 14-16 Annual Meeting at Western Oklahoma State College, Page 10.
- October 30 Central Chapter meeting, Page 10
- November 10 Cross-Timbers Chapter potluck dinner, Page 11
- November 27 Central Chapter meeting, Page 10

Note: all members are invited to all chapter field trips and meetings, including board meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests.



ONPS THANKS THESE SPECIAL FUND CONTRIBUTORS

Anne Long Fund
Helen Hodges
Mary Korthase
Mary Price
John and Janet Slater
Larry Magrath

Harriet Barclay Fund
Helen Hodges
Mary Korthase
Mary Price
Larry Magrath

General Fund
Michael Flanagan
Kirk and Loretta Bowers

PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

Dr. Sheila Strawn

This is my last column as president of ONPS. I have enjoyed serving in this position and hope those who follow will find it as rewarding as I have. I've had no personal agenda to guide ONPS through. My goal has been to help members find ways to fulfill their own goals within ONPS and to find members to fulfill the goals of ONPS. With the increased number of active members (those attending chapter and state meetings and field trips) there is an increased need for, as well as supply of members who will volunteer their time for the benefit of all. What a wonderful situation to be in!

One of the reasons ONPS has been growing is due to Ruth Boyd's consistent motivation to get the word out; to set up and (wo)man! information booths at a myriad of environmental meetings throughout the state. Of all the many tasks she performed as Public Relations Chair to help reach the goals of ONPS, this is probably the one, most important. Public Relations tasks include more than sending announcements to local papers of upcoming events-that's a task in itself. It is more than having coffee & refreshments and/or welcoming visitors and new members at chapter meetings-that's a task in itself. It is more than keeping track of what's happening, more than answering questions from concerned citizens, more than writing columns. Our members have stepped forward to take on the tasks that Ruth has performed in the past, one by one, since her illness caused her to be hospitalized her last December.

Because of its importance, this one last task of Public Relations has taken the longest to fulfill. I have a feeling that it cannot be done by one person any more. I believe we are going to have to have a 2 or 3-person team from each chapter to get the word out about ONPS. We have already split the job up so that a "Merchandising Chairman" will be supplying and keeping inventory for books and fund raising items for ONPS booths. The job will "just" entail attending to a table or booth to display: a photo contest poster, ONPS information

leaflets, ONPS membership forms, books/fundraising items, and ONPS signs at environmental education meetings in your area. We will need chapter teams who have very flexible schedules and who, between the 2-3 of them, are able to lift boxes and drive at least 50 miles to several meetings a year. Fuel costs and entry fees can always be paid by ONPS. Ruth has written guidelines to help you, and has agreed to serve as public relations advisors for as long as we need her. It's a "do-able" job. It is an opportunity to do the most for native plants and for future generations. Please call me if you can be part of a team and please feel free to organize your team before you call. I receive several letters inviting us to environmental meetings every month. The sooner we get organized, the sooner we can start getting the word out again. I'm anxious to hear from you.

Sheila Strawn
President, ONPS

అదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅది

ONPS BOARD MEETING RESULTS

At the June 10 Board Meeting the following slate of nominees for ONPS officers for 2000 was approved.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Patricia Folley |
| Vice President | Chadwick Cox |
| Secretary | Maurita Nations |
| Treasurer | Mary Korthase |
| Historian | Lynn Allen |

Boardmembers-at-Large2003:
Paul Reimer and Larry Magrath

The election of the officers will occur at the Annual Meeting at the October 14-16 Annual Meeting at Western Oklahoma State College.

The board approved the appointment of Jim Elder to replace Paul Johnson who resigned as the board member for 2002.

Perhaps you have wonder how solvent our society is. Enough so that we will exceed the limit opposed on our type of nonprofit organization. Suggestions on how we might spend some of our funds have been scholarships and line drawings for Flora of

Oklahoma's update of guide that will replace Waterfall's guide. Pass along your suggestion to our President.

The board also established a Service Award whose guidelines for awarding are as follows:

- 1) Recipient(s) of this award shall have been a member of ONPS a minimum of five (5) years.
- 2) Recipient(s) of this award shall have demonstrated service to the Society above and beyond that normally associated with expected levels of activity.
- 3) Recipient(s) of this award shall be in good financial standing, with current dues obligation having been met.
- 4) Current and past State elective officers, State appointed chairs, State Projects directors, and/or local Chapter officials may be considered as recipient(s) of this award, at the discretion of the Service Award Committee.
- 5) The award may be given annually (if a candidate is nominated who meets all criteria for consideration) or, in a given year, no award need be presented (if no candidate is nominated who meets all criteria for consideration.)
- 6) Nomination for this award must be made in writing. Documentation demonstrating the nominee's service to the Society shall accompany the nomination.
- 7) Nominations for this award may be solicited via, the ONPS *Gaillardia*, similar to nominations for the Anne Long Award.
- 8) Selection of recipient(s) shall be made by committee appointed by the State President of ONPS.
- 9) Presentation of the award shall be made at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

అదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅది

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ONPS solicits nominations for the Anne Long Award and the ONPS Service Award. If you wish to nominate someone for one of these awards contact the Chairs of each committee, Paul Reimer

for Anne Long Award and Sue Amstutz for Service Award

అదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅది

BOTANY BAY

Paul Buck, July 2000

AH-CHOO!!

Many Oklahoma Native Plant Society members share a common malady - hay fever. Some experience allergic reactions in mid-winter, others in spring, but. I suspect most in late summer and early fall. Those in the latter category are probably sensitive to *Ambrosia* (common ragweed). Since I am not a sufferer I am often indifferent to hay fever, that is, until my friend and colleague at the University of Tulsa, Estelle Levetin, experiences an attack of pollinosis and makes certain I do not miss the significance of the episode. She also points out how fortunate I am not to be bothered.

What is an allergy and an allergen? It seems that sometimes harmless, everyday substances such as pollen, animal dander, or mold spores are perceived by our bodies as a threat which in turn stimulates the immune system to a~n allergic response. The reaction generally involves a runny nose, sneezing, nasal congestion and post nasal drainage. These symptoms are often accompanied by red, itchy, and teary eyes. The various substances eliciting such responses are termed allergens.

Many common substances have been identified as allergenic but I wish to restrict this Botany Bay contribution to pollen. The role of pollen in the reproductive cycle of flowering plants is understood by most members of the ONPS. The minute grains transport the male gamete (sperm) to a receptive pistil (the female reproductive structure) which is most often on a distant flower. There, after biochemical recognition, pollen grain germination takes place and the developing pollen tube carries the sperm to the vicinity of the egg where fertilization occurs.

In the Autumn 1997 issue of the *Gaillardia* we explored the question of "Why Some Plants Have Pretty Flowers and Some Don't" and recognized two basic approaches to pollen transport. One is by

animals (entomophily) and the other via wind (anemophily). The former involves a few, large, heavy pollen grains carried purposefully from flower to flower whereas the latter involves a great abundance of light, minute grains (small enough to be wind borne) released for air transport. Plants in the latter category are the offenders in hay fever. Allergenic proteins are found in the walls of the pollen grains. I am not suggesting there is never a problem with the pollen of entomophilous species. No doubt, somewhere in this world of six billion plus humans there are individuals sensitive to such plants but it would be rare. A point to be made here is that insect pollinated *Solidago* (goldenrod) is rarely allergenic, the problem is associated with *Ambrosia* (ragweed) which flowers at the same time although inconspicuously.

Over one hundred and eighty species of Oklahoma plants have been listed as allergenic. Fortunately not all are problem plants since there are other factors involved such as:

1. For a species to be of concern there must be a large number of sensitive humans exposed to the pollen. Low density rural populations have fewer afflicted residents.
2. The allergenic species must be present in large populations such as that of *Ambrosia* (ragweed) which occurs in tens of thousands along the sandy banks of our major rivers. Isolated populations of widely scattered plants would not release pollen concentrations great enough to present a problem.
3. Since the plants are anemophilous there must be weather patterns with prevailing winds from the pollen source to urban populations, something we clearly have here on the plains.

