

# the Gaillardia

## OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Society mailing address: 2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74114

Editor---Luann Sewell Waters, Box 457, Wynnewood, OK 73098

Volume 2, Number 1 Spring 1987

The Oklahoma Native Plant Society is "official" now with the election of officers at its January 10, 1987 meeting. Voting on by-laws was also held. Officers are: President-Betty Kemm, Tulsa; Vice President-Dr. Paul Buck, Tulsa; Donna Hamilton, Tulsa; Treasurer-Mary Byrd, Tulsa; and Historian-Mary Jo Neal, Claremore. Directors at Large are: Dr. Harriet Barclay, Herb Beattie, and Aileen Roads Carter all of Tulsa; Karen Hartman and Joanne Orr of Oklahoma City and Dr. Ron Tyrl of Stillwater.

The program held at the organizational meeting was presented by Dr. Harriet Barclay on her thirty years of botanical travels. The audience was transported from the Rockies to Scotland, South America, China, Nepal and Alaska to Australia to share in Dr. Barclay's studies and times of "sometimes you become a botanist" even if you're not somewhere specifically to study plants.

Another item of business was a resolution presented by Herb Beattie on the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve. It was approved by the members and is as follows:

### RESOLUTION:

Whereas, the nation's tallgrass prairies that were once so abundant are now in danger of extinction, and

Whereas, the opportunity exists for a National Tallgrass Prairie Preserve to be established in Osage County, Oklahoma, and

Whereas, the establishment of such a preserve would perpetuate a significant segment of the Tallgrass ecosystem for future generations; and would attract visitors to Oklahoma from throughout the world, thereby improving the economic condition of the state while providing such visitors with an opportunity to view the beauty of Oklahoma's native tall grasses, now therefore

Be it resolved that the members of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society hereby endorse the proposal to create a National Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma and encourage all citizens and public officials of the state, especially the members of the Oklahoma Congressional delegation, to lend their support and leadership toward the early establishment of such a preserve.

# CALENDAR

There is an amazing number of activities to consider adding to your calendars. Events to remember:

March 7 (Saturday)--**Planning your Spring garden**--Martin Park Nature Center, OKC. free. Call 755-0676 for reservations.

March 21-22 (Saturday and Sunday)--**Everyman's Garden Fair**, Tulsa Garden Center. free. Call 749-6401 for more details.

March 22 (Sunday)--**Hand-lens Hike**--Martin Park Nature Center, 5000 W. Memorial Rd., OKC. free. Reservations required, call 755-0676.

April 4 (Saturday)--**Spring Wildflowers**, Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa. 1:00 p.m. Reservations necessary. \$1.00 for non-members. Call 832-8112 for details.

April 11 (Saturday)--**Wichita Wildlife Refuge meeting and field trip**, Oklahoma Native Plant Society. Meet at the Quanah Parker Visitor's Center ( east of Refuge Headquarters and near Prairie Dog Town) at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch and beverages. Return to the Center at about 5:00 p.m. More details elsewhere in the newsletter.

April 25-26 (Saturday and Sunday)--**Rich Mountain Field Trips**. Led by Lana and Bruce Ewing. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Wal-Mart parking lot, Mena, Arkansas. Bring your lunch. The Saturday trip is on Wildflowers (ONPS) and the Sunday trip is on Birds (Tulsa Audubon). For details call the Ewings 918-245-6435.

April 24,25,26 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)--**Texas Wildflower Trails**--Triangle between Linden, Avinger and Hughes Springs in Northeast Texas.

April 25 (Saturday)--**Eighth annual Texas Wildflower Day**, Hubbard Hall, Texas Women's University, Denton, TX. Free symposium 9:00 a.m. to noon. Exhibits. Awards luncheon 12:30--2:30 p.m., \$6.50. Prepaid reservations by April 20. Write Wildflower Day Committee, TWU, P.O. Box 22675, Denton, TX 76204 or call 817-898-3326 for more information.

May 15-17 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)--**Oklahoma Ornithological Society Spring Meeting--Boiling Springs State Park**, Woodward Co., OK. Lots of field trips with both bird and plant possibilities. Registration \$5. Camping available at the park--contact Vernon Powders, Bio Dept., NWSOU, Alva, OK 73717 (405-327-1700, Biology) for more details.

