

# CLAYTONIA

Newsletter of the Arkansas Native Plant Society

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Spring 2015

Special  
Feature

Book Review: Trees of Arkansas by *Dwight Moore*  
Revised Edition edited by *Eric Sundell*

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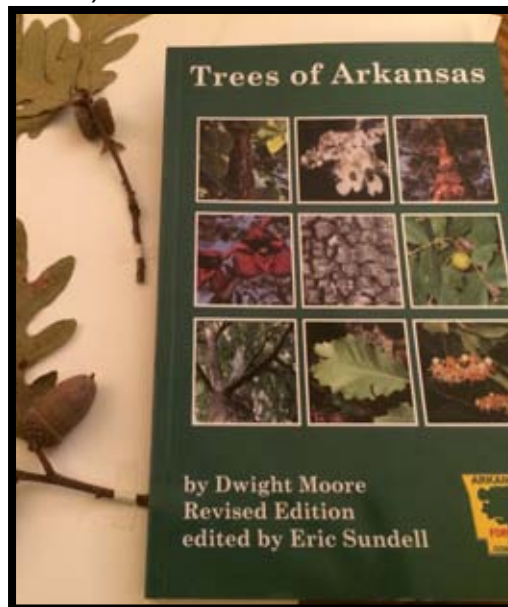
Written by Eric Sundell—The tried and true handbook of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, Dwight Moore's *Trees of Arkansas*, has been reissued (2014) in a smart, new, user-friendly, and full-color edition. Moore's book dates back to 1950, when the author revised Lewis M. Turner's 1937 manual of the same name. For more than 60 years, Moore's excellent handbook has been teacher and field guide to Arkansas' schoolchildren and outdoor enthusiasts. (Until the 1989 publication of Carl Hunter's *Trees, Shrubs, & Vines of Arkansas*, now regrettably out of print, it was the only field guide to our state's beautiful, majestic, fascinating trees.)

The newly revised eighth edition of *Trees of Arkansas* faithfully conserves the heart of Dwight Moore's book: his thorough, accurate species descriptions as well as his comprehensive and very readable overview of the forest regions of Arkansas. Also retained are the fine pen-and-ink drawings that date back to Arkansas' original tree manual of 1924, *Common Forest Trees of Arkansas: How to Know Them*, by John T. Buchholz and Wilbur R. Mattoon. These detailed botanical drawings had lost clarity over many years of reprinting—finer structures such as the buds and bud scales of winter twigs, once so crisp, had become too muddy to be of any representational value. The line drawings were restored by technical editor Adriane Barnes using that factotum of the high tech age, the smart phone. Adriane photographed the line drawings, still sharp in Turner's glossy 1937 manual, and sent them digitally to the manuscript of the new edition.

Two major changes to the old handbook should make this new effort an even better field compan-

ion: color photographs and rewritten identification keys. Each of the 115 pages devoted to full descriptions of the trees is now illustrated with usually 2-3 color photos of leaves, flowers, fruits, and most significantly, bark. Colored fruits and flowers and even plain old green leaves turn black-and-white pages bright and lively—and of course supplement the line drawings that supplement Moore's descriptions. The bark photos, on the other hand, give visual information brand new to this edition. Photos were provided by Forestry Commission county foresters and other agency personnel as well as by several members of the

Photo by Joe Sundell.



Arkansas Native Plant Society: Linda Ellis, Marvin and Karen Fawley, Norm and Cheryl Lavers, John Simpson, Sid Vogelpohl, and Michael Weatherford. Sid Vogelpohl's gorgeous picture of pawpaw flowers appears on the front cover.

To spare readers the chore of picture-hunting through more than 100 pages in search of their trees, *Trees of Arkansas* is equipped with identification tools called keys. These keys (to trees in both summer and winter condition) have been rewritten and are now strictly dichoto-

mous—meaning that at each step along the way, the user is faced with only two choices, for example, leaves either simple or compound. Keys in past editions offered as many as four and even five choices, making progress slow-going, something like Robert Frost's "pathless wood, where your face burns and tickles with the cobwebs broken across it..." The new keys are easier to use—and hopefully, just as accurate!

A few other changes can be mentioned. Three new species are added to the roster of Arkansas' tree flora: Pignut hickory, *Carya glabra*, is one of the most common hickories in the Southeastern

(Continued on next page)

## Book Review (continued)

forests east of the Mississippi River, and probably the most poorly understood hickory species as well, with such a range of variability that botanists are uncertain whether the taxon comprises a single extremely variable species or a number of weak, closely related segregate species. Pignut, which occurs uncommonly in Arkansas, is very close to black hickory, *Carya texana*, and the two species can be hard to tell apart. Two alien invasive species have unfortunately become so widespread in the state that they merit inclusion: Callery pear, *Pyrus calleryana*, a scourge statewide and Chinese tallow tree or popcorn tree, *Triadica sebifera*, at present restricted to southern and central counties.

The use of DNA as a source of taxonomic evidence has become common and has exposed genealogical information that morphology and biochemistry had been previously too imprecise to reveal. This has necessitated, in turn, some surprising taxonomic changes, especially in the circumscription of plant families. Some familiar genera have been evicted from their long-time family homes and forced to move into unfamiliar quarters. For example, royal paulownia is out of the snapdragon/figwort family and into its very own princess tree family. Similarly, sweetgum is on its own now: out of the witch hazel family, into the

Mexican Plum blooms, *Prunus mexicana*.  
Photo by Michael Weatherford.



sweetgum family. Most “counter-intuitive,” the hackberries, with their simple, alternate leaves, are transferred from the elm family, where they looked so comfortable, to the hemp family—the home of marijuana, with its palmately compound, opposite leaves. And there are one or two more. I could not quite force myself to vaporize the maple family, but if we see a new edition of *Trees of Arkansas* some time down the road, our maples will be no doubt submerged in the soapberry family. The arrangement of families has been changed from an outdated taxonomic sequence to alphabetical order by common name.

Books are available from the Arkansas Forestry Commission office in Little Rock and from most AFC regional offices around the state, for the price of \$5 [sic]!

## ANPS Members Help Out With Prairie Grass Seed Collection

By Michael Weatherford

In October 2014 ANPS members participated in hand-harvesting native prairie grass seed on two Grand Prairie sites located near Stuttgart, Arkansas. There were two separate seed collection projects, one for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the other for Audubon Arkansas. ANPS members assisted Corps and White River Irrigation District personnel in collection of Big Bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) on the Feilke Prairie, a 30-acre native prairie remnant near the Stuttgart Airport. Members also assisted Audubon Arkansas with collection of the same species on the Roth Prairie Natural Area south of Stuttgart. The objective of the seed collection programs is to increase the amount of local-genotype seed available for restoring native prairie sites to support Audubon bird habitat projects, and remediation of levees and other disturbed areas associated with a Corps of Engineers irrigation project to draw water from the White River for agricultural purposes. This year’s harvest will be used by the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and cooperating farmers to establish monoculture fields that can produce a pure and abundant future supply of seed.



Bark of Mexican Plum, *Prunus mexicana*.  
Photo by Michael Weatherford.



Tom Foti, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (retired), hand-harvests Big Bluestem, *Andropogon gerardii*, seed on the Feilke Prairie. Photo by Michael Weatherford.

## Do you want to know the genus *Carex*?

### This *Perigynia*'s for you!

By Virginia McDaniel

Last May I took an amazing class on the genus *Carex* at Highlands Biological Station in Highlands, NC. It was taught by a phenomenal botanist: Dr. Dwayne Estes. He is Associate Professor and Herbarium Curator at Austin Peay State University, Botanical Explorer with Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT), and bosom buddy of our very own Theo Witsell. Dr. Estes (AKA Doctr Drop) had us key out the 90 or so fresh specimens he and his graduate student collected on a three day EKG driving journey through Tennessee and North Carolina just prior to the class. We spent 4 days (9 AM – 12 AM), keying *Carex* with an occasional field trip. For those interested in learning one of the more challenging botanical groups, with an expert instructor who keeps you willingly keying sedges until midnight with his enthusiasm and goofball humor, this is the class for you. It inspired me to write this poem:

*Boy, what do you know about K-rex?  
I can talk for hours about the Phaestoglochin complex  
Stigmas 2, achenes flat, spikes are globulous  
Inflorescence simple and spike androgynous  
If it's corky thickened and beak serrulate  
Think appalachia, rosea, or radiate [a]  
And so began Caracology boot camp 101  
We keyed so many sedges, we never saw the sun  
Live action! Live action! Check out this perigyn!  
Clear obtuse trigonous, what group does it fall in?  
Woooooow, check out this papillose  
Hey, is this spike staminate or gynecandrous?  
This achene is obovoid and perigynia winged  
Could it be alata? an ovalian? Ding Ding!  
Some characters mix together, but some are clear as day  
Concavely contracted is now clear from subulay [te]  
The seasons to collect are 3, July, May and March  
Don't forget to record if it's beneath Pine or Larch  
And for God's sake please remember, the words of Doctr Drop  
Get those darn roots! Don't do the ol' Forest Service snatch top!*



For those interested, Highlands Biological Station offers many classes for the avid naturalist (not all are as intense as this *Carex* class). Please visit: <http://highlandsbiological.org/>. The biological station is nestled on a plateau in the Southern Appalachians in the quaint, tourist town of Highlands, NC. Situated at just over 4,000 feet, it is the ideal place to escape the Arkansas summer for a week or two!



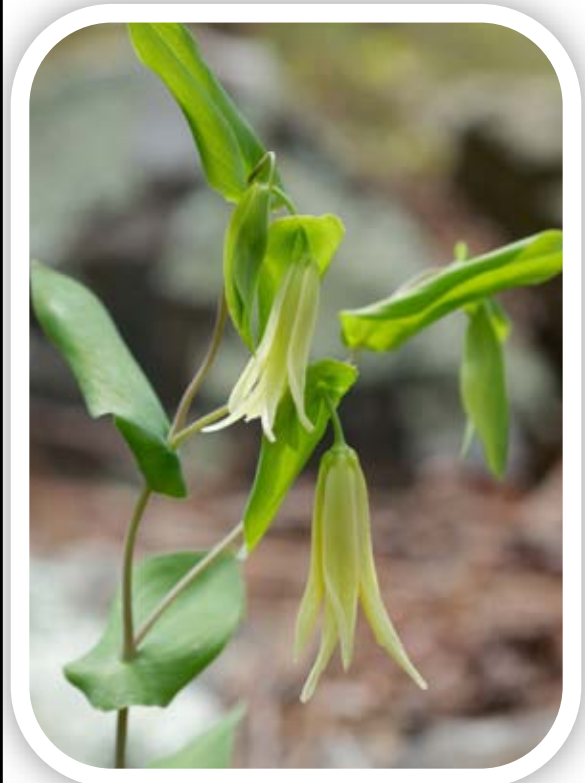
Millwood State Park, Fragrant Ladies'-Tresses, *Spiranthes odorata*. Photo by Michael Weatherford.



Blazing-star, *Liatris squarrulosa*, White Cliffs Natural Area. Photo by Michael Weatherford.



Bald Cypress, *Taxodium distichum*, along an oxbow of Fourche Creek in Audubon Arkansas's Gillam Park. Photo by Eric Hunt.



Perfoliate Bellwort, *Uvularia perfoliata* along the Ouachita National Trail in April 2013. Photo by Eric Hunt.

## White Cliffs Natural Area ANPS 2014 Fall Meeting

By Virginia McDaniel

We drove through the mist south of Brownstown to a small parking area on the west side of State Highway 317 just inside Little River County, on a cliff high above the Little River. Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC) Botanist Brent Baker painted a beautiful scene of the showy beardtongue (*Penstemon cobaea*) and Great Plains larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum* subsp. *virescens*) that cover the roadside in early summer. As it was October, we had to use our imaginations. Knowing there was still much to see, we crossed the road and coated our boots in chalky mud as we scrambled up a short, but steep, exposed bank into the preserve.

White Cliffs Natural Area was purchased by the ANHC in 1989 to preserve the largest, and least disturbed, occurrence of chalk woodland in Arkansas. The 573-acre Natural Area is located in the Coastal Plain on a large outcrop of Annona Chalk that rises out of the Little River floodplain. As a high point in the Coastal Plain, it was a strategic place for human settlement. Caddo Indian mounds are found along the river and just south of the parking lot are the remains of a 19<sup>th</sup> century settlement complete with foundations for a hotel, post office, shops, and a few houses. These most likely supported the nearby quarry where chalk was mined.

The ridge trail meanders through the upland terrain of the preserve and reveals an interesting mix of blackland prairie, chalk woodlands and outcrops, and even acidic pine-oak woodlands. Just beyond the chalk bank is a small patch of blackland prairie where we found the brown seedheads of Missouri coneflower (*Rudbeckia missouriensis*), purple prairie-clover (*Dalea purpurea*), and glade bluet (*Houstonia nigricans*). The queen of the blackland prairie in early October, however, is the white spiral inflorescence of the fragrant Great Plains Ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes magnicamporum*). This species is rare in Arkansas, having been found at only a handful of other sites in two other southwestern counties prior to this trip; this population at White Cliffs was both a Natural Area and a Little River County record! As we moved farther up the trail we came across a woodland of Durand's white oak (*Quercus sinuata*) and Ashe's juniper (*Juniperus ashei*). This community is more typically found on the Edward's Plateau in Texas. As we continued on, the forest closed a bit, trees grew bigger, and the magenta berries of American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) dotted the forest floor. Brent pointed out cherybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*), nutmeg hickory (*Carya myristiciformis*) and dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*), all lowland plants growing on this elevated chalk plateau. Nature doesn't always follow the bounds we set.

I'd like to return for a minute to Ashe's juniper. It is a close

relative of eastern red-cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), but can be distinguished because it forms many trunks from its base, has no red heartwood, prefers calcareous soils, and has white splotching on its branches. Whereas eastern red-cedar is found in every county in Arkansas, Ashe's juniper is restricted to the northern counties in the Ozark Mountains and three counties in the southwest. Ashe's juniper is a relatively uncommon species in the state, but with the advent of fire suppression, it is actually becoming invasive in its habitat, similarly to eastern red-cedar. Historically, fires would burn these cedar glades, prairies, and woodlands, keep tree populations in check and allow herbaceous plants to flourish. Without fire, trees invade into what were once open areas and shade out more sun-loving herbaceous species, many of which are rare and threatened. One of the ongoing projects for ANHC at White Cliffs is cutting some of these cedars and burning the area to maintain the rare habitats the Natural Area is meant to protect.



Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida*, and American Beautyberry, *Callicarpa americana* berries. Photo by Michael Weatherford.

Several of us on the trip became interested in the white blotches on the Ashe's juniper. We noticed that the trees were covered with snails following heavy rains. Where the snails had passed, the bark was removed and where the bark was removed a whitish film grew. Was this film a fungus, slime mold, alga, or some combination? Was the whitish substance on the small branches the same as the big blotches of white on the tree trunks? Did they have any relation to the snails? Karen and Marvin Fawley of the University of Arkansas at Monticello collected some of the whitish film and found bits of algae (green algae and cyanobacteria) and what looks like fungal hyphae. I sent a snail specimen to Ron Caldwell at Lincoln Memorial University who identified it as *Oligyra orbiculata*, a species that lives in glades and limestone areas. Interestingly, he and his colleagues study snail – slime mold interactions. As for the relationship between snails and the white blotches on Ashe's juniper, we don't know, but it was fun to ponder.

St. Andrew's-cross (*Hypericum hypericoides*) comes in two variants: *H. hypericoides* subsp. *multicaule*, which is shorter in stature and sprawling, with many branches from the base, and is typically found in upland areas of the mountainous regions of the state; and *H. hypericoides* subsp. *hypericoides*, which is taller and more erect, with branches further up the stem, and is the common variant found in the Coastal Plain (although it, too, can be found in the mountains, especially the Ouachita and Boston Mountains, but is generally absent from the Ozark Plateaus). The species epithet, *hypericoides*, means "looks like a hypericum". So the botanical name literally means the *Hypericum* that looks like a hypericum; a rather redundant moniker it would seem. Here is where the lens of history can clarify. St. Andrew's-cross is different from other hypericums in that its flower has 4 instead of 5 yellow petals. This character led early botanists to categorize it in a different genus: *Ascyrum*. Thus, it used to be named *Ascyrum hypericoides*, or the *Ascyrum* that resembles a hypericum, which made much more sense.

It was a wonderful trek through the woods on a misty day. We thank Brent and all who braved the drizzle and mud, and we also thank the weather for holding off the tornado until the following day!