Individuals suffering early spring and summer allergies are probably reacting to early flowering, wind pollinated, woody species. Look about your community. In Oklahoma those include *Acer* (maple, which may be in full flower in January), *Juniperus* (redcedar), *Ulmus* and *Celtis* (elm and hackberry), *Quercus* (oaks), *Liquidambar* (sweetgum), *Platanus* (sycamore), *Morus* (mulberry) and *Carya* (hickory, including pecan). There are numerous herbaceous species as well, the most important of which are the grasses flowering throughout the growing season and abundant in

this grassland area. As mentioned, the villain in late summer and fall hay fever is *Ambrosia* (ragweed). Ours are short day species and floral development begins in early July with maturity in about six weeks. Pollen release starts in mid-August and continues until early to mid-October or the first heavy frost. This information is for nonsufferers, hay fever victims already know when the season starts and ends.

Winter hay fever is not uncommon. Many suffer from late November through early February. Here the probable cause is *Juniperus ashei* (Mountain cedar) which, although rare or nonexistent in northern Oklahoma is abundant in the Arbuckle uplift and covers hundreds of square miles with dense stands in the Edwards Plateau of Texas. In this case prevailing winds is the important factor. A study of weather patterns and the movement of fronts would permit one to ascertain just when a major Mountain cedar pollen release will occur and when, or even if, it will reach Oklahoma.

That research and those calculations are not necessary. Estelle Levetin and her students monitor environmental conditions and wind patterns via the Oklahoma Mesonet coupled with data available through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In December and January they may be able to let you know if a Mountain cedar pollen cloud is enroute. Contact them on the World Wide Web at:

<http://pollen.utulsa.edu>

This Botany Bay article regarding hay fever in Oklahoma will no doubt answer a few questions but raise additional ones. Sufferers need to be aware there are steps one can take to reduce the chances and intensity of a pollinosis attack. One of the simplest is to avoid exposure. This may be accomplished by seeking shelter in a building with an effective air handling unit when pollen counts are high, visiting vacation spots with reduced allergenic pollens, and becoming informed regarding pollen threats in other regions. For example, a *Traveler's Allergy Service Guide* is available for Europe.

Do your homework and avoid as much discomfort as possible.

WHAT NEXT?

Paul Buck

As members of the ONPS we learn something new with every meeting, field trip and issue of the Gaillardia. When one stops learning it is time for the Memorial Service.

One bit of information reinforced with each field trip is that plants go to great expense to attract pollinators. The term expense is used intentionally. The production and maintenance of attractants is metabolically costly. Fortunately, green plants are carbohydrate millionaires.

We have examined flowers with showy petals, brightly colored with costly pigments and sometimes even marked with nectar guides to lead visitors into contact with pollen bearing anthers or receptive stigmas. We are also familiar with nectar. Its aroma serves to attract pollinators and the nutrient rich substance is a reward for visitors and encouragement to drop by similar flowers. Plants utilize the visual, olfactory, and gustatory (taste) senses of animals.

Now, a report in the journal NATURE suggests auditory senses are used as well. German researchers have found a Neotropical vine of the bean family which produces small, concave acoustical mirrors on its petals which reflect echolocation squeaks from bats. Closely related vines that do not depend on bats for pollination do not produce these acoustical mirrors. Flying toward the echo source of their own sounds the nocturnal animals are able to locate plants in their search for nectar and pollen. Consider the implication; night blooming plants need not rely on white flowers and scented nectar. Echo- location creatures such as bats can hear the plant's location.

🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦

GLOBAL WARMING AND OUR CHANGING PRAIRIES

With global warming a reality, how will our native plants be affected? The Desert Research Institute received a \$3 million dollar grant to investigate this question. Drs. Linda Wallace and Yiqi Luo at OU are contributors to this study. They have had in place, even before this grant, plots of tall grass prairie where they are artificially raising the average temperature by 2 degrees Celsius. One question asked in this study is whether this rise in temperature will decrease the consumption of

carbon dioxide by the plants as has been noted in similar studies in colder regions. The preliminary results suggest that there is not a comparable change in the consumption rate in the warmer region of these new test plots. That is to say, at least as far as the warmer regions of the earth, the rise in temperature will not compound the global warming by decreasing the removal of greenhouse gases.

