



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

Volume 24, Number 1  
Spring 2009

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FOR NEXT ISSUE IS  
15 May 2009**

# Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

## CALENDAR

Note: the events dated below are followed by either a page number for further descriptions or the contact person.

**March 2:** NE Chapter Meeting with Amy Marcoux discussing "Pollinators". Page 7

**March 20:** NE Chapter Fabulous Wildflower Friday.

**March 21:** NE Chapter mans ONPS table at Tulsa Library's Green Conference. Page 8

**March 22:** NE Chapter Field Trip to Red Bud Valley.

**March 30:** Central Chapter Meeting, Steve Smith on Native Rangeland Management, Page 9

**April 11:** NE Chapter Field Trip to Lake Eufaula State Park.

**April 17:** NE Chapter Fabulous Wildflower Friday.

**April 18:** NE Chapter Inventory at OCBG

**April 25:** NE Chapter mans ONPS table at Jenks Herb Fair.

**May 2:** Cross-Timbers Chapter Field Trip to McAlister/Palmer residence (tentative date).

**May 9:** NE Chapter Field Trip to J. T. Nickel Preserve.

**May 15:** NE Chapter Fabulous Wildflower Friday.

**May 23:** NE Chapter Field Trip to Birch Lake

**June 5-6:** Wildflower Workshop, See insert.

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

## ONPS THANKS THESE DONORS

Harriet G. Barclay Fund

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Mary D. Price

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in memory of Lou Duke and Jim Norman

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in memory of Lou Duke

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Peggy Long

## PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH

Lynn Michael

Thank goodness for springtime to chase away any winter doldrums. I have a 5x7 datebook that has the year in weeks with big spaces to write each day. In March I vow to write down every wildflower I see on the very first day of its bloom. Mercilessly and meticulously I write down everything until about June, then my journals end. I know everything I saw flowering in Rogers County from March till June. By then I'm overwhelmed – but my intentions are good. It never fails, that someone will ask me in late April if I know where they can see Dutchmen's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*) or Jack-in-the Pulpit (*Arisaema atrorubens*) in bloom. It's too late then. I urged you in my last report to try and find something new this year. Start early, as these specimens flower in late March or early April. Also look for Wood Betony (*Pedicularis Canadensis*), Toothwort (*Dentaria laciniata*), Trout Lily (*Erythronium albidum*), Cancer Root (*Orobanche sp.*) or Yellow Honeysuckle (*Lonicera flava*). There are lots of things that people overlook because they bloom TOO early and/or are ephemeral. So before we all get spring fever, these delicate treasures have already come and gone.

I found a huge field of Bush Honeysuckle, *Lonicera mackii*, in Rogers County. All ONPS members need to watch out for potential displacement of native species. Chad Cox is working very diligently to get an invasive plants database and an action committee that will keep these nuisances from destroying the natural balance in our state.

The Indoor Outing was a great success and approximately 110 people visited the Tulsa Garden Center for great programs on plants for bees, butterflies, blanket dyes and weaving. Tours of the Linnaeus and Rose Gardens, the Arboretum and Woodward Park were perfect in the almost 70 degree weather.

The Wildflower Workshop is being worked on as we speak. It will be June 5-6, 2009 in Boise City, Oklahoma. The panhandle of our state is like stepping back in time to a place where cattle drives, wagon trails, and probably an outlaw or two trod. Imagine that you are one of those, as you see the terrain that is right out of a Hollywood western and see the words of an old song

“...where the deer and the antelope play” come alive right before your eyes.

A multitude of spring gardening events are planned across the state. Check with your local chapter to see if you can help man one of the ONPS booths at the various events and help spread the word about our wonderful and diverse native plants. The Color Oklahoma committee also needs help monitoring previously planted wildflower sites across the state.

Our Annual meeting is scheduled for October 9-11 at Roman Nose State Park. Call early for room reservations. The field trips should be unique and everyone will want to be there.

Happy Hunting!



**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
SERVICE AND LONG AWARDS  
DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31, 2009**

It is time again for nominations for the Oklahoma Native Plant Society's annual Service Award/ The award, presented at the ONPS Annual Meeting, recognizes a member in good standing who fulfills the objectives of ONPS over and above normal expectations. Although past and current officers have been recognized as recipients of the Service Award, holding a position of leadership is not an essential criterion for selection.

The nomination which is made in writing must document the potential awardee's contributions which would qualify him / her to receive this prestigious award. Previous winners have included Ruth Boyd, Dr. Paul Buck, Betty Kemm, Patricia Folley, Joanne Orr, Chad Cox, Tina Julich, and Dr. Sheila Strawn.

Letters of nomination should be mailed to Sue Amstutz, Chair, Service Awards Committee, 4190 E. 46th Place. Tulsa OK 74135

The Anne W. Long Award is in recognition of individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the stated purpose of ONPS. The first recipient was the Ninnekah High School Science Club and the most recent Dr. Bruce Hoagland. Send nominations directly to the Chair: Pat Folley, 15100 Etowah Rd., Noble, OK 73068. Include a contact person if the nominee is an organization; and supportive material for evaluation by the Awards Committee.

## BOTANIST'S CORNER

## HAVE YOU BEEN ON A GOOD FIELD TRIP LATELY?

Have you been on a good field trip lately? It would be hard to count the number of field trips I have taken in the last thirty years with high school students, college students, OAS and ONPS groups, or just on my own. Naturally some are more memorable than others. The best trips are the ones that have a mission. A field trip in search of a specific species is my favorite type of botany trip. Looking for that target species will definitely get the botanical adrenalin flowing. Recently one of my old students dropped in on my AP Biology class while we were discussing cell transport on the white board. Tommy was one of my high school botany students four or five years ago and had just completed a tour of duty with the U.S. Marine Corp. We spent the next few minutes reminiscing about a field trip we took to Cherokee County years ago in search of the Alabama Lipfern, *Cheilanthes alabamensis*. We found it! Seeing Tommy with the rare fern was "ferntastic". It is one of my fonder botanical memories. When Tommy dropped in we did not reminisce about the lecture I gave him five years ago in room 21 on the light and dark reactions of photosynthesis or the Krebs cycle of cell respiration. No it was the field trip! It is the field trip we took to Cherokee County in search of the Alabama Lipfern, or the camping trip we took to the Wichita Mountains in December of 2003 when we almost froze to death trying to find Lindheimer's Lipfern, *Cheilanthes lindheimeri* (we did not find it) that he probably still remembers.

I too remember the field trips. I have gone on many memorable trips with Dr. Tyrl. One trip that stands out in my mind is when we went to the Wichita Mountains in 1992 with the vascular aquatic class that he was teaching. I remember seeing bladderworts in Sunset Pool and other aquatics that day. After a long day Dr. Tyrl was ready to pack it up and head back to the Biological Station. Just before we were ready to leave I reminded him that we still had not seen the horned pondweed, *Zannichellia palustris*. Before the two week course started I had recorded the exact location (mileage, landmarks, and highways) of the plant from an old herbarium sheet. I remember he agreed to try to find it. Whoever wrote the location information on the herbarium sheet did a great job. The directions lead us right

to the creek. Good start. Now the work begins, finding this rather obscure threadlike submerged aquatic in the middle of large masses of water naiad could be a real challenge. I remember getting in the creek and fishing with my hands through wads and wads of water naiad. After many tries, there it was! The horned pondweed! What a rush! I was on cloud nine. I guess it is the little things in life that make my day. I wish I could share about twenty other trips that stand out, but space is limited.

Have you been on good field trip this year? I encourage you to get involved in your local ONPS chapter and go on as many field trips as you can fit in your busy schedule. Join the Oklahoma Academy of Science and attend their two annual field meetings. Research a family, genus or species that you are interested in, go to the Biological Survey database, find out where it lives and then go and find it. As I already mentioned have a target species in mind. It is such botanical rush when you find it. Organize your own trip. Keep it simple by visiting your local park. Keep a journal of what you see. Learn how to read a dichotomous key. Field guides are great, but with keys you have to make decisions which will enable you to learn the parts of the plant. Teachers, I am sure you can cover some of the PASS skills by taking the students outdoors during class time or you can take a Saturday trip with them. If you are not comfortable teaching outdoors, you can always use the ONPS and OAS as a resource. When your former students pop in for a visit years from now, I hope they remember all those important classroom lectures you went over. However, if I had to guess what they'll remember five, ten, or twenty years from now, my guess would be the field trips.

I thank Sharon Smith and Richard Butler for helping edit the paper.



## CONSERVATION CORNER

Chad Cox

In response to Lynn Michael's mention of invasive plants in her message, I will briefly report on the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council (OIPC) that we established last July. OIPC is now a non profit, state incorporated organization. We were the 38<sup>th</sup> state to form a council but a state that needed such a council more than others. Oklahoma has by

far the shortest list of designated invasive terrestrial plants (3) of all the states. Our council, as is true of the other councils, is not government entity but has good representation from state agencies as well as academics, non profits and Federal agencies. OIPC is trying to recruit representatives from landowner associations and industries interested in our goal.

Our mission is to try to control invasive plants in Oklahoma but the immensity of eradicating invasive plants is truly beyond our ability . Hopefully, we can limit the spread of some species and prevent the introduction of others. As just an example of the cost involved, Jay Pruitt , a member representing The Nature Conservancy, reports that they spend \$50,000 a year trying to control *Lespedeza cuneata* at the Tall Grass Preserve. Multiplying that rate of expenditure per acre by the number of acres covered by *L. cuneata* in Oklahoma yields an amount that is beyond even Oklahoma State's budget. And of course that is only one of our state's invasive plants.

ONPS members will remember that we developed a non native, invasive plant list. The updated list can be reviewed at [www.ok-invasive-plant-council.org](http://www.ok-invasive-plant-council.org) hosted on the Oklahoma Biological Survey server. Invasive plants in border states also found in Oklahoma was first divide into those species considered problems, to be watched and others by Bruce Hoagland and Amy Buthod. Since then, Karen Hickman, an OSU botanist, has added to the list and now other members are contributing also. The website provides for problem species pictures and maps of state distributions, although it is a "work in progress". At our recent OIPC board meeting, even this division was considered for review. Several of the problem species are so thoroughly dispersed and established that they are beyond control of spreading. For example, Colorado, a state that is much more proactive in regulating invasive plants than Oklahoma, designates Johnson grass to be in a category that they will not try for eradication but suggests counties can do whatever they wish in trying to control it. Whereas other invasive plants that have entered the state in limited areas, the state is aggressively trying to eradicate.

The short term goals for OIPC are to prepare for our first annual meeting in July and develop committees to address our goals for education, science, legislation and fund raising. A long term goal that all councils work toward is "Early

Detection/Rapid Response' capability. Given the immensity of the monetary considerations mentioned earlier, preventing infections in new areas by eliminating them as early as possible is about the best we can do. However, if that can be done effectively, we can control the spread of species here already and prevent others from establishing a home here. Believe me, there are some really wicked species headed in this direction, both from the east and west.



#### OKLAHOMA MASTER NATURALISTS

The Oklahoma Master Naturalists will be offering 2 introductory classes this spring. The classes will include an overview of the Oklahoma Master Naturalist Program as well as Basic Ecology. Instructors for the classes will be Marley Beem, Dept. of Natural Resource Management at OSU and Christina Stallings, Forestry Services, OK Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

March 7, 2009  
Oxley Nature Center  
Tulsa  
Saturday, 9:00 - 3:30

March 14, 2009  
Oklahoma County Extension Office  
Oklahoma City  
Saturday, 9:00 - 3:30

Registration form and more info. at [neokmasternaturalist.org](http://neokmasternaturalist.org), questions to [marley.beem@okstate.edu](mailto:marley.beem@okstate.edu)



#### 2009 PHOTO CONTEST

Kim Shannon

The 2009 entry deadline for our annual photo contest was February 15<sup>th</sup>. As of February 14<sup>th</sup>, there are 49 photos that have been entered by 11 individuals. Two of the entries are from first time participants. This year' participants include: Chuck and Carolyn Lilly, Tom McCreary, Becki Sheets, Ellen Benson, Tom Howard, Peggy Long, Lynn Michael, Richard Waters, Lori Sasser, and Ambia Crain.

This year's photo contest judges are Bruce Hoagland, Coordinator of the Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory and OU Geography professor;

Amy Buthod of the Bebb Herbarium and Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory, and one mystery judge (as of yet to be determined). This year's special category was Ferns; there were six entries. With the upcoming spring and summer months fast approaching, keep the 2010 "special" category in mind when you are out and about with your camera. The category will be Fruits; a wide-ranging category that includes everything from pecans, wild cherries and plums, to maple seeds, legumes, and Osage oranges.

Winning entries in this year's contest will be announced at the upcoming Wildflower Workshop to be held in Boise City, OK. Prizes will be awarded at that time also. We hope to see this year's entrants at the Wildflower Workshop (tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in June) so we can award the prizes to the entrants in person. Winning entrants not able to attend the workshop will receive their winnings via the mail.



#### COLOR OKLAHOMA

Tina Julich

**Wildflower Grants:** Color Oklahoma wants to spread the beauty of Oklahoma's native wildflowers across the state. To do that, we need *your* help spreading the word about our matching grant program. Color Oklahoma matches up to a total of \$3,000 in grant requests each year. Grants are awarded for a minimum of \$300 up to maximum of \$500 for each applicant. Seeds are sown in the fall of the year for next year's spring and summer blooms.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit groups, businesses, schools and universities, individuals, Indian Nations, civic groups and governmental entities. The deadline for mailing 2009 grant applications is May 15, 2009. If you need more information regarding the matching grant program, check out the web site: <http://www.coloroklahoma.org/index.htm>, or email Tina Julich at [tjulich@valornet.com](mailto:tjulich@valornet.com).

**Let ODOT And Your State Representatives Know...**

Our state is blessed with a diversity of landscape and habitats that most states don't have. From the grasslands to the forests we only have to look out over our state to see unsurpassed beauty. Being

surrounded by such an abundance of beauty we often take it for granted and don't take action on saving our biological heritage until we are in danger of losing it. The roadside wildflower planting program began in 1977, and hundreds of acres have been planted in the past 31 years. In recent years we have witnessed ODOT mowing wildflowers in full bloom, and also mowing while the ground was saturated from rains causing unsightly ruts and eventual erosion. How can we stop these wasteful practices and preserve our roadside wildflower diversity? By speaking up...

It is vital that ONPSians let ODOT know that we appreciate the wildflowers along Oklahoma highways. For every compliment they receive they receive a complaint about the 'weeds' along the roadsides. Please take the time to call, write, or email ODOT and state officials when you see the roadside in bloom and let them know it is appreciated. Also let them know when wildflowers are mowed and not allowed to go to seed. The **ONLY** way we will be able to get mowing reduced and wildflowers increased is to **SPEAK UP**.

**An important number to call:**

Melody Johnson, Beautification Branch  
Coordinator – (405) 521-4037

Don't forget to call, write, or email your state representative and senator, too! This web site will allow you to look up your representative or senator and contact them: [www.lsb.state.ok.us/](http://www.lsb.state.ok.us/)

**Please help preserve our rich biological heritage and save our wildflowers!**

**Color Oklahoma Car Tags Help to Plant Wildflowers**

With your support, some of the prettiest wildflowers you've ever seen will be blooming across Oklahoma every spring and summer. Seeds are sown where the most people can see the most flowers. That's roadsides, parks and other highly visible public land. We negotiate for low seed prices; buy only seeds grown in this region, and keep expenses down. Oklahoma's top wildflower experts advise us for free. City and state crews do the planting.

Show your support for Oklahoma wildflowers by ordering a new Color Oklahoma special vehicle license plate. The tags are issued by the state Tax Commission and cost just \$35 plus a \$2 mailing fee, with \$20 of each tag going to our wildflowers.



You can download a tag order form from the Color Oklahoma website; <http://www.ColorOklahoma.org>, or you can email a request for a form to [wildflowers@coloroklahoma.org](mailto:wildflowers@coloroklahoma.org) and we'll send you one by mail. Your local tag agent can also provide a form. Just fill in the blanks and mail your check for \$37 and the form to the state Tax Commission.



### NORTHEAST CHAPTER HOSTS VERY SUCCESSFUL 2009 INDOOR OUTING

Sue Amstutz

"Birds, Butterflies, Bees, Blankets, and Beautiful Oklahoma" was the theme of the 2009 ONPS Indoor Outing held in Tulsa on Saturday, February 7, at the Tulsa Garden Center. Over 100 participants shared a variety of interesting presentations, displays, and visits with fellow members from across the state. The morning sessions were preceded by a snack breakfast in which donuts and pastries were donated by Tulsa Quik Trip. Early comers were greeted by not only tasty goodies in the lobby of the Garden Center auditorium but by a variety of vendor goods supplied by Kirk and Loretta Bowers of Clear Creek Farm and Gardens, Marilyn Stewart of Wild Things Nursery, a table of ONPS merchandise being offered by Susan Chambers. Tina Julich providing her own handmade jewelry as well a Color Oklahoma merchandise, handmade items by Gina Levesque of Across Generations in Wagoner, and a table of information about the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden chaired by Pearl Garrison.

The annual Silent Auction was also available for early arrivals, with more interesting items offered for bid as more and more participants made their way past the registration tables ably staffed by Mary Korthase, Ethel Mae Brown, and Cyndy Harnett.



Part of the brain trust at work

At 9:00 a.m. the first presentation of the day was introduced by ONPS State President Lynn Michael. Dan Reinking, senior staff biologist for the Sutton Avian Research Center in Bartlesville, presented a most informative program on "Bald Eagle Restoration and Other Sutton Avian Research Center Projects." Dan's powerpoint visuals highlighted not only the historically important work which Sutton has done in bringing bald eagle populations in the U. S. back from the brink of extinction, but also spoke on work the center continues to do with declining songbird and prairie chicken populations.

The second morning speaker was Jim Thayer who spoke on "Gardening for Butterflies". Jim's presentation dealt with the importance of host plants, nectar producing plants, and proper gardening practices for the attracting of butterflies. Jim also gave us a brief lesson on identification of the five major classifications of butterflies which make Oklahoma their home.

Our final presenter of the morning was Mike Klemme, official photographer for the 2007 Oklahoma Centennial Celebration. Mike shared many of his marvelous photographs via powerpoint, with his running commentary on what was being seen adding to the enjoyment of the crowd. Following the powerpoint and a short video which featured Mike's photos set to the music of Vince Gill's "Oklahoma Rising", the photographers in the audience had the opportunity to ask many questions regarding techniques useful in modern photography. Mike's coffee table book, "Celebrating Oklahoma" was available for sale for those interested in having a personal copy of the beautiful art comprised by Mike's photography.

Box lunches catered by Camille's Sidewalk Cafe in Cherry Street provided the noon meal, with additional time for wandering around the environs of the Garden Center on a splendidly spring-like day for February, or for continuing shopping the vendor tables in the auditorium.



Marilyn Stewart and Tina Julich as vendors.

At 1:00 in the afternoon, the meeting was called back into session. First presenter was Dr. Kay Backues, head veterinarian at the Tulsa Zoo and Living Museum, who spoke on her hobby, "Bees and Bee-Keeping". Dr. Backues demonstrated use of the specialized paraphernalia utilized by beekeepers as they practice their art. She even donned the coveralls in which she dresses while working with her hives. Dr. Backues had samples of sweet honey for our sampling after her lecture.

The regular afternoon sessions ended with Linda Harkey presenting a powerpoint and visual program on Navajo blanket designs. Ms. Harkey, who is a docent at Gilcrease Museum, had samples of the beautiful Navajo workmanship and told of the history of the development of the weavings of the Navajo tribespeople to demonstrate her topic, "Germantown Weavings" Bright, Tight, Light."

Following the final formal presentation of the day, some in attendance toured various venues within walking distance of the Garden Center, including the Linneaus Teaching Garden, the Tulsa Rose Garden, the Tulsa Arboretum, and Woodward Park. Others stayed in the auditorium to watch a demonstration of native fabric dying presented by Gina Levesque. The eventful day ended with announcement of the various high bids on the items offered in the Silent Auction. We learned that the Auction garnered around \$300.00 for the

ONPS treasury, a most satisfying ending to a very successful Indoor Outing.

#### MANY THANKS TO QUIKTRIP!!

Kim Shannon

For this year's Indoor Outing at the Tulsa Garden Center we were fortunate to have our breakfast donated by QuikTrip. They provided our group with five large boxes that contained a variety of cake and raised doughnuts, turnovers and blueberry muffins. The Oklahoma Native Plant Society sends it thanks to John Shannon and Debbie Friggell at QT headquarters who coordinated with QT Kitchens to make this donation possible. ONPS is very grateful for QuikTrip's generosity and for the tasty treats they provided!



#### CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Northeast Chapter

Sue Amstutz

#### NORTHEAST CHAPTER REPORT

Northeast Chapter was privileged to host the 2009 Indoor Outing at the Tulsa Garden Center on February 7. Those in attendance numbered slightly over 100. From many comments heard by chapter members, the event was a huge success. Appreciation is expressed to our presenters, vendors, volunteers, and the Garden Center staff for their contributions to the success of the '09 Indoor Outing.

The Chapter has a busy spring ahead, beginning with our quarterly chapter meeting on Monday, March 2. Amy Marcoux, naturalist at Oxley Nature Center, will present the evening's program on "Pollinators". The evening will begin as usual with a potluck supper, followed by a short business meeting and Amy's presentation. The meeting will take place at the Tulsa Garden Center.

Several field trips have been scheduled, including two important excursions to the Oklahoma Centennial Botanical Garden to continue the plant surveys begun at the Garden in September of 2008. These plant surveys will occur on Saturday, April 18, and Saturday, June 13. Since the Botanical Garden surveys are actually a project of the state ONPS organization, members of our other chapters are encouraged to join NE Chapter in these important endeavors. Surveys on both

dates will begin at 10:00 a.m., with the Temporary Visitor Center at the Garden being the assembling location for surveyors taking part in the project. Pearl Garrison, OCBG's Communications Director, has requested that ONPS assist the Garden staff in several activities being provided to Garden visitors at the same time our surveys are taking place.

#### FIELD TRIP RULES

- Participation is at your own risk.
- Preregistration 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.
- Collecting any plant parts or other materials at the site must be approved by the field trip leader.
- 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.
- 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.

Other spring field trips will include Redbud Valley at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 22; Dogwood Drive in Lake Eufaula State Park at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11; the J. T. Nickel Preserve on Saturday, May 9; and Birch Lake in Osage County on Saturday, May 23. The latter two trips will have 10:00 a.m. meeting times.

Fabulous Wildflower Fridays at Panera on East 41st Street in Tulsa are scheduled for March 20, April 17, and May 15.

The Chapter will sponsor an ONPS table at the Tulsa City-County Library's "Green" Conference on March 21 and will offer ONPS and Color Oklahoma merchandise along with information about our Society at the Jenks Herb Fair on April 25. We also sponsored the ONPS table at the

Tulsa Garden Center's annual Info Fair on February 21.

Cross-Timbers Chapter  
Elaine Lynch

The Cross-Timbers chapter co-sponsored a visit by Bellamy Parks-Jansen to OSU on February 20<sup>th</sup>. There was an exhibition of her work and a presentation titled *Botanical Illustration: where art meets science*, at the Edmon Low Library. A reception followed. Then the chapter hosted a potluck dinner in Life Sciences East for ONPS members who attended the presentation. After dinner, Bellamy gave a short slide presentation describing her study of the natural history of *Penstemon haydenii*, blowout bluebells, an endangered species endemic to the Sand Hills of Nebraska and Colorado. Bellamy is a free-lance botanical illustrator who has worked with Ron Tyrl and others in the past. Her illustrations are featured in *Field Guide to Oklahoma Plants, Keys & Descriptions for the Vascular Plants of Oklahoma*, and *North American Range Plants*, among other publications. This potluck dinner takes the place of our usual March potluck.

We will have a spring field trip to the home of Sue McAlister and Mike Palmer. They live at 4707 E. 92nd. Ave., Stillwater. This is actually in the country southeast of Stillwater. The date is tentatively set for May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will send a message later when we have the date confirmed and know where we can meet to carpool. There are currently several major construction and road projects taking place around campus and access to parking lots changes depending on construction needs.

Our November 2009 potluck speaker will be John McClenny, director of Stillwater Parks, Events and Recreation. He will speak about plans to create designated natural areas in low-use areas of some 5 or 6 Stillwater parks. The goals are to reduce natural resource consumption, maintenance costs, and pollution, and to promote reestablishment of wildlife and native plants. The exact date of the potluck has not yet been set. We are also still working on a place and date for a fall field trip.

Central Chapter  
Jeannie Cole

On Feb 23, Julia Jordan, author of *Plains Apache Ethnobotany* discussed her fieldwork with elders



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**of the Plains Apache regarding traditional collection, preparation, and use of plants for food, medicine, ritual, and material culture.**

**The only finalized program will be on March 30, Steve Smith, of the Noble Foundation, Ardmore, will give a program on Native Rangeland Management. Other programs are in the works have not been settled as to dates but chapters members will be notified by email or post cards. Other chapter members would be welcomed and may request to be added to the notification list.**

**Central Chapter meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00, at OSU/OKC. Contact Jeannie Coley 405-329-6303 or [dj18383@sgcglobal.net](mailto:dj18383@sgcglobal.net)**

**WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS**

**Larry Andrews, Red Rock  
Peggy Long, Haworth  
Kim and Nik Nikodym, Newcastle  
Kristen Saksa, Tulsa  
Wini Walker, Broken Bow**

OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT RECORD

Looking forward to getting your copy of the Oklahoma Native Plant Record, Volume 8? Just take a look at what you will be getting!

Susan Barber has provided our historic article for 2008. Her thesis, "A Floristic Study of the Vascular Plants of the Gypsum Hills and Redbed Plains Area of Southwestern Oklahoma", is long overdue to be published . She researched the relationships between soil and vegetation types; just one of the underlying causes for the great biodiversity in Oklahoma, but her thorough work provides much more to the reader than the title reveals. We know you'll enjoy it.

"Current Status of the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge Herbarium Collections", has been submitted by Keith Carter, Pablo Rodriguez and Michael Dunn. The Herbarium at Cameron University [CAMU] will be housing the Refuge's plant specimens, thanks to a grant and a lot of work by faculty and staff at Cameron University. This is the first effort to update information regarding species at the refuge since we published Paul Buck's 1977 checklist of the flora in 2002. Hopefully, it will spur interest in keeping the Refuge list up-to-date and bring recognition to a very deserving state institution's herbarium. We also hope that this will mark the beginning of a cooperative relationship between the Society and our state institutions' herbaria. This type of relationship is what Wayne Elisens' article, "Benefits of a Cooperative Between Herbaria and Native Plant Societies" is all about. We fortuitously accepted it before we knew about the Carter, et al. paper. One of the main goals of the Record is the initiation of new sources of data for biodiversity research in Oklahoma and these two papers are evidence that we are reaching that goal.

It's been several years since we've published Clark Ovrebo's paper about lawn mushrooms. "Spring Mushrooms of Oklahoma", by Ovrebo and Nancy Weber is a new enlightening and enjoyable article with colorful photos from which we can learn a great deal more about the intriguing kingdom of Fungi. We've also been waiting several years for the "Checklist of Ferns in Oklahoma", by Bruce Smith to be submitted. It's finally here with photos to help you identify them. We know you're anticipating this article, too.

Finally, we'll have a Memorial to Paul Buck, long-time Board Member and promoter of the Society. Constance Murray will provide us with a look at what it was like to have a personal and professional relationship with someone so many of us have known and respected.

Be sure to order your copy soon.

Sheila Strawn, Managing Editor, Oklahoma Native Plant Record

Oklahoma Native Plant Record Volume 8 order form

Send order form with your check to: Oklahoma Native Plant Society  
(Need an invoice? sastrawn@hotmail.com) c/o Tulsa Garden Center  
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Tulsa, OK 74114

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