



Kansas Botany and KNPS Owe Much Appreciation to Dwight Platt : Founder, Professor, Conservationist



by Brad Guhr

Dr. Dwight Platt has devoted much of his life to studying and teaching others about Kansas prairies. Whether through his 28-year service on the board of KNPS, formerly the Kansas Wildflower Society (KWS), 39-year vocation as biology professor at Bethel College, or continued work during “retirement,” Dwight has exhibited a passion for studying, conserving, and interpreting the flora and fauna of Kansas prairies.

KWS Founder

Dwight and several dozen other plant enthusiasts from around Kansas were the first to answer the call from Mary Jo McClure to found KWS in 1978. He was KWS vice president from 1996-1998, president from 1998-2000, and interim president again in 2002. In the early 1980s, he was chair of the Threatened and Endangered Species Committee for the Society. From 1980-1986, Dwight became the first representative of KWS on the Kansas Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council for the Kansas Fish and Game Commission, serving as chairperson from 1982-1984. In 1991, Dwight and Lorna Habegger Harder developed the first installments of *Growing Native*

Wildflowers, a KWS handbook on the propagation and natural history of prairie plants; the handbook now includes 60 prairie species.

Professor, Advisor, and Mentor

Nearly four decades of service as a professor gave Dwight the perfect venue to cultivate a well-rounded education for thousands of liberal arts students and to nurture many careers in botany, biology, restoration ecology, environmental studies, conservation biology, peace studies, and international development. Dwight’s encyclopedic knowledge, impeccable preparation, passion for his subject matter, gentle demeanor, and leadership qualities made him an exemplary teacher, advisor, and mentor in his field. The lasting impact of his contributions

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Have you renewed your membership in KNPS? Check the first line in the address to see if you need to renew.

The Kansas Native Plant Society Newsletter is printed four times a year: Winter (January) Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). The deadline for submitted material is the 5th of December, March, June and September.



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.

Message from KNPS President

By Jeff Hansen

Yesterday it was 65 degrees and everyone was running around in shorts. That evening there were tornado warnings for parts of the state. Early this morning the snow was falling horizontally and we received about an inch. The extremes of our weather makes me think of how well adapted our native plants are to our roller coaster weather extremes.

The entire month of February I was debilitated with a broken ankle. Cause: moving too fast, foot hits camouflaged ice, foot contorts, Jeffy falls, Jeffy injured, Jeffy has lots of time to

work on KNPS. I'm up walking again, excited to get out and see plants, places and meet new people. Meeting people who are just beginning to take an interest in our native flora excites me. I just love spreading the word about KNPS.

The annual meeting in Hutchinson has begun to materialize— I can't wait. Word is getting out about our guide "Steps to Success" on starting a wildflower tour. Already there are new ones being planned. More events have been added to the events calendar associated with the Symphony in the Flint Hills and the Wild-

flower Weekend at Tallgrass Prairie Preserve. One more thing that amazes me is the number of organizations that are asking KNPS to have a voice in their organization— such as the Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition. It just goes to show that people are becoming more aware of our organization and that we have a lot of clout with those with an interest in conserving our lands.

Everyone, please plan to attend one of our events this year, and if you are interested in leading a native plant outing in your area, let me know. Jeff Hansen hanjd@cox.net.

News Notes

- ◆ It's still almost six months away, but many of the plans are already in place for the **29th Annual Meeting**. This part reunion, part educational seminar, part ultimate native plant walks/hikes is scheduled for the weekend of **September 21-23, 2007**, in and around **Hutchinson and Reno County**. We will tour both the Dillion Nature Center and the Sand Prairie State Park. Our theme is "**Wildflowers for the Masses**." This includes encounters with native plants in their habitats, use of natives in all kinds of plantings, and children learning about our Kansas plants. Developing this theme will be guest speakers: Jim Smith of the Dillion Nature Center, Craig Freeman of the R.L. McGregor Herbarium, and Brad Guhr from the Dyck Arboretum. A block of hotel rooms have been reserved at various hotels for KNPS attendees at a special group rate. So mark your calendars, start planning which pictures you want to enter in the photo contest and what you can bring for the silent auction. The July issue of the newsletter will have more details and registration information.
- ◆ The Kansas Native Plant Society is again this year requesting **Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius** to **officially proclaim** June 2007 as **KANSAS NATIVE PLANT APPRECIATION MONTH**. In the Proclamation, drafted by KNPS Board Member Shirley Braunlich, the value and beauty of our native species and their habitats is emphasized "wildflowers produce a kaleidoscope of colors and forms as they bloom and fruit in our prairies, forests, and wetlands." The issue of preservation is also given importance in the document: "470 of our native plants species are listed as rare by the Kansas Natural Heritage Inventory" and both native ecosystems and native plant populations are under siege from invasive species. Several of the largest and best known KNPS-sponsored-plant-outings are already scheduled for June (see Events pages in the newsletter insert). Attend as many of these as you can during the peak blooming season; initiate a wildflower outing in your own area; become involved in a restoration project; learn more about native plants and share your knowledge with both children and adults. The Proclamation sums up: "join together to celebrate this precious heritage during Kansas Native Plant Appreciation Month."
- ◆ Another special event during Kansas Native Plant Appreciate Month will be KNPS participation in the Symphony in the Flint Hills, Saturday, **June 16, 2007**. In the Symphony promotions, the first item listed in afternoon activities is: "Wildflower/prairie walks with Native Plant Society guides." We had overwhelming response from the