Perhaps the question dearer to our hearts is whether these temperatures will alter the makeup of the plants in our region. This spring the test plots have undergone a change in the species distribution. So while the overall respiration of the plots are not significantly altered, at least in this early phase of the study, they are being rearranged rapidly as far as numbers of the different species present in the prairie even with this modest change in temperature. The grant will support the continuation of this study for 5 years, a sufficient time period to better predict how our native plants will be altered by global warming.

The not-so-humorous consequence of these alterations seen in these early findings is that their direct extrapolation suggest that you better bone up on your knowledge of Texas native plants if you want to stay current. That will only be true, if the plants can make the migration within the time of the changes required by the rise in temperature in the future.

🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦🐦

HELP WANTED

TALL GRASS RESTORATION PROJECT NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has begun restoration of tall and mid grass prairie and associated wetlands. Areas to be restored are located throughout 13 counties in South Central Nebraska on 62 different units totaling 23,000 acres. In 1999, over 120 species of native plant seed was harvested and used to seed nearly 500 acres on 20 units.

Housing is provided on McMurtrey National Wildlife Refuge near Hastings, Nebraska. A small stipend is provided to cover meals and

incidentals. All the equipment required to complete the job is provided. Requirements for these positions include an interest in native plants, the ability to drive and operate a pickup truck and all terrain vehicle, a willingness to work outdoors and get dusty and dirty, and the ability to work independently at times after an initial orientation phase. Harvest of wetland plants begins in August with the majority of tall grass species harvest occurring in September and October. A minimum time commitment of one month is requested. For more information or to apply for the tall grass prairie restoration project contact Tom Koerner at P.O. Box 1686, Kearney, NE 68848 (303)236-5015 ext 23, or tom_koerner@mail.fws.gov

Aquilegia canadensis Seeds Requested

I am working on the evolutionary patterns of pollination syndromes in this diverse genus and need representatives from at least all of the North American species. We are currently maintaining about 17 species in the greenhouse, but need representatives of *Aquilegia canadensis*. Do you know of any sites or people who would be willing to collect wild seed in OK?

A caveat for our molecular work is that we need one fruit for 20 separate individuals in a population. I could send coin envelopes (convenient for seed collecting and storage) and additional collecting directions if there was a chance someone might be able to fill in this gap in our accessions from OK?

Contact: Justen Whittall, Noble Hall 2263, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106; (805) 893-7814
jhittall@lifesci.ucsb.edu

More Seeds Requested

We found your address through an Internet search to locate potential contacts and cooperators. The focus of our research is to develop foreign plant pathogens for biological control of weeds. A major aspect of our research is to determine susceptibility of the target weed in its North American range. We also test as many North American relatives of the target for susceptibility to infection by candidate biological control organisms. Research

is conducted in a large greenhouse complex designed for the containment of microorganisms.

Presently, our target weeds are: Russian thistle (*Salsola* spp.), Common groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*), Yellow Starthistle and the knapweeds (*Centaurea* spp.), and Mile-A-Minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*).

I am interested in seeds of these species and their U.S. relatives from as many locations as possible. Would you be interested in providing seeds? I am especially interested in native and ornamental *Senecio* and *Polygonum* species. Are there others you know who also might be able to help us? Shipment of the seeds requested does not require a permit, and all of our studies will be conducted in the containment facility. We can provide limited funding to support collecting, handling, and shipping of seeds.

For additional information, please contact: Dr. William Bruckart, USDA-ARS-FDWSRU, 1301 Ditto Ave, Ft. Detrick, Maryland 21702; Phone: 301/6192846 FAX: 301/619-2880 Email: bruckart@asrr.arsusda.gov

అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది

WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP WEEK

Patricia Folley

This is a personal reminiscence on the Wildflower Workshop and the week surrounding it. Betty Culpepper and I had loaded masses of "stuff" into her big red van on Thursday, May 19. We stayed in a local motel (hereafter known as the "no-tell motel" because it was only marginally livable, however expensive). Judy Jordan and Lynn Allen, two good friends from other outings, were down the way from us, so we had company and sympathy. As we assembled in the spacious second-floor banquet center at University center at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, we were treated to coffee and rolls while browsing the displays.

