



Ozark **Chapter Arkansas** Native Plant Society Spring 2019 Newsletter

Harmony Mountain Retreat, November 3-5th

We always look forward to our annual fall meeting at Harmony Mountain in Newton County. We shared a scrumptious potluck with enough food to last for Friday evening, Saturday lunch, and Saturday evening meals, a plant auction raising money for our conservation causes, business meeting, and hiked as well as enjoyed hours of talking and catching up on each others' lives. Photos of the weekend are found at the end of the newsletter.

Business Meeting: We are happy to announce the election of Eric Fuselier the President of OCANPS. Eric is an Environmental Engineer, Master Naturalist, plant lover, wilderness expert and skills teacher, a former activities director at ONSC, and very enthusiastic. He is married and has two daughters. Thanks Eric for agreeing to lead us into the new year. Ginny Masullo will remain as Vice President, Mary Reuter as Treasurer, Janice LaBrie as photographer and historian, and Burnetta as Secretary and Newsletter Editor.

We voted to donate \$300 to the Halberg Ecology Camp at Camp Clearfork and \$100 to the Ozarks Natural Science Center. In addition, Mary sent a check to reserve Harmony Mountain for next year. The place still has more separate bedrooms and bathrooms than other rentals we have found in the area.

Sweden Creek Falls:

On Saturday, several of us decided to drive an hour to Sweden Creek Falls. Rain had fallen during the first part of the week and the fall colors were at their peak. We expected the falls to be flowing, and it was. Everyone else in the immediate area must have had the same thought, for we had a hard time finding a parking place. Along the trail, we found a few long blooming asters, goldenrods, and a beautiful tall thistle. Most of us took advantage of the falls in the background for a quick photo. This is always a beautiful hike, but it was an especially wonderful day to share on a November afternoon.

I hope that you can join us at one or more of the following activities as we continue to explore the rich flora of Northwest Arkansas. Please contact me at wbhint@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Spring/Summer Activities:

April 13th, Lost Valley - Meet Kurt Cecil and his Northwest Arkansas Community College botany class at Lost Valley parking lot at 9:00 a.m. provided the trail has re-opened by then! We will explore the amazing flora of Lost Valley in the spring. Please contact Burnetta at wbhint@gmail.com to rsvp

April 26th – 27th Botanical Garden of the Ozarks Plant Sale - Members are invited to attend on Saturday the 26th and it will be open to the public on Saturday the 27th.

April 27th, Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Harts Grocery Store (across from McDonald's) parking lot. We will travel to the trails at Rockspire, located at Trigger Gap on the Kings River, an intentional community dedicated to permaculture and conservation. We will explore the trails and wildflowers and then be given a tour of this community and hear of its vision, history and latest developments. Please contact Jim Dudley for further details at jimdudley0729@gmail.com.

May 4th, NW AR Wetland Ecology Tour, Woolsey Wet Prairie Sanctuary. 7:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Meet at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for an introduction to Woolsey Prairie's historical and present day significance in the ecology of Northwest Arkansas and to meet with scientists who will discuss the intricate relationships as we hike the prairie. Contact Eric Fuselier at EricFuse81@gmail.com for further information.

May 11th, Meet at 10:00 a.m. Ozark Natural Science Center Eric Fuselier will lead a hike to explore the botanical wonders of spring at ONSC. On this hike we will see Ozark Chinquapins and sandstone glade habitats. Please contact Eric at EricFuse81@gmail.com to RSVP.

June 2nd, 3:30 p.m.- Prairie Grove Battlefield Tree Walk Audrey Weymiller and Mike McMullin will lead us on this walk to discover the diversity of trees present in the park. Meet at the parking lot near the Visitor Center. Those who wish can share dinner afterwards. There is a restaurant Coyles across from the park where we can talk and have dinner. Contact Audrey at Audreyjane56@hotmail.com to *rsvp* or for more information.

Wednesday Wildflower Walks:

The last two years Bob Morgan has led us along the Greenway Trail on Wednesday afternoons. We found that the dominant vegetation along the trail was introduced invasive species and by the end of last summer, we decided to change our strategy this year. The hikes will be to natural areas in Northwest Arkansas that have less human disturbance beginning after work at 6 p.m. and ending at night fall. Eric and Nate will be the leaders and we hope that you can join them. These are always enjoyable and we learn a lot no matter what we encounter.

April 3rd, 6pm-Dark - Lake Wilson in Fayetteville - Park on the dam. Nate Weston from Beaver Watershed Alliance will lead us on a hike to see some spring ephemerals on this lake. Contact Nate Weston at nate@beaverwatershed.alliance.org to *rsvp* or for further instructions

April 10th, 6pm-Dark - Lake Atalanta - Meet Eric Fuselier at the pavilion on the south side of the road as you get to the park. Contact Eric for further information or to *rsvp* at EricFuse81@gmail.com

April 17th, 6pm-Dark - Mt. Kessler Regional Park, Ground Cherry Trail. Meet Nate Weston at the parking lot south of the soccer fields and east of the baseball fields at the south side of the park. Nate Weston will lead us on a hike to see the plants along this stream restoration project.

April 24th, 6pm-Dark - Tanyard Creek. Meet Eric Fuselier at the parking lot.

May 1st, 6pm-Dark - Cato Springs Trail. Meet Nate Weston at the public parking area on the south side of W Cato Springs Rd., between the bridge and S. Garland Ave.

May 8th, 6pm-Dark - Rogers North Loop Trail. Meet Eric Fuselier at Cambridge Park at the end of N 37th St. in Rogers.

May 15th, 6pm-Dark - Mt. Sequoyah Woods. Meet Nate Weston at the trailhead parking lot at the bottom of Mt. Sequoyah. Nate Weston will be leading this one.

May 22, 6pm-Dark - World Peace Wetland Prairie, Fayetteville, AR

OCANPS Membership Dues are \$10/yr.:

To join, send a check for \$10 to:

Mary Reuter, Treasurer
121 CR 432
Berryville, AR 72616

Arkansas Native Plant Society dues are \$15/year and can be sent to:

Katherine Lincourt, Treasurer
2625 Charter Oak Drive
Little Rock, AR 72227



Ginny Masullo, Genie McFarland, Brent Baker, Deb Bartholomew, Steve Holst, Janice LaBrie, Frank Reuter, Mary Reuter, Jim Dudley Harmony Mountain 2019



Brent Baker on the glade above Sweden Falls, natural habitat



Tall Thistle, *Cirsium altissimum*



Eric, New President, Janice, Historian, Burnetta , Secretary



Janice, Genie, Brent, Eric, Deb, Burnetta, Jim and Steve getting ready to hike at Sweden Falls