



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 24, Number 10
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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send your submissions to:

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October 2009

Future Activities

Watch email for notices of impromptu hikes. **Please offer suggestions of your favorite spots** 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.

October 3: In Touch with Nature, Field Day at Lincoln University Busby Farm in Jefferson City. Wagon tours and exhibits to discuss uses of native plants in landscaping, conservation, and as alternative crops will be emphasized. We will be setting up the booth. **Please let us know if you will be helping.** See article on Page 3 for details.

October 10: Fall prairie walk: Bennitt CA and “The Hole” [both in NW Boone Co]. This is the first of the three part propagation workshop. Meet at noon at the MDC Research Center – we will decide where to eat lunch before we go. **See article on Page 4 for materials. Please sign up with Becky.**

October 15: Lunch with native plant enthusiasts! 11:30 am, Uprise Bakery, just south of Broadway on Hitt Street. Time to catch up with friends and plan for the next activities.

October 17: 7th Annual Chestnut Roast at HARC, the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, MO. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. We will be setting up our booth at 9am. **Please let us know if you can help. See article page 4.**

October 24: Fall color walk at Three Creeks: meet at 1 pm at the MDC Research Center to carpool. We might go to Summit Winery for an afternoon snack after the walk. Sign up to attend.

November is traditionally hunting season. **Anyone** [that includes you – don’t think you are ‘putting her out’, she is offering!!!] who wants to go to wild places for seed collecting can **contact Becky for a weekday mid-day collection walk** at one of the public areas.

November 9: Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. **Our speaker will be Dr. Adrian Andrei**, professor of Wildlife Science in the Dept. of Agriculture and Environmental Science at Lincoln University. Dr. Andrei will discuss the economic and ecological importance of pollination. He will give examples of common pollinators in MO, and advice on planting and backyard management to help pollinators.

December 5: Winter Board Meeting – 10:00 am at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium in Columbia

December 13: Winter Holiday Party at Vanessa Melton’s in Booneville; info to come in November newsletter.

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

In Memoriam

Submitted by Jean Graebner Secretary

George Brakhage, longtime member and past president of Hawthorn Chapter, passed away September 11 at his home in Columbia. George served as chapter president from October, 1994 until October 1996. He and his wife, Nancy, were active in all facets of the chapter's activities and educational efforts.

In light of their many contributions, the couple was named recipient of our Blazing Star Award. The plaque reads: "In recognition of the myriad contributions as officers, teachers and enthusiastic propagators and botanizers and promoters of native plants throughout Missouri." George received the plaque in both their names from President Vanessa Melton at a chapter gathering June 6, 2009 following dedication of our Memorial Tree in McDermott Pocket Park in Rocheport. He was accompanied by his daughter, Jean Everett, who was visiting from Charleston, S.C. and staying with her father while Nancy attended a family graduation event.

During the years he served as president, George was very active as the voice of Hawthorn chapter in the various meetings and planning sessions of conservation oriented groups in our community. In looking through the newsletter minutes of those years, one finds his frequent up-dates to members of what other like-minded organizations are doing and how we might be involved.

During this same time period, the chapter was making progress in developing a more effective set-up for our appearances at events such as Heritage Festival and Earth Day. Paula Peters, who was active in this endeavor from early-on, remembers being at one of these venues with only a card table to work from. "We only sold books in the beginning, no plants," she said.

Newsletter snippets from this period of increasing community involvement reveal the pattern of growth: "We sold all plants donated by Nancy Brakhage and Linden Trial." (Earth Day Festival, 1995); "We used Paula's tent—it made a big difference in our comfort." (Boone County Heritage Festival, 1995); "A spiffy display board that states our purpose and has wildflower photos," (Day with Wildlife, May, 1996). In contrast, the canopy, table and display board we use today gives us an impressive showcase for our array of books and plants for sale.

