

*The purpose of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society is to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma's native plants.*

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**GOLD INSERT: ANNUAL MEETING REG.**  
**BLUE INSERT: PHOTO CONTEST FLYER**

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Summer 1997

**COPY AND ART DEADLINE  
 FOR NEXT ISSUE IS  
 15 August 1997**

☛ Contributions from members are welcome!

# Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

## CALENDAR

**Note: the events dated below are identified either by a page number for a fuller description of the event or the name of a person to contact. Phone numbers are at the bottom of the page.**

July 12	9:00 a.m., Garden tour, Rose Rock Landscaping. See p. 10
August 2	Orchid tour of SE Okla. sites. See p. 7.
September 1	Cutoff date for nominations for the Anne Long Award. (page 12)
September 8	Next evening meeting for Tulsa Chapter, Betty Kemm, Tulsa Garden Center.
September 29	Next evening meeting of the Central Chapter, 7:30 at the Horticulture Center (page 10) Speaker Jim Ottman
October 24-26	Annual Meeting at Roman Nose State Park. Reservation form included on the gold insert. Plan now to make this our best Annual Meeting ever.
October 27	Regular evening meeting of Central Ch. 7:30 p.m. Speaker Pat Folley
November 24	Regular evening meeting of Central Ch., Speaker Larry Magrath, 7:30 p.m.
December 1	Deadline for 1998 Photo Contest Entries. Now is the time to be selecting your best shots for entry. Entry form will be inserted in the Fall <i>Gaillardia</i> .

**Note: all members are invited to all chapter field trips or meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests. Many field trips are suitable for children: ask first.**

\*Betty Kemm (918)742-4351, Jim Norman (918)682-1896

#### ONPS Thanks These Special Fund Contributors

*The Harriet Barkley Fund*  
*Russel D. Grimpe, Patricia Selbert, Aline B. Romero*  
*Janet S. Slater, Forrest Johnson*

*The Anne Long Fund*  
*Aline B. Romero*

*We also acknowledge a donation to the General Fund in honor of Betty Kemm, Tulsa, by the White City Garden Club*

**PRESIDENT'S PARAGRAPH**

by Frank Carl

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society's annual meeting will be held at Roman Nose State Park near Watonga on October 24-26, 1997. This is the 11th annual meeting; however, it will be the celebration of our 10th Anniversary. The Oklahoma Native Plant Society was founded during January, 1987.

Roman Nose State Park, named after the Southern Cheyenne Chief Henry Roman Nose, is located in scenic, historical Blaine County, NW-central Oklahoma. The distinctive mesas and dramatic scenery of the area were formed by erosion of gypsum and shale laid down over 200 million years ago. The rock work in the park was constructed from 1935 to 1937 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The park lodge was opened in 1956.

There are numerous plant communities along the slopes, mesa tops, canyons and springs, all of which will be thoroughly explored during tours led by experienced field-trip leaders during the day on Saturday and Sunday morning. Also, the Red Rock Canyon near Hinton will offer habitat types of a different nature, and the opportunity to view a state record tree, the Box Elder.

Registration for the meeting is \$12.00. Registration includes the evening presentations, field trips and lodging in the sleeper cabins at Roman Nose State Park Group Camp 2. This group camp will accommodate 165 guests in ten sleeper cabins with bunk beds. Guests furnish their own linens and cleansers. The facility has restrooms/shower houses with warm water for both women and men, and a dining hall. In addition, 15 lodge rooms have been set aside. Costs are: single/double \$63, triple \$73, quad \$83. Eight cottages are also reserved. Cost for 2 to 4 people is \$73. RV and tent sites are also available in the park on a first come, first served basis. For information on fees or reservations call the Park office at (405)623-4215

Cost for meals is \$25.00, catered by End o' Main, Watonga. This includes breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, a sack lunch on Saturday and an evening meal on Saturday. Friday evening meal is not included. End O' Main has an excellent reputation for quality food and service. Meals must be ordered in advance. Please fill out the registration form (gold-paper insert) and return it with your check as soon as possible but no later than October 1, 1997. Due to the size of the Group camp we have accommodations for 165 people.

An agenda for the meeting will be available in the September issue of *The Gaillardia*. Every effort is being made to ensure this 10th Anniversary will be special. Officers and Board Members will be elected Saturday evening. A list of nominees will also be included in the September issue of *Gaillardia*.

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**HARRIET BARKLEY AWARD**

by Dr. Constance Taylor, President, Oklahoma Academy of Science

The winner of the Senior High Award in 1997 is Jess Speaker of McCloud High School in McCloud. Jess is a senior this year and his research is entitled "A Checklist of Vascular Plants and Plant Communities of Wood Duck Loop, Hughes County, Oklahoma". "Wood Duck Loop is located in the Noble Foundation Wildlife Unit and is a 3,000 acre plot of land used for wildlife management. The loop is divided into four plant communities: aquatic, ridgetop, riparian, and transition." Jess found 94 species of plants in 76 genera and 41 families.

Jess presented his paper at the Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science meeting the first weekend in April in conjunction with the state science fair. There were several excellent botany research papers presented and the selection was difficult. Bruce Smith, their sponsoring teacher, should be commended for the outstanding encouragement he has given to so many young men and women at McCloud High School.

The ONPS has voted to award both Junior High and Senior High papers, but there were no Junior High Botany papers presented this year.

Congratulations, Jess Speaker.

*(The Harriet Barkley Award includes a \$25 check and a trophy naming the individual student, his school, Harriet Barkley, and the ONPS)*

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*(For those who always look in this spot for photo contest results, please turn to page 6.)*

**Boyd Wins Snodgrass Award**

To no one's surprise but her own, our former president Ruth Boyd won the Annual Bess Snodgrass award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to wildflower conservation. Some reasons mentioned include several projects around Norman, her generous support of workshops, field trips, plant exchanges and the like with both time and efforts in planning and preparation, and her beautiful construction of the "red clay hill" native garden in Noble.

