This year, on November 5-7th, we held our annual retreat at Harmony Mountain after missing it last year due to covid. We were double vaccinated, boostered and feeling optimistic. It was wonderful to see each other, share food at the potluck, participate in the plant auction, hike, identify a few late-blooming flowers, listen to music, sing-a-long, and hold our annual meeting. The tree colors were not as vibrant this year, but it was a beautiful fall weekend and some of the trees were spectacular. Attending were Mary Ann King, Gene Ford, Sandy Tedder, Ginny Masullo, Steve Smith, Janice LaBrie, Sue Hubbard, Kim Lovely, Jennifer Leuter, Jim Dudley, David Geneson, Steve Holst, and Burnetta Hinterthuer. At the auction this year we raised $641.66 with Steve Holst and Steve Smith working the auction. Ginny and Steve donated the proceeds from the sale of a painting to OCANPS. Thanks to Ginny and Steve for that extra donation. At our annual meeting, we elected co-Presidents for the first time, Sue Hubbard and Jim Dudley, Vice-President Sandy Tedder. Deb Bartholomew will remain Treasurer, Janice LaBrie will remain Historian/Photographer, and Burnetta will be in charge of the newsletters (two/year). We voted to donate $100 to both the Ozark Natural Science Center and the Arkansas Citizens Climate League. We also agreed to donate $300 to Halberg Ecology Camp for student scholarships; however, we have since learned that the Ecology Camp is no longer in operation. We use money raised from the auction and dues in order to make donations throughout the year.
to plant education, ecology and conservation efforts in NWA. On Saturday, we hiked at Alum Cove and Kim Lovely wrote up the highlights with photographs which are included in this issue. We were happy to welcome Susan Hubbard, Jennifer Leuter, Kim Lovely and Davide Geneson as new members. We enjoyed David’s keyboard and vocals Saturday evening. On Sunday, we hiked Lost Valley Trail in the afternoon. **Note:** By the end of November, we were all back to using covid protocol, so we were very lucky to be able to meet in person for Harmony Mountain and hope to do it again in 2022.

Arkansas Citizens Climate League

**Hikes for the Spring:**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 29-</td>
<td>Sylamore Creek – Cold Fork and Blanchard Springs. We plan</td>
<td>The Folk Center Lodge is open in April; several of us have made reservations. If interested in joining us for the weekend, contact Burnetta at <a href="mailto:wbhint@gmail.com">wbhint@gmail.com</a> You can make your own reservation at: <a href="https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/ozark-folk-center-state-park">https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/ozark-folk-center-state-park</a> There are several motels in town as well; and if you feel like camping, there are some great USFS camping areas. I contacted the USFS Biologist there and she hopes to accompany us to the Cold Fork of the North Sylamore. This is a special plant reserve that has a population of royal ladyslipper, <em>Cypripedium reginae</em> that we may see if we are lucky. They may not be blooming, but we hope to see the plants.</td>
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<td>May 1st</td>
<td>Cold Fork on Sat. morning, the 30th and visit Blanchard Springs on Sunday. Folk music/bluegrass music in the evening on the square and at the OFC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7th</td>
<td>Devil’s Eyebrow Natural Area</td>
<td>Eric Fuselier will lead this hike to one of ANHC’s natural areas. 1. WHERE: Devil’s Eyebrow Natural Area near Gateway, AR 2. WHEN: Saturday, May 7th, 10am 3. MEETING LOCATION: Parking lot south of Hwy 62 near the Town of Gateway Google Map Link: <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/L5M155ysxVd5nks3A">https://goo.gl/maps/L5M155ysxVd5nks3A</a> 4. DIRECTIONS: If coming from the town of Garfield, travel east on US Highway 62 for approximately 4 miles to the community of Gateway. From the junction of Highway 62 and Highway 37 in Gateway, continue east on US Highway 62 for another 0.5 mile to the gravel road on the south (right) side of the highway. This is the entrance to the natural area. There should be a sign for the natural area by the highway just after the gravel road. Continue down the gravel road to the parking area.</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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If coming from the City of Eureka Springs, travel west on US Highway 62 for approximately 13 miles past Lake Leatherwood City Park to a gravel road on the south (left) side of the highway. This is the entrance to the natural area. There should be a sign for the natural area by the highway just before the gravel road. Continue down the gravel road to the parking area.

5. Level of Difficulty: Steep with loose gravel in some locations, but we'll be taking it slow.

6. About Devil’s Eyebrow Natural Area: Located at the northern end of Beaver Lake along Indian Creek and its tributaries, Devil’s Eyebrow supports one of the highest concentrations of rare plant species in Arkansas with several species typically found far to the north and others that are restricted in distribution and considered globally rare. Plant communities are diverse and include high quality glades, woodlands, bluffs, rich hardwood forests, and riparian forests.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 21st</td>
<td>Baker Prairie, Harrison, Arkansas</td>
<td>Meet at the Harrison Middle School parking lot on Goblin Drive. From Hwy. 62/65 coming into Harrison, look for Industrial Park Road. Take Industrial Park Rd. west and turn left at Goblin Drive which is past the Post Office about ¼ mile. <a href="https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-natural-heritage/naturalareas/find-a-natural-area/baker-prairie-natural-area">https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-natural-heritage/naturalareas/find-a-natural-area/baker-prairie-natural-area</a>. Directions can be found on Google. Baker Prairie is a very healthy diverse tall grass prairie remnant and was preserved in 1994 as an Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission natural area. Contact Burnetta at <a href="mailto:wbhint@gmail.com">wbhint@gmail.com</a> for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11th</td>
<td>Pope County Longpool USFS Rec. Area 10:00 am</td>
<td>Longpool USFS area. Description of site and directions are found in this link: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/osfnf/recarea/?recid=43459">https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/osfnf/recarea/?recid=43459</a>. From Dover take Arkansas 7 north for 6 miles, turn left (west) on Arkansas164 and go 3 miles, turn right (northeast) on County Road 14 and go 3 miles, then turn left (northwest) on County Road 15 and go 2 miles. 1804 is road number into rec. area. Mary Ann King’s Pineridge Gardens, Saturday afternoon To get to Pine Ridge Gardens from Long Pool take left on AR 164 then turn right on AR 7 heading south. Take right (south) on AR 333. Take right on Arkansas 333. Turn right onto Martin Chapel School Road. Turn left onto Storment Road. Turn right onto Sycamore Road. Pine Ridge Gardens is located at 832 Sycamore Rd., London AR 72847. Thanks to Kim Lovely for submitting these hikes and will be our guide.</td>
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June 25th  
9:30 a.m.  

**Osage Creek Park Trail, Bentonville, AR**

Sue Hubbard will lead us on this urban trail. June 25 Osage Park in Bentonville. 10:00 – noon. Take SW 16th Street off Sam Walton Blvd in Bentonville. You can also take SW D Street south off SW 14th Street and turn west on SW 16th. Park in the lot at the end of SW 16th. Many excellent eateries are to be found in Bentonville; we will select one to try! Compton Gardens, Crystal Bridges might be a great afternoon attraction for those who wish.

Return to Possum Trot:

Don Mills and Burnetta have been talking about returning to Possum Trot sometime this spring. Weather is always a factor this time of year, but we are hoping to try for mid-April – mid-May, at a time we don’t have another hike scheduled. I will send everyone an e-mail if and when we get this planned. It is a USFS stand that has been recognized as harboring seven different tracked plants including a population of French’s shooting star, *Dodecatheon frenchii*. Others include Ozark spiderwort, Ozark trillium, yellow mandarin, and a lily that we need to find in bloom before deciding if it is Michigan lily or *Lilium superbum*, Turk’s cap lily, a native *Lilium*. If you are interested, let Burnetta know at [wbhint@gmail.com](mailto:wbhint@gmail.com) and I will put you on the list and keep you up to date on our plans. It is a different type of forest with a subcanopy of umbrella magnolia. We last visited in 2010 following the ice storm of 2009. There were so many down branches and debris then and I am wondering if they had done a prescribed burn since then. There are at least three Possum Trots in NWA. This one is south of Nail, AR off Hwy. 16. I hope this will work out! We meet at the Nail store parking lot just off Hwy. 16 and will carpool to the site. Additional parking is found at the church parking lot across from the store.
November 6, 2021

Kim Lovely, words and photographs unless otherwise noted

Here is the link to Alum Cove, USFS, Ozark-St. Francis Forest:

OWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=FSE_003738&navid=110240000000000&pnavid=1100
0000000000&position=generalinfo&recid=43459&ttype=recarea&pname=Long
%20Pool%20Recreation%20Area

It was a joy to be among so many others that take time to look down at plants even as often as every foot along the way! For me, it was helpful to compare identification apps, a tool that more and more people in the field are warming up to. Is it a seed? Is it a fungus? Is it a plant? Just look down. (BH commentary: A guidebook or a good app like Picture This or I-Naturalist is a must when id disagreements arise. They still can’t beat a binocular microscope for seeing hairs on the backs of leaves, etc. They really help at times.)
*Mimulus guttatus*, yellow monkeyflower is found on this formation, but not in November.

In between stops, we get a chance to visit with each other. JL

Autumnal witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*

Late-blooming plant *Solidago caesia*, wreath,
Waiting anxiously for the auction to begin.

Steve Holst auctioning off plants and plant crafts, books with Steve Smith in the corner, ready to assist.
Being serenaded by Jim and David; Mary Ann and Gene knew all the words. Photo JL
Steven Foster  Feb 27, 1957 – Jan 17, 2022

We lost a dear friend, world renowned medicinal plant expert, and a great field botanist in Steven Foster. His death was a shock to the NWA community. He was always willing to share his joy, seeking knowledge of plants all over the world and sharing that knowledge with those who were interested. His nineteen publications include Petersons Field Guides to Medicinal Plants. We will miss being in the field with him, seeing the photos of his grandchildren and the plants he loved. We extend our condolences to his family and the plant lovers around the world who benefited by his life’s work.
Renew Dues for Arkansas Native Plant Society and Ozarks Chapter ANPS.

ANPS: Individual Dues $15, Family Dues $25, Contributing $30, Lifetime $150 (over 55), $300 Lifetime (under age 55)

Send request to:
Katherine Lincourt, Treasurer
2525 Charter Oak Drive
Little Rock, AR 72227

OCANPS: Individual Dues $15

Send to:
Deb Bartholomew
300 Jonathan Drive
Bentonville, AR 72612

Note: Two people had problems getting the photos to load correctly; let me know, and I will send as an attachment if you would like.