



Coming soon to a landscape near you!

Spring 2018 Ozarks Chapter Arkansas Native Plant Society

Reports from Fall 2017 plant walks

West Fork White River Plant Identification Walk

On September 10th, Sandi Formica of Watershed Conservation Resource Center along with the Beaver Watershed Alliance hosted a wildflower walk along the West Fork of the White River about 20 miles south of Fayetteville just off old Highway 71 and the site of a major stream bank restoration project. The last time we visited this site in Fall of 2014, restoration had just recently been completed. The landscape and the plant communities had changed a lot in three years as native species were now abundant. Ecosystems examined included stream bank, gravel bar, aquatic with both standing water and running water in the floodplain and woodland adjacent to the openings. Tall grass prairie grasses such as little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium* Indian grass, Sorghastrum nutans, and switch grass *Panicum virgatum* were well established as were *Sparganium americanum*, American bur-weed and *Spartina pectinata*, prairie cordgrass. Indigo bush, *Amorpha fruticosa*, beautyberry, *Callicarpa americana*, and alder *Alnus serrulata* newly planted in 2014 were also well established. We had a great turnout for the hike and divided into two groups with Aaron, Josh and Jordan of WCRC acting as guides. We will continue monitoring this project site in the coming years with hopes of finding greater native diversity and stability along the stream banks.

Harmony Mountain Fall Retreat

The annual meeting was held the first weekend in November on Smith Mountain, south of Jasper, AR. Sixteen members of OCANPS attended. On Friday night at the plant auction, we made close to \$500, our best auction yet. Thanks to those

who brought plants and other plant items for auction. Steve Holst was our auctioneer along with a little assistance from Steve Smith. In 2017, we increased dues from \$5 to \$10. We agreed to continue sending a donation to both the Audubon Halberg Ecology Camp and Ozarks Natural Science Center. At the meeting Saturday night, we elected Ginny Masullo President for the coming year, Steve Smith Vice-President, with Mary Reuter agreeing to remain our Treasurer yet another year. Burnetta will remain Secretary and Newsletter Editor. Janice Labrie and Deb Bartholomew will continue helping us document our activities *via* photography. Thanks to everyone for helping with planning the hikes and keeping OCANPS going. We started this chapter in 1995. This year, the University of Arkansas Press copied Kent Bonar's field illustrations from his copy of the *Atlas of Arkansas Vascular Plants of Arkansas* that was written by Dr. Edwin Smith of the U of A. The final product, *An Arkansas Florilegium*, is now available for purchase, \$75 from the University of Arkansas Press. Kent attended the meeting Saturday night and agreed to help lead a hike with Rick Hinterthuer this coming year. If you have not been in the field with Kent, this will give you the opportunity to do so.

On Saturday, we drove to Ozark Campground trailhead and headed southwest toward Erbie. This trail parallels the Buffalo River for a long stretch and passes through bottomland woods, past rock outcrops and boulders onto the wide floodplain and gravel bar. Leatherwood (*Dirca palustris*) trees in the understory and tall sycamores (*Platanus occidentalis*) in the canopy are landmarks along the trail. In the spring, this trail is awash in early spring ephemerals and well worth a trip. The trail also crosses the gravel access road and heads east to the Pruitt Ranger Station. In the spring you can see a large population of wood poppy, *Stylophorum diphyllum*, Dutchman's breeches, *Dicentra cucullaria*, and other interesting species. The trail is also accessible from the Pruitt Ranger Station parking area. In addition, you can find a population of Alabama snow wreath growing on a sandy bank just north of the parking lot in April. Either direction from the Ozark Campground offers a diverse plant experience. On Sunday, we stopped at the low water bridge in Ponca and walked along the Ponca to Steel Creek Trail, part of the BRT. The variety of mosses and lichens along with the red berries of the partridge berry are always a pleasure to experience along with the great views overlooking the river.

We have an interesting list of hikes and activities planned and hope that you can join us on one or more of them. In case of inclement weather, the hike leader will notify me and I will send out an email to those on the OCANPS list serve and also notify Eric Hunt who will post the cancellation on the Arkansas Native Plant Society web page. Thanks for helping support OCANPS through the years with your donations, dues, and hard work.

ANPS Annual Meeting: April 13 – 15th, Russellville, AR.

