CLAYTONIA

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SELDOM SEEN: NATIVE CLOVERS IN ARKANSAS

By Theo Witsell



Running buffalo clover (Trifolium stoloniferum). Loutre River, Montgomery County, Missouri. Note the pair of opposite leaves on the flowering stems which helps distinguish this species from the introduced common white clover (T. repens). Running buffalo clover was last documented from Arkansas in the late 1800s but may very well still survive in the state. Photo by Theo Witsell.

The true clovers, of the genus *Trifolium*, are seemingly everywhere in Arkansas. We see them all the time and many people are surprised to learn that nearly all of the clovers commonly seen in the state are introduced from other parts of the world. Of the 17 species of true clovers known from Arkansas, 13 are not native. The crimson clover that dominates the highway rights-of-way is from southern Europe. The little white clover so common in lawns and pastures is from Eurasia. The red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), found throughout the state, was also brought here from Europe. In fact, it is hard to think of another genus of Arkansas plants that is so dominated by non-natives.

But there are native clovers. Historically there were at least* four native species known from Arkansas, but today only two can be accounted for. Furthermore, one of those appears to have become quite rare, and the other isn't all that common either. This

article will discuss the four species of clovers native to Arkansas.

Buffalo Clover: the survivor

Buffalo clover (*Trifolium reflexum*) is the most common and widespread of our native clovers, which isn't saying much. An annual clump-forming species, it occurs in a variety of open habitats (open woodlands, streambanks, prairies, glade margins, and even roadsides and clearings through these habitat) but can't really be considered common. It is often associated with high-quality native habitats.

Buffalo clover comes in a variety of flower colors, which may or may not have some geographic or habitat correlation. In the sandy open woods of the upper Gulf Coastal Plain south of Little Rock, the flowers of buffalo clover are a pale pink. Along rocky river banks and stream terraces in the eastern Ouachitas it often has crimson red flowers. They are nearly white in the igneous glades of the northern Coastal Plain near Bauxite and are creamy yellow in the open woodlands of the Arkansas Valley and southern Ozarks.

One of the best places to see buffalo clover is along the woodland restoration auto tour at the Camp Robinson Special Use Area managed by the Game and Fish Commission (just north of the Camp Robinson Military Training Center). The open woodlands here are regularly burned and support an impressive diversity of prairie and woodland flora including scattered large clumps of buffalo clover, some of them quite spectacular, with golf ball-sized flower heads.

Carolina Clover: overlooked or on the wane?

Carolina clover (*Trifolium carolinianum*), another annual species, is known from seventeen Arkansas counties but appears to have declined dramatically in the last century. Nearly all of the known collections are historical, with most made between the 1880s and the 1940s, and very few made since the 1950s. No botanists I have spoken to in Arkansas can recall seeing the plant in recent years (if ever) despite it being described as "common" on the labels of some of the specimens collected in the early 20th century.

I have seen Carolina clover in Arkansas only once, in April of 2005, in a very nice igneous glade owned by The Nature Conservancy near Bauxite in Saline County. This sighting, of a single small patch no more than two feet square, occurred in the year following a prescribed burn at this site. I marked the location of the plants that year and have checked the spot each of the last four years but never seen it again.

Based on the historical records, Carolina clover should be found in both naturally open habitats (glades, prairies, and open woodlands) and in disturbed open sites (roadsides, pastures, etc.). While it is possible that the species has been largely overlooked for the last 60 years, it is more likely that it has declined as naturally open habitat has become closed in by woody plants or was otherwise altered and as disturbed open habitat became dominated by non-native species. It is also likely that this species, like many annuals, benefits from fire and

may reappear the next time a site, such as the glade near Bauxite, is burned.

Running Buffalo Clover: last seen in the 1800s

Running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) is the only one of our native clovers (and one of only three plants in Arkansas) to be listed as Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Unlike our other native clovers, this species is perennial and spreads along the ground by means of a running stem or stolon. It has been collected in Arkansas just twice – once in 1881 and once in 1896. It has not been documented in Arkansas since. In fact, it was thought to be extinct altogether until it was rediscovered in West Virginia in 1983. Since then it has been found in several midwestern states. It needs open,



H. Eggert specimen of running buffalo clover (Trifolium stoloniferum) collected in 1896 from Independence County, Arkansas. Photo by George Yatskievych, Missouri Botanical Garden.

somewhat rich woods with moderate disturbance (such as periodic flooding, foot or animal traffic, or light mowing or grazing) to keep competing vegetation at bay.

The first of the two known Arkansas collections was made on 6 May 1881 by G. W. Letterman. The specimen is a "mixed sheet" containing specimens of both *Trifolium reflexum* and *T*.

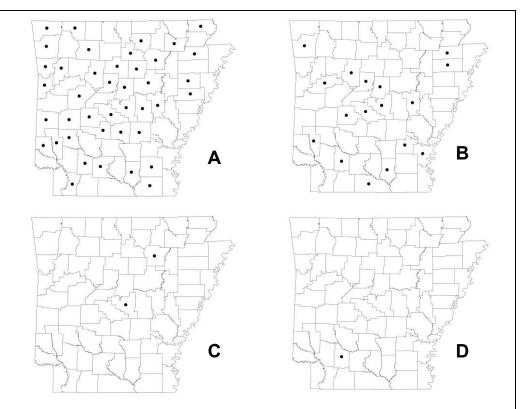
stoloniferum. The accompanying label gives the location as only "Pulaski Co., Little Rock". The second and only other known Arkansas collection was made on 23 April 1896 by H. Eggert. The label on this collection says only "Independence County, on railroads". As with many old collections with sparse label data, it is unclear exactly what Eggert meant by "on railroads". Was he literally on the tracks (not likely given what we know about the habitat needs of this species) or was he in woodlands along the tracks (the more likely scenario)? Early botanists often traveled by rail and collected along the tracks at stops, or walked railroads as a means to access more remote habitats. The main railroads in Independence County run along the terraces of the White River, which would have had lots of (and still has some) good habitat for running buffalo clover.

