



# Arisaema



## Michigan Botanical Club State Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 2 • September 2015

### Corresponding Secretary's Report

This year our Fall Meeting is on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor. If you are on the MBC Board, please be there at 11:30. If you are coming for the presentation and tour with Robert Grese, please be there by 2:00 pm. Both events are in the Auditorium.

Another important item to note is that the annual "Spring Foray" for 2016, will actually be held closer to the Fall (Labor Day Weekend). Two years ago we had a "Summer Foray" which had wonderful attendance. I am sure we can all adjust to this change of date. Please be sure to read the preview of the 2016 Annual Foray.

Check out the Distinguished Service Awards, given to Richard Fowler and Robert Riepma. Read about this year's Dickinson Award and the Southeast Michigan Science Fair awards.

And we have a new chapter – for those who do not fit into one of our geographic chapters. See Irene Eiseman's chapter report (and of course, enjoy reading the other chapter reports as well).

As a side note, I have received 3 inquiries in the past few months with Big Tree questions – one with regard to Detroit Edison cutting down a very large old tree, one with regard to a large oak tree that was thought to be 350 years old, and one from a biker who was looking to travel around (pilgrimage) and see as many big trees as possible. Of course, I passed these on to Andy Sawyer, but I was interested to note that these people were accessing our website deliberately.

Final note: Contact me at [REDACTED] if you want to change how you receive the Arisaema. Your choices are: U.S. Mail, email, or both.

Sincerely,

Mary Danforth  
*Corresponding Secretary, Michigan Botanical Club*

---

### Table of Contents

Corresponding Secretary's Report	1	2015 Spring Foray Report	6
President's Report	2	2014-2015 Chapter Reports	8
Isobel Dickenson Memorial Award	2	MBC State Board Meeting Minutes (May 2015)	16
Michigan Botanical Foundation Seeks Additional Trustees	2	MBC State Treasury Report	18
Distinguished Service Awards	3	MBC 2016 Summer Foray Preview	20
MBC State Fall Meeting	4		

## President's Report

Greetings from your MBC President:

First, welcome our newest chapter of MBC – The Special Members Chapter (SMC). All current Special Members of MBC are now members of SMC.

This new chapter serves to unite and provide a forum for members of the MBC who are not near a local MBC chapter, and instead are located throughout Michigan, other states, and other countries. The SMC will conduct the majority of its chapter activities using online electronic communications. The Special Members voted to approve the SMC chapter constitution and elected the following 4 officers: President, Irene Eiseman; Treasurer, Leslie Kuhn; Secretary, Jim Hewitt; Director-at-Large, Phyllis Higman.

Membership candidates who express an interest in joining MBC and prefer not to affiliate with a local chapter may join SMC. Membership in multiple MBC chapters is permitted. The Annual Meeting of the SMC Chapter will be open to all SMC members and held at a time and place to be selected by the Executive Committee and brought to the attention of the entire membership at least three weeks prior to the date.

Finally, congratulations to the Southeast Chapter on their successful 2015 Spring Foray held in Saginaw and mid-Michigan.

I look forward to meeting all of you at future club events. Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Judy Kelly,  
President, Michigan Botanical Club

## Spring Foray and Fall Meeting Schedule

YEAR	SPRING	FALL
2015	SEC	Board
2016	SWC	SEC
2017	HVC	SWC
2018	WPC	HVC
2019	Board	WPC

## Isobel Dickinson Memorial Award

Congratulations to Emily Huizenga and Christopher Bouma, who were the recipients of the Isobel Dickinson Memorial Award for best student-authored paper published in *The Michigan Botanist* Vol. 52. The selected paper was titled, "Assessing a Reconciliation Ecology Approach to Suburban



Landscaping: Biodiversity on a College Campus" by Christopher Bouma, Emily Huizenga, and David Warners, *TMB* Vol. 52, Nos. 3-4: p. 93. Both students

conducted their research while attending Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI. MBC would like to acknowledge the Dickinson Award Committee for their expert evaluation of

the nominations, and The Michigan Botanical Foundation for financial contribution in support of this award.

## Michigan Botanical Foundation Seeks Additional Trustees

The currently serving Board of Trustees of the MBF is searching for several additional members, especially someone for the position of Treasurer. Our previous Treasurer, Bob Sabine, stepped down from the Board when his term expired this year. He has served us well for 6 years and we will miss him. Our President, Pamela Laureto, who has served us well for 5 years has also stepped down from her office, although she still remains a Trustee until her term expires next year. We thank both Bob and Pam for their dedicated service and the good ideas they brought to the MBF Board.

Our current by-laws state that the MBF Trustees must be members of the MBC for at least one year prior to taking office, and must remain MBC members during their term. If you are interested in the Treasurer's position or as a Trustee, please contact Emily Nietering, Acting MBF President, at the address below. Without sufficient Trustees, the MBF will be unable to award any grants to further botanical research and publication on Michigan's native plants, or continue the support of students through the Robb Scholarship and the Dickinson Award.

Anyone interested in making a donation or submitting a grant proposal should contact

Emily Nietering  
231 Nash St.  
Dearborn, MI 48124



## Distinguished Service Award — Robert Riepma



WPC member Robert Riepma receiving the 2015 MBC Distinguished Service Award presented by WPC President, Dorothy Sibley, on June 13, 2015 at the B. D. White Nature Preserve, Lowell MI. Robert was unable to attend the May, 2015 MBC Spring Foray, so the MBC VP, Dr. Garrett Crow, asked us to present Robert with the award as soon as possible. At our next Field trip we had the pleasure to present the award to Robert. This is the first time a recipient has ever been outdoors, in the woods, to receive this award. Robert was really surprised! (photo by Jelanie Bush)

## Distinguished Service Award — Richard Fowler

Richard Fowler has been a long-time member of the Michigan Botanical Club, Southeastern Chapter, and has been a continual presence in support of the Club and its mission for nearly 50 years.

He first became aware of MBC in the 1960's when he attended an event about Organic Gardening with his parents, and noticed a display about the Michigan Botanical Club.

Since then, he has become a regular attendee at Chapter programs and has helped plan all the SEC Spring Forays since at least 1980. He remembers that one because it was held in the Thumb (the last time SEC had a Foray there), and he visited Fred Case's home and garden. That makes at least 8 Spring Forays he has helped SEC plan.

Professionally, Richard is an Electronic Engineer, and found that his talents were highly desired by SEC and other chapters in need of data management and desktop publishing. He regularly offered his services in the design of name tags, foray booklets (recent Keweenaw booklet), and has written his own program to sort Foray participants into their first, second and third choices of field trips. He and his wife Marilyn were also Editors of the SEC Newsletter for many years.

He eventually became Vice-President of SEC, and then interim President, when the incumbent President died of an unexpected illness. At the next election he became Treasurer and has held that office since the 1980's.

Richard has been a constant presence at the MBC State Board Meetings, representing his Chapter as Director-at-Large since at least 1992. He freely contributes his very insightful thoughts on a wide range of topics relevant to the club and is highly respected by his fellow Board members.



Outside of MBC, he is enthusiastic about environmental issues and often attends lectures and meetings of other groups such as the Freshwater Forum lecture series at Cranbrook Institute of Science. His dedication to environmental issues goes well beyond a passive interest. After careful research and analysis of different energy systems, he installed solar panels on his house in Troy and derives his entire electrical demand from solar energy! The SEC was invited to his home a few years ago to learn about his state-of-art alternative energy system.

