



# *Gaillardia*

## Oklahoma

## Native Plant Society

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

**Volume 34, Number 3**  
**Fall 2019**

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**Oklahoma State Symbols**



**Animal**

American Bison-Buffalo

A bull buffalo can weigh up to 2000 pounds and stand 6 foot tall at the shoulder.

**Upcoming Events/Activities**

(check the ONPS website for more details)

**Central Chapter** - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting  
**OSU/OKC Horticulture Bldg**, 400 N Portland, Room 196

**NE Chapter** – 2019 September 9<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
 2020 March 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 Social and 7:00 Meeting  
**Tulsa Garden Center**, 2435 S Peoria Ave, Tulsa

**Fabulous Wildflower Fridays**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 5:30 casual  
**Panera Bread**, 5601 E 41st Street, Tulsa

Join us for a **Ferns Field Trip October 19<sup>th</sup>** at **Natural Falls State Park** (West Siloam Springs, OK) at 10:00am to look for the 17 ferns found there.

**Indoor Outing**, February 1, 2020, Tulsa Garden Center  
 Watch for details later this fall.

**All members are invited to all meetings, including board meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests.**



**Gaillardia**

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P. O. Box 14274, Tulsa OK 74159

President                      Bruce Smith  
Vice-president              Bill Farris  
Secretary                     Connie Murray  
Treasurer                     Mary Korthase

**Directors at Large:**

2019: Kathy Supernaw and Maryhelen Hagge  
2020: Rahmona Thompson and Alyssa Whiteman  
2021: Ray Luth and Janet Thomas

**Chapter Chairs:**

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Patrick Bell                    Central  
Elaine Lynch                 Cross-Timbers

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Publicity and Merchandise      Alicia Nelson  
Conservation                 Chadwick Cox  
TGC Liason                    Maryhelen Hagge  
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Awards                         Connie Murray  
Membership Database, Interim      Tina Julich  
Photo Contest                 Lynn Michael  
Mailings/Printings               Sandy Graue  
Native Plant Record               Gloria Caddell  
Website                         Adam Ryburn



**2019 Officer Election**

In accordance with the Oklahoma Native Plant Society Bylaws, an important item of business to be conducted at the September 21, 2019, Annual Member Meeting at Quartz Mountain State Park will be election of officers. A nominating committee consisting of Sue Amstutz, Tulsa, Chair, Lynn Michael, Claremore, and Sandy Graue, Sand Springs, present the following slate of officers for consideration for next year.

**2019-2020 Nominees for ONPS officers**

President..... Bill Farris  
Vice President ..... Donna Horton  
Secretary..... Constance Murray  
Treasurer ..... Mary Korthase

**Board members for 2020-2022**

Joe Roberts, Yukon  
Kathy Doss, Tulsa

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

**ONPS website:**

**[www.oknativeplants.org](http://www.oknativeplants.org)**

**ONPS email:**

**[oknativeplants@yahoo.com](mailto:oknativeplants@yahoo.com)**

**Gaillardia News email:**

**[ONPSGaillardia@gmail.com](mailto:ONPSGaillardia@gmail.com)**

**Welcome Our New Member**

Mary Ann Allbritton — Tulsa  
Gail Ayrea — Locust Grove  
Diane Fancher — Comanch  
Melissa Lewis — Vian  
Rachel Phelps — Broken Arrow  
Nancy Russell Waggoner — Wagoner  
Corky & Anna Stewart — Jenks  
Chris & Alicia Milum — Norman  
Daniel & Billie—Nicolotti — Nicholas Hills  
Jamime Tollison — Perry  
Susan K. Ball — Snyder  
Kaya DeerInWater — Tecumseh  
Bonnie Strickland — Vernon

