This year, we enjoyed the Harmony Mountain Retreat November 6th – 8th. During the Business Meeting, we elected Jim Dudley, President; Steve Smith, Vice-President; Mary Reuter agreed to remain Treasurer and Burnetta Hinterthuer agreed to remain Newsletter Editor. At the annual auction, we raised over $400. We voted to continue sending the Audubon Halberg Ecology Camp $300 and the Ozarks Natural Science Center, $100. In addition, we set the date for the Fall Retreat for the weekend of November 4th – 6th 2016. Thanks to everyone who has agreed to lead a hike. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Spring/Summer Hike Schedule:

When: Saturday, April 9th, 2016, 10:00 AM  
What: Dogwood Nature Trail, 3/4 mi. long, moderate difficulty. Expect all the spring wild flowers to be there. Bring lunch (if you want to picnic in the park campground after the hike), cameras, binoculars, water and bug repellent. If weather is bad, we will cancel by 9AM. Contact Linda Ellis for details, lindasellis@centurytel.net.

When: April 23rd, 9:00 AM  
Where: Lost Valley  
What: Burnetta will be leading a hike with the Northwest Arkansas Community College plant biology class. ANPS members are invited to join us as we explore one of the most diverse spring wildflower walks in the state. Bring water, a sack lunch, camera, and if you wish to explore the cave, a flashlight. The walk is mildly to moderately strenuous at some points. Contact Burnetta at wbhint@gmail.com

When: April 30th, 10:00 AM  
Where: Possum Trot, Nail, AR Meet at the Nail Church parking lot across from the gas station and we will arrange to carpool to the beginning of the trail.  
What: Don Mills will lead the walk last visited in the spring of 2009. The ice storm during the winter had left lots of damage to the trees and shrub layers. Several known populations of interesting plants were covered with downed wood and debris. This trip will reveal what has happened since then. Please bring water, a sack lunch, good shoes; the trail is strenuous, steep in some places. Species we expect to see will be French’s shooting star, yellow mandarin, Ozark trillium, Ozark spiderwort, and a Lilium species. We have never found this population in bloom but are hoping this might be the year we find it in bloom and decide if it really is Lilium superbum.  
Contact Burnetta at wbhint@gmail.com or eurekadonm@yahoo.com if you are interested in attending. Should this hike have to be rescheduled, you be notified by 6 a.m. on Saturday morning, but only if you notify us that you are planning to come. If you live in the Nail area, I would appreciate your emailing me advice in case the weather becomes adverse. The weather in that Nail-Deer area can be quite different from the rest of Northwest Arkansas on site reporting is welcome. Phone 479-582-0317 for more information.
When: May 7, 9:00 AM  
Where: Williams Woods, meet at the St. Paul High School parking lot just off Hwy. 16.  
What: Bob Morgan, hydrologist with the Beaver Water District, will lead a hike at Williams Woods, a 545-acre mountain on the outskirts of St. Paul currently owned by the Ozark Highlands Trail Association. The Ozark Regional Land Trust recently secured a conservation easement on the property. This easement protects against the property from development in perpetuity. The property is to be preserved as a mature Ozark Forest. Bring water, a sack lunch, and good hiking shoes. The trail is mildly to moderately strenuous. Contact Bob at randsmorgan@yahoo.com

When: May 14, 10:00 a.m.  
Where: Lake Leatherwood Parking Lot for the Lake Leatherwood Cabins  
What: Steven Foster will lead a hike along one of the Lake Leatherwood trails. We will see examples of both lowland woods and ridge top glades flora, some of which you may never have seen before. In spring, there is always a chance of water in the creek crossings; so wear shoes you don’t mind getting wet. Contact Steven at sfoster@stevenfoster.com if you have questions.

When: May 15th, 12:30 PM  
Where: Patrice’s Organic Farm, Eureka Springs, AR, meet at the parking lot.  
What: Patrice offered us a scrumptious organic meal followed by a tour of his organic gardens. Meals are $10. Show up at 12:30 PM for the lunch, followed by the tour or come around 1:30 PM for the tour only. Please RSVP to Jim at beaudud2@aol.com or Burnetta at whint@gmail.com  
Check out the description of the farm and directions to the farm at:  
http://blog.eurekasprings.com/2011/08/03/eureka-springs-eat-like-a-local

When: Saturday, May 21, 9:00 AM  
Where: Wilson Springs Wet Prairie, meet Sim Barrow at Vold Vision Parking Lot, 2783 N Shiloh Dr., Fayetteville, AR  
What: Join the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust on a special hike through Fayetteville’s largest wet prairie remnant. The hike will feature unique plant species that have returned to the area as a result of restoration efforts by the land trust. There will also be opportunities to see other residents of this unique habitat, including the Arkansas darter, a critically imperiled fish. Wear mud boots, bug spray, and clothes suitable for hiking through brush. The hike will be rescheduled if rain chances exceed 80%. Contact Sim at sbarrow@nwalandtrust.org

When: June 4th, 9 AM  
Where: Ninestone Land Trust  
What: Led by Judith Griffith and Don Matt. We always enjoy visiting Ninestone in the early summer to see the rare plants as well as the familiar.

1. For those coming from Berryville or North: Just east of Berryville, from the intersection of Hwy 62 E & Hwy 21 S, take Hwy 21 South for 10+ miles. You will see a blue road sign marked ‘Carroll 512 County’ on the RIGHT. There is also a building with dog kennels and tarps on the RIGHT. Immediately after the kennels turn RIGHT onto the gravel road CR 512. Do NOT cross the bridge over Cedar Creek! Continue on gravel road CR 512 for 1 MILE, staying to the LEFT at any choices. At 1 mile you will pass 3 mailboxes on
the LEFT, one a large blue mailbox, and a yellow "Watch for Dogs" sign on the right. Continue on down the drive to our log cabin. Parking will be marked.

2. For those coming from Fayetteville or South: From intersection of Hwy 412 & Hwy 21 N, take Hwy 21 North for 7+ miles. Go through Metalton, cross Piney Creek, then cross the Cedar Creek Bridge & IMMEDIATELY turn LEFT onto the gravel road CR 512 before you get to the building with dog kennels and tarps on the LEFT. Continue on gravel road CR 512 for 1 MILE, staying to the LEFT at any choices. At 1 mile you will pass 3 mailboxes on the LEFT, one a large blue mailbox, and a yellow "Watch for Dogs" sign on the right. Continue on down the drive to our log cabin. Parking will be marked.

When: Saturday, June 11, 11:00 AM
Where: High Bank Twin Falls, Mulberry River
What: Meet at the High Bank canoe access parking lot on highway 215. The falls are a short hike from there. There isn’t a trail but the walk is described as an "easy bushwhack". Contact lindasellis@centurytel.net for more information.

When: June 25, 10 AM
Where: 13602 Sugar Mountain Road, West Fork, AR
What: Stephen Marquardt will guide us to the population of crane fly orchids that are on his property south of West Fork. Last year, we also were able to photograph three bird orchids in the same vicinity on the same day. We will meet at Stephen's property (see above address). From the town of West Fork, drive South on Hwy 71. It is about five minutes down to the old iron bridge and Woolsey Cemetery. Across from them, take a left on WC 156, drive about 3 miles. You may see a mailbox with the number 13608, which seems out of sequence. Keep going on Sugar Mountain Road pas that until you see the mailbox with the 13602 address; turn left into driveway and continue to log cabin. Contact Stephen at: marquardtironworks@gmail.com

Dues are due at the Fall Annual Meeting of ANPS. If you have not yet paid dues for the coming year, here is the information.

To pay dues for the Arkansas Native Plant Society, send payment to Treasurer Don Ford.
Don Ford
4017 Bluebird Lane
Little Rock, AR 72210

To pay dues for Ozarks Chapter ANPS send payments to Mary Reuter at:
Mary Reuter
121 CR 432
Berryville, AR 72616