May 30-31 (Saturday and Sunday)--**Oklahoma Wildflower Workshop**, Claremore. For information contact: Mary Jo Neal, 5535 S.W.Faulkner Rd., Claremore, OK 74017. 918-266-1930.

June 6 (Saturday)--**Missouri Prairie Day**--Paint Brush Prairie, nine miles south of Sedalia on Highway 65.

June 20 (Saturday)--tentative--Osage Prairie tour--more on this later.

July--no date set yet--third meeting of Oklahoma Native Plant Society. Evening meeting and program.

October 3 (Saturday) --tentative-- Annual Meeting of Oklahoma Native Plant Society.

Little Lewis Whirlwind Nature School near Jay, OK offers many nature programs and projects. A weekend there makes a good retreat for families or groups. College credit is also offered for weekend classes beginning March 27. Schedules include: March 27-29--Wilderness Wonders, April 3-5--Bird song and Spring wildflowers, April 10-12--Peak of migration; spring ephemorals, May 8-10--Family weekend and May 22-24--open. For details write to: F.M. Baumgartner, Rt. 2, Jay, OK 74346 or call 918-253-8805.



We're off to a good start! At the January meeting we received 67 memberships!

The Society's permanent mailing address will be 2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74114 thanks to the Tulsa Garden Center. This will allow for easier distribution of mail as officers change in the future and save money on brochures, etc. since we won't have to continually be changing the address.



Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll find a form for recording your observations of native plants for the coming year. There is an unofficial goal of 200 species/year and plans for a dinner next January for observers to compare and share notes. So keep your records carefully--location, species, dates, and plant condition (fruiting, blooming, foliage development and dormancy) are all important to note.

Along these lines, Theresa Grosshans of Tulsa will be sharing hints on taking wildflower photographs in this and future newsletters. Perhaps at future ONPS meetings we can have a time set-aside for the showing of slides to fellow native plant enthusiasts? Be sure to keep records on your photos....however, if you have some "mysteries" in your slide file, we could have "U.F.O." showings like the Utah Native Plant Society does----U.F.O.'s to them are Unidentified Flowering Objects.

Here are a few of Theresa's hints on taking better plant pictures: Rim lighting of trees adds to their shape--gives roundness, always clean-up around the plant before you shoot---bits of paper or cans can be moved (better yet, put them in a trash bag and dispose of them properly!--ed.), remember to **move in** and fill the frame with the main object. More of these later.

If you have hints you'd like to share on photography or planting of native plants, let me know for future issues.



I came across an article last fall by columnist, George Plagenz titled "Of whiners and gardeners". In it, Plagenz pushes the point of there being a better way to "get revenge on the unfairnesses of life" rather than whining about them. He relates stories of three different gardens but the one that especially caught my attention was the one a bus driver in South Carolina had planted. This driver had a 10 minute wait at the end of his run in an empty lot in a rundown part of town. He didn't like it at first but then had the idea to plant a garden. Today, the lot is a beauty spot and the driver looks forward to the refreshment those minutes of waiting give him.

We can all be like that driver and plant a garden somewhere of some type and share those moments of refreshment.



If you need a t-shirt to show your interest in native plants (and especially wildflowers), contact the National Wildflower Research Center about their shirts. They have one design with pink evening primroses (real pretty) available in sweatshirts (\$20), adult shirts (\$12) and children's (\$10) and another design with black-eyed Susan saying "Wildflowers Work" (\$12). All prices include postage and handling. Contact NWRC to order, 2600 FM 973 North, Austin, TX 78725.



To help celebrate the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, there has been a project developed entitled "Plant a Living Legacy". Citizens all over the country are being encouraged to plant a new garden, restore an existing garden or park, plant trees and flowers along public streets and roadways or identify and preserve natural areas in an effort to commemorate the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

In order for a project to be recognized as an official "Living Legacy Project", there must be a long-term maintenance plan and must be on publicly-owned land or property that may be opened to the public. Each local project developed in the next year will be dedicated on September 17, 1987, the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution in Philadelphia.