## Upcoming Field Trips—Save the Dates!

Everyone welcome on all field trips – ANPS members and non-members!

**April 11, 2015**

### **Ouachita National Trail in Perry County**

Eric Hunt & Virginia McDaniel will co-lead. Meet at 10:00 am at Lake Sylvia trailhead parking area (GPS 34.86320, -92.81864). Volunteers needed to carpool folks to the Hwy 9 trailhead. Ignore “Lake Sylvia/Closed” signs on Hwy 9/10 for public swimming area.

We will explore the section of Ouachita National Trail that noted Arkansas outdoor writer Tim Ernst described as “one of the most scenic of the entire trail.” Spring wildflower bloom should be in full swing. We hope to see the easternmost Ouachita Mountains population of rare species *Uvularia perfoliata*, along with large colonies of *Iris cristata*, numerous other flowers, trees and forbs.

Bring water/lunch. Trail is narrow with moderately steep drop-offs. Wear sturdy hiking boots or shoes.

There is a lovely short self-guided paved loop trail at the Lake Sylvia parking area that can be explored by interested persons before or after the main hike.

Contact Eric Hunt ([ericinlr@gmail.com](mailto:ericinlr@gmail.com), 415-225-6561) or Virginia McDaniel ([virginiamcd31@yahoo.com](mailto:virginiamcd31@yahoo.com), 828-545-2062) for more information, reservations, or to help carpool. Participation is limited to 15 people. Note: Cell service is very spotty. Eric has no service, Virginia has intermittent service. We will start the carpool over to the Hwy 9 trailhead at 10:15 sharp.

**May 7, 2015**

### **Poison Springs State Forest Sand Barren & Oak-Pine Forest Preserve, Chidester (Ouachita County), AR**

The preserve includes 435 acres of sandhill barrens and woodland vegetation supporting many rare species. See the following link for more information:

<http://www.naturalheritage.com/natural-area/poison-springs-state-forest-sand-barren-oak-pine-forest-preserve/>

Meet at **10:00 am** at the EZ Mart near the intersection of Highways 57 and 24.

Contact Meredith York (870-786-5808) or Michael Weatherford (870-820-8300) for more information or reservations.

**May 9, 2015**

### **Audubon Arkansas’s Gillam Park preserve in Little Rock**

Eric Hunt & Eric Sundell will co-lead. Meet at 10:00 am at swimming pool parking lot at the end of Gillam Park Road, GPS 34.702725, -92.252850. Take Exit 1 for Springer Blvd off of I-440 and head south on Springer Blvd/AR365. Gillam Park road is first right after the Audubon Arkansas building. Pull through gate to swimming pool parking area.

Audubon AR Nature Center includes bottomland hardwood forest, cypress-lined oxbow, upland white oak/hickory, post oak savannah, and ultra-rare nepheline syenite glades within its 400 acres.

We will explore the upland white oak/hickory habitat on the way to see the rare glades, return to the parking area for rest/lunch break, after which we will make our way to the Fourche Creek cypress oxbow. Wear sturdy shoes, be prepared for wet ground in the bottomlands. Bring water, lunch and insect repellent.

Contact Eric Hunt ([ericinlr@gmail.com](mailto:ericinlr@gmail.com) or 415-225-6561) for more information or reservations.

**June 5, 2015**

### **Ouachita Mountain Glades**

Join Forest Service botanist Susan Hooks on a trip to explore glade communities on the Ouachita National Forest. The glades are sparsely covered in cedar and elm trees with exposed rock, which creates a unique habitat for locally rare species such as the aquatic pillwort (*Pilularia americana*), a little fern that looks like a grass with fiddle heads. The glades are near roads and the terrain is fairly flat. We should see a variety of spring wildflowers, grasses, lichens, and mosses. We will begin at Fulton Branch glades and will visit other glades near Mt. Ida area if time permits.

Meet at **10:00 am** at Burl’s Smoke House on US Hwy 270 west of Hot Springs on the west side of Crystal Springs. Bring lunch and plenty of water.

Contact Susan Hooks, (501) 282-5365 or [shooks@fs.fed.us](mailto:shooks@fs.fed.us), to sign up for this trip.

# OCANPS Hikes, all are welcome!

**April 19, 2015**

**Buffalo Point, 11:00 a.m.** Meet at Buffalo Point Ranger Station at entrance of park, about 7 miles south of Yellville on Hwy 14. Rick Hinterthuer will interpret Indian Rockhouse Trail. He writes: "Indian creek is one of my favorite hikes in Arkansas featuring both a large variety of flowering plants and a similarly large array of geological features including caves, sinkholes, glory holes, sculptured dolomite bedrock and the second largest bluff shelter in the Ozarks. It is a 3 mile National Park loop trail of medium difficulty. The hike will take approximately 4 hours." Bring lunch/water. If anyone is interested in camping that night or getting a cabin in the area for Sunday night, he will be willing to lead a hike to Bias Bend and Rush on Monday. Contact Rick for more details at 501-940-0872.

**April 25, 2015**

**Lost Valley – 10:00 a.m.** Meet at Lost Valley parking lot. Burnetta will be leading a hike with college plant biology students. All are welcome to explore this botanically rich area. Bring water/snack. Call Burnetta at 479-430-0260 for more details.

**May 16, 2015**

**Crane fly orchid expedition – 10:00 a.m.** Meet at Stephen's Ironworks shop, 360B North Centennial Ave, West Fork, AR. It is east of old Hwy 71 at McKnight Emergency Wrecker Service in West Fork. We will see a population of crane fly orchids located last year. Though there are herbarium specimens of *Tipularia discolor* in the U of A Herbarium, no recent reports have been documented. We hope to change that! Bring a sack lunch/water/comfortable shoes.