**COPY & ART DEADLINE  
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS  
November 1st, 2019**

**President's Paragraph**  
**Bruce A. Smith**

Dear ONPS members,

*It's been a really good summer. I hope you got to take a vacation or maybe you took a long weekend to see some neat sites and spend time with your family. Sharon and I did not get our annual train trip in this year but did manage to take four short trips within Oklahoma. Three of the four outings were in Greer and Kiowa counties. I used part of the time helping to create a checklist of plants at Headquarters Hiking Trail in Granite. I love floristics. I cannot think of anything I would rather do than study plant communities. There are numerous benefits to creating floristic lists. Here are nine things that come to mind when I think of floras and plant studies in general.*

- 1. It is very gratifying to learn the intricate details of plant phytography (science of plant structure). Once you get started and begin to get a small degree of mastery, you are hooked. Life is richer and more meaningful.*
- 2. It keeps you physically and mentally active. I look forward to each day, knowing that there is more to learn about plants. It's an intellectual exercise. Like any puzzle or logic problem, identifying plants to species is an exercise of the mind, and I might say fun.*
- 3. You develop an appreciation for the region. My favorite region of the state is the southwest. By knowing the plants of this region of the state, I have developed a greater appreciation for that area.*
- 4. Completing a flora gives one a sense of accomplishment and pride knowing you contributed to the protection and conservation of plant ecosystems.*
- 5. It's a feeling of adventure, wow I climbed that "mountain" and I witnessed a rare plant.*
- 6. It is a chance to work as a team and enjoy the fellowship of other plant enthusiasts.*
- 7. It gives you as the "expert" a chance to mentor others with your botanical knowledge.*
- 8. The desire to investigate your surroundings is the natural thing to do. The sixty five foot tree in your backyard has a name and interesting story, why not know both?*
- 9. You are contributing to the scientific community. Perhaps the flora will include a voucher collection that you donate to a local university.*

*Getting started (in no certain order)*

- a. You have a good start already, you're a member of ONPS and if you're not please join.*
- b. Start by learning the names and biology of the plants on your property.*
- c. Find a good dichotomous key and field guide.*
- d. Purchase a field lens. ONPS has a pretty good 10x lens that you can buy.*
- e. Buy a nice journal. Wear it out with illustrations, leaf collections, thoughts and notes. Don't be afraid to get it dirty. The more organic, the better.*
- f. If you are an older person, a walking stick is a must. I like hickory or oak, if you don't want to make your own they are often available at state parks.*
- g. Make sure you have a good camera. Cell phones work great.*
- h. Find a group to go on field trips with. The ONPS offers periodic trips.*
- i. Start out by learning the woody plants (the vegetative phytography of woody plants is relatively easy to learn).*
- j. Don't be afraid to get started. If your first checklist is 10 trees on your property, you accomplished something already.*

*I hope this encourages you to get involved in plant study. Please email me if I can help you in any way to enjoy the wonderful plant kingdom. I encourage you once again to stay involved in ONPS activities.*

## A COLORADO TRANSPLANT IN AN OKLAHOMA GARDEN

First, a bit of background. As a lot of you know, Dale and I spent many summer vacations in the Colorado Rockies. That's where my interest in native plants had its genesis; for our 1973 trip, Dale had included a copy of Roger Tory Peterson's "Guide to Rocky Mountain Wildflowers" which I usurped so I could attempt to identify the mountain wildflowers we saw on our hikes.

From 1973 through 2005, we rented a semi-rustic cabin at the BRB Crystal River Resort, located six miles south of Carbondale on the banks of the Crystal River. For many of those years, we occupied Cabin #10 which became our Colorado home away from home. #10 faced the west bank of the river, framed by cottonwoods and willows. A levee of large, smooth boulders formed a buffer to keep the Crystal out of the cabins during the heavy spring runoff and the occasional summer flood. Only #10 had any amount of beach area, since over time, the willows had taken root atop the levee, blocking access to the river for folks in most of the other cabins.

I liked to "beach-comb" on the small pebble-strewn open space in front of #10, just to see what the river might have deposited in the way of botanical interest. Common finds were oxeye daisies, small conifer saplings, pink milkweed, goldenrod, and the occasional erigeron.