Much of the credit for this improvement goes to George. A skilled craftsman, he built the table with grooves to hold in place the four sections of display board and the top. And for an impressive number of years he and Nancy provided the storage and George was on hand to help with set-up and take-down according to a very orderly plan and pattern of how various parts were transported in his truck.

In a "President's Message" in the February 1995 newsletter, George wrote: "Backgrounds, training and experiences vary, but such diversity is (an organization's) strength. In our case some members are knowledgeable botanists while others, like me, are interested amateurs." His words are modest; his contributions many and enduring.

Thanks to Paula Peters, Jean Graebner, and Nadia Navarrete-Tindall for their contributions this month.

Seed Collection Prairie Walk

Submitted by Becky Erickson

The Propagation Workshop is not just about how to stratify and germinate seed in the winter. But we need to know where to find seed in the fall, how to identify it, and preserve it; later in spring, how to transplant the growing seedlings. So the workshop takes place in three parts.

The first part is Identification and Collection of Seed 10 October. We will go to two diverse and beautiful areas where we can collect many different species that we might like to grow for our own yards and for plants to sell at our booth. And we will probably see some blooming gentian: sapphire gems of the autumn prairies.

You need to bring all your usual creature comforts. Then for collecting, you need several [10-30] small and medium paper sacks with the bottom seams taped, a sharpie marker, and a sense of adventure. Plastic zippy bags are not recommended because, inevitably, you will forget to keep the bag carefully opened to dry the seed so seed and greens will all mould in the bag. Paper bags are the best for drying and for storage before you move on to the next step. Please sign up with Becky for this educational outing. 657-2314 or beckyerick@socket.net.



Ratibida pinnata



Schizachyrium scoparium



Liatris squarrosa and L. aspera

all B. Erickson photos

In Touch with Nature

A Fall Field Day at Lincoln University Busby Farm in Jefferson City.

Lincoln University Cooperative Extension is planning their second annual fall field day on **Saturday, October 3 from 10 am to 2 pm at Alan T. Busby Farm located off US-54 W, 5 minutes south of Jefferson City.**

Nadia has designated our booth space under a cabin porch with an additional tent. We need to be there by 9:30 to set up. PLEASE call Paula to help at the booth.

Come alone or with your family and friends to learn. The event is open to everyone. Presenters include LU staff/faculty, MDC, MU, Native Plant Society, and other collaborators. During this field day, visit exhibits, get involved with hands-on demonstrations, and take part in walking or wagon tours. Activities include native plant gardens tours, storytelling, prairie seed planting, goats, sheep, and chickens presented by the small mammal and value added programs at LU. Follow a step by step demonstration to learn to establish a landscaped garden using native plants for beautification and to benefit pollinators and other wildlife. A special guest will be Jim Low, as seen on the June 2009 of the Missouri Conservationist (<http://mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2009/06/30.htm>) Jim will offer demonstrations of Dutch oven cooking using natives, and local foods. Visitors will have the opportunity to taste his special recipes. Environmental education activities will be offered for children.

For more information about this event and if you or your group are interested in participating with an exhibit please contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall (navarrete-tindalln@lincolnu.edu) or visit the website: <http://www.lincolnu.edu/pages/2526.asp>

Directions to the farm:

From Columbia, south on US-63, merge onto US-54 W/US-63 S via the ramp to Jefferson City.

Continue to follow US-54 W for 7.9 miles through town. After passing **Neighorn Creek**, take the left side of the road on a long hill, turn **left** just past the crest of the hill on Monticello Rd [opposite small Phillips gas station], and right on Goller Rd [thru double pipe gate]. Once on Goller Rd. look for signs. Drive time is about 45 minutes.

You are cordially invited to attend 7th Annual Missouri Chestnut Roast. This will be the 5th year for Hawthorn NPS to set up a booth at this festival; please sign up to help. Drive time about 45 minutes.

**Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, Missouri
October 17, 2009 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Free Admission and Open to the Public.
Assistance Dogs Allowed - No Pets**

This event will introduce the public to Missouri-grown chestnuts, pecans and black walnuts; Missouri wineries; Missouri value-added product producers; and will showcase the beauty of the Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center and the Missouri River Hills.

The day's activities will center around the farm's Thomas Hickman House.

The house, built in 1819, is one of Missouri's oldest standing brick homes and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Hickman House and grounds are under restoration to reflect the era in which it was built.

Tours of the house will be available throughout the day.

- Missouri chestnut, pecan and black walnut producer booths with free tasting samples
- Educational presentations and exhibits
- Musical entertainment
- Children's activities
- Guided bus and walking tours of the chestnut orchards and agroforestry research areas
- A chestnut roasting booth with free samples of fresh roasted chestnuts
- Value-added food producers will provide free tasting samples and products for sale, including Missouri wines, meats and nuts. Food concession stand will feature Missouri-produced grilled elk, buffalo, pork and beef products for sale.

For more information: contact Julie Rhoads at 573-882-3234 or email rhoadsj@missouri.edu

**Please visit www.centerforagroforestry.org for a list of all of the participating producers and exhibitors and driving directions. Drive time from Columbia is about 45 minutes.
*A festival of culture and agriculture***

Conservation Initiative at CSU Focuses on Rare Plants: 'The Forgotten Majority'

Reporter Kimberly Sorensen 970.491.0757

Kimberly.Sorensen@ColoState.EDU Wed, Aug 05,09
Colorado State News.



The Golden Blazing Star. Photo by Georgia Doyle

FORT COLLINS - Colorado is home to numerous plant species that are not found anywhere else in the world but many of these plants are imperiled and facing the threat of extinction. Colorado State University's Colorado Natural Heritage Program, The Nature Conservancy and several other partners recently completed a statewide strategy to address plant conservation efforts for the next decade.

The Colorado Rare Plant Conservation Initiative seeks to secure on-the-ground protection for all of Colorado's imperiled plant species during the course of the next 10 years. Long-term success of the initiative will mean the establishment of a state program and policies and funding mechanisms dedicated to the conservation of Colorado's imperiled plants and their habitats. Colorado is one of a minority of states with no state plant protection statutes. Although 12 species are listed on the federal endangered species list, Colorado has no state level recognition or protection for plants.

"Rare plants are the 'forgotten majority.' So often people focus on the more charismatic large animals, but 75 percents of the imperiled species in Colorado are plants, many of those are found nowhere else in the world," said Betsy Neely, senior conservation planner for The Nature Conservancy in Colorado.

According to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, 119 out of the state's 155 imperiled species are plants and are considered globally imperiled and are at significant risk of extinction. More than 68 of these plant species are known to occur only in Colorado.

About 70 percent of the state's imperiled plants are found on federal lands and 24 percent occur on private land. About 3 percent of these plants are on state lands with the rest occurring on lands managed by non-governmental organizations, local governments and tribes.

[CSU rare plants] "We hope to accomplish our goal of protecting all of Colorado's imperiled plant species by working with local land trusts and willing landowners on conservation easements as well as collaborating with public agencies on special designations and seed collections," said Susan Panjabi, botanist with CSU's Colorado Natural Heritage Program. "We also want to work with energy companies to encourage them to use best management practices to reduce the impacts of oil and gas development on plants and habitats."

A vast majority of plants have not been tested to determine their potential values for food and medicine. Rare plants play a valuable role in natural history in that their persistence over time serves as indicators of good stewardship and ecosystem health. Furthermore, each species, with its unique color, form and fragrance, contribute to the beauty of the natural landscape.

Colorado is one of the fastest growing states in the United States and as residential development, energy development, motorized recreation activities and road construction continues to increase plants and their habitats strain under the pressure.

Beyond urban development, researchers believe the biggest threat to rare plants is climate change.

"Climate change is a particularly serious threat to specialized habitats like alpine environments because if plants are restricted to specific habitats they don't have many options for moving when the climate changes," said Neely.

"The first step toward assuring the long-term survival of the botanical diversity of Colorado is increasing people's awareness about these rare and vulnerable species. These plants occupy very small areas on the landscape, and most people in our rapidly growing population are simply not aware that they exist," said Panjabi.



Rare to Missouri:
Kregia dandelion
dwarf dandelion
found only on a
few glades and
dry prairies such
as Danville CA.

B. Erickson photo

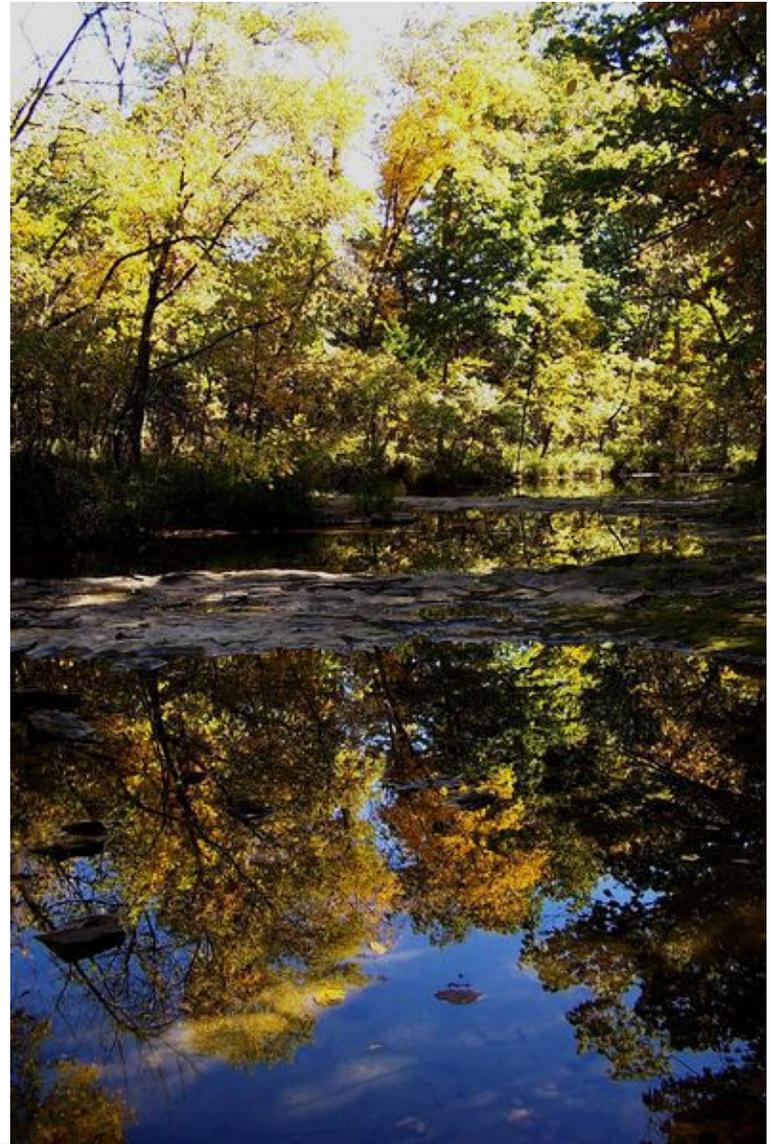
**October 15:
Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!
11:30 am at Uprise Bakery
Hitt Street just south of Broadway**

Editor's note: sorry, no article or information was submitted for the State 30th Anniversary celebration. Perhaps there will be a submission available for the November edition.

**We meet on the
3rd Thursday of the month.
All are invited; please join us.**



Possible Vistas for the Fall Color Walk



Both photos at Three Creeks CA by *B. Erickson*

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.

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