



The Shooting Star

NEWSLETTER

of the
Illinois Native Plant Society – Southern Chapter

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 16 @ 6:30pm
Life Sciences II Bldg, room 453
SIUC campus, Carbondale, IL

Please join us in welcoming
Chris Evans

Coordinator of the River to River Cooperative
Weed Management Area
for a presentation concerning exotic plants and
the Weedwatch Program in southern Illinois.



MARCH 2010



Collinsia verna – Blue-eyed Mary

March 13th Cape Girardeau, MO

Native Plant Seminar

Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center

Saturday, March 13, 2010 8:30 am-3 pm

The Missouri Department of Conservation and the Cape Girardeau County Master Gardeners host the fourth annual native plant seminar. Using native grasses, wildflowers, trees and shrubs adds variety and color to your landscape, attracts wildlife and reduces the cost of energy-consuming lawns. To learn more, call to receive a flier listing the event activities and guest speakers. Registration is free and begins February 1.

Call 573-290-5218 for flier with registration form. Sponsored by Cape County Master Gardeners.

<http://mdc.mo.gov/cgi-bin/mdcdevpub/apps/events/showevent.cgi?record=264260>

Follow the Illinois Native Plant Society Southern Chapter online!

We now have a Facebook group where event information and photos are posted.

You can also contact our board members by emailing southernillinoisplants@gmail.com or

Write us at INPS Southern Chapter, P.O. Box 271 Carbondale, IL 62903-0271

Reminder: Regular monthly meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in room 453, Life Sciences II bldg, SIU Campus, Carbondale, IL.



Agkistrodon piscivorus - Cottonmouth

*****Spring Nature Hike *****

**April 17th, 2010 @ 10am
LaRue Pine Hills**

Please join us at LaRue Pine Hills Research Natural Area! This unique area is infamous for the diversity of plant and animal species that utilize the many natural communities that occur here, from steep, rocky limestone glades and woodlands to wetland swamps. It is named after the Shortleaf Pine (*Pinus echinata*) and is one of only two places that this tree occurs naturally in southern Illinois.

To get there: From Highway 3 south, take the 2nd left after crossing the Big Muddy River (LaRue Road, look for sign) and take a left at the base of the bluff to parking area at the SOUTH end of the snake road.



Trillium recurvatum – Purple Trillium

A Message from Chris Benda - President

Please take a moment to fill out the survey enclosed with this newsletter. It will help us better understand how to focus the group to meet the interests of our members. If you have a particular goal or expertise you would like to share with the group, we highly encourage you to volunteer by leading a nature hike or giving a program at one of our regular monthly meetings. We have a bunch of exciting events planned for this spring and we hope to see you there!

***** Mark Your Calendars! *****

2010 INPS-SC Spring Social

Please join us at Noon at the Ozark Hills Nature Preserve
Trail of Tears State Forest on May 1st, 2010



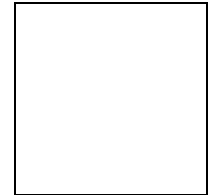
The purpose of this event is to provide an opportunity for our members to meet and get to know one another. We will have lunch, a plant scavenger hunt, and other activities. Look for more details in the next newsletter planned for April.

The Wicker House – Horseshoe Lake

There was a rendezvous with the INPS Central Chapter this last weekend (Feb.27) and we had great weather for our explorations throughout southern Illinois. John and Martha Schwegman led the group to Chestnut Hills Nature Preserve in Pulaski County and Heron Pond in Johnson County, while Chris Benda led the group to Wolf Creek Botanical Area in Alexander County. There was also a nice dinner at Broussard's in Cape Girardeau on Saturday.



INPS SOUTHERN CHAPTER
P.O. Box 271
Carbondale, IL 62903-0271
www.ill-inps.org



A big **THANK YOU** to Dan Nickrent for presenting the program
Orchids of Illinois at last month's meeting.

INPS 2010 CALENDAR

March 16 th	Chris Evans	Non-native species	SIU campus
April 17 th	Chris Benda	Snake road hike	LaRue Pine Hills
April 24 th	Chris Benda Chris Evans	Nature Fest plant hike	Cache River Wetlands Center
May 1 st	Everyone	INPS – SC Social	Trail of Tears SP
Past Events:			
February 27 th	Central Chapter	Wicker House	Horseshoe Lake
February 16 th	Dan Nickrent	Orchids of Illinois	SIU campus
February 9 th	INPS southern chapter board member meeting		
January 19 th	INPS southern chapter board member meeting		
December 12 th	Priscilla Bollinger	Holiday dinner at Rockcastle Creek	

INPS MEMBER SURVEY

In order to determine what *you want* from this organization, the board requests you spend some thoughtful time considering this questionnaire/survey. Please respond to the questions and add any additional thoughts you might have which are not covered. *ALL* your ideas are welcome. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION!**

Send response to INPS Southern Chapter
P.O. Box 271
Carbondale, IL 62903-0271
southernillinoisplants@gmail.com

Questionnaire/Survey PLEASE be as specific as possible

1. What would your favorite field trip consist of?
2. Where would you like to go on field trips?
3. Would you be willing to travel out of state on field trips?
4. If yes to #3, any specific sites?
5. What is your favorite natural community (e.g. wetland, glade, woodland, etc.)?
6. Would you want to go see the state champion trees and shrubs in Illinois?
7. Do you want to have social events with members? If yes, what would you want?
8. What specific strengths do you have to offer the group?
9. Do you want classroom time for plant ID? If yes A) what plants or plant groups?
B) learning plant keys?
10. Do you want to have native plant/seed exchanges/sales with members?
11. Do you want to sponsor plant sales to raise funds for INPS?
12. What kind of speaker topics are you interested in?