



The Lady-Slipper

Spring 2013

Number 28:1

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www.knps.org

info@knps.org

[2013 KNPS Wildflower Weekend at Natural Bridge State Park Is Almost Here!](#)

April 19 through April 21, 2013 will find us enjoying the native plants and trails at Natural Bridge and the Red River Gorge! We are still working on scheduling the weekend festivities, but so far we can confirm the following:

Friday, April 19

Field Trips—8:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:00 pm

7:30 pm—*Running Buffalo Clover*—Jennifer Koslow, Eastern Kentucky University

8:30 pm - Wildflower Game and Social Hour

Saturday, April 20th

Field Trips—8:30 am, 9:00 am, 1:30 pm, 2:00 pm

6:30 pm - Kentucky Native Plant Society's General Meeting—everyone is welcome!

7:00 pm – **Rare Plant Conservation** – presentation by Deb White and Tara Littlefield, KSNPC

7:30 pm – **Connections and Biodiversity** – presentation by Rudy Mancke, University of South Carolina. “When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe” - was John Muir right? For more info on Rudy please click here : http://www.environ.sc.edu/natural_history.html

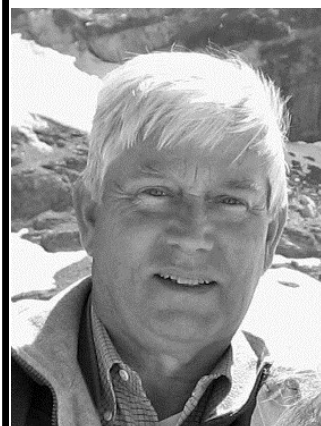
As usual our field trips will travel all over Natural Bridge State Park and the Red River Gorge Geologic Area, including hikes along the Rock Garden Trail, Whittleton Arch Trail, Sheltowee Trace, and many others. Our trips are led by some of Kentucky's most prominent biologists, both professional and amateur, and range from general wildflower hikes to specialized hikes focusing on woody plants, geology, ecology, and invasive plants.

For more information on the weekends events or lodging at the park please contact Natural Bridge State Park Naturalist Brian Gasdorf at brian.gasdorf@ky.gov!



Yellow lady slipper at Natural Bridge, photo by Zeb Weese

Rudy Mancke grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and spent his childhood roaming the woods and meadows of the Piedmont, observing the natural world, identifying flora and fauna, and asking himself questions about what he saw. When he was not exploring the outdoors, he was in the library seeking answers to these questions while forming new ones. Rudy's education at Wofford College and graduate study at the University of South Carolina broadened his interest in natural history, an enthusiasm that he tried to give to his students at Spartanburg High School and later to the public while a Curator of Natural History at the South Carolina State Museum. Rudy is happy to have founded the South Carolina Association of Naturalists, an organization that continues to thrive. Rudy's work at the museum brought him into contact with producers at South Carolina Educational Television and led to the television series **NatureScene** (1978-2002) that is still being aired on public television. With hosts Beryl Dakers and later Jim Welch, Rudy led viewers on nature walks in many locations in the United States as well as to sites abroad.



KNPS President's Message by Alan Nations

Hi, folks, It is that time of year when we begin to see very early signs of spring. I like to observe the swollen buds of the Redbud and Serviceberry, as they prepare to bloom. These Kentucky native trees bloom very early before other trees and shrubs have leaved out. Like all things in our natural world this happens for a reason – possibly many reasons – that are presently unknown to us. We do know that these blooms provide a food source of pollen and nectar to some animals at a very critical time. The animals in turn pollinate the plants as they move from flower to flower. This mutually beneficial relationship helps ensure their survival. In the natural world there are many such relationships. We must preserve and protect our natural areas to ensure our own survival. Are we living up to this obligation? According to the NCADAC's latest comprehensive climate change report we are not doing well. This report is available at <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov> . I recommend that you at least look over the executive summary.

We all need to clearly understand that climate change is no longer speculation. Scientists the world over have documented evidence that the earth is warming. Not just all those career climate scientists, but overarching bodies evaluating the work those scientists have done. Most agree that it is happening faster than expected, due to man's expanding use of fossil fuels. The report highlights significant changes since 2009. We all burn fossil fuels and share the responsibility for creating this problem, so we must all be part of the solution. There is no middle ground here folks. It is going to require sacrifice for the common good to avoid environmental disaster from the effects of climate change.

