



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 7
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

Ann Wakeman
5798 Windy Meadows Lane
Fulton, MO 65251
573-642-6927
mike-ann@socket.net

Treasurer

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

Chapter Representative

John [Rusty] White
573-886-8698
rstywhit@yahoo.com

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

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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.

12 July Monday Regular Membership Meeting 7 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Kerri Graham, one of two Honor's Biology teachers at Rock Bridge HS who received a grant from Hawthorn NPS, will give us a 20 minute review of their grant project at the July meeting. Part of meeting agenda is discussion on grant continuation and future activities. See article Page 5.

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

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. See article Page 5.

10-12 September State Meeting – Kansas City Area.

Contact Paula for more information 474-4225

NPS Dues Due This Month

There seems to be confusion about NPS fiscal year. Briefly - it starts in JULY!

Please send you dues in during July 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]. There are other dues reminders in this newsletter; it is your responsibility to get them in during July.

Thanks to John White, Jean Graebner, Vanessa Melton, Glenn Pickett, Nancy Brakhage, and Nadia Navarrete-Tindall for their contributions in this edition.

News from Stateside

Submitted by John White, Chapter Rep

Friday June 4 Meeting

Members of the Missouri Native Plant Society met at FCS Financial, in Chillicothe, Mo., for the first event on the agenda. Tom Nagel, MDC Natural History Biologist, presented an informative look at the Past Geology of Missouri. Here are a few interesting notes: Glacial material 11,000 years old from 400 to 500 miles north can be found in Missouri from the Wisconsin glacial period. There are areas with 14 ft. of silt and Star School Hill Prairie has a 100 ft. loess depth. In 1800, a grasshopper invasion covered 198,000 square miles; again in 1875 a grasshopper swarm 1800 miles long and 110 miles wide caused the equivalent of 650 million dollars damage.

Saturday June 5 Meeting

The Board Meeting was also held at FCS Financial.

- **REMINDER: Society and Chapter dues are due July 1 (see July-August Petal Pusher).**
- Two new members bring Society membership to 334.
- Installation of a new Chapter: The Southwest Missouri Chapter, Springfield, MO., has met the qualifications and has been approved as a Chapter. Larry Wegmann is Chapter president. Vice president: Michelle Bowe. Chapter Representative: Brian Edmond. Membership dues are \$5.00. We welcome the Southwest Missouri Chapter.

Potential Projects

* A statewide database has been proposed by Brian Edmond of the Southwest Mo. Chapter. The board voted to form a committee led by Brian to investigate the feasibility of the plan, the effort required to set it up, and prepare a mock-up of the plan to be presented and discussed at the next meeting. An overview of the proposal is in the July-August Petal Pusher.

* It has also been proposed to have posters made to promote MONPS which could be used in our booths, at events, available by mail, etc. The message could be Endangered Species, Common Roadside Flowers or various others. Our logo, name and Society information would be included. Partners, such as Audubon and other organizations could help pay for printing and distribution and add their logo and names to the poster. The posters could be free or have a small charge, depending on cost. There will be examples at the September Board Meeting.

* New Society brochures will be updated and printed with the new address and the Springfield chapter added. If anyone would like to suggest changes to the brochure please send your ideas to George Yatskievych

george.yatskievych@mobot.org or to John White at rstywhit@yahoo.com and I will forward them to

George. George wants feedback by July 5.

*The Fall Board Meeting will be September 11 in the Kansas City area. Details are still in the works.

Field Trips

There was still extensive flooding in the north and northwest Missouri area. Many rivers and some creeks were out of their banks and there is flooding in some parks, prairies and refuge areas. Some roads are closed. Rubber boots were a plus in all the areas we visited. In spite of wearing rain gear and hats the mosquitoes were constantly attacking around one's ears.

Helton Prairie Natural Area

This area is part of 440 acres of the Wayne Helton Memorial Wildlife Area near Bethany, Mo., in Harrison County, MDC owned (1969). The Helton Prairie N.A. tract, designated in 1989, is thirty acres, 12 acres prairie and 18 being restored. The tract is unplowed prairie, mainly mesic with some wet-mesic prairie. Species diversity is amazing for 30 acres, with nearly 200 native prairie plants identified, including Mead's milkweed and western prairie fringed orchid. Among the plants found on this trip were Western Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*), not blooming unfortunately, Bunchflower (*Melanthium virginicum*), False Indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*), Prairie Phlox (*Phlox pilosa*), Purple and White Prairie Clovers, Lead Plant and Compass Plant.

