



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 8
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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions to:

Newsletter Editor

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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. **PLEASE call or email Becky 657-2314 or Paula 474-4225 as soon as you know you will attend an activity.** We don't want to leave anyone behind if weather or plans change. Leave your name and PHONE # if you leave a message. If you do not communicate by email and have a suggested destination or want notice of a walk, call Paula 474-4225 to get on the phone list.

13 August Friday, 8am to 5 pm Pollinator Workshop at Bradford Farm. Learn the interactions of pollinators and plants; finish the day with a tour at Ann Wakeman's prairie planting. If you hurry, it is not too late to sign up. See article Page 3. This issue is dedicated to pollinators which, in symbiosis with plants, make our lives possible.

20 August Thursday Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts! 11:30 am at Uprise Bakery [RagTag Theater] Hitt Street just south of Broadway.

10-12 September State Meeting – Kansas City Area. Watch Petal Pusher for information.

13 September Monday: Regular Meeting at 7:00pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. **Our speaker will be Allison Vaughn.** Allison will present a program on glade and woodland fall-blooming plants.

16 October Saturday: Chestnut Festival at HARC, the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, MO. 10 am to 4 pm. Please plan to help with our booth.

8 November Monday: Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. **Our speaker will Robin Kennedy.**

Contact Paula for more information 474-4225

NPS Dues are Due

There seems to be confusion about NPS fiscal year. Briefly - it starts in JULY! If you have been out of town or crossing your own path allot lately, it is not too late to send you dues to Paula so you won't miss out on future activities. See article on Page 3 regarding membership status and donation options. The form is the last, or address page of the newsletter. Send it to the Treasurer: PAULA PETERS [Not to the newsletter editor].

Thanks to Jean Graebner, Ann Wakeman, Paula Peters, and Nadia Navarrete-Tindall for their contributions in this edition.

May Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Ann Wakeman, Secretary

Vanessa Melton opened the May 11, 2010 meeting of the Hawthorn Chapter of Missouri Native Plant Society at 7 pm.

Nadia Navarrete-Tindall introduced the speaker Steve Stacey who presented a comprehensive program on gardening with mosses, or more accurately, bryophytes. Steve actively started cultivating mosses after unsuccessfully trying to eliminate the mossy green carpet in his own yard. As he discovered, mosses can be grown and cultivated with very little effort. A great deal of information can be found online now, though there wasn't much when he started his moss garden. Steve informed us of their biology, reproduction and classification. Many moss species are known only by their scientific name and require identification with a microscope. Many species are site specific which means their growing conditions need to be met for them to thrive. Propagation by the popular blender method only works well if conditions are practically flawless. He demonstrated this method and some who attended this meeting took home a sample for their home gardens.

* Treasurer's report: Paula will include a written report in the next newsletter. The chapter's booth made approximately \$270 at Columbia's Earth Day. She stated the canopy cover to be used for the booth hasn't been purchased yet.

* Education Grant: Glenn Pickett reported the Rock Bridge ecology class will use their grant money for transportation and cameras for field work at Rock Bridge State Park May 19.

* Vanessa needs to turn in the application form for the chapter's booth at the Chestnut Roast on October. A donation is now suggested. Becky mentioned the booth does well with plant sales, so it was decided a donation of \$40 be sent in with the application.

* John White reported on the State quarterly meeting. His full report will be in the next newsletter. He spoke with two board members about receiving the Petal Pusher too late for several members to plan on attending that meeting. Apparently the state newsletter was late going out due to some chapter reports getting sent in late.

* Becky Erickson announced upcoming field trips May 15 to Graham Cave, May 22 to Warren Taylor's farm to see orchids, May 30 to Spring Creek Gap to see savannas being restored, June 19 to Morton Prairie with Mo Prairie Foundation. She wanted to know how many are planning to attend these field trips.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

July Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Jean Graebner, Secretary Emeritus

Vice President Jack Beckett called the meeting of Hawthorn Chapter MONPS to order at 7 p.m. July 12 at the Unitarian Church in Columbia.

(At the conclusion of the business meeting Jack announced that he and his wife, Dorothy, would be moving to Georgetown, Texas, in August. They are moving to enjoy a warmer climate and to be near family. He plans to try and locate a Native Plant chapter near his new home.)

He then turned the meeting over to Glenn Pickett, chairman of the Hawthorn Grants Committee, who introduced Kerri Graham, one of two honors biology teachers at Rock Bridge High School who were recipients of grant funds under our newly created Hawthorn Grants program.

Graham handed members copies of teaching plans she and her colleague used in teaching the "Boone County Organisms Project." The goal was for students to "learn to identify some of the wild species that live in our area." For example, one of the assignments was for each student to create his/her own field guide for 15 species of Trees and 10 Wildflowers. The guides must contain photos, common and scientific names, a description of key characteristics used for ID. She passed around several of the field guides and members were impressed with their quality.

Highlight of the unit was a field trip to Rock Bridge State Park for lectures by park personnel and a scavenger hunt. Our grant money made the field trip possible because it was used to pay for the bus. Teams of 3-4 students competed to find and identify as many native species as possible. Proof that a team had found and identified a native was a photo of the plant with a team member. Grant funds were to be used for disposable cameras as well as travel expenses. However, teachers found cameras not needed—all students had cameras. As a result, \$77.00 of our grant money was refunded.

Graham said they would do the exercise again next year and shared a side-light with us that demonstrates the staying power of the students' new interest in natives. One of the students read an article in Missouri Life magazine by Pat French, well known advocate for the use and enjoyment of native plants. The student wrote her about the unit on natives and as a result the author contacted the teachers saying she wanted to be involved next year.

Glenn Pickett then reported that a committee meeting resulted in some tweaking of the application forms so that they "elicit responses from applicants that more directly address our purposes." He said if the chapter votes to continue funding grants, he will address a district-wide meeting of science teachers in August, set a September 30 deadline for applications and an October 30 deadline for the committee's decision. (cont. . . .)

Native Pollinators Workshop Friday, August 13, 2010

Submitted by Nadia Navarrete-Tindall

Lincoln University Native Plants Program invites individuals interested in participating in this workshop on August 13 from 8 am to 5 pm to take place at MU-Bradford Research and Extension Center, Columbia, MO- [East on WW, South on Rangeline Rd 2 miles] For directions visit: <http://aes.missouri.edu/bradford/>

Anyone interested in learning about native pollinators such as homeowners, native plant enthusiasts, producers, farmers, extension and research specialists, educators, master naturalists, master gardeners, conservationists, and others are welcome to attend.

Participants will learn about the importance and biology of native bees and other pollinators in urban, rural, and natural areas, how to create habitat for native pollinators, native plants that attract pollinators, introduction to Integrated Pest Management, and other related information presented by specialists from the XERCES Society, Missouri Prairie Foundation, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Native Seed Association, and Lincoln University.

Registration starts at 8 am. Outdoor and indoor training and exhibits will take place from 8:30am to 3 pm with an option to visit Ann Wakeman's prairie from 3 to 5 pm. For registration or more information contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall at navarrete-tindall@lincolnu.edu or visit

<http://www.lincolnu.edu/pages/3084.asp?item=3057>
Phone: 573-681-5392

Registration is \$15/person and includes lunch, refreshments, native seed and educational materials. Please send registration and check payable, before August 6, to Missouri Prairie Foundation at P.O. Box 200, Columbia, MO 65205

Hopefully the following articles will inspire you to attend this workshop.

Don't miss out on all the fun next year – send in your dues to Paula!

July Minutes continued . . .

The group then quickly passed two motions by unanimous vote. Nancy Langworthy moved that we accept the \$70 refund of grant money not needed. Becky Erickson seconded. Then Becky moved that we fund two grants of \$250 each during the coming school year. Nancy L. seconded.

Treasurer Paula Peters reported we have \$5690.74 in our treasury. She also reminded that dues are due. Paula will mail a check to Dolores Clark made out to the Unitarian Church for \$200. We make this voluntary contribution each year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 and members enjoyed visiting and refreshments.