Those displays have to have been the best-ever for a Workshop: Kurt and Loretta Bowers had outdone themselves with all kinds of native woodland plants for show and sale. There was a big booth selling fragrant soaps, and the Oklahoma

Department of Transportation's welcome display of pictures, handouts and free maps. Someone had provided a sampling of local wildflowers, and of course the ONPS photo contest pictures. Other displays included one on honey bees – oh, I can't remember them all, but they were attractive and relevant.

The program was as packed as the meeting room. My favorite was Charles Lewallen, who presented a short program of his beautiful digital pictures of native wildflowers. We loved that show because Charles was willing to talk on our level ("it's the flower, silly") and because he kept it to the point. His method is to concentrate on these priorities: 1. Subject, 2. Photograph, and last, the photographer. In other words, the pictures represent to his best ability the flower as it lives, using whatever techniques it takes to get that view into the camera, and only last, his own perspective on the plant.

Another outstanding slide-lecture was the opening one, by Kim Shannon of The Nature Conservancy. She showed us some of the work of the Registry program, whereby private property owners are enrolled to maintain precious habitat sites on their own land, without the necessity of bringing that land under public control. As I am a registry owner myself, I am happy that the program is doing well, and amazed at the life forms being protected that way.

Last of all, Dr. Paul Buck showed slides of the wild plants we would be seeing on the next day's field trips. I know of no other field-trip leader who goes to such pains to prepare his audience. There before us were pictures of the treasures that awaited us in the local area, taken just days before and rushed to view before the flowers themselves had faded.

The banquet and awards program that night was held in a new Vo-Tech center with a spectacular view. I was overjoyed to see Dr. Ron Tyrl receive the Bess Snodgrass award for his many years of educating Oklahoma young people about our plant heritage. And the Cherokee healer, Crosslin Smith, managed to conclude his talk with a reference to the sunset, just then flaming across the entire sky behind us. He didn't tell how he managed that!

All day Saturday, we toured the Illinois River and Natural Falls State Park areas. While there were no masses of prairie plants, careful investigation turned up some interesting and shy

woodland flowers, and the scenery was just beautiful. At that point, the Workshop was over, but Betty and I stayed one more night at the "no-tell" and next day drove up to Vinita on a round-about route that took us to Spavinaw State Park, Spavinaw Wildlife Management Area, Grand Lake, Bernice State Park, and more. Everywhere we looked, rocks and trees and wildflowers and water.

Monday found us in White Oak Prairie, a Registry site, meeting Kim Shannon and Chris Wilson of The Nature Conservancy to look for prairie-fringed orchids, shy milkweeds, and other wonders. We didn't find the orchid, but the prairie was brim-full of Camassia, Coreopsis, beautiful grasses and Verbenas. That evening we stayed in a lovely, comfortable cabin at Osage Hills State Park. What a change from the "no-tell"! Next day, we toured the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve by car, as it had become quite hot, and finally, reluctantly started home.

Oh, I was going to tell you all about the Black Mesa weekend, but I'm out of room. Next time, you'll have to come along. We always have fun, get our eyes full, and return refreshed.

అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది

My Journey with Nature
Dolores Ward, Denison, Texas

Flowers appear as blankets of color
Spread beneath the sunshine's warmth.

The wind's touch is gentle
As I walk through the beauty
beneath my feet.

The melodic songs of birds
Fill my heart with joy.

My journey with nature is everlasting.
I can return here at any time
Just close my eyes and I see
blankets of color...

Joanne Orr submitted this poem written at the workshop.

BLACK MESA TRIP

Connie Taylor, Field Trip Organizer

Memorial Day Weekend provided perfect weather for members of the ONPS. Though spring rains were late, the park, canyons, and mesa were bedecked with numerous wildflowers.

Oklahoma members were joined by New Mexico Native Plant Society members, family members from Colorado, and 2 drop ins from Maryland.