I have seen running buffalo clover in Missouri where it is rare on rich wooded stream terraces along rivers, usually along foot trails

where trampling has reduced competing vegetation. One theory is that this species was historically dependent on bison to maintain its habitat and distribute its seeds. As the bison declined so did the clover. At any rate, it is still missing in Arkansas and should be searched for in the woods along large and medium sized streams in the Ozarks and Ouachitas, especially in the year following large floods, and along foot paths, seldom-used woods roads, and game trails.



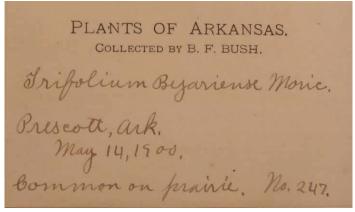
Long-running stolons of running buffalo clover (Trifolium stoloniferum). Loutre River, Montgomery County, Missouri. Photo by Theo Witsell.



Maps of the known county-level distribution of the four species of native clovers known from Arkansas: A. buffalo clover (Trifolium reflexum), B. Carolina clover (Trifolium carolinianum), C. running buffalo clover (Trifolium stoloniferum), and D. Bejar clover (Trifolium bejariense). All data from the Arkansas Vascular Flora Committee, 2009.

Bejar Clover: last seen in 1900

The last of the native clovers known from Arkansas is another annual species: the Bejar clover (*Trifolium bejariense*). This was collected in Arkansas just once, in 1900, by the prolific field botanist Benjamin Franklin Bush. On May 14, Bush collected Bejar clover from "Prairie D'Anne", a large prairie that once occurred where the town of Prescott now sits, in Nevada County. His specimen label reads only "Prescott, Ark. Common on prairie".



Specimen label from the only known collection of Bejar clover from Arkansas (B. F. Bush #247, housed at the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis). The collection was made from "Prairie D'Anne", a large prairie formerly located at the town of Prescott. Photo by Theo Witsell.



Bejar clover (Trifolium bejariense). Grimes County, Texas. Photos by Hugh Wilson. Used with permission.

There is apparently no remaining undisturbed prairie in this area of the state today, but the species should be searched for in areas with remaining native vegetation in that vicinity as well as in the blackland prairies and chalk glades of southwestern Arkansas, especially in Clark, Little River, Hempstead, Howard, Pike, and Sevier counties.

Of our four native Arkansas clovers, the Carolina clover, Bejar clover, and running buffalo clover are all tracked by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission as species of conservation concern. If you know of locations for any of these three species, please contact the editor.

List of all true clovers known from Arkansas (from the Arkansas Vascular Flora Committee). Species followed by a "+" are non-native.

Trifolium arvense + (rabbit's-foot clover)
Trifolium bejariense (Bejar clover)
Trifolium campestre + (hop clover)
Trifolium carolinianum (Carolina clover)
Trifolium dubium + (small hop clover)
Trifolium hybridum + (Alsike clover)
Trifolium incarnatum + (crimson clover)
Trifolium lappaceum + (lappa clover)
Trifolium nigrescens + (ball clover)
Trifolium pratense + (red clover)
Trifolium reflexum (buffalo clover)
Trifolium repens + (white clover)

Trifolium resupinatum + (reversed clover)
Trifolium stoloniferum (running buffalo clover)
Trifolium striatum + (knotted clover)
Trifolium subterraneum + (subterranean clover)
Trifolium vesiculosum + (arrow-leaf clover)

* In his 1998 book *Native and Naturalized Leguminosae* (Fabaceae) of the United States, Duane Isley states that peanut clover (Trifolium polymorphum or T. amphianthum) has been reported from southwestern Arkansas (without the citation of a voucher specimen). It is a native species and approaches southwestern Arkansas in east Texas, so this is possible and it should be looked for in southwestern Arkansas. But until a voucher specimen is found and its identification verified, it is not being considered documented from Arkansas by the Arkansas Vascular Flora Committee.

Special thanks to Brent Baker at the UARK Herbarium for providing specimen data for this article and to George Yatskievych and Hugh Wilson for the use of their images.

Arkansas Wildflower DVD Available (with correct address this time)

Editor's note: I made an error in the spring issue of Claytonia and printed the wrong address for Susie Teague in the announcement for her new wildflower DVD. I am re-running the announcement below with the correct address:

ANPS's own Susie Teague has produced a wonderful 30 minute DVD program featuring more than 150 slides of Arkansas wildflowers. The program has Susie's beautiful photos along with the common and scientific names of each species, and is set to music. It is perfect both for showing to groups or enjoying by yourself at home. Copies are available for \$25 postpaid from Susie Teague / 1790 Cedar Creek Road / Hot Springs, AR 71901, or email Susie at cedarcreekns@sbcglobal.net.

No Arkansans Show Up for Joint Missouri-Arkansas Native Plant Society Meeting

Sadly, our friends from Missouri reported that no one from the Arkansas Native Plant Society attended the joint meeting hosted by the Missouri Native Plant Society back in late May. This meeting was intended to reciprocate our hosting of the MoNPS back in 2008, when a number of their members made the trip down to Harrison. Maybe next time we can show a little more participation, assuming they'll invite us up again!

Letter from Scholarship Recipient

We received the following letter from Jennifer Ogle, a student at the University of Arkansas who received a scholarship from the ANPS:

February 27, 2009

Dear Arkansas Native Plant Society,

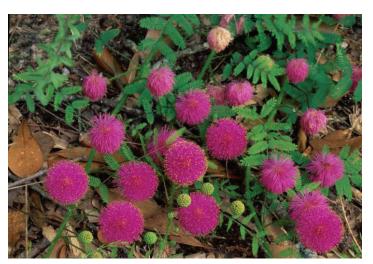
I am writing to thank you for awarding me the Arkansas Native Plant Society Aileen McWilliam Scholarship. It is such an honor to receive this award. I know that this scholarship is funded by the donations of the members of ANPS, and I do appreciate their generosity.

I am considered a non-traditional student at the University of Arkansas, since I started my studies in my late 20's. I will be the first person in my family to graduate from college when I obtain my B.S. in Biological Sciences this year. I plan to continue as a graduate student in the field of botany at the University of Arkansas under the direction of Dr. Johnnie Gentry, beginning in 2010.

