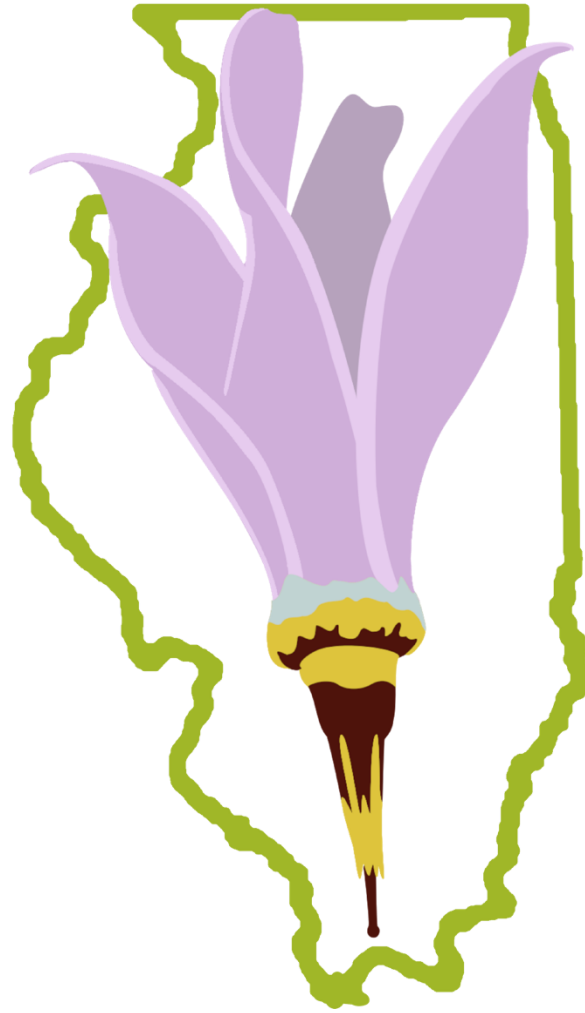


# **Annual Membership Meeting**

Annual Gathering

June 21, 2025

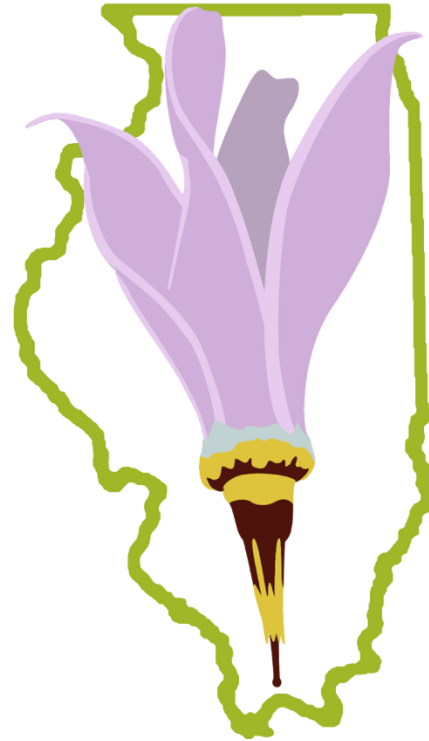
Carbondale, Illinois



# **Illinois Native Plant Society**

# Agenda

- Annual report - finances, accomplishments, strategy from retreat
- Bylaws updates
- Board meeting calendar
- Membership updates
- Website updates
- Grant program updates
- Chapter needs



**Illinois  
Native  
Plant  
Society**

# State Governing Board



- Emily Dangremond, President
- Susanne Masi, Vice President
  - Grants Program
- Becky Croteau, Treasurer
- Nancy Smith, Secretary
- Sheri Glowinski, Membership Chair
- Floyd Catchpole, Past President
- Eric Ulaszek, Member-at-Large
- Carolyn Villa, Member-at-Large
- Brian Charles, Member-at-Large
  - Grants Program, Harbinger Editor
- Kate Ahrens, Member-at-Large
  - Webmaster
- Daniel Lara-Newman, Member-at-Large
  - Assistant Webmaster
- Trish Quintenz, Central Chapter President
- Samantha Chavez, Quad Cities Chapter President
- Paul Marcum, Forest Glen Chapter President
- Joe Armstrong, Grand Prairie Chapter President
- Nick Seaton, Southern Chapter Vice President
- (vacant), Northeast Chapter President
- John Taft, Erigenia Editor

# Annual Report



- Strong state board: need candidates for next year!
- Membership enrollment issues (fixed)
- Increasing reliance on tech/web team
- Finances: some considerations
- Code of Conduct
  - Will be sent to chapters and members
- Wild Things
- Board retreat (March 2025)
  - Chapters' needs
  - Outcomes on next slide



# Board retreat outcomes



**Communications to improve member engagement**, including things such as

- Social media
- Community outreach
- Tabling

**Adding value for members**, including items such as

- Improve retention and use of member volunteering/skills
- Organizational “how to”
- Consider opt-in membership directory

**Education and Support for members**, including ideas such as

- FAQs in Harbinger
- Grants
- Seed subscriptions
- Webinars and plant ID sessions



# By-laws updates



- Effort led by Floyd Catchpole, past president of INPS
- Chapters should not have their own by-laws and should follow the state organization's by-laws



# Proposed By-laws changes

## Article VII. Chapters (added text in red)

Section 4. The elections, lengths of terms, and responsibilities of the chapter officers shall be at the discretion of each chapter. The officers shall include a President, Secretary, and Treasurer ~~as well as any other deemed necessary.~~

Section 5. The chapter secretary shall submit a report of activities to the Governing Board and the chapter treasurer shall submit a financial statement to the Governing Board; both reports are due 31 August for the preceding fiscal year. **Other reports shall be submitted as required by law.**

Section 6. ~~A proposed chapter must ratify a set of chapter by-laws, and these by-laws must be approved by the Governing Board. Chapter by-laws must have an article on dissolution similar to Article XII. Chapter by-laws may not conflict with those of the INPS.~~ **A proposed chapter shall follow the by-laws of INPS. Chapters may create Standing Rules of Order for operating purposes, as long as rules do not conflict with the by-laws of INPS.**

Section 7. Chapters may be inactivated ~~by a two-thirds vote of the state board~~ after a period of two years of inactivity. Inactivity is defined as a lack of chapter meetings, elections and regular contact with the INPS State Governing Board. **The State Board will send a notification of pending dissolution to the membership of the inactive chapter sixty days prior to a vote on dissolution to allow chapter members time to resume chapter activities. After the waiting period, the State Board may vote, with a two-thirds majority required to inactivate the chapter.** An inactive chapter's resources (e.g. funds, materials) will be held by the State INPS for a period of one year, during which time the chapter may reactivate and claim it's resources from the INPS State Governing Board. After this time, these will be combined with INPS State Governing Board assets.

# Proposed By-laws changes

## Article VIII. Dues

Section 1. ~~The dues of the INPS shall be recommended by the Governing Board for approval by the membership at an annual meeting.~~ The dues and disbursement rate and term of the disbursement rate of INPS shall be recommended by the Governing Board for approval by the membership at an annual meeting.

Section 2. The dues shall include a component for the State INPS budget and a component for regional chapter budgets. The component for regional chapters will be based on a per member or percentage rate, for a term set by the State Governing Board. Members who do not belong to a regional chapter pay the full dues to the State INPS.

Section 5. The chapter secretaryies shall submit a year-end report of activities to the Governing Board and the chapter treasurers shall submit a year-end financial statement to the Governing Board; both reports are due by January 15 of the following year~~31 August for the preceding fiscal year.~~



# Board Meeting Calendar change



- Moving from monthly meetings to quarterly meetings
- Board meetings are open for members to attend
- Executive committee will meet regularly

# Membership Updates

- Sheri Glowinski is new Membership Chair
- Handling most communications with members
- Will handle membership issues going forward

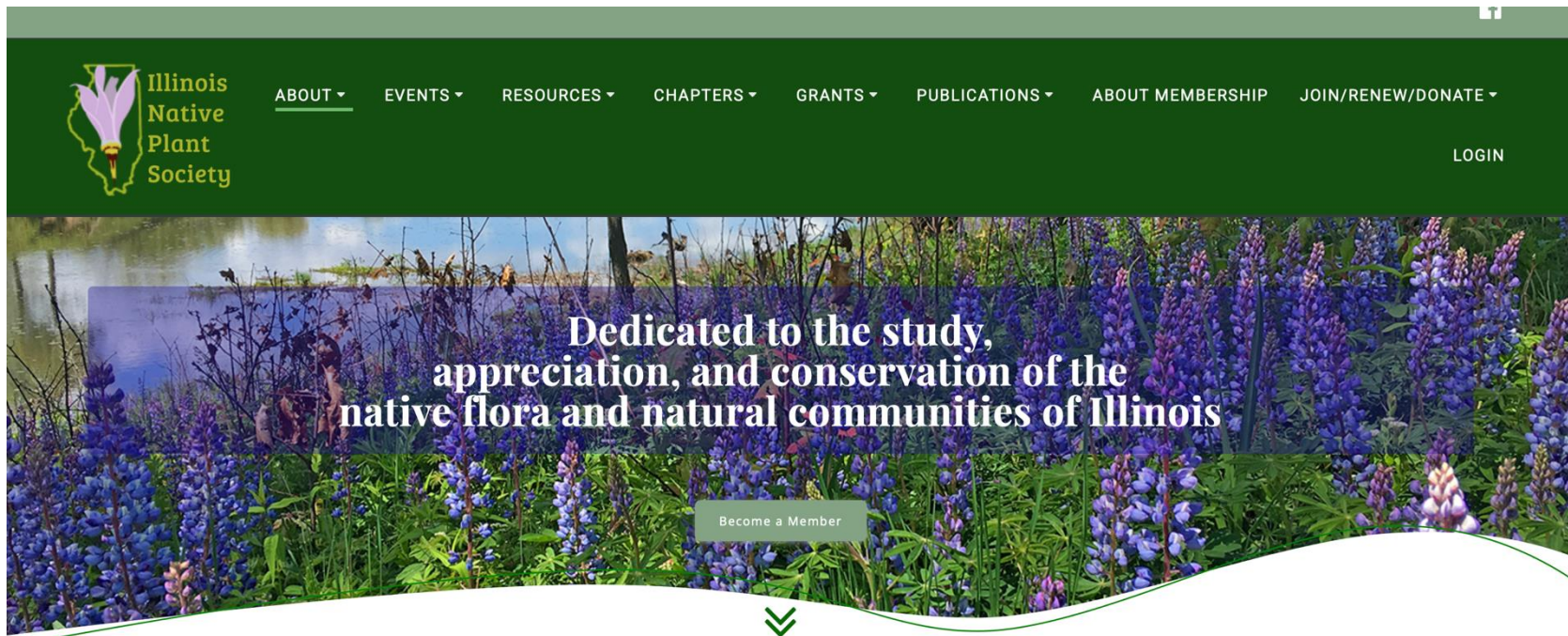




# Website Updates - Highlights



- Modernization in progress
- Members log in/management features
- New event dashboard that allows chapters to add events to a consolidated calendar.
- Hosted emails for board members and chapter presidents (@illinoisplants.org)



# Grant Program Updates



- 42 Research Grants total in 8 cycles since 2018
- 7 Survey Grants in 5 cycles since 2021
- Brian Charles will be taking on coordination of the Grant Committee
- Change to survey grants:
  - Survey grant program will end
  - But the Floristics grant program will begin!

# Chapter Needs

- Board members
- Volunteers to lead field trips
- Elections
- Ability to communicate with members





# Thank you, Southern Chapter!

- Thank you for hosting this Annual Gathering!
- Next year...
- Forest Glen (?)