There are other significant immediate threats to our native plants and ecological systems. The Emerald Ash Borer, found in Kentucky in 2009, has the potential to destroy all five species of Ash trees native to Kentucky. The Asian Longhorned Beetle, another borer that is attracted to many hardwood species, was found just across the river in Ohio. This large Beetle is much easier to identify than the Emerald Ash Borer, and methods have been developed to stop its spread and destroy it. The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has killed many Hemlock trees in eastern Kentucky and destroyed some ecological systems dominated by Hemlock from Northern Georgia to Southern Maine. The Kentucky Division of Forestry has implemented a very aggressive treatment and educational program to save our Hemlock from this deadly insect. Kentucky's native plants and ecological systems are facing perilous times caused by development , misguided land management practices, a growing number of non native invasive species (both plants and animals), and weak or nonexistent laws that allow the continued importation, sale and planting of non native invasive plant species in Kentucky . It appears that we have the perfect formula for ecological disaster.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that we need to combine our efforts with other like minded organizations to more effectively preserve and protect Kentucky native plants and ecological systems. The Kentucky Native Plant Society is affiliated with the Kentucky Conservation Committee and other organizations that work to encourage state legislation supporting our natural environment and promoting awareness of the issues. I encourage each member to stay abreast of and support the KCC's efforts.

On a more pleasant note, I hope to see you all at Natural Bridge State Park for our general meeting and Wildflower Weekend activities. Make your reservations! It is going to be a fun weekend with great speakers, good food, helpful friendly people and a spectacular display of beautiful, native Eastern Kentucky wildflowers.

Alan

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The Lady-Slipper is intended to be published by the Kentucky Native Plant Society [IRC 501(c)(3)] in March, June, Sept., and Dec. Deadlines are the 10th of the prior months, but Editorial Committee members welcome article submissions at any time. Send dues and membership status inquiries to:

Kentucky Native Plant Society Membership, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601

www.knps.org

info@knps.org

SAVE THE DATES!

KNPS Hike at Carter Caves State Park—May 4 and 5, 2013!

Join us at Carter Caves State Resort Park on May 4th and 5th to enjoy an abundant assortment of spring wildflowers. The park has a lodge, cottages and a nice campground (where redheaded woodpeckers can be observed) to accommodate those who would like to stay for the weekend.

The first hike, on Saturday at 10:00 am, will be on the 2 mile Horn Hollow trail where we hope to see lady slippers (*Cypripedium acaule* and *Cypripedium parviflorum*) in bloom, along with many other species of spring wildflowers. We will meet at the Visitor Center for this hike. All of the trails at Carter Caves are hilly and considered to be moderate to difficult depending on the individual. Be prepared for poor weather, we will hike rain or shine. This hike typically takes about two hours, but with a larger group you may want to pack a snack or lunch to take with you. Anyone hungry at the hike's end can meet at the picnic area to lunch together, (weather permitting). Bring a lunch or eat at the lodge afterwards.



Photo by Judy Komorowski

Sunday's hike is to be announced. We are hoping to find someone "in the know" to show us where the Kentucky lady slippers (*Cypripedium kentuckiense*) are in nearby Lewis county. This location is outside of the state park. If we cannot find that 'someone' to lead us, we will hike another one of the beautiful trails at Carter Caves. The Cincinnati Wildflower Society will join us this weekend. **To register call Judy or Ray Komorowski at 859-757-6093.**

KNPS Hike at Lower Howard's Creek Heritage Preserve —March 23, 2013!

EKU graduate student Will Overbeck-Brotz will lead this KNPS sponsored hike to Lower Howard's Creek in Clark County. For more details and to register please e-mail Will at william_overbeckb@mymail.eku.edu.

KNPS Hike at Florcliff Nature Sanctuary —March 29, 2013!

Come join us for an early Wildflower Hike at Floracliff Nature Sanctuary. The hike will be on Friday, March 29 at 1:00. This is a nice opportunity to see Floracliff as it is only open to the public by appointment. Reservations are required and there is a limit, so sign up soon by e-mailing floracliff@aol.com.

KNPS FALL MEETING 2013!

September 20-22, 2013 at Lake Barkley State Park

September 2013 will be a great time for KNPS! We are going to hold a joint meeting with the Tennessee Native Plant Society in far Western Kentucky, an area many of our members do not get a change to see very often. Plans have not been finalized, but we hope to visit a few of the Purchase Region's unique vegetative communities. For more information stay tuned to www.knps.org.

WILDFLOWER WEEKEND 2014!

April 11-13, 2014 at Natural Bridge State Park—make your reservations now! Contact Brian at brian.gasdorf@ky.gov for more information!

Botanical Highlights/Rare Plant Records from 2012

Reported by Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission unless otherwise noted. Contact Tara Littlefield at tara.littlefield@ky.gov to report any rare plant findings. For more information on any of the rare plants highlighted in this report visit the Kentucky Rare Plant Database <http://eppcapp.ky.gov/nprareplants/index.aspx>

New county record of lakecress (*Armoracia lacustris*) (S2/G4?) discovered in Butler county in a swamp community. Lakecress is a widespread species in the eastern United States and southeastern Canada, but it is rare to uncommon throughout most of its range. Most of the known populations in Kentucky are from the far western portion of the state. This population represents an interesting extension of the range within Kentucky.

New county record of giant sedge (*Carex gigantea*) found in Edmonson Co in a high quality upland seep in the mammoth cave area (S1S2/G4). There are only a handful of extant giant sedge populations that we know of in Kentucky. If you ever find yourself in a high quality wetland, keep an eye out for the giant sedge.

New population of cypress knee sedge (*Carex decomposita*) (S2/G3) discovered in Hart county in high quality upland wetland. This globally rare sedge is typically found in swamps growing, as the name implies, around bald cypress trees. However, this population was found in an upland wetland community.

One new population (Estill county) and one new county record (Russell County) of smooth veiny peavine (*Lathyrus venosus*) (S2G5) was discovered this past year. Neither population had produced flowers. Globally, this native peavine is quite common, but only around 10 populations are known from Kentucky. This plant is usually found in dry rocky woods.



The federal candidate globe bladderpod (*Lesquerella globosa*) had a spectacular flowering year 2012 (S1/G2). Globe bladderpod is a biennial plant that displays wildly fluctuating population sizes. While only known from a few locations and extirpated from many others within the inner bluegrass, these extant populations were noted as flowering prolifically at three localities. Seed was collected at two of these sites for use in augmentation projects.

New county record of Loesel's twayblade (*Liparis Loesii*) (S2S3/G5) discovered in Lee County by Mason Brock (Austin Peay State University graduate student) and Will Overbeck (EKU graduate student).

New population (possible county record) of whorled aster (*Oclemena acuminata*) (S2?/G5) was discovered on Pine mountain. The whorled aster is an Appalachian species that reaches the edge of its range in Kentucky. It is only found in the Cumberland Mountains in our state. We suspect there may be more populations of the whorled aster in the mountains of Kentucky. KSNPC is trying to document populations of this aster to access its conservation status in Kentucky, so if you seen any, please contact us!

New population of nettle leaf sage (*Salvia urticifolia*) was discovered in western McCreary Co. (S1/G5). Nettle leaf sage is a perennial plant native to the southeastern United States, and is only of conservation concern

within states at the edge of its range [i.e. Kentucky, Florida, Mississippi, Maryland and North Carolina]. This plant has beautiful purple flowers, hairy stems, cuneate leaves and is usually found growing in rocky calcareous woodlands. In Kentucky, there are a handful of records mostly from collections made before 1970. Until a few years back, the only extant records of this native sage were known from two populations in McCreary Co. However, back in 2010, KSNPC found a large population in Barren Co growing in calcareous dry woods adjacent to a limestone slope glade. In 2012, we discovered a new population of this unique plant in calcareous rocky woodland.

