Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

Oct 16,17,18, 2015 ONPS Annual Meeting, @ University of Oklahoma Biological Station, Lake Texoma. Join meeting with Friends of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station.

Fabulous Wildflower Fridays, at 5:30 the third Friday of each month at Panera at 41st Street and Hudson Avenue.

Note: all members are invited to all meetings, including board meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests.

WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

David Arbor, De Queen, AR
Dina Atnip, Marlow
Dana Brunson, Stillwater
Joseph Cepeda, Canyon, TX
AaronCowen, Edmond
Joseph DeMuynck, Tulsa
Nicholi Dillow, Durant
Jacon Dyer, Tulsa
Larry Erickson, Coucil Bluffs, IA
Carolyn Fairless, Sand Springs
Christoph Filing, Tulsa
Linda Kaye Green, Madill
Holly Hunter, Mesquite, TX
Sheldon Lackey, Edmond
Kathye Malcolm, Marlow
Hayley Marks, Edmond
Jennie Patterson, Norman
Glenna Pickens, Westville
Jim Pugh, Kingston
Mary Jac Rauh, Okeene
Joanne Ryan, Tishomingo
Jean Schucker, Medicine Park
David Seat, Edmond
Sue Smith, El Reno
Joi Taylor, Weleetka
Craig Waldron, Tulsa
Maura Wood, Checotah

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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Fall 2015

INSIDE THIS EDITION

ONPS website: www.oknativeplants.org

Email: oknativeplants@yahoo.com

COPY AND ART DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS

November 10, 2015

Upcoming Events/Activities
(check the ONPS website for more details)

Dr. Doug Tallamy speaks
Friday August 21 at the Tulsa Garden Center
6:30pm
Saturday August 22 at OSU/OKC 2:30pm

ONPS THANKS THE FOLLOWING DONORS

Julie Skye, General Fund

William Buck, General Fund

James Earl Weaver, II
June 30, 1941-June 20, 2015

ONPS has lost a beloved member with the passing of James. Brilliant, inquisitive, and a person of many interests, he was a faithful member who will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Klein, two daughters and two granddaughters.

2015 ANNE W. LONG AWARD for the Promotion of Native Plants

Please consider making a nomination for the Anne Long Award, which is given in remembrance and honor of one of the ONPS founders, and an early state leader in wildflower protection. The award recognizes individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the stated purpose of ONPS. Nominations must be in writing, and must include the complete names of the individual(s) making the nomination and the nominee(s); a contact person if the nominee is an organization or group; and sufficient documentation of the nominee's activities promoting native plants. For additional information, or to see a list of previous winners, please see the ONPS Awards page on the ONPS Website.

Send or e-mail nominations by September 10th to:

Gloria Caddell
Interim Associate Dean, College of Mathematics and Science
University of Central Oklahoma
Edmond, OK 73034

gcaddell@uco.edu

From the Editor
Marilyn Stewart

When I joined ONPS many years ago I, like many of you perhaps, was afraid I would be completely in over my head. I was painfully aware of how little I knew and here were all these people with so many degrees and such a depth of experience. The first time I met Pat Folley I was so in awe I couldn't speak!

I was certainly right about how little I knew (and know), and appreciate and treasure the variety of perspectives that exists in our group. Yes, we have botanists who are generous in sharing their knowledge, but we also have those who notice the smallest of the plants that others may overlook, those who can offer anecdotes about plant usage, those who simply enjoy the beauty of our native flora and some that just want to learn what those plants are by the side of the road. I've never left a field trip feeling like it was a waste of time. Hopefully the Gaillardia will continue to reflect these different perspectives and the curiosity that seems to be the common denominator for our group. If you have any comments about what you would like to see included in these pages or would like to submit an article or photograph please contact me at oknativeplants@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN
Joe Roberts

