



KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

VOLUME 41, NUMBER 3

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

JULY 2019



IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	3
2019 AWW Update	4
Rare Plants at Spring Outing	5
Native Plants in Urban Settings	6
Tribute to Woody Holland	7
Monarch's Survival Needs	8
Calendar of Events	10
Membership News	11
Rusty Black Haw	12
Atchison's Jackson Park	13
Stiff Goldenrod	13
Kansas River Celebration	14
Making Connections	15

NATIVE PLANTS IN URBAN SETTINGS

Native plantings mitigate city water concerns

— JAMI SEIRER, HAYS

Though the last couple of years have been extremely wet (by Hays standards...), water availability is still a major concern to the area. By city ordinance, from June 1 – September 30, outdoor water use is prohibited from 12:00pm – 7:00pm. If drought conditions worsen, changes in restriction dates and times may be necessary.

To help educate and prepare residents of Hays for these and future deteriorating conditions, the City of Hays has implemented a “Water\$mart” conservation program. Rebates on high efficiency washing machines, low-flush toilets, and a turf conversion program encourage water conservation both indoors and out. The turf conversion program pays \$1/sqft. for the replacement of irrigated cool season turf such as Tall Fescue or Kentucky Bluegrass with the native, drought-tolerant, deep rooted Buffalo grass.

The well-visited Sunrise Park in Hays is home to living models of water conserving native grass species installed by the City of Hays for residents to view in preparation for landscape and turf conversion. In the southwest corner of the park, ornamental grasses requiring minimum maintenance and low- to no- supplemental watering are displayed. In the northeast corner, a set of turf plot displays showcase various cultivars of buffalo grass. Sunrise Park is also known for its pollinator garden, established in 2018 by volunteer members of the Hays Beautification Committee in conjunction with the Hays Parks Department. The garden was planted with a variety of native wildflower seed to provide nectar and pollen to a wide range of pollinators. Residents are encouraged to stop by the pollinator plot, but signs in the area remind them, “Don't touch! Let the pollinators *bee*.”

Another place in Hays where native plants are showcased is the Vineyard Road Nature Trail which features a scenic adventure through Kansas wetland and prairie habitat. Loads of wildlife and native plants can be found while strolling through the mile-long trail. Interesting woody plants also have a home at Vineyard Park, where both native and — CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Kansas Native Plant Society is to encourage awareness and appreciation of the native plants of Kansas in their habitats and in our landscapes by promoting education, stewardship, and scientific knowledge.

The Kansas Native Plant Society Newsletter is published quarterly: Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). Readers tell us how much they enjoy the newsletter in paper format. Contributions help us continue to produce a publication of this length in this form.

You may send your gift to KNPS at:

Kansas Native Plant Society
R. L. McGregor Herbarium
University of Kansas
2045 Constant Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

ABOVE Great Plains Dermatology (2708 Sternberg Drive) won the 2017 Water\$mart Landscaping award for the use of drought-tolerant, native plantings paired with water efficient landscaping techniques such as efficient plant groupings and mulching. *Source: Great Plains Dermatology*

KNPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brad Guhr <i>President</i>	Newton, KS
Krista Dahlinger <i>Vice President</i>	Mulvane, KS
Earl Allen <i>Treasurer</i>	Manhattan, KS
Mickey Delfelder <i>Secretary</i>	Topeka, KS
Phyllis Scherich <i>Past President</i>	McPherson, KS
Rondi Anderson	Fort Scott, KS
Iralee Barnard	Hope, KS
Shirley Braunlich	Lawrence, KS
Nadine Champlin	Sabetha, KS
Craig Freeman	Lawrence, KS
Lorna Habegger-Harder	Hesston, KS
Mike Haddock	Manhattan, KS
Jeff Hansen	Topeka, KS
Michael Heffron	Eureka, KS
Karen Hummel	Manhattan, KS
Michael Kaye	Topeka, KS
Joan Manor	Wamego, KS
Brian L. Martin	Hesston, KS
Andrew Mitchell	Horton, KS
Chad Phillips	Soldier, KS
Cynthia Rhodes	Whitewater, KS
Matthew Richter	McPherson, KS
Dee Scherich	McPherson, KS
Paul Showalter	Shawnee, KS
Anthony Zukoff	Holcomb, KS

KNPS NEWSLETTER STAFF

Cynthia Rhodes <i>Copy & Assignment Editor</i>	cynrhodes@gmail.com
Brian L. Martin <i>Design & Layout Editor</i>	
Phyllis Scherich <i>Proofreader</i>	

KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

R. L. McGregor Herbarium
University of Kansas
2045 Constance Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

LEARN MORE ABOUT KNPS

Check us out online at www.ksnps.org
Contact us by email at email@ksnps.org
Contact us by phone at 785-864-3453

Native plantings – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

well-adapted cultivars of trees and shrubs are displayed and labeled along the organically mulched trails. The parks department occasionally adds locally recommended ornamental trees to this display to give residents an idea of the trees' growth habits and characteristics. By displaying these model trees, the city hopes residents will choose trees for their yards which will be appropriate for the available spacing and location, drought tolerant, and well-adapted to the heavy alkaline clay soils found in Hays.

Frontier Park, home of the largest disc golf course (18- holes, par 60) in Hays and host to the hallowed Oktoberfest, also offers a variety of native plantings. Frontier Park Dark Forest, established in the early 1900's, features a beautiful grove of bur oak trees, many of which were planted by resident squirrels. Big Creek Nature Trail, straddling the banks of Big Creek and extending within the bounds of Frontier Park, highlights other important native tree species such as cottonwood, boxelder, sycamore, eastern redbud, Kentucky coffeetree, hackberry, chinkapin oak, and the introduced Osage orange and catalpa. It is important to note, if exploring these areas, beware of the also native poison ivy!!

Following the city's lead on selecting native, drought-tolerant plants for urban landscaping, residents of Hays have been converting thousands of square feet of irrigated turf to warm season grasses and installing a variety of native plants which play host to the important pollinators of northcentral Kansas. Each year, residents and businesses who have implemented native plantings and water-saving landscaping techniques on their properties may be nominated for the City of Hays' **WaterSmart** award. HaysMed, Great Plains Dermatology, and Commerce Bank (Vine Street) have won the commercial awards for the past three years, though many local businesses could give them a good run for their money.

Fort Hays State University has also begun installing native plantings on campus. A pollinator garden located outside Albertson Hall, installed and maintained by the University Activities Board, Department of Biological Sciences, and FHSU Botanical Research Group, hosts a variety of natives including salvia, liatris, milkweed, sunflowers, asters, and other important grasses and forbs to provide food and habitat for Kansas pollinators.

If you are ever around Hays, or just driving through, be sure to make time to stop and enjoy the native landscaping. Colorful displays of sunflowers, yarrow, salvia, tickseed, liatris, milkweed, gaura, penstemon, and lobelia provide a beautiful backdrop to unique limestone



Ellis County Extension Master Gardeners Margie Hammerschmidt, Jay Burns, and Jo Ann Schroller planting a demonstration perennial flower garden at 601 Main, south side of the Extension building. Source: Ellis County Extension Master Gardeners

rock features mined from the nearby quarries. Many buildings in Hays are constructed using local limestone, as well, which when paired with the beautiful native trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs of Kansas, offer some of the best urban landscaping you have ever seen!

Ornamental grass display, Sunrise Park. Source: City of Hays Parks Department.

President's Message | BRAD GUHR

Reveling in Rarity

We had a great time in South Central Kansas for our May 17 to 18 spring KNPS board meeting at Dyck Arboretum in Hesston and mini Annual Wildflower Weekend (AWW) outings in Eastern Harvey County near Newton and at Maxwell Wildlife Refuge near McPherson.

We were lucky to fit these two days of events into the middle of an episode of weather rarity — roughly half the area's 34 inches of average annual precipitation fell in record-breaking fashion during the month of May. The excessive rainfall resulted in flooding, damage to personal property and transportation infrastructure, and economic loss for the agricultural region.

But always in search of the silver lining, I will highlight some of the gem experiences that came out of this spring gathering of board members and membership.

*Remnant prairies are rare. Kansas may have more of its original mixed and tallgrass prairie left than any other state, but we should still appreciate the rarity of quality examples still remaining. It was a treat to see the two examples of Flint Hills and Smoky Hills prairie that were exhibiting lush flowering and fruiting vegetation thanks to the abundant available moisture. These prairies exhibited uncommon species and some of those seen included prairie violet (*Viola pedatifida*), bread-root scurf-pea (*Pedimelum esculentum*), silver-leaf scurf-pea (*Pedimelum argophyllum*), porcupine grass (*Hesperostipa spartea*), Nuttall's death-camas (*Toxicoscordion nuttallii*), pale poppy mallow (*Callirhoe alcaeoides*), Mead's sedge (*Carex meadii*), black-Sampson purple coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*), and Carolina gromwell (*Lithospermum carolinense*).

*The once common titan of the prairie, the American bison, is now only found on rare preserves. Maxwell Wildlife Refuge is one place where they can still be viewed thanks to the enticement of perfectly timed and placed range cubes. The Maxwell setting of quality Smoky Hills prairie vistas complete with fresh buffalo wallows invites visitors in protected trams with an informative tour guide to experience herds of this majestic mammal up close and personal. Our group enjoyed every minute of it.

*While muddy roads disappointingly made our planned visit to the unique Elm Springs and box canyon feature inaccessible, a last minute suggestion on Saturday afternoon to visit the prairie around Battle Hill at Maxwell was quite fortuitous. Right out of the cars we were greeted by an unusual white flowering blue wild-indigo (*Baptisia australis var. minor*) that few, if any of us had ever witnessed. Shortly thereafter was the capstone experience of the day for me. I am not sure that I have ever seen Craig Freeman in an excited run with such a look of glee, but his finding the rare (S1 State Rank and Coefficient of Conservatism of 9) woolly milkweed (*Asclepias lanuginosa*) and scurrying to share it with us was just one of those occurrences. Our following search ended up locating a dozen plants in all. So fun!

*And finally, I must highlight the people of KNPS. Finding people that are so immensely knowledgeable about plants in Kansas, and at the same time, so kind and forthcoming in sharing that knowledge seems like it should be rare. But thankfully, it is not and this kind of fun happens at KNPS gatherings every spring and fall. I cannot wait to do this with you all again at the Atchison AWW in September!



PHOTOS: BRAD GUHR



FROM TOP KNPS members explore a quality hay meadow in E. Harvey County; Woolly milkweed (*Asclepias lanuginosa*), a rare Kansas species; White variant of the usually blue-indigo (*Baptisia australis var. minor*)



TOP Mission Lake wetlands
BOTTOM Scutellaria lateriflora at Mission Lake

2019 AWW UPDATE

A Walk in the Woodlands

— ANDREW MITCHELL

Join us September 13, 14, and 15 in Atchison and Brown Counties for the 2019 Annual Wildflower Weekend (AWW). This year's theme is "A Walk in the Woodlands," and attendees will discover and learn about flora in the woodland remnants of Eastern Kansas.

Spend a wonderful weekend with members and friends of KNPS as we traverse across two Kansas counties: Brown and Atchison. The City of Atchison has a long history of manufacturing and river travel, and is known as the birthplace of Amelia Earhart. Independence Creek and 4th of July Creek were christened by Lewis and Clark when then stopped just north of Atchison on the 4th of July during their historic journey through the Louisiana Purchase. Brown County is home to Horton, the first city in Kansas to be lit with electric lights, and the county has a scattering of remnant woodlands rich in fauna and flora.

On Friday, the KNPS Board will meet at the Mission Lake Christian Camp, 1-1/4 miles north of U.S. Highway 73 on Mallard Road by Horton, twenty-three miles west of Atchison. After the business meeting, members and visitors are invited to stay for hiking through the camp's wooded property and wetlands around Mission Lake. In the evening, weather permitting, there will be a hot dog and s'mores cookout at the camp. In case of rain, members will be encouraged to find dining experiences at local restaurants in Horton or Atchison.



Paved trail at Jackson Park

The weekend's main event will be in Atchison on Saturday with the business meeting, silent auction, and awards ceremony to be held in the upstairs room at Jerry's Again Restaurant at the corner of Kansas Street and 5th Street. The guest speaker is Doug Grimm, owner and arborist at Grimm's Gardens LLC, a landscape and garden center by Hiawatha. Doug will be speaking on the state champion tree program of Kansas and how to discover and mark a champion tree.

Saturday afternoon will find members hiking the trails of Jackson Park, a local wooded park inside the city limits of Atchison. There are many hidden nooks in the park and time will be allowed for excellent observation and exploration. Members are also encouraged to visit the many historical locations of Atchison, including Amelia Earhart's birthplace, the Railroad Museum and Independence Creek, or the Riverfront Drive. Dinner on Saturday night will be at Willie's Sports Bar and Grill in Atchison.

On Sunday, the group will head to the Atchison County Lake, south of Horton, to hike the woodlands. This area has no trails, but is set along a section of oak-hickory remnant forest in northwest Atchison County along Clear Creek and Clear Creek Lake which flows into the Little Delaware River. If those who come want to stay and see more, we may also see two small prairie remnants in Brown County.

A flyer for the AWW will be sent out to the KNPS mailing list around August 1 for those wanting to attend this year. Hotel reservations can be made at Holiday Inn Express, AmericInn, or Super 8 Motel. There are also Bed & Breakfast locations in the area. Be aware that it is twenty-five miles from Atchison to Horton, about a thirty minute drive.

Please mark your calendars for September 13, 14, and 15 for the 2019 "Walk in the Woodlands" AWW. All are welcome!

Rare plants found on KNPS outing

— PHYLLIS SCHERICH

The weather forecast for the two-day spring board meeting and Mini-AWW tours was for rain, but it turned out to be a great time for the outings. Overcast skies during the May 17-18 weekend made for super photos and comfortable temperatures. Perhaps the highlight was the discovery of the woolly milkweed (*Asclepias lanuginosa*) by Craig Freeman. At least a dozen of these plants were found nearby by others. This plant has a coefficient of conservatism value of 9 and this finding will be recorded in the Herbarium at Lawrence. Another special discovery during the event was an albino blue wild indigo (*Baptisia australis*) nearby. KNPS members and photographers were delighted by these observations!



