Creating the perfect landscape for butterflies in your backyard

Our speakers on November 7 will be Sara Bright and Paulette Ogard, authors of *Butterflies of Alabama: Glimpses into Their Lives*. Sara, a photographer, and Paulette, a writer, have collaborated for more than twenty years to document the life histories of southeastern butterflies and the native plants that sustain them. They continue to work together on butterfly-related projects, including the upcoming, online *Alabama Butterfly Atlas*.

As more and more habitat is lost, welcoming butterflies into the landscape is taking on a critical environmental importance. Sara and Paulette will demonstrate ways that our back yards can become oases which sustain area species. They will focus on the importance of native host and nectar plants and innovative ways to incorporate them into our landscapes.

Join us as we look at a garden through a butterfly’s eyes; learn the value of “trash trees”; and explore a treasure trove of butterfly-friendly groundcovers, flowers, shrubs, trees & vines to grace our landscapes.

**Help Launch the Alabama Butterfly Atlas with your donation**

An exciting new online tool is coming soon, which will be sure to delight butterfly enthusiasts all over the state. The *Alabama Butterfly Atlas* (ABA) will contain butterfly distribution maps, flight charts, identification tips, photographs, life history, and tips on gardening for butterflies. Users will be able to search for data by county, region, and selected public lands. The atlas will be live-linked to the Alabama Plant Atlas (floraofalabama.org).

However, before the ABA site can go online, **$1,607 is still needed to cover website development costs. Butterfly lovers, our help is needed!** If you would like to donate, here’s how: Make out checks to the UWA (University of West Alabama) Foundation, and write “*Alabama Butterfly Atlas*” in the notation line. Mail to: Lynda Harwell; UWA Foundation, UWA Station 6; Livingston, AL 35470. All contributions are tax-deductible.
Sat. – Sunday, November 5th- 6th -
Annual Moss Rock Preserve Festival in Hoover 10:00am – 4:00pm (5 pm on Sat.)
Be sure and visit the Blanche Dean Chapter booth.

Tuesday, November 8 – Go to the polls, and Vote YES, Amendment 2

Monday, March 6, 2017 -
Our Annual Pot Luck Meeting will take place at 6:30PM. Lyn Diclemente will discuss storm water run-off, how it impacts water quality, how to prevent it and how using native plants in our landscape contributes to sustainability in many ways.

Monday, April 3, 2017 @ 7:00PM
Monday, May1, 2017 @7:00PM
Monday, September 11, 2017@7:00PM
Monday, November 6, 2017@7:00PM: Lindsay Barcliff –“Mosses and Lichens”

Nature walks, craft beers, food trucks and more!

Don’t miss the 11th annual Moss Rock Festival when it kicks off Saturday and Sunday, Nov 5-6 at the Preserve in Hoover – with artists and designers inspired by nature, eco ideas for the home, live music, a Beer Garden featuring 50 craft brews, fuel efficient cars, guided walks through the Preserve, nature exhibitors, and much, much more.

The Sweetery will offer baked goods, and Café by the Woods and local food trucks will be serving up their specialties. Be sure and stop by the Blanche Dean booth to say hello! You can help tell visitors about our organization.

Saturday, November 5th 10:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, November 6th 10:00am – 4:00pm
Door/Gate: $7 Adults $10 Wknd, $3 Senior/Student, Kids 15 & under free
Advance online tickets: $5 Visit mossrockfestival.com to purchase.

Note: Visitors must Park & Ride to the festival from The Hoover Metropolitan Stadium. The shuttles are frequent, free, and easy to use. After a quick glimpse at The Preserve neighborhood, the shuttle will drop you at the festival’s front steps.
ALABAMA WILDFLOWER SOCIETY - BLANCHE DEAN CHAPTER
Minutes of September 12, 2016

Linda Sherk, our president, welcomed 20 guests and members who gathered by 7:00 p.m. at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens East Room for our September, 2016 meeting.

Members Present: Linda Sherk (President), Martin Schulman (Vice President) , Ken Hall, Ida Gleaton (Treasurer), Karen Hutchinson (Newsletter) , Chris Underwood (Newsletter), Carol Hunt, Margaret Murphy, Carol Ogle, Linda Xia, Susan Putnam, Julianna Richey, Verna Gates, Kathleen and John Stack, Steven Knop, Susan Suter, Dick Mills and Ken Wills (our speakers), and Debbie Pezzillo (Secretary and state Vice President).

