

# *Ozark Chapter Arkansas Native Plant Society*

Spring/Summer 2013

It seems that the year has flown and we have had another relatively mild winter, with our share of cold days. The recent rains are reassuring and we can only hope they continue.

Last November, at the Harmony Mountain retreat, we elected new officers. Rick Hinterthuer, while packing his car, was nominated for President. Thank goodness, he agreed to accept the position of President and Ginny Masullo agreed to be Vice-President. Thanks to Brent Baker and Laura Villejas for serving in those positions the past four years. Mary Reuter has graciously (although with a little reluctance) agreed to continue as our treasurer. She has the really difficult job of keeping up with memberships and we appreciate the work she has done for so many years. I agreed to remain Secretary and Newsletter editor.

Last year, Rick Hinterthuer led us on a hike to Sweden Creek in September. Annette Rowe, a new member, joined us for the hike and agreed to write up the hike for the newsletter. Tammy Watkins also joined us for the first time and it was great to have them on the hike. Though it wasn't as lush as spring, the beauty of the area and biodiversity of species was still remarkable. Hikes for the coming year are listed below. Annette's report on the hike follows. We hope that you can join us on one or all of them.

## Hikes:

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Rick Hinterthuer will lead a hike to Indian Rock House, Buffalo National River in Marion County. Meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Buffalo Point Ranger Station. We will drive to the trailhead parking lot to begin the hike. The trail is moderate on a developed trail and will take about 4 hours. Bring a sack lunch and water.

April 6<sup>th</sup> -- Remote area in southern Carroll County with Larry Lowman. 10:00am. Larry will lead us on hikes along and in hollows attendant to Dry Fork Creek. This is an exceptional botanical and geological area, and includes the habitat for the new Leatherwood species, *Dirca decipiens*. Bring a sack lunch (this is a remote area -- no source of food, snacks, or gasoline within 10 miles) and shoes that you don't mind getting wet. Weather conditions could result in last minute cancellation of hike if creek levels rise too high. Contact Larry directly for detailed driving directions to meeting point or last minute details at: [ridgecrestgarden@gmail.com](mailto:ridgecrestgarden@gmail.com). It is recommended you get the email directions and print them out, as it is a bit involved getting to this remote location. You may try to call at (870) 545-3205, but this is a landline only, no cell and no answer machine.

April 20<sup>th</sup> – Lost Valley. Burnetta will be taking students on a hike to Lost Valley. You are welcome to join them at the Lost Valley parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Bring water and a sack lunch. Contact Burnetta 479-582-0317 for more details.

April (26-28) is the Spring ANPS meeting at Subiaco. Check the details on the Arkansas Native Plant Society website. This is the link to the details about the Spring meeting:

<http://anps.org/2013/02/07/spring-2013-arkansas-native-plant-society-meeting/>

Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Devil's Eyebrow Natural Area. Come explore the latest addition to the state's System of Natural Areas with Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission botanist Theo Witsell. This property in northern Benton County includes limestone and dolomite glades, rich forests, open woodlands, creeks, springs, caves, and lots of bluffs. More than 600 plant species have been identified on the area including 25 rare species tracked by the State Heritage Program.

NOTICE: This hike will go off-trail in very rugged, sometimes steep terrain and will entail several miles of walking. Meet at 9:00 am in the field on the S side of Hwy 62, 0.5 mile E of the junction of Hwy 37 and Hwy 62 (community of Gateway). The gate to the field will be open and marked with a sign. Bring a lunch and plenty of water. Limit 20 people. Please call Theo at 501.831.7473 or email [theo@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:theo@arkansasheritage.org) to reserve a spot or if you have any questions.

May 5th - Dripping Springs Wild Orchid Hike in Washington County with Stephen Marquadt. Meet at the gas station in Winslow, AR, on Hwy. 71 at 10:00 a.m. We will car pool to Miller's Chapel to begin the hike. The hike is moderate in difficulty. Bring a sack lunch and water. You may contact Stephen either at 479-601-5801 or ([marquardtironworks@gmail.com](mailto:marquardtironworks@gmail.com)) for further details.

May 11<sup>th</sup> - OHM Open Air Sanctuary (Keel's creek) Jim Dudley will lead us on a hike of this rich bottomland, east of Eureka Springs. Meet at the rear of McDonalds parking lot, 148 E. Van Buren (@ 10:00?); my phone is 479-981-9843; we can car pool from there. The hike is moderate in difficulty. We will hike for 2-3 hrs. We will probably walk Keel's Creek for ½ mile so bring an extra pair of shoes/socks. We will eat in Eureka Springs, but bring water and a snack for the hike.

May 25 - Cove Creek tour with Bob Morgan. This is a moderate hike along a stony Ozark creek. There is great riparian and wetland vegetation. Meet at the Boardwalk Café in Jasper at 9:00 AM. Bring lunch.

A tentative hike has been scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Lead Hill Glade, in Lead Hill, Arkansas, north of Harrison on Hwy. 7. I will send out a separate notice as the time approaches.

Last September, Rick Hinterthuer led us on a hike to Sweden Creek Falls.

**Arkansas Native Plant Society Trip-Sweden Creek  
Falls Natural Area  
by first time ANPS participant, Annette Rowe**

When I learned of Arkansas Native Plant Society's plan to hike Sweden Creek Falls Natural Area on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012, I did a double take. Was planning a hike to a waterfall when the weather had been relentlessly hot and dry for weeks, maybe months, a good idea? I took a second look to see if I could possibly be reading

something proposed by the Optimist Club, instead! No, it was the ANPS alright, and as it turned out, the timing was perfect.

As if on cue, a heavy rain storm moved through the area the evening before and dropped much needed moisture on the thirsty landscape. As a bonus, it left behind much appreciated cooler temperatures. As the ANPS group assembled at the trail head that Saturday morning, the buzz of conversation focused on the beautiful hiking weather.

Sweden Creek Falls Natural Area is located in Madison County's Boston Mountains. It is comprised of 136 acres added to Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission lands in 1977. The trail head is located three miles south of highway 21 on a county road located between Boxley and Kingston. Finding the falls from there is a snap thanks to the well-marked "easy to moderate" trail. It begins by following an old road, then winds past a pond and old home, continues to meander through the woods and along the bottom of the bluff, and eventually reaches the seasonal 80 foot waterfall. The area is rugged and rich in natural beauty that includes "wooded slopes and ridge top sandstone glades," and is, of course, home to an abundance of interesting native plants. The 1.5 mile round trip hike offers plenty of opportunities to pause and observe, appreciate, learn, and snap photographs. A leisurely pace is recommended.

Rick Hinterthuer led with Sid and Jeanette Vogelpoh, David Forst, Laura Villejas, Tammy Watkins, Burnetta Hinterthuer, and Annette Rowe.

A list of plants seen on the trip included:

*Arkansas alumroot*, *Heuchera arkansana*  
*Solidago ulmifolia*, elm leaved goldenrod  
*Solidago nemoralis*, old field goldenrod  
*Helianthus strumosus*, sunflower  
*Aster patens*, clasping aster  
*Spiranthes lacera*, ladies tresses orchid

*Erechtites hieracifolia*, burnweed or fireweed  
*Chionanthus virginicus*, fringe tree  
*Nyssa sylvatica*, black gum  
*Hamamelis* sp. –  
*Cunila organoides*, dittany  
*Asimina triloba*, paw paw  
*Magnolia acuminata*, cucumber magnolia  
*Polystichum acrostichoides*, Christmas tree fern  
*Euphorbia corollata*, flowering spurge  
*Fraxinus americana*, white ash  
*Rhamnus caroliniana*, Carolina buckthorn  
*Solidago caesia*, wreath goldenrod  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*, sweetgum  
*Hypericum prolificum*, shrubby St. John's wort  
*Ludwigia alternifolia*, seedbox  
*Vaccinium vacillans*, low bush blueberry  
*Rhododendron prinophyllum*, Mountain azalea  
*Athyrium felix-femina*, Southern Lady fern  
*Asplenium platyneuron*, Ebony spleenwort  
*Vitis vulpina*, fox grape  
*Cornus florida*, flowering dogwood  
*Carya ovata*, shagbark hickory  
*Carya texana*, black hickory  
*Carya glabra*, pignut hickory  
*Quercus alba*, white oak  
*Quercus rubra*, Northern red oak  
*Botrychium dissectum*, dissected grape fern  
*Pleopeltis polypodioides*, resurrection fern  
*Dryopteris marginalis*, marginal shield fern

Membership:

OCANPS Membership - \$5/yr This money is used for donations to conservation organizations including Halberg Ecology Camp at Camp Clearfork and the Ozark Natural Science Center. There are a few newsletters that must be mailed instead of sent electronically as well.

Send dues to:

Mary Reuter  
121 CR 432  
Berryville, AR 72616

ANPS Membership - \$15/yr Membership dues for the state organization are to be sent to:

Mike Burns  
10145 Dogwood Lane  
Dardanelle, AR 72834