We also know that Ruth has been one of the best recruiters ONPS has ever had, promoting our cause in person and in print through her leadership on the Publicity Committee. Whenever there has been a need for letters written, phone calls made, car pools formed, or shy members encouraged, Ruth has been willing and able. Ruth, it couldn't have gone to a better or more deserving person. (Picture on page 6)

## TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### Introduction by Ruth Boyd

The ONPS as an organization has endorsed the proposed federal initiative called "Teaming with Wildlife". We can be proud of Oklahoma because as of mid April, 81 organizations and businesses have submitted endorsement letters. The entire national total is only 2000. We rank 7th in the number of endorsements received. ONPS will be represented on the OK Coalition, which has already met once and will have future meetings to plan the best strategies for getting this legislation before Congress as soon as possible.

As an organization ONPS is considered a non-consumptive user of Oklahoma's natural resources. This is our chance to make a contribution to the future health of these resources. Please read the following information and consider contacting your congressional representatives requesting that they support the legislation once it becomes a bill.



## TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE

The following press release carried this name and number for contact: Nels Rodefeld at (405)521-3856

### What is Teaming With Wildlife?

Teaming with Wildlife is a proposed federal initiative that would raise funds for state-based nongame wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental education projects. The initiative would have to be passed by Congress and signed by the President before becoming law.

### Why is Teaming With Wildlife needed?

Teaming with Wildlife would address the declines in many species that are not considered endangered or threatened. For example, many people have never seen a Texas horned lizard, or "horny toad", or have not seen one in years. Because virtually no funds exist for research on species that are not hunted, angled or considered "endangered", biologists have been unable to research why Texas horned lizards are declining, let alone propose solutions to those declines. Teaming with Wildlife's passage will

make funds available to research and restore declining wildlife species.

From backyards to the back woods, Americans are taking part in outdoor-related activities, spending billions of dollars to get outdoors. However, none of these funds return to reinvest in the resource that is being used. Likewise, human encroachment is making outdoor places more valuable and in demand than ever before. The massive number of outdoor users has a negative impact on native wildlife and on people's solitary experiences. Everybody wants the opportunity to enjoy their outdoor hobby -- whether hiking, biking, paddling or bird watching -- but with funding cuts at federal, state and local levels, it is difficult to provide quality experiences. Teaming with Wildlife would provide funds to address these needs.

Many people want and need a broad array of information about wildlife and the outdoors, but current funds don't begin to meet those needs. Teaming with Wildlife would provide funds to produce informational materials to educate people about Oklahoma's outdoor resources, how to landscape property for wildlife, where to view wildlife or where to recreate in the outdoors.

### What would Teaming with Wildlife's passage mean for Oklahoma?

If passed in its entirety, Teaming with Wildlife would raise \$350 million nationwide each year, of which \$5.5 million would return to Oklahoma for programs in the areas of nongame wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental education.

### How would Teaming with Wildlife raise money?

Teaming with Wildlife is patterned after two current conservation initiatives called the

Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs, which have funded wildlife conservation efforts for 60 years. Teaming with Wildlife funds would come from an 0.25 to 5 % user fee in the form of an excise tax on the manufacturer's price of various outdoor equipment, including binoculars, camping gear, bird houses and food, field guides, sport utility and recreation vehicles, cameras and film. It is estimated that users of these products would only have to pay an additional 5 cents on a roll of film, \$2.50 on a \$100 pair of hiking boots, or \$50 on a \$20,000 travel trailer.

### What is Teaming with Wildlife's current status?

Groundwork for Teaming with Wildlife is currently being prepared with Congress. Although a bill has not yet been introduced in Congress, it is expected to be introduced in 1997. Once a bill is introduced, Congress would have to pass it and the President would have to sign it before it would become law.

### Does anyone support Teaming with Wildlife?

Yes. Even though a surcharge or excise tax is normally unpopular, millions of Americans represented by 2,000 groups, businesses and agencies have formally endorsed the concept of Teaming with Wildlife, stating that they are willing to pay such an excise tax if its proceeds are returned to wildlife conservation,

(continued on page 11)

### CONSERVATION CORNER

#### Burn Policy at the Human Level

Dr. Sheila Strawn

The ecological impact of fire on grasslands is described and analyzed in *Fire in North American Tall-grass Prairies* (Collins and Wallace 1990). Ecologists have established that modification of natural fire regimes severely impacts biodiversity. The fires at Yellowstone National Park were so huge and so numerous that virtually everyone in the country became aware that natural fires have both positive and negative political and economic effects. Smokey the Bear now seems to be confused. He no longer says "put out all fires". He says "put out some fires". We are looking for an answer to the question, "When and where can we afford to allow natural fire to be a part of an ecosystem?"

While it is because of the fires at Yellowstone National Park that we are all aware of the need for a natural fire policy, it is because of what we learned about natural fire that we do not have such a policy. It was from her own experience in the Yellowstone fires that Wallace wrote the epilogue, "A search for paradigms". She discusses the problems involved with attempting to model the potential ecological effects of fire in order to predict their positive and negative effects. Fires are extremely heterogeneous due to differences in size, severity, and season of occurrence. Ecologists need much more information about fire in order to build a paradigm (perhaps in the form of a computer program) in which the circumstances and complex conditions of a potential fire can be input and an outcome can be predicted. The problem of creating a paradigm for a natural burn policy based on the ecological paradigm goes deeper, though, because it involves the human species. Once again, humans complicate issues in ecological research.

Consider the plight of the land owner who is concerned about how long to let a good natural fire burn before it would threaten human lives and property. Imagine a rural official trying to set a policy for deciding when landowners can or can't allow natural burns and when they should or shouldn't do controlled burns. What about elected officials who want to write laws which would allow controlled burns...and also want to be re-elected? To input such political issues in the paradigm, we have to consider what voters would want. Politicians are seldom willing to tight-rope walk a barbed wire fence. They generally jump off on onto the safe side.

