Thick dollops of wet snow adorn the dormant plants at Somme Prairie Nature Preserve, Cook County, Illinois. After a record breaking period without snow in Chicago, a storm finally brought snow that fell fast and blanketed the trees. Southern Illinois also had its share of thick wet snow in two storms around Christmas. Members of the southern chapter can’t remember when they had seen so much snow in the past! The ephemeral snow will soon be replaced by ephemeral wildflowers during another beautiful spring in our wonderful Illinois!

~Christopher David Benda, Editor

GO GREEN! If you are receiving a black and white newsletter by postal mail, please help us lower our costs by signing up for an electronic copy in color. Please send your email address to illinoisplants@gmail.com to be added to our email distribution list. Also check us out on facebook at www.facebook.com/illinoisplants
Message from the President

Greetings to everyone in this New Year and please remember to renew your memberships! With this issue of the Harbinger, Ground Hog’s Day may have come and gone. But use this date to remember each year to get your membership renewed. If you are a lifetime member, please consider a donation to help with the costs of Erigenia and other mailing expenses. Renewals envelopes have been sent out for your convenience. We exist because of your support!

This year the Central Chapter will be hosting our 2013 Annual meeting. The date and place are being determined and the information will be shared has soon as possible. Word has it they are looking to a late summer or early fall date.

Looking over the history of the INPS, I note that gardening with our native plants has always been supported by the organization and scholarly articles on this subject encouraged for submission to the Erigenia. Since I have a botanic gardening background, this topic is important to me. And I do try to keep up with what is going on in the many trade magazines. You have been warned!

The December 2012 issue of Growing, The Business of Fruits, Nuts and Vegetables features a cover article on native bees and crop pollination. In particular, the article by Kathleen Hatt, encourages providing and protecting native bee habitat surrounding the crop areas. Hedgerows, fencerows, riparian buffers and other odd corners are presented as good places to provide native bee habitat. More importantly the author promotes using plants native to a growers’ area, including the use of native shrubs and trees. Avoiding use of highly invasive plants is also mentioned, as well as pesticide reduction. The article follows guidelines recommended by the Pollinator Partnership, http://www.pollinator.org and the Xerces Society, http://www.xerces.org. But the author also shares the web site of a broad, ongoing European pollinator study at http://www.step-project.net/img/uplf/STEP_factsheet_ENG.pdf. This site has many scholarly articles on issues related to pollinators.

The intended audience of this article is the diversified truck farmer, berry grower or such often located fairly close to their consumers. In areas that are increasingly subdivided, as in northeast Illinois, these growers can help link our preserves. Protecting our native plants is not just for those involved in natural areas management. We need an increased understanding of the value of native plants by anyone that has their own piece of earth, that consumes plants requiring pollination, or enjoys birding.

In other news: I have applied and been selected to take part in the Landscapes for Life Train the Trainer webinar presented as a joint project by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildlife Center and the U.S. Botanic Garden. http://landscapeforlife.org.

The webinar is designed to enable the trainees to teach the curriculum to others. After my training, I can train members from around the state and they can, in turn, use the curriculum to help people create more sustainable landscapes, build membership in the INPS and help provide a solid resource to all the communities we live in. With many of our members with educational backgrounds, an already prepared curriculum and our knowledge base to adapt native plant lists to each region of the state, we seem like a good fit for the program. There are no costs and the only obligation is on me to be sure I teach the curriculum within the year. The webinar runs in April and May and I will make another report.

Please support our efforts to raise $1,000 to sponsor Erigenia bulbosa in the upcoming 5th edition of Flora of the Chicago Region. See the flyer in this Harbinger or on the website, www.illinps.org.

~INPS President Janine Catchpole
2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some chapter events are listed below. For information about events with your chapter, please contact the following representatives.

**Northeast Chapter (Chicago)**
Janine Catchpole (President)
815-603-5190
northeast.inps@gmail.com

**Quad Cities Chapter (Rock Island)**
Robert Bryant (President)
563-349-0448
qc_inps.home.mchsi.com

**IRENE CULL CHAPTER - Peoria**
Mary Hartley (President)
309-995-3356
haywool@winco.net

**Central Chapter (Springfield)**
Annette Chinuge (President)
217-483-5893
annette@avrosystems.com

**Southern Chapter (Carbondale)**
Chris Benda (President)
217-417-4145
southernillinoisplants@gmail.com

Also see the online calendar at our website [http://www.ill-inps.org/index.php/events](http://www.ill-inps.org/index.php/events)

**INPS CHAPTER NEWS**

**Northeast Chapter (Chicago)**
We have reserved the Lodge at Sagawau Canyon Nature Preserve for a Northeast Chapter INPS meeting, Sunday, March 3, 1pm-ish. Diana Krug has agreed to step into the presidency, pending member approval. Field trips are being planned, details to be shared at the meeting. We also hope to view a recently discovered video of Bob Betz, Ron Panzer and Bill Glass burning a section of the Indian Boundary Prairies from way back. Popcorn optional.

**Quad Cities Chapter (Rock Island)**
The Quad City Chapter is scheduled to have our post-holiday party and meeting on February 13. However, it might have to be postponed to February 20th. Bob Bryant announced the need to step down as president of the Quad City Chapter. The election/appointment of a new president will be on the agenda along with discussing plans for this year’s activities.

**Irene Cull Chapter (Peoria)**
No news to report.

**Forest Glen Chapter (Danville)**
Shiitake Mushroom Workshop to be held Saturday, April 6, 2013 at 9:00 am at the Gannett Center at Forest Glen Preserve. Learn the history behind the Vermilion County Conservation District’s shiitake mushroom demonstration sites. Besides being a prized gourmet mushroom, shiitake cultivation utilizes logs from thinned out oak trees on woodland sites for timber stand improvement (TSI). This becomes an alternative specialty crop for woodland owners. The workshop will consist of demonstrations on drilling and inoculating logs and hands-on instruction by which you may take your log home! A sack lunch will be provided. Fee $10.00 (payable that morning). Please RSVP by email to conniejcunninghman@gmail.com or by telephone to 217-662-2142. Space is limited. Last day to register is Friday, March 29.

**Central Chapter (Springfield)**
On February 14, Edie Sternberg will present Native Plants of Patagonia at 6:30pm at the Illinois Audubon. Also, on February 16 there will be a field trip to Champaign/Urbana: University of Illinois Plant Clinic. In the morning with lunch at the Rainbow Garden then spend part of the afternoon on a personal tour of Illinois Natural History Survey Herbarium. Please Contact Christina at cpiercec@yahoo.com or call (309) 369-5179 for more information, this is a great opportunity!

**Southern Chapter (Carbondale)**
February 16th is our 2nd annual winter tree ID workshop at 1:00pm on the campus of Southern Illinois University. February 19th at 6:30pm is our regular monthly meeting at the Carbondale Township Hall, featuring a program by Les Winkeler, nature writer at the Southern Illinoisan.
A Call to INPS Members!

Let’s Sponsor *Erigenia bulbosa* in the New Flora of the Chicago Region!

Plants of the Chicago Region, by Floyd Swink and Gerould Wilhelm, is a highly valued tool for students of Illinois native plants and for professionals in natural area management in northeastern Illinois. The current 4th edition was published in 1994. To update this work, Gerould Wilhelm and Laura Rericha have begun a brave new project, an expanded 5th edition, titled *Flora of the Chicago Region*.

Authors Wilhelm and Rericha are blending floristic, faunistic, and geological observations in this original reference. The synthesis of other organisms, plant and animal, that are interlinked with our species is heretofore unknown among floristic works of this scale.

The Conservation Research Institute in conjunction with the Indiana Academy of Sciences is offering a sponsorship opportunity¹ to help fund the preparation of this new valuable resource.

We have the opportunity to raise the $1,000 necessary to sponsor *Erigenia bulbosa*, our journal’s namesake. Sponsorship at the Plantsman level ($1,000) provides recognized sponsorship of a species, three signed copies of the new book, and an invitation for three to the catered initial book signing gala.

One of the signed copies will be presented to the winner of a drawing among all those who donate to the sponsorship, one chance per every $10.00 donated. The gala invitations will also be distributed by drawing. The other two signed copies will be auctioned off during successive Annual meetings.

Details: Donations can be sent to INPS, Forest Glen Preserve. 20301 E. 9000 North Road, Westville, IL 61883 And will be accepted until the end of 2013.