A short business meeting ensued:

- **Announcements (Linda Sherk)**
  - If your street or email address has changed please let our treasurer, Ida Gleaton know.
  - Michelle Reynolds will lead a hike this Saturday, September 17 to Little River Canyon. Consult your newsletter for details.
  - Save the dates of September 30-October 2 for the AWS Fall Meeting in Cullman. Our state secretary, Brian Finzel, who is also a great photographer and naturalist will share with us some of his best photos of local fall blooming wildflowers. Brian has created a database of bloom times for north central Alabama sites. It can be viewed online at the Alabama Wildflower Society website, [www.alwildflowers.org](http://www.alwildflowers.org).
  - The George Wood Chapter of the AWS will host speaker, Dr. Sue Webb at the UA Arboretum starting at 2 PM. Dr. Webb will speak on Planting Natives to Support Pollinators.
  - BD-AWS will have ready plants to give out to renewed and new members at our next November meeting. Plant species TBA.
  - BD-AWS has two positions that need to be filled. Please let Linda know if you are interested in being our historian or our Vice President in charge of field trips. Or you can be our new president and in that case, Linda will take on the job of VP.
  - Join us Saturday, October 22 at 9 AM at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve for a potluck picnic and Ecoscape cleanup. Charles Yeager will introduce us to many fall natives growing there.

- **Minutes From May 2 Meeting**
  - Minutes from the last meeting (published in the May newsletter) were approved.

- **Treasurer’s Report (Ida Gleaton)**
  - $1061.25

Marty Schulman, our Vice President introduced our speakers, Dick Mills and Ken Wills who spoke with us documented with beautiful slides about their efforts in restoring native prairies at Moss Rock Preserve and at Limestone Park. They have adopted both of these less-than-ideal sites in an attempt to restore a semblance of the native prairies that were once in Alabama prior to the advent of cotton farming.
Ken lives on top of Moss Rock and began his career in the Birmingham area with a post at the Alabama Environmental Council. He currently serves as an Environmental Health Specialist for the Jefferson County Department of Health. He has co-authored a book with Dr. Larry Davenport to be out soon on bookshelves and available now for ordering at Amazon.com called, “Exploring Wild Alabama”.

Dick now serves as an adjunct professor of biology at Birmingham Southern and Samford University. He has been involved with a number of restoration projects with the Birmingham Audubon Society. Dick also runs an adventure travel agency, World Discovery, that plans trips to such places as central & South America, the Galapagos, & Africa (where he grew up).

Ken and Dick provided us with a brochure about Moss Rock Preserve and a handout that entailed the flora species they are trying to establish in these prairies. We were encouraged to see their Facebook page, Friends of Moss Rock. Birmingham Audubon has a page as well not only in its name but also in the name of Birmingham Audubon Urban Bird Habitat Initiative. Ken says the best time to take a wildflower hike through the prairies is in the fall.

Our next meeting is Monday, November 6 at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens @ 7 PM. The speakers are Paulette Haywood Ogard and Sara Cunningham Bright, co-authors of Butterflies of Alabama and leaders in the establishment of the online Alabama Butterfly Atlas.

Meeting adjourned.

Annual dues support the cost of our frequent gatherings, the speakers at the meetings, our field trips and the newsletter. Although membership dues are accepted throughout the year monies are formally collected at the annual pot luck meeting in March.

If you would like to pay your dues, please make your check payable to

Blanche Dean Chapter – AWS and send it to our treasurer:
Ida Gleaton - 3201 Argonne Forest Lane - Duncanville AL 35456
Individual Membership is $10; Family Membership is $15.

As thanks for supporting our society with your membership new and renewing members will be able to pick up a gift plant either at the November or March meetings. We owe our member Patrick Daniel a vote of thanks for his generosity in suggesting this idea and growing the plants for us!
There were about 25 of us who gathered at the hotel in Cullman for the Fall 2016 meeting. Pictured here is part of our group at the Clarkson Covered Bridge.

Over the weekend, we saw many beautiful wildflowers and ferns that were blooming despite the drought. Our native plants are drought-resistant in many cases!

Dr. Brian Keener,
Assistant
Professor of Biology & Director/ Curator of the Herbarium at University of West Alabama led us through Hurricane Creek. He was able to retrieve some plant samples for the herbarium.

*Partridge Berry and a Red-Spotted Purple butterfly at Hurricane Creek.*
The Cullman Native Plant Society celebrated our presence with a beautiful garden party housed in the native plant garden they have established over the years at Sportsman Park. (Their president, Elanie Booth is pictured here with our state president and local BD member, Susan Hammack.)

There were lots of wonderful natives blooming….Turtlehead, White Beautyberry, Green Dragon, and Wild Ageratum, to name a few…

Brian Finzel, our state secretary showed us his beautiful photos of some very rare Alabama Natives. He shared this photo of a pink lady slipper for use in our announcement of the AWS 2017 meetings.

Sure hope you can join us in 2017. Be sure to sign up as an Alabama Wildflower Society member so that you will receive announcements from the state. However, if you are not currently a state member, you can email me to receive a copy of the state announcements at dkpezzil@bsc.edu. Hope to see you there!
Members Present: Susan Hammack (president), Debbie Pezzillo (vice-president), Margie Anderton (treasurer), Rosemary Blethen (newsletter editor), Brian Finzel (secretary), Alice Taylor, Barbara Hollingsworth, Linda Sherk, Rachel Young, and Karla Irons

Minutes From April 2016 Meeting (Brian Finzel) - reviewed & approved.
- $2556.67 balance in scholarship checking account
- $2781.71 balance in general fund
- $175,977 balance in scholarship fund (the CD currently draws 2% interest but expires in November)
- $14,000 General Savings Fund

(Rosemary Blethen)
- Proposed a change in newsletter regarding upcoming meetings – to email color version and mail black & white version to the few members that don’t use email
- Discussed need for a timely report on recent meetings that can be emailed after meetings
- Discussed need to ask someone to submit post-meeting info to editor (someone will need to be designated to fill this role for each meeting)
- Board voted to send out a black & white newsletter with info on upcoming meetings at least 2 months prior to meetings (most members will receive a full color version by email only)
- Board voted to send out a post-meeting report in full color by email only
- Both upcoming meetings and post-meeting reports will be posted on the website & Facebook.

Website Report (Rachel Young)
- We have a free Google website with limited data storage and picture capabilities
- Discussed ways of accepting scholarship fund donations online. Paypal accounts cannot be set up on a Google website
- Board voted to ask for scholarship donations on the website with donations mailed to our treasurer

Alabama Butterfly Atlas (Debbie Pezzillo)
- Discussed overview of upcoming Alabama Butterfly Atlas that will work just like the Alabama Plant Atlas
- Discussed pros and cons of donating AWS funds to help launch Butterfly Atlas
- Board voted against a motion to donate $500 to the launch of the Butterfly Atlas

Possible Upcoming 2017 Meetings
- Harrell Prairie in June (near Jackson, MS)  Lake Martin area  Lanark Property (near Prattville)
- Cloudland Canyon (NE GA) & The Pocket (tentatively set date of April 7-9)
- A second meeting in May or June at either Harrell Prairie or Lake Martin and a Fall meeting along the Gulf coast or SE Alabama. Debbie will look into this. Fred Nation & Brian Keener may be able to suggest sites to visit.

AWS T-Shirts (Linda Sherk)
- People can go online and buy T-shirts from companies and we can get a percentage of sales for the scholarship fund
- Linda will look further into the possibilities offered by various companies

Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve
- The Nature Conservancy has 1st choice to buy land in the future from the Lacefields
- The Lacefields have asked AWS to be a non-profit umbrella agency to help take care of the property once they are no longer capable. However, taking care of the property will have to be done by local individuals & should be done through the already existing Friends of Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve (which can file as a non-profit if necessary)
Alabama Wildflower Society
General Meeting October 1, 2017

● Treasurer’s Report
  ○ Attendees accepted Treasurer’s report with account balances
    (Margie Anderton was not present)