One summer, 2002, among the river rocks on the little beach, we found what looked like a fern. It was only a few inches tall, had few fronds, and what appeared to be some additional fronds about to unfurl. Knowing that our find would not survive the spring runoff in 2003 when the beach and everything growing on it would be under water or swept downstream, it was decided to do a plant rescue. We would bring the fern back to Tulsa, just to save it and see whether it could withstand the Oklahoma climate and difference in altitude from its Colorado "home".



Dale had some tools in the Jeep (one does not go off-roading in Colorado without a good array of tools for emergencies). He found a shovel, I produced a Solo cup from our picnic supplies, and together, we managed to extricate the fern from its rocky bed and into the cup. We waited to do this until our last day of vacation in 2002. The fern rode back to Tulsa in one of the Jeep's cup holders, spending our on-the-road overnight in the motel room with us in order

to keep it cool and watered.



Once back home, I transplanted the fern into a more appropriate flower pot, and during the scorching heat of late July and August, kept our Colorado rescue indoors with my house plants. During those weeks, more fronds developed and the fern appeared to be surviving all the trauma of its early existence. With the cool of autumn, we located an ideal place in my garden for the fern's permanent home. The spot was on a slope in the shade of our redbud grove and near the birdbath where it could be watered whenever the birdbath was being filled. Knowing that the fern would become dormant once Oklahoma winter arrived, we carefully marked the location with a garden stake and red scout ribbon so it could be located in 2003. Now we could only wait and anticipate spring!

We were not disappointed...warm weather provided Nature's emphasis on new growth, and like other winter-dormant plants, once the sun and warm breezes provided the push, up appeared new green fronds, a few at first and by late spring, our fern was over a foot tall.

During the summer of 2003, more and more growth took place.

It was evident that our Colorado fern liked Oklahoma as much as it had loved the mountains. We still had not identified which fern species we had rescued though. But in mid summer, the fact that what we had carefully rescued, brought home in a paper cup, nurtured through late summer and fall, was NOT A FERN AT ALL!! Bloom buds appeared on tall stalks! Even as an amateur botanist, I know that ferns don't have blossoms. Anxiously awaiting what would appear when that first set of buds became flowers about drove us crazy!



Our "fern" is actually TANSY (*Tanacetum vulgare*). It and its offspring which have spread up and down the west side of the slope love my garden. Here we are in 2019, and the tansy never fails to be spectacular, its fernlike fronds forming a dense plot under the redbuds, and its golden yellow flowers being eagerly anticipated each summer.

Since my "fern", AKA tansy, came to live in my garden, I have learned more about the plant. It's an immigrant from Eurasia now happy in widespread areas of North America (which is why it readily adapted both to Colorado and Oklahoma); it's an almost-rayless member of the asteraceae plant group; it's strong odor is a natural insect repellent. In



England, the fern-like leaves were used to flavor small cakes, a favorite treat during the Lenten season; and, to the benefit of my garden, one source states "patches of tansy can survive decades in the same location"!

Sue Amstutz

# Sand Plums Anyone?

## Becky Emerson Carlberg

Have you seen the brilliant red ripe (slightly smaller than) golf ball sized fruits decorating the small, shrubby trees in fields and beside roads. The sand plums are ripening. The Red, Western, Sand, Sandhill, Mountain Cherry, Cherokee or Chickasaw plum (choose your favorite common name) all fall under the scientific name of *Prunus angustifolia*. *Prunus* describes the showy spring flowers of plants in the rose family that produce tasty fruit. *angustifolia* is Latin for narrow leaf. The sand plum is a small tree ranging from 4 to 10 feet tall (some isolated trees top 25 feet), 4-6 feet wide and is notorious for inbreeding. Horticulturalists have developed several cultivars ('Guthrie', 'Rainbow' and 'Chisolm') each with small differences in leaves and fruits.

Short shrubby plum thicket is one identifying characteristic of this chummy plant. The prickly thorns as well as flowers appearing very early in the spring before the leaves are other giveaways. As you guessed, they like to grow in sandy soil, especially along ditches or rivers, but will tolerate heavier clay-loam soils. Sun they love, but partial shade they can work with. If fire or drought frequently sweep the area, they die off or struggle years to recover. That said, once established, the sand plum can handle dry conditions, especially when sheltered in groups.