Without doubt, Richard Fowler has been an exemplary member of MBC. His kind and gentle nature is a welcoming prelude to his wealth of knowledge which he freely shares with those who take the time to listen. His dedication to the Club and his willingness to guide, teach, and lead, make him one of our most valuable members.

We congratulate Richard Fowler as a recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award.

## MBC State Fall Meeting

**Saturday, October 17, 2015**  
**Matthaei Botanical Gardens**  
**1800 N. Dixboro Rd.**  
**Ann Arbor, MI**

The MBC State Board is hosting this year's MBC State Fall Meeting at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens. The mission of Matthaei Botanical Gardens is to promote "environmental enjoyment, stewardship and sustainability through education, research, and interaction with the natural world." It is part of the University of Michigan and has a very interesting history. You can read more on their website at <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/mbg/about/>

### *Directions*

**From I-96** Exit I-96 at US-23 South (Toledo). Exit US-23 at Plymouth Road (exit 41). Turn left onto Plymouth Road. Continue east on Plymouth Road for approximately 1.5 miles then turn right onto Dixboro Road. The Gardens will be on your left after approximately 1 mile..

**From I-275** Exit I-275 at M-14. Exit M-14 at US-23 South (Toledo). Exit US-23 at Plymouth Road (exit 41). Turn left onto Plymouth Road. Continue east on Plymouth Road for approximately 1.5 miles then turn right onto Dixboro Road. The Gardens will be on your left after approximately 1 mile..

**From I-94** Exit I-94 at US-23 North (Flint). Exit US-23 at Geddes Road. Turn right onto Geddes Road. Continue east on Geddes Road for approximately .1 miles then turn left onto Dixboro Road. The Gardens will be on your right after approximately 2 miles.

Note: **Please park only in designated parking areas**, which are identified by numbered spaces at the main entrance to the lobby/conservatory and in the west parking lot. Parking cost is \$1.50 per hour, with a \$5 maximum per day. Parking pay kiosks accept credit cards, bills, and coins. *Matthaei-Nichols members park for free.*

### *Speaker*

The general meeting with speaker Robert Grese will begin at 2 pm in the Auditorium: "*The Great Lakes Garden and the Role of Botanical Gardens in Native Plant Education.*"

Robert Grese grew up in Tennessee and studied landscape architecture at the University of Georgia and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has taught landscape architecture at the University of Michigan since 1986 and currently serves as Director of the University's Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. He is the author of *Jens Jensen: Maker of Natural Parks and Gardens* (1992) and has written widely on the 'prairie style' of landscape gardening. He is a long-time advocate of ecologically-based design and the careful stewardship of cultural and natural landscapes.

### *Walk the gardens*

After the talk, we will walk at the gardens at 3:30 pm outside with Robert Grese.

### **MBC State Board Meeting**

The MBC State board of Directors will meet from 11:30am - 1:30pm in the Auditorium. Board members should feel free to bring a brown bag lunch. Interested members are welcome.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015**

**The MBC State Board Welcomes You to the  
MICHIGAN BOTANICAL CLUB STATE FALL MEETING**

Huron Valley Chapter, Co-Hosting at the  
**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/mbg/about/>



*Iris Lacustris*, Dwarf Lake Iris, Michigan State Wildflower - Abraham Cone. Artist

**2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Illustrated Talk in the Auditorium:  
THE GREAT LAKES GARDEN AND THE ROLE OF BOTANICAL  
GARDENS IN NATIVE PLANT EDUCATION**