On federal lands, where policy is set by someone in higher authority, decisions to enforce a burn policy;

are not easy to make. When I was doing research on Badlands National Park border land in South Dakota I became aware of how National Park burn policy was altered by the opinions, ecologically savvy or otherwise, of the landowners neighboring the park's lands. The ranchers weren't afraid that a controlled fire would spread to their own land. They were afraid the fire would cause the prairie-dog colony to spread onto their land. Park officials were aware of the importance of the colony to the ecosystem and of the importance of natural burns to the ecosystem of the park. So, due to social issues, the burn could not be done unless the prairie-dog colony was poisoned. When humans have to interpret and enforce the policies which directly affected their neighbors, social issues must be included in the paradigm.

Yes, many park employees and other nature lovers like living out in the middle of nowhere with ranchers and cattle, and that brings us to personal issues. More and more of us are living just outside of civilization because it is so peaceful, natural, and relaxing. As we move out of the city and into the country, there is less room for natural fires to burn without affecting lives and property. Fire is being restricted by our personal choices. Even when we support a burn policy which is healthier for our grassland ecosystems, we are unwilling to bring our personal decisions into alignment.

There are also fiscal issues to consider with a natural burn policy. I'm not talking about just predicting the cost of fighting a fire or the cost of property lost due to the fire, although humans have to make the decisions to draw the lines somewhere. Land managers have to give convincing reports to Congress or pay activist groups to lobby Congress in order to receive sufficient funding for burn policies. For decades federal, state, and local governments have funded firefighting. The money is already there to fight fires. If the money is not spent to fight fires it must be returned to the budget for other expenditures. On the other side of the barbed wire, historically there has been little funding for controlled burns and in these conservative times it may be a while before it is seriously funded.

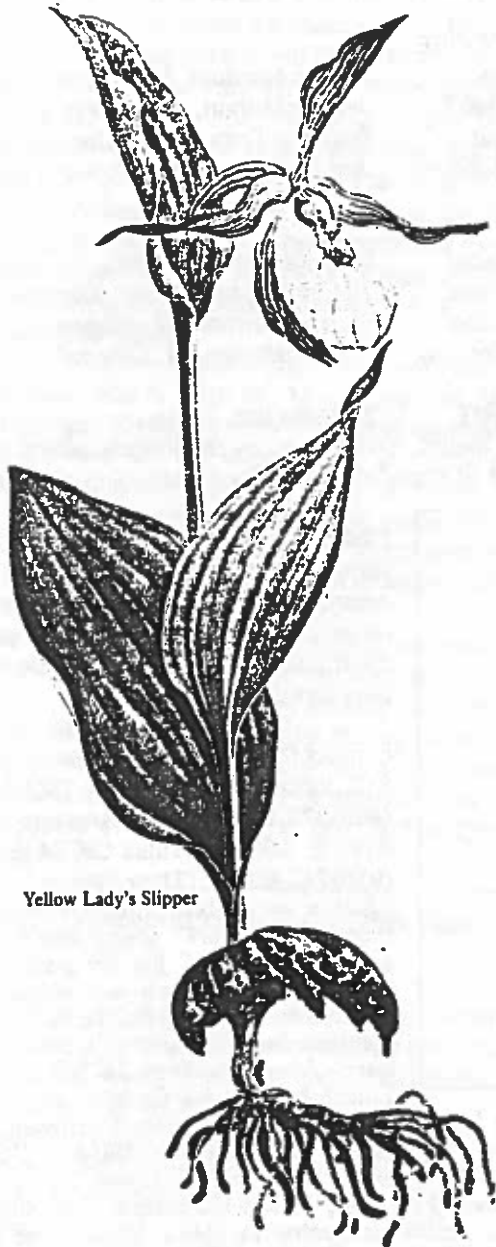
Making a decision to follow the burn policy is different from making the burn policy. That's where fiscal problems become social problems. Wildfire firefighters don't get paid unless there is a fire to fight. Does the land manager use these firefighters to put out ALL fires or can natural fires be allowed to burn in areas which would benefit from fire? If too many seasons went by when there was no natural fire to be fought, would firefighters have to find another way to make a living? They may not be around when the computer model fails to predict Yellowstone Fires II. Even when we have computer models that tell us when it is 95% probable that it is okay to burn, we will still have problems making decisions which affect our neighbors. If an official allows a fire to burn when the model says to and the fire gets out of hand and damages property or costs lives, the manager could lose his/her job as well as the lives of friends or neighbors. Even that small amount of unpredictability will be a factor in the decision to send out the firefighters.

(continued on page 8)

## BOTANY BAY

by Dr. Larry Magrath, Professor of Botany and Interdisciplinary Studies at USAO, Chickasha, Curator of the USAO Herbarium

Since I usually write a technical column about native orchids, I thought I might try something different and submit a piece of poetry that I wrote in 1990 for the Oklahoma Orchid Society Membership Directory. I wonder if there might be more budding poets out there....If so, let me encourage you to submit some poetry to the editor.....who knows, we might start something new.



Yellow Lady's Slipper

*Lady's-slipper*

*In a forest cathedral  
made by no man's hand.  
fashioned of trees  
some great and some small.  
I walked in awe  
upon the softest of carpets  
woven upon no loom  
in softly filtered pale green light  
shot through with rays of gold  
and purest white  
while round me sounded the sweetest  
most innocent hymns of all  
sung by God's small feathered  
creatures.*

*Then I saw it standing tall  
swaying slightly in the gentle breeze  
stem and leaves of emerald green  
with a golden slipper at its tip.  
The golden lip rimmed round with red  
a miniature cathedral of light  
with a staminode  
for a pulpit.*

*God's hands have touched all  
but with this perfect creation  
His hands must have lingered long.  
How else account for such beauty  
as the lady's-slipper's  
one and all?*

(This was written after spending an entire day measuring Cypripedium kentuckiense plants and flowers, while sitting and scooting through poison ivy, fighting off mosquitoes and being stared at by various other creatures, who no doubt wondered what that crazy human was doing.)



