



# IOWA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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## IOWA PRAIRIE CONFERENCE AND INPS ANNUAL MEETING JULY 13th – 15th

**The 2007 Iowa Prairie Conference – *Prairies on the Edge*** - will be held on the evening of July 13th and all day on the 14th at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City. The Iowa Native Plant Society will have an exhibit with the new INPS poster created by Carl Kurtz available. Also provided at the table will be information about the July 15th INPS Annual Meeting and post-conference field trip to Olson Nature Preserve and an opportunity to order a lunch for the field trip. The annual meeting is a breakfast that will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the Stark Center. The field trip departure will be at 8:30 from the Briar Cliff University western parking lot. People may also choose to use the maps and travel on their own.

For people who are *not* attending the Iowa Prairie Conference but would like to attend the **July 15th Annual Meeting** and/or the field trip, food may be ordered by sending \$6.50 for the breakfast and/or \$5 for the lunch to Dianne Blankenship, 737 Buckwalter Drive, Sioux City, IA 51108 to arrive by July 11th. Checks should be written to Dianne and she will take care of the respective orders and payments. Also, posters should be available on the field trip. Dianne Blankenship – [bennaid@hotmail.com](mailto:bennaid@hotmail.com)

For more information about the Iowa Prairie Conference, please go to [www.ipc2007.com](http://www.ipc2007.com).

### Field Trip to Olson Nature Preserve

Following the Iowa Prairie Conference, interested individuals will be carpooling west to Boone County in Nebraska to visit the ***Olson Nature Preserve***. This highly diverse “western” site is owned and managed by Prairie Plains Resource Institute (PPRI) of Aurora, Nebraska. PPRI’s Bill Whitney will lead the field trip with the help of the Iowa Native Plant Society (INPS). Interested participants will be able to officially register at the INPS table in the exhibit area during the conference and make arrangements for lunch on this trip. Travel time is close to two hours thirty minutes. If you will not be coming from Sioux City, please plan to travel to Albion, NE, and follow the directions from there. Allow ten minutes travel time from Albion so you arrive by 11:00 a.m. at the preserve. This 112-acre preserve includes many different habitats including large expanses of sandhill prairie and recovering lowland tallgrass prairie, savanna oaks and an oak forest, a mature cottonwood grove, and a meandering creek with oxbow wetlands.



## INPS UPDATE AND HAPPENINGS

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### The Iowa Native Plant Society's 2007 Field Trips

Compiled by Mark J. Leoschke

A big thanks to all our field trip leaders! All field trips are scheduled for Saturdays and begin at 10 a.m. unless otherwise noted. They take place rain or shine, so come prepared for the weather. The terrain varies from site to site, so wear appropriate footwear. Bring a lunch and something to drink.

The Iowa Department of Transportation's state highway maps are available at DOT rest stops and welcome centers. Larger state preserves are represented by small blue dots with the name of the preserve in blue letters. For instance, Hayden Prairie State Preserve in Howard County is located southwest of Chester.

The Iowa Sportman's Atlas has county maps with wildlife management areas, state and county parks, state preserves, national wildlife refuges, etc. owned by public and some private conservation organizations. Its current edition (2006) has 911 street names for most, if not all, counties. Street names make it much easier to locate a favorite natural area or find a new one. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the atlas, check your local bookstore; sporting goods store; call 1-800-568-8334 or [www.sportsmanatlas.com](http://www.sportsmanatlas.com). The cost is \$21.95.

**July 21st: INPS Fern Workshop (east central Iowa Scott and Clinton Counties - see page 3 for details)**

**August 25th: Butler County** (northeast Iowa)

Wolters Prairie Preserve is owned by the Butler County Conservation Board. The south half of the site has some high quality mesic to wet tallgrass prairie and sedge meadow. A number of native plants occur here (the display of the most important plant in the known universe, shooting star (*Dodecatheon meadia*) in late May is a treat), including uncommon species like Richard-son's sedge (*Carex richardsonii*), the wily adder's tongue fern (*Ophioglossum pusillum*), tall nutrush (*Scleria triglomerata*) and hairy valerian (*Valerian edulis*). Our field trip leader will be Mark J. Leoschke, botanist for the Wildlife Bureau of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

**Directions:** From the intersection of State Highway 3 and State Highway 14 South (there is a Casey's General Store in the northeast corner of the intersection) in the southeast portion of Allison (not State Highway 14 North in the southwest portion of Allison), drive 4 miles east on State Highway 3. Turn left (north) on Quail Avenue and travel about 2 miles (go past 195th Street). Wolters Prairie Preserve will be on the left (west) side of the road. Park along Quail Avenue and use the small wooden bridge to cross the ditch into the prairie.

**September 8th: Pottawattamie County** (southwest IA)

Vincent Bluffs is 36 acres of Loess Hills prairie, savanna and a small woodland located in the heart of Council Bluffs, Iowa. The site is currently under restoration including the removal of invasive trees. The dotted blazing star (*Liatrix punctata*) will be in full bloom. We might even find a couple of Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes sp.*). Vincent Bluffs is at its best in the fall.

**Directions:** The prairie is some what difficult to locate. People are encouraged to contact Glenn Pollock for a street map with the marked location of the prairie: Glenn Pollock: 402 571 6230 (home); 402 572 2004 (work) or [pollockg@cox.net](mailto:pollockg@cox.net)  
 From exit 5 of U.S. Interstate Highway 80 travel one block west to Woodbury Avenue and go south on Woodbury Avenue. Woodbury Avenue turns to the west after about 8 blocks. Continue on Woodbury Avenue until Thallus Street. Turn to the north and go 3 blocks to the end of the street and enter the parking lot. You have arrived.

## INPS FERN WORKSHOP: LEARN FERNS ON JULY 21st.



**July 21st - INPS Fern Workshop** - Fern expert Bob Bryant, author of the e-book, *An Interpreter's Guide to the Ferns of Iowa*, will conduct a workshop on the identification, distribution, uses, folklore and photography of Iowa's ferns. This workshop will be appropriate for everyone from novice to those with a hearty familiarity with Iowa's ferns.

The workshop will be held in east-central Iowa, in Scott and Clinton Counties, at the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center (eastern Iowa's premier environmental education facility; 225 acres) and Sherman Park (231 acres). These tracts, located across the Wapsipinicon River from each other just north of Dixon, together form a 456-acre complex rich in plant and animal diversity. The Center is predominately upland timber, with some bottomland timber, open grassland, shrubs and rock outcroppings. Some of the open grassland has been planted to prairie. Over 290 species of plants have been identified at the Center. Sherman Park is predominately upland timber with sand prairie remnants, prairie plantings, sand oak savanna, upland pothole marshes and a rock bluff. Over 360 species have been identified here, including five species of plants that are on the Iowa threatened and endangered list - royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*), the daisy-leaved moonwort (*Botrychium matricariifolium*), and others).

Bob, who is retired director of the Wapsi River Center, will conduct a tour of the Center in the morning and an optional tour of Sherman Park after lunch, in addition to teaching the workshop.

Directions: The Center's street address is 31555 52nd Avenue. The Wapsi River Environmental Education Center is located about 1 mile northwest of Dixon. From Dixon go west on County Road Y4E about 1 mile and then turn right (north) on 52nd Avenue. Follow the signs for about 1 mile.



### More Accolades for Ada Hayden

It is with pleasure that we announce that Ada Hayden has been selected (along with Ruth Ann Gaines, Emma J. Harvat and Connie Horton Wimer) for induction into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame for 2007! This year's Hall of Fame Ceremony will take place at 10:30 am, Saturday, August 25, at the State Historical Building (E 6th and Locust in Des Moines). The ceremony and the reception to follow at 11:30 are free and open to the public. An optional "Friends of ICSW" fund-raising luncheon will follow at the Hotel Fort Des Moines (1000 Walnut; tickets are \$30 for the luncheon).

Dr. Hayden will join two other ISU botanists who were previously inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame — Dr. Ruth W. Swenson and Dr. Lois H. Tiffany. Biographical sketches of all previous inductees can be viewed online at [www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/hall\\_fame/06\\_HOF\\_Book.pdf](http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/hall_fame/06_HOF_Book.pdf).

Ada Hayden (1884-1950) was the first woman to get a PhD at Iowa State (1918), and in her career she contributed much to our knowledge of Iowa's flora. Dr. Hayden's efforts to improve the Iowa State University Herbarium during her time as its curator from 1934 to 1950 resulted in naming the Herbarium in her honor in 1988. But she may be best known for her work in prairie conservation. Hayden Prairie State Preserve in Howard County was named for her shortly after her death in 1950 in recognition of her survey of the state's best prairie areas and her appeals to state officials and the public to set aside these areas as preserves.

### An INPS First - New Poster of Prairie Plants

Nature photographer and INPS member Carl Kurtz has designed a new poster for the Iowa Native Plant Society. Entitled "Tallgrass Prairie Wildflowers", the poster features 11 of Carl's beautiful photographs, including closeups of ten prairie species and a sweeping view of a prairie with compass plants (*Silphium laciniatum*) and prairie blazing-stars (*Liatris pycnostachya*) in bloom.

Are your 2007 dues paid? Now would be a good time to check, as all current and new INPS members will receive **one free poster**, which will be available to be picked up at any of the INPS events. Additional posters for members are \$3 each, or 2 for \$5. Non-members can purchase the posters for \$6 for one, or 2 for \$10. To have your poster(s) mailed to you, contact Connie Mutel at <cmutel@engineering.uiowa.edu>. A cost of ca. \$4 may be added (for 1 to 4 posters) for mailing.

## INPS MEMBERSHIP/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM AND SURVEY

Send with your dues of \$10.00 to

Christine Taliga, IA Valley RC&D,  
300 W. Welsh St., P.O. Box 87, Williamsburg, IA 52361

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information or special interest for member directory entry \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**NEWSLETTER Preference-I prefer to receive the newsletter**  **Electronically**  **US Post**

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

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. Use this form for changes of address.

**INPS Website:** <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~herbarium/inps/inps/home.htm>

**To subscribe to the Iowa Native Plant Society Internet List-**(exchange information, receive reminder notices etc.)

To Subscribe - address: [iowa-native-plants-request@list.uiowa.edu](mailto:iowa-native-plants-request@list.uiowa.edu) Subject: no subject

Message: subscribe (your email address)

### NEWSLETTER

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