**Robert Grese**

**Director, University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens**

Refreshment break follows talk

3:30 p.m. Outside: Tour of the Great Lakes Garden

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. MBC State Board of Directors Meeting in the Auditorium

~~~~~  
New Huron Valley Chapter artist Abraham (Abe) Cone is a Chelsea High School Senior, who plans on pursuing a fine arts major with a minor in botany in college. He says that being chapter artist seems to fit him and his interests perfectly!

## 2015 Spring Foray Report—Saginaw Bay, May 22-25, 2015

The Southeastern Chapter hosted a very successful Spring Foray to the Saginaw Bay watershed over Memorial Day weekend of 2015. The venue was the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Saginaw. The staff there were a pleasure to work with and the large Zen Ballroom (what a perfect name!) was just right for our meals and evening programs. The buffet breakfasts and dinners provided lots of tasty choices for both vegetarians and omnivores, and I don't think anyone went home hungry. The large parking lot in the back of the hotel and the ease of freeway access were important in our decision to choose this facility and provided easy organization and travel for our 15 field trips.

We began the weekend with program on Friday evening by Kyle Bagnall, Manager of Historical Programs at Chippewa Nature Center in Midland. His overview of how people have used the natural resources of this area through time gave us a great background for the weekend. From the stories of Native Americans, fur traders, explorers, surveyors, miners, lumberman and farmers we gained an appreciation of the unique features of the Saginaw Bay watershed.

Our Saturday and Sunday evening programs were just as informative. On Saturday evening Phyllis Higman, Senior Conservation Scientist of the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, discussed how invasive plants are affecting natural ecosystems in Michigan and highlighted some of the critical species we all need to watch out for. From the many questions asked of Phyllis, it was clear that this topic is of particular concern to members of the MBC.



Saginaw Wetlands, Yellow Ladyslipper, *Cypripedium parviflorum*  
(Photo by Emily Nietering)

On Sunday evening Andy Bacon, Stewardship Coordinator of the Michigan Nature Association, gave us some details about how the MNA manages the high quality lakeplain prairie at their Saginaw Wetlands property on the Lake Huron shoreline. Those of us who visited this property on his field trip earlier in the day really appreciated the efforts to restore this land.

Field trips to a variety of habitats were offered, including all day trips to the wonderful

Minden Bog in the Thumb both Saturday and Sunday, led by Dr. Tony Reznicek and Bev Walters of the University of Michigan Herbarium. Glenn Vande Water led an all day trip to Pine Haven Recreation Area near Midland where we saw about 15 ferns and fern allies. Phyllis Higman led another all day trip to Port Cres-



From Left to right: Callie Chappell, Emily Van Staaldin, Courtney Benson, Katie Manning, Joseph Huston, Jim Jensen, Mary Martin, and Sabrina Mastroianni

cent State Park on the tip of the Thumb to search for the rare Pitcher's Thistle, and explore the dune and swale complex there. Half day trips offered during the weekend included the Chippewa Nature Center and Dow Gardens in Midland, with docent led tours. A trip to Tobico Marsh and the Saginaw Bay Visitor's Center, led by Lisa Appel, and two Mosses and Liverworts trips with Jim Toppin and Janet Traub, were both held in areas on the



Pine Haven – Maidenhair fern, *Adiantum pedatum*  
(Photo by Emily Nietering)

Lake Huron shoreline within the Bay City State Recreation Area. Little Forks Conservancy property on the Tittabawassee River was the location for a trip led by Suzan Campbell to the flood-

(Continued on page 7)

## 2015 Spring Foray Report—Saginaw Bay (Continued)

*(Continued from page 6)*

plain forest. Two field trips highlighted the unique habitats of the lakeplain prairie, at the Saginaw Wetlands MNA Preserve with Andy Bacon, and the Monday morning trip to the lakeplain prairie restoration site at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, led by Refuge Manager, Steve Kahl. We give a hearty thank you to all our esteemed field trip leaders and speakers. They all contributed mightily to the success of this Foray.

Of the 78 Foray participants, seven were students, and six of them were sponsored by the MBF's Joan Robb Scholarship Award. This year's students seemed particularly enthusiastic and getting to know them was one of the highlights of the Foray for many participants. As is our tradition, the recipients of the 2015 Distinguished Service Awards were announced by MBC Vice-President Garrett Crow at Saturday evening's program. Richard Fowler, from the Southeastern Chapter, and one of the Foray planners, was the first awardee. He was very surprised since we managed to keep his nomination a secret from him during the planning process. Our second awardee, Robert

Riepma, from the White Pine Chapter, was not able to attend, but his award was accepted by Mark and Elizabeth Pitzer to be given to him at a later date. We thank these two men for their long years of service to the Club.

The back of the Ballroom featured several tables of native plants for sale at modest prices. Thanks to all who shared specimens from their gardens for our plant sale. For two nights, Dan Kashian was also selling some of the many, many books donated to the Club from the library of the late Burt Barnes. Some attendees were seen carrying stacks of books to their cars under the cover of darkness...

Many thanks are due to the SEC Foray planning team of Richard Fowler, Alice Ward, Emily Nietering and the others who helped with registration, set-up, facilitating the field trips, providing transportation for the students and the many other tasks that go into providing a successful Foray. And the weather was wonderful, just as we had planned.

—Emily Nietering, SEC President



## Huron Valley Chapter year in review, 2014-2015

Our evening meetings are held the third Monday of each month from September through April (excepting December) at 7:30 in the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Auditorium. They are open to the public and advertised through the Gardens as part of their public education efforts.

### Evening Programs 2014 – 2015:

#### September – Dr. Catherine (Cathy) Bach – Plant-Animal Interactions in New Zealand

New Zealand has many special features of its geography and fauna that also make the flora special. A case study of mistletoes and their interactions with birds and insects was used to illustrate the complexity of plant-animal interactions. The talk also addressed the effects of introduced animals on the conservation of mistletoes.

#### October – Dr. Brad Cardinale – Biodiversity: The Spice of Life ... or Life Support? (Joint with Wild Ones)

The world is currently in the midst of one of the greatest waves of species extinctions that has ever occurred in the history of life. But even as rates of species extinction are approaching those of prior mass extinctions, we know little about the different roles that species play in natural environments. We know even less about how the well-being of our own species might be linked to the great variety of life that is the most striking feature of our planet.

#### November – Dr. Todd Crail – Human Activities Changed the Hydrology: Did That Cause the Buckthorn Invasion At Irwin Prairie?

Todd laid out human-induced drivers of plant community degradation at a large state nature preserve in northwest Ohio. The preserve has become covered by invasive plants in the last 20 years without much explanation for why or how. He explored topics related to geological and hydrological drivers of lake plain Oak Openings assemblages, and how anthropogenic modification has altered soil properties, allowing the extensive changes in plant communities at this preserve.

#### January – Annual Potluck – Rob Massatti – Spatial Patterns in the Rocky Mountain Flora

The Rocky Mountain flora is composed of species that range from widely distributed to narrowly endemic. Many species share similar distributions, which indicates that common processes have affected groups of species through time. He explored some of the common distributional patterns inherent in the Rocky Mountain flora and discussed factors that influenced the distribution of contemporary diversity.

#### February – Gerry Wykes – Roasted Green Corn and Ooxrat: The Plant World of the Huron/Wyandot People (Joint with Wild Ones)

This was a naturalist's view of the historic ethnobotany of the Huron/Wyandot culture that have called the Detroit River region home for centuries. It was both a plant and a people story where arum, rabbit root and ne-pe-sha have long served hunger, pain, and spiritual needs and one involving a native healer named Katie who once roamed the banks of the Huron River.

#### March – Tim Walters, Ph.D. – It's Just a Grass... Isn't It?

Tim Walters is a well-known Ohio botanist, especially interested in the flora of the oak Openings, but also ranging widely – including collecting in Michigan. He presented a botanist's view of learning and studying grasses and sedges, with a lot of interesting information on their occurrence and morphology.

#### April – Dr. Ranessa Cooper and Dr. Jeff Van Zant – Hill's Thistle, DNA and All: The Michigan Population

Hill's thistle is a charismatic species of oak, oak-pine, and jack pine barrens that is globally rare, with Michigan holding most of the remaining populations. A unique population in Hillsdale County was the primary focus. The genetic diversity of this last known extant population of Hill's thistle in southern Michigan suggests low allelic diversity and low fixation indices; however, high levels of heterozygosity were reported. Genotyping shows that cloning is prevalent in the Hill's thistle population at the Sand Creek Prairie Plant Preserve. Assessing genetic diversity, combined with annual monitoring at the site, will aid in the implementation of management plans by MNA to conserve this assemblage of *Cirsium hillii* in Hillsdale County.

#### Field Trips September 2014 – August 2015

We had a full and active Field Trip program this year thanks to our intrepid field trip coordinator, Robert Ayotte.

#### 13 September 2014 “Gregory State Game Area - Harr Road Fen” Trip Leader: Brad Slaughter

The Gregory Game Area is in the interlobate area where several glacier lobes met. Ice contact landforms such as a kettle pond with a surrounding outwash area and an esker area were visible from the opening to the fen. A visual scan indicated an open area with a stand of tamarack trees surrounded by forested areas. Brad further explained that the area is described by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory as a Southern Wet Meadow.

(Continued on page 9)



## Huron Valley Chapter year in review, 2014-2015 (Continued)

(Continued from page 8)

### **20 September 2014 “Fall Grasses: Walk at Hudson Mills Metropark” Trip Leaders: Ron Gamble and Faye Stoner**

People gathered on a beautiful fall morning to hike the West River Trail of Hudson Mills to learn about fall grasses. Ron Gamble was the trip leader and he was quite the taskmaster, keeping the group moving in order to reach all the species he wanted to have the group to see, and by the end of the hike, he had shown the group twenty species of grasses. (And amazingly, a group of botanists covered four miles in three hours!)

### **27 September 2014 “Goll Woods” Trip Leader: Ryan Schroeder**

Our field trip leader, from the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources, explained that Goll Woods State Nature Preserve is most famous for its big/old trees, some 230-480 years old. The area was purchased for protection in the 1960s consists of about 320 acres, has about 4 miles of walking trails, and is located about 3 miles northwest of Archbold, Ohio.

### **11 October 2014 “River Raisin Floodplain Botany” Trip Leader: Neal Billetdeaux**

The abundant sunshine and beautiful fall colors made for an enjoyable trip along the Raisin River. Habitats ranging from wet meadow, fen, oak uplands and River Raisin floodplain forest were all present in close proximity and we visited them all.

### **15 November 2014 “Workday and Botanizing at Horner Woods” Leader: Sylvia Taylor**

This was HVC's last field trip of 2014 for trail maintenance, woody invasives removal, and botanizing in this wildflower sanctuary and old-growth forest.

### **14 February 2015 “Paleobotanical Collections and Research at UM” Trip Leader: Selena Y. Smith**

Our first field trip of 2015 was fortunately indoors, on a cold and blustery day. We had an overview of paleobotany in the UM Museum of Natural History and then moved to the CC Little Building across the street where the fossil collections actually reside. Selena highlighted some of her current work on gingers and bananas as it relates to the modern and fossil leaf and seed studies, including microCT scans of the seeds, and everyone got an acetate peel of a coal ball!

### **25 April 2015 “Horner Woods” Trip Leader: Sylvia Taylor**

Volunteers from the Michigan Botanical Club and MBGNA scouted for the invasive garlic mustard and helped with light

trail maintenance at Horner Woods, a wildflower sanctuary NE of Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Volunteers also enjoyed seeing large patches of a lovely native wildflower, Twinleaf.

### **9 May 2015 “Joan Rodman Plant Preserve” Trip Leader: Sheila Collins-Bourgoin**

The Joan Rodman Plant Preserve, in Lodi Township, is the only Michigan Nature Association Preserve in Washtenaw County, straddling the Saline River. The focus was spring ephemerals, and also the many large trees and interesting glacial erratics.

### **16 May 2015 “Horner Woods” Trip Leader: Sylvia Taylor**

A continuation of the monitoring of Horner woods.

### **May 17 2015 “Sterns Rd. Savanna” Trip Leader: Tony Reznicek**

This a limestone pavement area at the corner of Sterns Rd. and Whiteford Center Rd, near Lambertville that has been the subject of an intense restoration effort on the part of The Nature Conservancy, and was a rare opportunity to see the early results of intensive management for savanna vegetation. This trip was also part of the events on the Oak Openings Blue Weekend calendar.

### **6 June 2015 “Braeburn Marsh” Trip Leader: Matt Heumann**

Braeburn Marsh Preserve is a 34 acre private preserve owned and managed by Matt & Mary Heumann. It is a mixture of hilly interlobal moraine and wetlands. It is being burned and managed both for invasives control and habitat preservation for mesic-wet prairie & prairie-fen plants, as well as threatened species. It is also currently being studied by students from Central Michigan University's GIS/Remote Sensing Lab who are using an unmanned aerial vehicle to analyze species composition changes. The areas around the house are planted in rich woods, prairie, alvar, bog, sand barrens.

### **18 July 2015 “North Hydro Park” Trip Leader: Bill Brodovich**

Ypsilanti Township's North Hydro Park along the Huron River offers a surprising diversity of plant life. The steep wooded bluffs are very scenic and have some uncommon plants such as *Allium cernuum*, *Taenidia integerrima*, *Gymnocladus dioicus*, *Muhlenbergia tenuiflora* (very uncommon), *Piptatherum racemosum* (the old *Oryzopsis racemosa*), and native redbuds.

(Continued on page 10)

## Huron Valley Chapter year in review, 2014-2015 (Continued)

*(Continued from page 9)*

**August 22 2015 “Prairie areas of Island Lake State Recreation Area” Trip Leaders: Toni Spears and Aunita Erskine.**

Island Lake has some hidden gems consisting of prairie areas under restoration by the DNR. We'll see blazing stars, showy and stiff goldenrods, asters, and prairie grasses, among others. Lupine will be past bloom, but also in these areas.

**August 29 2015 “Botany of Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve” Leaders: Bob Smith and Erick Elgin**

Michigan's lakeplain prairie used to cover 16,000 acres most of which were located in Monroe and Wayne counties. The rich soil was coveted, first for agricultural use and later for development. Now less than 1% of Michigan lakeplain prairie remains. The largest prairie remnant is located in Brownstown Township, Wayne County and this trip, offered in advance of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy's Sibley Prairie Nature Preserve dedication and public grand opening scheduled for later in the day.

**The 2015 MBC Spring Foray:**

Huron Valley Chapter members were well represented at the Spring Foray, held this year in Saginaw on the Memorial Day weekend, with field trips in the “Thumb” and the Saginaw Bay area. In addition to our regular membership, we supported one student, Callie Chappell.

**Outreach efforts:**

Besides helping various groups with Stewardship efforts, most notably and directly at Horner woods, we also provide support and expertise for efforts at various other areas in SE Michigan and the Huron River watershed. This year, Chapter members regularly attended the Huron-Clinton Metroparks Board of Commissioners meetings to object to inappropriate mowing activities and push for better ecosystem management generally in the Metroparks system.

—Tony Reznicek, HVC President

### Southeastern Chapter Report 2014-2015

The SEC meets on the first Sunday afternoon of the month at 2 pm in the Visitor's Center at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. Heritage Park is a lovely undisturbed valley of 211 acres on the Rouge River and features 4 miles of hiking trails through woodland, meadow and wetland habitats and a nature center. We invite all MBC members and friends to visit Heritage Park and join with us for our monthly programs.

In the fall of 2014, we began our program year in October with member Joyce Drife's program entitled “**Insects in Your (or at Least Our) Backyard.**” Joyce showed us many wonderful photographs of insects and a few arachnids that she and her husband, Don, took in their yard in Troy. She identified them all and illustrated some of their amazing camouflage. We all had a new appreciation for the special bonds between plants and insects after this program.

In November, our program was given by member Milton French. In 2013 Milton answered a request for help from Sterling State Park (on Lake Erie) to search for several rare plants known to have occurred there, but not seen in many years. He visited the park repeatedly on foot and by kayak, eventually finding some of the rare ones and compiling a list of plants for the park. He shared his experiences with us in “**Searching for Rare Plants at Sterling State Park.**”

In December, “**Growing Winter Hardy Cacti in Michigan**” was presented by David Hinch of the Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society. David began collecting winter hardy cacti from all over North America in 2007. He shared his techniques for growing them outdoors in all Michigan seasons. He began his cactus garden because he thought they would be easier to grow than ordinary plants, but it really is more difficult because we get too much rain!

Our next planned meeting was in February 2015 for our annual Gourmet Dinner. Our program was to be given by Bob Smith, of the Huron Valley Chapter, entitled “**Illustrating Botanical Beauty.**” Unfortunately, the prediction of a blizzard caused cancellation of the meeting and dinner. We plan to hear Bob's presentation in November of 2015. We hope it doesn't snow early this year!

“**The Nature Conservancy in Ohio's Oak Openings Program: an overview of managing globally rare habitats in the Lakeplain oak openings region of NW Ohio and SE Michigan**” was our March program. Mike Losey, Restoration Crew Leader (Land Steward) for The Nature Conservancy's Ohio Chapter shared the results of restoration treatments in these globally rare habitats and education and outreach programs and strategies for future preservation.

Susanne Greenlee, of Oakland County Parks Planning Dept., shared her knowledge with us at our program in April entitled “**Singing Insects of Michigan.**” Susanne showed us slides of all the noisiest insect callers – crickets, katydids and cicadas, with accompanying audio recordings. Many of us recognized the calls we have heard each summer and finally learned the identity of the insect making it.

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Southeastern Chapter Report 2014-2015 (Continued)

*(Continued from page 10)*

Spring brought us the MBC Spring Foray in the Saginaw Bay area, hosted by our own Chapter. Myself, Alice Ward and Richard Fowler were the Foray planning team and we put in many hours on the computer and phone, and several trips to Saginaw during the winter and early spring. Thirteen members of the SEC were able to attend. We also sponsored two students this year, Mary Katherine Martin and Sabrina Mastroianni. Both are students at the University of Michigan – Dearborn campus. We hope everyone who attended enjoyed exploring the Thumb and Lake Huron shoreline. See the Spring Foray Report elsewhere in this newsletter for more details.

We have had two great summer field trips, one in July to Sterling State Park lead by Milton French and one in August to the newly purchased Sibley Prairie area in Brownstown Twp. owned by the SE Michigan Land Conservancy led by Erick Elgin and Bob Smith. The dedication ceremony for the Sibley Preserve was held following the field trip.

Since our members live in different communities in the metro Detroit area, many from the SEC are also active in other local organizations such as the Lakeplain Chapter of the Stewardship Network, the Holliday Nature Preserve Association, the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, Royal Oak Nature Society and Friends of the Rouge to name a few. There is never enough time to participate in all the great programs and field trips offered in our area.

We thank all our program presenters and field trip leaders and encourage everyone to get out and enjoy all that nature provides.

*—Emily Nietering, SEC President*

## Southwest Chapter Report 2014-2015

### 2014

**September:** *Summer Tree ID* with Dr. Todd Barkman, Professor of Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University. Dr. Barkman offered a walking primer of tree identification (and a bit of 'tree lore' as well) around Western Michigan University's campus.

**October:** *Sustainable Forest Management* with Dr. Michael Walters, Professor of Forestry at Michigan State University Office of Sustainability. Dr. Walters gave a presentation of his research on the benefits of sustainable forest management, for the forestry practice and forest biodiversity as a whole.

**November:** Cancelled due to weather (postponed until March 2015)

**December:** *Holiday Pot Luck*. MBC members shared pictures and stories of their favorite trees, including both species and individual trees.

### 2015

**January:** *Michigan native plant discovery, rediscovery and preservation - a critical role for students and plant enthusiasts* with Dr. Todd Barkman, Professor of Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University. Dr. Barkman emphasized the role of amateur botanist, including students, for making interesting plant discoveries, such as the recent discovery of a population of *Celtis tenuifolia* (Dwarf hackberry) in a natural area on WMU's campus.

**February:** Amazon: Land of Contrast, with Dr. Dennis Woodland, Professor Emeritus of Biology at Andrews University. Dr. Woodland presented a whirlwind tour of his most recent trip to the Amazon, concluding with a demonstration of a blowgun. There were no casualties.

**March:** *Michigan's Northern Forests and their Ecology* with Josh Cohen, Ecologist with the Michigan Natural Features Inventory. Josh shared a bit of his vast experience studying the natural features of forests of the Upper Peninsula and upper Lower Peninsula.

**April:** *Spring Ephemerals at Brewer's Woods* with Dr. Richard Brewer, Professor Emeritus of Biology at Western Michigan University. Dr. Brewer led a trip through his property of towering beech and sugar maple, and its exemplary display of spring ephemerals.

**May:** Bye month, due to Spring Foray.

**June:** *Oak Woodland Restoration at K.L. Avenue Preserve* with Mitch Lettow, Stewardship Specialist with the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy. Mitch shared the monumental progress in restoring this awesome tract of oak woodland, home to the intrepid *Frasera caroliniensis* (American columbo) and many other distinctive oak woodland and savanna species.

**August:** *Sedge Meadow and Shrub-carr at Hidden Oaks Preserve* cancelled due to high water levels, due in part to excessive rainfall, and in part due to excessive beaver activity. Nature wins.

*—Tyler Bassett, SWC President*

## White Pine Chapter 2015 Year in Review

This has been an exceptional year for the White Pine Chapter members. During this year our members have enjoyed the talents of some of the best known botanists in our country. During the winter season we have listened to renowned speakers at GVSU who have illustrated their programs with excellent color photos. During the spring and into fall, we have been led to new botanical areas by experts who point out notable plant species and discuss the plant for our edification. Throughout this year, many of our own WPC members have assisted in helping us learn more about plants and ecology. I want to thank all of these leaders who have made this year a great success. This is the 26<sup>th</sup> year since the WPC was founded.

Our WPC 2015 schedule featured both programs and botanical field trips to wetlands, prairies, sand dunes, bogs, fens, marshes, savannas and woodlands throughout West Michigan. With the variety of ecological areas near us, we will never be at a loss to find yet another new area to investigate and to discover unusual wildflowers, bushes and trees. We also locate many birds.

The WPC members meet during late fall and winter at Grand Valley State University once a month. We hold our meetings at Niemeyer Hall in Room 148. Our chapter was founded on April 15, 1989, and Dr. John Shontz helped us by securing a room at GVSU for our monthly meetings. With his assistance, we were able to grow in membership and present programs and lead field trips. The university has always allowed us to serve refreshment, use a room free of charge, and to use all the audio-visual equipment. We owe a debt of gratitude to the university for their support.

**On January 17**, at GVSU, our Annual Photo Fest was scheduled to give our members a chance to share their photographic skills with everyone. We have many very talented photographers in our chapter, and every year they bring new and different samples of their lovely photos.

□ Dr. Marilyn Keigley, Ferris State University Professor Emeriti, was our first presenter who had an outstanding group of wildflower photos including Hairy Puccoon, Pitcher's Thistle, Harts' Tongue Fern, Monkey Flower, Prairie Smoke and Snow Trillium.

□ Sue Chambers showed beautiful photos of the MBC State Spring Foray in the Keweenaw Peninsula. We saw Lake Superior cliffs and moss, Michigan Lily, Walking Fern, White Ladies-Slipper, Yellow Star Flower and Bell Flowers.

□ Jean Karen Frey had an unusual program about mushrooms and fungi. It was amazing to see the great variety of mushrooms growing on rocks, trees, soil, sand and plants. Large and small, caps and clusters, edible or poisonous—they were fascinating!

Peg Lepo showed an excellent program detailing some of the field trips the WPC has taken. We saw an optical illusion of Bob Riepma holding up an enormous tree branch with one hand. (The branch was stuck among other tree branches.) She also showed Twin Flower, Trailing Arbutus, WPC members at a fenced area of goats eating alien plants, Trillium and Closed Gentian.

Roger Tharp had an excellent and colorful collection of wildflower photos from some of our WPC field trips. Included were a ground cover of Spring Beauty, White Trout Lily, Red Turtlehead, Giant Ragweed, Moth Mullein and Wood Anemone.

Fred Nietering picked out some of his favorite photos from his huge collection of our field trips forays. Just some were Iron Weed, Vervain, Joe Pye Weed, Bloodroot, Starry False Solomon's Seal, and Painted Trillium.

Bob Riepma helped with the audio-visual equipment for each presenter. These WPC photographers deserve a big THANK YOU for showing their excellent photos.

**On February 14**, we were looking forward to meeting Andy Sawyer, the MBC Big Tree Program Coordinator. But West Michigan had a show storm that covered our whole area, so we canceled this meeting. We are looking forward to rescheduling this interesting topic at a later date.

**On March 14**, Curtis Dykstra, Park Naturalist of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission, spoke to our members and gave an overview of the Ottawa County Parks System. The system has 6349 acres of land, 26 parks, 12 open space lands, 95 miles of trails, and 1.6 miles of Lake Michigan shore. What an amazing wealth of natural ecosystems are featured in this park system!

There are restrooms, trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, bike trails, a ski area, and quite a view from on top of dunes on Lake Michigan. You can paddle a canoe on the Pigeon River and Grand River. There are 6 public access beaches. There are birdwatchers hikes. But the most interesting was the colorful photos of just some of the lovely wildflowers that can be found everywhere in the parks system. Curtis Dykstra presented an excellent program and we now have new knowledge of the exceptional ecosystems located in this park system.

**On April 18**, Dr. Janet Vail, Director of the Educational Outreach Division of the Annis Water Resources of GVSU, spoke to us at GVSU on "California Flora: From Redwoods to Wildflowers".

*(Continued on page 13)*

## White Pine Chapter 2015 Year in Review (Continued)

*(Continued from page 12)*

While Janet is busy at the Annis Water Resources, before she took this position, she lived in California for almost 20 years. Her program showed remarkable color photos of the different types of redwood trees, plus many other views of forests throughout California. There are 20 species of redwood trees in California, and she brought a pine cone of each one to share with us.

One spectacular part of Janet's program was the many photos of the wildflowers to be found throughout this state. Most of us had not realized what a wealth of wildflowers is growing on mountains or plains. All of us were enchanted with this special program presented by Janet Vail and illustrated with such excellent photography.

**On May 9**, our first field trip this year was led by Jessica Gregory, Ottawa County Parks Naturalist. She took us to Hager Park in Georgetown Township. Unfortunately, a heavy rain poured down and many members missed this lovely ecological area. Sue Chambers wrote that the wildflowers were abundant. They saw Nodding Trillium, Wild Ginger, Blue Cohosh, May Apple, Dutchman's Breeches, Bloodroot, and violets—plus a lot more! Sue took some excellent photos which were published in our June issue of the WPC Newsletter.

**On June 13**, Justin Heslinga, one of our WPC members, invited us to view the B. D. White nature Preserve near Lowell. Justin is the Stewardship Coordinator for The Land Conservancy of West Michigan. He took us through an area historically dominated by oak barrens, a diverse shrub-carr wetland which included unusual flowering plants. Throughout the field trip, Justin pointed out notable species, explained the history of the 45 acre woodland, and led us up and down hills and over streams. We had a remarkable field trip through this new site for us led by Justin.

Before starting this field trip with Justin, our WPC members experienced a momentous occasion! President, Dorothy Sibley, had the privilege to present Robert Riepma with the MBC Distinguished Service Award. Robert had not been able to attend the 2015 MBC Spring State Foray held on May 22-25 in the Saginaw area. None of our WPC officers was able to attend, but Elizabeth and Mark Pitzer were participants. Elizabeth graciously accepted the wrapped MBC Award for Robert and brought it back home.

This was our first WPC meeting after the MBS State Foray, and I explained to Robert why he was receiving it now. Robert was really surprised! After opening the box, Robert showed us a beautiful large framed painting of wildflowers. This is the first time that an MBC Distinguished Service Award was presented to a member outdoors in the midst of a wild forest. The award is

always presented by the MBC Vice President indoors at the Foray. Our MBC Vice President, Dr. Garrett Crow, agreed that we should present Robert with the present as soon as possible. We all cheered when Bob opened his present. Robert is the tenth WPC member to receive this award.

**On July 11**, our WPC members met at the entrance to the Camp Newaygo Wetland Trail. Our leader was Marianne “Teep” Boerigter who was instrumental in planning and building Phase One of the trail. She was assisted in identifying plants by Ranger Steve Mueller, David Dister, and Craig Elston.

The sphagnum layer is floating above a water layer, so the boardwalk has a slight motion as you walk. Now that Phase Two is completed, you may walk a new trail around a complete loop so you do not have to backtrack. There are now two hidden lakes to be seen in this large, expanded area on the edge of Pickerel Lake.

What makes this area unique is the large, rare sphagnum bog that can be traveled over on a well maintained boardwalk. What a thrill it is to view bog plants up close and to feel enclosed in such a quiet lovely area. The birds especially appreciate the bog and hidden lakes. Whenever you go there, any month of the year, you will see a new plant or tree or bird every time. This is one of our favorite botanical areas in West Michigan.

**On August 29**, starting at 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, we met Dr. Dave Warners, professor at Calvin College, at the Bunker Interpretive Center across Beltline from Calvin College. Heavy, persistent rain kept many members from attending this traveling field trip which was to show areas in Grand Rapids where native plants have been introduced into urban areas. Jelanie Bush wrote a detailed, excellent report of this unusual field trip. She noted that the effects of rainwater runoff was rather appropriate on a rainy day!

Dave and his group, Plaster Creek Stewards, have installed a bioswale to catch rainwater so it percolates into the soil. Many native varieties have been planted there such as big blue lobelia.

Next the group went to view Calvin's Plaster Creek Steward's Plant nursery. Jelanie explained the process of getting native plants seeds ready, controlled and finally planted in areas in Grand Rapids. The nursery has native trees that are growing. Last year they planted over 50 trees of various types into urban landscapes and have many more including an American Chestnut developed with a 5% non native Asian Chestnut to retard disease still growing.

One of the focuses of the Plaster Creek Stewardship group that Dave works with is to help local fifth communities to mobilize their congregations to work in their neighborhoods. Dave took

*(Continued on page 14)*

## White Pine Chapter 2015 Year in Review (Continued)

*(Continued from page 13)*

our group to several churches and reviewed the type of bioswales and rain gardens that were installed.

A relatively new project Dave's group is working with is to divert rainwater from paved streets so it goes into 22 curb-cut gardens. This will divert rain water away from city drains. Native plants will be planted in these rain gardens, which can be on private property if the owners agree.

This was a great field trip—even in the rain. We really appreciate the work Dr. Dave Warners and his colleagues and students are doing for the environment. A special thank you to Dave for taking time out of this busy schedule to lead our hardy group. And a special thanks to Jelanie for her well-written report.

**On September 19**, our last field trip this year will be at the Ody Brook Sanctuary at Cedar Springs. Our leader will be Ranger Steve Mueller, and he will be assisted by Dennis Dunlap and Brad Slaughter. Dennis will discover mushrooms for us to learn about. Brad is a Michigan Nature Feature botanist who will locate plant species from woody to herbaceous. Ranger Steve will lead an ecology walk to examine these mushrooms and plants and talk about their association with birds.

The sanctuary has increased acreage to 61 acres. There are woodlands, fields, shrubs, wetlands, streams and forests. Trails cross over two bridges of the Little Cedar Creek. This will be an outstanding experience to see many wildflowers, birds and other forest animals. Leading the field trip are three great botanists.

**On October 17**, we will begin our indoor program schedule at GVSU with Dr. Marilyn Keigley, Ferris State University Professor Emeriti, who will speak on “The Boreal Ecosystem of Isle Royale”. Through photography and natural history, Isle Royale's geology, flora, and fauna will be explored. We have enjoyed seeing many photos published in our WPC newsletter that are examples of her skill as a photographer.

**On November 14**, at GVSU, Dr. Mary Jane Dockeray will speak on “The Grand Rapids Underworld”. This presentation will take a look at all the underground natural resources and how they have affected the Grand Rapids area. We have enjoyed other programs and fine photos from her world travels presented by Mary Jane, and this program will be unusual. Mary Jane founded the Blandford Nature Center east of Grand Rapids and continues to expand and direct this institution.

**December**—Our WPC does not meet in December due to the busy holiday season, family affairs and possible snow storms.

During this year's 2015 MBC Spring Foray in the Saginaw area on May 22-15, our WPC members sponsored four outstanding college students to attend. This is the eighteenth year that our

White Pine Chapter, with the assistance of the MBC Foundation, has been sending deserving university students from our area to the Annual MBC Spring Foray. We choose students who are interested in botany and pay for their total costs for the 4 day Foray. In the beginning we sponsored 1 student, but in recent years we have increased that due to the many near universities and colleges in our area. Last year we sent 5 students and this year we sent 4.

These 4 students took an active part in all activities and met many MBC members. Everyone was impressed with these students who gave such good accounts of themselves. They were:

Joseph Huston from Muskegon Community College, recommended by Theresa van Veelen.

Emily Van Staalduinen from Calvin College, recommended by Dr. Dave Warners.

Jim Jensen, originally from Grand Rapids Communiy College, now at GVSU, recommended by Dr. Pam Laureto.

Courtney Benson from Grand Valley State University, recommended by Gary Greer.

The successful meetings and field trips that we enjoy may be attributed to the excellent leaders who share their expertise during every program and field trip. We owe each leader many thanks. We look forward to an active 2016 year full of interesting and informative sessions, which will enable our members to learn about the amazing ecology of our state.

—*Dorothy A. Sibley, President, White Pine Chapter*

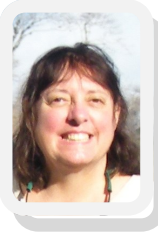
## Special Members Chapter Report

The Special Members Chapter (SMC) was certified as an official Chapter of MBC at the May 2015 State Board meeting. Rationale for the incorporation was primarily two fold; to provide chapter representation on the State Board, and to create a slate of officers who could administer chapter business in support of the membership. The wide geographical distribution of members will present some challenges and will necessitate more reliance on evolving communication technology and the internet. In essence, SMC will be testing a new model as a "virtual chapter" that does much of its correspondence and activities online. In order to get a better sense of where our members are located, please take a look at the distribution map, "Special Members In and Around Michigan."

Over the past several years, our member count has been holding steady at about 70 members, suggesting that there is a sustainable interested in what Michigan Botanical Club has to offer. We thank you for your continued support of the Club and look forward to providing additional value to your membership.

One dot represents each member in the state of Michigan located by county; boxes are totals by zone. Other States include AK, AZ, IA, ME, MD, PA, RI, TX, and VT.

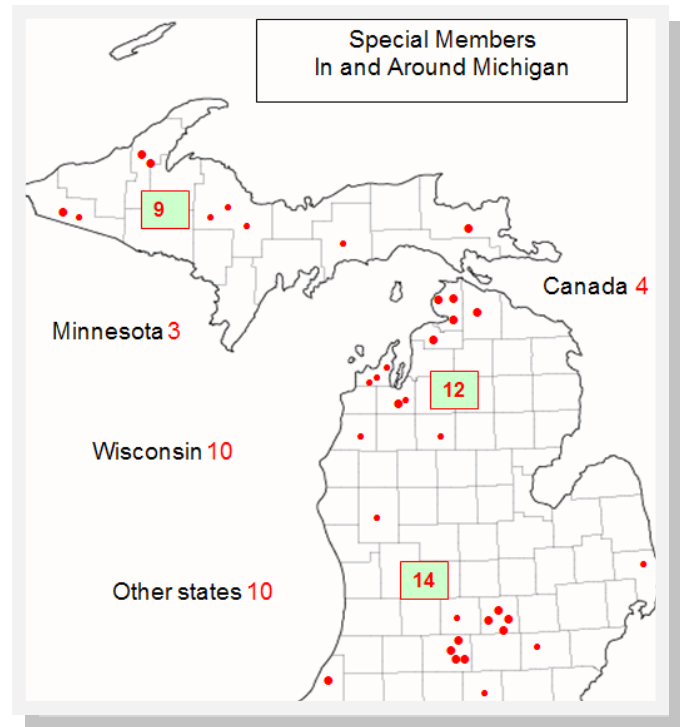
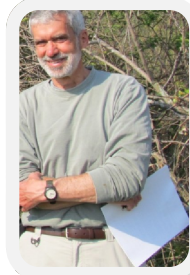
To help you get acquainted with the founders of SMC and the new SMC board, here are our introductory biographies. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions and comments about your newly formed Chapter.



**President, Irene Eiseman** — I've enjoyed botany since the time I planted my first seed in the family garden. From a career standpoint, I acquired an MS degree in Pharmacognosy (medicinal plant products) and later an MBA. I've been a member of MBC/HVC for at least three decades

at various roles, culminating in my current role with SMC. Mushroom hunting and plants of all kinds keep life interesting.

**Secretary, Jim Hewitt** — I have a BBA from Western Michigan University which I used to get a job in the automotive industry, in materials control. Now retired, I grow wildflowers on my own property and when I am not tending to them I am often in nature sanctuaries and other public land working to restore habitat or just enjoying the flora, the birds, the insects, and the rest of the natural world. I was a member of the Red Cedar Chapter of MBC for nine years.



**Treasurer, Leslie Kuhn**, is a Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology at Michigan State University and has been a leader of the Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative (Ingham, Clinton, and Eaton County Chapter) of the Stewardship Network since 2008. She is active in natural areas restoration (especially invasive species control) and native plant gardening as well as consulting with local agencies and residents on native habitat conservation.

**Director-at-large, Phyllis Higman**, a Botanist with the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, has spent over 20 years exploring Michigan's native ecological communities and rare and declining species. She enjoys teaching others about natural features and their threats, in order to strengthen understanding and support for their sustainable management. Currently, she is working statewide to help implement strategic action to address impacts from invasive species. She loves traveling and exploring new ecosystems by foot, bicycle, ski and kayak.



—Irene Eiseman, Special Members Chapter, President

## Michigan Botanical Club—State Board Meeting

Four Points Hotel  
Saginaw, Michigan  
May 23, 2015

**In Attendance:** Alice Ward, Becky Csia, Bev Walters, Emily Nietering, Garrett Crow, Irene Eiseman, Jim Hewitt, Judy Kelly, Larry Nooden, Leslie Kuhn, Lynn Kirkpatrick, Mary Danforth, Phyllis Higman, Richard Fowler, Ruth Hart, Sarah Nooden, Sheila Bourgoin, Tony Reznicek, Wayne Roussel. (19)

1. Called to Order by President Judy Kelly at 5:02 PM
2. Approval of the Agenda and of the Minutes
  - a. The agenda was approved with no changes upon a motion by Richard, second by Bev.
  - b. The minutes of the winter meeting held 31 Jan, 2015 in Lansing were approved without correction upon a motion by Sarah, second by Mary.
3. Robert's Rules of Order – Judy issued a reminder to attendees to raise their hand when wishing to speak.
4. Announcements
  - a. Judy passed around her contact list for additions, changes, or corrections.
  - b. MBC brochure: Sarah distributed sample brochures and solicited comments or suggestions. The brochure is intended to be made available at chapter meetings and to be used for promotion of the club.
5. New Business
  - a. Substitute Chapter Members – Larry expressed concern that chapters were often under-represented at state meetings and noted the absence of members from the White Pine Chapter at today's meeting. Allowing a chapter member to fill in for a chapter president or a director-at-large when necessary could prove helpful in addressing this problem. Becky wondered if the replacement would have voting rights and if the constitution/bylaws would need to be amended. Tony and Ruth thought it a good idea to allow replacement members at meetings and was in fact common practice in other organizations and that if the president was notified in advance of the meeting the substitute should expect to have voting privileges. No action taken pending review and possible amendment of the constitution.
  - b. Non-voting members on the MBC State Board – Judy reviewed the 2015 Directory in the Arisaema which lists the officers, directors-at-large, chapter presidents, and committee chairs and clarified those on the list with voting rights at state meetings and those without.
6. Committee Reports
  - a. Special Members – Irene reported that a vote had been taken by the special members and that three officers and one director-at-large were elected and a constitution approved. With these steps accomplished Irene asked the Board of Directors to sanction the special members as a chapter of the MBC. A motion to recognize the special members as a new chapter was made by Bev, second by Tony. In the discussion Richard wondered about those special members who did not wish to participate in chapter matters. Tony and others believed there would be little if any impact and these members could continue on as subscribers to Club publications as before. Mary noted there was only one director-at-large and Irene said they hoped to bring others on as the chapter matured. Garrett thought the constitution would probably need to be adjusted to resolve any conflicts brought about by this change in the status of special members. The motion was called and was passed unanimously. The officers of the Special Members Chapter are: President, Irene Eiseman; Treasurer, Leslie Kuhn; Secretary, Jim Hewitt. Phyllis Higman is Director-at-Large.
  - b. Web Master; status of the Arisaema on Website – Aaron Fown not present. Sheila, the content manager, initiated a discussion on the merits of password-protecting the Arisaema on the website. Emily and some others thought it cumbersome but Phyllis and Lynn were concerned with the availability of personal contact information in the Arisaema and concern was also expressed about field trip reports which might contain locations of rare plants. Tony felt such reports could be kept sufficiently vague so as not to be a likely problem. Mary said the Arisaema does not have to be the source of personal contact information and that

*(Continued on page 17)*



## Michigan Botanical Club—State Board Meeting (Continued)

(Continued from page 16)

- she would create two versions, one with the contact information for distribution to members and one without for posting to the website. Sheila will then remove the password protection from the online version of the Arisaema, the MBC State Newsletter. There was additional discussion on the need for contact information for web viewers with an interest in the Club and the sensitivity many have for exposing their personal contact information to a wide audience. Sheila will address this by creating a method of inquiry which allows emails to be sent, but the sender does not see the recipient's email address.
- c. Corresponding Secretary – Per Mary, submissions for the fall Arisaema are due by Sept. 1. Mary solicited photos from the Foray for use both in the Arisaema and on the website and noted that photos could also be posted to the Club's Facebook page. Mary said there is a requirement that the corresponding secretary receive formal notice of a new chapter and Irene, as the president of the new Special Members Chapter, will provide this to her.
  - d. Treasurer – Judy, filling in for Treasurer Bob Kelly, asked for comment or questions on the treasurer's report. There were none and upon a motion by Garrett and a second by Wayne the treasurer's report was approved.
  - e. The Michigan Botanist – Michael Huft not present; no report.
  - f. Constitution and bylaws committee – The committee consists of Becky Csia, Michael Huft, Sarah Nooden and Bev Walters. Becky reported that the committee did not plan to meet until Michael had finished bringing *The Michigan Botanist* up to schedule. This could take a year or more.
  - g. Big Trees – Andy Sawyer not present; no report.
  - h. Foundation Report – Becky reported that Pam Laureto and Bob Sabine will not stand for reelection to their respective positions of President and Treasurer of the Michigan Botanical Foundation at the end of their current terms on June 30. Becky recapped 2015 actual and anticipated grant activity: \$2,600 for research projects; chapter reimbursement for Foray student scholarships; \$300 to HVC for SE Michigan Science Fair; potential for multiple Dickinson Awards due to catch-up of *The Michigan Botanist*.
7. Old Business
    - a. Status of relationship between the MBC and the MBF – A letter prepared by Larry Nooden was sent to board members via email on Friday afternoon, May 22. As many had not received or not had a chance to study the document it was decided to postpone the topic until the next meeting. However, there was a brief discussion and among those who had read the letter, Becky said that not all facts about the Foundation, its operation, or its incorporation as a 501(c)(3) organization were fully represented. In response, Phyllis and Ruth expressed a desire to understand what additional information about the Foundation should be known. Judy will send to Board members a link to a website on Michigan.gov where the MBF Articles of Incorporation can be found.
    - b. “Winter Wildflowers” – An update to the publication by Helen Smith is proceeding slowly per Larry. Some photos are still needed.
  8. Next State Board Meeting – will be held preceding the fall meeting at 11:30 AM in the auditorium of Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor on October 17.
- 9. Adjournment – Upon a motion by Tony, second by Ruth, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.**
- Submitted by **Jim Hewitt, Recording Secretary**

## Student Botanical Awards

The SE Michigan Science Fair was held March 15<sup>th</sup> at Washtenaw Community College. Three Middle Schools students: Samuel Yang, Anna Rinvelt, and Aaron Gankin, and two High School Students: Monica Choi and Roya Rochell were recipients of botanical awards presented at HVC's monthly meeting. Each student displayed their award winning exhibits and provided a brief summary of their research to the enjoyment of the membership. We thank David Gruenawald (SEC), Faye Stoner and Irene Eiseman (HVC) for judging the science fair; and we gratefully acknowledge the funding provided by the Michigan Botanical Foundation.

## Michigan Botanical Club 2016 Summer Foray Preview

Please mark your calendars for the MBC 2016 Foray. Hosted by the Southwestern Chapter, the Foray next year will be held over the **Labor Day weekend – Friday, September 2 to Monday, September 5, 2016.**

Late summer is truly the best of times to botanize the special plant communities of southwest Michigan – its coastal plain marshes (with their Atlantic Coast disjunct species), its fens, and its prairies all in “full and glorious bloom,” as Emma Pitcher would say. We here in the southwest corner of the state are fortunate to have ready access to these plant communities and other botanically rich sites within a short driving distance of Kalamazoo. We are also fortunate and grateful that many potential Foray trip leaders have already agreed to lead trips. We have arranged for lodging, meals, and meetings at the Holiday Inn Kalamazoo West, conveniently located just off the US 131 & Stadium Blvd. interchange near the western edge of the Western Michigan University campus.

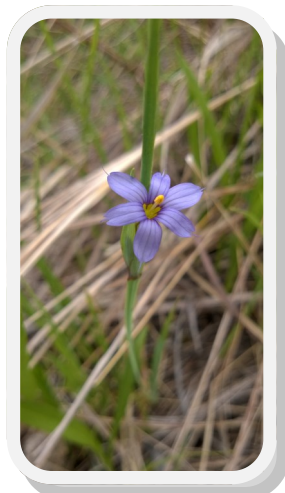
We realize this timing departs from the usual Foray schedule, but it will give us the opportunity to explore special places that reach their peak in late summer. We look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Foray.

—The 2016 Foray Planning Committee:  
Ken Kirton, Wayne Roussel,  
Russ Schipper, Lynn Steil & Becky Csia

## More Spring Foray Pictures



Spring Foray: Minden Bogg, Milton French.. Photo by Jim Hewitt



Saginaw Wetlands, Blue-eyed Grass, *Sisyrinchium albidum*. Photo by Emily Nietering



Spring Foray: Photographing  
Photo by Emily Nietering