I have a confession to make. Despite being the President of this fine society, I am a poor gardener. I really just joined to improve my ID skills when outdoors. My own home's garden, established before I joined the ONPS, is a stereotype of typical suburban ones, with a host of non-native ornamentals interspersed among weeds I am too lazy to pull. A more perfect picture of hum-drum could not be drawn. My wife has been after me for some time to "do something with" our flowerbeds. I tried several ideas; all of them failures, unless you are a weed. But this year I tried something new. I bought some perennial natives and native wildflower seed (see our supplier list on the website). The effort I put into it went something like this: 1. Dig small holes, put perennials in. 2. Open seed packs, scatter seed. 3. Water. Done. My kind of gardening. I waited a month or so for a result. First thing I noticed was how badly I overseeded. I don't care. Shades out the weeds. Secondly, the pre-bloom greenery is almost as interesting as the flowers. Texture

garden! Like I knew what I was doing! Then, the blooms came. It is amazing. I am outside every day, just looking at them. I don't know if I'm more astounded by their beauty or my success. This morning I woke up late since it is the 4th of July. My 8-yr old son had gotten up earlier, and was playing a (ugh) video game. I made coffee, and suggested he join me in the garden, to which he declined. The garden is so active with life that I pulled a chair out to the border and sat with my cup of coffee just watching it, like watching some David Attenborough nature documentary, but it's real and right there in front of you. To my surprise, my son came out a few minutes later and pulled a chair out beside mine. We sat and watched as a parade of flies, bees, wasps, beetles, butterflies, spiders, caterpillars, etc., moved around in the "jungle" that we had wrought. I showed him a few plants and told him their names, trying hard not to ruin the moment by overteaching. I let him ask questions, which he did. We counted the type of plants, then the number of species of bees and flies we saw. Nine plants, 7 species of bees, at least 10 species of flies, including one spectacular green-eyed one that looked like a bee. He called it a bee, and I was able to sneak in a quick lesson about mimicry, leaving the difference between Batesian and Mullerian for another day. We continued our observations for another 20 minutes or so, then his attention span finally ran out and he went back inside. I stayed out a while longer till the sun drove me too back indoors. Thirty dollars of plants and seed. Fifteen minutes to plant. No maintenance to speak of. Twenty minutes, just him and I sitting and talking, enjoying the native garden and the tiny ecosystem it supports. How much is that worth?

A person who knows how much it is worth is **Doug Tallamy, and he is coming to Oklahoma August 21 and 22 to give talks in Tulsa and OKC!** Dr. Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. He is a huge native plant proponent, and the author of **Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens**, which was awarded the 2008 Silver Medal by the Garden Writers' Association. He also co-authored

The Living Landscape with Rick Darke. Among his awards are the Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation and the Tom Dodd, Jr. Award of Excellence. You don't want to miss this! He'll be speaking in Tulsa on Friday, August 21st, then in OKC on Saturday, August 22nd. For more information, visit our website at oknativeplants.org.

Annual meeting 2015 at University of Oklahoma Biological Station at Lake Texoma

The ONPS annual meeting for 2015 will be held at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station October 16th through 18th. We will hold our meeting in conjunction with the meeting of the Friends of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station. You can register on our website oknativeplants.org , or by using the form in this edition of the Gaillardia. We will have interesting speakers, guided field trips, and time for relaxing and socializing at a great facility in a relaxing setting. You won't want to miss this meeting! If you are new to the ONPS, please come and see what we are all about! PLEASE REGISTER EARLY (LIKE, NOW!). REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCT 2nd. After that, we might be able to get you in, but cannot guarantee you a room or meals.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Cross-Timbers Chapter
Elaine Lynch

Cross-Timbers will be sponsoring a table at the OSU Botanical Garden's GardenFest on Saturday, September 26th. This will be our fourth year at GardenFest and our second to sell merchandise.

We are still looking for a new chair to replace Mark Fishbein and someone to fill our vacant vice-chair position. Anyone interested should contact Elaine Lynch at mneslynch@yahoo.com.

