



Erythronium

Newsletter of the Iowa Native Plant Society vol. 19 no. 1 April 2013

Thoughts From The Belly

Copyright February 2013

By: Dan Mays – Ironbelly1@aol.com

While recently driving on one of the main thoroughfares of Davenport, Iowa, I saw something rather inane that left me both puzzled and surprisingly irritated. It was simply a bumper sticker on the rear of a nondescript car that said: "I'm busy – You are ugly – Have a nice day." What in the world would prompt someone to seize upon an opportunity to put forth this kind of a first impression? I can only imagine what other intellectual diarrhea would be offered from this source.

It takes a lot to upset me, but curiously, this poor attempt at humor(?) got under my skin. There are currently too many hard times, tragedies, and difficulties facing the people of this world. The last thing society needs is someone frivolously spreading their bad seed and lousy attitude as they bungle their way down our streets... and that is where we come into play.

Who has a better message to spread than us? Talk about hope—sow some seed. Talk about nurturing—transplant something. Talk about a promising future—take some cuttings or harvest some seed. Talk about fulfillment—share some of the ephemeral delights, information, and stories with others. Talk about wonderment—simply (but closely) observe what is happening every day in your landscape, gardens and natural areas that you stomp around in. The principle goal of the various native plant organizations is to talk and share the joys, secrets, and factual information of native plants with the greater community. For over a decade, I can thankfully say that this has joyfully been my successful aspiration.

It has been said that it takes between six and twelve exposures of "good" to overcome one exposure of "bad". While this may generally hold true, I choose to multiply by a factor of six to twelve times the potency of every instance of goodness. Personally, I find no greater abundance of goodness than that found in nature and my native gardens. The goodness contained therein easily trumps any "bad" that I may encounter.

During the period of a recent January thaw, I started doing some research on one of my favorite native flowers that is one of the first to bloom: Spring Beauties (*Claytonia virginica*). I just love the dainty white, pink-striped flowers that begin blooming so early in the spring. In fact, these ephemerals are one of the primary reasons that my lovely wife, Cyndia, and I often visit the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center in northern Scott County, Iowa on early spring weekends. An area just to the north of the Redtail Lodge is absolutely covered with this botanical delight. The sight of these tiny blooms sparkling in the sunlight is sure to put a smile on even those who choose the crassest of bumper stickers!"

I have mentioned before that my fascination with gardening extends into the world of the insects which often perform an intricate pas de deux with the plants we love so much. During my *Claytonia* research, I discovered a website created by a graduate student at The University of Toronto who is studying a small bee which only feeds upon the pollen of several species of *Claytonia*. Even though I have admired this flower for years, I never noticed that the flower pollen was pink—not golden-yellow like most flowers. It stands to reason that this particular bee, which only gathers this pollen, would also have pink pollen sacs on its rear legs. Sure enough... it does! How cool is that! I can't wait to observe this symbiotic relationship between plant and insect for myself as these bees buzz from flower to flower collecting *Claytonia* pollen.

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Leaves of the President's Notebook

The prefix 'meta' offers a way of thinking about ideas broader than the term to which it is attached. It has origins in the Greek where it seems to mean after or adjacent or beyond, among other concepts. One of its modern meanings involves the concept of about, as in 'information about information'. Years ago in graduate school, the idea of meta-analysis was the one I learned. Looking for supported commonalities and differences across a group of research studies through sophisticated statistical analysis was a fascinating concept.

Later when I became a reference librarian, as the world of information was becoming digital, the idea of metadata entered my working life. 'Data about data' is the essence of a library record, library catalog, database, an internet search engine and the internet itself. Nothing is findable unless information about it is stored somewhere in a searchable form. Then photography moved into the digital world and the concept of metadata became personally, as well as professionally, important. Cameras make digital files (camera, shutter speed, f-stop, date, time, etc.) about the images that are attached to the image data.

At the Day of Insects at Reiman Gardens in Ames, I learned another application of meta. This meaning is probably one of its most important for the future. Climate change is creating meta-disturbances that will interrupt research and data driven efforts aimed at ameliorating the effects of climate change. Dr. Keith Summerville, from Drake University, was describing his research at Chichaqua Bottoms on the impact of grazing on a prairie ecosystem. He talked about how research becomes more difficult and complicated in the face of large meta-disturbances like floods and drought. I am certain that combating the effects of various management, development and conservation uses on local and large ecosystems will also be more difficult because of meta-disturbances.

All the definitions of meta mentioned above are in play. Meta-disturbance is happening after, adjacent, beyond and about ecosystems, large and small. Its impacts are being stored in the life histories of all species, soils, air and waters that are disturbed/changed by the large unprecedented events of temperature changes, floods, drought, storms, melting ice and rising seas.

This is not meant to be all gloom and doom but rather a call to revive the expression or idea of "Think Globally, Act Locally." It has been some time since it was displayed on vehicle bumpers, T-shirts and in discussions of the future of the Earth's ecosystems. In recent years, it is more commonly used to reference financial planning and other business strategies that deplete natural systems rather than insure that they are sustained for all residents. The saying probably had its origins in the ideas of town planning early in the 20th century, entering environmental use in the 1970s.

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Leaves of the President's Notebook

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Perhaps it should return or be rewritten as a recirculating process rather than a one directional event: "Think Globally, Act Locally, but also, Think Locally, Act Globally..." Acting locally is crucially important but global understanding and action is also necessary to manage life among growing meta-disturbance. Without some coordination, environmental refugees (humans, animals, plants) are going to become meta-disturbances with other significant social and environmental effects.

To all of you who are working in the face of growing meta-disturbance, remember, as the Canadian comedian, Red Green, said: "... We are all in this together." And Spring seems to be almost here.

Linda Scarth

Linda Loos Scarth

scarth@infionline.net

Nature Writing Workshop

A workshop, led by Rebekah Beall, a writer on staff of Polk County Conservation, will be held on Tuesday, May 7th, 6:30 to 7:30 pm at Jester Park Lodge. Pre-registration is required with a deadline of April 30th – fee: \$5. <http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/conservation/calendar/calendar-event?event=741> (There is a link at this site for registering for the workshop.)

Have you ever been inspired to write about nature? Learn about some contemporary nature writers and read some of their work before learning to play with writing through several simple strategies. Bring pencil and paper and be ready to exercise your creativity.

Thoughts from the Belly

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Although not specifically stated in many mission statements, we each have a responsibility to help others appreciate and further explore the wonderment that we revel in. Quite frankly . . . we must! There are too many negative bumper stickers out there that need to be combatted.

New INPS Membership Categories Established

In order to recognize those who so generously support the Iowa Native Plant Society, we have established additional membership levels. Beyond basic membership, previously we offered Supporter at \$25 and Benefactor at \$50 and above.

We have gotten creative! These are the new levels of membership.

Anemone \$25

Botrychium \$50

Calamagrostis \$100

Dodecatheon \$150

Erythronium \$200 and +

These range from species that are common to those that are more "conservative" and they also represent different types of plants as well as the diverse habitats of Iowa.

Note that we continue to also have basic membership at \$10 (at \$15 for those who request mailed newsletters). Annual contributions above \$10 are tax-deductible. INPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Thank you to each of you for your membership and for supporting INPS in its many endeavors.

Thanks, Prairie Biotic Research!

In addition to congratulating our INPS grant recipients, we'd like to congratulate and thank Prairie Biotic Research for its contributions to native-plant-related research in Iowa and nearby states. This year, Prairie Biotic Research is helping to fund Ashley West, an ISU graduate student who is working on "Bur oak blight - does acorn size correlate with resistance?," as well as native plant studies in prairie states west of Iowa. INPS was pleased to make a contribution to these proposals. This year Prairie Biotic Research granted 20 projects almost \$20,000. Prairie Biotic Research is always happy to receive donations for its projects. For more information, contact Andrew Williams, President, at: prairiebioticresearch@gmail.com

2013 Wildflower Week Activities... and Beyond!

Descriptions and additional information about these activities are available on the INPS website (calendar page): <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~herbarium/inps/calendar.php>. All activities are open to the public, and are free unless otherwise noted. Be sure to check the INPS website or contact the person listed for the activity to make sure that there are no changes.