Yellow stargrass (*Hypoxis hirsuta*)

KRISTA DAHLINGER

To begin the weekend, Dyck Arboretum welcomed board members, friends, and guests with a spectacular spring display of flowering plants. After the board meeting, members traveled to the Budde prairie just west of Harvey County East Lake. This thirty acre prairie is hayed annually in late June to early July. Small skullcap (*Scutellaria parvula*), plains wild indigo (*Baptisia bracteata*), pale poppy-mallow (*Callirhoe alcaeoides*), purple poppy-mallow (*Callirhoe involucrate*), flower-of-an-hour (*Hibiscus trionum*), daisy fleabane (*Erigeron strigosus*), Nuttall's death-camas (*Zigadenus nuttallii*), western salsify (*Tragopogon dubius*), sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*), breadroot scurf-pea (*Pediomelum esculentum*), serrate-leaf evening primrose (*Calyophorus serrulatus*), and prairie groundsel/ragwort (*Packera plattensis*) are just a few of the flowering plants along with numerous grasses and sedges spotted in this wonderful prairie.

On Saturday, members traveled north of Canton to Susan Reimer's prairie. Part of this prairie had been burned in an attempt to eliminate some of the woody plants. Cattle were still in the pasture but would be removed soon — they were curious and came up nearby wondering why people were in their pasture! Yellow stargrass (*Hypoxis hirsute*) (new to me), blue wild indigo (*Baptisia australis*), western yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Canadian onion (*Allium canadense*), field pussytoes (*Antennaria neglecta*), silky aster (*Aster sericeus*), old



Examining woolly milkweed (*Asclepias lanuginosa*)
PHOTO: MICHAEL HADDOCK



BOB CHAMPLIN

plainsman (*Hymenopappus scabiosaesus*), wild four o'clock (*Mirabilis nyctaginea*), and tuber false dandelion (*Pyrrhopappus grandiflorus*) were among findings recorded and photographed by members.

A narrated tram tour to see bison and wildflowers at Maxwell Wildlife Refuge and lunch at the headquarters followed Susan's prairie walk and was enjoyed by all. More special treats awaited us on the trek up Battle Hill at Maxwell. Among them were blue funnel-lily (*Androstephium coeruleum*), violet wood-sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*), field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), Carolina gromwell/puccoon (*Lithospermum carolinense*), woolly plantain (*Plantago patagonica*), prairie/Arkansas rose (*Rosa Arkansana*), and goat's rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*).

All KNPS members are welcome to board meetings and any interested persons are encouraged to attend the tours following them. Join us in Atchison for our fall board meeting and Annual Wildflower Weekend September 13 to 15. And a special thank you to those who share their private meadows and prairies with KNPS.

Walk at Klinefelter Farm

— ANDREW MITCHELL



Spring bittercress

On Saturday, May 4th, several members of KNPS and some wildflower enthusiasts met in the parking lot at Klinefelter Farm, east of Hiawatha in Brown County. The walk was hosted by Andrew Mitchell, KNPS Board Member and Brown County local. Klinefelter Farm is located in the gently rolling glaciated region of Northeast Kansas.

The farm has several mowed trails running more than three miles in length. With bridges across the spring fed creek, overlooks above, and training stations

scattered throughout the forest, there is a lot to see. Klinefelter Farm has an abundance of native birds, trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals. The group walked east and south along the trails, checking the springs along the creek, and enjoying the abundance of nature.

After exploring the eastern areas of the creek, the group turned north towards a pond situated near the middle of the property. The pond was found to be a treasure trove of rare natives. Off the trail to the east, there is a spot near the creek where native wild orchids grow. (*Galearis spectabilis*), the showy orchis, is a rare Kansas native, little known to outsiders of the eastern forests. Among others, they found spring bittercress (*Cardamine bulbosa*) and Virginia mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*), both rare finds in Kansas.

PHOTO: ANDREW MITCHELL

New Book Published

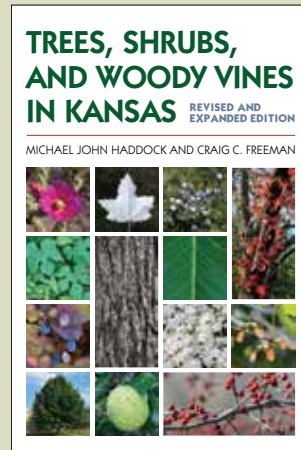
— MICHAEL HADDOCK

KNPS members Craig Freeman and Michael Haddock recently co-authored *Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines in Kansas*, published by the University Press of Kansas. It expands and updates H.A. Stephens's 1969 classic handbook of the same title. This newly revised and enlarged guide offers full descriptions of 166 species of woody plants found in the wild in Kansas, 138 of them native. County-level distribution maps show where species have been documented based on herbarium specimens, and nearly one thousand color photographs highlight morphological features such as habit, buds, leaves, inflorescences, flowers, fruit, and bark.

This user-friendly handbook provides keys for identification and includes a comprehensive glossary defining technical botanical terms. In addition to the indicated species described in full, the book provides notes concerning nearly one hundred other woody species. These include native species that are relatively rare, nonnative species planted as ornamentals or for shade and that persist after abandonment, and nonnative species that have escaped from cultivation at just a few sites in the state.

Since 1969 there have been dramatic advances in the understanding of the relationships of flowering plants. Studies of DNA, morphology, cytology, ecology, and phenology, integrated and interpreted with new analytical tools, have caused adjustments to our knowledge of many species, genera, and families originally treated by Stephens. Consequently, an additional important element of this book is to update the nomenclature and circumscribe taxa along lines that are more consistent with current knowledge.

This revised and expanded edition is intended to provide information about the woody plants of Kansas to a new generation of plant enthusiasts and professionals.



NATIVE PLANTS IN URBAN SETTINGS

A Piece of Prairie in Garden City

— ANTHONY ZUKOFF

There is a playa in Garden City and it is hiding in plain sight. Forest Park Lake is one of many parks in the city, but it is unique among them. This sixteen acre park features a paved walking trail, but otherwise, it is maintained as a natural area within the city limits. The most conspicuous feature of the park is, of course, the “lake.”

In reality, this body of water is actually a playa. Playas are ephemeral, shallow wetlands found scattered throughout the western High Plains region from Texas north to Nebraska. In Kansas, playas are found primarily in the west and serve several important ecological functions including helping to recharge the aquifer. Playas are also important water sources for a multitude of migratory birds and many unique plants are associated with playas.

Playa Lakes Joint Venture classifies Forest Park Lake as a large “urbanized” playa. For most of the year, the playa remains dry. As with all playas, Forest Park Lake is filled completely by precipitation. At the moment, however, the lake is holding a modest amount of water thanks to the record breaking precipitation the region has received in recent months.

Though surrounded by the city, this playa still functions in ways that its natural counterparts do. Serving as a storm water catchment, the valuable rainfall is allowed to slowly percolate back into the water table rather than running off to evaporate on the city's many paved surfaces. Additionally, a variety of waterfowl currently call the playa home.

A walk in this park will reveal several areas of native wildflowers surrounding the playa. Plains coreopsis, purple prairie clover, and Indian blanket are scattered throughout the minimally mowed open spaces adding a welcome splash of color during the summer while cottonwood, maple and black walnut trees provide shade around portions of the park. For city dwellers that do not often get a chance to experience the wild prairie, this park playa is a hidden gem. PHOTOS: ANTHONY ZUKOFF



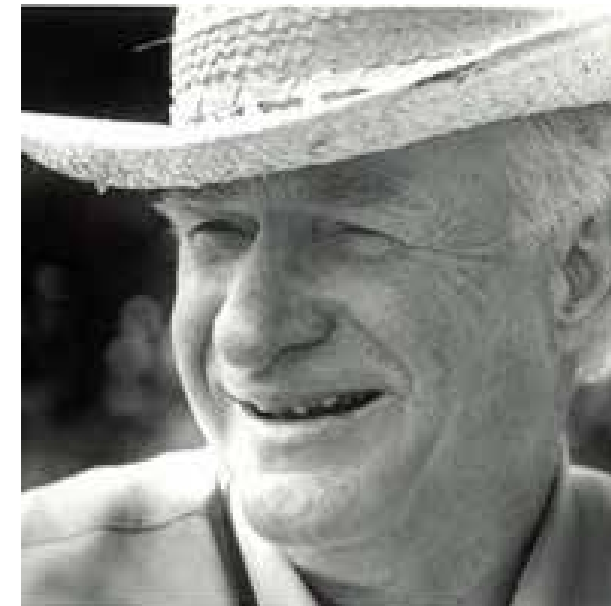
A Tribute to Woody Holland

CYNTHIA RHODES

Woodrow Wayne “Woody” Holland, DVM, 94, of Erie, passed away on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at Prairie Mission Retirement Village in St. Paul, Kansas. Woody had a lifelong interest in wildflowers and native plants, collecting flowers and plants from all over the US. He donated extensive collections to KU, KSU, and Pittsburg State. A unique horticultural accomplishment was that he introduced Indian paint brush flowers into Neosho County. He was a charter member of KNPS and was awarded the Stephen L. Timme Excellence in Botany Award in 2001. Woody's KNPS friends remember him with these shared memories.

What I remember most about Woody Holland was that when he led field trips of Neosho County (which he did twice a year for many years), he continued down all the back roads finding more plants until the very last person left. He knew every road, and probably every plant, in the entire county. His outings always drew a crowd of people from all over the state. At wildflower field trips in other counties, while others were out exploring, I would see Woody at his car loading his plant press with new plants. He was an avid plant collector and sent his specimens to many herbaria, especially to KU and KSU. — Iralee Barnard

I did run a query of our specimen database this morning. We currently have 3787 databased specimens that were collected by Woody Holland. Basically all of the specimens that he collected in Kansas and sent here (2693) are databased because we have captured information for all of our Kansas specimens. However, about thirty



percent of our entire collection of 450,000 specimens has not been databased, including many specimens collected by Woody in states and provinces other than Kansas. We have 1094 databased specimens collected by Woody outside of Kansas. They come from four Canadian provinces and thirty US states. The highest databased collection number that we have for Woody in our collection is 11156, but he did not deposit a voucher of everything that he collected at KU. K-State has many of his specimens also. I would estimate that in total,

KU has around 6,000 of the more than 11,000 specimens collected by Woody. — Craig Freeman

I just checked KSU and 3047 specimens are recorded for W. Holland. — Iralee

I'm sorry to hear of Woody's passing. I wrote him a letter about 2014 at PSU but never received a reply.

In 2013, I inherited a herbarium with 93 boxes full of backlogged (unprocessed) material. Some of that includes Woody's specimens. It will be years before that backlog is fully processed, even with current NSF support to help move things along.

Unlike K-State or KU, PSU has never had a collections manager who actually does most of the day-to-day work of a herbarium to keep

it up to date (and in the past two decades, data based). At PSU that responsibility falls squarely on the shoulder of the “Director” (me).

The numbers provided by Craig Freeman at KU align with what I would have suggested. He definitely collected somewhere in the 11000's. I might add that his collections generally were of high quality; not something one can say about every collector.

Somebody or somebodies could extend a wonderful tribute to Dr. Holland by volunteering to mount and database his backlogged specimens at PSU. I have supervised several (often retired) adult volunteers in this way the past twenty-plus years, and some soon find coming to the herbarium to be one of their favorite activities. (Hint: They know their work is highly valued.) — Dr. Neil Snow, Director, T.M. Sperry Herbarium, Pittsburg State University

It has been such a long time since I have seen Woody Holland. What an amazing man...a naturalist for sure. I knew him better through the Southeast Kansas Audubon Chapter in Parsons. We went to those meetings before the chapter in Pittsburg was established. He always had an enthusiastic, but low key way of getting excited about a plant that he had found or was blooming. He was very proud of the natural area around Erie where he lived. — Cindy Ford

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

— EARL ALLEN

For members interested, \$250 of the \$500 payment for a new life time membership is invested in the mutual fund AOMIX for the long-term benefit of KNPS. If someone becoming a life time member would prefer, the \$250 could instead be invested in the KNPS money market account TCRXX.

Meeting the Monarch's Survival Needs:

AN INTERIM REPORT ON PORTIONS OF THE KANSAS MONARCH CONSERVATION TASK FORCE

– MICHAEL KAYE

April 2019 marked completion of the final draft of the comprehensive and ambitious Kansas Monarch Task Force Conservation Plan two years in the making. The draft was then released for public comment until May 31, 2019 and can be accessed on line at <https://salinapost.com/2019/04/30/public-input-sought-for-kansas-monarch-conservation-plan/> or through the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism (KDWP) <https://ksoutdoors.com/Wildlife-Habitats/Wildlife-Conservation/Kansas-Monarch-Conservation-Plan>.

The Taskforce formed following the Monarch Conservation Summit meeting on June 8-9, 2017. The five Kansas Monarch Task Force work groups collaborated to develop the plan and to set and begin reaching voluntary goals, including identifying best practices and tactics for promoting the health and safety of the Eastern monarch butterfly: (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*), and other native pollinators in Kansas. The Task Force and working groups includes 105 people representing 67 diverse public and private organizations from all sectors that affect monarch conservation. Members include people from ranching, farming, and conservation organizations, industry, agencies, academia, and tribal nations. The five sectors cover grasslands, croplands, rights of way, urban and outreach areas, and research and monitoring entities.



PHOTOS: PAM TENNISON-RINDT

The Plan adopts a twenty year objective to conserve, enhance, establish, and create pollinator habitat on private and public lands through non-regulatory, voluntary efforts and actions across Kansas. The Plan includes an initial two year period from July 2018 – May 2020 to establish an implementation plan for core conservation priorities. The Plan is a living document subject to revision due to future events, research, and other influences that may require change.

As a KNPS member of the Rights of Way Work Group, I am presenting an interim report on some of the activities of that group which is chaired by KNPS member Pam Tennison-Rindt representing KCP&L/Westar Energy. Her organization is an active supporter of monarch and other pollinator conservation efforts and exemplifies the value of public-private partnerships for promoting

important conservation goals.

The Conservation Plan acknowledges the potential harmful impact of Kansas highway and roadway conditions on pollinator mortality. Highways and roadways have been identified as sources of significant threats to pollinator insects and are an emerging topic of conservation concern:

“While the primary focus of the Plan is built around restoration and enhancements of agricultural lands, the Kansas Monarch Conservation Plan identifies the need and importance for conserving, restoring, and enhancing pollinator habitat along roadsides, utility, energy, and railroad rights-of-way. In addition to rights-of-way, the Kansas Plan also identifies the need for conservation opportunities within urban, residential, and corporate-owned areas.”