## 20TH ANNUAL WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP

by Joanne Orr, Beautification Coordinator, Oklahoma Department of Transportation

The celebration of the 20th Annual Wildflower Workshop held in Duncan on May 9 and 10 was a blooming success! On behalf of the co-sponsoring organizations, let me thank you for your part in that success. The evaluation forms filled out at the seminar were very complimentary about the quality of the speakers and the variety of interesting topics.

Our total attendance for the 1997 two-day workshop was a little over 160. The workshop rotates around the state every year, and the 21st Annual Workshop will be held in the far southwestern section of Oklahoma in 1998. Hope you can join us then, too!

The co-sponsors of the Wildflower Workshops are the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, the Oklahoma State Garden Clubs, and the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. Our local co-sponsors this year were the Duncan Garden Clubs.

The Simmons Center was a beautiful facility in which to have the seminar. The nature walk through the Waurika Lake area and our adventures through the fields of wildflowers proved exhilarating for the participants. Later, Henley's Herb Farm provided a refreshing herb tea drink and cookies for a boost to carry us through the afternoon. Great fun was had by all with nary a snake to be seen!

entries. These were Linda Lockett of Color Chrome in Norman and Professor Andrew Strout from the University of Oklahoma. The Photography Committee thanks both the contestants for their photographs and also the judges for selecting the winners.

### The Winners!

#### BEGINNERS

- 1st Place: Priscilla Iba, Tulsa  
2nd Place: Leslie Cole-Jackson, Edmond  
3rd Place: M. Ryan Schmitz, Noble

#### AMATEUR CLOSE-UP

- 1st Place: Julia Lewis, Flower Mound, TX  
2nd Place: Dylan Wilson, Norman  
3rd Place: Priscilla Iba, Tulsa  
Honorable Mention: Priscilla Iba, Tulsa

#### ADVANCED CLOSE-UP

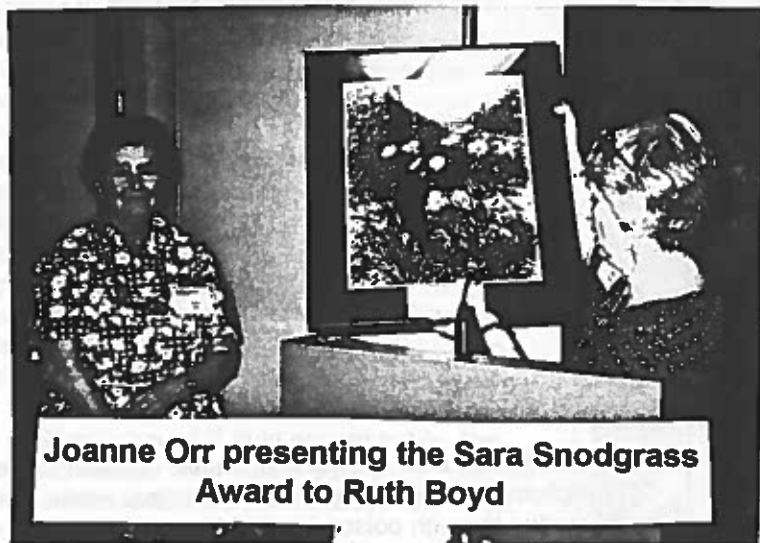
- 1st Place: James Norman, Muskogee  
2nd Place: Jeri McMahon, Ft. Gibson  
3rd Place: Barbara Tarbutton, Noble  
Honorable Mention: Jeri McMahon, Ft. Gibson

#### HABITAT

- 1st Place: Patricia Folley, Noble  
2nd Place: Anton Kammerlocher, Norman  
3rd Place: James Norman, Muskogee  
Honorable Mention: Jeri McMahon, Ft. Gibson

#### SPECIAL MERIT

Priscilla Iba, Tulsa  
(This is a new award, determined by the judges, which represents a "best of show" category for outstanding pictures.)



Joanne Orr presenting the Sara Snodgrass Award to Ruth Boyd

### 1997 Photography Contest

The Oklahoma wildflower photography contest is sponsored by the ONPS and presented at the annual Wildflower Workshops. Our contest co-chairmen are Bob and Emma Crane, who recruited two outstanding experts to judge the

Oklahoma; Pat Folley, book reviews; Virginia Pattinson, Piedmont; on natural plant dyes; Dr. Phillip Mulder, OSU, Bugs, Bees and Wildflowers; Roy Smith, Texas DOT, the Texas Wild-flower Program; Susan Chambers, Red Rock Landscaping, on water gardening in native landscapes; Dr. Bruce Hoagland, Oklahoma Biological Survey, the cone-flower (Echinacea) crisis, and Dr. Paul Buck, Tulsa, previewing the regional wildflowers.)

ONPS provides cash awards to each winner, along with a certificate of award. All entries are mounted on large display boards, protected with clear plastic, and kept on public display throughout the state.

To schedule a display time, contact Photo Curators Ruth Boyd, 812 Jordan Dr., Noble OK 73068, (405)872-9652; or Sue Amstutz, 4190 E. 46th Pl., Tulsa OK 74135, (918)742-8374. (They deliver.) (Just a note about the Workshop from your editor: space didn't permit reviews of the program speakers, all of them well-prepared and worth hearing, but I'd like to mention their names, at least. Dr. Larry Magrath, from UASO in Chickasha, on the Orchids of

## FIELD TRIP NEWS

by Pat Folley, with help from Jeff Burkhart, Jim Norman, and Ruth Boyd

By the time you get this newsletter, the White Oak field trip will be history, but as it falls between the makeup and mailing dates for this quarter, it is not possible to report this time. Hope all of you went, and had a good time!

The Annual Orchid Tour is the next scheduled statewide event. That's on Saturday, August 2. We will assemble at the first parking/picnic loop in Raymond Gary State Park at 9 a.m. To reach R.G.S.P., turn south about 2 miles from US 70 on SH 209, which is between Ft. Towson and Valliant, or about 12 miles east of Hugo. The actual sites visited will be determined somewhat by the weather at the time, but we've never yet failed to see the yellow fringed orchid, *Platanthera ciliaris*, a stunning orange orchid that may grow knee-high and in large groups (think photographs!). For some of us, the best part of the orchid tour is the opportunity to visit other plants of the southeastern bogs which accompany the orchids and are even more rare, if less photogenic.