Global (G) and State (S) Conservation Ranks				
G1 or S1	G2 or S2	G3 or S3	G4 or S4	G5 or S5
Critically Imperiled	Imperiled	Vulnerable	Apparently Secure	Secure
Very high risk of extinction or extirpation due to rarity (often five or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.	High risk of extinction or extirpation due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.	Moderate risk of extinction or extirpation due to restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.	Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors; or stable over many decades and not threatened but of restricted distribution or population size.	Common; widespread and abundant.
				
Additional ranks: GX or SX = Presumed extinct/extirpated. Not located despite intensive searches; virtually no likelihood of rediscovery. GH or SH = Possibly extinct/extirpated. Missing; known only from historical occurrences, but still some hope of rediscovery.				

New county record of Buckley's goldenrod (*Solidago buckleyi*) (S2S3/G4) was discovered in Trigg Co by Mason Brock (Austen Peay Graduate student). This goldenrod typically grows in dry woods in Kentucky.

New county record of Great Plains ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes magnocamporum*) (S2/G4) discovered in Edmonson County. This beautiful orchid grows in calcareous glades and prairies in Kentucky.

New county record of big leaf snowbell (*Styrax grandifolius*) (S1S2/G5) was discovered by Mason Brock (Austin Peay State University graduate student) and Will Overbeck (EKU graduate student) in Lee County. The only known location of this small tree in Kentucky is in the Land Between the Lakes area in Lyon county.

New county record of Trepocarpus (*Trepocarpus aethusae*) (S3/G5) discovered in Webster county. In Kentucky, trepocarpus is known from far western Kentucky. The Webster county population represents an interesting extension of the known range in Kentucky.

New county record of Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium reflexum*) was discovered in the inner bluegrass in Anderson County (S1S2/G3). Buffalo clover is a biennial or annual that is native to the eastern United States. While somewhat secure in southern states, this native clover has declined greatly in the northern part of its range, particular within the Ohio Valley. In other states, it is typically found in rocky woods, old fields, pastures, and glades, usually in acidic soils. In Kentucky, there are many historic records and collections (before 1970). Prior to 2009, the only extant localities of buffalo clover were in Edmonson Co (Mammoth Cave area) and Hopkins Co (Green River). In 2009, Joe Lacefield of KDFWR discovered a unique population of this species in Woodford Co. in young grazed woods on a tributary to the Kentucky River. This population had the typical features of buffalo clover, reflexed fruits, large flowering heads, and chevrons on the leaves. However, somewhat atypical features including the decumbent nature of the stems. This has some botanists thinking it could be a new variety or even a new species! Since 2009, this population has been searched for many times, but has not been seen since it was first found. Luckily, in May of 2012, a new population of this same curious clover was discovered by KSNPC botanists in the neighboring Anderson co, again on a tributary to the Kentucky River. Specimens were sent to Michael Vincent, a Miami University professor in Ohio, who will resolve the question of whether it could be a new variety or species.

2012 was a big year for running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) (S3/G3)! Two new county records were discovered this past year in the bluegrass: one in Gallatin County discovered by Larry Brewer, a botanist from Northern Kentucky University, and one small population in Scott Co discovered by KDFWR staff. Over the past 5 years, 5 new county records of this native clover were discovered! In addition to the county records, new populations were found in Madison (discovered by Mason Brock of Austin Peay State University) and Boone counties, and a previously extirpated site in Jackson Co was refound! Keep an eye out for this native clover, you never know where it will pop up!

New population of purple sand grass (*Triplasia purpurea*) (S1/G5) was discovered in far western Kentucky in the western portion of Fulton county along sandy areas of the Mississippi River. Globally, this is a common grass of sand prairies, savannahs, and sandy areas along rivers and lakes. However, there is only one extant location for purple sand grass (also located in Fulton county), and one older historic record from Ballard County in Kentucky, which makes this find significant.

Find the KNPS on Facebook!



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/69397006016/>

[KNPS Announcements and Opportunities](#)

KNPS.ORG gets a fan letter! Thanks to our great webmaster, Dave Luzader, the KNPS website is helping to educate kids in Texas about botany and native plants!

From: "Alyssa Britton" <alyssa@***charterschool.org>

Subject: We love your resources! A thank you and suggestion :)

Date: December 19, 2012 11:52:02 AM EST

To: info@knps.org

Good afternoon!