The Rights of Way work group has focused on protecting existing native grasslands in rights-of-way as well as on developing best management practices and guidance to help refine roadside mowing and herbicide application practices by local and state entities. The work group set these goals, supported by objectives and implementation strategies. In the introduction to the Rights of Way portion of the Plan, the authors note:

“While right-of-way habitat is a smaller component of available land cover within the state, cumulative acreage included within some types of right-of-way easements are [sic] still a significant proportion of the state’s land area. Moreover, the holders of those easements are less numerous than the number of landowners managing grassland and cropland within the state. For instance, Kansas Department of Transportation is thought to maintain and manage more acres of the state than any other single landowner or entity. Given these facts and understanding that the linear nature of rights-of-way make them excellent potential connectivity corridors linking larger areas of potential habitat, the Rights-of-Way Work Group is committed to continuing to work to avoid/minimize impacts to available habitat when obtaining new rights-of-way and managing/enhancing existing rights-of-way to provide benefits to monarchs and other species native to Kansas.”

The Rights of Way Section of the Conservation Plan includes the following goals and objectives. Detailed strategies for implementation are included in the text of the Rights of Way Section.

GOAL 1: Maintain native grassed right-of-way areas and minimize disturbance to existing prairies.

Objective A. Promote the importance of avoiding of native grassed areas when siting new development.

Objective B. Create or revise regionally-specific native grass-forb seed mixes to better suit monarch/pollinator resource needs.

Objective C. Revise mowing policies to avoid critical monarch migration and breeding periods.

Objective D. Revise herbicide application policies to avoid broadcast or widespread applications, which negatively impact

pollinator habitat, and unnecessarily increase costs.

Objective E. Improve implementation and compliance of monarch/pollinator BMPs within companies and agencies. (Note: BMP means Best Management Practices).

GOAL 2: Restore rights-of-way to native grass-forb communities, where appropriate.

Objective A. Identify right-of-way sites to restore and enhance monarch habitat.

Objective B. Document and monitor selected restored sites.

GOAL 3: Influence right-of-way companies and agencies with outreach and education

Objective A. Educate companies and agencies on monarch conservation practices.

Objective B. Educate the public on right-of-way monarch conservation practices.

Pam Tennison-Rindt and Melissa Davidson, representing the Kansas Department of Transportation: KDOT, provided updates on some of their respective organizations’ recent conservation practices affecting pollinators.

Pam contributed this report about a recent instance of prairie management and restoration of a ten acre borrow area on KCP&L/Westar property. A borrow area refers to a location where the utility takes soil from a portion of its rural land for use in construction elsewhere. The utility can then reseed the borrow area with native grass mix and forbs, thus restoring the prairie after “borrowing” soil for necessary construction elsewhere:

“This spring Westar Energy over-seeded a ten acre borrow area on substation property. Several years ago, this borrow area was utilized to supply soil to build up a level pad for the construction of the new Auburn Substation, located adjacent to the original smaller substation (later demolished) in order to keep up with the electrical energy demand of southwest Topeka and surrounding area.

The borrow area had been seeded back with a native grass mix; however it had an overall low percentage and diversity of forbs, and no milkweed species present. Forbs that were present included American germander, Baldwin’s ironweed, fleabane daisy, hoary vervain, Dakota verbena, and snow on the mountain. A seed mix of higher quality monarch specific nectar-forbs and milkweed local to this area were carefully selected with the goal of providing more monarch specific nectar forbs and larval host plants. The borrow area was mowed down, and the seed mix was drilled in with a native seed drill in spring of 2019. Species of the mix were comprised of purple prairie clover, lance-leaf coreopsis, common milkweed and showy milkweed. Westar Energy will monitor this site with the hope of seeing the emergence of seeded species and return of monarch butterflies to this area”.

Melissa also reported on KDOT roadside conservation activity in 2018 and 2019:

“In September of 2018, through a partnership with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, KDOT was awarded \$65,000 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Approximately 103 acres of pollinator habitat were scheduled for planting in the spring of 2019 for the restoration and enhancement of rights-of-way for monarchs. Approximately twenty-two acres will be planted in the

spring of 2020. Monarch conservation project locations scheduled for 2019 have included 52 acres at the I-35 & US-59 Interchange, 26 acres at the Linn County Rest Area at US-69 and K-52 Interchange, 22 acres at the I-35 and Homestead Lane Exchange in Johnson County, and three acres at the Montgomery County Rest Area, US-400 and US-169 Interchange. Projects are scheduled for 2020 for acreage in I-35 median areas in Franklin County.”



KDOT also has set priorities and goals to establish, improve and maintain pollinator habitat:

1. Continue to plant native grass and wildflower seed mixes on roadside projects.
2. Continue to identify areas of significant acreage for native grass and wildflower/milkweed plantings (rest areas, medians, interchanges).
3. Educate district employees on identification of noxious/invasive weeds (crown vetch, teasel, Johnsongrass) and the importance of noxious/invasive weed control and spot spraying.
4. Erect Monarch Highway signs at pollinator habitat projects along I-35 to identify these areas as no mow, or low mow pollinator habitat, to help educate the public as to why these areas are not being mowed out on a regular basis.
5. Design and erect signs at pollinator habitat sites (other than I-35 sites) to identify these areas as no mow, or low mow pollinator habitat, to help educate the public why KDOT does not mow out the entire right-of-way in that area on a regular basis.
6. Continue to promote National Pollinator Week each year in June. Send out information via KDOT’s Facebook page, Twitter, blog posts, agency wide e-mail, and the monthly newsletter (Translines). Design informational displays for the lobby at KDOT Headquarters building to educate and encourage participation in pollinator friendly practices.
7. Continue to maintain KDOT’s promoting pollinators webpage, showcasing what KDOT is doing to support pollinator habitat. <http://pollinatorpartners.ksdot.org/>

Conclusion

KCP&L/Westar and KDOT’s recent conservation actions align well with draft Plan goals for Rights of Way monarch conservation and reflect the values expressed in the draft Conservation Plan Vision Statement:

“Recognizing our unique wealth of grassland habitat and milkweed, Kansans will voluntarily protect, enhance, and establish monarch and pollinator habitat through diverse, cross-sector, collaborative conservation efforts.”

Information provided by Kansas Native Plant Society, see more events on our website: www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org
 Please share this information and contact us about additional events to note. Thank you! email@KSNPS.org
 Sturdy shoes, long pants, a hat, insect repellent, sunscreen, and water are recommended for outdoor events.
 Mark your calendar now and plan to attend some fabulous happenings!

JULY | 26-28

AUDUBON CONVENTION in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. www.audubon.org/conservation/2019-convention
 Contact: 212-979-3196, convention@audubon.org

AUGUST | 5-6

NEW DIRECTIONS IN AMERICAN LANDSCAPE SUMMER DESIGN WORKSHOP, Gray Summit, MO. Intensive, interactive workshop that will provide concrete, real world guidance for designing and documenting all phases of native landscape development. Contact: www.ndal.org, 510-518-0430.

AUGUST | 24 & 31

WILDFLOWER TOURS AT MAXWELL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Canton. Wear suitable foot wear for occasional stops to walk along the trail for viewing and identifying prairie wildflowers. Trams leave at 9:30 am or 10:45 am. Brief visit of the bison herd included. Not appropriate for ages 11 and under. **Reservations required.** 620-628-4455

SEPTEMBER | 7

RESTORATION WORKDAY AT TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PRESERVE, Strong City, 9 am. Looking for a way to get your hands dirty and get back to nature? Join us at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve for this restoration workday! Activities with The Nature Conservancy and National Park Service staff may include planting, weeding, collecting seed, and fence removal. Suggested attire: boots, long pants, work gloves, hat. Pack a lunch if you plan on helping the whole day. Bring your own water bottle. RSVP requested. Contact: [Laura, lroseclawson@tnc.org](mailto:Laura.roseclawson@tnc.org), 785-233-4400

SEPTEMBER | 12 & 19

GRASSLAND HERITAGE FOUNDATION FALL NATIVE PLANT SALES, Cottin's Farmers' Market, 1832 Mass. St., Lawrence, 4-6:30 pm. GHF will have a variety of locally-grown neonic-free native species at Cottin's Farmers' Market. Plant people will be available to chat about using native plants in your garden. Enjoy the market's live music, hot food, and produce vendors. The sale benefits GHF's prairie education programs. Contact: GHF@grasslandheritage.org

SEPTEMBER | 13-15

KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S 41ST ANNUAL WILDFLOWER WEEKEND (AWW), Atchison. Discover and learn about flora in woodland remnants in two Kansas counties: Atchison and Brown. Enjoy a full weekend of outings, board meeting, membership meeting, programs, silent auction, photo contest, lunch, and socializing—join us! The board meets Friday afternoon in Horton, followed by a tour of the area around Mission Lake. The member meeting, etc. will be in Atchison on Saturday. Walks on both Saturday and Sunday will be in native woodland remnants near the bluffs of the Missouri River. Contact: [Andrew Mitchell Andrew@grimmsgardens.com](mailto:Andrew.Mitchell.Andrew@grimmsgardens.com), 785-409-8940

SEPTEMBER | 18

NATURE BOOK CLUB in Lawrence. Join us to talk about fiction and nonfiction connected to the natural world. New book recommendations from co-leaders Jake Vail and Shirley Braunlich and other book club members. Meet 6:30-8 pm at Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. Lawrence. RSVP is helpful, but not required. Contact: sbraunlich@lplks.org, 785-843-3833

SEPTEMBER | 18-20

PLAN IT NATIVE LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE, Intercontinental KC at the Plaza, Kansas City, MO. This inaugural conference brings tools, tips, and experience from leading national and regional landscape professionals to one locale and combines that learning with networking time to help advance landscape practices. Field trips, sessions, keynote dinner featuring Florence Williams. Sponsored by Deep Roots KC. For more information and contact: www.planitnative.org

SEPTEMBER | 27-29

THE ANNUAL PRAIRIE FESTIVAL AT THE LAND INSTITUTE, Salina. The festival features speakers, art, music, dancing, guided prairie walks, bird watching, children's activities, and food. Contact: www.landinstitute.org, 785-823-5376

OCTOBER | 12 & 19

THE HOME PLACE ACTION BOOK CLUB in Lawrence. Reserve your spot for this two-part book club. Borrow and read the book *The Home Place: Memoirs of A Colored Man's Love Affair With Nature* by J. Drew Lanham. Book Discussion with co-leaders Jake Vail and Shirley Braunlich on Oct 12, 2-4 pm. At the Action Work Party, Oct 19, 2-4 pm, participants will either be cutting invasive honeysuckle out of the prairie or planting wild plums at Prairie Park Nature Center, 2730 Harper St., Lawrence. Sponsors: Lawrence Public Library and Prairie Park Nature Center. RSVP needed. Contact: sbraunlich@lplks.org, 785-843-3833

OCTOBER | 19

MISSOURI PRAIRIE FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING AND EVENING ON THE PRAIRIE, Snowball Hill Prairie, Harrisonville, MO. Contact Missouri Prairie Foundation for more info: info@moprairie.org, 888-843-6739

OCTOBER | 25

38 NORTH FEST at the Carnegie Building, 200 W 9th St, Lawrence, 6-8 pm. Celebrate outdoor adventure in Kansas through story telling. Submit online and once a year celebrate the best story telling! The format is as broad as one's imagination, though written story telling dominated the first year's submissions in 2018. For more details, see 38northfest.com

DECEMBER | 18

NATURE BOOK CLUB in Lawrence. Join us to talk about fiction and nonfiction connected to the natural world. New book recommendations from co-leaders Jake Vail and Shirley Braunlich and other book club members. Meet 6:30-8 pm at Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St. Lawrence. RSVP is helpful, but not required. Contact: sbraunlich@lplks.org, 785-843-3833

Join the KNPS email list to receive the latest event announcements: www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/email_list.php

LIFETIME MEMBERS AS OF 7/12/19 (\$500 MEMBERSHIP – ONE TIME PAYMENT)

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Earl Allen – Manhattan | Mickey Delfelder – Topeka | Brian McFall – Topeka |
| Susan Appel – Leawood | Jim Earnest – Leawood | Joey McFall – Marion |
| Ken & Iralee Barnard – Hope | Phillip Eastep – Cherryvale | Roxie McGee – Lawrence |
| Robert G. Jr. & Martha Barnhardt – Bucklin | Lynn Fogle – Paola | Carol Morgan – Topeka |
| Susan Blackford – Manhattan | Bob & Lynne Haines – Manhattan | Ken O'Dell – Paola |
| Caroline Blakeslee – Boise, ID | Mike Haines – Prairie Village | Dan & Brenda Pace – Pretty Prairie |
| William Bradley – Overland Park | Sally Haines – Lawrence | Carl Paulie – St. Paul |
| Edith M. Bronson – Overland Park | Harriet & Joe Harris – Wichita | Ron & Cynthia Pedersen – Mound City, MO |
| Bob & Nadine Champlin – Sabetha | R. Clay Harvey – Topeka | Chad Phillips – Soldier |
| Fred & Nancy Coombs – Urbana, IL | Cynthia Higgins – Eudora | Bob & Doris Sherrick – Peculiar, MO |
| Donna Cooper – Hays | Karen Hummel – Manhattan | Jason & Lisa Spangler – Austin, TX |
| Daniel Corbett – Topeka | JK Enterprises LLC – Andover | Margy Stewart & Ron Young – Junction City |
| Cowley County Conservation District – Winfield | Michael Kaye – Topeka | Lisa Stickler – Bucyrus |
| Allyson Davis – Johnson | Kelly Kindscher – Lawrence | Ray Woods – Independence |
| Barbara Davis – Wichita | Elizabeth Leech – Mercer Island, WA | |
| Joseph Davis – Topeka | Lusk Family Foundation – Andover | |
| | Douglas R. May – Lawrence | |
| | Carol McDowell – Topeka | |

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS AS OF 7/12/19 (\$100 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVEL)

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Dolores Baker – Fredonia | Lorna Habegger Harder – Hesston | Catherine Reed – Lawrence |
| Joe Bartels – Lake Quivira | Edna Hamera – Shawnee Mission | Susan Reimer – McPherson |
| Nathaniel Barton – Wichita | Robert & Cathy Hansen – Kansas City, MO | Bill Sechler – Hiawatha |
| Nick Bertram – Great Bend | Joe Holland – Iowa City, IA | Paul Showalter – Shawnee |
| Shirley Braunlich & Peggy Robinson – Lawrence | Gilford & Nelda Ikenberry – McPherson | Betty Sterling – Kansas City |
| Kit Carlsen – Lawrence | John Kenney – Leawood | Elisabeth Suter – Topeka |
| Deborah Divine – Salina | Laura Knight – Wichita | Gary Tegtmeyer – Westwood |
| Craig & Jane Freeman – Lawrence | Lenora Larson – Paola | Annette Voth – Newton |
| Dale & Jackie Goetz – Overland Park | James Mason – Wichita | Rick Warshauer – Volcano, HI |
| Nancy Goulden – Lagunitas, CA | | Doug Wirtz – Vacaville, CA |
| | | Valerie Wright – Manhattan |