Under Utilized Native Grasses for Your Garden

Adam Sarmiento

As members of this society you are probably all familiar with the big four prairie grasses Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Indian Grass and Switch Grass. These and a handful of others including: Blue Grama, Side Oats Grama and Buffalo Grass are excellent choices for landscaping and gardening. But what about the hundreds of other native Oklahoma grass species? Are any of them good candidates for landscape gardening? I'll examine a few under-utilized perennial grass species here that I think have good potential.

***Koeleria macrantha* (June Grass)** – This cool season grass is an attractive small bunch grass with striking seed heads. The foliage is fine, and blue to green in hue, and is usually a foot or less in height. It actively grows in the spring and flowers in late spring or early summer. As summer heat comes on the plant goes dormant and takes on a pretty bronze or copper color, much like it's warm season counterparts do in winter. This adds a nice color shade to the summer garden and is especially useful in swaths and masses. It is documented as only growing sporadically in Oklahoma and seed can be difficult to come by but definitely one to seek and explore more. June grass is adaptable to sun and partial shade.

***Tridens flavus* (Purple Top) –** This warm season grass is quite ubiquitous throughout the state but not very common in landscapes. That's a shame because when grouped in mass, its namesake purple seed heads can provide a very endearing display. Purple Top usually attains a height of 3 to 5 feet. The purple spikelets are somewhat sparsely perched on sturdy stems that get progressively thinner and more graceful as they ascend. The overall appearance in flower is one of movement and elegance. Purple Top is also the larval food source for many Skipper butterflies and makes good forage for grazing animals. Seed can be purchased from Lorenz OK seeds.

***Elymus hystrix* (Bottlebrush Grass) –** Bottlebrush grass is a great native grass for dry shady areas under trees. The foliage has a somewhat average looking grassy appearance but the bicolored bottlebrush seed heads are a real eye catcher. The seed heads top out at 2-3 feet in height which makes it a nice choice for a backdrop. Not too particular about soil, moisture or light, this grass makes an easy addition to your shadier areas. It is only found in some of the far eastern Oklahoma counties but I have found it to do well in central Oklahoma. Mo wildflowers is a good source for seed.

***Eragrostis secundiflora* (Red Lovegrass)** – In many of the gardens I design and work in, it is easy to have native grasses and forbs overwhelm small spaces. Consequently I'm always on the look out for small-growing, yet attractive plants. Blue grama is a favorite that stays relatively small but this little grass known as Red Lovegrass is quite an attractive yet overlooked native. Much of the literature regarding native plants often refer to what kind of grazing or wildlife potential they have. This grass is referred to as having little of either and as a consequence is often overlooked. Its small stature (usually around a foot tall), pretty blue green foliage and striking red/purple chevron seed heads make it one I consider to have good potential for landscaping. It is also very drought tolerant and easy to grow. Its preference is for sandy soils but I have found it to be adaptable. It is quite variable and sometimes confused with the non native annual *Eragrostis cilianensis* (stinkgrass). I haven't seen seed or plants of Red Lovegrass for sale but it is fairly common throughout the state. It's cousin, *Eragrostis spectabilis* (purple lovegrass) is beginning to be more widely available and appreciated for landscaping.

This short list is just the tip of the iceberg. There are hundreds more native grasses that could make good landscaping plants. The fact that they are little used, means that a vast field of possibilities is out there waiting for us to give them a try. It's an exciting prospect!

BOTANIST'S CORNER

Leaflets of Three, Let It Be!
By Kim Shannon

Being able to identify and knowing the difference between plants that have the ability to make us miserable are helpful life skills. If you're on a field trip or outing where poison ivy may be encountered there is usually someone that brings up poison oak or poison sumac, too. Then someone throws Virginia creeper into the discussion. So what is the difference between these plants that allows one to correctly identify them? What do these plants have in common? Do they all occur in Oklahoma? Good questions. The objective of this article is to provide you with portable information to help you identify and distinguish among or between Eastern poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), Western poison ivy (*T. rydbergii*), Poison oak (*T. pubescens*), Fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*), and Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*).

Let's start with an overview of the Sumac or Cashew Family, the Anacardiaceae. This plant family is represented in Oklahoma most often by subshrub, shrub, small trees or woody vines that have compound or simple leaves of alternate phyllotaxy (leaf placement on the stem) with terminal or lateral inflorescences. The flowers are 5-merous, perfect or unisexual, with reduced cream, yellow, or green petals and drupes for fruits in a variety of colors. The Anacardiaceae members that are the focus of this article all have pinnately compound leaves with alternate phyllotaxy and three or more leaflets.

Worldwide there are approximately 875 species in 70 genera in this family that are typically found in the tropics and subtropics with only a few species in temperate climates. In Oklahoma there are only nine species (in four genera) that occur within our borders. Those species include the Smoketree (*Cotinus obovatus*), Pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*), Fragrant sumac (*R. aromatica),* Smooth sumac *(R. glabra),* Winged sumac *(R. copallinum),* Littleleaf sumac *(R. microphylla*), Eastern poison ivy (*T. radicans),* Western poison ivy *(T. rydbergii*) and Poison oak *(T. pubescens).* Worldwide this family has many economically important species including the cashew, pistachio, mango, smoketrees, and peppertrees. This plant family is also well known for its members that can cause contact dermatitis and other allergic reactions due to various oils found in all or many plant parts. (On a personal note, I know several people who are moderately to severely allergic to poison ivy that have developed allergic reactions to cashews, pistachios, and mangos as they eat more and more of them.) Of the nine species that occur in Oklahoma, only three species (Eastern and Western poison ivy and Poison oak) can cause allergic reactions and contact dermatitis due to the presence of urushiol in plant parts. From a taxonomy perspective, these species each have multiple synonyms that only add to the confusion of the Poison ivy, Poison oak and Poison sumac discussion. Poison sumac does not occur in Oklahoma and is not discussed further.

Eastern poison ivy is the prolific plant we are all most familiar with because it thrives in all 77 Oklahoma counties. There is also a Western poison ivy (*T. rydbergii*) which occurs rarely in northwest Oklahoma. These two species are nearly indistinguishable from each other, except mainly for the difference in fruit color; its drupes are yellow to orange as opposed to the white fruits of the more prolific Eastern poison ivy. Poison oak is found in limited distribution in Oklahoma; mainly in central and southeastern counties. It is not a true oak (member of the genus *Quercus*) but is so named because the three leaflets of its compound leaf individually resemble oak leaves. This leads to another issue regarding these plants and other closely related and familiar plants; we have a tendency to interchange common names among these species. And those seemingly interchangeable names are used differently depending on your location within Oklahoma. A perfect reason for one to use scientific names when discussing these or any plants. Plus people will think you're really smart!

Now, on to Virginia Creeper (*P. quinquefolia*). This vine is not a member of the Sumac family; it is a member of the Vitaceae, or Grape family. It varies greatly from poison ivy due to its palmately compound leaf that typically has five leaflets. It can be a trickster though and at times may have less than five and often only three leaflets. The foliage turns red in the fall and can be easily identified on tree trunks. It has true tendrils that it uses to climb and those tendrils are split at the end and have round pads at their termini. (The climbing Eastern poison ivy uses adventitious roots to climb which often look like thick, brown,

fuzzy hairs on the stem of the vine.) Virginia creeper does not have a toxicant that readily causes rash and irritation like members of the Sumac family.

In summary, our three rash-causing culprits, Poison ivy (western and eastern) and Poison oak, are all very similar in appearance but do have distinguishing characteristics and morphology, but you may have to get up close and personal to these plants to find these differences. That often leads to exposure to urushiol and the next obvious discussion; how do I prevent a rash? My go to and first line of defense is rinsing with plain COLD water as soon as possible after exposure. In many cases a creek or stream provides the water needed so I don't have to use my drinking water (assuming it's still cold). Hot water, with or without soap, can move and spread the oil that contains the urushiol; often leading to larger areas of rash. I am very allergic to these plants and often avoid major rash break outs by following the simple COLD water rule. For more information check out http://poisonivy.aesir.com

The following table is a summary of information and I hope will provide you with an easy reference for the distinguishing physical characters that allow you to differentiate these species. Best advice; **leaflets of three, LET IT BE!!**

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Diggs, G.M., B. L. Lipscomb, R.J. O'Kennon. 1999. Shinner's and Mahler's Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas. Botanical Research Institute of Texas. Fort Worth, Texas

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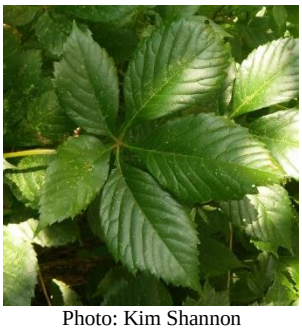
Tyrl, Ronald J., T.G. Bidwell, R.E. Masters, and R. Dwayne Elmore. 2008. *Field Guide to Oklahoma Plants; commonly encountered prairie, shrubland, and forest species.* Stillwater, OK.

USDA, NRCS. 2015. The PLANTS Database (http://plants.usda.gov, 9 July 2015). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA

Asclepias tuberosa Butterfly Weed

Eryngium leavenworthii
Leavenworth's Eryngium

LEAFLETS OF THREE IDENTIFICATION GUIDE FOR OKLAHOMA			
Common / Scientific Name	**Oklahoma Distribution**	**Leaf Morphology**	**Toxicity & Diagnostic Characters**
Eastern Poison Ivy / *Toxicodendron radicans*	All Counties	 Photo: Jeff McMillian, hosted by USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database	**Oily resin, Urushiol, may cause contact dermatitis**; Shiny, glabrous leaflets with red-green petioles; whitish or cream fruits (drupes) at maturity; inflorescences axillary. All growth habits possible, uses adventitious roots to climb, not tendrils.
Western Poison Ivy / *Toxicodendron rydbergii*	Limited distribution in northwest Oklahoma	 Photo ©Al Schneider, www.swcoloradowildflowers.com	**Oily resin, Urushiol, may cause contact dermatitis**; Glabrous leaflets with longer petioles and rounder blades than *T. radicans*; yellow to orange drupes at maturity; nonclimbing habit; leaves and inflorescences at stem apices
Poison Oak / *Toxicodendron pubescens*	Found in multiple central and southeastern counties	 Photo: Jeff McMillian, hosted by USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database	**Oily resin, Urushiol, may cause contact dermatitis**; Hairy leaflets with lobed margins and short petioles; yellowish to green pubescent drupes in the fall; nonclimbing habit; lobed leaflets resemble an oak such as White oak.
Fragrant or Lemon Sumac / *Rhus aromatica*	All Counties	 Photo: Rhonda Hampton	**NO toxicant present**; Three sessile leaflets with slightly lobed to dentate margins; red, pubescent drupes in summer; nonclimbing habit, woody; terminal inflorescences; fragrant foliage and fruits when crushed.
Virginia Creeper / *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	All Counties	 Photo: Kim Shannon	**NO toxicant present**; Palmately compound with five glabrous leaflets with serrate margins; blue to black fruits (berries); climbs using tendrils with terminal pads

Gathering Moss
Robin Wall Kimmerer Oregon State University Press, 2003, $14.77, 168 pages.

By Amy Marcoux

Just below our normal range of perception lies the miniature world of mosses, the most simple and primitive of our land plants. With over 22,000 species, these plants have no vascular system, no roots, no flowers nor fruit. Yet the author, Robin Wall Kimmerer, leaves us with no doubt of the importance of these unique and beautiful plants. Her book, Gathering Moss, will take you through a series of essays that tell the story of mosses not only with scientific accuracy, but also with thoughtful personal reflection drawn from her traditional Potawatomi heritage. As a bryologist and Professor of Environmental and Forest Biology at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Kimmerer shares her observations of the cultural and natural history of mosses. Her insights are evocative and rich.

Kimmerer speaks with passion throughout her 19 essays. She entices the reader to take up a magnifying glass or hand lens and head out into the field. Find a shady, moist area; perhaps on a boulder, cliff face, tree bark or nurse log on the forest floor. Settle in for a close look at this lilliputian forest. These plants have a great affinity for water, and exist within the 'boundary layer'. This layer forms a great microhabitat for mosses that traps heat, water vapor and carbon dioxide. A perfect place for these low and slow growing plants! Here, what may have appeared from a distance to be one moss, may be a tapestry of several species. Each moss may differ in height, shape, leaf texture and reproductive habits. Mosses reproduce sexually by spores or asexually by cloning, so look for long setae stalks elevated above the boundary level (where spores can catch the wind!).

Mosses were the first evolutionary step toward terrestrial plants, leaving algae behind, yet these pioneers are designed to attract and hold water. They are the earths sponges. Water is required for mosses to photosynthesize. Without it moss is unable to grow, and it desiccates, losing up to 98% of its water. The cell membrane collapses and the moss appears dead and crispy. With the addition of water (even years later), moss is restored, coming back to life! Two animal species that depend on moss, living within the moss community, also demonstrate this unique adaptation, waterbears and rotifers.

Travel with Kimmerer as she visits the Amazon Rainforest, then compares it to what she describes as the Forest of the Waterbear. She uses a stereomicroscope to travel through the microcosm of a moss forest, where complex food chains feature omnivores, herbivores, carnivores and decomposers. Here is an ecosystem with energy flow, nutrient recycling, competition and mutualism. Liverworts and algae live here. Mites, rotifers, tardigrades, protozoa, insect larvae, springtails and nematodes make this their home. Decomposing organic matter creates soil where tree seeds take root. This is community filled with biodiversity. Kimmerer tells us these communities can also be found worldwide, in cities (on statues and gravestones and in sidewalk cracks) and even in deserts.

In another essay, we learn of the human relationship with mosses; for fuel, packing, insulation, absorption, gardening and more. It is a demand for mosses in areas such as the Oregon Coast Temperate Rain Forest that we learn of the poaching of old growth mosses for the floral and horticultural industries. Kimmerer serves as a scientific witness to illegal harvesting, documenting poached sites in National Forest. Although some permits are allowed, data shows this is not a sustainable harvest. With plants and animals as her oldest teachers and scientific training allowing her to seek answers to tough questions, Kimmerer takes us on a joyous expedition. Her first book, Gathering Moss, was awarded the John Burroughs Medal for outstanding nature writing.

Can you identify the seed pods? All were gathered in the wild and are seed pods you are likely to see along our Oklahoma roadsides. Send your best guess to oknativeplants@yahoo.com

It's not necessary to i.d. species, just the genus.

The winner will be drawn from all correct answers and will receive their choice of Edible Plants of the Prairie or Medicinal Plants of the Prairie by Kelly Kindscher,

Oklahoma Kudzu
Chad Cox

Yes, it is in Oklahoma. At present the number of infestations is probably less than fifty and primarily in the southeast quadrant.
Most everyone, at the mention of kudzu, will conjure up a scene of a bumpy landscape covered in a vine and will know the bumps are/were bushes and trees. We have those scenes here.
Kudzu, *Pueraria montana var. lobata* is native to Japan and China and was introduced into the United States at the 1876 Centennial Exposition as an ornamental. The real territorial spread of kudzu, however, was as a plant for erosion control primarily in the southeast. Many of the plants for this use were provided by government agencies. Not until 1970 was kudzu listed as a Federal Noxious Weed. Also, kudzu is ranked globally as among the 100 worst invasive species, all species not just plants.
Kudzu is an attractive vine if you can dissociate it from its bad nature. The leaves are a large, hairy version of poison ivy leaves, that is, with three lobed leaflets. The purple, very fragrant flowers hang in attractive clusters. Then the bad nature kicks in with the vines extending up to a foot a day and rooting at nodes. Its rhizomes also root at nodes. Its extensive tap root stores immense amount of carbohydrates and can weigh hundreds of pounds. Tens of stems can be supported by one tap root. The sun loving vines readily climb over bushes and trees and place their leaves on the perimeter of the structure, shading the host to death. The vines do usually die back to the ground here but all the rootings at nodes for that year persist.
Now does that sound like something you would like in your back yard? One of the infestations was in Stillwater. OSU students volunteered to remove the kudzu and the home owner was willing to see the kudzu go as long as they did not take some other wanted plants. The removal took months and required three cycles of removing the vines, then treating the new growth with herbicide. After the vines reappeared the next cycle began until finally after the third cycle the vines have not come back for an extended period.
So why does not the State of Oklahoma take out the other infestations? We know they will grow in size and numbers of infestations if left in place; easier and cheaper to do it now. The answer from the state is always 'we have no money'.
The Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council has posted on its website a Watch List of 29 intrinsically invasive plants in the six regions defined by the Oklahoma Department of Recreation and Tourism. Like Kudzu, these plants in general have limited infestations so would be the ones to attempt control or elimination. Of those that I am familiar with, kudzu was my choice for elimination that I recommended to the members of the agricultural committees of the House and Senate, who have the authority to act. You already know the answer.

Notes about the Annual Meeting 2015

Please note the following items that will be discussed and voted on at the annual meeting. The following ONPS positions are available or will become available next year. If you would like to nominate someone, or volunteer for one of these positions, or learn more about it, please contact us at oknativeplants@yahoo.com.
Secretary
Vice-president
Historian
Webmaster for ONPS website

Increase in membership dues
The Executive Board has proposed a dues increase beginning in 2016. We have not had a dues increase since 2006. The membership must vote on the dues increase at the annual meeting. The proposed dues increase is shown below. The increase will take effect January 1, 2016.
$20 Individual (currently $15)
$25 Family (currently $20)
$300 Individual Life (currently $250)
$350 Family Life (currently $300)

Planting Wildflowers

Fall is the perfect time to plant wildflowers from seed in Oklahoma. Most of our native seeds need a period of moist cool stratification in order to germinate and even those that don't do best when they can start getting their roots into the ground as early as possible.
A common misconception about wildflowers is that they will grow anywhere without regard for sun, drainage, soil type and water. Sprinkle them from a can over your existing lawn and next spring—voila!—the crabgrass and Bermuda have magically disappeared and you have meadow of blooms. However, our natives are like other plants in the
sense that the success rate will improve when the plants are matched to conditions.
There are several good methods for planting and it seems like new techniques constantly come along that make the process easier. You may want to consult with a landscaper who specializes in Oklahoma natives, ask other ONPS members about whom they would recommend. Rather than give step by step instructions on how to plant seeds here are some resources you may refer to depending on the conditions you have: Native American Seed, Prairie Moon Nursery, The Living Landscape by Doug Tallamy, Requiem for a Lawnmower and Gardening with Native Plants by Wasowski and Urban and Suburban Meadows by Catherine Zimmerman**.**

FOR JOINING OR RENEWING USE THIS FORM

Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to Oklahoma Native Plant Society, P. O.Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159.
Membership is for Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 of current year and dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

Name: _____

Affiliation: (School, Business, or Avocation) _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: Home_____ Cell _____ Office _____ Please do not list my phone __

E mail: _____

Renewal __ or New Member __ Dues are tax deductible.

Annual Membership Choice: $15 Individual __ or $20 Family __, or ~~$5~~ Student __
Life Membership Choice: $250 Individual __ or $350 Family __

Add $5.00 __ to cover cost of copying and mailing a complete ONPS directory if desired.

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The Gaillardia

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2015: Bruce Smith and Pearl Garrison
2016: Sara Souza and Mike Dunn
2017: Elaine Lynch and Jay Pruett

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Constance Murray	**Northeast**
Adam Ryburn	**Central**
Mark Fishbein	**Cross-Timbers**
Helen Riley	**Southwest**

Committee Chairs:

Publicity and Merchandise	**Alicia Nelson**
Conservation	**Chadwick Cox**
TGC Liason, BKSA	**Sue Amstutz**
Awards	**Gloria Caddell**
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Mailings/Printings	**Karen Haworth**

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