For more information on how you can become involved with the project, write to "Living Legacy Project", Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, 734 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Tulsa is doing its part to maintain and replenish its urban forest with plans to have an urban forester and with the River Parks Authority having a fund-raising drive to purchase and plant trees along the Arkansas River. The fund drive begins March 23 as part of Oklahoma Arbor Day week. Also, several Girl Scout groups are planning to help with the project as part of the 75th anniversary of Girl Scouts. Urban trees are important--for their beauty, as shelter for wildlife and because they help curb air and noise pollution and soil erosion.



More information on the April 11 meeting and field trip at Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge: only limited camping space is available and visitor numbers are heavy in the spring so you might want to plan on staying in a motel on Friday (and Saturday possibly) night. Reasonable and convenient lodging and food is available in either Lawton or Chickasha. While Lawton is closer (25 miles) driving time from Chickasha (50 miles) is about the same due to Lawton traffic. Larry Magrath shares the following info. on motels in Chickasha (sorry to not have any on Lawton, but should be easy to get by calling information): Regency Inn, on US 81 about 2 blks south of Bailey Turnpike--405-222-3710; Ranch House Motel also on US 81 224-3333; Kings Inn at 702 S. 4th--224-3911; Best Western at 4th and Grand Ave. about 1 blk. north of Turnpike--224-4890 and U-Lodge Motel at 1313 S. 4th--224-8010. Of the prices Larry sent me, the U-Lodge is the least expensive at \$16 for a single to the Best Western at \$32 to \$37 for a single. There are numerous restaurants and fast food places on both 4th and Grand.



Directors-at-large drew straws to establish length of terms in office to comply with the by-laws (staggering terms in office so two would be elected each year). Aileen Carter and Harriet Barclay will serve for one year each, Herb Beattie and Joanne Orr will serve for two years each and Ron Tyrl and Karen Hartman will serve three year terms in office.

#### TALLGRASS PRAIRIE PRESERVE

The proposal to establish a National Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Oklahoma, as endorsed by the Oklahoma Native Plant Society at our January meeting, deserves the support of all Oklahomans interested in conservation. If you would like to write your own personal letters of support for this proposal, or comments on other conservation matters, they should be sent to Congressman Mickey Edwards and other members of the Oklahoma Congressional delegation at the following addresses:

The Honorable David Boren, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C. 20510

(Dear Senator:)

The Honorable Don Nickles, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C. 20510

(Dear Senator:)

The Honorable Mickey Edwards, 2434 Rayburn Building, Washington, D. C. 20515 (*Sample salutation: Dear Congressman Edwards:*)

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, 1017 Longworth Building, Washington, 20515

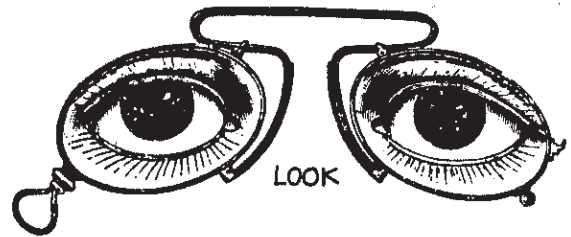
The Honorable Mike Synar, 1713 Longworth Building, Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Wes Watkins, 2440 Rayburn Building, Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable David McCurdy, 313 Cannon Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515

The Honorable Glenn English, 2235 Rayburn Building, Washington, D. C. 20515





Have you seen the March-April 1987 issue of Oklahoma Today? There is a beautiful portfolio of wildflower photos and a fun article on Wild Edibles. Be sure to see these and share them with a friend!



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Be on the look-out for items of interest to share in future issues of Gaillardia--organization news, educational articles, details on relevant legislation, good locations to observe plants, field trip info., drawings and cartoons. The newsletter can be as fun and informative as you can help it be with your contributions. Send material to: Luann Sewell Waters, Box 457, Wynnewood, OK 73098. Unless you indicate you need something returned, I'll keep it on file for future issues. **THANKS!**



**Did you know?** Thirteen Oklahoma plant species have been proposed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as threatened or endangered species. Included in the list of candidate species are false indigo (Amorpha ouchitensis), sandgrass (Calamovilfa arcuata), and Waterfall's sedge (Carex latebracteata), all of which occur in the Ouchita Mountains of southeast Oklahoma.