NEW MEMBERS FROM 3/11/19 TO 6/01/19

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Janice Adamson – Wichita | Rick L. Hammer – Abilene, TX | Gloria Raney – Manhattan |
| Carlos Araujo – Wichita | Lori Kelley – Ottawa | Debra Schwyhart – Winfield |
| Suzanne Bastin – Olathe | Jessica Liebst – Andover | Bill Sechler – Hiawatha |
| Zachary Bowker – Wichita | Kathleen Maus – Wichita | Kimberly & Edward Shank – Wichita |
| Nancy Chapman – Olathe | Stephanie Mendez – Haysville | Julie A. Spencer – Topeka |
| Lenae Clevenger – Marion | Pallace Messer – Grainfield | Marissa Shumaker – Wichita |
| Christine Conner – Lawrence | Sharon Milde – Overland Park | Cheyenne Trickle – Topeka |
| Susan Curtiss – Wilson | Janel Odle – Stockton | Erin Tucker – Wichita |
| Courtney Delaney – Wichita | Jess Painter – Tonganoxie | Cheri Varvil – Lawrence |
| Dirk Durant – Lindsborg | Corena Pendry – Lawrence | John Viramontes – Chicago, IL |
| William Edwards – Mason, OH | Lori Phillips – Lawrence | Jasmine Withers – Wichita |
| Karlie Feiock – Wichita | Barbara Pinaire – Derby | Wilson County Conservation Auxiliary – Fredonia |
| Michael Frey – Abilene | Jimmy Sue Ponchillia – Baldwin City | Alyssa Zimmerman – Wichita |
| Alice Hall – Leavenworth | Michael Rafferty – Olathe | |

MEMBERS RETURNING FROM A HIATUS TO 6/01/19

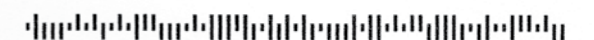
- Nathaniel Barton & Prairie Pride Native Plants – Wichita

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL

Want to know the status of your KNPS membership? Check the mailing label on the back of each issue for your membership expiration date.

*****AUTO**ALL FOR AADC 670 *** 4 8 443

I 12/31/2019
 CYNTHIA RHODES
 6505 NW INDIANOLA RD
 WHITEWATER KS 67154-8843





CHAMPION TREE

Rusty Black Haw

—KEN O'DELL

The common name, rusty black haw or rusty haw, fits this small and beautiful tree to a T. Native in Eastern Kansas into the Southeastern United States, rusty haw is an attractive addition to all of our woodlands and to our urban homes. Miami County State Lake in eastern Kansas has some nice, small, well established colonies of this interesting tree. Driving to the lake on the gravel road you can locate some of these trees along the roadside. The scientific name for rusty haw is (*Viburnum rufidulum*). The word *rufidulum* means rusty or reddish in color. Formerly listed in the honeysuckle family, *Caprifoliaceae*, it is now in the *Adoxaceae* family.

The dark, rough bark of even the smallest of rusty haw trees is a quick identification mark in the woodlands. Rusty haw will grow to about twenty feet tall. In the light shade of the woodlands it will be thinly branched with the dark, shiny green leaves also giving easy identification. In the dead of winter when no leaves are showing, the tips of the branches have a reddish-rust color to them that earns the common name of rusty haw. Autumn foliage turns a colorful purplish-red to slightly deeper red when the nights get cooler. Round three to four inch clusters of tiny white flowers in the spring time are followed by dark blue edible berries about one fourth inch in size in the summer.

In the wild, rusty haw grows on rocky outcroppings along streams and in thickets. In the Overland Park Arboretum in Johnson County, one small colony of rusty haw has been located with small suckers coming up around the one larger tree. The next time you botanize in Wyandotte and Leavenworth counties, keep a sharp look out for rusty haw in that area as it is prime country for these small, yet stunning trees.



TOP Rusty Haw *Viburnum* in the wild; ABOVE 3_ diameter trunk of Rusty Haw
BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT Rusty Haw in winter; Leaves of Rusty Haw *Viburnum*;
Rusty Haw flowers
PHOTOS: KEN O'DELL



FEATURED NATURAL AREA

Atchison's Jackson Park

— ANDREW MITCHELL

On work days, I like to eat my lunch where I can take a short hike afterwards. Since I manage several landscapes in Atchison, I first stumbled across Jackson Park in the spring of 2018 after deciding to eat my lunch there. Jackson Park sits on the western bluffs overlooking the Missouri River. It is a richly wooded area with many hiking trails, both paved and unpaved.

This steep, hilly, forested park is abundant with native flora and fauna. I was super excited to find a place to hike with an abundance of wooded plants, including a large variety of trees and understory shrubs. There is a large open area, as well as some wetlands near the center of the park that is sometimes used for races and other events.

With the AWW (Annual Wildflower Weekend) coming the Atchison this September, Jackson Park is the main tour location. We will be seeing a lot of native trees and shrubs that are near the extent of their range into Kansas, as well as a plethora of fall blooming perennials and annuals, including asters (*Symphotrichum* species), goldenrods (*Solidago* species), and many more.

Jackson Park is open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. There is parking on top of the hill, and there are several play areas for kids. Jackson Park is located off south 6th and College Street in Atchison.



ABOVE Elm-leaf goldenrod (*Solidago ulmifolia*)
LEFT Pale touch-me-not (*Impatiens pallida*) at Jackson Park, September 2018

FEATURED PLANT

Stiff Goldenrod | *SOLIDAGO RIGIDA*

— ANTHONY ZUKOFF

When I first encountered stiff goldenrod, I certainly did not realize it was a goldenrod at all. It was a fall morning and I was exploring a rocky bluff in Trego County. The plants had already gone dormant and I was looking at a stout mass of very rough, brown leaves with a single stem of fluffy white seeds rising above. Even when green and growing, the broadly ovate leaves of stiff goldenrod are notably rough to the touch. Early in the season, plants appear as low mounds of these densely packed leaves. As summer kicks in, clusters of unbranched stems rise from the mounds and flat-topped heads of bright yellow flowers emerge.

Stiff goldenrod is present in most of the state with the exception of the southwest corner. It is a tough plant that easily thrives in dry, rocky prairies and bluff ledges. As with other goldenrods, this plant is highly attractive to many insects and serves as a great nectar source in late summer, especially in terrain where other plants have a hard time surviving. This goldenrod is easily started from seed, grows quickly, and thrives in the garden with minimal maintenance. Bring a little bit of the rough and tumble prairie to your own yard and plant stiff goldenrod this year. The bees will thank you!



— LORNA HABEGGER-HARDER ILLUSTRATION

Kansas River Celebration

SHIRLEY BRAUNLICH

Ten acclaimed local authors and one renowned musician celebrated the Kansas River on April 6 in Lawrence. These naturalists, novelists, poets, and historians shared their writing and music in connection to the outside world, a sense of place and especially to the Kansas River. The event was great fun with fifty community members joining the celebration at Burcham Park, located on the Kansas River. The authors included: Elizabeth Schultz, Thomas Pecore Weso, Denise Low, David Hann, Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, Ken Lassman, Annette Hope Billings, Gloria Creed-Dikeogu, Jake Vail, Doug Hitt, and classical guitarist John Jervis.

Shirley Braunlich, KNPS Board Member and Readers' Services Assistant at Lawrence Public Library organized the Kansas River Celebration and also invited these partner organizations to offer this celebration of the Kaw River: Lawrence Public Library, Friends of the Kaw, Jayhawk Audubon Society, Kansas Native Plant Society, Lawrence Parks and Recreation, and Raven Book Store.

Below are a few of the responses after the event.

Poet Annette Hope Billings wrote: "Saturday was just an altogether sublime day. It was nourishment for my poetic soul."

Community member Glenda Bailey-Mershon wrote: "Really enjoyed this wonderful event! Pretty sure the river felt some love today. Thanks!"

Molly Koivumaki, Friends of University of Minnesota men's rowing wrote: "Thank you so much for sharing the pavilion at Burcham Park with the University of MN men's rowing team on Saturday, April 6. The Kansas River Celebration was a wonderful event and it hit home to me personally because my Mom LOVED poetry and was so happy when it got its own "month" to celebrate. Thanks again."

Elizabeth Schultz, Professor Emerita wrote: "Kansas River Celebration last Saturday was wonderful! What a splendid idea to celebrate our river on a beautiful spring day and what a wonderful way to celebrate it--with poetry and music and dance. The entire event could not have been more beautifully conceptualized and brought into being. The three comments which you shared with me below embody the wonder which such a diversity of people experienced. It was really marvelous that the event could embrace the rowers as well as the geese on the river and the poets and listeners on the shore. By all means, I would encourage the library's sponsoring a

SHIRLEY BRAUNLICH



SANDRA TORRES



similar event next year. Thank you so much for conceptualizing this event and for bringing it into being. I think everyone went home afterwards feeling a renewed sense of relationship with the river and with our community, with poetry and music and dance. Gratitude to you, Shirley, for making it happen, Beth"

See more about this event from the following links.

Read Shirley's interview with Dr. Elizabeth Schultz:

Inspiration From Elizabeth Schultz, Intrepid Advocate and Author <https://lplks.org/blogs/post/inspiration-from-intrepid-advocate-author-elizabeth-schultz/>

TOP Presentations were held under the shelter.

ABOVE Friends of the Kansas River information table.

LEFT Participants danced the Elm dance by the Kansas River.

TECH NOTES

– KRISTA DAHLINGER

We hope you have signed up for the KNPS listserv to receive the weekly Events Calendar by email. KNPS will be glad to share information from other groups about native plant related events in Kansas. Submit the event detail through the KNPS website at: www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org/events. We would like to help get the word out about wildflower tours, gardening with natives, seed collecting, planting for pollinators, paper making, and more.

Native Plants, Science, and Agriculture: Making Connections

– LORNA HABEGGER-HARDER

It started with this. Globally, there are 30,000 crop plants available; seventy-five percent of the global population depends on twelve crop plants; sixty percent of the global caloric intake depends on just four crop plants – wheat, corn, rice, and potatoes. The consequences? A fragile system that lacks biodiversity and that makes existing crop production vulnerable to repeated catastrophes.

So began the American Public Gardens Association's symposium, Celebrating Crop Diversity: Connecting Agriculture, Public Gardens, and Science. The symposium brought together a diverse group of individuals representing public gardens, universities, federal agencies, and research, conservation, and science NGOs. Hosted by the World Food Prize Foundation and the Des Moines Botanical Garden, the symposium was held in downtown Des Moines' World Food Prize Hall of Laureates, a centerpiece for the triumphs of global agriculture over the past century. That setting served to initiate the rich and diverse presentations and conversations that followed.

The symposium asked several key questions. 1) How do we bioculturally conserve important crop wild relatives (CWRs)? 2) How can science communication be used to engage our citizenry with CWRs in public garden settings? 3) How can we build collaborative relationships between conservation and agricultural communities? 4) How do crop wild relatives factor into ongoing crop breeding projects?

Speakers introduced a continuous flow of stimulating presentations: globally collaborative initiatives to address Sustainable Development Goals that maintain agricultural biodiversity; BLM's program to collect, study, and conserve native seeds; conservation and safeguarding of global CWR germplasm; and conserving the links between biodiversity and cultural diversity. Urban agriculture was also featured, a nod to our increasingly urbanized global community, and the need for healthy food that sustains the environment and that contributes to the health and well-being of our communities.

One important outcome of this symposium is a draft Road Map for Conservation, Use and Public Engagement around North America's Crop Wild Relatives and Wild Utilized Plants. Prior work (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-95101-0>) describes nearly 300 native crop wild relatives and useful wild species in North America, some of which occur in our Kansas prairies. To date, no clear conservation strategy exists for these important taxa. The Road Map is an action plan to advance the conservation of crop wild relatives in North America and will be presented in full in the upcoming special issue of the scientific journal, Crop Science.

Initially, the connection between native prairie plants and agricultural crops seemed obscure. However, the connection became quite clear when we consider that all crop plants are derived from wild relatives, and that the germplasm of existing wild relatives becomes increasingly important in maintaining genetic diversity in our existing crops where so little genetic diversity remains. Thus, we



The World Food Prize Hall of Laureates, Des Moines, is a beautifully restored, platinum LEED certified building. Source: publicgardens.org.

are challenged at the Dyck Arboretum to identify, collect, grow, and interpret to the public, the crop wild relatives that are native to our Kansas prairies. KNPS might be similarly involved, providing yet one more way we educate our citizenry about the inherent value of native plants.



KEN O'DELL

Kansas City Wildflower Walk

Native plant enthusiasts enjoyed an early wildflower walk on April 17 at the Overland Park Arboretum woodlands. Ken O'Dell, KNPS Kansas City Regional Leader, organized and led early spring woodland and tree tour walks through the Arboretum during April and May.

PEG ROBINSON



KANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

R. L. McGregor Herbarium
University of Kansas
2045 Constant Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 867
Newton, KS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL GUIDELINES

Annual dues are for a 12-month period from January 1 through December 31. Dues paid after December 1 are applied to the next year. Note to new members: the first year of annual membership is effective from the date of joining through December 31 of the following year. See upper right of mailing label for expiration date.

Please complete this form or a photocopy. Send the completed form and a check payable to the Kansas Native Plant Society to:

Kansas Native Plant Society
R. L. McGregor Herbarium
University of Kansas
2045 Constant Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66047-3729

A membership to the Kansas Native Plant Society makes a great gift for friends and family members. Recipients of gift memberships will receive notification of your gift membership within two weeks of receipt of your check. The Kansas Native Plant Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Gifts to KNPS are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Member Information

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zipcode _____

Phone _____

Email _____

County (if KS) _____

Membership Category

Student \$10.00

Individual \$20.00

Family \$30.00

Organization \$35.00

Contributing \$100.00

Lifetime \$500.00

Additional Donation: Legacy Fund \$ _____ Scholarship Fund \$ _____ General Fund \$ _____