Please register your intent with Jim Norman, 502 N. 14th St., Muskogee, OK 74401-3103 / ph. (918)682-1896. There is no charge for the field trip, but a lunch stop at a local cafe is usually on the agenda. Dress for muddy trails in heavily vegetated terrain. The stops are short enough that heat is not usually a problem (bring the air-conditioned car). Small children, pets, and plant collecting are discouraged, as these sites contain many rare plants and animals. Those coming from across the state should know that our orchid bloom usually coincides with a blue-grass festival that fills up the local motels that weekend. Really, it's a lot of fun, and first-timers are always amazed at how enjoyable a "bog-crawl" can be -- in the right company!

## Remembrance of Field Trips Past

by Pat Folley

It seems that this spring has been one continuous field trip, but that's because I've been doing a field survey at Pontotoc Ridge. The more official field trips included these:

**Boehler Seeps and Sandhills**, located in Atoka County near the Muddy Boggy River, is a wonderland of sandy soil over a soggy base that holds water at or near ground level. This is a large preserve, owned by The Nature Conservancy, and handily bisected by a paved highway.

Twenty-eight ONPS members and

friends assembled at the entrance at 1 p.m. on April 5, following the leadership of TNC's Jim Erwin and Drs. Connie Taylor and Ron Tyrl. Dismal reports of severe damage to the beaver ponds turned out to have been rather exaggerated, and the preserve was as lovely as we'd remembered.

*Sassafras albidum*, *Cornus florida*, *Quercus incana* and a few other trees were in bloom, though it was too early for the true wetland plants (see Orchid Tour, at left). The most excitement was generated by large horn-shaped mushrooms that turned out to be *Urnula craterium* and a mossy bank studded with tiny sundews, *Drosera annua*.

Emerging fiddleheads of the large ferns *Osmunda regalis* and *Osmunda cinnamomea* (royal and cinnamon ferns) caused their share of excitement, too. On the south side, a visit to the larger Boehler lake revealed a stunning colony of *Verbena canadense* on a burned area.

## FIELD TRIP RULES

- > **Pre-registration is now required for all field trips.**
- > Announcements will include the name, address, and telephone number of the leader. If you have doubts about terrain, difficulty, etc., ask.
- > Field trips take place rain or shine. Proper dress and shoes, hat, etc., are essential. Long pants and sleeves are best, as some of the best flowers grow in thickets.
- > Bring lunch or a hearty snack and water, unless advised that they will be provided. Sunscreen and insect repellent are always a good idea.
- > Participation is at your own risk.
- > All ONPS field trips are open to the public at no charge, unless per-member charges are indicated in the announcement. Visitors and friends are always welcome. Many of our field trips are suitable for children, but pets are not allowed. If in doubt, ask.
- > **These rules apply to chapter-initiated field trips too.**

## COURKAMP WINS AGAIN

Kari Courkamp, of McLoud Oklahoma, won at least two of the Harriet Barkley awards for "best paper" at the Oklahoma Junior Academy of Science competition during her high school career. We just got word that Kari has taken fourth place in the International Science Fair for her last paper. Kari will graduate from McLoud this spring, and we will follow her career with interest.

Congratulations are due, as well, to Dr. Bruce Smith, the McLoud High School teacher who has contributed a Harriet Barkley award winner every year of the past five, and to her parents, for a job well-done.

(Continued from page 3: Burn policy)

Ecologists have the physical problem of constructing a paradigm for predicting the positive and negative effects of a fire. However, that problem pales when we consider the problems we have with constructing a paradigm for deciding when to let a natural fire burn or to conduct a controlled burn. Because humans will have to make decisions that affect other humans we need to understand how those decisions affect us personally, socially, politically, and economically (Czech, B. 1996). The reality of the problem that the idealist must learn to deal with is that, even though we are sometimes unwilling to admit it, we are the problem because we are human; because we care about each other.

Scott L. Collins and Linda L. Wallace 1990, *Fire in the North American Tallgrass Prairies*, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

Czech, B. 1996, Challenges to establishing and implementing a sound natural fire policy. *Renewable Resources Journal* 14:2:14-19.

(Sheila is the new Chairman of the Central Chapter. For more about Sheila Strawn, see page 10)

Found in the Missouri Native Plant Society's Newsletter "Petal Pusher" for March - April 1997:

#### Miracle Plants

A health food store advertisement recently promoted a product called "Rescue Remedy", supposedly having a positive, calming and stabilizing effect in extremely stressful situations; the material contains a combination of five specific remedies. After walking untold hours through the countryside, the developer became convinced that something in the soothing world of nature could be harnessed to help people, thus arriving at a combination of plant essences: rock rose (for fright and panic), impatiens, (for irritation), clematis (for faint-headedness), star of Bethlehem (for emotional stress and shock) and cherry plum (for uncontrolled, irrational thoughts).

Although reduced from \$14.95 to \$10.95 for a 20 ml (about 2/3 fluid ounce) bottle, the price still seems fairly steep, especially since in some circles, a Budweiser has been known to have similar soothing effects.