April 25 - 6:30 to 8:00 pm - Clear Creek Area, Johnson County, Woodland Wildflower Hike; preregistration is requested. Contact: Brad at the Conservation Education Center (319) 645-1011 or email Brad at bfreidhof@co.johnson.ia.us

April 26 - 5:30 to 7:00 pm - Osborne Park, Clayton County, Elkader, Arbor Day Forest Walk; contact: Clayton County Conservation Board, 563-245-1516

April 27 - 9:00 to 10:00 am - Frank Chapman Pellett Memorial Woods, Cass County, near Atlantic, Wildflower Walk; Cass County Conservation Board, 712-769-2372

April 27 - 10:00am - David Gossman Woodland and Savanna, Jackson County (see INPS Fieldtrips listing for description and directions)

April 27 - 10:00am - Maquoketa Caves State Park, Jackson County, Spring Wildflower Walk; Jackson County Conservation Board, 563-652-3783

April 27 - 1:00pm from Grinnell - 1:15pm at CERA - Grinnell College's Conard Environmental Research Area (CERA), Jasper County, Woodland Wildflower Walk; Grinnell College, contact Elizabeth Hill at hilleliz@grinnell.edu if you need transportation from Grinnell to CERA.

April 28 - 2:00 to 3:30 pm - Mount Talbot State Preserve, Woodbury County, Sioux City, (access will be impossible if Talbot Road is muddy and the field trip will be cancelled. Check at the INPS website calendar for updates.) Iowa Prairie Network, contact: Dianne Blankenship, 712-255-3447

April 30 - 6:30 to 8:00 pm - Thomas Mitchell Park, Polk County, Mitchellville, Wildflower Hike; meet at McDonald's parking lot in Pleasant Hill, Central Iowa Sierra Group, contact: Jackie, 515-577-0375

May 1 - 5:30 to 7:30 pm - Hamilton and Tapken Prai-

rie Preserve, Jones County, near Onslow; Sunset Prairie Hike on North Bluff Hill Prairie at the preserve; please pre-register by calling Michele at (319)481-7987 by 4 PM, April 30th, Jones County Conservation Board.

May 1 - 6:00 to 7:30 pm - Easter Lake Park, Polk County, Des Moines; May Day Hike and then making a May Day basket to take home; Polk County Conservation Board, 515-323-5300

May 2 - 7:30 to 8:30 pm - Spirit Knoll program at Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, Woodbury County, Sioux City; Loess Hills Audubon chapter

May 4 - 9:00 am to noon - Spirit Knoll, Plymouth County, at, May 4, 9am – 12pm, near Sioux City; Loess Hills Audubon Society & The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation are sponsoring this field trip, contact: Tim Sproul at tsroul71@gmail.com; for more information about Spirit Knoll: <http://www.inhf.org/siouxland-nature-additions.cfm>

May 4, 8:00 to 10:00 am -- Wickiup Hill Learning Center & Natural Area, Linn County, Mushroom Ramble; Prairie States Mushroom Club, registration is not required, but costs for those not in Mushroom Club: \$2.50/adult, \$1/child 16 and under or \$5/family

May 4 - 1:00pm - Martin's Access Park, Cherokee County (see INPS Fieldtrips listing for description and directions)

May 4 - 2:00 to 3:00 pm - Buena Vista County Conservation Park, Buena Vista County, South Shelter area, near Peterson; Wildflower Hike, Buena Vista County Conservation Board, call the conservation office to register at 712-295-7985 by Fri. May 3 at 4pm.

May 5 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm - Geller Preserve, Cedar County, near Rochester; Wildflower Hike, Cedar County Historical Society, <http://cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.webs.com/>

May 11 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm - Geller Preserve, Cedar County, near Rochester; Wildflower Hike, Cedar County Historical Society, <http://cedarcountyhistoricalsociety.webs.com/>

May 11 - 3:30 to 5:30 pm - Prairie Heritage Center, O'Brien County, near Peterson, Spring Wildflower Walk. Meet at the Prairie Heritage Center to carpool to a local prairie. Contact: 712-295-7200

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Wildflower Week

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May 16 - 6:30 to 8:00 pm - Ciha Fen, Johnson County, near Lisbon; Hike sponsored by Johnson County Conservation Board. Preregistration is required. Call Brad at the Conservation Education Center at (319) 645-1011 or email Brad at bfreidhof@co.johnson.ia.us

May 18 - 9:00 am to noon - Native Iowa Plant Sale, Annett Nature Center and Park, Warren County, sponsored by Friends of Warren County; contact: Joel at 515-961-6169 ext. 204

May 19 - noon to 4 pm - Native Iowa Plant Sale, Annett Nature Center and Park, Warren County, sponsored by Friends of Warren County; contact: Joel at 515-961-6169 ext. 204

May 23 - 7:00 to 8:30 pm - Doolittle Prairie State Preserve, Story County, near Story City, Prairie Walk; contact Lloyd Crim at (515) 432-5026 or lloydcrim@gmail.com.

May 31- June 2 - Loess Hills Prairie Seminar, Monona County (see description and additional details elsewhere in newsletter); contact: Dianne Blankenship, 712-255-3447 or bennaid@HOTMAIL.COM

ECOLOGICAL IMMERSION PROGRAM AT HITCHCOCK NATURE CENTER

The Ecological Immersion program at Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek Iowa, continues with monthly workshops through October. The program descriptions, costs and contact information can be found at this link: <http://newtreeschool.wordpress.com/ecological-immersion-program-2013/>

Programs include:

April 27: Native Trees and Shrubs in the Landscape

May 25: Lepidopterans (various ecosystems) & Spring Birding By Ear

June 22: Summer Birds & Wildflowers

July 27: Hitchcock Nature Center Biodiversity and Stewardship

August 24: Lowland Forest Ecosystem & Stream Bank Ecology

September 21: Migratory Birds and Raptor Census/Banding

October 26: Tree Planting Ecology and Practice

INPS Fieldtrips for 2013

Be sure to check the INPS website or contact the person listed for the activity to make sure that there are no changes.

April 27, 2013 - Jackson County (eastern Iowa)

Time: 10 AM to 3 PM

(The original message here has been updated below due to the late spring. So keep reading...)

INPS has been invited to join the Iowa Woodland Owners Association for their field trip to David Gossman's property. That should be a really good time for wildflowers. There will be a morning walk to an oak savanna remnant and prairie planting that will have been burned a few weeks before. Following a lunch break (bring your own) and restroom break, the afternoon hike will head down into the valley to see the deep woods wildflowers and then come back up into another oak savanna remnant. There may be morels in the woods.

DIRECTIONS: The address is 19502 159th Ave, Zwingle, IA 52079. Take 208th St west from route 61 then south on 159th. That said, Mapquest will not place that address correctly. It places that address at my neighbor to the north. If you use Mapquest you have to follow 159th avenue 'til it dead ends into my farm lane to the south. If you look at the aerial photos of the farm that way, I think I will take the first hike north and west of the farm house. Then the afternoon hike will head south into the timbered valley. Contact: David Gossman dgossman@gcisolutions.com 563-652-2822

Dress for walking. Bring a packed lunch.

UPDATED MESSAGE:

The burning has not happened as we had hoped - weeks of rain and only a couple of very windy days in between have not provided the environment we need for a safe productive burn. So we will still walk the planned route but there won't be a burned area when we do - still hoping we can burn sometime in the next few weeks.

Also while I have daffodils in bloom I am not yet seeing native wildflowers in bloom. We will try to concentrate on some southern exposure areas to maximize potential and hopefully a little warmer weather this week will help - it snowed a couple of times last

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INPS Field Trips

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week. Looking forward to seeing everyone who can make it.

(On the plus side weather has been perfect for planting trees - 400 planted so far - and there were fewer losses from last summer's drought than I had expected.)

David Gossman
Hidden Bluffs Farm

May 4, 2013 - Cherokee County (northwest Iowa)
Time: 1:00 PM

Meet at noon to join others for lunch before the hike at the Ballfield Shelter in Martin's Access park. Hike to begin at 1PM. Expect loads of spring ephemerals in the woodlands and early blooming dry-prairie flowers and sedges.

DIRECTIONS: Martin's Access is located at 4578 Martin Access Road, Larrabee, IA 51029. The entrance is about 4 miles east from the intersection of Hwy 59 and County Road C16 in Larrabee, IA, then one mile south on Martin's Access Road. The Ballfield Shelter is visibly located within the park, about 0.3 miles from the park's main entrance.

Bring a packed lunch at noon, or just come at 1PM for the hike!

July 6, 2013 - Buchanan County (northeast Iowa)
Time: 10:00 AM

Quigley-Slatery Heritage Prairie was purchased in 2012 by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation. The area of interest is a mesic prairie associated with a drainage way in middle of the site. We will be exploring the summer prairie flora with Mark J. Leoschke, botanist for the Wildlife Bureau of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in Des Moines.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of County Road C57 (115th Street) and County Road W45 (Slater Avenue) in Aurora (far northeast Buchanan County) drive approximately 7 miles south to 180th Street. Turn left (east), travel approximately 1.5 miles and park along the road. The prairie is just south of the road (T89N R7W Section 17 E2 NW4).

Depending on how wet a summer we have this year it would not hurt to wear boots. Even in a wet year most

of the prairie can probably be walked in gym shoes, but boots can be handy for looking at lower lying areas if summer happens to be wet

August 3, 2013 - Dallas County (central Iowa)
10:00 AM to 2-3:00 PM

Mike and Deb Losee, 35533 Filmore Ct, Earlham, IA 50072. Mike and Deb have a nice native prairie remnant, tree plantings and a pond.

With the help of Drake Prairie Rescue and Restoration and Dallas County CCB, they have been actively managing and restoring the prairie since 2004, during which time the prairie has greatly improved. Mike and Deb have also been active in wildlife rehabilitation. There is an option for a stop at the nearby Kuehn Conservation Area when finished at the Losee prairie.

Bring a lunch. Tom Rosburg will be the trip leader.

DIRECTIONS: From Des Moines, go west on I80. Exit 100 off I80 (for Dexter and Redfield), go north 1.8 miles to Bear Creek road, turn right (east) on Bear Creek road go 1 mile to Filmore Ct., turn right (south) on Filmore Ct. go 1 mile to their home on the right at 35533 Filmore Ct.

September 28, 2013 - Pottawattamie County (western Iowa)

Time: TBA

Annual Meeting

Hitchcock Nature Center, 27792 Ski Hill Loop.
Honey Creek, IA 51542 Plans TBA

Visit the southern Loess Hills in autumn to compare it to what you experienced at the Loess Hills Seminar in spring. The prairie will be turning colors. The summer heat should be gone.

DIRECTIONS: From Interstate I-29 take the Crescent exit (61A) and travel east two miles to Crescent and turn north on The Old Lincoln Highway for five miles to Page Lane. Follow the signs to Hitchcock Nature Center.

CONGRATULATIONS TO INPS'S GRANT RECIPIENTS

INPS is pleased to announce its 2013 grant winners, two of which received funding through **INPS's Small Grants** program.

Nick Stoyhoff of Campton Hills, IL, received \$500 for travel assistance to complete his efforts in "[Digitization of the Putnam Museum Herbarium: Another Step towards a Complete Inventory of the Specimens in Iowa's Small Herbaria.](#)" Nick has been involved in databasing Iowa's plant specimens, as well as studying oaks, maples, and other woody plant groups in the state for several years.

Lee Goldsmith, Director of Education and Outreach at the Brenton Arboretum in Dallas Center, will be initiating a "[Natives for Stormwater Management](#)" program there. Her efforts will use bank stabilization demonstrations and educational outreach programs to increase understanding of the need for water conservation and care. This multi-year project, to be initiated with the INPS grant, will actively engage teens in assisting with establishing native plants to stabilized two tributary streams of the Raccoon River and developing educational materials, which will then be available to multiple audiences.

In addition, two \$1000 grants were awarded in the "**Restore Iowa!**" program, now in its second year. This program works to educate students about restoration ecology even as it achieves meaningful restoration on an Iowa nature preserve.

Mike Todd ("[Students Engaging Other Students in Prairie Restoration](#)"), a science teacher at Ames High School, will engage with his high school students in better understanding the ecology and control techniques of invasive species, and then will work with them on removing European Buckthorn and otherwise restoring health to Ames High School Prairie.

Jake Hart ("[Pappy Dickens Preserve Timber Restoration](#)"), land manager for the Johnson County Heritage Trust, will work with students from Kirkwood Community College on one of the land trust's remnant oak savannas, now badly overgrown. His efforts will be done in conjunction with Liz Maas, who teaches restoration ecology to these students.

We wish all recipients good results! Connie Mutel [Editor's note: Thanks, Connie, for coordinating our Grants projects for INPS!]

Ciha Fen Bird and Nature Walk

At 7 a.m. on Saturday June 9, Rick Hollis from North Liberty is leading a bird and nature walk at Ciha Fen Preserve in eastern Johnson County. He invites any and all plant enthusiasts to join him. Ciha Fen Preserve is a new JCCB area with a fen, wetland, sand prairie & woods.

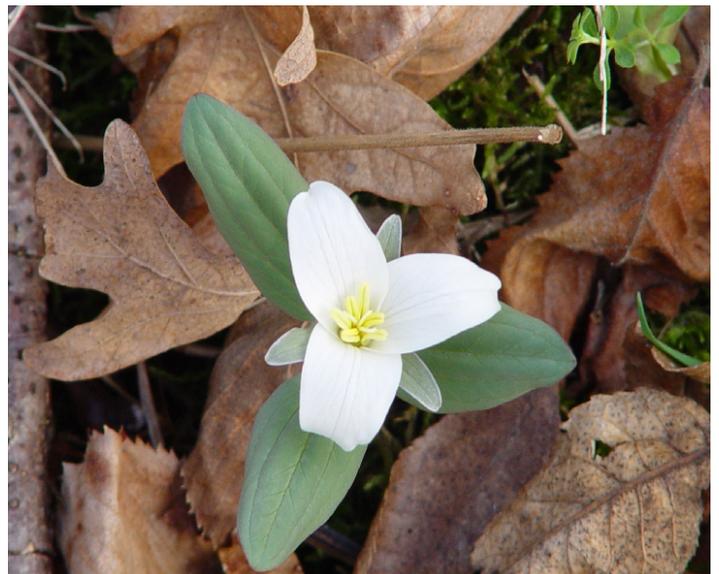
People can meet Rick at the North Dodge Hy-Vee in Iowa City or can meet him at the Preserve. Rick's phone number is 319-665-3141 if you have questions.

(Linda Scarth notes: last year, Rick alerted us to the fringed puccoon at the east side of the property in the area where we had found thousands of cleft phlox a few weeks before.)

Prairie Walks at Doolittle Prairie State Preserve

Lloyd Crim is once again leading monthly evening prairie walks (7:00 to 8:30 pm) at Doolittle Prairie State Preserve, Story County, south of Story City and east of US Highway 69 (watch for signs from Hwy 69). These walks will be held on Thursday evenings, May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th and August 22nd.

Enjoy a leisurely walk in this outstanding prairie with a leader who knows this prairie very well. Lloyd has been leading walks at Doolittle for two decades. INPS, Region 5 of IPN, and Story County Conservation all help to promote attendance. For more information, contact Lloyd Crim at (515) 432-5026 or lloydcrim@gmail.com.



Snow trillium (*Trillium nivale*), Jasper County
Photo by Deb Lewis

37th Annual Loess Hills Prairie Seminar

The 37th Annual Loess Hills Prairie Seminar is coming up on May 31st to June 2nd. Information about the Prairie Seminar is now available in the Programs and Services section of the Northwest AEA website at: http://www.nwaea.k12.ia.us/en/programs_and_services/loess_hills_prairie_seminar/ The information on the website includes: the detailed program listing the activities that are available for adults, children and families; a list of the facilitators; information about the Silent Auction; a list of our generous sponsors; a letter for K-12 educators explaining the option for License Renewal Credit, which is being offered at a discounted rate; and much more information.

The registration form is also available at the website. **Registration is free and is only needed if you are ordering meals, which needs to be done by May 24.** Note that if you want to go on the Missouri River boat tour, you will need to register and indicate your choice of times on the registration form. The tour is limited to fifteen at each of the two sessions. Seats will be filled in order of registration, and waiting lists will also be kept.

The Great Race Against Shrubs and Shade (G.R.A.S.S.) is a pre-seminar activity offered on Friday, May 31 from 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m.

Whether you are able to attend or not, you are encouraged to donate to the Silent Auction or directly to the seminar. The seminar depends on the Silent Auction and support from our sponsors and individuals in order to cover expenses. **The registration fees have been discontinued in hopes of welcoming more people to the seminar, so if you are not ordering meals, you needn't pre-register. Just come to enjoy whatever parts of the seminar interest you, bring a friend, and plan to make a contribution as you are able.**

For more information, please contact Gloria Kistner at Northwest AEA at 712/222-6080, 800/352-9040, extension 6080, Iowa Only or gkistner@nwaea.org or contact Dianne Blankenship at bennaid@hotmail.com.

Prairies on the Edge: 2013 Iowa Prairie Conference

The Iowa Prairie Conference will be held on July 18th to 20th, 2013, at Luther College in Decorah (Winnebago County). It is hosted by the Department of Biology at Luther College. The conference will occur on the Luther College campus in Valders Hall of Science and include field trips to northeast Iowa sites. At this point there will be several optional Thursday evening opportunities on the Luther campus, Friday morning talks, several Friday afternoon field trip options, a Friday evening banquet and social time, and an all-day Saturday field trip to Allamakee County hill prairies, concluding by 5 pm on Saturday.

Preliminary registration and program information is available on the conference website: <http://www.luther.edu/iowaprairieconference/>. Watch for more information there or on the Iowa-Native-Plants listserv. The contact person is Kirk Larsen, larsenkj@luther.edu

The Nature Conservancy is Hosting Bison Day at Broken Kettle Grasslands

The Nature Conservancy in Iowa is celebrating the 20th anniversary of Broken Kettle Grasslands at the 3rd annual Bison Day. The event will take place July 13th from 9-4 PM and offers bison viewing, hayrack rides, face painting and conservation workshops. Please visit nature.org/iowa for more information.



Pasqueflower (*Pulsatilla patens*), Harrison County
Photo by Deb Lewis

CAREX OF IOWA IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP

When: June 14-15 2013

Where: Luther College, Decorah, Iowa

Instructors: Dr. William (Bill) R. Norris (Western New Mexico University), Mr. Scott Zager (Wildlands Ecological Services), Dr. Tom Rosburg (Drake University), Dr. Russ Kleinman (Western New Mexico University)

Cost: \$75/Person (\$25/Person for Students) [Does NOT include Lodging and Meals]

Carex, containing 120 species in Iowa, is this state's most diverse plant genus. In this workshop, you will be trained in the identification of sedges encountered in Iowa forests, prairies and wetlands. The instructors have collectively presented four previous Iowa *Carex* ID workshops since 1999.

The first day of the workshop will take place on the campus of Luther College (start time: 8:30 AM). Morning activities will include a presentation on the fine art of distinguishing grasses, sedges and rushes, an overview of characteristics that distinguish different sedge genera, and finally an interactive presentation on *Carex* morphology using freshly collected plants. In the afternoon, participants will receive guided practice in keying out sedges using freshly collected sedge material and a dichotomous key to Iowa *Carex* species prepared by Bill and Scott (revised since the last *Carex* identification workshop in 2011).

The second day of the workshop will include morning and early afternoon field trips to local forests and wetland sites to observe *Carex* species in their typical habitats. Late afternoon activities will include additional practice keying out *Carex*. End time will be 5:00 PM.

Participants will receive a handout that includes introductory information about sedges in general and *Carex* in particular, as well as the revised dichotomous key to Iowa's 120 *Carex* taxa. Fresh specimens of 20-25 Iowa *Carex* taxa will be available for participants to take as reference specimens. Information about lodging and local restaurants (not included in registration fee) will be provided at a later date.

REGISTRATION FORM

Carex of Iowa Identification Workshop

Name: _____

Company/Organization/School: _____

Street Address / PO Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone: _____

Please send check for \$75 (or \$25 if a student) to William R. Norris, PO Box 3061, Silver City, NM, 88062 by June 1 2013. Registrants will receive final details regarding the workshop during the first week of June.



Iowa Native Plant Society Membership Form

The Iowa Native Plant Society is a forum for plant enthusiasts, gardeners, and professional botanists to exchange ideas and information, and to work together to:

- encourage conservation and ethical use of Iowa's plants
- promote education about Iowa's plants, their habitats and cultural habits, and the preservation of these plants and their environment
- appreciate and enjoy Iowa's native flora

Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

City, State: _____ Zip code: _____

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Check here if you do not wish to have this published in the member directory.

Newsletter delivery method: email mail (choose \$15 membership below)

Select basic membership or contribution level*:

\$10 Member (if selected email above)

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\$50 Botrychium*

\$200 and + Erythronium*

\$100 Calamagrostis*

If donor, prefer to remain anonymous.

Send with your dues to: Peter Hoehnle
IA Valley RC&D
920 48th Ave.
Amana, IA 52203

Additional information or special interest for member directory entry:

The INPS mailing list is never distributed to other organizations or companies. Dues are payable on a calendar year basis from January 1 to December 31. Please use this form for changes of address.

* Annual contributions beyond basic membership are tax deductible. Iowa Native Plant Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.