If you have never attended an annual meeting of the state organization, you have an opportunity in the coming year with the Spring meeting planned for Russellville and the Fall meeting planned for northwest Arkansas. You will meet other plant lovers who like to visit interesting ecosystems with interesting plant communities.

[Hotel Information and Agenda are now posted!](#) Further information on the planned activities will be in the upcoming Spring issue of *The Claytonia*.

Spring/Summer 2018 Hikes and Activities

April is Arkansas’ State Wildflower Month

Remember that April is the officially proclaimed Wildflower Month of Arkansas. Thanks to Ralph Weber of the NW Arkansas Master Naturalists for bringing this to ANPS’ attention and for filing the paperwork that was approved by the State Legislature and signed by Governor Hutchinson. We hope that you can get out and enjoy the early wildflowers of spring this year with us or on your own. Listed below is the Schedule of hikes:

Wednesdays on the Greenway with Bob Morgan

Spring 2018 Schedule

Date	Location	Directions	Time	Sunset
April 4	Gordon Long Park	2800 N Gregg Avenue, North of the Stone Mill Bread Company. Since they close after lunch, we should be able to park in their parking area.	6:00 PM	7:39 PM
April 18	Town Branch Trail at Razorback Rd.	From W. 15 th Street in Fayetteville, turn South onto S. Razorback Trail which the trail crosses at the	6:00 PM	7:52 PM

		bridge, where we can park.		
May 2	Niokaska Creek Trail @ Gulley Park	Gulley Park is located just East of Old Wire Road, N of Township Road. Meet in Parking Lot.	6:00 PM	8:04 PM
May 16	Mud Creek Trail @ Vantage Drive	South of E. Joyce Street in Fayetteville, Turn South on Vantage Dr. (opposite the USPO) Parking is just past Focused Family Eye Care.	6:00 PM	8:16 PM

Wednesdays on the Greenway are meant to provide an opportunity to view native plants in the urban setting. This year we are actually utilizing auxiliary trails that connect to the Greenway. All trails are in Fayetteville, AR. Hikes start at 6:00 PM and will last till we get tired of looking. For those that want to, we can go find supper and drinks afterward. To contact Bob Morgan for more information, e-mail him at: ramorganllc@gmail.com

April 14th 10:00 a.m. Botanical Garden of the Ozarks tour of native plant gardens led by Lissa Morrison. Lissa will talk about using native species successfully in the residential landscape. The cut-off number is 20 for this plant excursion. If you are not a member of the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, there will be a \$7 charge for this trip. If you have volunteered with Master Naturalists or OCANPS in past events for BGO, you will not be required to pay an entrance fee. Be sure to contact Lissa as soon as possible to reserve a spot. **Please *rsvp* lmorrison@bgozarks.org to hold your spot.**

May 12th –**10:00 a.m.** Parker Ridge Road to Ft. Douglas. Meet Rick Hinterthuer and Kent Bonar at the Nail store west of Deer on Hwy. 16. High clearance vehicles are required. We can car pool, but it would be good to have those interested respond ahead of time and indicate if they have a high clearance vehicle for the trip. It is National Migratory Bird Day and we plan to drive down the road stopping for several short hikes and looking for both plants and birds. The USFS plans to use herbicides and/or mechanical treatment along all the roads in this district, which could affect both plants and birds and the Hurricane Wilderness area in general. Kent says it would be good for OCANPS and Audubon Society members to contact Mike Mulford at the Jasper US Forest Service office regarding their plans and the possible effects to plant and bird populations in the area at: [870-446-5122 Ext. 5136](tel:870-446-5122) or mmulford@fs.fed.us **To RSVP: send an E-mail to rickhint@gmail.com**

May 19th – **10:00 a.m.** Shah's Native Plant Gardens - Eureka Springs Meet at the Farmer's Market in the parking lot of the Eureka Springs Community Center, where the old ES High School was located. We will arrange to carpool as we can and Jim Dudley will lead us to the property. Faith & Michael Shah will give us a tour of the native gardens that she has been developing for the past 3 years. Faith is an avid student of Native plants and they are both currently in the debut Class of Eureka Springs Master Naturalists

She and Michael have devoted countless hours developing THE NATIVE PLANT GARDEN PROJECT in downtown Eureka Springs. This group sponsored the first annual Native Plant Faire last September and plans to continue this year. Bring water and comfortable walking shoes. Afterwards, those who wish may meet downtown to tour the city gardens and eat at one of Eureka's restaurants.

May 27th, 9:30 a.m. Ninestone Land Trust in southern Carroll County 9:30 a.m. Sandy Pope and Rick Hinterthuer will join Judith Griffith and Don Matt in leading us to explore this incredible landscape with its special plant and animal communities. **Contact Rick or Sandy at: rickhint@gmail.com for further information.**

Directions to Ninestone Land Trust in Carroll County:

1. For those coming from Berryville or North: From intersection of Hwy 62 E and Hwy 21 S just east of Berryville, take Hwy 21 South for 10 + miles to the site of the former Cedar Creek Country Store (now converted to a residence with a large parking lot out front) on the RIGHT. You will see signs for CR 512. IMMEDIATELY after the residence and parking lot turn RIGHT onto the gravel road marked 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. 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.
2. For those coming from Fayetteville or South: From intersection of Hwy 412 and Hwy 21 N, take Hwy 21 North for about 7 + miles. Cross the Cedar Creek Bridge and IMMEDIATELY turn LEFT onto the gravel road CR 512 before you get to the site of the former Cedar Creek Country Store (now converted to a residence) on the LEFT. Continue on gravel road CR 512 for 1 MILE, staying to the LEFT at any choices. 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.

Description: The 412 acres of the Ninestone Land Trust feature a wide variety of habitats: a series of fine waterfalls that cascade over sandstone kettles, Piney Creek, classical Ozark upland fields, sandstone glades, soaring bluff lines (we'll see them from on top and see them from below), stands of both mixed hardwood species and native shortleaf pines, and the Ozark birds and transients associated with the many different habitat types. Slow walking through these habitats provides an excellent way to get a feel for the birds and plants of the region.

Two of the largest glades at Ninestone are being restored with the help of grants through Arkansas Game & Fish Commission & the Natural Resources Conservation Service. This will ultimately benefit the native communities of glade plants which include *Coreopsis lanceolata*, Fame flower, *Phemeranthus calycinum* (aka *Talinum calycinum*), Ladies Tresses - *Spiranthes* sp. a tiny native orchid, Hairy Lip Fern, *Cheilanthes lanosa*, Indian Plantain, *Arnoglossum plantagineum*, Barbara's Buttons, *Marshallia caespitosa*, *Liatris hirsuta*, hairy gayfeather as well as big bluestem & other interesting wildflowers, grasses and sedges.

At the waterfalls, numerous special wildflowers grow from crevices in the sandstone that has been eroding for eons to form the pools or kettles. The leaves & white blooms of Ozark Wake Robin *Trillium ozarkanum* crowd from cracks next to the largest pool in the spring along with blue-eyed Mary, *Collinsea violacea* & Birdsfoot Violet, *Viola pedata*. There *Coreopsis tripteris* flowers in summer followed by *Rudbeckia fulgida* & Great Blue Lobelia *Lobelia silphitica* which grow among a fascinating array of Lichens, Mosses, Ferns & Liverworts.

Note: Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, bug spray, (birders bring binoculars) and a bag lunch to eat and share on or after the hike. Depending on weather, field trips include several shallow creek crossings so rubber boots will be helpful. The creek also gladly accepts tennis shoes & bare feet. This is a mild hike and some participants never leave the porch - so this is a great place for chair-bound folks to hang out.

June 2nd, 10:00 a.m. Joan Reynolds will introduce us to the glades in Benton County associated with the Devil's Eyebrow Natural Area. East of Gateway, AR on Hwy. 62 there is a sign for Devil's Eyebrow with a parking area. We will meet Joan there and she will lead us to glades she has visited in the past. We will not do the more strenuous parts of Devil's Eyebrow but will be able to take our time exploring the glades. If we have enough time, she will also lead us to other glade sites in Benton County. Joan is an excellent naturalist, well-versed in zoology as well as botany. Wear good hiking shoes and bring water, a sack lunch, plus sunscreen and insect repellent if you use them. The hike is mild to moderate. **Contact Joan for further information at: joanreynolds@gmail.com**

Membership Dues:

ANPS dues are \$15 and may be sent to:

Katherine Lincourt, Treasurer

2625 Charter Oak Drive

Little Rock, AR 72227

OCANPS dues are \$10 and may be sent to:

Mary Reuter, Treasurer

112 CR 432

Berryville, AR 72616