For more information, contact Janine Catchpole, illinoisplants@gmail.com, 815-409-2943

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¹ For details of the sponsorship levels and benefits of supporting this project visit: http://conservationresearchinstitute.org/fca.html

A Chance to Claim ERIGENIA as Our Own!
Plants of Concern

Volunteer Citizen Scientists Needed for Monitoring Endangered and Threatened Native Plants in NE Illinois, SE Wisconsin, NW Indiana

Please join us for one of our 2013 POC Workshops:

Sunday, April 7, Volunteer Resource Center, Edgebrook, Cook County, IL
Saturday, April 13, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Visitor Center, Will County, IL
Wednesday, April 24, Chicago Botanic Garden (Plant Conservation Science Center), Cook County, IL

All workshops will be held from 9:30am to 3pm.

Join this exciting citizen science program entering its 13th year. More than 670 volunteers have worked with this program region-wide, monitoring 237 species at 308 sites! Receive training in Plants of Concern monitoring techniques, meet land managers, talk with seasoned monitors, or refresh your skills for the new season. One workshop is required for all new POC monitors and we ask any former monitors who have never been to a workshop to attend. Morning refreshments will be served, but bring a lunch. Registration is required. A confirmation will be sent after registration, and directions will follow shortly before the workshop date. Please visit www.plantsofconcern.org to register (after February 1), or contact Rachel Goad at rgoad@chicagobotanic.org; 847-835-6856. Plants of Concern is coordinated through the Chicago Botanic Garden by Susanne Masi.

Dear members,

Most of you are aware of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and its status as a globally important biodiversity research institute. You may dismayed to hear of proposed cuts to research staff, which threaten to inflict serious damage to the museum, research standing, and scientific mission.

If you haven't already done so, I strongly urge you to add your name to this online petition and spread the word at change.org, to Protect Scientific Research at the Field Museum: https://www.change.org/petitions/protect-research-at-field-museum-of-natural-history-chicago

Almost 10,000 people have so far signed, including many of the world's most prominent ecologists, evolutionary biologists and taxonomists. Please lend your support to maintain the Field Museum as a leading international research hub.

SIMPLE ID KEY from the New England Wildflower Society

Want to know what that plant is? With our Simple Key, you can identify over 1,200 common native and naturalized New England plants! Observe closely, collect a sample or take a photo, answer some questions, and narrow down to the correct identification. http://gobotany.newenglandwild.org/

Supporting the native plant industry - You can't have a native garden without native plants! http://nativeplantwildlifegarden.com/supporting-the-native-plant-industry/

New online photo album: Rare and Endangered Plants of Illinois!

In an effort to bolster appreciation for rare plants in Illinois, an online photo album has been created on the facebook page for the state organization. A list of the threatened and endangered species of Illinois can be found at: http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/ESPB/Documents/ETChecklist2011.pdf

A few of these species are available in a photo album that has been created on our facebook page. You can view the photo album at: https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.542815835729956.90040643.128013787210165&type=1&l=dc011b684f
In the Eastern U.S., Spring Flowers Keep Pace With Warming Climate, Blooming Up to a Month Earlier

Using the meticulous phenological records of two iconic American naturalists, Henry David Thoreau and Aldo Leopold, scientists have demonstrated that native plants in the eastern United States are flowering as much as a month earlier in response to a warming climate. The new study is important because it gives scientists a peek inside the black box of ecological change. The work may also help predict effects on important agricultural crops, which depend on flowering to produce fruit. The study was published online Jan. 16 in PLoS One by a team of researchers from Boston and Harvard Universities and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Read more at:
http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/01/130116195344.htm

Controversial new GMO corn delayed amid protests and health concerns

A controversial new biotech corn developed by Dow AgroSciences, a unit of Dow Chemical, will be delayed at least another year as the company awaits regulatory approval amid opposition from farmers, consumers and public health officials. Dow AgroSciences officials said Friday that they now expect the first sales of Enlist for planting in 2014. Previously officials had set the 2013 planting season as a target, but U.S. farmers are already buying seed for planting this spring, and Dow has yet to secure U.S. approval for Enlist. Dow wants to roll out Enlist corn, and then soybeans and cotton to be used in combination with its new Enlist herbicide that combines the weed-killers 2,4-D and glyphosate. The Enlist crops are genetically altered to tolerate treatments of the Enlist herbicide mixture. The hope is that Enlist will wipe out an explosion of crop-choking weeds that have become resistant to glyphosate alone. Opponents have bombarded Dow and U.S. regulators with an array of concerns about Enlist, which is intended to replace Monsanto Co.’s successful Roundup Ready system. Genetically altered Roundup Ready corn and soybeans now dominate the U.S. corn and soybean market. But as Roundup Ready crops have gained popularity, millions of acres of weeds have developed resistance to Roundup herbicide, causing farmers to use higher quantities of Roundup and other herbicides to try to beat back the weeds. Critics warn that adding more herbicides to already resistant weed populations will only expand and accelerate weed resistance. Some have likened the problem to a “chemical arms race” across farm country. Read more at:
http://weedsnetwork.com/traction/permalink/WeedsNews4211

Invasive Species Corner - For the latest in invasive species news in Illinois!

• New Invader in Illinois – Salt Cedar
Salt Cedar (Tamarix parviflora) has been found on ACOE land in Alton, IL. Chris Evans, Coordinator of the IL Invasive Species Campaign has written an article on the Illinois Invasive Species Awareness Month blog providing information about its identifying features. If you suspect you’ve found an infestation please send an email to rivertoriver@gmail.com or make a reports at the EDDMapS website (www.eddmaps.org). Please spread the word!!

• National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) will take place from March 3- 8th this year. Additional information can be found at this link - http://www.nisaw.org.

• Invasive Plant of the Month - Common Valerian (Valeriana officinalis)
Common Valerian (Family Valerianaceae) is a perennial that is native to Eurasia It was intentionally introduced to the United States for medicinal and ornamental purposes. http://www.flowers.goodpages.co.uk/index.php?page=common-valerian. Its dried rhizomes yield valerian, a natural sedative. Common Valerian can be found in open or semi-shaded areas, roadsides, forest and stream edges, and fields and will grow on a variety of soils. It grows up to 5ft. tall with characteristic sparsely-leaved stems that have pairs of branches which end in flowers during the summer (June-September). The white to pink flowers are arranged in umbel form with three umbels topping the central (tallest) stem which is grooved, round, hollow, and hairy near the base. Leaves are paired and formed of leaflets with coarsely cut teeth, strongly veined on top and hairy below. Individual flowers are tubular with five lobes and have a distinctive spicy, vanilla ice cream fragrance. Common Valerian spreads by seeds and above ground stolons. It has been reported in Lake County, Illinois by Lake Forest Open Lands Association.

• An article on identification and control of woody invasive plants in fall and winter has just been added to the Illinois ISAM newsblog. This article is reprinted from the Fall 2012 Newsletter of the Illinois Forestry Association. http://illinoisisam.blogspot.com/2012/12/identification-and-control-of-woody.html

• A new edition to the fun 'Invasive Species Slogans' series has been added on the Illinois ISAM newsblog. This one focuses on invasive species mascots. Feel free to send any new slogans or mascots that you think would make a good addition to this series. http://illinoisisam.blogspot.com/2012/12/the-hunt-for-invasive-species-slogans.html

• Native Plants and Exotics Coexist
http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/11/121130110702.htm
CAMPTON HILLS, IL  Reservations for Garfield Farm Museum’s 27th annual Prairie, Woodlands, and Wetlands Management Seminar to be held on Saturday, February 16th from 8:30 am-4:30 pm are now being taken. From backyard gardeners, home owner associations to owners of natural area acreage, this seminar covers all the key methods and techniques of preserving and using the best adapted plants for the Illinois environment. Experts Roy Diblik, Conner Shaw and Jerome Johnson will help explain the best techniques and methods to increase and maintain native plants communities. There is a $50 donation for the all day seminar which includes lunch and refreshments. Half day attendance without lunch is $25. More information at: http://www.garfieldfarm.org/news021613.html