Chloe Lowry Marsh Natural Area

Lowry Marsh NA is within Chloe Lowry Marsh CA, Mercer County, N.E. of Princeton. It is MDC owned (1992), Marsh designated in 1995, in the Grand River section of glaciated plains natural division. Habitats include wet-mesic prairie, wet-mesic savanna, marsh, old field timber and tree plantings. The area we wanted to see, which contains Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid, was flooded. However, Nels Holmberg, botanizer extraordinaire, spotted Chamomile Weed in the parking lot, a County record; then as we drove along the entrance road he stopped, jumped out and collected a *Scirpus pendulus*, another record for the county. That was the extent of the Lowry Marsh excursion.

North Evans Cemetery Prairie

North Evans Cemetery, Grundy County, was visited primarily to see the Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid (*platanthera praeclara*) which was found but was not blooming.

Crowder State Park

After loosing the car-pool group at Lowry Marsh NA, as Nels and I waited for Bill Knight to return from wading around in the boonies, we tried two roads to get into North Evans Cemetery Prairie; both were flooded, so we went to Crowder S.P. instead. Crowder S.P. is 1,912 acres in Grundy County, with hills and deep ravines, near Trenton Mo. Along the bluff slope, we found Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*), Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza claytonia*) and Nels spotted Rough-leaved dogwood (*Cornus drummondii*), a County record. There were also very interesting fungi, mosses, liverworts and lichens there.

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 in July, 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

As referenced in John's Report from Stateside on Page 2, Missouri Native Plant Society has had tote bags made displaying the Missouri Native Plant Society logo. The bags are cream colored with green handles (see photo). 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.



Spring Creek Gap Excursion

Submitted by Vanessa Melton

On May 30th seven Hawthorn Chapter members and four dogs enjoyed a warm, early summer day exploring Spring Creek Gap Natural Area 9 miles southeast of Vienna. This Natural Area was abundant with glades offering great vistas of forested hills. At our feet were Indian paintbrush, pale purple coneflower, Missouri primrose, goat's rue, pencil flower, Indian physic, new jersey tea, rattlesnake master, thimble weed, blephelia and ferns. Asters and goldenrods were set to bloom this fall.

In search of scorpions, David Silvey and Mike Rues discovered a black widow spider under a rock guarding her nest complete with an egg sack. That was just about the only wildlife we saw except for a summer tanager and three red-shouldered hawks chasing each other among the trees. It was a great day that ended with lunch in Vienna at Maggie's Café and dessert at Central Dairy in Jefferson City. Great wildflowers and ice cream in the summer – it doesn't get much better than that!



David, Vanessa, Mike, John, Ann, [not pictured, Becky and 4 dogs] enjoyed the vistas and flowers at SCG.



Thimble weed



Goats' rue *V. Melton photos*

B. Erickson photo

State Awards Graebner John Wiley Service Award Nomination Letter

Submitted by Nancy Brakhage

The John E. Wylie Award recognizes individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Society. Jean Graebner is such an individual. Besides working tirelessly to support native plants, she has also willingly served other local and state wide nature groups and issues.

Jean has been a member of the Hawthorn Chapter since 1989, just a few years after its first meeting. Her dedication to our mission over the years and her willingness to accept responsibilities and deliver in many ways to keep the chapter active and productive has been outstanding.

The local chapters are key to the state society. They work hard to educate and promote the beauty and importance of our native plants. State board members and officers are often chosen from outstanding local participants. Jean modestly describes her contributions as “more a worker in the trenches than someone who stands out.” I think the Society would not exist without such local dedication and service and that it merits recognition. Certainly our natural world is richer for it.

Jean has served five terms as the hardworking and effective secretary of the Hawthorn Chapter! We all know the importance of keeping good records and the diligence it requires. Jean was responsible for storing notes recording our history and most of the Hawthorn chapter newsletters in the archives at the State Historical Society of Missouri. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri. She worked as a journalist and later, after earning a master’s degree, as a teacher for 26 years. Jean has also served as Hawthorn Chapter representative to the state society and has held offices in the local Audubon Society and Friends of Rock Bridge. She has served since 2002 on the committee that arranges programs for chapter meetings (sometimes she IS the committee). She contributes to the field trip committee.

Jean has generously hosted workshops, meetings and field trips at her home (many allowed the chapter to gather to make Christmas wreaths to generate income). She has invited members and the public to view and learn about 3 acres she has restored to prairie.

Jean is always willing to participate in staffing booths set up at public events to educate about native plants and the Native Plant Society. She ably shares information and experience with visitors, and helps to sell plants and books. Not just once in a while but 4 to 6 times each year after year.

Jean willingly serves on committees, the latest to establish a small memorial park in Rocheport, MO, designed to honor another deceased MONPS member. She now acts as liaison between city and the chapter as the park is finalized, including choosing native plants to be used in park plantings.

Over the years she has contributed to numerous projects identifying or establishing and maintaining native plants on public trails or in public flower beds. She is especially proud of two projects. In both cases she worked with Columbia Parks and Recreation Department to increase the public’s awareness of, and appreciation for, our Hawthorn chapter.

In the first she and Marge McDermott designed a pamphlet listing the native plants to be found in Grindstone Nature Area, 200 acres inside the Columbia, MO, city limits which are managed as a natural area Marge’s drawings illustrate the pamphlet which gives information on the seasonal and habitat preferences of the natives to be found there. The parks department printed the pamphlets, with credit to our chapter as the compilers, and made them available to the public. The second project in cooperation with the parks department was as co-chairman of a committee responsible for designing and funding a large permanent kiosk-like display of photos of native plants by local photographers. Seed money for the project came from donations in memory of a friend of the society. For a number of years it was a fixture of the widely used Forum Blvd. Trailhead to the MKT Nature Trail in Columbia. Hawthorn chapter was credited on the display.

Some years ago she worked with other chapter officers to try to change County officials’ view that our native plants are NOT noxious weeds, and another time to convince them that the charm and beauty of a short stretch of rural Boone County road deserved scenic designation and preservation. Ah, these ideas must wait, but who knows what attitudes may have changed, just a bit? And perhaps in the future a person as dedicated as Jean to native plants and the natural world may recall her passion and try again. She has served for over twenty years! For all the reasons I’ve listed I nominate Jean Graebner for the Missouri Native Plant Society’s John E. Wylie Award. Thank you for your consideration.

Jean’s Award Lunch

Her award lunch was held at President Vanessa Melton’s home Sunday 27 June 2010. It was a warm muggy day with storms threatening, but the mood was happy as we partook in sumptuous potluck offerings and perfectly grilled pork steaks and burgers.

Jean was quite surprised at the presentation. The applause and hugs of appreciation left her speechless. The twelve of us who valued the event and her fulfillment of every word of the nomination letter hope all who have a moment will read it and understand her heart-felt service, not just to our NPS chapter or the state organization, but to the health of our Earth Home.



Nancy and Jean with Wiley Award.
Randy Tindall photo

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-tindallr@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

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

CPS Grant Update

Submitted by Glenn Picket Grant Committee Chairman

For those who do not yet know, Hawthorn Chapter has an ongoing grant program with Columbia Public Schools to help fund outdoor activities, classrooms, or laboratories as long as native plants are included.

Kerri Graham, one of two Honor's Biology teachers at Rock Bridge HS who received a grant from Hawthorn NPS, will give us a 20 minute review of their grant project at the July meeting. The teachers' grant project evaluation papers are available, and copies will be mailed to members of the committee. Glenn is prepared to present the grant program again to CPS science teachers at the opening of school meetings, if the organization approves the funding for another year. So this issue will be up for discussion at the July meeting.

Don't forget to sign up for North American Prairie Conference 1-5 August, UNI, Cedar Falls Iowa. Complete information on the web site (www.napc2010.org). This is your chance for a short, exciting, educational trip this summer. **Field trips are outstanding!!!!!!!**

In keeping with the conference theme, "Restoring a National Treasure", there will be various opportunities to observe prairie restorations and reconstructions. Participants will be able to discuss the latest prairie research, explore remnant and restored prairies on field trips, and view local and national exhibits.

Lunches . . .

July 22, Thursday:

**Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!
11:30 am at Uprise Bakery [RagTag Theater]
Hitt Street just south of Broadway
We will return to the third Thursday for the
August lunch.**

The June Lunch was well attended by 8 members; a welcome relief to come in out of the heat. We had good discussion on the logistics of the booth schedule at Bradford Farm, got a first-hand report from John about his adventures at the State meetings, and planned carpools for the outing to Morton Prairie. 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

- State Lifetime (\$200)
- Local Lifetime (\$120)
- Local Chapter (\$6.00 no state information)
- Student (\$11.00)
- Regular (\$16.00)
- Contributing (\$26.00) designate chapter or state

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) _____

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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.

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