This scholarship means so much to me for a couple of reasons. From a monetary standpoint, it helps keep me on track to graduate this year. This award came at a time when I was in need of funds in order to remain enrolled in classes. But from an even more personal standpoint, it is so reassuring to have the support from a local organization of Arkansans who so willingly and generously give their resources so students like me can continue their education. You are a wonderful group of people who have a passion for protecting our native flora, and I also share that passion. Thank you for your support of my education in this field.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ogle University of Arkansas at Fayetteville



NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have joined the ANPS since the last issue of Claytonia, from February 2009 to September 2009:

New Members

Carol Arnold (Quitman, AR) Monica Ball (Maumelle, AR) Howard Black (Stuttgart, AR) Patrick & Jane Burrow (Conway, AR) Janee Crotts (Alma, AR) Mary, Terry, & Karl Feyen (Camden, AR) John Gwaltney (Crystal Springs, MS) Greg Howe & Family (Fayetteville, AR) Joan Gage & Carl Hummel (Little Rock, AR) Norma James (Little Rock, AR) Susan & Larry Jones (Favetteville, AR) Mary Ann Kressig & Les Brandt (Huntsville, AR) Margaret & Richard Lincourt (Little Rock, AR) Denise Marion (Hot Springs, AR) Anita Moore (Hot Springs, AR) Sharon & Bob Morgan (Springdale, AR) Kristin Musgnug (Favetteville, AR) Ken O'Dell (Paola, KS) Ann Oliver (Hampton, AR) Mary Pearson (Little Rock, AR) Charlotte Penn (Conway, AR) Vic & Sharon Prislipsky (Hot Springs Village, AR) Lucinda Reynolds (Mountain Home, AR) Stephen Smith (Eureka Springs, AR) Leslie Tetrev (Leslie, AR) Susan Toone & John Perrin (Little Rock, AR) Nao Ueda (Little Rock, AR) Sid & Jeanette Vogelpohl (Paris, AR) Mary Wells (Vilonia, AR) Ann Willyard (Greenbrier, AR)

New Life Members

Margaret Alexander (Pine Bluff, AR)
John Alexander (Pine Bluff, AR)
Donna Gardner (Pine Bluff, AR)
Susan Hardin (Little Rock, AR)
Norma James (Little Rock, AR)
James Lynn (Mena, AR)
Laura Timby (Gilbert, AR)
Philip Alan Thompson (FPO AP)

We welcome these new members to the ANPS and hope to see them at the Fall Meeting!

Sensitive brier (Mimosa quadrivalvis ssp. nuttallii). Photo by John Pelton

SPRING 2009 ANPS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Stuttgart, Arkansas May 02, 2009

For the Record: Due to the weather, ANPS Sunday (and some Saturday) field trips were cancelled. John Pelton presented his Wildflower Slideshow. Theo Witsell presented John Pelton with the Conservation Award and Jennifer Akin gave a presentation about prairie restoration before the General Meeting began.

Staria Vanderpool called the meeting to order at 8:30 pm.

Minutes: Eric Sundell made motion to accept the Winter 2009 Board Meeting Minutes, Ray Erickson seconded and all were in favor.

Treasurers Report: Jerry McGary passed out copies of the ANPS financial report and explained monies donated to the Dardanelle State Park for Native Plants. Jerry also went over the Scholarships and Awards Funds and the John Pelton Award. John Pelton made motion to accept the financial report, Meredith York seconded and all approved.

Membership Report: Maury Baker stated we have 374 members and 131 members have not yet paid dues for 2009. He will be mailing reminders to those who have not paid their dues. Maury also explained the need for local chapters and more fieldtrips. Maury is encouraging ANPS members to get together and form local chapters. Ray Erickson spoke to the members about partnering with the Arkansas State Parks and listing our fieldtrips on their website. Bill Shepherd brought up the topic of an email list for posting fieldtrips and news.

Fall 2009 Meeting: Jean Ann Moles gave a quick outline of our Fall 2009 Meeting which will be held at Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain. Jean Ann then talked to members about having a non-profit booth set up at the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show in February of 2010.

Scholarships and Awards: Brent Baker gave a report from 2008 Award winners, Jennifer Ogle and Kelley Freeman-Nelson and read a letter from Jennifer Ogle thanking ANPS for her Award. Brent announced there have been no applicants for awards this year and encourages members to spread the word about our Scholarships and Awards.

Ann Gordon complimented Theo Witsell for the excellent job he has done with publishing the Claytonia.

Staria Vanderpool asked to adjourn the meeting at 9:15. Theo Witsell made motion to adjourn, Meredith York seconded and all members approved.

- Susie Teague

BOOK REVIEW

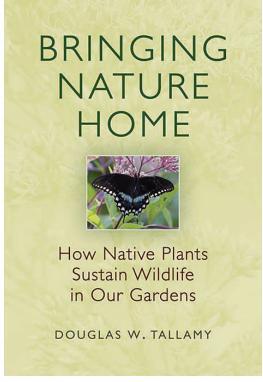
By Mary Ann King

Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens

Written by Douglas W. Tallamy & published by Timber Press

Even when I was in school. I disliked writing book reviews & wasn't much good at it either. But in reading 'Bringing Nature Home', I am so impressed that I want to do all I can to encourage everyone to read it.

Dr. Tallamy is professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of



Delaware. Through his studies he has written a powerful book showing the interconnected lives of insects, birds & native plants. He has reminded us that insects can live without us, but we cannot live without insects so it behooves us to remember that most exotic plants do not provide food for herbivorous insects.

On the cover, William Cullina, Director of Horticultural Research for the New England Wildflower Society comments "Douglas Tallamy presents a powerful and compelling illustration of how the choices we make as gardeners can profoundly impact the diversity of life in our yards, towns & on our planet. This important work should be required reading for anyone who ever put shovel to earth".

Mary Ann King owns and runs Pine Ridge Gardens, a native plant nursery near London, Arkansas. She is past president of the Arkansas Native Plant Society and knows a thing or two about native plants, the animals they depend on, and the animals that depend on them.