Technically, the fruit is a drupe with thin skin and thick flesh surrounding a single seed. Cherries and peaches are drupes, but so are almonds and pecans. Instead of the flesh, we eat the seeds of these!

Sand plums are native to the southeastern part of the US as far west as KS and TX. Their original range was Texas and Oklahoma, much like the Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*). They peter out before reaching the OK Panhandle. The plum curculio snout beetle has crept in from the Rocky Mountains to attack our plums and peaches. The plums are also susceptible to fruit brown rot and bacterial leaf spot. Might as well throw in spring tent caterpillars.



A good thick stand of sand plums give cover to quail, sparrows, turkey, rabbits, small mammals, foxes and even white-tailed deer. Loggerhead Shrikes, Brown Thrashers, Mockingbirds and Painted Buntings nest in the branches. The little trees stabilize blowing

soil, gullies and stream banks. As an outside row they form an excellent windbreak. Honey bees, wild bees, bumble bees, flies and wasps pollinate the trees in spring. Here's something to raise your eyebrows. The sand plum is larval host to 465 moths, butterflies and other pollinators, including the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Red-spotted Purple, Spring Azure and Viceroy butterflies. In summer the wildlife, livestock and humans eat the fruit.

Orchards and nurseries sell sand plum trees on-site or on-line. Now is the time to collect seeds. First, sample the plums to make sure the fruit is tart and tasty. Some sand plum trees produce very bitter fruit. The seeds need at least two months of moist cold, so imitate nature and stratify the seeds. Toss clean seeds in a bag with a sand-peat mixture three times the amount of the seeds. Store at temperatures between 36-41 degrees Fahrenheit (in the refrigerator). Check for germination from time to time. Plant in early spring.

Or you can practice direct intervention and plant the seeds now in a designated marked area. Lightly mulch. If a dry spell occurs, water. Look for seedlings in the spring.

Sand plum jelly is tart, full of flavor and simply amazing. Few plums made last year, but this is turning out to be a great year. This is no trash tree. The sand plum is incredibly valuable. Everybody should have a sand plum or two somewhere in their yard.

## Zookeeper Becomes Native Plant Advocate Rusty Grimpe

Rusty credits a west Texas childhood for his love of plants – and reptiles.

When Rusty was five, his family moved from Chicago to El Paso where he stayed through a BS in biology (zoology concentration, chemistry minor) at the University of Texas at El Paso.

He learned a lot about plants from his Iowa-raised parents, who always had a huge vegetable garden in El Paso. There was also a neighborhood piano teacher who collected cacti and shared starts with her students. She even let Rusty add his exotic wants to her catalog orders.

After graduating from UTEP, Rusty worked for five years at the Oklahoma City Zoo specializing in reptiles and aquatic creatures. Then in 1978 he moved to the Tulsa Zoo where he spent 27 years, the last five as head of the education department.

He says, “I know a little about a lot, and a lot about nothing, so I'm really dangerous.” He loved working with docents and staff, training them to do presentations at schools within a 90 mile circuit. His “Zoo Teens” volunteers were dedicated. Many have gone on to work in biology. He continues outreach in STEAM through Sense-sational Science workshops for Oklahoma educators.

In 1986 when Rusty bought a 1940's vintage house in Tulsa, its landscape consisted of bermuda grass and two holly bushes. He had been reading nature magazines praising the virtues of native plants, and got involved with Carol Ames' “Make Your Home a Habitat” workshops (then sponsored by Audubon Society). He met members of the nascent ONPS who were eager to share starts of their native plants, and soon he had filled his yard with neatly groomed flower beds full of natives. “There was so little grass, I mowed the lawn with a weed-eater.” The neighbors didn't mind, especially when they saw how birds, butterflies, and fireflies flocked to his yard. Soon he was sharing starts and making converts on the block. This home was one of five on Audubon's first habitat tour.

Rusty remembers going with like-minded ONPS members to visit nurseries, getting permission to tag native offerings and encouraging the businesses to stock more native species.

How did his native plant interests mesh with his work with reptiles at the zoo? Rusty discovered that the captive animals and insects not only appreciated live plants in their habitats, they also loved fresh natural browse. Rusty's staff harvested the zoo grounds and Mohawk Park for tree leaves, dandelions, and clover. Mulberry leaves and berries were a favorite. The reptiles, he found, could even safely eat species with a “toxic” reputation: only toxic to the mowed areas, Osage County native plants grow tall. And no doubt native reptiles enjoy the land as much as Rusty does.

Now Rusty lives on 95 acres outside of Skiatook, certified as a “Natural Area” by the Oklahoma Biological Survey program despite an oil patch history (at least 9 capped wells). Too rocky to plow, the ground had only been grazed. He has found a post oak cored at over 200 years, and documented an uncommon species of butterfly. A Land Legacy conservation easement vows that this land will never be built up or developed, excepting 5 acres around the house which Rusty may want for a barn etc. Maintenance of this savannah (half tall grass prairie, half cross timbers woods) requires grazing. Currently three longhorn steers graze the 90 acres. Rusty hopes gradually to replace some of them with bison.

ONPS members have enjoyed field trips to Rusty's Skiatook retreat, where an ever-expanding collection of cacti and succulents deck the house indoors and out. Beyond the mowed areas, Osage County native plants grow tall. And no doubt native reptiles enjoy the land as much as Rusty does.



Fran Stalling

## Oklahoma Native Plant Record

2018 issue of the *Oklahoma Native Plant Record* is now online at:

<https://ojs.library.okstate.edu/osu/index.php/ONPR/article/view/7893/7285>

Thanks to all the editorial staff (Chad King, Mark Fishbein, Paula Shryock, Sandy Graue, Erica Corbett) for all their help.

Gloria Caddell, Ph.D.



**October Field Trip**  
**to Bamberger Ranch Preserve and Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center**

Sign up will be on Eventbrite. Signup opens on July 20 at 10:00 am. On Eventbrite search Bamberger Ranch Tour, use password- **Selah**. There are 40 tickets available. It is first come first served . Two tickets are available per signup. The tentative itinerary is as follows: Thursday Oct. 24- Make your own way to Marble Falls Tx. for the night. There a number of hotels and price ranges available. I will check on a group rate at the Best Western after signup is complete. The cost of this event is only \$20.00 per person.

**Friday October 25th**

Breakfast -on your own.

7:45 am. Depart Marble Falls. It is a 45 minute drive to Bamberger Ranch Preserve. Tour members should arrive at the ranch by 8:30 am. (Note: google maps etc. do not function accurately once you enter the ranch.) I am available to lead a convoy for anyone who would prefer to travel as a group. The tour begins at 9:00 am. and concludes 12:30- 1:00pm.

After the tour we will make our way into Johnson City for lunch.

After lunch- Travel to Austin. Suggested afternoon activity: Tour The Natural Gardener Nursery.

Find lodging for the night. (Suggested hotels to be determined.)

Dinner and evening activities- On your own.

**Saturday October 26th**

Breakfast –On your own.

9:00am. –Meet at the entrance to Ladybird Johnson Wild Flower Center for a tour and exploration.

Noon-ish – Lunch at the LBJ Wildflower Center Café.

Saturday afternoon-

Suggested activities-

Visit Barton Springs Nursery and/or Vivero Nursery.

(The nurseries, including The Natural Gardener are relatively close to the Wildflower Center.)

Tour Zilker Park Botanical Gardens.

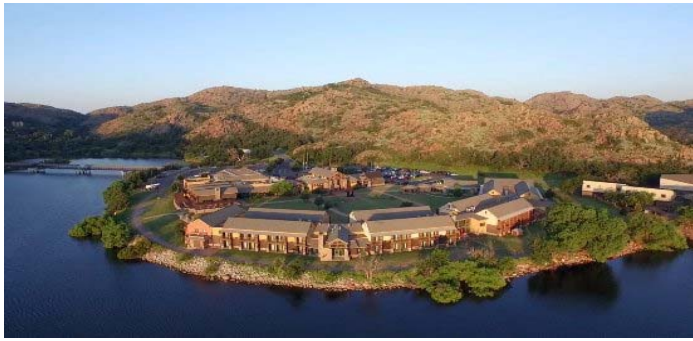
Saturday evening- On your Own. Austin is well known for it's food, entertainment venues and cultural district or head for home if you choose.

**Sunday October 27th - Return Home.**

For additional information on Bamberger Ranch Preserve and the tour go to [www.bambergerranch.org](http://www.bambergerranch.org).

This should be a great trip and a lot of fun.

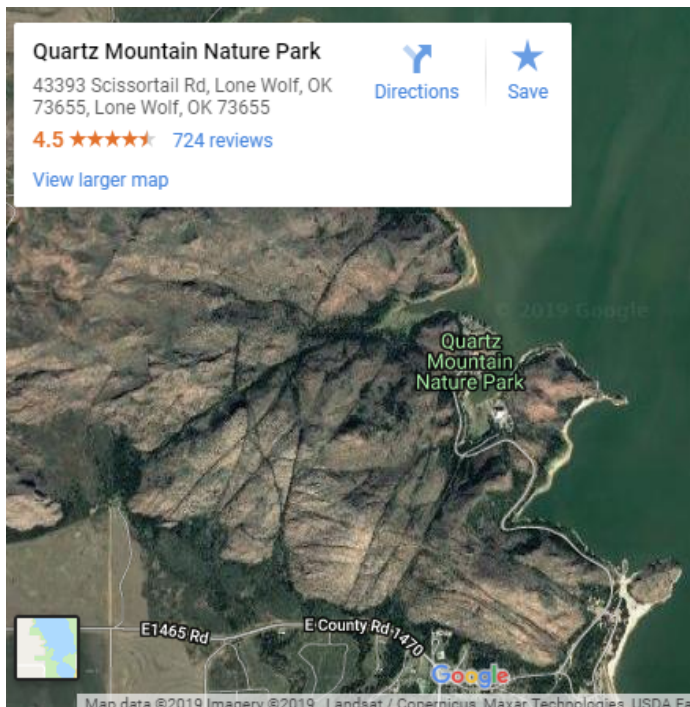
Bill Farris



## Annual Meeting Information

**The Oklahoma Native Plant Society is hosting its Annual Meeting at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center near Lone Wolf. September 20-22, 2019**

Once the ceremonial grounds for the Kiowa, Wichita, Apache, Caddo and Comanche Nations, this 4,284 acre park is located north of Altus on the shore of the 6,770 acre Lake Altus-Luger. This buffer zone between the western and eastern climates has a rugged beauty unique among Oklahoma landscapes and an enormous diversity of wildlife. Some of the rare and endangered species include the prairie falcon, golden eagle, bald eagle, green toad, waterfalls phlox and western live oak. In the fall there should be a wide assortment of pollinators, fall blooming flora and wildlife to enjoy one of the many hiking trails.



## Schedule of Events

### Friday, September 20

7:00 p.m. Check-in & "Welcome to Quartz Mountain" by QM Park Naturalist

### Saturday, September 22

7:15-8:30 a.m. Bird Walk with Mark Howery (ODWC)

9:00-10:00 "The Amazing Diversity of Oklahoma Plants with Emphasis of the Southwest Quadrant" Mike Dunn, Cameron University

10:00-11:00 "Living Off the Grid" by Sue Ball, a local landowner and photographer who will showcase photos of native plants and discuss some of the plant uses. A self-described "hunter-gatherer", this promises to be a unique insight to alternative living.

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:00 Oklahoma Monarch and Pollinator Collaborative Update

12:00-12:45 Box lunch. *Herpetology of the Wichitas* by Richard Butler, Herpetology and Conservation Specialist

1:00-3:00 Field Trip to botanize on granite seeps and sandy loam native plant prairie led by Mark Howery and Don Skiles (NRCS)

3:00-4:00 Herp walk in box canyon with Richard Butler

4:00-6:30 Free time

6:30 Dinner, followed by annual business meeting and election of officers.

