



The Shooting Star

NEWSLETTER

of the

Illinois Native Plant Society – Southern Chapter

JUNE 2011

No Monthly Meeting for June

Next Monthly Meeting

July 23rd @ 11:00am

Carbondale Township Hall

217 East Main, Carbondale, IL

Ken Schaal, owner Bluestem Prairie
nursery in Hillsboro, Illinois,

will give a program on

“Using Native Plants in Landscaping”



Achillea millefolium - Yarrow



Phlox pilosa – Downy Phlox



Periodical Cicadas Emerge in Southern Illinois!

From the Illinois Natural History Survey. No other insects in North America excite as much curiosity and wonder as do periodical cicadas when they make their sudden appearance every 13 or 17 years. There are seven species of periodical cicadas—four with 13-year life cycles and three with 17-year life cycles. The best way to identify the species is by sound as each species song is species specific. Each species vary from each other in size, color, and song. These species are further divided into broods, referring to the year and geographical area where they emerge. Some broods are small and cover a limited area. Others are very large and emerge across many states at about the same time. There is a brood emerging somewhere every year. The periodical cicadas found in Illinois tend to be dark brown and black on top with red compound eyes and orange major veins in the membranous wings. Read more at

<http://inhs-uiuc.blogspot.com/2011/05/trill-of-lifetime.html>

United States Department of Agriculture proclaims May 15-21, 2011 National Wildflower Week

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack recently signed a proclamation called National Wildflower Week. Not many details are known regarding the significance of this proclamation, but we are pleased that there is federal recognition of the importance and value of native wildflowers. In honor of the event, we have created a web photo album of a few wildflowers that were in bloom during the week. It can be found on our chapter's facebook page (details next page).



We have a beautiful facebook page for the Southern Chapter of the Illinois Native Plant Society! Follow this link and you can browse the photo albums without having to sign up...or if you have a facebook profile, please click on the "like" button to add to your favorite pages. www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants

Last Month's Event



The excessive spring rains and thunderstorms have made recent events challenging, if even possible. There was a break in the weather that allowed a dozen or so prairie lovers to go out to the gonzo prairie, backyard of INPS members, Rhonda and Robert Rothrock. The site in rural Jackson County has been transformed into a refuge for the local ecotypes of hundreds of local prairie species. The wet spring provided a lush green landscape and we observed many plants more common in prairies to the north such as *Castilleja coccinea* (Indian Paintbrush), *Oligoneuron rigidum* (Stiff Goldenrod), *Veronicastrum virginicum* (Culver's Root), and *Zizia aurea* (Golden Alexanders).

Many beautiful wildflowers were also in bloom including hundreds of *Penstemon digitalis* (Beardstongue) plants, *Amorpha fruticosa* (False Indigo), several *Baptisia* species (Wild Indigo), *Iris schrevei* (Blue Flag Iris), *Spigelia marilandica* (Indian Pink), and *Tradescantia ohioensis* (Spiderwort). They extend the invitation to view their prairie to anyone who was not able to make the event. Please call ahead to ensure that someone is there beforehand (618) 684-6605.

We were not so lucky for our other event. Flood waters in Cave Creek valley prevented the search for the rare mint, *Synandra hispidula* (Hairy Synandra). However, the editor was able to find a site in Jackson County where the *Synandra* was in bloom and took the photo to the right. Perhaps next year we can search for all the populations of this rare species in southern Illinois and verify their status. More photos of the prairie are located at www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants.



Synandra hispidula

Related June Events

- June 4th: 10th Annual Cache River Nature Fest from 8am to 4pm at the Cache River Wetlands Center in Ullin, Illinois, <http://www.cacherivernaturefest.org>
- June 11th: Summer Mushroom Hike with Joe McFarland and Walter Sundberg. 10am-12pm at Giant City State Park.
- June 24-26th: Flower show at University Mall with an educational exhibit on propagation by seeds focusing on native trees and shrubs.

Visit the Beautify Southern Illinois calendar at <http://www.beautifysouthernillinois.org/events/calendar.htm> for more!

SAVE THE DATE!

INPS 30th ANNIVERSARY - 2011 ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23 – 25th at CAMP ONDESSONK, Ozark, IL

Coming this June



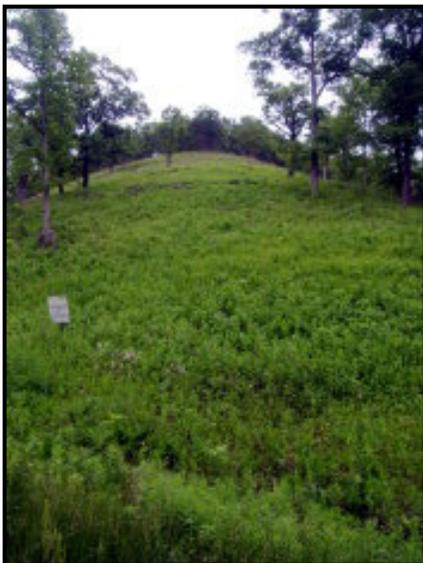
The Friends of the Cache River Watershed
and the Illinois Native Plant Society
invite you to attend

“The Flower Explosion!”

A slideshow presentation and tour of
Cave Creek Glade.

June 11th, 2011
1pm – 3pm at the

Henry Barkhausen Wetlands Center
in Cypress, Illinois.

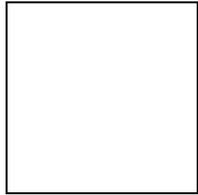


Cave Creek Glade is a steep, southwest facing hill that is very rocky and filled with prairie plants. It is located in the Cache River region of Johnson County. The slideshow will highlight the plants and animals that occur at this site, and the hike will be led by Chris Benda, Natural Areas Ecologist. The presentation will start at 1pm at the Barkhausen Wetlands Center with a tour of the limestone glade to follow. The Wetlands Center is located south of Cypress, Illinois along Route 37.

Cache River Joint Venture Group



INPS SOUTHERN CHAPTER
P.O. Box 271
Carbondale, IL 62903-0271



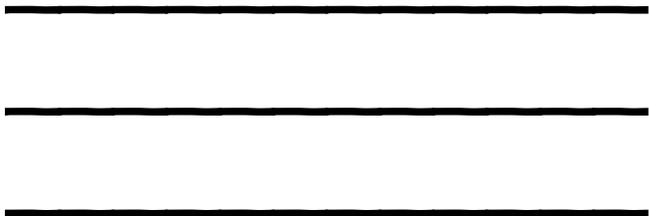
southernillinoisplants@gmail.com
www.ill-inps.org



Dodecatheon frenchii –
French’s Shooting Star

Board Members

President: Chris Benda
Vice-President: Chris Evans
Secretary: Sara Koropchak
Treasurer: Rhonda Rothrock
At-large: Nancy Garwood
At-large: Jody Shimp



The Southern Chapter of the INPS thanks **Chris Evans** for the presentation on **Illinois Invasive Species** at last month’s regular monthly meeting!

INPS 2011 CALENDAR

Upcoming Events:	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
June 11 th –	Chris Benda	<i>Cave Creek Limestone Glade</i>	BWC
July 23 rd –	Ken Schaal	<i>Native Plants in Landscaping</i>	CTH
August 16 th –	John Schwegman	<i>Rare and Little Known Plants of IL</i>	CTH
August 20 th –	John Schwegman	<i>Hike at Wolf Creek Botanical Area</i>	Tamms, IL
September 23-25 th –	INPS 30 th Anniversary Celebration in Ozark, IL		

CTH = Carbondale Township Hall, 217 East Main Street
BWC = Barkhausen Wetland Center, Rt 37, Cypress, IL

Big Clue to Future Climate Change in Small Plants



National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Yarrow, it's called, this flowering plant also known as "little feather" for the shape of its leaves. Prized as a garden plant that repels unwanted insects while attracting beneficial ones, it also improves soil quality and is used in many herbal medicines.

Now yarrow--and 12 other grassland species, including Indian grass, thimbleweed and wild lupine--may have a larger role, scientists have found: as players in Earth's changing climate. More at

http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=119583&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click

(Note from the editor: I was involved with this project as an intern in the summer of 2001.)