**May 23, 2015**

**Possum Trot, Nail, AR - 10:00 a.m.** Meet at parking lot of Nail Church located across from the Nail General Store on Hwy 16. We will carpool to the USFS property that is home to Possum Trot Hollow. Bring water, a sack lunch, as well as sturdy boots or shoes. This is a moderate to strenuous hike. The last time we hiked Possum Trot, it was difficult to negotiate the downed debris from the ice storm. We can always hike to the French's shooting star population and bypass some of the debris if still a problem. Please call Burnetta at 479-430-0260 to let her know if you plan to join us. Don Mills has agreed to be our guide and he reassures me that he does have his GPS unit up and running.

**May 30, 2015**

**ArkTex Wildlife Preserve and Tree Farm, Durham, AR – 8:00 a.m.** Meet Bob Morgan (479-422-5594) and Jim Woodruff for a hike of the Woodruff property. Jim and his wife Rhonda were named "Watershed Stewards of the Year" by the Beaver Watershed Alliance. Take Hwy 16 to Durham, AR. The farm is located off Washington County Road 47 (*aka* Hazel Valley Road), approximately 3 miles past Terra Studios.

**June 13–14, 2015**

**BioBlitz at Ninestone, Carroll County.** Time TBD. Judith Griffith and Don Matt will host a BioBlitz at Ninestone Land Trust. BioBlitz is defined as an intense period of biological surveying to record as many living species as possible within a designated area. Groups of scientists, naturalists, and volunteers conduct an intensive field study over a continuous time period (e.g., usually 24 hours). Those interested in attending are welcome to contact Judy Griffith, [9waterfall9@gmail.com](mailto:9waterfall9@gmail.com) for more information. Closer to the event it will be important that Judy and Don know how many people to expect.

**June 27, 2015**

**Pine Ridge Gardens, London, AR 10:00 am**

Mary Ann King will lead a hike through the natural area surrounding her gardens. Afterwards, you will have an opportunity to purchase plants if interested. We'll walk a field with wild goose plum, red buckeye, butternut, possumhaw, pawpaws, cucumber magnolia, bladdernut, leatherwood, spice bush, river cane, many oaks plus a huge shumard oak, black walnuts, toothache tree, redbuds, green ash, fringe trees, box elder, blue ash, sycamores, slippery elm, and another field near the nursery that sports a large yellowwood tree, sarvisberries, Kentucky coffee tree, sloe plum, soapberry, pawpaws, several kinds of gooseberries, gray dogwood & more. Alabama snowwreath is also found in both fields. Bring a lunch/water.

**Directions** from Fayetteville area, take 49 to 40, go to exit 74, go north on Hwy 333 for 1.5 miles. Turn left on Will Baker road (by cell tower) go 2 miles – see metal shop building on left – white house with green roof on right, turn right (north) on Sycamore Road – go 0.8 mile to gate (832 Sycamore Road)  
**Directions** from Harrison/Jasper, follow Hwy 7 south to #333 which is just north of Dover. Turn right on #333 – it is about 10 to 12 miles to Will Baker Road. Turn right on Will Baker Road (by cell tower) go two miles – see metal shop building on left – white house with green roof on right, turn right (north) on Sycamore Road – go 0.8 mile to gate (832 Sycamore Road). Contact Mary Ann, [479-531-5014](tel:479-531-5014), for more information.

## ANPS Members Make Rare Plant Discoveries at Miller County Sandhills

By Theo Witsell

Miller County Sandhills Natural Area, a modest little tract just east of the Texas border, has the distinction of being home to the highest number of rare plant species of any of the 71 preserves in the state's System of Natural Areas. A total of 41 species on the Natural Heritage Commission's list of Plants of State Conservation Concern have been found on the area! Thirty-four of these occur in dry sandhill grasslands and open woodlands, with the remaining seven occurring in seepage wetlands, where groundwater seeps up through the soil after draining through the surrounding sandy hills.

The flora of the area is exceptional all around, with more than 450 species documented to date, several of which are found nowhere else in Arkansas. New species are found on nearly every visit and a number of new rare species have been found and documented by ANPS volunteers. ANPS members Joe Stuckey and Meredith York have been especially active there, making repeated visits and providing the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC) with many additions to the species list and valuable data on populations of rare plants. Among their discoveries have been several new rare plants for the area including Texas yellow wood-sorrel (*Oxalis texana*), foxglove false dragonhead

(*Physostegia digitalis*), featherbells (*Stenanthium gramineum*), and giant ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes praecox*).

At the Fall 2014 ANPS meeting, trips to Miller County Sandhills led by Joe and Meredith turned up two more new rare plants for the area. This first species, found on the Saturday trip, was Long's star-grass (*Hypoxis longii*)\*. This unusual and poorly-known species is characterized by its cleistogamous flowers (flowers that don't open but are fertilized internally without the aid of a pollinator) which emerge right at the base of the plants. These were found, with mature fruit emerging on stalks from the bare ground, in an area that was burned in a prescribed fire a week earlier. Near the Long's star grass, on the Sunday trip, I discovered a small population of pitchfork crowngrass (*Paspalum bifidum*), a rare grass of sandy woods that had not been documented from Arkansas since 1966 and was not previously known from Miller County.

Acquisition of Miller County Sandhills began with a small tract in 1992 and the area has now grown to more than 274 acres over the course of five separate purchases. Preservation and management of the site is a joint effort between the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and the Arkansas Field Office of The Nature Conservancy. Management on the site includes thinning of existing pine plantations, regular

prescribed burning, and the control of non-native invasive plant species.

