

Forward

In this fifth year of publication we are experiencing a wider interest in *The Oklahoma Native Plant Record*. Subscriptions go to members, libraries, and herbaria, as well as amateur and professional botanists across the nation. We have had the honor of presenting, for our readers, historic and seminal works never before published; works that had only been available as photocopies of research done for Masters' theses and Ph.D. dissertations. With most we have also published current regional floras for comparison with the historic works. Soon we hope to have all these works available for global inquiry when our pages become available on the world wide web.

Along with regional floras we've offered interdisciplinary articles describing human impacts on Oklahoma's vegetation as well as species distribution information of interest to landscapers and naturalists. The wide variety of articles reflects the diversity of membership in the Oklahoma Native Plant Society. It is clear that the journal best serves the purposes of the Society when it cross-communicates between disciplines, geographic borders, professionals, and non-members. We welcome and celebrate the variety of sources offered to our readers.

The pimpled prairie article provides one of those cross-disciplinary research articles. It is an interesting look at one of the causes of Oklahoma's native floral diversity; its complex soil and plant interactions. I think you'll find it intriguing and hopefully, worthy of additional research.

Hoagland and Buthod have once again provided an up-to-date regional flora, this one from Pawnee County. With their work our species lists will eventually cover the entire state.

Crawford and Crawford, a new husband and wife research team, have begun their careers with the thoroughly done flora additions for Garvin County. We look forward to hearing more from them.

In this issue we also pay tribute to Dr. John Taylor, co-author with his wife, Dr. Constance Taylor, of the single most used botanical resource for information regarding Oklahoma's native species, *An annotated list of the ferns, fern allies, gymnosperms and flowering plants of Oklahoma*. We are pleased to include his Masters thesis which began his life-long career as researcher and teacher. John passed away in November of 2004. Connie has done a great job of reformatting his work for present-day publishing standards and we are very grateful for her help.

There is still much research to be done on Oklahoma's native flora and the next generation needs to know where to begin in this awesome yet rewarding task. So please continue to tell others about the *Oklahoma Native Plant Record* and thank you for reading it.

Sheila A. Strawn
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