My name is Alyssa and I am a tutor at Jean Massieu Academy in Grand Prairie, Texas. I am currently holding a science tutor session and a few of my kids found your resources on <http://www.knps.org/links.html>, to be so helpful! Right now they are learning about botany and dendrology...such a fun and interesting subject!

As a thank you, the kids wanted to pass along another page to you:

"Wood Barns and More! - Identify that Tree"

<http://www.alansfactoryoutlet.com/wood-barns-and-more-identify-that-tree/>

They wanted to make a special request to include this on your page with your other great resources. I know it may be asking a lot, but they enjoyed it so much that they wanted to find a way to "Pay it forward," so to speak.

Once again, thank you, and if you do decide to add it, please let me know...they would be delighted to see it up! We look forward to hearing back from you soon. :)

Have a wonderful holiday!

Alyssa Britton, Tutor Department



**The Kentucky Native Plant Society is an official Affiliate of the
Kentucky Conservation Committee!**

The KCC is the state's only organization dedicated solely to providing a non-partisan voice for Kentucky 's environmental community in Frankfort. KCC works to make sound environmental stewardship a priority for elected officials and voters. For more information on KCC's activities, just go to:

www.kyconservation.org

Want to help with plant conservation – maybe even improve your plant skills?

For KNPS members interested in getting hands-on involvement with real plant conservation in Kentucky...

...the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission needs YOU!

Projects that we need help with:

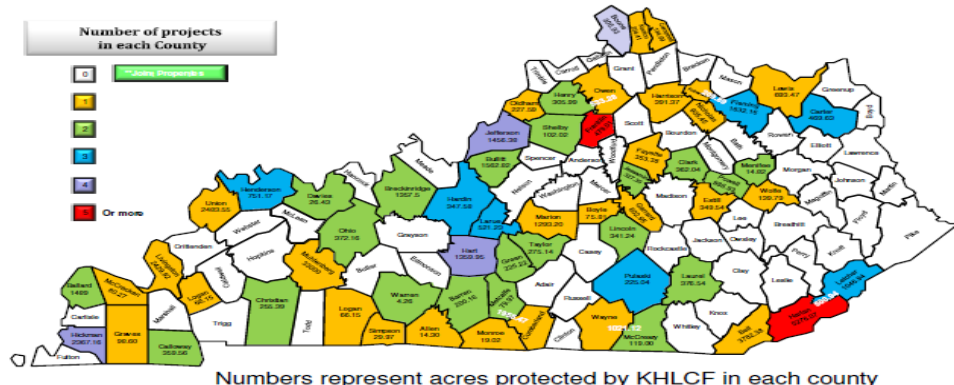
- * Updating rare plant records at select locations (KSNPC supplies the locations). Records are aging at an alarming rate and we are unable to keep these updated.
- * Cataloging plant pictures – while cataloging doesn't sound fun, looking at plant images is!
- * Provide more native plant images to the Commission –we need high quality photos of native plants.
- * Improve our plant collection. We are very close to having our plant collection in a database so we will know what we have – and what we don't have. We need help in reviewing the plant specimens and entering the information.
- * Retrieving records from Kentucky herbaria. We have many of these records but new specimens are being collected all the time and this information is very important in assessing rare plants.

Contact Tara Littlefield at KSNPC for more information at tara.littlefield@ky.gov.

...the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund needs YOU, too!

The KHLCF has purchased and protected 80,000 acres in Kentucky since 1994—these include many of the parks and nature preserves in your area! Unfortunately, most of these sites are in desperate need of stewardship assistance. As budgets get tight and agency staffs are dwindling, invasive plants are increasingly crowding out our native species at many of these conservation areas. If your county is colored in on this map, that means there is land close by that needs your help! From hand-pulling garlic mustard to using a chainsaw and herbicide, there is plenty of work to be done on all these sites to suit your interest and abilities. Scout groups, church groups, garden clubs—many hands make light work! Contact Zeb Weese at zeb.weese@ky.gov for more information on how you can help!

Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Protected Projects



...and so does The Arboretum in Lexington!

A unique opportunity for KNPS members to help with a living native plant museum in the heart of the Bluegrass -- The Arboretum's 'Walk Across Kentucky'. The Walk Across Kentucky at The Arboretum in Lexington was designed to showcase the diverse physiographic regions of Kentucky. The plant collections offer education and research opportunities for visitors, and also serve as an ex-situ conservation site (a true living museum). Now, almost 25 years after the first wild collected trees were planted, The Walk Across Kentucky is expanding development of specific Kentucky native plant communities. By featuring regionally appropriate plant material, stone, and interpretive signage, we hope our new plant-community exhibits will enhance visitor experience by highlighting Kentucky's natural diversity in a central location. We would be pleased to work with any KNPS members who would be willing to donate seed, plants, or stones of Kentucky provenance. Some of our most unique and interesting plants have come from enthusiastic friends who share part of their own landscape with The Arboretum and its visitors. Please contact Todd Rounsaville at todd.rousaville@uky.edu for more information.

The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Protects Another 2,000 Acres

Thanks to funding by the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund (KHLCF), more of the Big Pitman Creek watershed in Taylor County is protected, Shelby County's newest park has grown to nearly 500 acres, and a new State Nature Preserve is created. Since the last Lady-slipper was published three of the KHLCF Board's partners successfully purchased acreage which is now permanently protected by a KHLCF easement and will soon be open to the public.

Campbellsville University recently purchased a 94 acre addition to Clay Hill Memorial Forest through a KHLCF grant. This project focused on protecting existing woodlands and seeps, as well as reforesting pastures. Clay Hill Memorial Forest was established in 1996 when the descendants of pioneer Henry Sanders transferred stewardship responsibilities of 160 acres to Campbellsville University. This generous donation included an explicit agreement that the land would be used for environmental and forestry education and research. The university has developed the site into one of the region's premier environmental education facilities while providing 5 miles of hiking trails that are open to the general public for passive recreation. The KHLCF addition was needed to improve overall ecosystem health and habitat improvement. Rare plants at Clay Hill include a population of round-headed bush-clover (*Lespedeza capitata*).

"This addition helps to secure the future of our forest by increasing its size to over 250 acres and by providing significant protection for our nature preserve. We are gratified by the support of KHLCF. We would not have been able to purchase this property without KHLCF support," says Gordon Weddle, Director of Clay Hill Memorial Forest and Professor of Biology at Campbellsville University. KHLCF funds were previously used to purchase a nine acre addition to the forest, the Feather Creek Nature Preserve.

In addition to Clay Hill, Shelby County's newest park has grown to nearly 500 acres. While most of Shelby Trails Park, located just outside of Simpsonville, has been developed for equestrian use the 80-acre addition funded by the KHLCF Board will be open to the public for hiking, bird watching and educational programs. At the deed signing former Shelby County Parks Director Clay Cottongim said, "The Shelbyville/Shelby County Parks and Recreation Board and the Fiscal Court greatly appreciate the continued partnership with the KHLCF board in the purchase of the Hase property located on Aiken Road. This new addition of the park will be utilized for conservation and hiking in the years to come. The Parks Board and Fiscal Court have had the privilege of being a partner with KHLCF in the past with three other pieces of property purchased through this fund for conservation purposes. Again, Shelby County greatly appreciates the cooperation and partnership with KHLCF."

The KHLCF Board's was interested in the opportunity to protect a natural area in one of the Commonwealth's most rapidly developing areas. Although the KHLCF focuses on protecting properties with ecological significance or rare species, it is also important to protect greenspace near developing areas. Not only will this property provide habitat for wildlife, it will also create opportunities for environmental education.

Rare species protection was the focus on another KHLCF site, the newly dedicated Archer-Benge State Nature Preserve in Whitley County. Over 1,800 acres was purchased along the Laurel Fork with several partners, including the KHLCF, the Kentucky Natural Lands Trust (KNLT), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the estate of William Dennis Benge of Fort Wright. Benge left \$200,000 in his will to the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) because of his love of nature and wildlife, which the KSNPC directed towards this project. At least four federally listed species are found on the site; the blackside dace and the Cumberland arrow darter are fish found only in this region, as well as the Cumberland elktoe and Cumberland papershell mussels. According to former DNR Commissioner and current KNLT Executive Director Hugh Archer, there is at least one endemic cave beetle found here and may be other species unknown to science in the remote area. Habitat for the federally endangered Indiana bat habitat is also found along Pine Mountain and potentially protected by this acquisition. Rare plants include Michaux's bluets (*Houstonia serpyllifolia*). Laurel Fork is part of the larger Pine Mountain project area; the KHLCF and KNLT have worked with several agencies to protect thousands of acres along Pine Mountain in Whitley, Bell, Harlan, Letcher, and Pike Counties.

The KHLCF is funded in part by the sale of "Nature's Finest" license plates. With these acquisitions, the Fund has now protected and conserved over 78,000 acres in 63 counties. For more information, visit the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund website at <http://heritageland.ky.gov> or contact Zeb Weese at zeb.weese@ky.gov.

By Popular Demand...

They're BACK!



Preserve the GREAT OUTDOORS with GREAT PLATES from the past.

Drive home your support for the great outdoors.

Funding for Lower Howard's Creek Heritage Preserve, Natural Bridge State Park, and many other natural areas visited by the Kentucky Native Plant Society is made possible by your generous purchase of a Kentucky "Nature's Finest" license plate from your County Clerk! A \$10 donation to the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund is made from every plate purchased—late year that generated almost \$600,000 for the purchase of natural areas open to the public. For more information visit the KHLCF website at <http://heritageland.ky.gov> or find them on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kentucky-Heritage-Land-Conservation-Fund/165020419030?ref=ts>

EXPLORE YOUR WEBSITE AT WWW.KNPS.ORG!

http://knps.org/

Kentucky Native Plant Society - www.knps.org

Welcome to The Kentucky Native Plant Society

HOME INFORMATION NEWS/EVENTS MEMBERSHIP LINKS

The Kentucky Native Plant Society was founded in 1986 for everyone interested in the native plants and wildflowers of Kentucky. Plants are essential to both the well-being of our Commonwealth's natural ecosystems and our enjoyment of its unique environment. With members in Kentucky and neighboring states, the Kentucky Native Plant Society is a leader in promoting education about, appreciation for, and conservation of our native flora.

Our mission is to promote education, preservation, and protection of Kentucky native plants and ecological systems.

The Lady-Slipper Archives

KNPS Native Plant Stewardship Certification Program

Fall 2011 Newsletter

The Lady-Slipper

Kentucky's Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca* L.)

By Susan Foster, of Heron

Asclepias syriaca L. is a member of the Asclepiadaceae family, which is named after Asclepius, the Greek god of medicine. The plants in this family are known for their milky latex and their ability to attract pollinators, including monarch butterflies. In Kentucky, the most common species is *Asclepias syriaca*, also known as milkweed. It is a perennial herb that grows in a wide range of habitats, from open fields to wooded areas. The plant has a long history of use in traditional medicine, and it is also a popular choice for gardeners who want to attract butterflies to their yards.

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Kentucky Native Plant Society
801 Schenkel Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

2013 KNPS Membership Application or Renewal

Detach and send to: Kentucky Native Plant Society / 801 Schenkel Lane / Frankfort, KY 40601

Note: To pay by credit card or PayPal account, please visit the website www.knps.org.

Name(s)* _____

Membership Type: (memberships are for calendar year)

E-mail(s)* _____

Address* _____

City, State, Zip* _____

Telephone _____

____ Individual \$15 (includes e-newsletter)
____ Family \$25 (includes e-newsletter to 1-4 e-mails)
____ Lifetime \$200 (includes electronic newsletter indefinitely)
____ Additional gift (optional, tax-deductible)

Total _____ **Check No.** _____

* denotes required fields, we MUST have your e-mail address in order to distribute the newsletter!

The Kentucky Native Plant Society was founded in 1986 for everyone interested in the native plants, trees, and wildflowers of Kentucky. Plants are essential to both the well-being of our Commonwealth's natural ecosystems and our enjoyment of its unique environment. With members in Kentucky and neighboring states, the Kentucky Native Plant Society is a leader in promoting education about, appreciation for, and conservation of the native flora of our Commonwealth.