2013 Native Plant Sale - Joliet, IL
Midewin Tallgrass Prairie Alliance

The Midewin Alliance is currently taking orders for native plants. Select from more than fifty varieties of native wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, and trees. Also available are tow Native Plant Kits, one containing 32 plants for dry to mesic soils (2 plants each of 16 species), the other containing 24 plants for mesic to wet soils (2 plants each of 12 species). Orders will be accepted through April 30th. To help ensure availability, please try to place your order before the end of March, (trees by mid-March). Visit www.midewinalliance.org to obtain a Native Plant Sale Order Form and plant listing. If you have questions or would like a hard copy of the Order form and plant sale offerings, contact Jerry Heinrich at g.heinrich@sbcglobal.net or 815-476-6171. Be sure to provide your name, full address, phone number, and/or email address. Plant pick-up will be on Saturday, May 18, 2013 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie located on Route 53 approximately 12 miles south of Joliet or 2 miles north of Wilmington. It is anticipated that a wide variety of donated and extra plants will be available for sale on pick-up day.
Southern Illinois Wildflower Poster Now Available!

The Southern Chapter of INPS received an award from the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund to develop and print a 24 by 36 inch poster titled “Wildflowers of Southern Illinois”. The poster features high-quality, colorful photographs of 16 wildflowers found in southern Illinois, along with the plants’ scientific and common name and coefficient of conservatism (C). The C value ranges from 0 to 10, where a 0 is assigned to plants which are found in degraded habitats and 10 is assigned to plants in preserved natural areas. All photographs were taken by INPS Southern Chapter President, Chris Benda. Posters will be available free of charge to anyone interested in learning more about the native flora of southern Illinois. The posters will be available to the public at our many programs. They will also be distributed for display at colleges and universities, visitor centers, government offices, and at primary and secondary schools.
Photographing Plants Workshop

with Instructors Michael Jeffords & Susan Post

Saturday, April 13, 2013, 9am-4pm

Monticello Community Building

102 East Livingston Street, Monticello, IL

We will spend the morning in classroom instruction and activities, the afternoon in the field at nearby Lodge County Park.

A fee of $25/person includes lunch and all course materials. To register contact Connie Carroll-Cunningham

conniejcunningham@gmail.com

Closing date for registration is March 21, 2013 and class is limited to 30 participants

Missouri Botanical Symposium

Presentations

Date: February 27, 2013

Time: 9:00am – 3:15pm
Registration from 8:30-9:00am

Location: Rolla, MO
Missouri University of Science and Technology’s Havener Center

Fee: $40 regular
$35 for students

(lunch included)

Register at:

www.missouribotanicsymposium.org

For more information call 317-436-6466 or contact mbsymp@botanytraining.com

Illinois RiverWatch Network

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

For New Volunteers

Workshops are from 10am-4pm. We will begin with a lecture session from 10am in the classroom, followed by a field session visit to a local site from 1-4pm. You will be responsible for your own lunch. Registration is $18 per workshop. Workshop dates may be subject to change. To register, contact Indiana RiverWatch or the Illinois RiverWatch offices. Workshop locations may be subject to change. A 1-2 hour lunch break will be included.

DATE COUNTY COUNTY CITY LOCATION

Sat, March 9 4 bargaining locations

Lafayette County - 10am-4pm

Indiana RiverWatch

Sat, March 9 4 bargaining locations

Lafayette County - 10am-4pm

Indiana RiverWatch

Sat, March 9 4 bargaining locations

Lafayette County - 10am-4pm

Indiana RiverWatch

Sat, March 9 4 bargaining locations

Lafayette County - 10am-4pm

Indiana RiverWatch

Sat, April 6 Sangamon Springfield Sangamon County Sangamon County

Reclamation Building 1111 N. First Street Springfield, IL 62702

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Reclamation Building 1111 N. First Street Springfield, IL 62702

Sat, April 13 Adams Quincy Adams County Adams County

USGS Field Office

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USGS Field Office

CPDUs for teachers and Scholarships for students are available!

Contact Nate Keener for details!

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**Governing Board**
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**Dodecatheon frenchii**  
French’s Shooting Star

Please become a member and support this local non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, conservation, and study of the native plants and vegetation of Illinois!!!

**Join us!**
☐ New member  
☐ Renewal  
☐ Address Change only

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☐ Forest Glen (Westville)  
☐ Northeast (Chicago)  
☐ Southern (Carbondale)  
☐ Quad City (Rock Island)  
☐ Irene Cull (Peoria)

Unsure if your membership dues are up to date?  
Email illinoisplants@gmail.com or call Connie Cunningham at 217-516-1792