Local Lifetime Membership and Contributions

Submitted by Vanessa Melton, President

At the May meeting we discussed the idea of offering a local lifetime membership for those who would like to join and only pay once. According to our bylaws the chapter can set its own membership costs. So the officers approved of offering this membership payment option.

The cost of a local lifetime membership is \$120 [= \$6 X 20 years], but since all chapter members must also belong to the Missouri Native Plant Society [the state organization], dues must be paid to them every year as well. Dues for that organization are \$10 per year, or \$200 for a lifetime membership. **Since your dues are due now, consider taking advantage of this new offer for local membership.** Contact Paula Peters at pieridael@gmail.com or 573-474-4225 if you would like to change you membership status.

Also, for those of you who send in contributions along with your dues, please state if the contribution is to stay with the chapter or if you would like it to go to the state organization. If contributions are sent to Paula Peters, Treasurer, and it is not stated that the additional money sent to her is to stay with the chapter then Paula is obligated to send it to the state organization, **so please, state where you would like your contribution to go.**
Thanks!

Tote Bags for Sale

Missouri Native Plant Society has had tote bags made displaying the Missouri Native Plant Society logo. The bags are cream colored with green handles Show your support for the parent organization of our chapter by purchasing a tote bag for \$12. Contact Paula Peters at pieridael@gmail.com or 573-474-4225 if you would like to order a bag and you can make arrangements with her as to when and where you can pick it/them up.

LOOK at a Bee

Rose-Lynn Fisher

[Rose-Lynn Fisher/BEE](#) See link for electron microscope images of bee parts.

"As though revealing a secret, the scanning electron microscope presents a realm of structure, design and pattern at a level of intricacy we are oblivious to in our daily experience. In this bizarre frontier our sense of scale is confused, and connections between the micro and macro world become clearer and more tangible. **In the myriad forms that constitute one little bee at higher and higher magnifications is a hint of the unending complexity of nature, the worlds within worlds comprising our reality. And then the realization – we are part of this too!** It's enough to rouse a mind to challenge itself; to inspire our best blend of observation and imagination, and apply it to making a better world."

BEEyond

The first time I looked at a bee's eye magnified I was amazed to see a field of hexagons, just like honeycomb. I wondered, is this a coincidence or a clue? Is it simply that hexagons are ubiquitous in nature, or is there a deeper correspondence between the structure of the bee's vision and the structure she builds - in other words, similar frequencies being expressed in similar form? This got me pondering on the connection between vision and action at a more abstract, metaphoric level. Is there a parallel kind of encoding relevant to humanity? At a refined level of our own nature, does our deeper capacity to see and to do correspond with an intrinsic structuring?

As though revealing a secret, the scanning electron microscope presents a realm of structure, design and pattern at a level of intricacy we are oblivious to in our daily experience. In this bizarre frontier our sense of scale is confused, and connections between the micro and macro world become clearer and more tangible. In the myriad forms that constitute one little bee at higher and higher magnifications is a hint of the unending complexity of nature, the worlds within worlds comprising our reality. And then the realization – we are part of this too! It's enough to rouse a mind to challenge itself; to inspire our best blend of observation and imagination, and apply it to making a better world.

The ultimate pollinator, an alchemist transmuting nectar into honey, architect, spatial genius and winged apothecary, the honeybee has been revered and utilized by civilizations throughout time. Our sustenance is dependant on bee pollination for one third of what we eat.

The plight of bees due to colony collapse disorder, pesticides, habitat loss, mites, and other issues is prompting us to wake up to their needs, their necessity to us, and to take responsibility for restoring and protecting their health.

Honeybees live in a peaceful society whose industries benefit life. How can we emulate their example of harmlessness and beauty? For me, the honeybee symbolizes and embodies a congruency of form and function, vision and action, spirit and matter, all being of the same essence. I offer these photographs in celebration, respect and gratitude for all that they do and are.



Eryngium yuccifolium (rattlesnake master) pollinated by a hornet

B. Erickson photo



Aster novae-angliae (New England aster) pollinated by a native bee.

B. Erickson photo



B. Erickson photo

Solidago rigida (stiff goldenrod) pollinated by vespid wasps.