Friday evening was spent socializing and getting acquainted. Saturday we visited the petrified log in the camp, and took the trail up into the canyon, climbing a marked trail to the prairie top, and then descending down a rough side and back to camp. Some of the plants not normally seen in most of Oklahoma were the wild Zinnias, with their small 8" clump of bright yellow flowers; Melampodium, Plains Black foot, equally small with delightful white flowers and a strange and unusual feature of the inner most involucre bracts tightly clasping the fertile fruits of the ray flowers. Also showing off was "Green Eyes", Berlandiera, which gets its common name from the head after the ray flowers have fallen off.

Up on the hill we saw our native shrub Mimosa, a true member of the genus Mimosa, a name applied to many other shrubs and trees with similar pink flowers. Another delight was Krameria, a low running plant whose magenta flowers might be mistaken for an orchid. While this plant is wide spread in Oklahoma, many had not seen it in flower.

That afternoon we drove up Tesse Equite (spelled many ways, but this one is off a very old Cimarron County Map.) A very small side branch known as Sutton Canyon has numerous Ponderosa Pines. This plant of the Rock Mountains graces Oklahoma at this delightful site. We saw numerous seedlings and young saplings. A small seep comes out at one location providing a steady supply of water nearly year round. We made a circular climb up one branch of this canyon, across a bowl and then down a stream. We particularly want to thank the land owners for allowing us on this property.

Saturday evening, Mr. Dan Sharp, ranch owner and protector of the portion of the Santa Fe Trail which crosses his property, gave an interesting, entertaining, and colorful history of ranching in the area and activity on the Sante Fe Trail.

Sunday was Black Mesa day. While it was hot, many members chose to make the 8 mile round trip to the Oklahoma High Point marker. Others climbed to the Mesa top and down, and some only went part of the way up the mesa. All saw new and interesting plants.

We particularly missed Ruth Boyd who was the persistent inspiration for organizing this trip.

ONPS would like to thank Bob and Jane Apple, Ina K. Labrier and the staff of the Hitching Post for the fine food and service. They were also very generous in their charges for these services.

అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది అది

CONSERVATION REPORT

Berlin Heck

There are several issues that I will discuss which might be of interest to ONPS members

HIDDEN VALLEY LANDFILL ISSUE

Construction of this landfill was proposed 1st year at a site adjacent to Clear Creek in Cherokee County southwest of Peggs. Given the soil and terrain types in the area, the water quality of Clear Creek which empties into Fort Gibson Lake, the unique flora and fauna associated with the area, the types of waste to be dumped at this site, and the unified opposition by people in the area, it is considered to be a poor choice of sites.

I contacted Mr. Wes Squires of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Solid Waste Division, for an update on this proposal. He advised me that the legislature ruled against this landfill and DEQ will not allow construction of a landfill within 3 miles of a water district.

The Hidden Valley Landfill is currently a dead issue, but it could be resurrected in the future through legislative action.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE ISSUES

A 100 acre limestone glade, on the south side of Little River in McCurtain County, possesses an unique association of flora. Some ONPS members have visited this area in past years.

In August 1999, 30 acres of open glade were burned to rejuvenate this mini-ecosystem. This summer, in response to the burn, the area was covered with wild flowers, particularly Purple Coneflowers which respond well to fire treatment. This year, two burns were completed in March in McCurtain County.

The Glover River burn involved a 5,800 acre block on the east side of the river. I inspected this area in February and observed that it was very steep, rocky terrain except in areas converted to pine plantations prior to Forest Service acquisition.

The Buffalo Creek burn involved 2,600 acres on the east side of the Mountain Fork River, north of the McCurtain County Wilderness Area. I inspected this area last fall and found it to be another very rugged area with a few pine plantations.

Both burns were controlled and generally restricted to existing pine plantations. Hardwood areas held little litter and were mostly unable to support a fire, a fact which can be good or bad. Historically, much of the flora associations of Oklahoma are fire dependent.

Two potential roadless areas in McCurtain County are being evaluated by the Forest Service. Both areas are extremely rugged with primitive woods roads. I inspected both areas last fall and believe that they should be designated as roadless areas due to the tremendous cost of road construction in such terrain and their natural vegetation.

One area, called Bee Creek, is on the west side of Broken Bow Lake, 4 miles SE of Mt. Herman. The other area, called Ashford Peak, is on the east side of the Lake on the south boundary of the McCurtain County Wilderness Area.

PALMETTOS ISSUE

Dwarf Palmettos are a fast declining species in Oklahoma. This plant occurs only in the southeast part of McCurtain County and is threatened by development and herbicides. I have located many small stands of these wetland plants and a few large stands, but they are threatened by land clearing and other manipulations. The Forest Service is

purchasing land that contains palmettos, but these lands are enrolled in the Federal Wetland Reserve Program which means that the Natural Resource Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) has management authority over the land and often floods lands enrolled in this program. Flooding kills the palmettos. I have alerted the Forest Service Biologist responsible for this area regarding the threats to palmettos and he has said that he will do what he can to protect remaining plants. However, practically all the palmettos I have found in the past few years are on private land and are subject to destruction by the landowners as a pest plant.

అరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరి

ONPS SCRAPBOOK WORK PARTY

The committee to revise the ONPS scrapbooks has met several times to move the memorabilia to archival quality books, but the process is still in progress. We are planning to work on the ONPS scrapbooks once a month, the last weekend of each month (with the probable exception of November and December) at Lynn Roberts' home. Come any time you can either day to work on the scrapbooks. Stay all day or just a couple of hours. Please let Lynn Roberts or Tina Julich know if you plan on coming. (We'll provide a light lunch on Saturday.) Also, call or e-mail Lynn if you have questions or need directions.

Hours:
Saturday 10:00am to 10:00pm
Sunday 2:00pm to 6:00pm

Lynn's home phone number is 946-8978, work number 722-9090, e-mail lynnsr@juno.com
Tina's work number is 603-8045, or cell phone 650-0052. e-mail tjulich@hotmail.com

అరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరిఅరి

ONPS ANNUAL MEETING

Time for all ONPS members to mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting! Friday evening, October 13, through Sunday Morning October 15. You can look forward to some interesting field trips. Plans have not been completed, but probably will include Quartz Mountain, Devils Canyon and

Blackberry Flats. If you have not made it to an annual meeting, what are you waiting for? It's a great opportunity to Botanize with the best.

We will meet Friday Evening at Western State College for a slide presentation by Frank Carl. He has some wonderful Butterfly and Wildflower slides. Complete field trip agenda will be announced Friday Evening. Saturday Evening speaker will be Steve Bieberich, owner of Sunshine Nursery. He knows a lot about native plants and particularly ones that are best for Oklahoma Landscapes. He recently spent a month in Tibet collecting plants that he felt might survive in Western Oklahoma. We have rooms reserved at Best Western. Please call before October 1 to reserve a room. Attached registration form includes information about other accommodations in the Altus area.

The annual meeting isn't just for officers, it's for everyone who is interested in ONPS and in making the organization work. Plan to come and bring your family for a great weekend at beautiful Quartz Mountain. Registration is due by October 1st.

అదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅదిఅది

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

NE Chapter

Last spring the chapter toured the gardens of Larry and Barbara Alexander, ONPS members. The Tulsa World also published a nice account of their gardens in the Community Section in the June 21 edition. On a winding stone path through the yard are distributed about 20, shrub-bordered gardens. Many of these shrubs are azaleas, 600 in all, which make March to May a special show period. Also, many statues populate the gardens and the carved wooden bear, decorated appropriately for the season, is a major attraction.

Central Chapter

The long awaited event for the Central Chapter took place July 8 and 9; the house warming of Wayne and Susan Chambers. As might be expected, the house, constructed of foam form concrete walls, is filled with novel accouterments;

stained concrete floors, knobby wood curtain rods, brown bag wall treatment, etc. For many of us, this was hopefully a sign that the Chambers would be free of house building chores and could rejoin our ONPS events. In fact this proved true, they were at the McCain's for viewing bush morning glories that following weekend.

On July 15, 2000 we met at McCain's in Mustang, Oklahoma. Approximately 25 in attendance for an early morning (7:30a.m.) viewing of the Bush Morning Glory in bloom. The day became very hot by 9:00 but other interesting plants were found.

Next meeting September 25, 2000 Meeting location still to be determined. OSU Horticulture Center will not be able to confirm that we have a meeting place there until Fall Semester finalized.

October 30, 2000 – Speaker will be Steve Hill, Director of Landscaping and grounds for the new OU Museum of Natural History. Location undetermined.

November 27, 2000 – Speaker will be Nancy Fernandes. She has a very natural native landscaped garden. She will be showing slides of her garden.

We still need someone for Secretary. Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons have volunteered. Secretary's main duty is to mail the reminder post cards for meetings and field trips approximately 2 weeks prior to the event. If you feel that this is a position for you, please give me a call. Sharon McCain – 376-2768

Cross-Timbers Chapter Ron TyrI

The report of the Cross Timbers chapter is that we have had two meetings. A potluck and slide presentation on March 24 was attended by approximately 30 people. A field trip to a local tallgrass prairie/hay meadow on June 3 was attended by approximately 20 people. The number of members in the chapter continues to increase. A roster was e-mailed to Maurita Nations earlier today. Our next meeting is another field trip on September 16th, Saturday. Departure time is 10:00 AM from the parking lot adjacent to Life Sciences East on the OSU campus.

Another potluck dinner and slide presentation on Friday, November 10th concludes the chapter's activities for the year.

അരിഅരിഅരിഅരിഅരിഅരിഅരിഅരിഅരി

NOTE: Please look at the top of your mailing label at the expiration date of your membership displayed as mo-yr . If the date has already passed, it's time to bring your membership up to date using the form below. If your expiration date was for 98, please include dues for two years (99 and 00). If your records show that you have paid your dues through 2000, please contact Tina Julich by phone: (405) 650-0052; e-mail: tjulich@hotmail.com; or mail: ONPS Membership Chairman, at the Tulsa garden center, giving your check number, the date paid, and the amount.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS!

- Sandy Angelo, Tulsa Chapter
- Sandy Craue, Tulsa
- Janice Fly, Stillwater
- George and Rita Foster, Parkhill
- James & Gayle Jordan (& Laura), Tulsa Chapter
- Rebecca King, Perry
- Peg Lawson, Stillwater
- Michael T. & Judith McCreight, Seminole
- Maura McDermott, Tulsa Chapter
- Jim D. and Anita Wood, Tulsa

Barbara Klein and James Weaver, Warr Acres are now lifetime members

FOR JOINING OR RENEWAL, USE THE FORM BELOW:

Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to Oklahoma Native Plant Society, 2435 South Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74114. Dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

Name: _____

Affiliation: (School, Business, or Avocation) _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Please do not list my phone

Office Phone: _____

E mail: _____

Renewal New Member

Annual Membership Choice: \$10 Individual, \$15 Family, \$5 Student

Life Membership Choice: \$200 Individual, \$300 Family

Add \$2.50 to cover cost of copying and mailing a complete ONPS directory if desired.

The Gaillardia

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

President	Sheila Strawn
Vice President	Tina Julich
Secretary	Maurita Nations
Treasurer	Mary Korthase
Historian	Lynn Allen

Boardmembers-at-Large2000:
Paul Reimer and Larry Magrath
2001: Berlin Heck and Iris McPherson
2002: Sue Amstutz and Jim Elder

Edited by Chad Cox
Copy to: 2241 Ravenwood
Norman, OK 73071
Phone (405) 329-8860
e-mail chadcox@telepath.com

Gaillardia articles may be reprinted at will.
Please acknowledge source and author.

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 Gaillardia material only, use the editor's address:

Chad Cox
2241 Ravenwood
Norman, OK 73071-7427

The *Gaillardia* can accept material by disk (ASCII, rtf or Word format), e-mail to chadcox@telepath.com.

Members who wish to receive information by e-mail from ONPS may send their on-line address to chadcox@telepath.com

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. 357

RENEWAL TIME?

Please look at your expiration date on the mailing label and if it's not 2000 or later, remit your dues. We don't want to lose you!