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News Notes continued

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visitors to our walks last year at Tallgrass Prairie. The site for this year's event is the Wade Pasture in Wabaunsee Country. KNPS representatives will visit the site in April to discuss trail logistics and the number of hike leaders. If you are interested in coming out for the hikes, check www.symphonynintheflinthills.org. If you would like to be a hike leader, contact Jeff Hansen (hanjd@cox.net) or Nancy Goulden (nag@ksu.edu).

- ◆ For several years KNPS has supported the establishment of a **State Grass for Kansas**. Partly through the efforts of former KNPS Board President Valerie Wright and Joan Leavens, the movement has grown with **Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) being the choice of advocates**. Teacher and KNPS member Jan Alderson's high school Biology class at Shawnee Mission South High School took on the project of promoting Little Bluestem. In order for a new state symbol to be adopted, Kansas school children must introduce and support the symbol. Letters of support for Little Bluestem were sent from students, members of KNPS, and other interested parties to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Committee. In mid-February, the **committee heard testimony in support of House Bill 2386. Valerie, Jan and her students helped present the case for the selection of Little Bluestem**. Unfortunately, the bill did not make it out of committee, but will be considered again in the 2008. During this interval, KNPS has the opportunity to develop learning material related to Little Bluestem for school children of Kansas and build a base of support for this most charming and well-chosen grass.
- ◆ Here is another special event during Wildflower Appreciation month—the **first annual Wildflower Weekend at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve** in Chase Country, June 9 and 10, 2007. **KNPS members will be playing active roles** in the National Park Service sponsored event. Presentations/workshops by KNPS members include: **paper making** from native plants by Jeff Hansen, **dyeing with natives** by Cindy Ford, **medicinals and edibles** by Frank Norman, and a **prairie slide show** by Sister Pat Stanley. Fred and Nancy Coombs will be at the KNPS booth sharing information about the organization. KNPS members Craig and Jane Freeman, Valerie Wright, Paul Willis and Tom Eddy will lead wildflower hikes. The weekend is planned to be educational and enjoyable for all ages. Bring the family.
- ◆ When was the last time you visited the **KNPS website**? I'm sure you are aware that the main site address is www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org. But now we have a **simpler way to get to our website**, an **abbreviated domain name** that when entered will redirect you to our site. The abbreviated name is www.ksnps.org – “ks” for Kansas and “nps” for native plant society. Note it's not “knps” as that is the website of the Kentucky Native Plant Society. **In addition to our “old” domain name, we have added two others:** www.kansaswildflowersociety.org and www.kansasnativeplants.org. If you go to any of these secondary addresses, you will be redirected to our main web site. You may know that our main **email address** is email@kansasnativeplantsociety.org. To make things easier, we now have email@ksnps.org. Any mail sent to this address will be forwarded to the main email address. Be sure to check out some of the **latest updates to the website** such as “Wildflower Tour How To,” which is a guide to planning a county wildflower tour. A preliminary itinerary for the annual meeting has been posted. Furthermore the menu structure has been simplified. Next time you go to our homepage look for a new feature—the images will change based on the month you are visiting.
- ◆ KNPS has been contacted by several **organizations to collaborate or share information**. The **Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota is involved in a “large scale prairie restoration project.”** They are looking for interested parties to take part in harvesting for a small stipend and housing. Contact Tom Koerner at (605)685-6508 or email tom_koerner@fws.gov. Information also available at <http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov>
- ◆ The **We Kan Conference** (focused on Kansas tourism in rural communities) in Salina in March **invited KNPS to participate in the Umbrella Session**— an opportunity for each organization to present highlights about their association in ONE MINUTE. **Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition** asked KNPS to **join the Coalition and** to attend their meeting in March.

Trials and Tribulations of a Seed Collector

By Jeff Hansen

At the 2006 KNPS Annual Meeting, Betsy Allen gave a presentation on the Seeds of Success (SOS) project. The SOS project is the United States' branch of the Millennium Seed Bank project, an international conservation program developed and managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Their goal is to collect and store seed from 10% of the world's flora by 2010 for a total of over 24,000 species. Thinking about how much I love being out in the field and my knowledge of native plants in my area, I thought, "This is right up my alley, I'm going to check into it." I contacted Betsy later and downloaded the seed collecting protocol, the list of species needing collecting, and the data collection forms from the Chicago Botanic Garden's website <http://cbgseedbank.org/>.

I started scanning the list of uncollected species and thinking of where I had seen nice populations. I kept a spreadsheet of the species I thought I would be able to collect along with their locations. I spent every free hour I had in the next few months combing my favorite natural areas – Clinton Lake, Lassiter Marsh by Perry Lake, Snyder Prairie, Green Nature area, Grant Bradbury, Clarion Lake, and Shawnee Lake.

To qualify for collection, the population of a species must contain at least fifty individuals. The collector must take seeds from at least 50 individuals and must collect at least 10,000 seeds, with a goal of 15,000. Two voucher specimens must also be taken. Furthermore a two-page collection form must be filled out. Don't forget, this project had been going on for a year; so many of the more common, easy-to-collect species had already been collected. It all sounds very daunting and nearly impossible, but once you find a species and collect it, you feel on top

of the world.

I immediately ruled out species such as **pawpaw** (*Asimina triloba*), as they rarely fruit and when they do, there are about 10 seeds in a fruit. Other species produce thousands of seeds in one fruit, so collecting from such a population is very easy. Then there are the plants that fall somewhere in between.

The very first collection I made was **Canada brome** (*Bromus pubescens*). Since it is fairly commonly found in woodlands and each plant has 50 to 100 seeds, this one was one of the easier ones. It was collected without a hitch. After collecting it, I thought, this is a piece of cake . . . boy, was I ever wrong.

Next I decided to go for **buttonweed** (*Diodia teres*), a diminutive annual that only produces about 10 seeds per plant. Luckily I knew of a nice population in a disturbed area at Grant Bradbury prairie. I collected a pillowcase full of plants, thinking I would have enough seeds – I was wrong. I went back to get another pillowcase full and had the required number of seeds. I collected literally 1000+ plants to get the necessary seeds. Still this was a relatively easy plant to collect.

My next collecting trip was to Clinton Lake to get **halberd-leaf rose-mallow** (*Hibiscus laevis*). This species turned out to be a bust. It grows along lakeshores, but with the drought, seed production was limited. While looking for plants, I was navigating through a forest of **sumpweed** (*Iva annua*). It was difficult walking, and at one point, I tripped, and landed on my sore, bad knee with a 185-pound "thunk." I mustered the strength to get up, and my knee was killing me. I lumbered on a bit more, and am greeted by a skunk – about 10 feet away. Luckily he was friendly, and I

just backed away.

Canada nettle (*Laportea Canadensis*) was another species that I thought would be easy to collect. But did I bother to wear jeans? No, I just went into the woods with shorts on and tried not to brush up against the stinging stems of the nettle plants. I was relatively successful at not getting stung. I just clipped off the seed heads into a bag, so as not to get stung. Still, I really should learn to dress for the job at hand.

The next entertaining collection was **floating water primrose** (*Ludwigia peploides*). As you might guess by the name, it grows along shores and floats. To harvest this baby, I donned my rubber, calf-length mud boots and started wading out into Lake Clarion near my house. I was collecting and slowly sinking into the mud. The water was nearly going over the top of my boots. Once I collected everything within reach, I tried to lift up my feet. I got one foot loose, then promptly lost my balance and fell backwards into the lake. I just laughed and thought, this would only happen to me. Then when I sent the seed in, Betsy informed me that it had already been collected. My e-mail requesting the "collecting rights" had gotten lost in cyberspace. I was a bit discouraged, but plodded on with my collections.

My next favorite collection adventure was **clearweed** (*Pilea pumila*). I found a large population at the Clinton Lake outlet park. As I was picking the plants and stuffing them into my large Ziploc bag, I thought I saw something jump in. But I assumed it would jump back out. I promptly forgot about it and kept on collecting. When I got home I unloaded my bounty onto a large sheet to dry. Later I went to the kitchen, and saw movement again. It

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2007 Kansas Area Native Plant & Wildflower Events

Information provided by Kansas Native Plant Society, R.L.McGregor Herbarium, 2045 Constant Ave., Lawrence, KS 66047-3729.

Online: www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org

Email: <kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com> or email@knps.org

Sturdy shoes, long pants, insect repellent, sunscreen, a hat and water are recommended for outdoor events.

 **April 21:** Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member <frank.norman@appliedeco.com> (785) 887-6775.

 **May 12:** Barber County Wildflower Tour. Meet at the Medicine Lodge High School, 8:30am. Enjoy continental breakfast and slides of flowers we expect to see. Buses will provide transportation. Morning participants will return to the school at noon. Full-day participants will enjoy a delicious lunch and entertainment at a tree-shaded country park. Ride through the beautiful gyp hills to a second site. Refreshments will be served before we return to the school around 3:30pm. Barber Co. Conservation District and Kansas Native Plant Society are co-sponsors. Pre-paid reservations should be sent before May 7th, \$8 half-day, \$15 full-day. Barber Co Conservation, 800 W. 3rd Ave. Medicine Lodge, KS 67104-8002, phone (620) 886-3721, ext. 3.

 **May 12:** Visit the Ft. Leavenworth Woods with Kansas Native Plant Society. This forest includes outstanding white oak and maple-basswood sections; we hope to see examples of both as well as some rare sedges and real wildflower treats! Be sure to wear blaze-orange colored clothing as we're sharing the woods with spring turkey hunters. Caleb Morse, Collection Manager for the McGregor Herbarium will lead the foray. Meet at the main entrance to the Fort at 10am. To car pool from Lawrence, meet at 9am in the parking lot for the McGregor Herbarium / Bridwell Lab and Monarch Watch, Constant Ave. & Crowell Dr, West Campus at KU. Please register by contacting Caleb <cmorse@ku.edu> (785) 864-4493.

 **May 12:** Dr. Woody Holland's Wildflower Tour of Neosho County, KS. Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member Carl Paulie will lead the tour. We will be looking for Shootingstar, Indian Paintbrush, Wild Hyacinth, Pale-spike Lobelia and many others. Meet in front of the courthouse on Main St. in Erie, KS at 1pm. The tour will begin at 1:30pm sharp. (620) 449-2028

May 19-20: FloraKansas: Great Plains Plant Bazaar at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains, Hesston, KS. The largest native plant sale in Kansas features hard-to-find native perennials, shrubs and trees plus fun 'gardenabilia'. Saturday offerings: classes, demonstrations, and tours from professionals. Contact the Arboretum about becoming a member and special members-only early sale dates. Admission charge is by donation. <arboretum@Hesston.edu> (620) 327-8127

 **May 19:** Comanche County Nature Tour, Coldwater, KS. View native plants, wildflowers, and birds during the morning tour in the Coldwater area. Visit a couple of area ranches for even more beautiful Red (Gyp) Hills scenery in the afternoon. We will meet at the High School (600 North Leavenworth) at 8:30am for coffee and rolls. A registration fee is needed for the catered lunch. Coldwater Chamber of Commerce and Kansas Native Plant Society are co-sponsors. Coldwater is in south central KS on Hwy 160, 60 miles southeast of Dodge City and 135 miles southwest of Wichita. For more information please contact June Kliesen <jkliesen@havilandtelco.com> (620) 738-4340.

 **May 19:** Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member <frank.norman@appliedeco.com> (785) 887-6775.

 **June 2:** Wilson County Wildflower Tour in southeast Kansas. Gather at Fredonia High School, 916 Robinson St, 8:30am. Enjoy home baked pastries and booths of education and interest. Buses will provide transportation. Join small group tours with professional leaders or opt for self guided experiences. Lunch is included with the registration price of \$8, payable by May 28. Wilson Co Conservation, 930 N 2nd Street, Fredonia, KS 66736. Contact Gina Thompson (620) 378-2866 with questions.

 **June 9:** Cowley County Wildflower Tour, 8am-noon. Cowley Co Conservation District and Kansas Native Plant Society

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 **June 9:** Cowley County Wildflower Tour, 8am-noon. Cowley Co Conservation District and Kansas Native Plant Society are co-sponsors. Please make your reservations by June 5; contact Cowley Co Conservation District (620) 221-1850, ext. 3.

 **June 9-10:** First Annual Wildflower Weekend at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Chase County, KS. Kansas Native Plant Society members will be playing active roles in this National Park Service sponsored event. Presentations include: paper making from native plants by Jeff Hansen, dyeing with natives by Cindy Ford, medicinals and edibles by Frank Norman, and prairie slide show by Sister Pat Stanley. Other members will lead wildflower hikes. The weekend will be educational and enjoyable for all ages. Bring the family. [www.nps.gov/tapr] <tapr_interpretation@nps.gov> (620) 273-8494

 **June 9:** Dr. Woody Holland's Wildflower Tour of Neosho County, KS. Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member Carl Paulie will lead the tour. We will be looking for Showy Beardtongue (*Penstemon cobaea*), Tube Beardtongue (*Penstemon tubaeiflorus*), Pale Purple-coneflower, Prairie Phlox and many others. Meet Carl in front of the courthouse on Main St. in Erie, KS at 1pm. The tour will begin at 1:30pm sharp. (620) 449-2028

 **June 10:** Friends of Konza Prairie Annual Wildflower Walk, 7pm. The walk will be co-led by Valerie Wright, Kansas Native Plant Society Past President, and Konza Docents. There is a charge of \$5 for those who are not Friends of Konza Prairie members. Telephone reservations are due June 5, (785) 587-0441.

 **June 13:** Calhoun Bluff Prairie Walk, 7pm. Visit a high quality glaciated bluff prairie and see uncommon plants like prairie willow, blunt-leaf milkweed, and prairie phlox. Other interesting plants growing on this prairie include: Culver's-root, sweet coneflower, and porcupine grass. This private farm was formerly the site of the early town of Calhoun. Owner Martin N Jones will give a little presentation on the history of the farm before our walk. Kansas Native Plant Society President Jeff Hansen will lead the walk. We will meet at 7pm at Ree's Fruit farm / apple orchard parking lot and caravan up to the parking area. Ree's Fruit farm is at the intersection of Hwy 24 and K-4 on the east side of Topeka. <email@KSNPS.org> (785) 478-1993

June 16: The Second Annual Symphony in the Flint Hills will be held in Wabaunsee County, KS. Enjoy this unique pairing of music and prairie! The vision of this concert is to heighten appreciation and knowledge of the Flint Hills as the last major intact tallgrass prairie on the North American continent and will help focus attention on the Flint Hills of Kansas as a national treasure belonging to all Kansans and as a destination for people beyond our borders. Featured is an outdoor concert performed by the Kansas City Symphony. [www.symphonyintheflinthills.org] (620) 273-8955

 **June 16:** Volunteers are needed for prairie maintenance and preservation projects. Assist the Grassland Heritage Foundation Groundhogs [www.grasslandheritage.org]. Wear appropriate clothing. No special skills or tools needed. For details, please contact Frank Norman, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member <frank.norman@appliedeco.com> (785) 887-6775.

 **June 20:** Celebrate the Fifth Annual Grant-Bradbury Prairie Jaunt! Join Kansas Native Plant Society and Grassland Heritage Foundation on Topeka's premiere prairie park. This 80-acre tallgrass prairie includes over 296 plant species. Jeff Hansen, KNPS President and GHF Board Member will lead the tour at 7pm. Directions: Take Topeka Blvd south to the University Blvd intersection (stoplight), take a right. Take University west about half a mile - when the road curves south, you are at the driveway to the park gate. There is a small brick building at the driveway. <email@KSNPS.org> (785) 864-3453

 **June 23:** Visit Snyder Prairie near Mayetta, KS, 9am. Grassland Heritage Foundation has done a lot of work at Snyder and opened up new areas. Grassland Heritage Foundation and Kansas Native Plant Society are co-sponsors. Frank Norman, KNPS Board Member, will lead us and help us identify the plants we see, but he'll also show us the different management areas and how the plants have responded to burning, red cedar removal, etc. We'll most likely walk until we get too hot, possibly until 11 or 11:30, weather permitting. Snyder Prairie is about 15 miles north of Topeka on Hwy 75. To get to the site, drive east on 158th Road at Mayetta and go about 3 miles to U Road, and then go south approximately another half-mile and park along the roadside next to the Hug's driveway. Make sure not to block their driveway or any potential movement of large vehicles in and out. Contact the GHF office with questions, <email@grasslandheritage.org> or (913) 262-3506.

Kansas Botany and KNPS Owe Much Appreciation to Dwight Platt

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can never be measured or fully appreciated.

Retirement and Beyond

“Slowing down” does not describe life for Dwight Platt after retirement from the KNPS Board and teaching at Bethel College. He continues to serve as a prairie restoration consultant to the Kauffman Museum, where he helped reconstruct tall grass prairie 25 years ago, and for two remnant prairies owned by Bethel College. As a dedicated naturalist, Dwight still organizes

and participates in annual events such as the Harvey County Christmas Bird Count, the Harvey County Butterfly Count, and the Breeding Bird Survey. He never turns down an opportunity to lead an interpretive walk about plants, birds, reptiles, amphibians, or about anything else found in Kansas prairies. In his spare time, Dwight is an avid vegetable and native plant gardener, beekeeper, and he serves on an environmental awareness committee at his church and helps run a retreat center for Arts and Humanities in Newton.



Thank you Dwight Platt for all your service in furthering botanical and biological endeavors in Kansas. KNPS is indebted to you for our foundation and for your many years of service.

Trials and Tribulations of a Seed Collector continued

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was a cricket frog that had stowed away in my clearweed collection. I caught the stowaway and released him in my pond.

Now for the granddaddy of seed collecting stories. I thought I had exhausted the list of things I could collect when I came across **poison ivy** (*Toxicodendron radicans*). I thought, I’m not allergic to it, and its clusters of berries should be a cinch to collect.” I went out at Lake Clinton and found a plentiful supply. I began clipping it and catching it in a bag. I made sure not to touch it, just to be safe. When I got home I sealed it up in a Ziploc, created a “Danger Poison Ivy” sign, and shipped it off to Betsy. Well, after about 5 days, I noticed three welts on my arm, and thought – “danged, I got poison ivy.” It didn’t itch so I didn’t

think it was a big deal. Five more days pass, and now I am itching on my neck and arms and legs. I read on the Internet that in rare cases of first exposure the rash doesn’t develop for 7 to 10 days – I was that rare case. I didn’t want it to get worse, so I went to the doctor and they gave me a steroid shot. The shot was so painful I thought I was going to pass out. I was trotting around the doctor’s office, complaining of the pain, while they watched to make sure I didn’t have an allergic reaction – but still I did have a pain reaction. I doused the pain with a few margaritas, and the next day was suffering from poison ivy collection/steroid overdose/margarita infusion fever.

All in all, the seed collecting adventures turned out to be like hunting treasure. I would look and look and finally find what I was looking for or

sometimes what I wasn’t expecting. Probably my most exciting find was **Foxtail prairie clover** (*Dalea leporella*). I had never seen the plant before and found oodles of it growing on the seasonally flooded areas of Lake Clinton.

I need to thank Craig Freeman for all his help. I was having some trouble identifying plants, so I would send him stems, flowers, and leaves of the plants to make sure I was collecting the right species. He also tipped me off on some easy things to collect such as **yellow-seed false pimpernel** (*Lindernia dubia*). With his help I learned how to key a few species out such as **stalkless yellowcress** (*Rorippa sessiliflora*) too. Thanks.

See list on next page.



Put this Date on your Calendar Now



29th Annual Meeting September 21-23, 2007

Hutchinson and Reno County “Wildflowers for the Masses.”