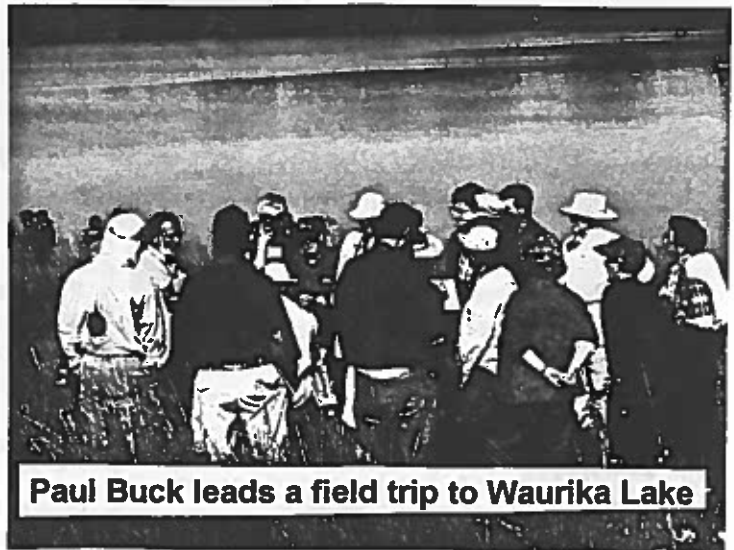
#### WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP VIEWS



Loretta Bowers in her portable garden



Frank Carl presents a photo contest prize to Barbara Tarbutton



Paul Buck leads a field trip to Waurika Lake



## NE CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

by Betty Kemm

Both the March 10 and May 5 chapter meetings were potluck suppers, which are always well-attended. There were 40 at the March meeting to hear Carol Earnes talk about natural plantings and wildlife habitats. She is the Education Director at Tulsa's Mohawk Park Zoo. Her home will be on the "Make Every Home a Habitat" tour June 7 & 8.

Thirty-seven attended the May Chapter Meeting. Dr. Martin Stone and his wife, Joleen, brought a wonderful assortment of native plants from their nursery at Claremore. Martin described the sun-loving plants and their needs. Joleen presented the shade plants. They will have plants for sale at one of the homes on the June 7-8 tours.

The NE chapter had a wonderful field trip on March 23. 25 members and guests were hosted by Mary and Bruce Richie, who live in Welling. We visited property owned by her brother. It is on a beautiful clear stream which is a tributary of the Baron's Fork River east of Tahlequah. The early spring flowers were beautiful -- especially bloodroot, toothwort, woodland

phlox and serviceberry. We made a second stop at a churchyard north of Tahlequah where the hill was covered with Ducthman's breeches and found yellow trout lilies.

Then, on April 22 Betty Kemm, Sue Amstutz and Marcie Goad presented five programs at Jenks West elementary school for their Earth Day Celebration. Jim Norman led an impromptu field trip to see yellow ladies' slippers and wild azaleas on May 6. Jim led\* another field trip on Friday, May 16 to a prairie south-west of Muskogee where there were found many individuals of the newly re-named Oklahoma grass pink, *Calopogon oklahomensis*. Two stems of the ragged orchid, *Platanthera lacera*, were found in bud, and a wonderful display of skullcaps, Indian paintbrush, prairie larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum*), prairie roses, sedges, grasses, com-salad (*Valerianella sp.*), a lacy yellow carrot-like plant, possibly *Thaspium trifoliatum*, *Clematis pitcherei*, called leather flower, in bud only, worlds of the little prairie daisy *Astranthium integrifolium*, and a lovely little *Penstemon*, possibly *P. laxiflorus*. We found the orchids also at a prairie near Taft. \*These details inserted by Pat Folley, who was able to be along, thanks to Jim and Marion Norman, who loaned me a room and their company for the night. There were only nine of us on that trip, but we were as appreciative as an army!

Plan now for: August 2, the annual Orchid tour (page 7). Next evening meeting, September 9th at the Tulsa Garden Center.

*The following article was clipped from the Mississippi Native Plant Society Newsletter.*

### Environmentally and Economically Beneficial Practices on Federal Landscaped Grounds

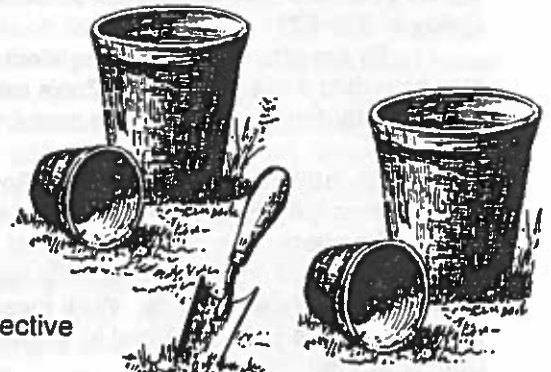
On April 26, 1994 President Clinton issued a memorandum which ordered federal agencies to put into use more environmentally responsible landscaping practices. He directed that "agencies shall, where cost-effective and to the extent practicable":

- ☞ Use regionally native plants for landscaping
- ☞ Design, use or promote construction practices that minimize adverse effects on the natural habitat
- ☞ Reduce pollution through reduced fertilizer and pesticide use
- ☞ Impliment water-efficient practices
- ☞ Create outdoor demonstrations to promote awareness of the environmental and economic benefits of implementing the directive

This was it. The memo that I had been looking for. As a federal employee and a native plant enthusiast I took a copy to the Area Director and explained to him that I would like to begin such a sight at the Stoneville MS installation. Politics and government paperwork being what they are I had to fill out appropriate forms requesting to 'farm' certain areas on the complex. And 'farm' I have. Since the fall of 1994 I have planted two flower beds at the exit of the parking lot and last spring began a planting around the employees pavilion, both filled with southeastern native or naturalized plants. The comments have been an overwhelming 'thumbs up'.

Over half of the plants are seedlings or divisions from my garden and that of a friend with extras to share. Last spring monies were made available and I was able to finish filling in both of the existing beds and begin on the pavilion bed. This spring I will begin placing permanent markers in the planting labeling plants with both scientific and common names and holding Brown Bag Lunches under the pavilion for those employees that want to learn more about native plants. Can one person really make a difference? I hope so.

-Lynn Libous-Bailey



## CENTRAL CHAPTER REPORTS

by Dr. Sheila Strawn, Chairman of ONPS Central Chapter\*

We are currently working on by-laws for the Central Chapter, based on those of the N.E. Chapter. The duties of the Central Chapter officers are a little more than two people can handle and we are currently looking for a "Chairman Elect"/ Program Chairman. Regular elections will not be held until February or March. The previous chapter administration has presented many excellent programs and still has several programs planned for the near future. However, we still need programs for February and March 1998 to fill out our year. Please let us know if you can help in any way.

On March 31 the Central Chapter elected those presented for nomination by a nominating committee composed of Judy Jordan, Leslie Cole-Jackson, and Jerry Brown. Sheila Strawn is now Chapter Chairman and Virginia Pattinson is Chapter Secretary-Treasurer. Bob and Emma Crane presented slides and a video of their trip to Alaska last summer.

On Saturday, May 24, Central Chapter finally got to visit the rural property of Tina Julich, after being rained out on the first planned date. Twenty-six good folks came out for the picnic and plant exchange. Some came from as far away as Lawton, Edmond and Douglas.

It was so "interesting" doing plant ID's without Pat to tell us their names that we are considering a one-day "seminar" on using keys, to be held at the OU Herbarium in Norman, during the summer. *Anyone who is interested should contact Sheila Strawn at 733-0864 or Pat Folley at 872-8361.*

By the time this newsletter is out, we will also have had a trip to the OKC Zoo's new Butterfly Garden on June 14. I'm sure it was fantastic.

On July 12 we will be touring Rose Rock Landscaping's 12-acre garden. Wayne & Susan Chambers have a huge variety of flowers, trees and shrubs -- especially native species -- and water gardens. We'll meet at 9:00 a.m. at 238 E. Robin Road in Midwest City. Cold drinks will be provided.

There is no August meeting (see page 7 for a field trip) but on September 29 Jim Ottman, Director of the Oklahoma Chapter of Bat Conservancy of America, will tell us about bats and how they are important to our native species and vice-versa. This meeting will be indoors at our regular meeting site, the Kirkpatrick Horticultural Center in Oklahoma City at NW 4th at Portland, south of the OSU-OKC campus.

At the October 27 meeting Pat Folley will present another information-filled slide program called "Native Plants to Feed Wild Critters" at 7:30 p.m. in the Horticulture center, and on November 24th Larry Magrath of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha will present a program about "Penstemons", including an Oklahoma endemic (occurring only in Oklahoma) species. That program will also be in the Horticulture Center at 7:30.

If you're not already receiving Central Chapter meeting notice postcards and would like to take part in our activities, please call and we'll put you on our mailing list. It costs nothing extra to be affiliated with either chapter and belonging to the Central Chapter doubles your opportunities for enjoying native plants.

**See you on the next Central Chapter field trip!**  
Sheila Strawn, ph. 733-0864



\*Introducing our new Chairman, Sheila Strawn. Sheila has been a high-school biology teacher in the past, but recently completed her doctorate in Grassland Ecology at OU. She lives in Midwest City with husband Steve, Son Erik and daughter Andrea. She hopes to continue her teaching career, now at college level. Sheila lists among

her hobbies photography, field-tripping, needlework, writing and cooking. Her goal for ONPS, and especially the Central Chapter is "more educational outreach". (see the next paragraph)

### OUTREACH PROGRAMS

by Patricia Folley

ONPS now has two programs, running about 30 minutes each, available for mail-order. These consist of 80 35-mm slides, a taped-and-timed audio narrative, and a printed speaker's guide (alternative presentation methods). In our efforts to provide quality information state-wide, we have in the past been handicapped by the lengthy (and expensive) distances necessary for our speakers to travel. Titles already completed are "Native Plants for Wildlife" and "The Shy, the Rare, and the Wonderful". A future offering will provide 140 of Dr. Doyle McCoy's beautiful slides made for the *Roadside Wildflowers of Oklahoma*, again with taped or printed text. We are grateful to Dr. McCoy for allowing us to use his pictures.

All three programs will be mailed to non-profit entities (schools, garden clubs, etc.) at no charge except cost of postage to-and-from. They may also be distributed through the local chapters, similarly to the poster displays. To reserve a program, call Pat Folley at (405)872-8361 or write to 15100 Etowah Rd., Noble OK 73068.

(continued from page 3): Teaming with Wildlife) outdoor recreation and environmental education projects. Teaming with Wildlife also has been formally endorsed by 11 governors. More than 80 Oklahoma businesses and organizations -- representing more than 25,000 residents -- are part of the national coalition.

**Is Teaming with Wildlife an Anti-hunting or Animal Rights Initiative?**

No. Teaming with Wildlife is a conservation initiative that would allow state wildlife agencies to expand their constituencies by meeting the needs of outdoor users. This would in turn generate support for traditional forms of outdoor recreation (hunting and fishing) by educating wildlife enthusiasts who do not hunt or fish about the many contributions that hunters and anglers have made to conservation.

**How can people support this initiative?**

Congressional representatives need to hear what their constituents think about Teaming with Wildlife before they will support its legislation. Supporters should remember that Teaming with Wildlife is vitally needed to address fish and wildlife conservation, recreation and education. Likewise, extensive surveys have shown that consumers are willing to pay a modest user fee in the form of an

excise tax if they are assured that it is legally dedicated to those purposes. Finally, Congressional support of this conservation initiative is necessary for Teaming with Wildlife to pass.

**Where can people get more information on Teaming with Wildlife?**

To join Oklahoma's "Team Wildlife" or for more information, contact the Wildlife Diversity Program, 1801 N. Lincoln, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or call (405)521-4616.

**ONPS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

Rose C. Gideon, Norman  
Deborah Kurtz, Norman  
Madeline Tower, Oklahoma City  
Cherie Bryant, Norman  
Chet & Maureen Bynum, Norman  
Lou Donham, Purcell  
Brenda Rideout, Norman  
Robyn Stroup, Tulsa  
Rita & Robin White, Checotah  
Joy Avery, Tulsa  
Evelyn Friedman, Norman  
Katherine Monna Hansen, Tulsa  
Mack & Helen Hickey, Tulsa  
Gretchen Lowsley, Norman  
Brian Magott, Durant  
Sharon & Robert Martin, Bennington  
Sally Crockett Pritchard, Oklahoma City  
Robert Wann, Tulsa  
John & Nancy Wheat, Tulsa

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Please renew my membership in the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, or add the name below to the membership list in the category checked.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION (School, Business or Avocation) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS PHONE( ) \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ please don't list my phone

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 Student \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Gift from \_\_\_\_\_

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ \$300.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_ or \$200.00 Individual. ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

DONATION TO: ANNE LONG FUND \_\_\_\_\_ HARRIET BARCLAY FUND \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am enclosing an additional \$2.50 (to cover cost of printing and mailing) for a complete ONPS directory.

Please make checks payable to *Oklahoma Native Plant Society* and mail to:  
**Oklahoma Native Plant Society / 2435 South Peoria / Tulsa, OK 74114**

**The Gaillardia**

Published quarterly by the Oklahoma Native  
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2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa OK 74114

President:	Frank Carl
Vice President	Ann Randle
Secretary	Clare Miller
Treasurer	Judy Jordan
Historian	Karen Haworth

Boardmembers-at-Large  
1997: Mike Palmer and Richard Bradley  
1998: Sheila Strawn and Betty Kernm  
1999: Lynn Allen and Sue Amstutz

Edited by Patricia Folley  
Copy to: 15100 Etowah Road, Noble OK 73068  
Telephone (405)872-8361

*Gaillardia* articles may be reprinted at will. Please  
acknowledge the source and author!

**RENEWAL ALERT!!** Please look at the  
expiration date on the label below, and if it's  
not '97 or later, send in your dues. We don't  
want to lose you.

Oklahoma Native Plant Society  
c/o Tulsa Garden Center  
2435 South Peoria  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

**REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS**

Each year at the Annual Meeting (in 1997, October 24-26),  
an award is made in the name of Anne Long, one of the  
organizers of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, who died  
before it became a reality. Anne loved the native plants of  
Oklahoma and the people who cared enough to preserve  
them.

Nominations for this award may be made by any  
ONPS member, and are for a person or organization who  
has been a shining example of the execution of our  
Purpose during the past year or years. Members of the  
current Board, though, are not eligible for the award (those  
listed in the box at the left). To refresh your memory, the  
Purpose is stated on page 1, under the logo.

**RULES:** Send the name of the person or group you  
wish to nominate, with your own name and address to:

Dr. Paul Buck, 1623 S. Delaware Pl., Tulsa, OK  
74104-5915.

On a separate sheet, explain why you think the  
nominee deserves the award. All nominations are kept  
confidential, and the names of the nominator(s) are not  
revealed.

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## OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY: 1998 PHOTO CONTEST

1. THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ALL PHOTOS ENTERED BECOME THE PROPERTY OF ONPS, TO BE USED FOR DISPLAYS OR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES. ONPS WILL ATTEMPT TO CREDIT PHOTOGRAPHERS.
2. PHOTOGRAPHS ENTERED ARE TO BE OF NATIVE PLANTS GROWING WILD IN OKLAHOMA.
3. ENTRY MUST BE MADE BEFORE 1 DECEMBER 1997.
4. EACH CONTESTANT MAY ENTER A MAXIMUM OF THREE UNMOUNTED COLOR PRINTS IN EACH OF TWO CATEGORIES, A TOTAL OF SIX PHOTOS. THEY MAY BE NO SMALLER THAN 4" X 6" NOR LARGER THAN 5" X 7".
5. A LABEL WITH THE CONTESTANT'S NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, CATEGORY ENTERED AND THE NAME AND LOCATION OF THE PLANT (IF KNOWN) MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF EACH PRINT.
6. THERE IS AN ENTRY FEE OF TWO DOLLARS (\$2.00) PER CONTESTANT. THIS FEE COVERS ONE TO SIX ENTRIES.
7. ENTRIES WILL BE IN THESE FOUR CATEGORIES:  
  
BEGINNERS - FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER PLACED IN ONE OF OUR CONTESTS BEFORE. (ANY STYLE)  
  
AMATEUR CLOSE-UP - FOR ADULTS WHO HAVE NOT PLACED IN AN ONPS CONTEST BEFORE. IMAGES SHOULD SHOW SUBJECTS LESS THAN ONE FOOT (12 INCHES) ACROSS.  
  
ADVANCED CLOSE-UP - FOR ALL ENTRANTS WHO HAVE PLACED IN ONE OF OUR PREVIOUS CONTESTS, OR WHO CHOOSE TO ENTER AS "ADVANCED". THE SUBJECT SHOULD BE LESS THAN 12" ACROSS.  
  
HABITAT - MAY SHOW ONE PLANT OR A GROUP OF PLANTS, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE PLANT'S COMMUNITY. OPEN TO ALL.
8. CONTESTANTS MAY WIN ONLY ONE CASH PRIZE PER CATEGORY. PRIZES ARE: FIRST, \$50.00; SECOND, \$25.00; THIRD, \$15.00. HONORABLE MENTIONS WILL BE AWARDED AS THE JUDGES DETERMINE. A special prize of \$75 has been added for "Best of Show"
9. A SPECIAL MERIT CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED FOR THE BEST PHOTO FROM A "BOTANICAL" POINT OF VIEW. ALL ENTRIES ARE AUTOMATICALLY CONSIDERED FOR THIS AWARD.
10. PHOTOGRAPHS ENTERED IN PREVIOUS CONTESTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. PICTURES NEED NOT HAVE BEEN TAKEN DURING THE PAST YEAR. PHOTOS NOT MEETING ALL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
11. AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE OKLAHOMA WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP in May, 1998. PRIZES WILL BE MAILED TO THOSE WHO CANNOT BE PRESENT.
12. ENTRIES AND \$2 ENTRY FEE SHOULD BE MAILED TO: ONPS PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST, c/o Bob & Emma Crane, 1012 Greenway Cir., Norman, OK 73072. Questions ? call them at (405)321-1384 or Ruth Boyd at 872-9652.

### OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S 1998 PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF ENTRIES SUBMITTED \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORIES ENTERED \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND ONPS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_ THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED