



*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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**INSIDE THIS EDITION**

<b>President's Column</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Anne Long</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Award Winners</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Botanist's Corner</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Connections &amp; Keying</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Native Gardening</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Reports</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Invasive Watch &amp; Puzzler</b>	<b>10</b>

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**COPY AND ART DEADLINE  
FOR NEXT ISSUE IS  
February 5, 2016**

*"Nature chose for a tool, not the earthquake  
or lightening to rend and split asunder, not  
the stormy torrent or eroding rain, but the  
tender snow-flowers noiselessly falling  
through unnumbered centuries."*

John Muir

# Gaillardia

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society Newsletter

## Upcoming Events/Activities

(check the ONPS website for more details)

**January 7-** Central Chapter Meeting at OSU-OKC 7:00

**February 6-** Indoor/Outing OSU-OKC Watch for times and sign up information

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

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

## ONPS THANKS THE FOLLOWING DONORS

Anonymous, General Fund  
 Connie Arnold, General Fund  
 Oklahoma State University Foundation, General Fund  
 Michael Seuss, General Fund  
 The Nature Conservancy, General Fund



**1<sup>st</sup> place winner in Flowering Trees**

**Becky Sheets-Klinger**

## **WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS**

Shama Aziz, Norman  
Elaina Baldwin, Blanchard  
Suzanne Broadbent, OKC  
Jennie Brooks, OKC  
Susan Brown, OKC  
Patricia Carey, OKC  
Lainee Copeland, Edmond  
Dorothy Danen, OKC  
Dennis England, Tulsa  
Aaron Goodwin, Bartlesville  
Kathleen Hardwick, Edmond  
David Hawkins, Blanchard  
Tony & Becky Hawkins, OKC  
Lisa Hoke, Edmond  
Angie Holmberg, Edmond  
Chelsea Hughes, OKC  
Juliette Hulen, OKC  
Rene Jenkins, OKC  
Glenna Jones, Edmond  
John Kennington, Bixby  
Jamie Leal, OKC  
Paul Mays, OKC  
Keila McCain, Yukon  
Kurt McDaniel, Midwest City  
Mary McKinley, Roff  
Linda Moody, Tulsa  
Beth Moore, OKC  
Tammy Moore, OKC  
Judy Morton, OKC  
Dee Nash, Guthrie  
Oklahoma Monarch Migration, Blanchard  
Dave Patton, Checotah  
Susan Putnam, Jones  
Susan Quensel, Lawton  
Roberta Rains, OKC  
Susan & Jim Ruth, Shawnee  
Diana Ryan, Lawton  
Susan & Bill Schmidt, OKC  
Connie Scothorn, OKC  
Donna Sidmore, OKC  
Rashmi Singh, Tulsa  
Snow Family, Edmond  
Janie Storm, OKC

Brenda Walters, OKC  
Lisa Weatherholt, Tulsa  
Rick Wicker, OKC  
Debbie Wolf, Mustang

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

Joe Roberts

Things have been hopping lately with the ONPS. Our society brought in award-winning author and native plant proponent Doug Tallamy, had our annual meeting jointly with the Friends of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station at Lake Texoma, held field trips all over the state, and had informational and educational booths at several events again statewide. We've added dozens of new members in the last few months, and a hearty welcome to all of you who have just joined.

ONPS now has over 350 members, and our Facebook page is rapidly approaching 1500 followers, many of whom will become members in the future. The momentum is ours! Even OU has plans to rip out the north oval and replace it all with native grasses and prairie wildflowers. OK, so I made that up. But if we just *believe*.... Hardly a week goes by that some interesting collaboration or project doesn't come by the ONPS desk. There are so many possibilities for promoting our mission, and we are only limited by the number of people willing to pursue them. It is safe to say that if you have an interest in the study, protection, propagation, appreciation, and/or use of the state's native plants, we've got a way for you to help. Moreover, you can do so by pursuing your own special interest. Are you interested in pollinators? We've got ways to help. Interested in stopping the spread of invasive plants? We've got just the ticket. Like education? We've got ways you can help spread native plant knowledge, so don't be afraid to step up and lead a project, help with collaboration, or otherwise get involved. It's fun, and you'll love it.

Our next statewide event is the Indoor Outing, this year hosted by the Central Chapter. It will take place on Saturday, February 6, so mark your calendars! Stay tuned for more information. It will be posted on the website, [oknativeplants.org](http://oknativeplants.org) and will be sent out via email and post. In the meantime, stay warm, plan next year's native garden, get ready for our next photo contest, or just enjoy the winter landscape. Hope to see you soon.

*The Oklahoma Native Plant Society has the authority to present four types of awards annually. These awards include the Anne W. Long Memorial Award, the Dr. Harriet Barclay Award, the Betty Kemm Service Award, and the Dr. Paul Buck Award. Each of these honors bears the name of a member of ONPS who contributed greatly to the founding, function, and ongoing tradition of the Society. During the coming editions of the Gaillardia, we will examine the impact each of these individuals have had on ONPS and provide insight into the history of each of the awards which bear their names as well.*

### **ANNE LONG AND THE ANNE W. LONG MEMORIAL AWARD**

Sue Amstutz

The most prestigious award presented by ONPS is the Anne W. Long Memorial Award. Named for a woman whose passion was gardening, Anne was a long-time member of the Tulsa Garden Club and served as Chairman of the Tulsa Garden Center's Board of Directors.

A friend and colleague of Dr. Harriet Barclay, Anne co-led field trips with Dr. Barclay under the sponsorship of the University of Tulsa. She was remembered by those who knew her as a very competent and knowledgeable botanist.

Anne was one of the first Oklahomans to recognize the benefits the state could derive from the planting of wildflowers along state roads and highways. Before the existence of ONPS, Anne was involved each year in the Wildflower Workshop, an event in which ONPS would eventually join the Oklahoma Council of Garden Clubs and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation as a co-sponsoring organization.

When a group of Tulsans envisioned an environmental organization for Oklahoma for which protection, propagation, and education about wildflowers and native plants would be the focus, Anne was right there among those dreaming the dream which would soon become the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. Unfortunately, Anne did not live long enough to see her vision realized. At the official organizational meeting for the Society held in Tulsa on January 10, 1987, at the Northeast Campus of Tulsa Community College, Anne's absence as a driving force in what the meeting was about to launch....ONPS....was palpable.

According to a copy of the minutes of that January 10 meeting, a major item on the agenda was a motion to establish the Anne W. Long Memorial Fund. The motion passed unanimously, and Anne's husband, Walter Long (Wally) contributed the original \$1000.00 to ONPS, a

fund which to this day supports the annual award. Thanks to contributions continuing for over two and a half decades, the Anne Long Fund now amounts to over \$13,000.00. The fund is held in the ONPS treasury and administered by the State Executive Board following the recommendations from the State Awards Chairman as to the recipient of each year's award.

Nor did Walter Long stop with endowing the Anne W. Long Memorial Fund. An article in the September/October 1990 edition of *The Gaillardia*, reported that prior to the sale of the Long family home in Tulsa, Mr. Long had contributed 200 gardening and wildflower books from Anne Long's collection to the Library at the Tulsa Garden Center, as well as other botanical books, slides, and herbarium specimens Anne herself had used in her own research which were donated to the library at Oxley Nature Center.

From the Garden Center newsletter: "Mr. Long's special gift will serve as a wonderful resource for all who want to learn more about wildflowers. With much appreciation, thank you, Mr. Long, for sharing Anne's collection with the Center."

Since the first presentation of the Anne Long Award in 1988, twenty-two individuals or groups have received the award (in six of the years between 1988 and the present, no award was made.). The first recipients were members of the Ninnekah High School Science Club (sponsored by Edward Cusato.) Other names on the lengthy list of recipients include those that present-day ONPS members would instantly recognize.

First chairman of the Anne Long committee was Dr. Paul Buck. In a 1989 article in *The Gaillardia*, Dr. Buck sums up the importance of the award:

"This is what Anne would have wanted."

**Need a gift idea for one of the young ones in your life? The following books are all highly rated, have wonderful pictures and are nature themed.**

Prairie Chicken Little by Jackie Mims Hopkins Preschool-Grade 2

The Icky Bug Alphabet Book by Jerry Pallotta Ages 4 +

Out on the Prairie by Donna Bateman Ages 4 and up

Caterpillars, Bugs and Butterflies by Mel Boring Ages 7 +

Tracks, Scats and Signs by Leslie Dendy Ages 7 +

The Life Cycle of a Butterfly by Bobbie Kalman Gr 2-4

America's Prairies and Grasslands by Marianne Wallace Ages 8 +

The Prairie that Nature Built by Marybeth Lorbiecki Preschool-Gr 2

On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole Kindergarten-Gr 2

## 2015 BETTY KEMM SERVICE AWARD

Karen Haworth recieved the 2015 Betty Kemm Service Award during the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Natove Plant Society held on October 17 at the Oklahoma University Biological Station in southern Oklahoma. Presented by the Betty Kemm Service Award Chairman, Sue Amstutz, Karen received the traditional gaillardia-embossed glass plaque which symbolizes the award.

A member of the Northeast Chapter, Karen is a regular participant in chapter activities, including attendance at meetings, field trips and Friday get-togethers at Panera.

Karen was cited for her many years of service in preparing the society's newsletter, *The Gaillardia*, for distribution to the membership. Tasks includes seeing to the printing, addressing, posting and mailing of each issue.

Karen was also recognized for her service as Northeast Chapter's Scribe; production and distribution of flyers, registration materials, and other documents not included with *Gaillardia* mailings but needed by the membership at large; and for her most recent investigation into procedures which have resulted in the newly instituted color-printing of *The Gaillardia*.



## 2015 ANNE W. LONG AWARD FOR PROMOTION OF NATIVE PLANTS

This year we presented the Anne W. Long Award for Promotion of Native Plants to Jona Tucker. Jona is an amazing proactive conservationist who has worked with The Nature Conservancy since 2007 protecting the lands and waters she holds dear to her heart. She is the Arbuckle Plains/Blue River Program Director for the Oklahoma Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She also manages Boehler Seeps & Sandhills Preserve, Pontotoc Ridge Preserve, and Oka' Yanahli Preserve for the Conservancy.

In addition to managing these protected lands, Jona works with partners and private landowners to encourage voluntary conservation of southern Oklahoma's unique habitats and native species. She is known for her work to protect the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer and its tributaries such as the Blue River. A graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Jona has a B.S. in Biological Sciences with an emphasis in Botany and a Master's of Technology degree in Wildlife Conservation.

Prior to her current position with The Nature Conservancy, Jona worked in a variety of family businesses including real estate, ranching, and timber management. Immediately prior to working for the Conservancy, she worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Currently living near Ada, Jona is a 5th generation Oklahoman from southeast Oklahoma. She has led several field trips for the ONPS, and has been a speaker at Central Chapter meetings. Jona, we appreciate all of your efforts to promote our native plants and to protect the places they grow.



## Tallamy's Visit to Oklahoma

Ken Stewart

On the spur of the moment last June, it was decided to bring Doug Tallamy back to Oklahoma. Joe Roberts contacted Cindy Tallamy and efforts were quickly underway. Joe, Alyne Eiland and Marilyn Stewart coordinated efforts between Tulsa and OKC, as well as securing venues, hotels, putting out publicity, printing posters and programs, and ordering books. Essential to the effort was signing on major sponsors. Fortunately the Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa Audubon, Tulsa Perennial Club, OSU/OKC and ONPS stepped in to support financially.

My perspective is as the main book seller at both events. Demand was high at both sites. We sold out of The Living Landscape and sold most of Bringing Nature Home. Most authors bring their own books and keep the profit, Tallamy prefers the sponsoring groups keep any proceeds and because of this (and generous donations from attendees) we were able to make partial refunds to our sponsors.

Did I mention the real story here? Doug Tallamy is as nice a person you will ever meet. He has a message that is vitally important to anyone who cares about the well being of the planet. When I try to convey his message to friends and acquaintances I sometimes get the look that says "you're kidding, right? Plant things to attract insects?" But Tallamy presents the problem and solution in such a clear way that the lights come on and you want to go out and not only plant natives, but try to convince your neighbors to do so also.

I believe that it is through events like this, the field trips, education, and friendships with other native plant lovers that are the purpose of ONPS. There were over 250 people at the Tulsa Garden Center and over 200 in OKC. ONPS gained many new members. It was a great deal of work for those involved, but it was a tremendously rewarding experience. **Thanks to all who participated and helped.**

With the cooperation of other like minded groups such as these I believe it is possible to come together for similar events in the future.

***"A plant that has fed nothing  
has not done its job"***

Doug Tallamy

## BOTANIST'S CORNER

**"Hollydays"**

Clinton Ledford

It was a furnace hot day in September within the confines of Osage Hills State Park. Catching my eye along a trail waving a spray of grayish branches with spurs, was a tree of short stature. Clustered, spoon-shaped, finely toothed leaves gave a hint to its identification. It was settled in a deep spot that was sometimes wet, sometimes dry. The encounter triggered cool thoughts of holidays with native hollies during a stay in Muscogee country in the 1980s.

Possum haw (*Ilex decidua*) is also known as winterberry and deciduous holly. The small tree is scattered across most of eastern OK, is slow growing and thrives and favors moist stream sides. Two relatives found in OK are both evergreen and naturally occur in southeast OK: American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) and Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*). The rare Carolina Holly (*Ilex ambigua*) is deciduous.

Living on an acreage in McIntosh County, the deciduous holly was a focal point of interest in winter. Females bear shiny red drupes clustered along the stems and are blessed with a tenacious attachment. It was a treat when snow graced the place; the holly had a festive suit of its own red and white, and was accented with a backdrop of bluebird sky.

When a cardinal or bluebird had the frigid task of gathering fruits, it was a welcome drama to view from the side window. Sipping coffee and staring out to the world with your mind's eye made me think of Frost poems, the warmth the cold can give the soul, and the gladness the baby boy found in nature's crystallized design on his December birthday all come to mind.

Christmas led to pruning fruit bearing limbs mingled with mistletoe and juniper for decoration. On New Year's Day the color was still there to make us smile. The holly near the home long ago is still vivid in my mind with fondness of our happy Hollydays.

***Native plants "give us a sense of where we  
are in this great land of ours"***

Lady Bird Johnson



## CONNECTIONS

*How native plants connect with our lives and culture*

### **Bois d'arc, *Maclura pomifera***

Bois d'arc. Hedge Apple. Horse Apple. Osage Orange. Bodark. Monkey Ball. Ever driven down a back road and wondered who spilled all those lime green tennis balls?

Native only in southeast Oklahoma, northeast Texas and a small area of southwest Arkansas, it is thought seeds of this unusual tree were once distributed by now extinct giant sloths, mammoths and equine species. A member of the Mulberry family, it grows to about 40' with a short trunk, straight spines and a rounded crown. This tree wins no beauty contests, but the wood has been prized and utilized for centuries.

Early French explorers gave it the name Bois d'arc because it was the wood of choice among Osage, Comanche and other Native American tribes for making bows. The wood was and is also used to make a lovely golden yellow natural dye. Highly rot resistant, the wood was used more than a hundred years ago for foundations; foundations that are strong to this day. Many a diamond edged saw has been ruined by trying to cut the wood and driving nails into the lumber can be extremely difficult. Well cured Bois d'arc fence posts can easily last a hundred years.

When dried it has the highest BTU content of any other wood in North America, as close to coal as you can get.

During the Dust Bowl the CCC planted miles of Bois d'arc as windbreaks to help control soil erosion. The wicked spines also meant they could be used as living fences to contain livestock. The thorns can even puncture tires.

The fruit is filled with latex like juice and isn't poisonous but is not tasty. Apparently cattle can die when the fruit becomes lodged in their throats. Squirrels will sometimes tear the fruits apart to access the seed which is the only edible part. The fruit is said by some to repel insects although there seems to be little scientific data to back this up.

Some breeding is being done on this species; a thornless male tree has been developed although it is not readily available in the nursery trade.

**Join the ONPS Facebook page, ask questions, post pictures, join in discussions and learn about upcoming events. We have more than 1500 members!**

## Keying for Idiots

Barbara Klein

Since attending the Indoor/Outing in Lawton last February, which focused on "Using a Taxonomic Key for ID of Plants, I have thought about the lessons learned. Perhaps this could be called "Keying for Idiots

If you learned to program a computer in the 1960s or 1970s, you will be familiar with the "If-Then" method of thought. That is essentially the layout of a key. E.g., "[If] the tree has needles, [then] stay on this page. [If] the tree has leaves, [then] go to page 14."

**Have a human expert explain the why and how when you start.** You may need guidance to stay patient while using the comprehensive Flora of Oklahoma Keys and Descriptions. Lichens seem to be fairly simple, but a workshop leader can show you how using a few drops of potassium or alcohol make additional clues show up under the microscope. When I used the Master Tree Finder as a girl, my mother was the patient instructor.

**Start with plants you already know when using your key;** that way you can gauge your success. You can easily lose your place in the cumbersome Flora but finding what you expect to find can lead you to the right result. Since I knew the common Ohio trees before I went to Forestry Camp I was popular during keying exercises.

**Use the right key for your purpose.** Using the popular Forest Trees of Oklahoma in the winter led to two elm trees being mislabeled on the Cameron campus. There are other keys for keying trees without leaves; use the state book when there are leaves. A pocket guide is good for the field, but may not be detailed enough.

**The best keys** have definitions, drawings (for both the definitions and the final plant), and distribution maps. Take a little time with reading through your key to see the layout. You don't want to be out in the cold or mud flipping back and forth trying to follow the key's logic or looking for the definitions.

**Finally,** I recommend you have 2 friends with you when you key, one to hold the hand lens, one to keep the place in the key and find the next step, and one to keep the place in the definitions and compare specimens to pictures. You can also debate and vote on choices. Majority rules!

**For recommended resources go to the ONPS website [www.oknativeplants.org](http://www.oknativeplants.org)**

## The Nativization of a Garden

Susan Chambers

Okay, so that word in the title isn't a real word, but it is in essence what we do when we start switching out garden plants for natives. This is a very reasonable way to achieve a native garden for those of us who don't have the financial backing to rip everything out and start over.

Replacing landscape plants as they inevitably die from drought, ice, extreme heat, or just simply old age is quite doable, but some rules have to be followed to achieve success. A working knowledge of your soil type (sand, loam, silt, clay), pH, sun exposure, and hardiness/heat zones are a must. The soil type issue is extremely important and not always as simple as it seems. Soil gets moved around during the construction of a house, and whether your home is two years old or two hundred years old, it's doubtful the soil around it matches the virgin soil before construction. It's possible to have clay topsoil in an area where sandy loam is the native top soil. A plant that may do fabulously in the original top soil is going to fail miserably in imported 'top soil'.

And just because a plant is native to your part of the country does not mean it will grow in any of the conditions existing in your garden. Buildings create micro-climates that do not match any natural conditions in your region. You must match your conditions with the conditions in which that plant is endemic.

So, we've set the parameters for how to determine what will do well in your own garden. Suppose you had a decently laid out garden originally, and would like to retain the feel of a suburban/urban landscape and not an unmanageable mess of a jungle. A native landscape does not look much different from an exotic landscape (some would say better), if designed with an eye to blending into the neighborhood. What native plants would/could replace those exotics so prevalent in today's landscapes?

The following list is taken from an actual landscape design drawn up for a suburban garden. The native substitutes are a site-specific example of how natives can be used in place of exotics. Since there are darn few native evergreens and they are sometimes not available in the nursery industry, there are no direct substitutes for some plants. The definition of native, for my purposes,

is native to the U.S., primarily the central and southern plains and the Crosstimbers.

The following reference books are titles that I use quite often when trying to determine what will grow where with the least amount of input.

Native Plant Selection Guide for Oklahoma Woody Plants by Darlene L. Michael

Field Guide to Oklahoma Plants by Ronald J. Tyrl, Terrence G. Bidwell, Ronald E. Masters and R. Dwayne Elmore

An Annotated List of Ferns, Fern Allies,

Gymnosperms and Flowering Plants of Oklahoma by R. John and Connie Taylor

Best Garden Plants for Oklahoma by Steve Owens

Oklahoma Gardener's Guide by Steve Dobbs

### Plants as drawn for design      Native substitutes

Nellie Stevens holly	Taylor juniper
Arizona cypress	Desert willow
Maiden grass	Pink muhly grass
Indian hawthorn	Beauty berry
Hardy ice plant	Sedum ternatum
Gold Coast juniper	Variegated spurge
Nandina	Blue Muffin viburnum,
dwarf wax myrtle	red/yellow yucca
Nootka cypress	Weeping yaupon
Japanese maple	Service berry
Stella d'Oro daylily	Spiderwort, wood lily, rain lily, turk's cap
Encore Azalea	Dwarf Oakleaf hydrangea
Globosa blue spruce	Dwarf yaupon holly
Yellow moneywort	Sedum ternatum
Abelia	Variegated clove currant
Dianthus 'Firewitch'	Wood sorrel, crested iris,
wild petunia,	Tharp's spiderwort
Karl Foerster grass	Bluestem
Spirea 'Gold Mound'	Variegated spurge
Hosta 'Sum & Substance'	Plantain sedge
Golden yew	Variegated palm sedge
Black Mondo grass	Sedge 'Hobb's Blue Bunny'
Japanese painted fern	Southern wood fern
Japanese maple	Virginia sweetspire
Ajuga	Walter's viola
Variegated vinca	Sedum album
Liriope	Blue wood sedge
Coral bark maple	Yellow or red twigged dogwood
Blue spruce	Blue spirea
Giant ajuga	Walter's viola
Dwarf Mondo grass	Sedge 'Hobb's Blue Bunny'

## COLOR OKLAHOMA REPORT

Pearl Garrison

Color Oklahoma Sow Some Wild Seeds continues to partner with the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority on roadside beautification.

This year's native wildflower mix is Indian Blanket, Lanceleaf coreopsis, plains coreopsis and pink evening primrose. Fifteen acres were sown near Stillwater along the Cimarron Turnpike, and at total of 15 acres were sown along the H.E. Bailey Turnpike at the Lawton and Walters exits and at the concession area near Chickasha.

Funding for the seeds comes from the sale of Color Oklahoma license plates and donations. If you do not have one of our car tags, order one today from the state Tax Commission website, <http://www.ok.gov/tax/documents/710-A.pdf>. Let's make Oklahoma more beautiful!

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### Cross-Timbers Chapter

Elaine Lynch

Mark Fishbein has been our chapter chair for a number of years but stepped down this fall to go on sabbatical. We have been without a vice-chair for many years. The chapter members will meet sometime in November to discuss chapter leadership and activities. We plan to combine the meeting with a potluck dinner and speaker. Date and speaker to be arranged.

Elaine and Michael Lynch, Cross-Timbers secretary and her husband, manned a booth at the 2015 GardenFest at the OSU Botanic Garden in Stillwater on September 26th. They sold \$240 worth of books and other merchandise, answered questions about ONPS, and gave out membership forms and Color Oklahoma cards. Hopefully the exposure will lead to new members across the state.

### Central Chapter Report

Central Chapter helped host the Doug Tallamy lecture at OSU-OKC on August 22.

We had an info table at the Monarch in the Park Festival in Blanchard on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

A dozen or so of us gathered at Lake Arcadia for some botanizing on Sept 19.

On Nov 5, we had an organizational meeting to elect new officers, and plan for the Indoor Outing at OSU-OKC.

A group of Central Chapter members as well as other chapter members met on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> with Grace Barnett, Monarch Outreach Specialist for the National Wildlife Federation. She discussed

the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and conservation efforts all along the Monarch's flyway.

The new officers for the Central Chapter:

Patrick Bell – Chair

Bill Farris –Vice-Chair

May Harshbarger –Secretary

Xana Howard –Treasurer

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at OSU-OKC. Please come! We have lots to plan and lots of interesting activities coming up.

### Annual Meeting

Helen Reilly

The 2015 Oklahoma Native Plant Society annual meeting held in October at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station in Willis was my first annual meeting and I was not sure what to expect. Everything went very smoothly from the pleasant rural drive across southern Oklahoma to registration, finding my way around the Biological Station and observing the damage done by June's flooding, eating buffet style meals in the cafeteria, the scheduled activities, and the highlight for me since I had come by myself and did not know anyone, visiting with members from around the state. Everything was very well organized and everyone was friendly. We combined our annual meeting with the Friends of the OU Biological Station which added some unexpected but enjoyable activities including two bird walks and an auction fundraiser.

Saturday morning Bruce Hoagland from the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability at OU gave a talk on changes in vegetation and flora in the landscapes of Oklahoma. I learned that there is a system of ranking rarity in plants and that there are 208 plants in the state considered to be critically imperiled by extreme rarity. Currently Oklahoma does not protect endangered plants.

In the afternoon another of those unexpected but enjoyable activities, Sheila Strawn introduced us to the world of lichens. Equipped with hand lens' we went outside to look for lichens on concrete steps, tree trunks and branches, rocks, and to my surprise the ground. We did not have to go far to find a number of different varieties. Examined up close I found lichens to be both odd-looking and beautiful. However I have decided that I will work on plants, grasses and trees before taking on the taxonomy of lichens.

Next year's annual meeting will be in southwest Oklahoma. Please come. We will plan some Different, enjoyable activities and like this year some of them may be unexpected.



## Oklahoma Native Plant Record Volume 15 to be published in December

Sheila Strawn, Managing Editor

After 15 years, we are more than pleased with the variety of excellent articles submitted and accepted for publication in the *Oklahoma Native Plant Record*. This year, as most years, together, they meet all of ONPS goals:

*“Encouraging the study of native plants”* We never know how the record of a single study will encourage future studies, but we are sure our historic article will be of special value to today’s botanists and ecologists studying historic species distributions and environmental changes. In 1934, Osborn may not have been aware of how valuable his list of flowering dates would be to the issue of global warming, but his article, “First Flowering Dates for Central Oklahoma” fills that role. Dr. Wayne Elisens contributes the history that puts that data into perspective. Checklists, like that of Black Mesa by Amy Buthod and Bruce Hoagland and descriptions of forest dynamics at Arcadia Lake, by Chad King, will make future comparative studies possible and likely.

*“Encouraging the protection of native plants”* Kudzu has long been described as an invasive species, but it didn’t start out that way. Many exotic species have been introduced without thought of how they would interact with native species. Marli Claytor from Oklahoma State University, summarizes the current extent of Kudzu and what might be done to protect our native species.

*“Encouraging the propagation of native plants”* The risks of monoculture plantings and the benefits of planting multiple species within gardens is the topic of Oklahoma State University’s Bonner, Rebek, Cole, Kahn, and Steets paper. It is important to know for landscapers and gardeners because of its effect on arthropod abundance, a main point of author, Douglas Tallamy’s recent presentations at the Society’s events in Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Their article provides data and reason to heed the advice.

*“Encouraging the appreciation of native plants.”* For enthusiasts and plant lovers, this year we’re starting a new tradition. We will be choosing our Critic’s Choice Essays from previous “Botanist’s Corner” articles published in the *Gaillardia*, the Society’s newsletter. This year we’ve chosen one of Paul Buck’s most popular essays, “Mistletoe”.

*“Encouraging the use of native plants.”* In the past, we’ve published articles about how Native Americans have used native plant species. “Antifungal Plant Proteins” shows us how plants could be used for more current medicinal purposes. It is also a great example of research projects that can inspire the students who are involved, to continue in botany. This year’s student research project is from Tahzeeba Frisby’s students at Cameron University in Lawton.

As you can see, articles for all interest groups of our membership (gardeners, academics, landscapers, and enthusiasts) are represented. It is a wide variety of authors who contribute to our journal that helps us, as the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, bring those many interests together in a way that best promotes our goals. Why not consider submitting your work next year? Remember that our editorial board now includes a manuscript editor, Dr. Mark Fishbein, who can find help for first time and citizen-scientist authors. Tell us about your ideas and submit your articles early, so we can see that your work gets the most helpful reviews and comments.

Don’t forget that The *Oklahoma Native Plant Record* is listed globally in the “Directory of Open Access Journals”, and our abstracts are indexed in the “Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International”, which is based in the U.K. We print a limited number of hardcopies of each volume, so be sure to order yours soon.

*Order form can be found on page 11*



**2nd place winner in Habitat  
Dale Amstutz**

## INVASIVE WATCH

Marilyn Stewart

Only a handful of woody plants native to Oklahoma remain green during the winter. Unseasonable greening in winter or early spring is an indicator the plant is non-native and one plant we can count on to see green all year is Japanese Honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica*. First brought to Long Island from eastern Asia as an ornamental in 1806, it has also been used to feed deer and control erosion. It behaved itself for several decades before going rogue and is now considered an invasive species over most of the U.S. Cultivars continue to be sold in plant nurseries.

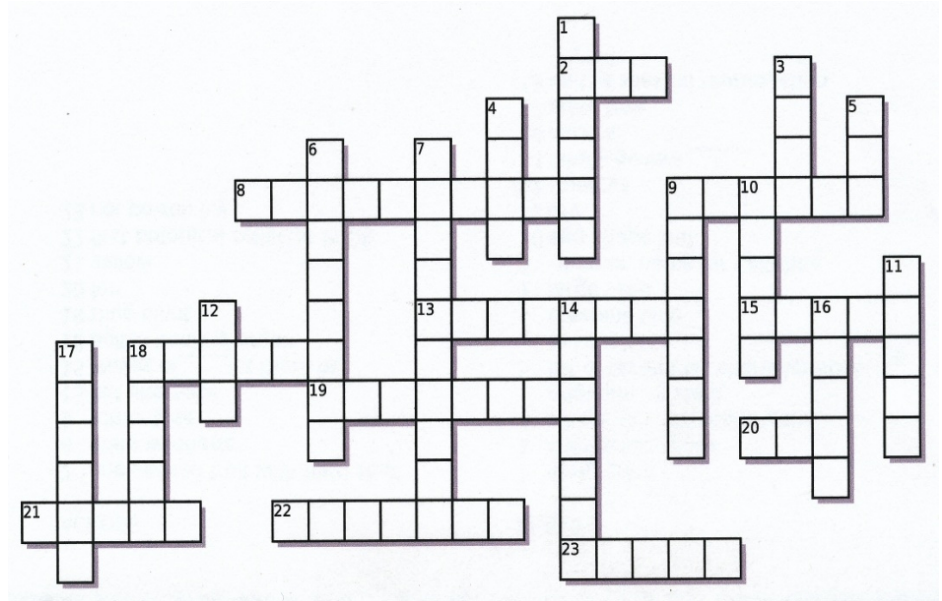
Tolerating sun and shade, drought and floods, rich soil and poor, its rampant growth can quickly take over tree canopies and smother native flora. The vine has a large woody rhizomatous rootstock, sends down roots along the vine nodes and also spreads by bird dispersed seed. In other

words, it spreads by just about any means possible and has been dubbed one of the 'Dirty Dozen' by the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council.

Control, as you can imagine, is a challenge. For small infestations dig out roots, making sure there are no root fragments left. Don't allow the flowers to go to seed. Watch for any new sprouts and remove immediately. If the vine is established eradication is much more difficult. A chainsaw may be necessary to cut the main root and will require hand to hand combat to get the rest of the vine. Unfortunately, the only other option is chemical. During the winter when all other vegetation is dormant a less than full strength solution of glyphosate can be sprayed. A tablespoon of dish soap can be added to help it adhere to the leaves and an addition of food coloring will help identify sprayed areas. The process will most likely have to be repeated at least once.

### ACROSS

- 2 One sided fruit with hard shell
- 8 state wildflower
- 9 tomentose
- 13 not alternate
- 15 leaves of \_\_ let them be
- 18 pollen bearing organ
- 19 thug plant
- 20 fen
- 21 yellow
- 22 1<sup>st</sup> botanical collector in OK
- 23 not poison ivy



### DOWN

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 state grass                                 | 14 family, genera, _____        |
| 3 OSU botany guru                             | 16 aspera                       |
| 4 where leaf and branches originate on stem   | 17 state tree                   |
| 5 list of taxonomic characters to i.d. plants | 18 unit of asexual reproduction |
| 6 creeping vine                               |                                 |
| 7 large seed                                  |                                 |
| 9 common name for Callirhoe                   |                                 |
| 10 egg shaped leaf                            |                                 |
| 11 dry  |                                 |
| 12 Quercus                                    |                                 |

Lynn Michael was the winner of the fall seed identification. The correct answers were: Milkweed, Basketflower, Echinacea, Desmanthus, Nut Sedge, Penstemon, Yarrow, Black-eyed Susan and Baptisia.

Send your crossword answers to [thegaillardia@gmail.com](mailto:thegaillardia@gmail.com) to win a pair of Atlas garden gloves. In the event of a tie, the winner will be randomly selected.

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*Ilex decidua*