



Gaillardia

Oklahoma Native Plant Society

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

Volume 35, Number 4 Winter 2020

INSIDE THIS EDITION

ONPS Board Members	2
Editor's Note.....	2
Newly Elected Officers.....	2
Yard by Yard program.....	3
Chapters News	3
Fungi in the Garden	4, 5
Musings from Joe	5
Finally, A Field Trip	6, 7
Meet the Founders : Sue Amstutz.....	8
Revisiting a Family Favorite	9
Bioblitz 2020 Update.....	9
Ferns, Ferns, Ferns.....	10
Five Parks/Three Days.....	11
Talimena Drive	12
Facebook.....	13, 14

Oklahoma State Symbols statesymbolsusa.org/oklahoma



Floral Emblem

Mistletoe
*Phoradendron
serotinum*

*Photo by
Doug McAbee/Flickr*

Upcoming Events/Activities

(check the ONPS website or Facebook for more details)

December - Happy Holidays!

December 10 - "Is Mistletoe Invasive" A Webinar of the Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council (OkIPC). Go to www.okinvasives.org to register

December 17 - "Lichens and the Lichenologists Who Love Them" Register for this Online event at: <https://www.marylandnature.org/get-involved/events/event/lichens-and-the-lichenologists-who-love-them/>

January 1, 2021 - Happy New Year!

January - "Herbicide resistant invasive plants" OkIPC

February 2021 - Indoor Outing, TBA

February - "Status of aquatic invasive species in Oklahoma" OkIPC

February 4 - Central Chapter Virtual program by Kevin Mink, "Yard by Yard"

March 4 - Central Chapter Virtual program, TBA

May, 2021 - Wonders of Wildflowers (WOW) at Selman Living Lab near Alva, Oklahoma

All regular scheduled Indoor meetings have been cancelled for the remainder of 2020.



Welcome New Members

Jack Boydston * Michael and Michelle Mahone * Estelle Levetin * Julia McQuoid * Jan Eckardt Butler * Jaci Finch * Anita Anthony * Bonnie Ashing * Rick Gardner

Gaillardia

Published quarterly by the
Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 14274, Tulsa OK 74159

President	Bill Farris
Vice-president	Donna Horton
Secretary	Connie Murray
Treasurer	Mary Korthase
Past-President	Bruce Smith

Directors at Large:

2020: Rahmona Thompson and Jim Elder
2021: Ray Luth and Janet Thomas
2022: Kathy Doss and Joe Roberts

Chapter Chairs:

Teresa Blue	Northeast
Patrick Bell	Central
Elaine Lynch	Cross-Timbers
Nancy Hamill	Mycology

Committee Chairs:

Historian	Fran Stallings
Publicity and Merchandise	Barbara Klein
Betty Kemm Award	Sue Amstutz
Awards	Connie Murray
Membership Database Editor	Tina Julich
Mailings/Printings	Sandy Graue
Native Plant Record	Gloria Caddell
Webmaster	Adam Ryburn
Gaillardia Editor	Lynn Michael
Color Oklahoma	Alicia Nelson

Conservation Committee and statewide Tulsa Garden
Center Liaison positions retired.

ONPS website:

www.oknativeplants.org

ONPS email:

ONPSinfo@gmail.com

Gaillardia News email:

ONPSGaillardia@gmail.com

**COPY AND ART
DEADLINE
FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE IS
FEB 5, 2021**

**Editor's Note:**

Since March of 2020, Covid-19 restrictions have kept us from our normal activities. This issue is a recounting of the activities our ONPS members have done to fill their time and still enjoy the beautiful native plants of Oklahoma. Some stories have been taken from Facebook postings, others are written about the few field trips we had this fall, and others are individual members' forays into the beautiful country around us. Hopefully, these stories will entice you and encourage you to make your own sojourns into the parks, nature centers and wild spaces around you..... and send me those reports when you do! Keep checking the ONPS website and Facebook pages as Events will be updated there as the situation allows.



Ilex decidua above.

Mayapples in woods, at left. Photos by Lynn Michael

Our elections were held online at the Oklahoma Native Plants website with 50+ voting. The following are the officers elected at that time.

Bill Farris - President

Donna Horton - Vice-President

Constance Murray - Secretary

Mary Korthase - Treasurer

Rahmona Thompson, Jim Elder -
2023 Directors

YARD BY YARD

The Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts in association with the Tulsa County Conservation District are proud to announce the launch of the new Yard by Yard program in Tulsa County.

This program highlights citizens who implement urban conservation practices that promote clean water, local resiliency and positively impact their communities, one yard at a time. Yard by Yard starts in Tulsa County on August 1, 2020. "Urban citizens do not always realize what a big difference they can make in our communities by just adding a few 'earth friendly' practices," said Kevin Mink, USDA-NRCS & Oklahoma County Conservation District Urban Soil Specialist. "Through the Yard by Yard project we can highlight the excellent work that urban residents are already doing and encourage others to try out projects that help build resiliency within our community." Kevin Mink works for the Oklahoma County Conservation District and is the driver behind the "Yard by Yard" program, which kicked off in Oklahoma County last month. Kevin is helping to launch the program in Tulsa County too.

Tulsa County residents can submit a video or pictures of their yard along with a simple checklist of activities to see if they qualify for the Yard by Yard project. The Yard by Yard project offers practices to use in four areas; soil, water, food, and habitat conservation. For more information and to submit your own yard, visit www.okconservation.org/yardbyyard or tulsaccd.org/yard-by-yard-community-resiliency-project/. For more information on The Tulsa County Yard by Yard project contact Gabriel Parker at tulsaccd@conservation.ok.gov.

Central Chapter Update

Patrick Bell, Chair

In keeping with current ONPS recommendations and pandemic guidelines, the Central Chapter of the ONPS has, and will continue to support our membership in the safest way possible, i.e. virtually. We've sponsored two webinars and plan to resume the monthly webinar lecture presentations after the holidays.

The two previous talks; Rahmona Thompson's *Sex in The Flower Bed* and November's *Greening of the Earth*, an overview of Oklahoma's paleo-botany history by Richard Lupia, are archived on the ONPS website. If you missed these very informative and educational presentations (or if the first time wasn't quite enough) I encourage you to log on, watch and learn.

The upcoming February webinar will feature Kevin Mink, Urban Soil Health Specialist, Oklahoma County Conservation District. In conjunction with the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts, the Oklahoma County Conservation District recently launched the Yard by Yard Community Resiliency Project. This program highlights and rewards neighbors who adopt earth-friendly conservation practices on their land and empowers them to encourage their friends and neighbors to do the same... *think native plants!* The state conservation districts are looking at extending the program, hopefully statewide. Kevin's talk will be given February 4th, 2021 at 7pm. Watching is easy; simply log on to the ONPS website (oknativeplants.org), click the link and you're there. Additional webinars are being planned, keep an eye on the website for updates.

Wishing you all a safe holiday season!

Northeast Chapter Update

Lynn Michael, Field Trip Coordinator

As Northeast Chapter's Field trip planner, I didn't feel like we should abandon all ONPS outings. After all, they told us to still go out and see places. So, with proper precautions, three field trips were held this fall. The ones to Oxley Nature Center and Natural Falls are written about in separate articles. The third was a field trip to Lee Lake in Bartlesville. Our primary objective was tree identification and, Boy, were we ever successful at that. Along the way, we also saw some forbs and found some beautiful fall color from both Smooth and Winged Sumac growing right together. We were able to see that one had orangish foliage and the other reddish. The huge grove of pawpaw had no fruit, but we are ever optimistic for next time.



Fungi in the Garden

Article and photos by Teresa Blue

My husband and I bought a motor home in the spring so that we could travel during Covid-19 as safely as possible. If you know me very well then you know that I am obsessed with all fungi - especially the edibles. Over our travels we found many interesting and edible mushrooms. When we returned from one of our trips I took a stroll through our garden to observe the changes that occurred during our absence. I have lined the pathways with wood logs that I obtained from our local green waste facility in hopes that fungi will occur naturally (if you build it they will come). Many animals feed on fungi and this just adds another interesting layer to a wildlife Garden.

Trametes versicolor, commonly known as Turkey Tail and pictured here, is one of the most common



mushrooms in North American woods. Turkey Tail grows worldwide on dead hardwood logs and stumps and occasionally on conifer wood as well. It is a polypore fungus and the pores can be seen on

the white underside in the photo pictured. Spores are released from the pores.

The name Turkey Tail is derived from its rings of brown and tan, which resemble the tail feathers of a turkey. The surface of the mushroom cap is thin and leathery and has a velvety feel to the touch. The fungus has



been used in traditional Chinese medicine for many years and is an approved mushroom product used for cancer treatment in Japan.

A log next to the Turkey Tail pictured has shiitake mushrooms (*Lentinula edodes*) growing on it, which I inoculated with mycelium. The Shiitake are native to East Asia and will therefore not be discussed further. I made tea with some of the Turkey Tail and if I want to eat the Shiitake I need to beat the animals to it. I don't worry too much about whether or not I get any, it just brings me a simplistic joy to find fungi in my own garden.

Just a few feet away from the Turkey Tail and the Shiitake there are some earth star mushrooms

(*Geastrum saccatum*), both pictured at right here and below. Earth Stars are common and are found worldwide. The fruiting body (mushroom) resembles a star,



hence the name. It feeds on decaying matter and begins as a round mass at ground level. The outer layer curls back to make the star and expose a sac like structure. Earth Stars appear in both spring and fall during wet weather. They are also sometimes referred to as a barometer earth star, because they react to the amount of humidity in the air. They open when it is humid and when the air is dry the points of the star fold up to enclose and protect the sac. It usually grows in clusters. In the center of the sac is a hole which releases spores as the mushroom ages. Native Americans used the Earth Star to stop bleeding by packing the wound with its spores.



(Fungi in the Garden, continued on Page 5)

(Fungi in the Garden, continued from Page 4)

(The following addition and photos are by Nancy Hamill)

For years I've found this small, rosy-red fungi in my lawn during summer and early fall. *Boletus campestris* has a dry red velvety cap. This mushroom has pores instead of gills as the

mushrooms one sees in grocery stores. Pores are yellow when fresh, but rapidly bruise a blue color with handling. Spore print color is olive brown. They are found singly to several under hardwoods, especially oaks in shade. They are mycorrhizal with oaks.



Sept 26, 2020, Field Trip at Oxley Nature Center
Photo by Lynn Michael

Contributions

General Fund

10/15/2020 Garvey, Lydia M.
Contributions to General Fund

Musings from Joe

ONPS has been on a roll for quite some time, with fantastic speakers, outings, and other events. Membership was thriving, we became more organized, and we truly seemed to improve every year.

Then 2020, *annus horribilis*, reared its ugly head. We sheltered in our homes for all but necessities, safe from the virus but separated from family and friends. People. That's what I miss most. In this year, when good folks were foaming at the mouth screaming at each other, we didn't have the refuges. The bars where blue and white collar drink together and laugh. The sporting events where Republican and Democrat cheer in unison. The theaters where we could forget why we're different and just enjoy a movie or a play. And ONPS, the best of refuges.

The glacial pace of our field trips, while humorous, is an invitation to slow down and focus. And the arguing usually never gets any pithier than whether common or scientific names should be used. I've been in ONPS for about a dozen years, and don't know the ideology of 99% of the members. Which is good, because I've heard the political thoughts of the other 1%, and, man, were they totally boneheaded!

Sorry, where was I? Anyway, 2020 is on its way out and I say good riddance. We'll get through this craziness soon, I'm certain of it. And ONPS will again become one of the refuges from the chaos we've created, and resume its place as one where we all can enjoy our humanity again. Wishing you all peace and good health.



Finally, A Field Trip

Becky Emerson Carlberg

Last Saturday found me at Oxley Nature Center in Tulsa. Oklahoma Native Plant Society hosted a field trip to investigate grasses and plants. Several came wearing masks, hats and sunglasses while carrying cameras and cell phones ready for pictures. As a matter of fact, two of the three photos accompanying this article were taken by “tween” Molly Malone, talented photographer and mushroom enthusiast!



Spiranthes sp.

Photo by Molly Malone

It took our group no time to locate the tall Indiangrass, Johnsongrass and Purpletop tridens along the mowed path in a large open field. Partially hidden but poking heads eight inches high from the ground were dainty Lady's Tresses (*Spiranthes sp.*). Orchid populations are considered vulnerable and fragile in many central US states and into Canada. Orchids growing in a prairie! The delicate spikes of spiraling white flowers were in stark contrast to the rougher textured tall grasses and wildflowers.

Walking toward the woods, White Crownbeard (*Verbesina virginica*) was in bloom everywhere. Ever see it? A tall plant with clusters of white flowers on winged stems. The wings look like thin green leaves that flare out from the stem. This late season drought tolerant nectar plant is eagerly sought by Monarchs and other butterflies. If the season is kind, frostweed can grow six feet tall. Perhaps you've heard of frostweed or iceweed? This is the plant. When the first frost hits, the stems burst as sap, supplemented with water from the roots, oozes out. It freezes into curls and feathery ice sculptures at the base of the plant. Monica Maekle from San Antonio says the iceweed ribbons look like nature's meringues.

Oxley Nature Center lies within 2,800 acres that compose Mohawk Park. The city park had been a floodplain and was mainly wetlands before modifications were made. In the 804 acres of the Nature Center live 700 species of plants, 38 mammals (including a few flying squirrels) and 263 species of birds.

I will testify to at least one species of bird at Oxley...the red-headed woodpecker. Four young woodpeckers were having an argument or loud discussion in the trees above our heads at the time we were admiring the gangly Eastern Gamagrass, a distant relative of corn. This indigenous perennial can live 50 years. The red heads ignored us and continued with their racket. Unlike other woodpeckers, the red head catches insects in air like flycatchers, and likes to eat and store acorns. Red-headed woodpecker populations have severely declined the last 50 years, so to watch and hear these birds was a special treat.

Sprouting high in the grasses was another plant with green leaf-like flanges (wings) on the stems. Wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*) is another tall fall bloomer. The plant looks like ironweed until it produces large yellow flowers with two to ten slender but long deep yellow petals around a center of spikey little florets. The small flowers resemble plump greenish yellow needles stuck in a pin cushion. The central plant stem is winged with green leaf-like flanges. The Xerces Society rates this plant as having special value for honey and bumble bees, wasps and butterflies.

(Finally, A Field Trip continued on Page 7)

Fairy Mushroom
Photo by Molly Malone



(Finally, A Field Trip , continued from page 6)

As we neared a new path, what I thought was ragweed on steroids turned out to be Sumpweed (*Iva annua*), a close relative also in the sunflower family. The plants have concentrated in the south-central states to Nebraska. Sumpweed. What a name. Weeds in stagnant water. Sumpweed, or the more dignified name

Annual Marshelder, lives in...wait for it..... marshes!

With pollen that rivals that of ragweed, annual marshelder may also cause hay fever, flair up asthma and give rise to contact dermatitis.

The Large-seed Marshelder (*Iva annua* var. *macrocarpa*) was domesticated 4,000 years ago by Native Americans for its large edible oily seeds high in protein, minerals and B vitamins (37% protein and 45% oil). Similar to wheat, it had to be grown in large crops for a decent harvest. Marshelder seeds were often mixed with sunflower and squash seeds for food. At the same time, giant ragweed was also cultivated for seeds and oil. During the late Prehistoric (AD 900 to 1600), the Large-seed Marshelder went extinct, possibly because of the introduction of maize (corn). Ragweed too disappeared from people's diets, but this plant managed to survive quite nicely. FYO:

Ragweed seeds taste like wheat bran or the flavor of the raisin bran box. Common ragweed is quite adept at removing lead from soil.



Great White Egret on Pond at Oxley Nature Center

Photo by Rebecca Carlberg

The Nature Center is traversed by over ten miles of paths with trail names such as Bird Creek, Blue Heron, Coyote, Whitetail, Woodpecker, Mushroom, Red Fox, Blackbird, Salamander, Yellow Warbler and Green Dragon. Somewhere along Bob's Trail near the Teaching Center were a few bright green fern fronds in the shade under some trees.

The Cut-leaf Grape Fern (*Botrychium/Sceptridium dissectum*) began life as one stalk with the typical but sterile compound fern leaf, but now, in autumn, a separate stalk had shot up from the base of the first fern stalk. This fertile stem had produced little grape-like sporangia containing future fern spores soon to be released. The fern fronds will soon turn a fall bronze color. Growing in the shadows but yet so very photosynthetic green, the cut-leaf fern derives most of its nourishment from mycorrhizal fungi living in the soil around its roots. This fern can live over five decades, but is a devil to cultivate. Love them where they grow!

On the paths we met families who cheerily gave other trail walkers wide berth. Scout troops were out for an adventure and some merit badge work. We wound our way back toward the Oxley-Yetter Interpretive Building past duckweed covered ponds and duckweed covered turtles, stands of rushes, white mushrooms rising up through the leaves, green and tan shelf fungi attached to sides of tree stumps and orange fungal blobs oozing out of wood. The ramp led to the porch overlooking a small pond with a white egret standing proudly at the other side. Pipevines grew over the fence. Monarchs and Pipevine swallowtails, defined by their dazzling cerulean blue hindwings, fluttered in the wild flowers below. Honey bees buzzed around a white hive where we entered the building. Inside were glass walls and rooms with animal and plant exhibits, a classroom, work areas and wildlife viewing area. It was a great day to do some "forest bathing", socializing and botanizing!

Meet the Founders:

By Fran Stallings

Sue Amstutz

Roger Tory Peterson, it's all your fault.

Sue was a happy flutist, teaching music and speech at Jane Addams Elementary School in Tulsa where Dale Amstutz taught science. They married in 1970 and she convinced him to spend summer vacations in Colorado where she fondly remembered childhood fishing trips with her father, a Shell Oil engineer. Sue and Dale happened to bring along Peterson's guide to Rocky Mountain Wild Flowers on their 1973 vacation trip, and the rest is history.

They tried growing wildflowers in their Tulsa backyard, which was so steep that the previous owners had terraced it with concrete blocks. The top terrace was level with the house roof! Sue remembered her mother's dahlias and her father's rose garden, but tomatoes and other vegetables didn't do well when neglected all summer while Sue and Dale vacationed in Colorado. Wildflowers, however, can take care of themselves.

Although Sue's mother couldn't convince her to join the Tulsa Garden Club, she was a good friend of Betty Kemm and knew that ONPS had started in 1987. By 1989 she had convinced Sue to join ONPS upon retirement from teaching. Dale retired three years later and also joined. Their yard filled with native plants and bird feeders – a special interest of Dale, who had taught his students to recognize local birds. In 1995 they tore out the cinderblocks and substituted Arkansas sandstone, fronted with Oklahoma stone. Now the only remaining non-natives are several Japanese quince bushes, tolerated for their brilliant flowers and the fact that the birds like to nest in them.

Sue has been very active in ONPS since its early days, serving several terms on the board and chairing the Northeast chapter for six years. When Pat Folley suggested that a service award for members should supplement ONPS' Anne Long Award (which can be awarded to non-members), Sue wrote the guidelines which are still used. Eventually the service award was named for Betty Kemm at Pat Folley's recommendation, and Sue still chairs the committee.

She was also very active in promoting ONPS' photography contests. Starting in 1990, she curated eastern Oklahoma while Ruth Boyd curated central.



Sue Amstutz surrounded by Arnica blooms

Photo by Dale Amstutz

The two traded poster-size photo prints and travelled statewide 1991-2012, displaying them at colleges, libraries, and the nature centers in eastern OK state parks as part of ONPS' educational outreach.

Photography is a long term interest of Sue and Dale. They have over sixty 144-slide trays of slides taken in Colorado and Oklahoma (the 7 OK trays are now digitized), many albums of 4x6 prints including Montana and the wildflower center in Austin, and countless digital photos stored on a laptop. Everything is filed by year, going back to 1970 and keyed to meticulous notes citing place and date. These photos are the basis of numerous talks Sue has presented to garden clubs in Tulsa and elsewhere.

Asked to name a favorite wildflower, Sue mentioned cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) but lamented that their yard is not wet enough for it, "even under the bird baths." However the frost weed (*Verbesina virginica*) that hitch-hiked in a pot of Marilyn Stewart's golden alexander has made itself at home, and produced a fairyland of frost formations last fall. The Amstutzes also enjoy obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), a favorite of hummingbirds.

What about the flute? Sue taught private lessons and held recitals in their Tulsa home until 6-8 years ago. She still plays, and for the past 31 years has served as principal flute of the Celebration Orchestra at First Baptist Church in Tulsa.

Starting from that one Peterson guide, they now have "I don't know how many" field guides, and have helped uncountable Oklahomans appreciate our native plant heritage.

Revisiting a Family Favorite article and photos by Marilyn Stewart

I grew up making family summertime visits to Platt National Park in Sulphur where we would jump off waterfalls and swim in the clear, icy spring water. It's a magical place. But Veteran's Lake within Platt, [which is now called The Chickasaw National Recreation Area, was never on our radar.](#) What I've missed by ignoring this place!

Like many places in the park it was constructed by the WPA in the late 1930's. A wide concrete path for walkers and bicycles makes a 3 mile circle of the lake and there are also numerous trails above the lake. Every two weeks or so since February 2020, we have made the drive just to see what is growing. Every time there seems to be a new surprise: an enormous patch of Red-whiskered Clammyweed (*Polanisia dodecandra*), *Juniper ashei*, *Liatris punctata*, Swamp Privet (*Forestiera pubescens*), Purple Leatherflower (*Clematis pitcherii*) and my favorite find—Scarlet Pea (*Indigofera miniata*). The blooms on the Rusty Blackhaw (*Viburnum rufidulum*) were gorgeous in the spring and now those shrubs are covered



in blue-black berries. On our last trip, the Leavenworth's Eryngium and Grama grasses were standouts.

At the risk of sounding like I work for the Sulphur Tourism Department. I can't recommend enough a trip to this park. The Artesian Hotel is top-notch, the Chickasaw Cultural Center is nearby, and there are miles and miles of lovely trails to explore.

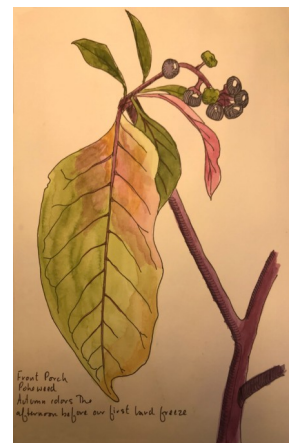
Top right: *Indigofera miniata*
 Bottom right: *Liatris punctata*
 Bottom Left: *Eryngium leavenworthii*



BIOBLITZ 2020 UPDATE!!!!!!

The 2020 Bioblitz concluded on October 4th with record numbers. A total of 393 participants logged enough observations to produce the biggest species count ever. The 1,261 species count resulted because the event was statewide and covered three full days for the first time. Plants accounted for 446 of those species, and Amy Buthod reported that some would be added to the rare plant database. Sheila Strawn found 25 lichen species at Red Rock Canyon and Clark Overbo helped identify some of the 72 Fungi and Lichens observed. The biggest Taxa group is always the Insects with 500+ species this year. Virtual Bioblitz April 2021. Fall Bioblitz, Oct 1-3, 2021, Roman Nose State Park. Drawing of American Pokeweed by Priscilla Crawford

For more information visit: <https://biosurvey.ou.edu/bioblitz2020/>



Ferns, Ferns, Ferns

article and photos by Nancy Hamill

It was the first real cool front we'd had come through northeastern Oklahoma when the Oklahoma Native Plant Society Fern Field trip met. Lynn Michael led the trip at Natural Falls State Park, just south of Hwy 412 at Colcord, OK, on October 24th. Lisa Euchner, Sandy Graue and I followed her down the steps into the descending entrance to view the 77 ft. falls. The pathway leads down a narrow V-shaped valley. First spied was an Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*) under a Juniper on the right. Then many clumps of Hairy Lip Fern (*Chelanthus tomentosa*) among craggy limestone rocks on the left. Also, here was the only plant of Purple



cliffbrake (*Pellaea atropurpurea*) that we saw that day (at left). On the rocks at our right we found the somewhat rare Bradley's Spleenwort (*Asplenium bradleyi*) nestled in the crevices.

Several more steps down we came to the

little valley and a viewing platform of the falls.

On the limestone cliff walls were the only

Southern Maidenhair

(*Adiantum capillus veneris*, pictured at

right) that we were to

see. These plants

love the spray from

the falling water of

the falls and water

dripping from above

to keep them moist

year round. The

liverworts were

luxuriant in green growth.



Walking ferns, pictured here (*Asplenium rhyophyllum*) were all over the few boulders to the right of the falls.

Walking ferns got the name from the fact that new plantlets grow whenever the arching, elongated triangular leaves touch the ground, creating a



walking effect. Of interest is that the Walking fern here in northeastern Oklahoma and eastern Kansas is probably the most

western edge of its growing range. In crevices of these same boulders Maidenhair spleenwort (*Adiantum trichomanes*, pictured at right) grew looking like tiny versions of Ebony Spleenwort.



As you stand with your back to the falls at the

base of the cliff to your left Marginal Shield fern grows in a small patch (*Dryopteris marginalis*). It reminds people of the more familiar ferns with its triangular shaped fronds.

Brittle Bladder ferns (*Cystopteris bulbifera*) or Fragile Ferns were here too. We could not find any bladders on the frond part of the stems.

On the floor of the small valley we spotted only a very few plants of the Broad Beech fern (*Phyopteris hexagonoptera*).

Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) were scattered several different places where it was not very moist. We found no Resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*).

Five Parks/Three Days

article and photos by Lynn Michael

When all ONPS events were cancelled, it seemed like an opportunity to catch a few of the 32 Oklahoma State Parks. The Southeast area has five State Parks somewhat clustered together so Sandy Graue and I took three days in May to visit them. We headed for **Clayton Lake State Park** but we couldn't help but stop along the road

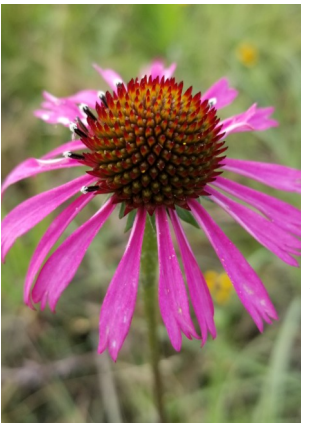


Tephrosia virginiana, above;
Echinacea altrorubens, below

when we saw the Standing Cypress (*Ipomopsis rubra*). This plant is a biennial so the first year you just get a beautiful dissected basal rosette of leaves. The second year is the spectacular spike of reddish-orange blossoms.

At **McGee Creek SP** some highlights were Goat's Rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*), Black Vultures, a tarantula, oh yes, and a Roadrunner, which I rarely see. A toxin in Goat's Rue was used by Native Americans to stun fish so they would float to the top where they could be harvested.

Unexpected pleasures at **Hugo Lake SP** were Marbleseed (*Lithospermum bejariense*), Whorled Milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*), Canadian Milkvetch, annual Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium rosulatum*), and Lemon Beebalm (*Monarda punctata*).



Next stop, **Raymond Gary** where Wine cup Mallow, *Verbesina helianthoides*, Illinois Bundleflower and Sida were found. Yes, we stopped along the roads too when we saw Butterflyweed, Neptunia, Purple Prairie clover, and St. John's Wort. We also had to swing by our favorite prairie near Idabel and revisit the Calamint (*Clinopodium arkansanum*), Topeka purple coneflower (*Echinacea altrorubens*), and Purple paintbrush (*Castilleja purpurea*).

We finished strong by revisiting **Beaver's Bend**. The ferns there are divine, but we also saw Pineoak Jewelflower, *Streptanthus squamiformis*, Redring Milkweed, *Asclepias variegata* and a new *Monarda stipitatoglandulosa* (try saying that three times fast!)

On the road home we were fortunate to find Royal Fern, New Jersey Tea, Yellow Stonecrop and a native thistle. A wonderful trip and great way to see Oklahoma and still avoid the crowds.



Ipomopsis rubra, above;
Lithospermum bejariense, below



Left to right: *Streptanthus squamiformis*, *Sisyrinchium rosulatum*, *Monarda punctata* & *Asclepias variegata*



Talemina Drive

A great Facebook page you might want to check out is called Oklahoma Day Trips (and side stops). A post on November 6th is worth sharing and the author, Danny Fritsche has graciously permitted his photos of a recent trip along the Talemina Drive to be reprinted here.



FACEBOOK

Andrea Schultz Farriester started this discussion on August 16, 2019 and got 63 comments from people about their favorite plants... “I’m interested in hearing what your favorite native plant is, and why. I’ll start with *Rhus glabra* (her photo



above). It’s a Spring nectar source, a magnet in Summer for fruit eating birds, a blaze of red color in the Fall, and a structure in the Winter. No pests, tough as nails, what’s not to love?”

Several responses suggested Elderberry as a favorite including Stac Homestead with his photo here. Kenda Woodburn likes Buttonbush. Frogfruit/ Fogfruit (*Phyla nodiflora*) received lots of comments.



Bush Morning glory (*Ipomea leptophylla*) is a favorite in Lynn Kisinger’s yard, pictured at left.



Deborah Dalton sent a photo of her yard (at right) and exclaimed that her penstemons never stay where they are put and so her garden is a joy and surprise every year.



Shalini Chitturi posted a challenge on August 20, 2020. She said if everyone on the Facebook page planted just one native plant patch this fall, we would have 9,513 additional native gardens in Oklahoma!

She received 224 comments so we have added a few wildflowers in our gardens and fields for this year.

CR Ledford, among others, is listed by Facebook as a “Storyteller” because of the details in his posts. His August 2nd post tells this story: “I am going batty again; nothing really new for me. The misses and I had disturbed an Eastern Red Bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) when harvesting native plums (*Prunus mexicana*). It flew off a short distance to a female Osage Orange (*Maclura pomifera*). We went over there to apologize and got the celebrity pic. The Red can be found across the state...it did not fly into the misses’ hair. Also, it is time for Osage Orange golf...ever played that?”



On October 28th, Garrett Blake also suggested everyone post their favorite wildflower, but added that they should post it with a photo. He started it off with his favorite *Liatris pycnostachya*. Some of the 91 comments he received included Debbie Drinko’s picture that captured the OKC area ice storm with her picture of iced sumac. (Pictured at top of Page 14)



(FACEBOOK continued on Page 14)

(FACEBOOK continued from Page 13)



Maureen Turner shared a photo of one of her favorites, the Indian Pink. (below)



But let's not forget those strange parasitic plants that have no chlorophyll and take their nutrients from others. Carrie Glenn captured this hauntingly beautiful image of Indian Pipe in LeFlore County with her Oct. 18th post. Katlin Seagraves also saw



one at Oxley Nature Center about that same time.

Amy N Ian Thompson have been great contributors to our FB page since joining in March of this year. This Oct. 17th post is noteworthy:

"At the start of this growing season, I set out to learn how to identify every native wildflower and native grass species in our pastures. The experience has changed the way that I see the land. Thank you all so much for patiently teaching me. Here is a blog article that describes the journey. It also has a video of 130 of the native wildflower species I was able to identify in our pasture this year.

The ONPS is amazing! I look forward to what lies ahead."

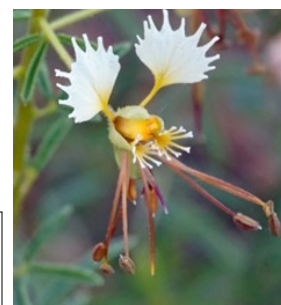
Here is an excerpt from their blog at nanawaya.com

"I'm going to share a story of 2020 that has been both positive and hopeful on several levels..

..2020 has been our first full year living on the farm. When the pandemic unexpectedly shut down my work-related travel, I was given what may have been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend at least a little bit of time out in our pastures almost every day through an entire growing season....Coming upon a native wildflower, it's not hard to wonder about the faces and stories of all of the Native women who must have stopped to admire the same particular species of flower,"

Read his inventory list at: <https://www.nanawaya.com/post/an-unforgettable-year-in-native-plants>

Large Clammyweed, *Polanisia erosa*
by Amy N Ian Thompson



THANK YOU!

One of the Administrators on our site was Michael Palmer. Everyone valued his insight and superior aptitude at identification. He started some thought-provoking discussions and knowledgeable posts. This summer, he moved to Blue River, Oregon. On Sept. 8th, he sent this post: "I'm signing off this site indefinitely now, due to dealing with destruction of our new home (and home town) in Oregon caused by a raging wildfire. However, there are so many folks on this page who know their plants very well, so I know ID requests will be handled very well! Goodbye and thanks for all the fun times with Oklahoma native plants!" Read more at: https://news.okstate.edu/articles/arts-sciences/2020palmer_fire.html

We want to thank Michael for all his contributions and wish him the very best at rebuilding his life in Oregon.

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, PO Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159.

Membership is for Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of current year and dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

(Please Print Clearly) _____ RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBER (All dues are tax deductible)

Name: _____

Affiliation: (School, Business, or Avocation) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Phone: Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Work: (_____) _____ (Please don't list my phone in the directory: ____)

E-mail: _____

E-mail 2: _____

Membership Levels:

- ____ Individual (\$20)
 ____ Family (\$25)
 ____ Life Individual (\$300)
 ____ Family Individual (\$350)
 ____ Student (\$10) (free with faculty sponsor)

Chapter affiliation:

- ____ Central (OKC area)
 ____ Northeast (Tulsa area)
 ____ Crosstimbers (Stillwater area)
 ____ Mycology (statewide)

You may sign up for multiple chapters if you like, to receive field trip and meeting notices from that chapter.

Need more details or a digital directory email: ONPSinfo@gmail.com

***Order form for Volume 19 of
Oklahoma Native Plant Record***

Send order form with your check to:

Oklahoma Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 14274
 Tulsa, OK 74159-1274
 (Need an invoice? gcaddell@uco.edu)

Name _____

or Institution _____

Mailing address _____

State and Zip code _____

E-mail address _____

Print Volume 19 @ \$15.00 _____

USB drive Volume 1-19 @ \$10.00 _____

Shipping charge + \$3.00 _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Oklahoma Native Plant Record



All archived issues of the *Oklahoma Native Plant Record* are available online at:

<https://ojs.library.okstate.edu/osu/index.php/ONPR/article/view/7893/7285>

Gloria Caddell, Ph.D.

Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 14274
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74159

Non-Profit
U. S. Postage Paid
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Permit No. 357

Return Service Requested

Winter 2020 Issue

DUES ARE DUE NOW.

If your label does not show 2021,
please pay your dues.



Winter color by Deciduous Holly, *Ilex decidua*
Photo by Lynn Michael

Submission Deadlines:

February 5th
May 5th
August 5th
November 5th

Gaillardia articles, except those reprinted here with permission from other sources, may be reprinted at will. Please acknowledge source and author.

Send all mail, except contributions to the Gaillardia, to:

Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 14274
Tulsa, OK 74159
ONPSinfo@gmail.com

For Gaillardia material only, use the editor's e-mail address:

Gaillardia Editor
email: ONPSGaillardia@gmail.com

- All material accepted is with the understanding that it can be freely copied and distributed.
- Submit articles with your Name and Title of Article in subject line in a format of txt, rtf or Word files in Times New Roman or other standard font types for OCR.