

OCANPS SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025

THANK YOU BURNETTA

Burnetta Hinterthuer was a founder of the Ozark Chapter of the Arkansas Native Plant Society. She has served as President and more recently, Newsletter Editor. She has also been the chief botanist and field trip leader for the entire time our chapter has been in existence. She stepped down as Newsletter Editor at our retreat at Harmony Mountain this past fall.

Long time member and current Vice-President, Sandy Tedder, had this to say about Burnetta: 'Burnetta has always gone to the top and way beyond in the hours she has given to OCANPS. Her energy and dedication have always been outstanding. I wish we knew the count for both the hours she has put in and the number of field trips she has led. I personally have learned so much from Bur both in meetings and in the field. I am also thankful for all the good times we have enjoyed together!'

Thank you Burnetta. Even though you are no longer an officer we look forward seeing you on our field trips and hanging out with you at Harmony Mountain.



Burnetta at Harmony Mountain Fall 2024

SPRING WILDFLOWER FIELD TRIPS 2025

Buffalo River Trail at Ponca, Newton County

Saturday, March 22, 11:00 AM to 1:30PM

Directions: Park at the lot for Ponca's low water bridge, immediately southeast of the junction of Highway 74 & 43. Meet on the lower bridge.

Habitat: Mossy, mesic beech-maple forest; Ozark Trillium (*Trillium pusillum* var. *ozarkanum*) is our main target, but we also hope to see other spring ephemerals like Acute-lobed Hepatica, Dutchman's Britches, and Bloodroot in flower too!

Level of difficulty: Moderate; we will walk less than halfway up the trail towards Steel Creek. Some sections of the trail have a fairly steep incline, but are not bad when taken slow. The path itself is wide and easy to walk on.

Leaders: Samantha Heller (479)531-9794 and Morgan Russell (870)822-9005

Chinquapins and Wildflowers, Bella Vista

Saturday, April 5, 10:00 AM

Location: Bear Hollow Trailhead (part of their Back 40 trail system). It is just north of Lancashire Road a few miles east of US71 in Bella Vista. It is well sign-posted off Lancashire Road.

The main focus of this trip will be to see Ozark Chinquapin (*Castanea ozarkensis*) and learn about them from a local expert. We will see sprouts of various sizes and an example of ongoing blight. Chinquapins were once common in this area but were almost wiped out by chestnut blight. In addition we will look at spring wildflowers and a fine example of a chert glade

Leader: Fred Paillet is Adjunct Professor of Uark Geosciences and has published on chinquapin and chestnut investigations from around the world.

Wildflower Hike at Lake Wilson, Fayetteville

April 19th, 8:00-11:00 AM

Location: Lake Wilson can be reached from Fayetteville by turning south off of 15th St onto Morningside Dr. Follow this road for about 1.8 mi before turning left onto Wilson Hollow Rd. This can be followed all the way to Lake Wilson (do not turn right when reaching a fork in the dirt road). There will be two parking lots. When you first arrive at the lake, you'll have the option of turning left to park at a dirt lot used for launching boats. If you continue forward you'll reach another parking lot near a pavilion. We'll meet there by the pavilion. The early meet time is because the pavilion parking lot will likely fill up later in the morning.

Andrew Ruegsegger of the UARK Herbarium and President-Elect of the Arkansas Native Plant Society will lead this field trip to take in the spring-flowering plants at Lake Wilson, a 320-acre park owned by the City of Fayetteville and previously used as Lafayette's main water supply before Beaver Lake was dammed in the 1960s. We should see a good number of spring wildflowers in flower, such as beaked

trout lily, wild indigo, mayapple, and some different kinds of violets. We should also see plenty of our native trees in flower, like black locust and redbud.

Level of difficulty: Easy, a fairly level trail about 2 miles long.

Rob and Melani Walton Preserve, Garfield

Thursday, May 8, 10:00 A.M.

Directions: From Hwy 62 in Garfield turn south on Hwy 127. Cross the railroad tracks and travel 0.6 miles. Turn left onto Ford Road and travel a short distance. When Ford Road makes a turn to the left continue straight through the rock pillar gate into the preserve parking lot.

Ginny Masullo and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) staff will lead this trip. In 1974 this area was listed as a priority for conservation in the Arkansas Natural Area Plan, which helps guide efforts to preserve our state's native landscapes, plants, and animals. The dozens of known rare plants in the area make conserving this property important. TNC staff will share information on habitat improvement efforts including reclaiming 12 acres of pollinator habitat from invasive blackberries and how we use prescribed fire and other management tools to improve the land for wildlife and water quality. The hike will be approximately 2 miles and include an easy stroll along mowed paths through grassland habitat and a moderate stroll along a gravel access road through the forest that has a moderate incline in some sections. Along the way we will observe a variety of flowering species that are in bloom which we will work together to identify.

Arkansas River Valley Field Trip: Bona Dea Trails & Sanctuary – Washburn Park Trailhead (Russellville) and Pine Ridge Gardens (Dardanelle)

Saturday, May 24, 10:00 A.M.

Leader: Brent Baker (479-970-9143)

Location: Meet in Russellville at the Bona Dea Trailhead at Washburn Park (On Lake Front Dr. near the intersection of Lake Front Dr./W. Parkway Dr./Hwy 64/W. Main St. Please note that this is the western trailhead, NOT the one closest to I-40 Exit 81...input 'Washburn Park' into your GPS rather than 'Bona Dea'.)

Join Brent for a leisurely stroll along gentle paved trails through bottomland woods and wetlands at Bona Dea Trails & Sanctuary adjacent to Lake Dardanelle. We'll also check out Reflection Point, a Pope County Master Gardener project at Washburn Park, which incorporates numerous native plants into the planting. Bring a sack lunch and we'll have a quick bite to eat at the park before heading to Dardanelle. After lunch, we'll caravan to the new home of Pine Ridge Gardens native plant nursery at 10989 Fulton Rd., south of Dardanelle. Brent will give a quick tour of the new nursery facilities and then you'll be free to browse the native plant inventory and head back to Northwest Arkansas when you're ready.

Baker Prairie Natural Area, Harrison

Saturday May 31, 9:30-11:30 A.M.

Directions: Follow U.S. Highway 65 through Harrison. At the intersection of Highway 65, Highway 65B (North Main), and Industrial Park Road, head west on Industrial Park Road and follow for 0.9 mi., then turn left on Goblin Drive. Continue for 0.2 mi. then turn left on W. Burls Way and park in the Harrison Middle School parking lot.

Meeting Location: We'll gather at the pavilion on the eastern portion of the prairie, just north of the Harrison Middle School parking lot near the intersection of Goblin Dr. and W. Burls Way. Link to google maps <https://maps.app.goo.gl/JBJbJDFoMThsnr1UA>

Join Jennifer Ogle, botanist and collections manager at the University of Arkansas Herbarium (UARK), and Deb O'Donnell, amateur botanist and UARK volunteer, for a tour of Baker Prairie Natural Area, a high-quality chert prairie remnant managed by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and The Nature Conservancy. During the walk we expect to see an abundance of native wildflowers, including green-eyes, winecups, Carolina larkspur, pale purple coneflower, goat's-rue, and Ohio spiderwort, to name just a few. We'll also see and hear many birds, so bring binoculars if you have them!

Level of Difficulty: Easy to moderate; we will primarily be walking on a mowed path through the prairie, in full sun. Water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes are strongly recommended.

TWO SAVE THE DATE NOTICES:

ANPS will hold its Spring meeting in Monticello the weekend of May 2-4. Details will be posted on the ANPS website when they are available.

OCANPS annual retreat to Harmony Mountain will be October 31 – November 2. Details will be included in our Fall Newsletter.

PAST EVENT

Harmony Mountain Retreat 2024.

OCANPS held its Harmony Mountain Retreat November 8-10. It rained on and off throughout the weekend. However, this did not impede our ability to feast on great food, make music, play games and enjoy each others company. Many of the participants managed to dodge the rain and make trips to hike to 2 different waterfalls. On Saturday we went to Hudson Shelter Falls and on Sunday it was to Fern Falls. Others explored the neighborhood around the cabin.

The big news is that Burnetta announced her decision to step down as Newsletter Editor. Cat Donnell was elected as the new Secretary/Newsletter Editor. All other officers were re-elected to the positions they currently held.

The auction and some additional donations collected during the weekend totaled \$760. It was not determined where to donate this money during weekend, but a poll of those who did attend conducted by email shortly afterwards decided to give \$450 to the Halbery Ecology Camp, \$425 to the ANPS botany scholarship fund and \$125 to the Writers Colony in Eureka Springs for their native plant project.



Fern Falls

HOW TO JOIN OR RENEW:

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2025 IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

Membership:

Arkansas Native Plant Society Membership Application

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail this completed form with a check made payable to the Arkansas

Native Plant Society to:

Leslie Patrick, Treasurer

15 Pinecrest Court

Conway, Arkansas 72032

TO JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE GO TO: anps.org/join.

Membership Categories

_____ \$10 Student

_____ \$15 Individual

_____ \$20 Supporting

_____ \$25 Family

_____ \$30 Contributing

_____ \$150 Lifetime (age 55+)

_____ \$300 Lifetime (under age 55)

_____ New Member

_____ Renewal

_____ Address Change _____ Opt out of receiving paper Claytonia

Ozark Chapter Arkansas Native Plant Society:

To join the Ozarks Chapter, after joining ANPS, please send a check for \$10 to:

Deb Bartholomew

300 Jonathan Drive

Bentonville, AR 72612