



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

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Hawthorn Chapter Officers:

President

Vanessa Melton
573-864-3905
vanndawn@gmail.com

Vice President

Jack Beckett
607 Longfellow Lane
Columbia, MO 65203
jbeckett@socket.net

Secretary

Jean Graebner
1800 Roby Farm Rd.
Rocheport, MO
573-698-2855
jeangr@socket.net

Treasurer

Paula Peters
2216 Grace Ellen Dr
Columbia, MO 65202
573-474-4225
pieridael@gmail.com

Chapter Representative

Nadia Navarrete-Tindall
573-289-2018
navarrete-tindalln@lincolnu.edu

Web Master

Judy Ward
wardjud@gmail.com

Web site:

<http://columbianativeplants.missouri.org/>

The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send your submissions to:

Newsletter Editor

Becky Erickson
573-657-2314
beckyerick@socket.net

December 2009

REMINDER: If you have not renewed your membership this fall, this month [December] is your last newsletter. Please re-up to Paula immediately.

Future Activities

Watch email for notices of impromptu hikes. **Please offer suggestions of your favorite walking destinations** to Paula or Becky; we will get them posted as soon as weather permits. If you do not communicate by email and have a suggested destination or want notice of a walk, call Paula to get on the phone list.

December 5 Saturday: Winter Board Meeting – 10:00 am at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium in Columbia. Just south of Stadium on Rock Quarry Road – on the right.

December 9: Wednesday Prairie Fork Workday 9 AM to Noon – Help Missouri Prairie Foundation and MDC at for alien removal and seed dispersal. **See page 4 for details.**

December 13: Winter Holiday Party at Vanessa Melton's near New Franklin. **See invitation on Page 3.**

December 17: Thursday Lunch with Native Plant enthusiasts 11:30 am at Uprise Bakery Hitt Street just south of Broadway.

January 11: Monday Regular Membership meeting, 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Election for President and Secretary are on the agenda. Planning discussions for 2010 activities. Please come with ideas.

January 21: Thursday Lunch with Native Plant enthusiasts 11:30 am at Uprise Bakery; Hitt Street just south of Broadway.

January 23: Saturday Pot Luck Lunch and Propagation Workshop – 11:30 to 3 pm at Laura Hillman 7900 Cave Creek Drive. **See article on Page 4.**

For more information contact Paula at 573-474-4225.

Thanks to Wanda Parscal, Jack Beckett, Eric Mader and Vanessa Melton for their contributions this month.

November Meeting Minutes

submitted by Jack Beckett

Hawthorn chapter had its regular meeting November 9 at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Our speaker was Dr. Adrian Andrei, professor of Wildlife Science in the Dept. of Agriculture and Environmental Science at Lincoln University. In his talk he emphasized the economic and ecological importance of pollination. He gave examples of common pollinators in Missouri, and advice on planting and backyard management to help pollinators. Dr. Andrei emphasized that we are loosing our environmental balance because of the use of herbicides and insecticides and creation of monocultures. He conveyed his passion for environmental health and gave examples to create environmental balance. Some of his suggestions were to let some true natives to grow into a “weedy-looking” habitat; to leave snags, logs, and brushpiles remain intact – not only for the woodpeckers and mice, but for bees, beetles and other insects.

Vanessa explained that she wants our Holiday Party to start in the afternoon so everyone has the advantage of daylight to find her house.

Wreath-making and cookout will be at Ellifrit’s this Saturday 10 to mid-afternoon.

In her treasurer's report, Paula Peters indicated that the current bank balance is \$5466. At the Chestnut Festival, \$427 in sales of plants and books netted a profit of \$275

A change in meeting time was discussed and times of 5:30 or 6:00 were proposed for winter meetings, perhaps starting at our next meeting in January. We need to determine whether the Unitarian Church can accommodate us at the earlier time. Another possibility of sharing a meal at a restaurant was also discussed. It was noted that the Country Kitchen will supply a meeting place without charge. More discussion at January meeting.

Becky once again offered seed collection outings throughout the month of November.

Kathleen Anderson offered free flowering dogwoods and deciduous holly which are overtaking her front garden.

Lunches . . .

The November lunch at Uprise Bakery drew nine Hawthorn members. We exchanged some seed and discussed plans for some of the winter and spring activities.

Hope YOU ALL will join us in December - - -

December 17:

Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!

11:30 am at Uprise Bakery

Hitt Street just south of Broadway

Cookout and Wreath Workshop

submitted by Becky Erickson

There was a good turnout at the wreath-making and cookout party at the Ellifrit’s this year. Vanessa, Nancy B., Allison, Sandy, Nadia and Paula made their masterpieces to grace their doors or mantles for the holiday season. Ten of us enjoyed a well rounded meal cooked around the open fire-pit. We all missed the company and camaraderie of the rest of the membership who elected to stay home.



Nancy B., Allison and Vanessa wind their favorite plant materials into a portal masterpiece. *Photo submitted by V Melton*



Laura turns the chicken while Vanessa’s Cora supervises, hoping for an “oops”. *V Melton photo*

A Newly Discovered Passion

Submitted by Wanda Parscal

I know this is deep for me but my love of Native plants has awakened me to this summation of what our club can or should be doing in our community along with just how to grow or save the native plants that are so important to our ecosystems. Natives are important!

I joined Hawthorn Native Club to learn about native plants, their names, their beauty, where to plant them and how to plant them, on and on, etc. My initial interest was focused on gardening. Well, after three years I still cannot name most of them and definitely do not know their Latin names. But I really have my eyes and heart opened to the wealth of nature on my own property and in the wild areas in our neighborhood.

However !!! I have discovered to my amazement, there would possibly not be life on our planet Earth without them. They are a result of the evolution of our planet. Without them would we not have the oxygen we breathe, food for our bodies, shelter, fertile soil for our crops, on and on the list goes! That little plant growing in a small crack in the rock, keeps surviving as its environment dictates. AND it keeps surviving after I dig up the roots to plant in another place. That little plant I find in my flower bed **is a must to our survival**. Yes, I have much to learn about them and I now know we must contribute time to our human community to the benefit of NativePlants for our survival not just beautifying but for our own health and well being.

I am writing this from my heart to encourage all of our members to teach a new person one or two new things about native plants. To encourage a member to explain to one new person about how necessary native plants are in all of our environments. To encourage a new person to come to our walks and other activities.

Kathleen Anderson is offering FREE FLOWERING DOGWOODS from two to five feet tall. She will dig them. They will be bare-root so they must be planted immediately. Please contact Kathleen by email andersonka@centurytel.net .

Holiday Party; All Are Invited

This year's Hawthorn Chapter Holiday Party will be Sunday, December 13th, 2 pm, at Vanessa's house close to New Franklin. Please bring a dish and your favorite beverage to share with the group. See directions below. **This is your invitation**, so call Vanessa to RSVP or if you have any questions at 573-698-3337, and don't forget to ask Santa for good weather that day!

I-70 W; Exit Old US40 Midway/Fayette and go north (right). After Hwy 240 (to Fayette) go right on CR 441 [If you go to a bridge, turn around.] On CR 441, turn down the 2nd driveway on the left and past a newly-built, fake-log house. Ignore the 'Keep Out' signs. Our house is woodland green at the end of the road.

Midwest Pollinator Coordinator

Announced *Submitted by Eric Mader*

Hello Missouri Folks,

I would like take a brief moment of your time to introduce (via email!), Jennifer Hopwood, the new Midwest Pollinator Outreach Coordinator with the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Jennifer brings to Xerces a deep background in native bee research in prairie ecosystems, having held previous positions at both the University of Kansas and the University of Iowa. Her graduate research involved native bee research in the context of Midwest road-side re-vegetation efforts with native plants. Jennifer is now based out of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis and I encourage you to contact her if the Xerces Society can be of assistance.

With Jennifer now based in Missouri we will be able to greatly expand our level of support to all of you.

Her contact info is: Jennifer Hopwood
Midwest Pollinator Outreach Coordinator
The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Tel: 913-579-5241 Email: jennifer@xerces.org
P.O. Box 300097, St. Louis MO
Sykpe: jennifer_hopwood_xerces_society

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Propagation Workshop

Submitted by Becky Erickson

The Propagation Workshop this year will be a joint effort with Wild Ones and Master Naturalists on 23 Jan {Sat} at 11:30 am. Laura Hillman will be our gracious hostess [7900 Cave Creek Drive].

Wild Ones traditionally has a winter pot luck in January so Laura is inviting everyone to bring a vegetarian dish for a buffet to open at 11:30 am. After a meal of tasty and creative vegetarian [cheese and eggs = ok] culinary delights, we will adjourn to the garage where we can get messy with pots, dirt and seeds about 1pm.

Please bring any and all extra pots you have stored from last summer's planting. We need to share the 3-inch and 4-inch pots for stratification and germination. If you want to germinate several different species [2 to many] please bring a perforated flat with a lattice support tray filled [full] with potting medium. Please bring at least one five-gallon bucket or a small bag of course potting medium. Please bring seed from your garden or seed from outings to wild areas with appropriate identification; enough to share with others.

Laura's house [7900 Cave Creek Drive] can be found on Google Maps. But if you can't get that on your internet, here are some directions from Columbia: South on Providence and Route K; about a mile south of Rock Bridge Elem School; Left on Hill Creek; then left on Cave Creek where you go straight across a small bridge and up the hill into Laura's drive.

PLEASE respond to Becky by email [beckyerick@socket.net] or call 657-2314 [leave a message!] to make reservations for the workshop. This way Laura and I can have an idea of how many are coming.

If there is a snow storm [>3"] on 22 Jan, there will be a notice sent by email and other arrangements will be announced for 30 Jan. Those who give me a phone number will be called if schedule is changed.

Prairie Fork Workday

Submitted by Becky Erickson

For members who do not know about Prairie Fork: It is the home of Pat Jones {She and her late husband Ted Jones financed KATY Trail and were recently honored in The Nature Conservancy magazine.}. The land has been under the care of MDC to be rehabilitated to native habitats and the house is to be used as an educational and meeting facility. Extensive research has been done there on the eradication of *Sarcocolla lespedeza* and a facility stands for extensive native seed procurement and distribution.

Enough history and background: next week on Wednesday is a fantastic hands-on opportunity to get experience and advice from experts like our Regional Naturalist, John George, [and others] on how to remove invasive aliens. Come dressed for a little work on a crispy early winter morning. Bring gloves, clippers or loppers, camp saw or a chain saw and appropriate safety equipment.

Prairie Fork is located: east on I-70 to exit 155 [Apple Wagon Antiques]; East on north frontage road to overpass at D Hwy south two miles, around the first corner to the left and into the driveway to the left - along a long drive [north-east] to the house. If you miss Exit 155 go on to Williamsburg and double back to the D overpass. It should take about 40 minutes drive-time from Columbia.



Don't let your native plantings or open grassy fields turn out like this. Come to Prairie Fork to learn how to decrease alien invaders.

2006 fall cookout on Cedar Creek sand bar at Ellifrits': L>R Jean Graebner, Nancy Brakhage, Jim Whitley, Don Garvin, Laura Ellifrit, George Brakhage.



Becky and Glenn share seeds at propagation workshop Jan 2009.



DON'T MISS OUT ON A MOMENT OF FUN AND EXCITEMENT: If you have not renewed your membership this fall, this month [December] is your last newsletter. Please re-up to Paula immediately.

Group picnic on Kennedy's porch after orchid hike 2006



Rare beauties on our members' private lands.
Yellow Lady Slipper in Kennedy's woods and Eared False Foxglove in Whitley's prairie.



Please Step Forward For Service

Please contact one of the officers ready to volunteer a little time to a very good environmental and educational service. We need people to serve as officers, to grow plants for fundraising and we need people to man our information booth at events such as Earth Day and Chestnut Festival.

___ Local Chapter (\$6.00 no state information)

___ Student (\$11.00)

___ Regular (\$16.00)

___ Contributing (\$26.00)

Includes both Chapter and State dues.

Make check payable to: **Missouri Native Plant Society.**

Send check and this form to: Paula Peters, 2216 Grace Ellen Dr., Columbia, MO 65202

MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society—Hawthorn Chapter July 1 through June 30.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: Evening _____

Day (or cell) _____

Email: _____

Method of receiving chapter newsletter:
(circle preference) **Email** **Regular mail**

Email delivery brings you color photos and it saves NPS money. With email delivery you also receive updates and announcements between newsletters. Regular Mail includes NO interim updates without request for phone contact.

Hawthorn Chapter Missouri Native Plant Society
Newsletter editor, Becky Erickson
PO Box 496
Ashland MO 65010-0496