Seed Collector's List

<i>Alisma triviale</i>	Northern Water-Plantain
<i>Amaranthus tuberculatus</i>	Rough-Fruit Amaranth
<i>Ammannia coccinea</i>	Valley Redstem
<i>Ammannia robusta</i>	Grand Redstem
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Tall Thimbleweed
<i>Bromus pubescens</i>	Canada Brome Grass
<i>Dalea leporina</i>	Fox-Tail Prairie-Clover
<i>Diodia teres</i>	Poorjoe; Rough Buttonweed
<i>Eleocharis obtusa</i>	Blunt Spike-Rush
<i>Lactuca floridana</i>	Woodland Lettuce
<i>Laportea canadensis</i>	Canadian Wood-Nettle
<i>Lindernia dubia</i>	Yellow-Seed False Pimpernel
<i>Ludwigia peploides ssp. glabrescens</i>	Floating Primrose-Willow
<i>Mimulus alatus</i>	Sharp-Wing Monkey-Flower
<i>Mimulus ringens var. ringens</i>	Allegheny Monkey-Flower
<i>Phyla lanceolata</i>	Fog-Fruit
<i>Physalis angulata</i>	Cut-Leaf Ground-Cherry
<i>Pilea pumila var. pumila</i>	Canadian Clearweed
<i>Rorippa sessiliflora</i>	Stalkless Yellowcress
<i>Ruellia strepens</i>	Limestone Wild Petunia
<i>Rumex altissimus</i>	Pale Dock
<i>Silphium perfoliatum var. perfoliatum</i>	Cup-Plant
<i>Symphyotrichum praealtum</i>	Willow-Leaf American-Aster
<i>Toxicodendron radicans ssp. radicans</i>	Eastern Poison-Ivy
<i>Baptisia alba var. macrophylla</i>	White Wild Indigo

Special Memberships

Life Time Membership

Barbara Davis
 Phillip Eastep
 Fink Foundation
 Sally Haines
 W. Glen & Marjorie F. Neely
 Ray Woods

Contributing Members

Sheldon & Virginia Cohen
 Robert Russell
 Jim Townsend
 Fred & Nancy Coombs
 Nancy Lusk

THE MICHIGAN LILY (*Lilium michiganense* Farw)

Text by Dr. Stephen L. Timme, Pittsburg State University

Drawing by Dr. Cindy Ford, Pittsburg State University

The Michigan Lily grows to 2.0 m (ca. 6 feet) tall with whorled leaves (6-8 per node) that are lance-shaped to elliptic, with parallel venation. There are 1-6 nodding flowers that occur at the apex of the shoot. The petals and sepals (collectively called the perianth) are similar in shape and are orange to reddish-orange with purplish dots, these occurring mostly on their lower half or so. The perianth segments are strongly recurved and to 10 cm (4 or slightly more inches) long with acuminate (pointed) tips.

This species occurs in moist areas of prairie swales, wooded slopes, along prairie railroads, and prairie roadsides. In North America the species ranges from eastern Canada, Michigan west to South Dakota and south to Florida, Arkansas, and Kansas. As far as known, it has no medicinal value but would certainly make a beautiful addition to the wildflower garden. In Kansas it occurs in the first 2-3 tiers of counties along the Missouri state line. In Missouri it essentially occurs in the western half of the state. A species well worth observing in its native habitat. To see a color photo of this species, go to www.pittstate.edu/herbarium and click on illustrated guides, then click on wildflowers.



WANTED: REPORTS AND COLOR PICTURES

For the July issue, send a brief description (about ½ page) of your summer native plant tours and pictures of the flowers you saw to Nancy Goulden (nag@ksu.edu). Include number of participants, location, unusual and abundant species and what made your outing special. We will have a special two-page color photo display showcasing outings in various parts of the state.

LIKE THE ISSUES WITH COLOR PICTURES?

The KNPS Board has budgeted **one** color issue for 2007. Color is very expensive—can be up to \$1,000 for a two-page spread. The July issue will have color pages, but we would like to also be able to publish color pictures from our Annual Meeting events. That can happen only if we have donations to help cover the cost. A contribution of any amount would be welcome. Send a check marked for “newsletter” to Kansas Native Plant Society, R.L. McGregor Herbarium, 2045 Constant Avenue, Lawrence, Kansas, 66047-3729.

NEW MEMBERS 9/17/06 TO 12/1/07

Kansas Native Plant Society

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

Phone: (785)864-3453

Email: kansaswildflowers@yahoo.com.



Kansas
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Address Service Requested

We are on the Web

www.kansasnativeplantsociety.org

Membership Information

email@kansasnativeplantsociety.org or email@KSNPS.org



Kansas
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL

Annual dues are for a 12-month period from January 1-December 31. Dues paid after December 1 are applied to the next year.

Name:	
Address:	
City/State:	
Zipcode:	
Phone:	
E-Mail:	

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

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

A membership in 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 by the KNPS Administrative Office.

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.

Check membership category desired:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Organization | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Contributing | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Lifetime | \$500.00 |

Check membership category desired: