



Illinois Native Plant Society — Southern Chapter

The Shooting Star

October 2018

Newsletter

"Dedicated to the study, appreciation, and conservation of the native flora and natural communities in Illinois."

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Hike and Scratch Brewery Tour *Sunday, October 14th at 10 a.m.* *Scratch Brewing Company (after hike)* *264 Thompson Road, Ava, IL*

Join us on a hike to Kincaid Lake and fun trip to a unique brewery that integrates a variety of plants into their beer selection! The hike location and description are located on page 4. The brewery tour will occur after the hike concludes.

Scratch Brewing Company is a farmhouse brewery located five miles from the Shawnee National Forest in Ava, Illinois. Named one of the top four breweries for foraged beer by Outside Magazine, and one of the most beautiful places to drink beer in the world by All About Beer Magazine, Scratch Brewing Company focuses on farmhouse beers and other styles brewed with home grown and locally farmed and foraged ingredients.



The brewery has an ever rotating selection of styles enhanced by

the innovative addition of local ingredients, such as nettle, elderberry, ginger, dandelion, maple sap, hickory, lavender, juniper, and chanterelle mushrooms.



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Message from the Southern Chapter President

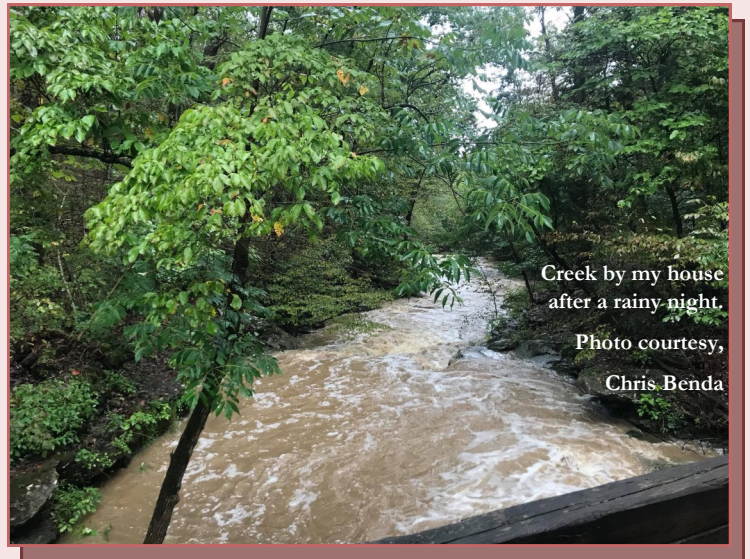
There's so much field work to do but it's been a wet month and the dry days have been super hot and humid. It seems that the nice days with cooler weather have all landed on days where I've been traveling or working in the office! But I've enjoyed being outside looking at plants and hiking through the beautiful woods and wetlands of southern Illinois.

This month we are going to offer a hike on Sunday, October 14 to Kinkaid Lake. After the hike we will go to Scratch Brewing Company for tasty beverages and lunch. They will also provide a tour of their operation. The owners are lifetime members of the Illinois Native Plant Society that joined this year and we thank them for their support.

We had back to back presentations from board members this fall with secretary Erin Medvecz last month and me this month. I had a blast presenting the flora of the Illinois coastal plain program. Afterwards, many people shared observations with me and told me they liked the stories I shared. Perhaps this should become a regular series!

We continue to seek a qualified candidate to take over the treasurer position for the southern chapter. If you know anyone qualified and available, please let us know.

I hope to see you October 14! I always look forward to seeing you at one of our many upcoming events this year. ~ Christopher David Benda



Creek by my house
after a rainy night.

Photo courtesy,
Chris Benda

REMINDER: "Let us know if you have a suggestion for [an INPS] program [for the Calendar of Events] in 2019."

"We continue to seek a qualified candidate to take over the treasurer position for the southern chapter."

Feature Plant of the Month

Nodding Ladies Tresses,
Spiranthes cernua

As plants nod off in preparation for winter, enjoy this orchid as it continues to bloom even into November. As the name implies, the flowers appear to nod slightly downward. The unique feature of this orchid is the double intertwined spiraling formation of the stalk. The flowers are white with a pointed lip with a "lily of the valley" type fragrance. The stem leaves are very narrow; the basal leaves usually disappear before the flowers appear. It can reproduce either from seeds or offsets from rhizomes. It is a more common orchid species found throughout Illinois in a variety of habitats ranging from dry to moist, including moist sand prairies, sand savannas, sandy pits, shrubby bogs, gravelly seeps, limestone glades, bluffs, ditches, and abandoned fields.



Photo courtesy,
Chris Benda

2018



Southern Chapter

P.O. Box 271, Carbondale IL 62901

southernillinoisplants@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/southernillinoisplants

Calendar of Events

| | | | |
|----------|------------------|---|-----------|
| Oct. 14 | Scratch Brewery | Hike and Brewery Tour | Ava, IL |
| Nov. 20 | David Barfknecht | Community Changes in Southern Illinois Acid Seeps | CTH |
| Dec. TBD | INPS | Holiday Dinner and Award Ceremony | The Haven |



CTH = Carbondale Township Hall, 217 E. Main St., Carbondale IL at 6:30 pm; TBD = To Be Determined
For more information visit <http://www.ill-inps.org/index.php/southern-chapter>

Why Do Leaves Change

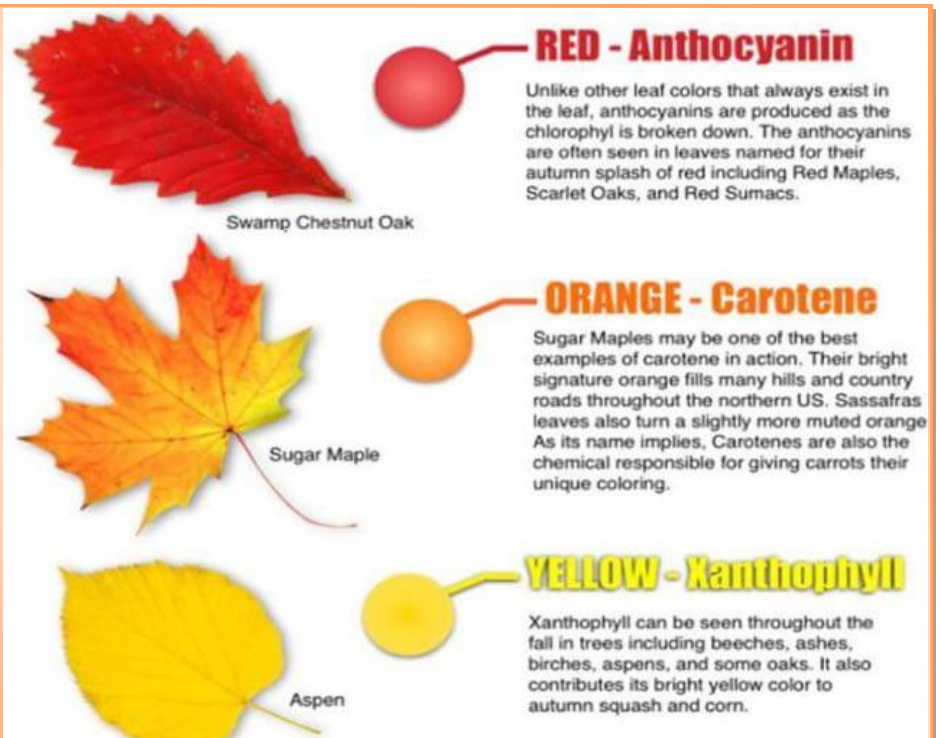
Color in the Fall?

Chlorophyll is responsible for turning sunlight into food and gives leaves their green color. As the weather cools and days become shorter, it starts to break down, revealing other pigments in the leaves. Sunny days and cool nights help bring out colors.

For a nationwide fall foliage predication map progress throughout the fall, visit

<https://smokymountains.com/fall-foliage-map/>

www.facebook.com/sciencebob



Directions to the hike location: From Murphysboro, take Highway 127 north and turn left onto Ava Road. Turn left onto Lone Oak Road and follow to the end. Where the road turns left, follow it straight and to the parking lot (red flag on the map). GPS coordinates are 37.821156, -89.458286, a link to Google Maps: <https://bit.ly/2NlONGx>. Call Chris Benda if you have questions or are running late at (217) 417-4145.





Summary of Past Events

September Program, Flora of the Illinois Coastal Plain, by Chris Benda



The September program was presented by chapter President Chris Benda about the flora of the Illinois coastal plain. Chris took the audience on a tour of the natural areas of the coastal plain natural division which occurs in southernmost Illinois along the banks of the Ohio River and northward. This is the land of vast Cypress and Tupelo swamps and floodplain forests. Many plant species find the northern edge of the range here, including *Clematis crispa*, *Isotria verticillata*, *Halesia tetraptera*, *Hydrolea uniflora*, *Rhexia mariana*, and *Platanthera flava* var. *flava*, making them rare in the state.

Animals such as Alligator Snapping Turtle, Bird-voiced Treefrog, and Illinois Chorus Frog are also rare and only known from this region in Illinois. Chris shared some interesting and sometimes unfortunate stories relating to searching for rare plants in this region and the challenges of protecting the rare flora.

**(clockwise from top left) *Clematis crispa*, *Isotria verticillata*, *Halesia tetraptera*,
Hydrolea uniflora, *Rhexia mariana*, *Iris fulva*, and *Platanthera flava* var. *flava***



Local Events & Announcements**Giant City State Park****Journey of the Monarch****Saturday, October 6th, 1 – 2:30 pm**

Every fall, thousands of Monarch butterflies migrate south to Central Mexico! Giant City State Park is a great stopping point for these small creatures. Come out and help the University of Kansas track these insects by participating in a tagging program. There will be a short introduction, and then we will head out to the field to catch and tag as many migrating Monarchs as we can find. This program is free and open to the public. Please register by calling 618-457-4836.

**Cache River Wetlands Center****Guided Hike at Heron Pond****Saturday, October 13th, 10 am—12 pm**

Come for a hike to observe fall-flowering wildflowers and to identify shrubs by their fruits. The guide will share plant identification tips as well as some natural history information on the Cache River Watershed. The Heron Pond Trail is a 1.5-mile loop. Meet at the Heron Pond Trail Access.

Guided Hike at Cedar Bluff**Saturday, October 20th, 12 pm—2 pm**

Enjoy a fall hike at Cedar Bluff Natural Area, an annex of Ferne Clyffe State Park that features tall, rocky overhangs, a shelter cave, and dramatic views of southern Illinois' fall colors. This moderately difficult hike will be led by conservation education representative, Kimberly Rohling. For directions to Cedar Bluff, call the Wetlands Center at 618-657-2064.

**Fall Tree and Plant Sale****Saturday, October 6th, 8 am – 2 pm****In front of Murdale Ace Hardware, Carbondale, IL**

Keep Carbondale Beautiful is partnering with Green Earth to sell native trees, shrubs, and perennials, including grasses and ferns. Fall is a great time to plant! It gives roots time to get comfortable in their new home without worrying about leaves, drying out, etc. For a list of native trees and for more information, visit

<http://www.keepcb.org/tree-sale.html>.

**Tupelo Wild Ones****Kathy Belletire; An Artist by Nature****Monday, October 22nd, 7:00 pm****Carbondale Township Hall, 216 E. Monroe St., Carbondale, IL**

Kathy will demonstrate some print making, using subjects in nature. This presentation is free and open to the public. For more information, call Ruth Kelly at 618-684-2196 or e-mail at rth_kelley@yahoo.com.



Photo Contest-National Recreation Trails in Southern Illinois

What to do with those photos of places in southern Illinois or from your vacation? Enter a contest!? Do you have some photos along Tunnel Hill State Trail, Cache River State Natural Area's Lower Cache River-Buttonland Swamp Trail, Giant City's Red Cedar Trail, or Shawnee National Forest's Rim Rock Trail and Inspiration Point Trail. All these locations are National Recreation Trails. Check out the photo contest below! You may enter under three main categories with fifteen or so sub categories. See the National Recreation Trail site for other National trails in Illinois and the United States.

<https://www.americantrails.org/national-recreation-trails/photo-contest>

DEADLINE for the current contest is DECEMBER 15, 2018

American Trails sponsors the annual contest for photographs of designated [National Recreation Trails](#) across the country. Our annual contest provides awards in several categories and shows off entries (and previous winners) on the NRT website.

The goal is to highlight the diversity of the NRT's and to make more Americans familiar with these great trails. We're looking for good photos of trail users as well as special facilities, art on the trails, management issues, construction, and volunteers. We also want to see entries that cover the many types and uses of National Recreation Trails throughout America.



Smooth Aster (*Symphotrichum laeve*)

What's Growing Now? Asters Away!



Spreading Aster (*Symphotrichum patens*)



Short's Aster (*Symphotrichum shortii*)



New England Aster (*Symphotrichum novaeangliae*)



Hairy Aster (*Symphotrichum pilosum*)

Photos courtesy, Chris Benda

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

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VP: Chris Evans
Secretary: Erin Medvecz
Treasurer: Sonja Lallemand
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At-large: Jean Sellar
At-large: Jody Shimp
At-large: Marisa Szubryt
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- #### Membership Categories
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☐ Business.....\$125.00
☐ Life.....\$500.00
☐ *Iliamna* (life).....\$1,000.00
☐ *Dodecatheon* (life).....\$2,000.00
☐ *Erigenia* (life).....\$3,000.00

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Erigenia, our scientific journal, is now available digitally as well as in print.

Please indicate your preference for receiving the journal.

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Chapter Affiliation

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central (Springfield) | <input type="checkbox"/> Northeast (Chicago) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Glen (Westville) | <input type="checkbox"/> Quad Cities (Rock Island) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Prairie (Bloomington) | <input type="checkbox"/> Southern (Carbondale) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irene Cull (Peoria) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Uncertain _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kankakee Torrent | |

I would like to help with:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership & Organization (serving on board at State or Chapter level) | <input type="checkbox"/> Giving Workshops &/or Seminars | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Media/Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leading Field Trips & Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Submitting articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing Workshops &/or Seminars | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Assistance/Managment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |