

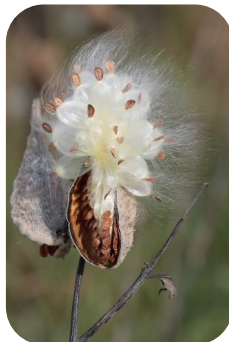
Curator's Corner Jamie Clemons

Native Plants

Landscape gardeners! Have you ever put any real thought into the plants you introduce? Are you planting for low-maintenance, beauty, or both? Did you ever think about trying to go native? Well, if you haven't, then you should! Native plants can be pretty and low-maintenance. They can also help support local wildlife.

We know there is a world-wide crisis involving the destruction of habitats and species. The distressing thing is that much of it could be averted by creating habitats. A small but growing number of people are trying to do just that by allowing their flower beds and yards to "go native" by planting species that are native to their region. By planting native, they are helping to support other species' life cycles and bring back the natural beauty of the landscape.

Probably the most prevalent of this "go native" movement is in the preservation of Monarch butterflies. While having pretty flowers that support the life of butterflies is important, it is even more important that milkweeds are also planted to support the caterpillars' life. Monarch caterpillars can only survive on plants of the genus *Asclepias*, which are a group consisting of

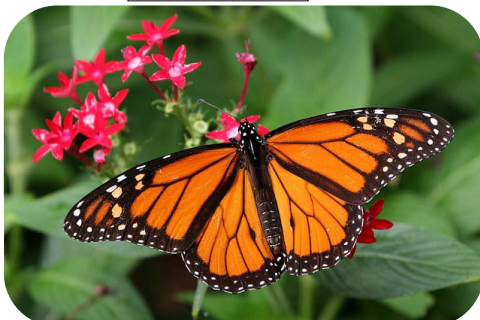


Milkweed seed pod

milkweeds. Without caterpillars, there are no butterflies. Without butterflies, there are no caterpillars. It's kind of funny how that works, isn't it?



Milkweed flower



Monarch butterfly



Tulip tree flower, Indiana's state tree



Bird-foot violet plant



Viola pedata, or Bird-foot violet

I have tons of them that each year turn my greening backyard into a kaleidoscope of dark purple, light purple, and white. They go by several names such as Johnny jump-ups, field pansy, wood violet, and blue violet. Since this is one of the earlier flowering plants, there are several animal species that rely on it as a food source. Some of these animals are honey bees, bumble bees, eastern cottontail rabbit, mourning dove, wild turkey, and several butterfly species. Other animals, primarily bugs such as fireflies and spiders, use it as shelter.

It may come as a surprise, but there are almost 100 species of trees native to Indiana! If you were in the museum during January and February, you would have seen the visiting display of native Indiana wood samples that belong to Gary Green. Mr. Green is very knowledgeable in woods of all kinds and was very gracious in loaning us some of his wood samples.

If you are interested in making some, or all, of your garden or yard more native-plant friendly, check out the following sites and local nurseries for information on "going native" and seed suppliers:

- Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society
<http://www.inpaws.org/>
- Indiana Wildlife Federation
<http://www.indianawildlife.org/wildlife/native-plants/>
- Native Plants Unlimited
<http://www.nativeplantsunlimited.com/>

Inside this issue

Curator's Corner.....1
 Did You Know...?.....2
 Visiting Displays.....2
 Quotable Quotes.....3
 Donations.....3
 Summer Programming.....3
 Grants.....4
 Lake Cruise.....4

Did You Know...?

The Boy Scouts Association was established by Lord Robert Powell in Britain in 1908. The Boy Scouts of America was established on February 8, 1910 by W.D. Boyce. By 1911, the organization had conducted its first National Council office, created the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and badges. By 1912, Arthur Eldred achieved the status of being the first Eagle Scout. The first World Jamboree was held in London, England, in 1920. The Cub Scout program was formally launched in 1930. The first National Jamboree was held in Washington, D.C. in 1937.

The Girl Scouts of America was established on March 12, 1912, by Juliette Gordon Low in Savannah, Georgia. After meeting Lord Powell in 1911, Juliette learned about the Girl Guide/Scout organization that Powell's sister Agnes had begun. In 1912, Juliette brought the concept to her hometown. Like the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts have a Girl Scout Promise, Girl Scout Law, and badges. A Girl Scout with the rank of Senior or Ambassador can earn a Girl Scout Gold Award, which is similar to the Boy Scout's Eagle Scout honor, but it does not garner the same recognition, sadly.

Both the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts strive to teach youth the value of brotherhood/sisterhood, respect for the environment, community service, and useful skills that can be used now and later in life. For more information on these organizations, to volunteer, or to join, contact your local councils.



Boy Scout Explorers shirt, circa 1950s

Visiting displays

December:

- Robert and Jean Kennedy, owners of the Anchor Inn, shared an exhibit of handcrafted ornaments made from goose, duck, and chicken eggs.
- John Heckaman loaned us an exhibit of B & O Railway memorabilia, including the Syracuse station's log with the last day's entries for that station.



January and February:

- Gary Green, craftsman and member of the International Wood Collectors Association, loaned us a display of 91 samples of wood native to Indiana. Information on the IWCA can be found by contacting Gary at 574-457-5471, ggreen3@earthlink.net, or www.woodsbywgwgreen.com.
- Jaqueline Wonso loaned us a collection of early 20th century medical supplies for exhibition. Jaqueline is the granddaughter of the late Celia Smith-Kuhn, a 1910 graduate of Syracuse High School. Celia married Benjamin Kuhn, a doctor who practiced in Elkhart for around 50 years. Twenty of those years were spent at the Havilah Beardsley House. The collection of medical paraphernalia belonged to Benjamin and his younger brother, Orla E. Kuhn.



March:

February is the anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America's founding. March is the anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America's founding. As a celebration of both of these youth organizations, the museum is planning to feature memorabilia of our local troops, as well as a display of traditional camping gear.

April & May:

We are still working on displays for these months. If you have anything that may work out, please let us know and we will see where we can work in your collection!



Quotable Quotes

Planting native species in our gardens and communities is increasingly important, because indigenous insects, birds, and wildlife rely on them. Over thousands, and sometimes millions, of years they have co-evolved to live in local climate and soil conditions.

~David Suzuki



Hiking Artist

Girl Scouts is such an iconic organization that it's easy to overlook how daring an idea it was for founder Juliette Gordon Low to gather those first 18 girls in that troop in Savannah, Georgia. It was 1912, after all, and women wouldn't earn the right to vote for another eight years.

~Anna Maria Chavez



I still remember the entire Boy Scout motto. I don't remember the serial number of my gun in the army. I don't remember the number of my lock in school. But I remember that Boy Scout code.

~Tommy Lasorda

Summer Programming

Centennial Homes of Lake Wawasee

Presented by Ann Vanderford-Garceau

Does it sadden you to see the distinctive older homes on the lake torn down in favor of modern structures? The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum can't stop progress, but they can endeavor to recognize homeowners who have honored these 100-year-old homes by preserving them for the enjoyment of future generations. Join us to hear homeowners from various neighborhoods share the history of their homes.

Saturday, July 23, 2016
10:30 AM

Kiwanis Room, Syracuse Community Center

2016 Youth History Club

Thursdays 11 am—12 noon unless noted

Geared toward elementary and middle school children

Club Schedule:

- June 9 : Farming Techniques Through the Ages
- June 16 : Native American Tools and Survival with IDNR
- June 23 : Museum Scavenger Hunt
- June 30 : Boating on the Lake
- July 7 : Military Personnel of Syracuse
- July 14 : Syracuse Public Library and the Carnegie System
- July 21 : Predatory Birds of the Area
- July 28 : Museum Picture Seek-N-Find

Cost: \$20 for all 8 sessions. Individual sessions are \$3 each. Register by calling or stopping by the SWHM.

Scheduling subject to change. Please check with SWHM for a finalized schedule.



Donations

Thank you to the following people who have donated items to the museum since the last newsletter:

- Handheld grinding stone {mortar} found at Dewart Lake donated by Larry Bell.
- Ariel photo of Enchanted Hills donated by Christian Henn.



Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum

1013 North Long Drive

Syracuse, IN 46567

Phone: 574-457-3599

Email: director@syracusemuseum.org

Website: www.syracusemuseum.org

Find us on Facebook! There's always something interesting, even if it's just the daily "National Day Of..." posting!

Grants

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum is proud to be the recipient of a grant from the Kenneth and Lela Harkless Foundation for the general operating expenses of the museum. Thank you for your continuous generosity and support of our mission to preserve the history of the Syracuse area.



Ken and Lela Harkless



Upcoming Cruise



Reserve the Date!

Sunday, June 26, 2016 11:30 – 1:30

In conjunction with the Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation (WACF) and Chautauqua Wawasee, the museum invites you to board the *SS Lillypad* for an exciting learning adventure and brunch.

Call 457 – 3599 for further information