### Sunday, September 22

9:00-11:00 Board Meeting, all are welcome

ONPS has a block of rooms available at the QM Lodge for \$99 per night. Cabins which can sleep up to 10 are also available, as are RV facilities. For reservations and inquiries call (580) 563-2424. Several hotels are available in Altus which is located 17 miles south of Quartz Mountain. To guarantee your preferred lodging please book as soon as possible.

### ONPS Silent Auction

Do you have an item you would like to donate, a service you would be willing to provide or treasures you'd like to see go to a good home? Bring them to the annual meeting for our silent auction! Let Constance Murray know what you have to contribute. [murray-constance4882@gmail.com](mailto:murray-constance4882@gmail.com)

### **Contact Event Coordinators:**

Marilyn Stewart (405) 255-1707

Joe Roberts [joeroberts13@cox.net](mailto:joeroberts13@cox.net) or (405) 820-6851

Register online at: [www.oknativeplants.org](http://www.oknativeplants.org)



## Taking Invasive Species Home: A message from Botany 2019

Sheila Strawn, Ph.D.

I just got back from the annual international conference of botanical associations, called “Botany 2019” that was held in Tucson, Arizona. It was a very successful and enjoyable opportunity for all kinds of botanists to communicate their latest research, and it was probably the only time this summer that Tucson was cooler than Oklahoma!

At first it might seem odd for a lichenologist who studies fungi that associate with algae to be among so many botanists, but because the bryologists study the same microenvironments that lichenologists, those two groups associate on a regular basis in the American Bryological and Lichenological Society (ABLS). So when bryologists go to plant meetings, we lichenologists get invited, too.

Four out of every five years ABLS meets with the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, International Association for Plant Taxonomy, Society for Herbarium Curators, and the American Fern Society to share sessions where researchers in every group give 15 or 30 minute presentations, or a group gives longer presentations on specific topics. There were many interdisciplinary sessions, as well.

This year climate change and its effects on the native/invasive species tug-of-war was one of the many themes. Increased fires, temperature changes, and the historic disparity in botanical research versus vertebrate research funding were important talking points in many sessions and in many conversations between sessions. Here’s the message I “took home” from Botany 2019...

There has been an historic bias by academic botanists against collecting non-native species. There is little collection data for non-native species, especially invasive ones. In the past, the only thing necessary for students to know about invasive species was what to rip out and destroy so that native species could come back in. What we are learning now is that there are many underlying causes for why invasive species are invasive. To bring back native species, we need to know why the natives failed. They don’t just come back on their own. Was there an unrecognized predator? Was there a change in soil conditions? An increase or decrease in a resource? An unnoticed environmental change? Recent research shows that it is not enough to just rip out invasives, we need to know why they invaded, and then natives need to be propagated in their place in a way that assures their successful reintroduction.

We’ve been trying for decades to bring back extinct vertebrate animal species, which involves emotional issues like religious and cultural objections, as well as requiring difficult research techniques like DNA transfer, cloning, and interbreeding with closely related species. When we try to bring native plant species back, there are other technical solutions that must be carefully considered.

One solution is to use commercially available versions of species that have become extinct in the wild. This would only be a solution for native plant extinctions that have occurred in species that were commercially propagated and bred for specific variations. This means that only those commercially available varieties could be used to re-establish the species in the wild. Some plant specialists question whether propagating the monoclonal commercial varieties constitutes restoring native species. This would require collaboration between applied botany and academic botany.

Another technical solution would be to use seeds from specimens in herbarium collections. WHOA, they’re meant to be preserved, right? What if they don’t germinate (which old seeds are known for), then we’ve lost the preserved seeds and still don’t have natives. Resolving this will require researching old seed viability of various species, with close work between environmentalists, laboratory researchers, and curators. We’re all going to have to start talking to each other! Good thing we all belong to the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, with a long record of working together on hundreds of projects.

And we’re going to have to start talking to our US Senators and Representatives. Our human emotional attachment to vertebrate animals has historically been a way to get funding for research. One session I attended included a graph that showed animal research getting 10-20 times more federal money than botanical research (don’t quote me on that – but it was a huge difference). Shocking, considering that without plants there would be NO animals. Why talk to legislators? Because there is a “Botany Bill”, H.R. 1572, to promote botanical research and botanical sciences capacity, et al. What to do about climate change is a big part of why it is being brought forward. It may or may not make it to the full House and Senate, but “Google it” now, and be on the lookout for it. Be prepared to contact your legislator before it comes up for a vote. Don’t let it go extinct!

Sheila A. Strawn, Ph.D.

Author, *Lichen Study Guide for Oklahoma and Surrounding States*

<http://shop.brit.org>

# Donation Report

1/1/2019-06/30/2019

A Huge Thank You goes out to all our Donors.

If you would like to make donation to ONPS, please visit our website:

[www.oknativeplants.org](http://www.oknativeplants.org)

## Thank You for your Support!

Joshua & Doescher Wiener  
Tabitha Ann  
Color Oklahoma Donations

Mary W. Rader  
Contributions to General Fund

Barry L. Redlinger  
Wildflowers on Oklahoma Highways  
Color Oklahoma Donations

16 Anonymous Online Donors  
Contributions to General Fund

Mary Korthase - Treasurer  
mkorthase@sbcglobal.net

## Central Chapter News

Patrick Bell  
*Chair, Central Chapter*

The Central Chapter of the ONPS is excited to host a 3 part series on landscaping with natives:

September 5<sup>th</sup>, Mike Schnelle, with the OSU extension office, Stillwater, will give a presentation on landscaping with ornamental woody native plants, including those for pollinators.

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Steve Dobbs, director of Landscaping Services for the OSU campus, will profile and describe the ongoing and significant use of native plants on the Stillwater campus.

November 7<sup>th</sup>, the three part series will conclude with a talk by Connie Scothorn, landscape architect, on ideas and design for landscaping with natives suited for our Oklahoma climate. Connie has just released a book on landscaping with natives.

This promises to be an insightful and informative series that perhaps all of us will glean some useful ideas for our own "personal space".

The meetings will be held in room 196, Horticulture Building, OSU-OKC campus, 400 N. Portland Ave, OKC. Doors open at 6:30 for socializing, talks will start at 7:00.

All ONPS events are open to the public, membership is not required to attend. Plan to bring a friend and join us.

## NE Chapter News

Lynn Michael  
*Chair, NE Chapter*

Summer has flown by and now we are looking at a full autumn. There are lots of activities coming up this fall to get you out-of-doors enjoying the flora and fauna.

NE Chapter will have Bill Farris of Prairie Wind Nurseries giving a program on Landscaping with Natives at our September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Tulsa Garden Center at 6:30 pm. This is a change and Jona Tucker has been moved to the March 2020 meeting.

October 19<sup>th</sup> meet us at Natural Falls State Park at 10am to look for the 17 ferns found there.

We will find out all about The Gathering Place at our December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

In between are many other states wildflower events, Bio-bnitz, monarch events at [okiesformonarchs.org](http://okiesformonarchs.org) or chapter meetings and field trips.

It should be a great time for wildflowers, so make whatever time you can to get out and see it.

***For joining or renewing use this form***

Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to: Oklahoma Native Plant Society, PO Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159.

Membership is for Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of current year and dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

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**Chapter affiliation:**

- \_\_\_\_ Central (OKC area)
- \_\_\_\_ Northeast (Tulsa area)
- \_\_\_\_ Crosstimbers (Stillwater area)
- \_\_\_\_ Mycology (statewide)

You may sign up for multiple chapters if you like, to receive field trip and meeting notices from that chapter.

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From the New Editor

I am very proud to have been selected as the Chief Editor of the Gaillardia. I will do my best to produce a Newsletter that all our Members can enjoy.

New Article Submissions Deadline:

**February 1st**

**May 1st**

**August 1st**

**November 1st**

Forest L Chapman

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**Urgent News...**

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