● Newsletter Editor Report (Rosemary Blethen)
  ○ Recommended that we sell plants at future meetings with proceeds going to the scholarship fund
  ○ Informed attendees of changes in the dissemination of info
  ○ Members will receive info on upcoming meetings either via an emailed newsletter in full color or a mailed newsletter in black and white
  ○ Members will receive prompt info on recent meetings by email only
  ○ Recommended that people email a few favorite photos to her after meetings, along with brief info about each picture

● Upcoming 2017 Meetings (Debbie Pezzillo)
  ○ Announced that she will send out a save the date email on upcoming meetings once decisions have been made
  ○ Discussed possible meeting sites that have been mentioned in North, Central, and South Alabama

● Scholarship Donations
  ○ Announced that a request for scholarship donations will be added to the AWS Website

● By-Laws Committee Updates
  ○ Attendees voted to accept all of the following recommended changes made by the By-Laws Committee
  ○ Change in the wording for family memberships
  ○ Institutional membership changed to having no voting privileges
  ○ Board may appoint lifetime memberships based on service
  ○ Officers will start office on January 1 of the following year instead of immediately at the Fall meeting
  ○ President will sign checks if Treasurer is unable (new role for President)
  ○ Vice-President will plan first Spring meeting for year after leaving office
  ○ Change in the wording for Scholarship Committee
  ○ Added a Publicity Committee
  ○ Changed limit of expenditures that can be done without Board approval ($100 instead of $1000 limit)

● Native Plant Conservation Campaign
  ○ Attendees voted for AWS to become an affiliate (no charge for doing so)

● Roadside Spraying in Bibb County
  ○ Bibb County Citizens for Wildflowers is trying to cease spraying of roadsides in Bibb County
  ○ Petition for this was passed around at the meeting

● Committee Interest Sign-in Sheets
  ○ Sign-in sheets were passed around for individuals interested in serving on either the Nominating Committee or the Publicity Committee
HURRICANE CREEK PARK

Plants seen at Hurricane Creek during the Alabama Wildflower Society 2016 Fall Meeting.
compiled by state secretary, Brian Finzel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Chrysopsis mariana</em></td>
<td>Maryland Golden Aster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Conoclinium coelestinum</em></td>
<td>Blue Mistflower</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Eclipta prostrata</em></td>
<td>Yerba De Tajo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Erechtites hieraciifolius</em></td>
<td>Pilewort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Eupatorium pubescens</em></td>
<td>Inland Roundleaf Thoroughwort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Fleischmannia incarnata</em></td>
<td>Pink Thoroughwort</td>
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<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Hieracium gronovii</em></td>
<td>Gronovis Hawkweed</td>
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<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Liatris microcephala</em></td>
<td>Smallhead Blazing Star</td>
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<td>Asteraceae</td>
<td><em>Pityopsis graminifolia</em></td>
<td>Narrowleaf Silk Grass</td>
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<td><em>Solidago altissima</em></td>
<td>Tall Goldenrod</td>
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<td><em>Solidago caesia</em></td>
<td>Wreathe Goldenrod</td>
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<td><em>Solidago nemoralis</em></td>
<td>Gray Goldenrod</td>
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<td>Asteraceae</td>
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<td>Wavy-Leaf Aster</td>
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<td>Campanulaceae</td>
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<td>Great Lobelia</td>
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<td>Ericaceae</td>
<td><em>Monotropa uniflora</em></td>
<td>Indian Pipe</td>
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<td>Euphorbiaceae</td>
<td><em>Euphorbia pubentissima</em></td>
<td>False Flowering Spurge</td>
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<td>Lamiaceae</td>
<td><em>Collinsonia tuberosa</em></td>
<td>Deep Woods Horse Balm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamiaceae</td>
<td><em>Perilla frutescens</em></td>
<td>Beefsteak Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orobancheaceae</td>
<td>Epilagus virginiana</td>
<td>Beechdrops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phytolaccaceae</td>
<td><em>Phytolacca americana</em></td>
<td>Pokeweeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polygonaceae</td>
<td><em>Persicaria longiseta</em></td>
<td>Bristled Knotweed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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AWS-State 2017 Spring and Fall Meetings
Save the Dates!

April 21-23 – Camp McDowell and the Bankhead National Forest
May 5-7 - DeSoto State Park and Little River Canyon
October 20-22 – Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge on Ft Morgan Peninsula and Gulf State Park