**FYI (for your information)**--if you didn't know all ready....The Nature Conservancy opened a Field Office in June 1986 in Tulsa under the direction of Herb Beattie. The office is in Suite 846, 320 S. Boston, Tulsa, OK 74103, 918-585-1117. If you're not familiar with TNC, they identify the most important elements of natural diversity and then seek to protect them by gift, purchase, easement or management agreement. The acquired element is managed by either turning the natural area over to a conservation group or state or federal agency, or, the Conservancy retains the area as part of its extensive preserve system. (Thanks to Ian Butler for this info.)

## Oklahoma Native Plant Society: Plant Observer's Form

**Object:** During the rest of this calendar year, try to observe at least 200 native plants in their natural habitats (the collecting of plant materials is discouraged, unless you're working with a scientific herbarium collection.) Accuracy is more important than quantity; if you don't know what it is, just write down what you DO know about it. This observation club is for your enjoyment, but accurate records and clear site descriptions will help all of us learn more about Oklahoma's native plants. Please limit your records for this club to NATIVE plants, IN Oklahoma.

**Result:** Bring your observation records to the official "Observer's Club" Dinner next January (date, time, & location to be announced), where you may hobnob with other Observers, comparing notes, and sharing details of favorite locations. A long-term result will be the publication of Native Plant Observer's Guide with directions to good fieldtrip sites. These observations will also provide the Native Plant Society with the information needed to protect rare and endangered species and their habitats.

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Attach extra pages to each other as needed.



## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

March, 1987

We got off to a great start with more than 100 people at the January meeting (in spite of snow flurries). I hope that we have as good a turnout for the July meeting, which will be in Oklahoma City, tentatively. Details will be in the next newsletter.

Your board has been busy since the meeting in January. Dr. Larry Magrath, Botany Professor at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha, has been appointed to the board as field trip chairman and Luann Sewell Waters, outdoor writer from Wynnewood, as newsletter editor.

I want to thank Luann for getting this issue together. It is our first try at long distance editing. The logo on the front page is temporary. We have named the newsletter THE GAILLARDIA, but we are still working on a permanent logo. Any ideas?

Members of the board have been working on incorporation and tax exempt status and ideas for educational programs. Donna Hamilton, our secretary, has prepared a worksheet for your use in recording the wildflowers you see in Oklahoma this year. Make as many copies as you like.

As a new organization, we really want input from our members in order to carry out our purpose: "To encourage the study, protection, propagation, use and appreciation of the native plants of Oklahoma." Let us know your special interests and possible contributions of information. What are some of the outstanding or unusual native plants of your part of the state?

If you haven't joined yet, you still have the opportunity to become a charter member. Simply fill out the application and send a check.

See you all at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge on April 11. Pack a lunch and get out your boots or hiking shoes.

*Betty*  
Betty Kemm

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

(Clip and mail to: Oklahoma Native Plant Society, c/o Mary Byrd, Treasurer, 5819 S. Evanston, Tulsa, OK 74105)

Please enroll me as a member of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. My dues payment is enclosed for the category checked: (Make check payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5 Student; \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Individual; \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Family; \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home telephone) (Business phone)

## ADDITIONS TO THE CALENDAR

April 7 to May 5. TULSA JUNIOR COLLEGE CLASS: Wildflowers of Oklahoma. There will be five two-hour sessions on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p. m. at the Northeast Campus, North Harvard at Apache. There will be some field trips. The cost is \$13. For information, call TJC: 918 834-5071.

May 30 and 31. DETAILS FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP. This year's workshop will be at Claremore in the Women's Building at the Fairgrounds. Mary Jo Neal and Dr. Harriet Barclay have planned a super program. Don't miss it. Flyers will be available in early April.

Here are the highlights of the workshop program: Registration 8 to 9 a. m.  
Morning speakers: Gary Schaum, Rex and Eleanor Rader, Bob Hill  
Afternoon speakers: Gary Roach, Jim Estes  
Evening program: John Miller

Sunday afternoon field trips: Choice of Redbud Valley or Lake Oologah Nature Trail. Car pool.

Registration: Two-day package \$17, including registration, lunch and dinner. Dinner catered by Hammett House, lunch by Extension Homemakers. (Registration only is \$3 per day.)

Reservation deadline for meals: May 15, cancel by May 21. Make checks payable to WILDFLOWER WORKSHOP and mail to: Lynn Michael  
3530 West Country Club Road  
Claremore, Oklahoma 74017

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