Possum Trot/Newton County - Twice In One Year

Report by Burnetta Hintherthuer & Joe Neal

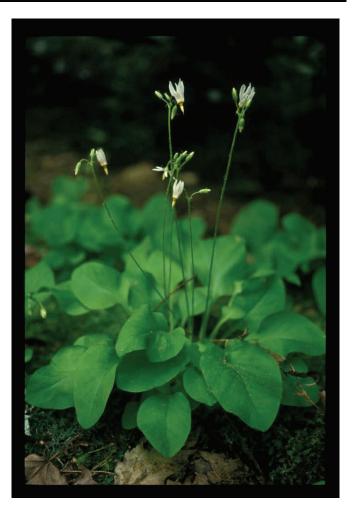
April 5, 2009: Don Mills, Burnetta Hinterthuer, Steve Holst, Steve Smith, Sid and Mary Vogelpohl, Tammy Graham

Though the spring ephemerals were in great abundance along Leatherwood Creek in the Ponca area, Possum Trot, at 1900 feet above sea level at its highest point, was not yet ready to bloom. The day was a little gloomy and that reflected what we found at Possum Trot. Large tree limbs and entire trees were down in the shelterwood cut that we had to cross to get to Possum Trot Hollow. Possum Trot is normally a confusing place to navigate, but with all the strewn down woody debris, it was very difficult to get into the area where the rare plants, including a native lily (*Lilium* sp.), had been found in previous vears, or to the bench that would lead us down to the waterfall and the site of French's shooting star (Dodecatheon frenchii). I believe that being confused, we started our descent to the hollow too soon and missed the main waterfall created by the three streams that come together and form the drip line under which the French's shooting stars are located. After much hunting, we did discover a new waterfall, smaller in stature and facing the wrong direction.

It was very exasperating, trying to use the topo map without the old landmarks, and having so many trees to step over was tiring. At the end of the trip, I stubbed my toe on a stob and went down flat. It was the perfect ending to an exasperating attempt to find the plant populations. In retrospect, the plants were simply set back in blooming and we admitted that Possum Trot has the ability to confuse even the most motivated plant hunters. My body and pride both took a beating.

May 20, 2009: Joan Reynolds, Deb Bartholomew, Joe Neal, Aaron Hinterthuer, Don Mills, Steve Smith, Burnetta Hinterthuer

Though school was officially out, a couple of my students wanted to see Possum Trot as I had described it in class. We agreed to visit Possum Trot in mid May. Don Mills, Steve Smith and I came up with a new plan to stay on one of the upper benches following the topographic map until we saw evidence of Possum Trot Hollow. That would keep us from descending too soon and missing the waterfall. At the place where I had found the original population of lilies along with yellow mandarin (*Diosporum lanuginosum*), showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*), yellow lady's-slipper orchid (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubsecens*), Ozark spiderwort (*Tradescantia ozarkensis*), and Ozark wake-robin (*Trillium*



French's shooting star (Dodecatheon frenchii). Newton County, Arkansas. Photo by Bob Clearwater.

pusillum var. ozarkanum), there was an impenetrable pile of woody debris. This was the place where we had first found the population; we had always been able to re-find it due to the three large sassafras trees (25+ inches in diameter) surrounding the area. Years ago, they had fallen, but their stumps were still visible. This time, there was no way to determine where they were. There are seeps in the area and it looked familiar, but there was no way to get into the exact site. We did find the head of the hollow and had a rough descent – but we were rewarded by finding the head waterfall complete with its population of French's shooting star blooming in the drip line. Though it was a physical challenge, we all felt good about returning to check on Possum Trot. I wonder how long it will be before some of the populations of plants start to reveal themselves again. The old logging trail is strewn with limbs and trees. This trip made me realize how much of the Ozark National Forest must be in similar condition and wonder at the impacts to the animal populations.

Joe Neal went with us to check out the bird populations and wrote up the following report:

Botanist Burnetta Hinterthuer (Northwest Arkansas Community College) led a field trip for her students and others to Possum Trot, a deep holler in the Ozark National Forest near Nail in Newton County. If there is need for more evidence (but there isn't, really) of how widespread the impact of the ice storm of Jan 2009 was, flattened groves of paw paws, umbrella magnolias, uprooted giant red oaks, and de-limbed mature beech trees should suffice. The umbrella magnolias still had a few flowers on horizontal limbs. The two most common birds were Red-eved Vireo & Ovenbird -- dozens of each -surprisingly, not sure which was more common, but lets go with red-eyed. I heard lots of Hoodeds and Kentuckies, and expected Cerulean on the steep north & east-facing slopes, but was disappointed. One target for the hike, a rare plant called French's shooting star, was in bloom under a big bluff shelter overhang, just at the sandstone drip line of a waterfall at about 1750 feet. It's Ovenbird country, to be sure, and it wasn't apparent to me that they cared in the least about remnants of an ice storm that we crawled and pushed our way through.

In addition, we found the following plants: fly poison (Amianthium muscitoxicum) just past blooming, bergamot (Monarda fistulosa), rue anemone (Thalictrum thalictroides), umbrella magnolia (Magnolia tripetala) in bloom, rattlesnake fern (Botrychium virginianum), four-leaved milkweed (Asclepias quadrifolia), downy phlox (Phlox pilosa), trout lilies (Erythronium sp.) past blooming, self-heal (Prunella vulgaris var. lanceolata), cream false indigo (Baptisia bracteata), meadow parsnip (Thaspium trifoliatum) and hairy alumroot (Heuchera americana var. hirsuticaulis).

Orchids of Lovell Hollow/Newton Co. AR

Report by Larry Lowman

Field trip leader: Olin Karch

The morning of August 22nd, 2009, dawned foggy, with temperatures in the lower fifties. There had been thunderstorms in the area twice in preceding days. The plant world was lush, green, sparkling clean and vibrant. A group of ANPS members gathered at 10:00 am in Newton County, many wearing jackets, even tho' the sun had burned off the fog. (No—this is not a piece of fiction! This was a perfectly splendid day for a field trip, and everyone remarked how anomalous the weather was for the third week of August).

In addition to Olin, seven other ANPS members participated: Linda Ellis, Burnetta Hinterthuer, Brenda Embry, Judith Griffith, Joan Reynolds, Brent Baker, and Larry Lowman. Olin's home is situated within the Ozark National Forest, and sits on the edge of a flat hilltop glade, at the head of Lovell Hollow, which wends its way into the Upper Buffalo Wilderness Area and down to the Buffalo, a modest stream at this stage in its existence. Olin began the hike by crossing over the mostly mowed and otherwise human manipulated glade area to an edge where it was not mowed, near a small man-made pond. Here in a sterile looking area with a few straggling trees, but without a canopy, were dozens of ladies'-tresses orchids (*Spiranthes*) pointing their spiral helix skyward. Olin explained that the smaller, wispy ones with mostly all-white blossoms and very small diameter stems were *Spiranthes tuberosa*, the earliest of the fall bloomers to appear. Somewhat larger stems, just coming into bloom, with a green blotch in the flower were identified as *Spiranthes lacera* var. *gracilis*. Several members of the group



Little ladies'-tresses or pearl twist orchid (Spiranthes tuberosa). Photo by Bob Clearwater.

lingered near the pond to examine plants, including pickerel weed (*Pontederia cordata*) and water shield (*Brasenia schreberi*) at water's edge, meadow beauty (*Rhexia mariana*); a milkwort (*Polygala* sp.), and a distinctive beakrush (*Rhynchospora* sp.).

Olin then led into adjacent sparse woodland, still on the edge of

the flat hilltop, and appeared to be pointing at a one foot tall stick with a pink ribbon around it. A closer look revealed a cluster of very modest plants, 4 or 5 inches above the mulch, with nodding whitish flowers near the base of the stick. Here was one of the highlights of the day for everyone: the three birds orchid (Triphora trianthophora). The flowers were actually a day old, and beginning to droop, but we didn't care! Camera people all dropped to their knees. The three birds first appeared up here near the crest of the ridge, and continued to pop up as we hiked almost all the way down the hollow to the river. Ultimately, we saw hundreds.

Olin has been watching these orchids closely for several years. He has concluded that they are triggered to bloom by sudden, sharp changes in temperature (such as a summer thunderstorm can produce

overnight), and that all the hundreds of orchids in his vicinity open flowers simultaneously, two to three days following one of these temperature excursions. Olin had valiantly tried to stage a bloom on a clump close to his home to coincide with our visit, by placing bags of ice around the clump and covering it with a plastic tent, but Mother Nature intervened with a severe thunderstorm the day before, advancing the bloom date by one day.

Continuing through the woodland edge on an established trail, Olin paused in a flat, open area with a fair amount of panicgrass (*Dichanthelium* sp.) and sedges, and waved his walking stick in a broad sweep, "See anything?" As eyes began to peer over the area, a few yelps of delight were heard. Dozens of robust lilyleaf twayblade orchids (*Liparis liliifolia*) were nestled in the mulch. Many had stalks, with a few of the uniquely angular seedpods. This orchid also was spied numerous times as we continued down through the hollow. A little further, as we meandered the edge of the woods and crossed onto a gravel road to descend into the hollow, Lowman pointed out a plant of

cream false indigo (*Baptisia bracteata*), and yellow false-foxglove (*Aureolaria flava*), with its showy glorious yellow blossoms. Brent Baker concluded this was *A. flava*, and that others we saw later were likely *A. grandiflora*. Other plants spied in this vicinity included false nettle (*Boehmeria cylindrica*), Palmer's elm-leaf goldenrod (*Solidago ulmifolia* var. *palmeri*), shrubby St. John's wort (*Hypericum prolificum*),



Showy orchis (Galearis spectabilis), an orchid of rich, shady woods. Photo: Bob Clearwater.

St. Andrew's cross (*Hypericum hypericoides*) in flower, nits-and-lice (*Hypericum drummondii*) in flower, bladder campion (*Silene cucubalus*), flowering spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*) in flower, butterfly pea (*Clitoria mariana*) in flower, and golden aster in flower.

We followed the gravel lane a short distance, beginning our descent into Lovell Hollow, and entering a richer, more mature forest. We left the road for an established foot-trail, that mostly followed an old logging road. As we got on the trail, Olin indicated a cluster of plants of rattlesnake plantain orchid (*Goodyera pubescens*), one of which was raising a modest stalk of blossoms. The blossoms, together with the uniquely textured flat rosettes of dark leaves, are striking. A short distance further, and an enormous stalk of blossoms, over a foot tall, in its prime beauty, was spied. Camera people are again on all fours. Many dozens more of the rattlesnake plantain orchid are spied as the trail descends into richer woods.

A bit further down the trail a wet seep was encountered, with attendant plants such as sphagnum moss and cardinal flower

(Lobelia cardinalis). Just before reaching the seep, Olin paused on the trail and said, "I can see three orchid species

from where I'm standing." It was easy to spy more rattlesnake plantain orchids, then a few twayblades, and finally, a new species for the day, the green adder's tongue orchid (*Malaxis unifolia*). There were a half dozen very healthy plants, which had bloomed earlier in the summer. Other plants that caught the eye of the hikers in this vicinity included dollarleaf (*Desmodium rotundifolium*), tick trefoils (*Desmodium glutinosum* and *Desmodium nudiflorum*), hogpeanut (*Amphicarpea bracteata*), starry rosinweed (*Silphium asteriscus*), common hawkweed (*Hieracium gronovii*), rough hawkweed (*Hieracium scabrum*), a lone rough blazing star (*Liatris aspera*) with its first flower cluster coloring; white avens (*Geum canadense*); and spring avens (*Geum vernum*).

As we descended deeper into the hollow, the forest changed. Beech trees began to appear, and with them beech drops (*Epifagus virginiana*) could be found. Fresh stalks were emerging, but flowers had not yet opened. The magnificent, tropical-appearing foliage of two native magnolia species began to appear: cucumbertree (*Magnolia acuminata*) and umbrella magnolia (*Magnolia tripetela*). There were numerous umbrella magnolias near the base of the slope as we reached the river floodplain. Olin explained that he had known locations for cranefly orchid (*Tipularia discolor*) and showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) in this area, but they had apparently been scoured away by the record floods last spring and again last fall (with Hurricane Ike).

Ahead, bright light loomed through the tree trunks, and as we parted the branches of some ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) and vernal witchhazel (*Hamamelis vernalis*), a pristine gravel bar and mirror smooth pool lying at the base of a towering watersculpted bluff was revealed. We were on the Buffalo now, but scarcely recognizable as the "river" known downstream. Everyone paused to revel in the beauty of the pastoral scene. Larry pointed out some of the witchhazels near and in the streambed were nearly tree sized, reaching 12, 15, and 18 feet. Alder (*Alnus serrulata*) also appeared intermittently. After a rest, and a checking of wristwatches, most members opted to make their way back up the trail to head homeward.

Those remaining--Larry, Judith, and Brent--made their way upstream with Olin to a small "secret hollow" with the promise of several plant surprises. On reaching the site, and stepping up the bank, Brent indicated he could detect the smell of vanilla in the air... which was provided by a healthy colony of sweet coneflower (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*) at the river's edge. They were in full flower, but the fragrance came from the midday sun stressing the foliage a bit. Great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*) was scattered here as well. Not far into the forest, Judith spied a trophy-sized specimen of the yellow lady's-slipper orchid



Lily-leaf twayblade orchid (Liparis liliifolia). Photo by Bob Clearwater.

(Cypripedium parviflorum), which had a hefty seedpod on it. Larry noted Rafinesque's arrowwood (Viburnum rafinesquianum), then he and Brent examined another Viburnum with rounded or heartshaped leaves, which Brent later identified as Ozark arrowwood (Viburnum ozarkense). Robust specimens of doll's eyes (Actea pachypoda) appeared, especially delighting the artist's eye of Judith, who had not seen them in fruit before. Wild ginger (Asarum canadense) was abundant. Shrubs of spicebush (Lindera benzoin) were numerous, and some of the shiny green summer fruit was beginning to turn scarlet. Larry spotted a couple of plants of blue cohosh (Caulophyllum thalictroides) with a whoop. Olin pointed out another yellow lady's-slipper orchid. We kept our eyes focused on trying to locate showy orchis, but failed to spy any. Larry spotted some weak strawberry bushes (Euonymous americanus) the deer had browsed and Brent spotted a lone leatherwood (Dirca palustris).

We finally headed back upslope, to enjoy a late lunch, and be provided with a couple of additional tour delights by Olin: a quick pass through his intriguing three story cabin, and a tour of his orchid greenhouse (on the roof!). Special thanks to Olin for a superlative field trip experience. And thanks to Burnetta for being the dutiful scribe and writing down most of the plants viewed by the group for the record.

Olin has desk-top published a color photo guide to the orchids of Lovell Hollow. Those who are Arkansas wildflower fans might find this useful and interesting, and a useful guide for easily identifying some Arkansas species (such as the *Spiranthes* and *Corallorhiza*) with locally relevant info. The cost is modest. Contact Olin via email: olin@olinsweb.com.

Ozarks Chapter Field Trip Report:

Surveying for Scabiosa/Carroll Co. AR

Report by Linda Ellis

On August 29th, 2009, the members of the Ozarks Chapter took a trip to Carroll county to view the newly discovered *Scabiosa atropurpurea*, or pincushion flower, that has gotten such a stronghold on the roadsides there and nearby in Missouri. One of the goals of the trip was to get ANPS members to chart the location of this invasive plant all around the county. Larry Lowman, a recent addition to our area, had done some preliminary surveying and had come up with new locations around the area which he had color coded on a map. Similar maps were given to all the field trip participants so they could continue searching for this invader in their spare time. Everyone was amazed at how thickly and frequently it grew once the *Scabiosa* had been pointed out to them.

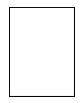
Eight Ozarks chapter members and one ANPS member from southwest Arkansas, Meredith York, started on highway 103 near Rudd and got their first look at the *Scabiosa* population. Since the area had experienced more than normal rainfall, this relatively undisturbed road had a lot of botanical offerings. We had hoped for a show of butterflies on the pincushion flower but this was not a good year for Lepidopterae in general. Having had a very cold spring and unseasonably cold temperatures for most of the summer, we saw only a few species on the *Scabiosa* and working over the stands of cup plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) that were prevalent. We were also happy to see large numbers of honey bees doing their thing. We took short walks along the roadside at several sections where we stopped and found a number of interesting plants other than the target plant of the trip.

There were several clumps of butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) still in flower and being visited by parsley swallowtails and some easily overlooked common plants like

prickly fanpetals (Sida spinosa), various tick trefoils (mainly Desmodium cuspidatum and D. marilandicum), Croton and other spurge family (Euphorbiaceae) species. Aother section of 103 had a sizable stand of rosinweed sunflower (Helianthus silphioides). We stopped to examine the area and found slender ladies'-tresses orchids (Spiranthes lacera) in bloom among a colony of white-flowered passion flower vines, whiteleaf mountain mint (Pycnanthemum albescens), wild bean (Strophostyles helvola) and painted leaf (Euphorbia cyathophora). A little farther along, we found a mixture of white campion (Lychnis alba) and bladder campion (Silene cucubalus), two very similar looking plants, among red morning glories (Ipomoea coccinea). Needless to say, there were some very colorful plant displays that day and we were all in agreement that roadside botany is fun and very informative.

After lunch, we headed up to Saunder's Heights in Berryville, to check on the population of earleaf gerardia (*Agalinis auriculata*) our chapter members had found in 2006. The area had any number of glade species on it not common in Arkansas like rough white lettuce (*Prenanthes aspera*), Nuttall's dwarf morning-glory (*Evolvulus nuttallianus*), and the tiny, pinkflowered Texas centaury (*Centaurium texense*) from the Gentian family. Everyone was pleased, I think, that Saturday with the number and broad range of species we encountered. It's always

interesting and educational to study plants with the Ozarks chapter members and we'll all be back for more trips around northwest Arkansas for the enjoyment of roadside botany.





Rough white lettuce (Prenanthes aspera) is a rare species in Arkansas, restricted to high quality glades, prairies, and open woodlands. Cherokee Prairie Natural Area, Franklin County, Arkansas. Photo by Craig Fraiser.

ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FALL 2009 MEETING & PLANT AUCTION

OCTOBER 16-18, 2009

Petit Jean Mountain Winthrop Rockefeller Institute

LOCATION

Winthrop Rockefeller Institute Petit Jean Mountain 1 Rockefeller Drive Morrilton, Arkansas 72110 (501) 727-5435

Toll Free: (866) 972-7778 http://www.uawri.org/

REGISTRATION

Registration costs \$5.00 and occurs on-site Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Teaching Barn at WRI. At the registration table we will have sign-up sheets and trip information for various field trips. Registration will also be available Saturday evening.

During the registration period food of the heavy hors d'oeuvre variety will be provided in the potluck style by members. You can just bring something or coordinate with member Barbara Baker at mbbaker@suddenlink.net. We appreciate members who bring snacks to share.

IMPORTANT!!! Food availability on the mountain is limited. Bring your own, plan to dine at Mather Lodge (in nearby Petit Jean State Park), or make reservations for each meal at the River Rock Grill at WRI. Reservations will be accepted no earlier than October 6, 2009 at the River Rock Grill.

AGENDA

Friday, October 16th

5:00-7:00 p.m. Registration in the Teaching Barn

7:00 p.m. NATIVE PLANT AUCTION- FUNDRAISER

This year's event begins at 7 p.m. with our annual native plant auction in the Teaching Barn at WRI. The informal auction offers plants grown by our members. Items such as books, seeds, crafts, homemade jams, garden tools, carved wood items, etc are often featured as part of the auction. Proceeds from the auction support scholarships and research activities by young botanists studying Arkansas plants.

If you have items to donate for the auction, simply bring them to the meeting and give them to one of the organizers.

Saturday October 17th

8:30 a.m. Field trips depart from designated sites

7:00 p.m. Evening program.

Dinner is on your own.

After the program the Society's business meeting will follow.

Sunday, October 18th

8:30 a.m. Field trips depart from designated sites

WRI does have a native plant area near the Teaching Barn. One of the planned activities will be an opportunity to add additional plants in the area. Bring your favorite planting tool and kneeling pad. Plants will be provided the WRI. This will be in lieu of a field trip. The day and time will be announced at the meeting.

ACCOMODATIONS

Winthrop Rockefeller Institute does have lodging facilities. A block of 30 rooms has been set aside at special prices.

President's Lodge is \$79 plus tax per night. The Meadows is \$69 plus tax per night. Mention ANPS. Reserve early www.uawri.org

Mather Lodge (Petit Jean State Park)

www.petitjeanstatepark.com/accommodations/ mather_lodge.aspx

Camping facilities are available on Petit Jean. Because the Arkansas fall foliage is a favorite tourist attraction, make your camping reservations early.

CONTACTS Jean Ann Moles, Vice-President 501-794-2284 501-860-4772 (cell phone with voice mail) jam26@sbcglobal.net

DRIVING DIRECTIONS (from the WRI website):

From Interstate 40 take exit 108 at Morrilton.

Take a left at the light onto Highway 9 Bypass and continue south toward Oppelo.

Turn right onto Highway 154 and travel 7.3 miles to the top of Petit Jean Mountain.

At the top, turn right at Winrock Drive and continue four miles.

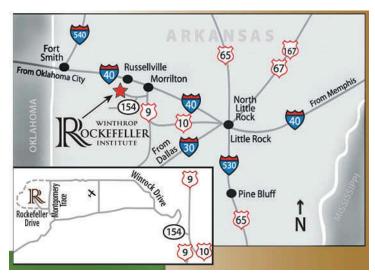
When you come to a closed gate, turn left onto Montgomery Trace and go one mile.

Take a right onto Rockefeller Drive at the rock sign and continue one mile until you reach another rock sign.

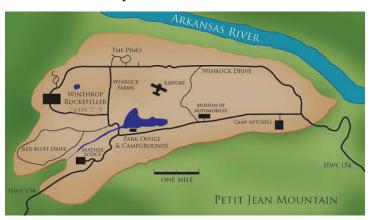
Yield to the right and travel straight until you arrive at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. The main lobby/check-in is located between the historic grain silos.

We will have signs directing members to the Teaching Barn for Registration.

NOTE: MapQuest® does not provide accurate directions to the Rockefeller Institute. Please refer to the maps and directions on this page.



Highway map to Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain. Courtesy WRI website.



Detail map of Petit Jean Mountain showing location of Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. Courtesy WRI website.



Field trippers taking a break from the rain (which did not take a break) at the Spring 2009 ANPS Meeting. Wattensaw Wildlife Management Area, Prairie County. Hopefully we will have better weather this fall! Photo by Susie Teague.

Upcoming Field Trips and Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th – ARKANSAS AUDUBON ADULT NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOPS. Three two-day workshops are being offered this year: 1) Edible Trees & Plants (Tamara Walkingstick), 2) Birding Basics (Dan Scheiman), and 3) Native Tree Identification (Eric Sundell) [this one is full as of press time but they keep waiting lists and a few people do usually cancel at the last minute]. All workshops will be taught at the Ferncliff Camp, west of Little Rock. Cost for each workshop is either \$170 (for those staying overnight) or \$130 (for commuters). Four meals are included. Space is limited. For more information and for registration forms, email Eric Sundell at esundell42@gmail.com or call 870-723-1089. Or you can download a registration form from our website, www.arbirds.org.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6th—DOCUMENTARY FILM ON ARKANSAS'S BUFFALO RIVER HAS ITS NATIONAL NETWORK PREMIER ON PBS. If you haven't seen Larry Foley's film, *The Buffalo Flows: The Story of Our First National River*, be sure to tune in to PBS at 9:00 pm CST.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 11th—CHAMPION TREES OF HILLCREST (LITTLE ROCK). Meet Eric Sundell at the west end of the Allsopp Park Promenade at the corner of Kavanaugh and Rose Streets at 2 p.m. for a leisurely stroll through stately elms, glorious persimmons, *Chitalpa tashkentensis* and a kousa dogwood in fruit, among others. Call Eric for more info at 870.723.1089 or email esundell42@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 16-18 - FALL ANPS MEETING. WINTHROP ROCKERFELLER INSTITUTE ON PETIT JEAN MOUNTAIN. See details on pages 12 & 13 in this issue.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25th—MURRAY PARK (LITTLE ROCK) - FALL ANPS MEETING. Join Eric Sundell and Theo Witsell for a walk on (and off) the pedestrian/cyclist walkway along the Arkansas River at Murray Park. Explore riverfront forest, backwater sloughs, and habitats along the Arkansas River. See the uncommon water clover fern. Meet at 2:00 pm near the playground and restrooms. Call Eric for more info at 870.723.1089 or email esundell42@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31st—ARKANSAS VALLEY PHYSIOGRAPHIC REGION—PARIS, ARKANSAS (LOGAN COUNTY). Join ANPS's Expert Botanist Eric Sundell and ANPS Members Sid & Jeanette Vogelpohl for a Field Trip on the Vogelpohl's 50-acres home-site. The 50 acres includes Hartshorne Sandstone outcrops that cause a 200-foot change in elevation. Plant beds around the house incorporate Native Plants with Family Favorites; in a woodland setting. Walk throughout the 50 acres along crisscrossing paths that includes an 80-foot bridge over Short Mountain Creek. An ideal time for Fall colors (hopefully) and a superb view of Mt Magazine. 70+ different trees. Meet at the house (2480 South