Scientists Stalk Cemeteries For Signs Of Wildlife

Adam Allington reports for St. L. Public Radio July 27, 2010
www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=128786311

Across the U.S., development and agriculture have fundamentally altered the American landscape. In some cases, the change has been so dramatic that conservationists and researchers are now looking for what they call "hidden habitats." Among those are cemeteries that serve as refuges for some of America's most endangered native plants and insects.

These sites are providing critical data on big issues, such as climate change and species diversity. When Lewis and Clark left St. Louis to explore the Louisiana Purchase in 1804, their journals describe the sight of wave upon wave of rolling prairie grass. One species in particular, called big blue stem, reached well above their heads and stretched as far as the eye could see. "It's a big grass that can grow 6 feet easily," says Erin Shank, an urban wildlife biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation. "You would have seen it all the way from the Great Plains even into western Ohio, from Manitoba down to Texas." Shank is walking through Calvary Cemetery in north St. Louis, not far from the graves of famous locals — like Dred Scott and Tennessee Williams. The tombstones eventually give way to tall golden stalks of dried grass.

"Essentially, the Archdiocese of St. Louis just hasn't gotten around to burying anybody here, so this has been pretty untouched," Shank says.

These 13 acres, preserved by chance over 150 years ago, represent the last patch of native tall grass prairie in the St. Louis region. Shank says habitat remnants, like cemeteries, are becoming increasingly critical as sources of native plants and seeds. "The future of conservation is in fragments, unfortunately," Shank says. "We're working with private landowners and public land to try to best manage what we have left, down to small pieces that we just happen to be lucky, honestly, through history to still have intact." Despite cases like the Calvary prairie, many conservationists regard cemeteries as little more than "sacred lawns," without the same benefits as wild habitat.

But in the Midwest, where agriculture has spread to nearly every corner, finding those natural areas is a challenge. "We spend a lot of time driving around, looking for these remnant forested areas and they are really rare," says Laura Burkle, an ecologist at Washington University in St. Louis.

With research partner Tiffany Knight, Burkle paid a visit to Moore Cemetery, a rural

graveyard outside Carlinville, IL. A tiny island amid a sea of corn and soybeans, Moore is one of the few places where native plants and ground-nesting bees still thrive. Burkle points to a patch of bluebells and small white lilies. Just then she notices a low-flying bumblebee and charges with her insect net. "I think it's a queen," she says, having snagged her prey. "She is not psyched about being in this net. All we want to do is identify her, and then we'll let her go."

Knight says the big question they're trying to answer is whether the critical relationship between plants and bees is getting thrown off. "One of the things that we know is happening with climate change is that plants and pollinators are active earlier because it's warmer," Knight says. "The problem is that the life cycle might go out of sync - meaning the pollinators are active earlier than the plants are flowering." After recording the bumblebee's information, Knight releases the insect from the vial and moves on to a new spot. Although she's here to study flowers and bees, Knight appreciates the fact that cemeteries connect both the history of humans *and* the landscape into one complete story.



B. Erickson photo

Iris virginicus (native blue flag) pollinated by a bumblebee.

Lunches . . .

August 23, Thursday:

Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!

11:30 am at Uprise Bakery [RagTag Theater]

Hitt Street just south of Broadway

The July Lunch was attended by 5 members; a welcome relief to come in out of the heat. We had good discussion on if it was worth it to offer a visit to a member's home to see a prairie planting in full bloom this month. The probable discomfort from heat and insects ruled out the idea. Information was exchanged on invasive plant management. We want to get your input at the next lunch!!

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. If you get this only by mail, please consider requesting email delivery; it saves us money

- Regular (\$16.00)*
- Student (\$11.00)
- Contributing (\$26.00)* designate chapter or state
- State Lifetime (\$200)
- Chapter Lifetime (\$120 – you must also be a member of the state organization to utilize this option)
- Chapter only (\$6.00 – this is for members who already belong to State and another chapter)

*Includes both Chapter (\$6) and State (\$10) 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 _____

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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 or reminders without request for phone contact.**

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