The ANHC greatly appreciates the help of the ANPS in expanding our knowledge of Arkansas's flora.

\* *The status of this species is a matter of some debate among plant taxonomists, with some believing that it is best considered to be a cleistogamous form of glossy-seed star-grass (*Hypoxis sessilis*) and others believing it is a distinct species. More research is needed on this question, but for now the ANHC is considering the Arkansas plants to be *H. longii*. Either way, it is rare in Arkansas.*

Foxglove false dragonhead (*Physostegia digitalis*) is known in Arkansas only from a few sites in Miller County, including a population at Miller County Sandhills. Photo by Craig Fraiser.



Be sure and check out news of Arkansas flora at the **Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission** web site: <http://www.naturalheritage.com/> to stay current with the latest news from Theo Witsell and Brent Baker and other people working to recognize and preserve biodiversity in the state.





Miller County Sandhills in bloom. Prominent plants in flower include sandhill evening primrose (*Oenothera heterophylla* subsp. *heterophylla*), erect dayflower (*Commelina erecta*), and bull-nettle (*Cnidoscolus texanus*). Photo by Meredith York.

Right: Pitchfork crowngrass (*Paspalum bifidum*) in sandhill woodland. Before last Fall, this species was last documented in Arkansas in 1966. Photo by Eric Hunt.

Below: Fruiting specimen of Long's star-grass (*Hypoxis longii*) emerging from the ground in a recently burned area. Photo by Eric Hunt.



# Spring 2014 Meeting Minutes

ANPS Fall Meeting 2014  
Membership Meeting  
Texarkana, Arkansas  
October 11, 2014

## 2014 Fall Meeting Field Trip Information

### **SATURDAY MORNING**

- Miller County Sandhills Natural Area, Joe Stuckey and Meredith York
- Millwood Lake State Park, Jennifer Ogle
- White Cliffs Natural Area, Brent Baker

### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

- Millwood Lake State Park, Jennifer Ogle
- White Cliffs Natural Area, Brent Baker

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- Miller County Sandhills Natural Area, Theo Witsell
- Terre Noire Natural Area, Brent Baker

## 2014 Fall Meeting Evening Program Information

The Friday evening program was the Native Plant Auction. The Saturday evening program was presented by Theo Witsell, botanist with the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. His talk was entitled "Habitats and Rare Plants of Southwest Arkansas."

## Membership Business Meeting followed presentation Saturday, October 11, 2014.

Betty Owen called meeting to order, 8:40pm and thanked Jennifer Ogle for arranging 2014 Fall Meeting in Texarkana.

## Treasurer's Report

Don Ford provided the 2014 Fall Treasurer's Report, as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, with a balance of \$23,981.06 and the 2015 Proposed Budget. The Treasurer's re-

port was accepted by the Board. Betty Owen made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and 2015 proposed budget and Eric Hunt seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Don reported a total of \$2823 from the Native Plant Auction on Friday night.

## Minutes

Ann Gordon made a motion to accept the minutes from the Spring 2014 ANPS Membership Meeting. Mary Ann King seconded the motion and all were in favor.

## By-Laws Revision

The Board recommended approval of the by-law changes that were printed in the Fall/Winter 2014 *Claytonia*. Mary Ann King made a motion to accept the by-law revisions and John Perrin seconded the motion. After some discussion the motion passed with one dissention.

## Scholarship Committee

The Board had an emergency email vote on August 1, 2014 to approve \$1000 in funding for "The Study of Mycorrhizal Fungi of Oaks, Hickories and Musclewood in the Ozarks of Northwest Arkansas." The recipient is Donald Nelson, a graduate student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

## Old Business

### Update on Grant for Nature Walk at Logan County Old Jailhouse Museum

Betty Owen reported that native plants valued at \$200 were purchased from Mary Ann King for the Nature Walk at the Logan County Old Jailhouse Museum. Sandy Davies will hopefully have pictures to share on the progress of the project at the next ANPS meeting.

### Washington County Junior Master Gardener Grant Request

Eric Sundell is working with Mina Marsh to set the conditions for a grant of \$500. Don Ford is donating native

plants to the Washington County Master Gardeners for the project.

## UAM Herbarium Building

Marvin Fawley reported that funds are in hand for the construction of the new UAM Plant Research and Herbarium Building, but that the project is on hold pending additional funding that will enhance the project. Site preparation should begin early in 2015.

## New Business

### Audubon Arkansas Workshops

Dr. Dan Scheiman at Audubon Arkansas is interested in planning Native Plant Workshops for K-6 children in 2015 with the help of interested ANPS members. The workshops will be held at the Audubon Arkansas facility in Little Rock. Betty Owen will provide more details later and ask Mike Burns to send out an announcement to the membership.

## Lifetime Membership

Susie Dunn: granted Lifetime Membership by the Board for her design of ANPS logos.

## 2015 ANPS Spring Meeting

The 2015 Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 17-19 in Monticello. Karen Fawley reported that up to 35 rooms have been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express (\$80). Some possible field trips include Warren Prairie and Longview Prairie.

## Small Grant Request: FireOmEarth

Jennifer Ogle received a small grant request from FireOmEarth, a retreat and spiritual sanctuary in Eureka Springs. FireOmEarth includes 15 acres of trails and woods that are open to the public. They are interested in restoring the natural area and removing invasive species. The board recommends funding their request for \$1000 for labor to remove invasive plants and purchase native plants for uncultivated natural areas. Susan Toone moved to approve, Susan Har-

din seconded and the motion was approved.

Seed Gathering Initiative

Betty Owen invited members to participate in the Grand Prairie Grass Seed Harvest at Roth Prairie Natural Area near Stuttgart on October 29, 2014. The project is sponsored by Audubon Arkansas and the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and strives to produce grass seed from native plants for restoring Arkansas prairies.

Nominating Committee

Eric Sundell, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Board recommendations for officers for 2014-2015. They are Don Ford (Treasurer), Mike Burns (Membership), Betty Owen (*Claytonia* Editor), Mary Ann King (Awards and Scholarships Committee Chair) and Virginia McDaniel (Vice-President). John Simpson made a motion to accept the slate of officers, Marvin Fawley seconded and all approved.

Betty Owen welcomed Jennifer Ogle as the new ANPS president and thanked Joe Stuckey, Brent Baker, Meredith York, Jennifer Ogle and Theo Witsell for leading field trips.

Karen Fawley moved to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer Ogle seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

2014 Final Treasurer's Report				
1 January - 30 December 2014				
	Start FY 2014		→	
	Budget	Actual		
<b>INCOME</b>				
Membership Dues (+ membership donations)	\$4,000	\$5,370.00		
Meeting Registration	\$500	\$455.00		
Plant Auction	\$1,500	\$2,823.00		
Interest	\$0	\$0.00		
T-Shirt Sales	\$400	\$820.00		
Contributions/Donations	\$0	\$875.00		
TOTAL	\$6,400	\$10,343.00	→	\$10,343.00
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
ANPS.Org (website expenses)	-\$50	-\$43.00		
Claytonia (Print & Distribute 2 Issues)	-\$1,000	-\$1,420.76		
Directory (Print and Distribute)	-\$750	-\$706.91		
Memorial Awards (Awards/Scholarships)	-\$2,000	-\$1,000.00		
Support to Public Gardens (Fire Om Earth)	-\$500	-\$500.00		
Meeting expenses (space, copies, speaker,etc.)	-\$1,000	-\$1,200.58		
Ecology Camp	-\$500	-\$500.00		
Environthon	-\$500	\$0.00		
Bulk Mail (USPS permit)	-\$190	-\$220.00		
Supplies/postage/miscellaneous	-\$430	-\$225.43		
Buy T-shirts	-\$1,000	-\$1,456.07		
TOTAL	-\$7,920	-\$7,272.75	→	-\$7,272.75
			→	<b>\$27,283.67</b>

Respectfully submitted by Don Ford, Treasurer

## New Members

Ruth and John Andre (Hector, AR)

James and Julia Gibbons (Ozark, AR)

Carolyn Eddy Griffith (West Fork, AR)

Susan Bolding (West Fork, AR)

Susan Orsi Davis (Little Rock, AR)

Eric Fuselier (Fayetteville, AR)

Thomas and Barbara Harger (Havana, AR)

Alayna and Bryan Jacobs (Booneville, AR)

Kristina Jones (Fayetteville, AR)

Bette Kauffman (Monroe, LA)

Rob and Debbie and Tom King (Little Rock, AR)

Sheila Kreul (Nashville, AR)

Jeanne Neath and Paula Mariedaughter (Saint Paul, AR)

Alan Ostner and Molly Jensen, Reed, Phoebe (Fayetteville, AR)

Gail Pianalto (Tontitown, AR)

Michael Reed (Russellville, AR)

## New Lifetime Members

Carol Mendel (Little Rock, AR)

Melody Parsley (Little Rock, AR)

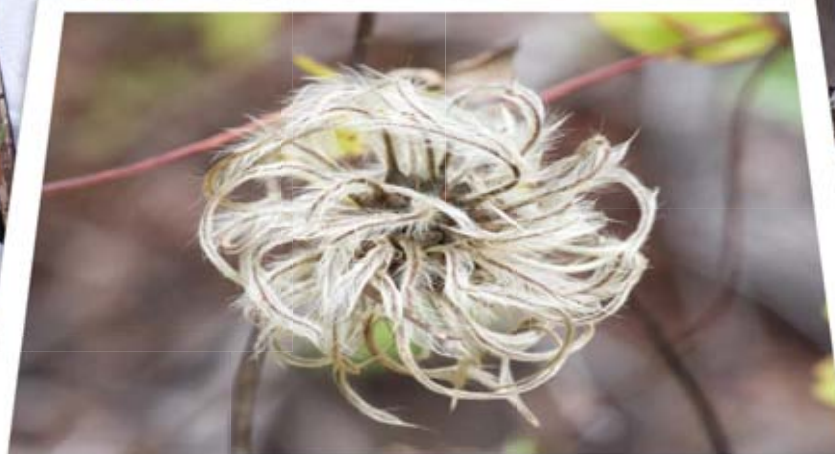
## 2014 Field Trip Photos



*Desmodium*-speckled native plant pioneer, Joe Stuckey, in search of botanical nirvana! Contributed by Michael Weatherford.



Long's star-grass, *Hypoxis longii*, Miller County Sandhills Natural Area.



Miller County Sandhills Natural Area, net-leaf leather-flower, *Clematis reticulata*. Photo by Michael Weatherford.

**ANPS Spring Meeting**  
**April 17-19**  
**Monticello, Arkansas**

**Hotel:** Holiday Inn Express, 146 Dearman Drive, Monticello AR 71655, 870-460-0100. We have reserved 35 rooms (6 king, 29/2-queens) at \$80/night + 15% tax, includes free breakfast. Rooms will be held until April 3. (Hampton Inn is nearby, call for rates.)

**Meeting Location:** University of Arkansas Monticello, Science building.

**Dining Options:** Fast food chains (McDonalds, Wendy's, etc.); Ray's Restaurant serves authentic drive-inn style food; Cowboys Seafood Buffet (great fried catfish).

**Field trips:** Will feature unique sites such as saline prairies; other sites typical of the Arkansas Delta and West Gulf Coastal Plain.

**Program:** Emphasis will be on saline prairies and glades and history of the UAM herbarium and arboretum.

**Featuring our first-ever silent auction.** We invite you to participate by donating items and then bidding to your heart's content!

**Auction Time:** Around 5:00 PM, Friday April 17, and will close Saturday night at the end of the program. To bid on an item, just enter your name on the donation sheet along with the amount of the bid. Do not plan to bid if you cannot be present or arrange for someone else to collect your item(s) and make payment.

**Eligibility To Bid:** All registered attendees can bid.

**Donors:** Please donate items that are related to native plants. Examples: Plants most suitable for spring (hold other plants for the big fall auction!); seeds suitable for planting in the spring; books related to botany and native plants; pictures/paintings related to native plants or scenes (feel free to donate prints of your native plant photos).

- ◆ Please complete the donation form prior to the meeting if possible, forms will be available at the registration desk. We encourage you to bring donations before 5:00 PM on Friday if possible.
- ◆ A printable pdf of the donation form is at this link:  
[https://arkansasnativeplant.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/auction\\_itemdonationform-f.pdf](https://arkansasnativeplant.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/auction_itemdonationform-f.pdf)

If you have questions contact: Michael Weatherford, 870-820-8300, weatherfordm@sbcglobal.net.

**Save the Date! The ANPS Fall Meeting will be held in Eureka Springs October 9-11.**

Accommodations will be in the Best Western Eureka Inn (not to be confused with the Best Western Inn of The Ozarks). The phone number is (479) 253-9551. We have reserved a block of 30 rooms at a rate of 107.95, plus tax. Please note the early "**drop date**" of **August 21**, after which availability and rate cannot be guaranteed. Rooms include a mix of two queen or king beds and a full breakfast.

More details will be provided at a later date.

## ANPS Membership Application and Renewal Form

New Member  
 Renewal  
 Address Change

	<i>Membership Type</i>	
	Student	\$10
	Individual	\$15
	Supporting	\$20
	Family Membership	\$25
	Contributing	\$30
	Lifetime (age 55+)	\$150
	Lifetime (under age 55)	\$300

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this form and your dues directly to the ANPS treasurer. Please include the entire form with your payment.**

Don Ford  
 4017 Bluebird Lane  
 Little Rock, AR

For other membership questions, please contact the membership chair Mike Burns at [anps.membership@gmail.com](mailto:anps.membership@gmail.com) or (479) 229-2185.



# Claytonia

Spring 2015  
Newsletter

**Your dues status is on your mailing label.**

On the mailing label there will be a number, for example, "15", and this indicates that your dues are paid through 2015. (Life members will have an "LF" on their label).

To renew your membership, please fill in the application for membership, changes of name, address, e-mail or telephone number and mail your dues to the Treasurer:

Don Ford  
4017 Bluebird Lane  
Little Rock, AR 72210

<p><b>President</b> Jennifer Ogle ranunculus73@gmail.com (479) 957-6859</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Karen Fawley fawley@uamont.edu (870) 460-9452</p>
<p><b>President-Elect</b> Mike Weatherford weatherfordm@sbcglobal.net (870)-820-8300</p>	<p><b>Awards &amp; Scholarships</b> Mary Ann King office@pineridgegardens.com (479) 293-4359</p>
<p><b>Vice President</b> Virginia McDaniel virginiamcd31@yahoo.com (828) 545-2062</p>	<p><b>Membership Chair</b> Mike Burns anps.membership@gmail.com (479) 229-2185</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Don Ford anps.treasurer@gmail.com (501) 821-9353</p>	<p><b>Editor</b> Betty Owen pjmbowen@gmail.com (501) 472-6920</p>
<p><b>Nominations Chair</b> Eric Sundell esundell42@gmail.com (870) 723-1089</p>	<p><b>WebMaster</b> Martha Bowden anps.web@gmail.com (501) 803-9545</p>

**President's Message**  
**Jennifer Ogle**

Dear Fellow Native Plant Lovers,

First and foremost, I would like to thank our past president, Betty Owen, for her many contributions while serving as an officer of the society. She demonstrates such enthusiasm for this organization and is always ready to accept new challenges and responsibilities, as evidenced in her willingness to take on a new role with ANPS as editor of *Claytonia*.

I'm writing this message on a sunny winter day in Northwest Arkansas, with the temperature expected to reach nearly 70 degrees. When we have this type of weather at the height of the winter season, I begin to remember what spring feels like and can look forward to the start of a warmer season. By the time we meet in Monticello in mid-April, winter will be long gone and there will be no shortage of warm weather and native plants to see!

Speaking of the spring meeting, the Weatherfords and Fawleys are planning a great one for us this year, and I am looking forward to a couple things in particular. I can't wait to see Warren Prairie Natural Area for the first time. Warren Prairie is a large, unique natural area that boasts high-quality saline barrens, pine flatwoods and woodlands, and post oak flatwoods, and is a refuge for many rare plants and animals, such as the federally listed *Geocarpon minimum* and Red-cockaded Woodpecker, respectively. Brent Baker tells me that if we have a typical spring, we should be able to see *Geocarpon* on the field trip he will lead to the saline barrens at the natural area.

During the spring meeting I also look forward to the silent auction (a first for us!) which will benefit our grants and scholarships program. I hope you are able to join me in Monticello to support the auction and to enjoy the spring flora with your fellow native plant enthusiasts!

**ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

Membership, Mike Burns  
10145 Dogwood Lane  
Dardanelle, AR 72834

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