Highway 309) at 9:45 AM; bring a lunch. For more detailed directions or more information, please contact Sid Vogelpohl at 479-963-1528 or email svogel1@centurytel.net.

FEBRUARY 26th—28th—ARKANSAS FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock. http://www.arflowerandgardenshow.org/. Call 501.821.4000 or email krista.quinn@yahoo.com. ANPS is planning on have a visible presence this year so come to help or just to hang out.

News and Announcements

BROCHURES! GET YOUR BROCHURES! ANPS still has about half a box of our attractive full-color brochures left and we'd like to get them out into the hands of interested people. If you'd like some to hand out at a speaking engagement, garden club, church function, or wherever, contact Theo Witsell at 501.614.8465 or email and let him know how many you'd like and where to send them.

FIELD TRIPS NEEDED! We always need people willing to lead field trips, so please contact the editor about any trips you might want to lead in your area. Remember you don't have to be an expert in the local flora to lead a good trip!

WE NEED YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS!!! Please check your email address in the directory and let us know if yours is not current. There have been a lot of requests for electronic copies of the Claytonia (as a full-color pdf file, usually from 1-2 MB in size), but it seems that many of the emails we try to send come back to us.

PLEASE PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUES!!! If your mailing label says "09" then you are about to stop getting the newsletter. Please renew your membership. We'd hate to lose you.

ANPS DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!! Before you know it it will be tax season and we'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that ANPS is now a 501 c3 non-profit organization and would be happy to take your tax deductible donations all year long.

NATIVE LILIUM WANTED

Ken O'Dell of Paola, Kansas recently contacted the Claytonia. He is working with and doing research on species of native Lilium and is looking for 25 or 30 seed or 2 or 3 bulbs of both *Lilium michiganense* and *Lilium superbum*. He would like to get wild-collected seed from Arkansas or bulbs that originally came from seed from Arkansas and to know which county it came from if possible. If anyone can help, Ken will be glad to pay for them, pay for shipping, or make a donation to the organization. Contact Ken O'Dell / 11485 W. 303rd. St. / Paola, Kansas 66071 or call 913.837-5112 or email diggero@springvalleynursery.com.

ANPS MEMBER RECOGNIZED FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

ANPS member Barbara Baker was recognized at the Spring 2009 ANPS meeting for her outstanding volunteer service to the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. Over the last few years Barbara has been volunteering to mount plant specimens for the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission herbarium (a collection of dried, preserved plant specimens). She was recognized at the Spring meeting for having mounted more than 2,000 museumquality specimens for the ANHC. These pressed and dried specimens, each with a label identifying the species, location of collection, collector, date of collection, and habitat information, are part of a collection of more than 5,000 specimens at the ANHC office in Little Rock. This collection serves as a reference for botanists and ecologists working to monitor and protect Arkansas's biodiversity. Many specimens in the herbarium also serve as vouchers for rare plant records in the ANHC database and are valuable to a variety of researchers.

Specimens are mounted with glue, cloth tape, and cotton thread to special acid-free card-weight paper and stored in insect-free cabinets in a climate controlled environment. Specimen mounting is tedious and time consuming work that takes an artist's eye, a steady hand, a scientific understanding of what features are important to display, and a lot of patience. Barbara makes beautiful specimens and was presented with a plaque and

a set of Kate Nessler's Baker Prairie Wildflower Prints by Theo Witsell, botanist with the ANHC.



Plant specimens from Arkansas Natural Areas mounted by Barbara Baker and other volunteers await processing and filing in the herbarium of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. Photo by Jennifer Akin/ANHC.

PLEASE BRING ITEMS TO THE FALL PLANT (AND RELATED ITEMS) AUCTION. PROCEEDS GO TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE STUDY NATIVE ARKANSAS PLANTS.

Arkansas Native Plant Society Membership Application NAME(S) Please check the appropriate box below. ADDRESS: Membership Categories: Street or Box \$10..... Student __ \$15..... Regular __ \$20.... Supporting State _____ Zip Code____ __ \$25..... Family Membership __ \$30..... Contributing Telephone _____-_ __ \$150... Lifetime Membership (55 and over) Email address \$300... Lifetime Membership (under 55) Please cut and send this form along with any dues to: New Member Renewal Maury Baker, Membership ANPS Please make checks payable 29 Pandilla Way to "Arkansas Native Plant __ Address Change Hot Springs Village, AR 71909-7121 Society".



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<u>Please check your mailing label!</u> The calendar year is the membership year. If your mailing label says <u>09 or earlier</u> it is time to renew! (Life members have an LF.)

Please fill in the information form on the opposite side of this page and send it with your renewals, applications for membership, changes of name, address, email, or telephone numbers to the address on the form: [Not to the editor]. Thank you.

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS/SUGGESTIONS TO: 219 Beechwood St. / Little Rock, AR 72205 anpsclaytonia@yahoo.com

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The purpose of the Arkansas Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and study of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas, the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitat, and the publication of related information.

CLAYTONIA

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